



07TH - 09TH
APRIL, 2023

1ST CCI-CUSB NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2023

RULEBOOK

Organised by:

Moot Court Society,
Department of Law &
Governance,
Central University of South
Bihar



In Association with:



Knowledge Partners



RULEBOOK

1. DEFINITION

The following terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise specified:

- a) “Administrator” shall refer to the Department of Law & Governance, Central University of South Bihar.
- b) “Competition” shall mean to 1st CCI–CUSB National Moot Court Competition, 2023.
- c) “Competition Rules” shall refer to the official rules of the Competition as amended from time to time.
- d) “Court Room” shall refer to the rooms assigned by the organizing committee where the pleading rounds will take place.
- e) “Final Registration” shall refer to the registration for pleading rounds after qualifying in Memorial Evaluation Round.
- f) “IST” shall refer to Indian Standard Time.
- g) “INR” shall refer to Indian National Rupee.
- h) “Knockout Round” shall refer to Quarter Finals, Semi-finals and Final round of the Competition.
- i) “Memorial” shall refer to the memorandum of written submissions submitted by any participating team as per the Competition Rules.
- j) “Moot Proposition” shall refer to the facts and issues released by the Organizing Committee of the Competition with its clarifications and corrections.
- k) “Provisional Registration” shall refer to the registration for Memorial Evaluation Round.
- l) “Official Email” shall refer to the official email address (*mootcourtsociety@cusb.ac.in.*) of the Moot Court Society (MCS), Department of Law and Governance, Central University of South Bihar.
- m) “Organizing Committee” (*hereinafter to be referred as the “OC”*) shall refer to the Moot Court Society, Department of Law and Governance, Central University of South Bihar.
- n) “Participating Team” means the team which has registered itself for the competition as per the rules given below.

2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 All *bona fide* students enrolled on full time basis in either a 3-year LLB course or a 5-year integrated B.A. LL.B., B.B.A. LL.B. or equivalent course at the time of the registration are eligible to compete in the Competition.
- 2.2 Each institution can be represented by only one team.
- 2.3 Cross institutional teams are not allowed.

3. TEAM COMPOSITION

- 3.1 Each team may comprise of three members wherein two shall be speakers and one shall be researcher.
- 3.2 A team comprising two members shall also be allowed provided both members participate as speakers.
- 3.3 Participating teams shall identify their speakers and researchers at the stage of registration itself as no modifications shall be permitted, except with the approval of the OC on a request forwarded by the Head of the Department or Faculty Coordinator of Moot Court Society to the participating team's institution.
- 3.4 No substitution of team members shall be allowed after completion of registration process except with the approval of the OC on a request forwarded by the Head of the Department or Faculty Coordinator of Moot Court Society to the participating team's institution.
- 3.5 No observer members shall be allowed for any of the participating teams.

4. LANGUAGE

The language for the Competition both for the Memorial Evaluation Round as well as for the Pleading Rounds shall strictly be English, which shall be the official language of the Competition.

5. DRESSING

The Participating Teams shall attend all the rounds of the Competition in the formal courtroom attire. However, in case any member of the participating team due to unavoidable reasons is unable to arrange the same, he/she may be allowed to be dressed in any adequate formal outfit which can be prudently deemed appropriate to the occasion.

6. STRUCTURE

The Competition shall consist of two rounds:

1. Memorial Evaluation Round

All teams registering for the competition shall be allowed to participate in this round. The teams shall be evaluated in this round on the basis of memorials they submit and top 16 teams shall qualify for the next round.

2. Pleading Round

Top sixteen teams of Memorial Evaluation Round proceed to the pleading round which shall further comprises of – preliminary round and knockout rounds viz. Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and the Final.

7. REGISTRATION

7.1 Procedure

7.1.1 Each participating team shall fill out the provisional registration form available at <https://forms.gle/aeHCi3PAetWbzcnd7> by February 28th, 2023; 23:59 IST for participating in Memorial Evaluation Round

7.1.2 The team shall nominate one member of the team as the primary contact person, who shall be communicated every information concerning the Competition via mail. It shall be the responsibility of the person so nominated to convey all information to the other member(s).

7.1.3 The no-objection certificate from the institution shall be attached in registration form by each participating team.

- 7.1.4** Upon successful completion and submission of the Registration Form, each team will receive an email from the OC informing them of their successful Registration. With this, the provisional registration process shall be deemed to have been completed for the Memorial Evaluation Round.
- 7.1.5** If a team does not receive such an email, it may contemporaneously send an email with its registration details to the Official Email (mootcourtsociety@cusb.ac.in) and a response will be sent through email by the OC within 72 hours informing the team of its Registration.
- 7.1.6** Registration Form will have to be completed and submitted with all material particulars by the teams. Please note that incomplete Registration Form shall not be accepted.
- 7.1.7** After the results of Memorial Evaluation Round, top sixteen shall be required to register for Pleading Rounds (Final Registration) by making the required payment.
- 7.1.8** The weblink of Final Registration Form for Pleading Rounds shall be shared through email to top sixteen teams after results of Memorial Evaluation Round.

