

B.A. MALLAL MOOT 2022
Allen & Gledhill LLP
NUS Mooting & Debating Club

COMPETITION RULES

A. Introduction

1. **Goals.** The B.A. Mallal Moot 2022 (the “**Competition**”) aims to stimulate interest in written and oral appellate advocacy.
2. **Organiser and Sponsor.** The Competition is organised by the National University of Singapore (“**NUS**”) Mooting and Debating Club (the “**MDC**”), and sponsored by Allen & Gledhill LLP (“**A&G**”).
3. **Eligibility.** The Competition is open to law students enrolled in NUS, SMU or SUSS as of 30th August 2022 who have not been previously conferred with a Bachelor of Laws, nor its equivalent, in any jurisdiction.

B. General Provisions

4. **Language.** The Competition shall be conducted in the English language.
5. **Decisions Shall be Final.** Any decisions made by the MDC and A&G (collectively “**the Organisers**”) relating to the Competition shall be final.
6. **Communications.** All communications and submissions to the Organisers of the Competition must be made to mdc.mallal@gmail.com. Any other communications shall not be considered official.
7. **Amendments to Rules.** The Organisers reserve the right to amend any of these Rules, including the Schedule, at any time, without prior notice, and any such amendment shall take immediate effect upon the distribution by the Organisers of any such amendment to participants. The Organisers take no responsibility for any failure of receipt by any participant of such amendment.
8. **Penalties and Disqualification.** The Organisers reserve the right to impose any penalties or disqualifications on any participant for any breach of these Rules and unethical or unprofessional conduct of any participant in the course of the Competition.
9. **Participation**
 - 9.1 Participation in the Competition is based on registration by full completion of the appropriate form as provided by the Organisers by the Registration Date set out in the Schedule herein.

- 9.2** Upon registration, all participants confirm that they are available for all Oral Rounds as set out in the Schedule herein.
- 9.3** The email address provided by participants at the point of registration shall be the sole means of written communications and notifications by the Organisers.
- 9.4** Participants who wish to withdraw from the Competition must provide good reasons in writing to the Organisers no later than the Withdrawal Date stipulated in the Schedule. Any late withdrawals or any failure to submit the Memorial after the Withdrawal Date shall automatically render the participant ineligible for any other competitions organized by NUS MDC for the duration of the participant's candidature for their legal studies. A&G reserves the right to take such measures as it deems appropriate for any participant who withdraws or fails to submit the Memorial after the Withdrawal Date.
- 9.5** In the event of a withdrawal or absence due to accident or emergency, participants must provide sufficient documentary proof to the Organisers within a reasonable time and, in any event, no later than 3 days after the withdrawal or absence.
- 9.6** In each round of the Competition, participants will be assigned a side (Appellant or Respondent) ("**the Assigned Side**"). Any such assignments are the final decision of the Organisers.
- 9.7** Each participant will be assigned a Participant Number which shall be used during the Preliminary Rounds.
- 9.8** By registering, all participants agree that they will assign all copyright of their Memorials and Skeletal Arguments to the Moot Author, for use by the Moot Author or other persons authorized by the Moot Author for educational purposes only. Participants further agree that their images may be captured by the Organisers either in photographs or videos during the Oral Rounds of the Competition, and grant permission to the Organisers and Moot Author to use such images for any publicity or educational purposes without further reference to the participants.
- 10. The Moot Problem**
- 10.1** The Competition involves a legal problem based on a hypothetical situation. One Moot Problem will be issued for the Preliminary Rounds. The same problem will be used for the Quarter Final Rounds. A second problem will be issued for the Semi-Final and Final Rounds.
- 10.2** No additional facts may be introduced unless they are a logical and necessary extension of facts already set out in the Moot Problem.
- 11. Clarifications.** Any requests for clarification must be sent by email to the Organisers at mdc.mallal@gmail.com by the relevant Clarification Deadline set out in the Schedule herein. All requests for clarification and any answers provided will be notified to all participants by the dates set out in the Schedule herein. The Moot Author retains the sole discretion to decide whether to provide answers to any requests for clarifications.

C. Memorial Submission Round

12. Memorials

12.1 Each Participant must submit, in writing, to the Organisers, a memorial setting out their arguments and authorities in support of their Assigned Side.

12.2 A memorial that is exchanged in full compliance with Rule 26 below shall be considered to be validly submitted.

13. Page limit. Each memorial must conform to the formatting requirements herein and must not exceed 5 A4 pages (inclusive of the table of headings and citations, but not including the Cover Page).

14. Format

14.1 Each memorial must bear a Cover Page in the prescribed format which must bear the Participant Number.

14.2 Any participant whose memorial is found to contain any identifying information of the participant or the institution to which the participant belongs will be immediately disqualified.

14.3 Each memorial must be typed in Arial font size 10 and double spaced. All margins must be at least one inch or 2.5 cm.

14.4 All citations must be full in-text citations. No footnotes and no endnotes are permitted.

14.5 All memorials must have two sections :-

I. Table of Headings

II. Arguments and Authorities

14.6 No Summary of Facts nor Table of Authorities is required.

15. Style. The memorial is a persuasive written argument on the Moot Problem. It is neither an academic dissertation nor an essay. The use of lengthy citations or reproduction of substantial portions of court judgments is strongly discouraged.

16. Judging Criteria. The memorial will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the analysis, persuasiveness and coherence of the argument, thoroughness of research, clarity and cogency of writing, and adherence to the formatting and style requirements

17. No Revision of Memorial. Upon submission, no memorials may be revised, changed, altered or modified in any manner, including for typographical or grammatical errors, missing pages or for problems caused by faulty computer software.