7.2 Payment

- 7.2.1** All teams shall be required to make a payment of INR 1,500 for provisional registration to participate in Memorial Evaluation Round of the Competition.
- 7.2.2** After the results of Memorial Evaluation Round, top sixteen teams shall be required to make a payment of INR 2,000 for final registration to participate in Pleading Rounds of the Competition.
- 7.2.3** All the payments shall be made to:

Account Holder: **Department of Law & Governance – CUSB**

Bank: **State Bank of India**

Account No.: **39141156006**

IFSC: **SBIN0061174**

- 7.2.4** A screenshot of the Payment Confirmation should be attached to the Registration Form(s).
- 7.2.5** The Organizing Committee shall confirm the registration only after the payment is received and the form is filled within the respective time limit.

7.3 Identification of Teams

- 7.3.1** Each team shall be identified only by a team code, allotted to them via mail sent to them after completion of the registration process.
- 7.3.2** No team shall indulge in any activity which shall disclose their identity or the identity of their institution in any manner.
- 7.3.3** Teams shall use only their Team Code for identification purposes. Names of participants or their colleges should not appear on or within the Written Submissions. Signature pages are prohibited.

8. CLARIFICATION

In case, teams need any clarification regarding the Moot Proposition or the Competition Rules, they may submit written requests for the same at the official mail before March 2nd, 2023; 23:59 IST, with the title, “Need Clarification: 1st CCI–CUSB National Moot Court Competition, 2023”.

9. MEMORIAL EVALUATION ROUND

9.1 Submission

- 9.1.1** Teams which have received the confirmation mail for the registration by the OC shall submit two memorials viz. Memorial on behalf of the Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant and Memorial on behalf of the Respondent.
- 9.1.2** The soft copies of the memorials are required to be submitted at the official mail on *mootcourtsociety@cusb.ac.in* before March 19th, 2023; 23:59 IST, with the heading “Team Code-X Submitting Memorials: 1st CCI–CUSB National Moot Court Competition, 2023”, where X shall be the team code allocated to the teams by the OC.
- 9.1.3** The soft copies of the memorials shall be submitted in the word format (preferably Microsoft Word 2019 or above or compatible software) as well as pdf. The document or pdf file for the Memorial on behalf of Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant shall be named as ‘<Team Code>P/P/A’ and that for the Memorial on behalf of Respondent shall be named as ‘<Team Code>R’.

- 9.1.4** There shall be deduction of 1 point for every 1-hour delay in the submission of soft copies of the memorials.
- 9.1.5** Soft copies of Memorials submitted after 24 hrs shall neither be deemed to be submitted nor evaluated for the purposes of the Competition.
- 9.1.6** Each team shall submit five hard copies of the memorials from each side through post after qualifying in Memorial Evaluation Round to participate in the pleading rounds.
- 9.1.7** The teams must submit hard copies of the Memorial to the OC on April 7th, 2023, prior to the Researcher's Test.
- 9.1.8** The memorials may be used as the OC deems fit after completion of the Competition.

9.2 Format

- 9.2.1** Memorials must be typed on white standard A4 paper (21 x 29 ¾ centimetres). The font and size of the text of all parts of the Memorial (except the cover page), must be in Times New Roman with Font size 12 having 1.5 line spacing. Footnotes must be in Font size 10 with single line spacing.
- 9.2.2** Each page of the Memorial (regardless of content) shall have margins of at least one inch on all sides, excluding page numbers.
- 9.2.3** The cover of each Memorial should bear only the following information: (a) the Team Code; (b) Name and Year of the Competition (c) the name of the court; (d) the name of the parties; (e) the nature of the case (Civil/ Criminal/ Writ/ SLP etc.); and (f) the title of the document (i.e., Memorial on behalf of Respondent or Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant).
- 9.2.4** The footnotes in the memorial shall follow the 20th edition of the Bluebook. Speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point for each error.
- 9.2.5** The Cover page of the memorial must contain the team code in the upper right-hand corner, followed by an 'P/ P/ A' for the Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant Memorial, or an 'R' for the Respondent Memorial. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 2 points.

9.2.6 The Cover Page of the Memorial must follow the following colour scheme – Blue for the Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant Cover Page and Red for the Respondent Cover Page. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point.

9.3 Content

9.3.1 The Memorials are required to contain the following sections:

- i. Cover Page
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Table of Abbreviations
- iv. Index of Authorities
- v. Statement of Jurisdiction
- vi. Statement of Facts
- vii. Issues Raised
- viii. Summary of Arguments
- ix. Arguments Advanced
- x. Prayer

9.3.2 Page Limit

The Arguments Advanced section of the Memorials shall not exceed 30 pages and total number of pages including Cover Page in Memorial should not exceed 45 pages.

9.4 Memorial Evaluation

9.4.1 Each memorial shall be evaluated out of 100 scores in the following manner-

Sr. NO.	PARAMETERS	MAXIMUM SCORES
1.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	20
2.	Proper and Articulate Analysis	20
3.	Extent and Use of Research	20
4.	Clarity and Organization	20

5.	Grammar and Style	20
	Total	100

9.4.2 Penalty

The following penalties shall be applicable-

Rule Number	Penalty
9.2.1 and 9.2.2	2 points per violating page, up to a maximum of 10 points
9.2.3 and 9.2.4	1 point per violation
9.2.5	2 points
9.2.6	1 point
9.3.1	5 points for each missing part
9.3.2	1 point per 100 words exceeded

10. RESEARCHER TEST

- 10.1** There shall be 50 objective questions of 1 score each and 5 subjective questions and the time allotted would be 1 hour.
- 10.2** There shall be negative marking. The Researcher will be awarded +1 for each correct answer and -0.25 for each wrong answer.
- 10.3** Attempting all questions shall not be mandatory.
- 10.4** In case of tie, researcher having least number of wrong answers shall get the upper rank. In case of a further tie, the participant attempting maximum number of questions shall get the preference in rank. If both criteria do not split the researchers, the researcher getting the highest memorial scores will be ranked higher.
- 10.5** The participants are required to strictly adhere to the dress code (hereinbefore mentioned).

- 10.6** No participant shall carry mobile phones, smart watches or any gadgets to the venue but should possess only a ball point pen (preferably blue/black).
- 10.7** The participants will not be allowed entry once the test has started.
- 10.8** Cheating or any attempt to cheat is strictly prohibited. The same shall be monitored by the invigilators present in the room and any suspicious behaviour shall result into the disqualification of the researcher from the test. The Suspicious behaviour shall be deemed to mean conversing with someone else during the test, using mobile, referring any notes or paper or any activity of like manner as considered inappropriate by the invigilator.
- 10.9** If we find more than one options tick marked, that would be counted as a wrong answer and hence, the rule of negative marking mentioned under Rule 10.2 shall apply.

11. PLEADING ROUND

11.1 General Procedure

- 11.1.1** The Pleading Round shall have four levels – Preliminary Round, Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and the Final.
- 11.1.2** Each level of the Pleading Round shall be conducted in offline mode.
- 11.1.3** At each level of Pleading Round, the order of the oral submissions shall be: Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant 1 > Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant 2 > Respondent 1 > Respondent 2 > Rebuttal (Plaintiff/ Petitioner/ Appellant 1 or 2) > Surrebuttal (Respondent 1 or 2).
- 11.1.4** As a courtesy to the judges, the Speakers of the team shall inform the Court Masters regarding the allocation of time between both the Speakers and the time reserved for rebuttal. Once informed, the time shall not change. However, Judges, at their discretion, may extend oral argument's time up to five minutes per team.
- 11.1.5** Only one speaker shall be allowed to present in rebuttal or sur-rebuttal. The time reserved for rebuttal and sur rebuttal cannot be divided between the speakers. Rebuttal time shall not be reserved beyond 5 minutes.
- 11.1.6** The pleading option (“the right to choose which side to argue”), at each level of Pleading Round shall be decided by spin the wheel application (digitally).

- 11.1.7** The oral arguments should not extend beyond the issues in the memorials.
- 11.1.8** The researcher of each team shall be required to attend the Pleading Round but shall not, at any point of time be allowed to speak or address the bench, until so allowed by the respective Judges of the Round.
- 11.1.9** If a team intends to refer to any Compendium during their Pleading Rounds, the same should be submitted to the Court Master in the Court Room before the commencement of their scheduled Pleading Round. The Compendium should contain an Index of all the materials that the Team wishes to use. The Teams are requested to ensure that all material in the Compendium is in a readable and consistent format.
- 11.1.10** Scouting shall be prohibited at all levels of the Pleading Round. However, in the knockout rounds, the teams which have not qualified for that round may attend those particular rounds. In case of any violation of this rule, the team shall forfeit its scores for that particular Pleading Round.
- 11.1.11** Anonymity of Teams must be maintained in each of the rounds. No direct or indirect means, including statements to judges, name-tags or other signifiers, the placement of folders, files, library books, other materials bearing the name or logo of the Institution to which a Team belongs, and the wearing of pins or clothing revealing the identity of their university or college, shall be tolerated.
- 11.1.12** The match-ups for all rounds shall follow the system of power-ups, that is to say, the team with the highest memorial score shall face the team with the lowest memorial score. (Team 1 v. Team 16, Team 2 v. Team 15 and so on)
- 11.1.13** The pleading shall be assessed in each round in the following manner:

Sr. No.	PARAMETER	MAXIMUM SCORES
1.	Knowledge of Law	20 scores
2.	Application of Law to Facts	20 scores
3.	Ingenuity and Ability to Answer	20 scores
4.	Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanor	20 scores

5.	Time management	10 scores
6.	Organization	10 scores
	Total	100 scores

11.1.14 At every level of the Pleading Round, if two speakers obtain the same score, then the total team score (Speaker 1 Score + Speaker 2 Score), shall break the tie. In case of a further tie, memorial marks shall determine the rank.