D. Oral Rounds

18. Participants will be notified of the location of the moot no later than 48 hours before each Oral Round.

19. Schedule

- 19.1** Participants will be notified of their precise schedule for arguments no later than 48 hours before each Oral Round.
- 19.2** Participants must register at the competition venue no later than 30 minutes before their scheduled round. The Organisers reserve the right to bar any participant who registers late.
- 19.3** In the event of the tardiness or absence of any participant to an Oral Round, the Organisers reserve the right to schedule participants to a differently scheduled Oral Round, in which case the judges will be notified, and judging based on Skeletal Arguments will be adjusted accordingly.
- 20. Attire.** All participants must be attired in Full Court attire for the Semi-Finals and Finals. For the Preliminary Rounds, Court attire *sans only* the jacket is permitted.
- 21.** Participants must adhere strictly to the time permitted for presentation of oral arguments, including time for any rebuttal or surrebuttal, and questions from the Judges. Any extension of time is solely at the discretion of the Judges.
- 22. Scope of arguments.** In oral arguments, participants are not confined to arguments in their written submissions (memorials or Skeletal Arguments) but are strongly advised not to deviate too far. This rule does not apply to a participant's response to the Judges' questioning or the logical and necessary extension thereof.
- 23. Rebuttals and Surrebuttals**
- 23.1** Participants must reserve time for rebuttals and surrebuttals at the start of each oral presentation. A failure to do so will forfeit the participant's right of rebuttal and surrebuttal.
- 23.2** The scope of Rebuttal is limited to arguments raised by the Respondent during the Oral Round.
- 23.3** The scope of Surrebuttal is limited to arguments raised in the Rebuttal.
- 24. Exhibits.** No exhibits that are not part of the Moot Problem nor any additional material may be used during the oral arguments, unless with the express permission of the Judges and by prior agreement of opposing counsel.

Preliminary and Quarter Final Rounds

- 25. Oral Argument.** Each participant has **10 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments to the Judges.
- 26. Exchange of Memorials.** For the Preliminary Rounds, participants must email their opponents a copy of their memorials by the Memorial Exchange Deadline as set out in the Schedule herein, copying the Organisers at mdc.mallal@gmail.com in such email. Participants who do not receive their opponents' memorial by the deadline must contact the Organisers within 2 hours of the Memorial Exchange Deadline.

27A. Quarter Finals Skeletals and Exchange of Skeletals. The Rules set out in 31, 31.1, 31.2, 31.3 and 31.4 shall apply in the Quarter Finals.

27. Additional authorities. Participants who wish to refer to additional authorities must notify their respective opponent by email copying the Organisers no later than the deadline set out in the Schedule herein.

28. Judging criteria. Participants will be evaluated on the basis of the quality and coherence of their oral arguments, their presentation style (which includes persuasiveness, clarity and structure), and the ability to respond substantively to the Judges' questions.

Quarter Finals

29A. The top 36 participants with the highest scores in the Oral Arguments will advance to the Quarter Finals.

29B. In the event that any Quarter-Finalist fails to acknowledge notification of their advancement by a return email to the Organisers within the time stipulated in the Schedule, that Quarter-Finalist forfeits the right to continue participation in the Competition.

Semi-Finals and Finals

29. Semi-Finals. The top eight participants with the highest scores in the Quarter Finals Rounds will advance to the Semi-Finals. Each Semi-Finalist is permitted **15 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments.

30. Finals. The top four Semi Finalists will advance to the Finals. Each Finalist is given **18 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments.

31. Skeletal Arguments.

31.1 Semi-Finalists and Finalists are required to exchange Skeletal Arguments within the deadline set out in the Schedule herein, copying the Organisers.

31.2 Skeletal Arguments must be in Arial minimum 12 points, on a single A4 page with 2.5 cm margins, and contain the substance of the submissions to be made and fully cited authorities. The replication of the Table of Headings with accompanying authorities can suffice.

31.3 Skeletal Arguments will be made available to the judges to aid the Oral Arguments and will not be scored separately.

31.4 All Skeletal Arguments must have, at the top left corner, the full name of the participant and the side that the participant represents. There shall be no other identifying information about the participant. For example,

Anne Wee
Counsel for Appellant

E. Awards

32. Cash prizes. Cash prizes will be awarded to the Finalists as well as the participant with

the highest score for the written memorandum. A&G retains the discretion to determine the cash prizes to be awarded.

- 33. Internship.** All Finalists & Semi-Finalists will be offered an internship at A&G.

F. Schedule

| Event | Date and Time |
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| Registration Deadline | 14 September 2022 2359 hours |
| Withdrawal Deadline | 15 September 2022 2100 hours |
| Clarification Deadline | 12 September 2022 1200 hours |
| Assignment of Participant Number and Assigned Side | Ongoing basis as participants register. |
| Memorial Exchange Deadline | 15 September 2022 2200 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | 16 September 2022 2200 hours |
| Preliminary Oral Rounds | 17 September 2022 Participants must be available between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. |
| Announcement of Quarter-Finalist | 17 September 2022 2200 hours |
| Quarter-Finals | 24 September 2022 Quarter-Finalists must be available between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. |
| Announcement of Semi-Finalist | 24 September 2022 2200 hours |
| Release of Semi-Finals and Finals problem | 24 September 2022 2200 hours |
| Exchange of Skeletal Arguments for Semi-Finals | 5 October 2022 2200 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | 6 October 2022 1500 hours |
| Semi-Finals | 7 October 2022 Semi-Finalists must be available between 5.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. |
| Announcement of Finalist | 8 October 2022 1000 hours |
| Exchange of Skeletal Arguments for Finals | 12 October 2022 2359 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | 13 October 2022 1500 hours |
| Finals | 20 October 2022 Finalist must be available between 5p.m. and 9.30p.m. |