11.2 Preliminary Round

11.2.1 Every participating team qualifying the memorial evaluation round shall be eligible for the preliminary round.

11.2.2 There shall be two preliminary rounds and each team shall get the chance to plead once as Appellant and once as Respondent.

11.2.3 No two teams shall face the same opponent team in any of the preliminary rounds.

11.2.4 Each team shall be allotted 30 minutes for pleading including the rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.2.5 The division of time among the speakers shall be at the discretion of the team. However, one speaker shall not plead for less than 10 min.

11.3 Quarter-finals

11.3.1 Teams with two wins in the Preliminary Rounds shall be eligible for the Quarter-Finals. In case of tie among teams on aforesaid ground, total team score shall break the tie. In case of further tie, team having higher memorial score shall break into the quarter-finals.

11.3.2 Each team shall be allotted 45 minutes for pleading, including the rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.3.3 The division of time among the speakers shall be the discretion of team. However, one speaker shall not plead for less than 15 min.

11.4 Semi-finals

11.4.1 The four teams securing win against the opponents in the Quarter-finals shall be eligible for the Semi-Finals. In case of a tie, the total score shall break the tie. In case of a further tie, the team with a higher memorial score shall qualify.

11.4.2 Each team shall be allotted 45 minutes for pleading, including the rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.4.3 The division of time among the speakers shall be the discretion of team. However, one speaker shall not plead for less than 15 min.

11.5 Final

11.5.1 The two teams securing win against the opponent in the Semi-finals shall be eligible for the Final. In case of a tie, the total score shall break the tie. In case of a further tie, the team with a higher memorial score shall qualify.

11.5.2 Each team shall be allotted 60 minutes for pleading, including the rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.5.3 The division of time among the speakers shall be at the discretion of team. However, one speaker shall not plead for less than 20 min.

12. AWARD

12.1 Winning Team Award: The winning team will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and cash prize of INR 40,000 along with one year complimentary (academic) subscription to SCC Online Web Edition to be distributed to each member of the winning team.

12.2 Runner-Up Team Award: The runner-up team will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and cash prize of INR 25,000.

12.3 The team with the Best Memorial will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and a cash prize of INR 7,500.

12.4 Female Best Speaker will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and cash prize of INR 7,500.

12.5 Male Best Speaker will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and cash prize of INR 7,500.

12.6 Best Researcher will receive a trophy, certificate of excellence and cash prize of INR 7,500.

12.7 Team knocked out in semi-finals will receive certificate of achievement.



12.8 Team knocked out in quarter-finals will receive certificate of merit.

12.9 Teams qualifying Memorial Evaluation Round will receive certificate of recognition.

12.10 Teams participating in the Memorial Evaluation Round will receive certificate of participation.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

13.1 All queries relating to the problem, scores, etc. may be directed vide email to mootcourtsociery@cusb.ac.in. However, no requests to provide individual scores shall be entertained under any circumstances during the course of the Competition.

13.2 The last date for seeking clarifications on the Moot Proposition is March 2nd, 2023, after which no clarifications shall be entertained.

13.3 Scouting by any person and on behalf of any team should be brought to the notice of the Organizing Committee immediately, without disturbing the round in progress. Any team found scouting shall be disqualified.

13.4 Carrying any electronic device in the Court Room or during Researcher's Test by any participating team or its researcher, respectively is strictly prohibited. However, a Speaker may use a laptop/tablet/iPad without the internet connection to plead in the Court Room.

13.5 Any reference to the identity of a team's institution or individual team members, either during oral arguments or in the Memorial may lead to disqualification of the team, which shall be at the sole discretion of the OC.

13.6 If a team believes that violation of any of the Competition Rules has taken place at any stage of the Competition, the teams shall within 30 minutes of the completion of the round wherein a violation has allegedly occurred, register a complaint with Organizing Committee. No team or its members shall approach the Judges with any complaints under any circumstance.

13.7 The Rules shall be strictly adhered to. The Organizing Committee reserve the right to disqualify teams for deviating from the Rules. The Organizing Committee will resolve any

contingencies that may arise and will be the final arbiters regarding any grievance or doubt. The decision taken by the Organizing Committee shall be final. These Rules are not exhaustive.