



SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, NOIDA
Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

SYMFIESTA'23

KTS TULSI MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION, 2023

Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA is organizing **KTS Tulsi Mock Trial Competition, 2023** as part of its Annual National Youth Festival, "SymFiesta'23" from **March 17-19, 2023**.

SymFiesta'23 provides versatile opportunities for the nationwide youth to display their ingenuity in multiple talent pursuits. SymFiesta'23 is filled with plethora of Cultural and Literary Events and includes two **Legal Events** being co-organized by Pro Bono Club and Moot Court Society namely, **Mock Trial & Client Counselling**.

Rules & Regulations

I. AIM AND PURPOSE

The aim of KTS Tulsi Mock Trial Competition is to foster a deeper understanding of Criminal Law especially trial procedure and to provide participants opportunity to hone trial advocacy skills.

II. DATE AND VENUE

The KTS Tulsi Mock Trial Competition, 2023 shall be held from March 18-19, 2023 at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA campus, New Academic Block.

III. LANGUAGE

The Official language of the competition is English.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

- a. The competition is open to all students currently pursuing bachelor's degree in law i.e. 3 Year LL.B. or 5 Year LL.B. Programme from any recognized college/institute/university in India.
- b. Each participant is required to carry his/her college ID-card on all days of the competition.

V. TEAM COMPOSITION

- a. Each Team shall be composed of **two/three members**, two Speakers/Pleaders & one Researcher.
- b. Each speaker/pleader shall conduct examination of witness(es), i.e. either examination-in-chief or cross-examination, AND either opening statement or final arguments, in each round.

VI. DRESS CODE

For all oral rounds: Advocate's uniform as per the Advocates Act, 1961 (except band and gown).

VII. REGISTRATION

- a. **Online:** Each team is required to register at the following link on or before **February 28, 2023:**
<https://forms.gle/fuhBR2jB2qpuERxz7>

The participating teams may kindly keep in view that the maximum number of teams is 24. Registration shall be confirmed on *first-come-first-serve* basis.

Each team shall be allotted a Team Code via email by March 12, 2023. This team code will be used to identify the team throughout the competition.

- b. **Fee:**
 - i) The Registration Fee for the KTS Tulsi Mock Trial Competition is INR 1000 per team.
 - ii) The fee for this event has to be paid at:
<https://easebuzz.in/link/kts-tulsi-mock-trial-competition-ZVQPJ>

Alternative Link: <https://ease.buzz/202302Uc4HMllp>

VIII. ORAL ROUNDS

a. STRUCTURE OF ROUNDS:

- i. There will be one Preliminary round, Semi-final and Final round.
- ii. Only **four** teams will advance to the Semifinals, i.e., the team having highest team score in its respective court room.
- iii. Two teams from amongst the semifinalists will advance to the finals based on the highest team score in their respective court rooms. Only one team will be adjudged the winner.
- iv. In case of a tie, the team that scores cumulatively higher for the criteria 'Effective and intelligent conduct of chief and cross examination of witnesses', will advance to the next round.
- v. **Each speaker/pleader shall conduct examination of witness(es), either examination-in-chief or cross examination in each round, AND either opening statement or final arguments in each round.**
- vi. All participating teams are expected to be conversant with the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 whilst taking evidence and advancing opening statement/final arguments for the prosecution as well as the defense.

b. DRAW OF LOTS:

Each team shall plead from one side only (either Prosecution or Defense), as selected by them during draw of lots. Draw of lots is scheduled 45 minutes prior to the start of each round. Once selected, no team will be permitted to switch sides.

c. TIME DURATION:

- i. Before the start of each round, the pleading teams shall inform their court master regarding the distribution/allocation of stages between the speakers.
- ii. Examination-in-chief of all witnesses of one side shall be conducted together, followed by cross-examination of all; therefore, team members are advised to take notes during chief/cross examination.
- iii. Exceeded time will be marked negatively.

PRELIMINARY AND SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS:

Stage of Trial	Maximum time (in minutes)
Opening Statement and Arguments on Charge by Public Prosecutor	5
Arguments on Charge by Defense (Opening Statement)	5
Examination-in-chief of Prosecution Witnesses	8
Cross Examination of Prosecution Witnesses	10
Examination-in-chief of Defense Witnesses	8
Cross Examination of Defense Witnesses	10
Final Arguments (Prosecution)	7
Final Arguments (Defense)	7
Total	60

Note: Teams will be assigned witnesses for briefing 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the respective round.

FINAL ROUND:

Stage of Trial	Maximum time (in minutes)
Opening Statement and Arguments on Charge by Public Prosecutor	6
Arguments on Charge by Defense (Opening Statement)	6
Examination-in-chief of Prosecution Witnesses	10
Cross Examination of Prosecution Witnesses	12
Examination-in-chief of Defense Witnesses	10
Cross Examination of Defense Witnesses	12
Final Arguments (Prosecution)	9
Final Arguments (Defense)	9
Total	74

Note: Teams qualified for final round shall be assigned witnesses to brief 30 minutes prior to commencement of the round.

IX. WRITTEN SUBMISSION

Each team is to submit a Written Submission for each side; i.e., Prosecution & Defense. The Written Submission should be a succinct and well-researched set of arguments. Teams should adhere to the following in drafting their Written Submission:

- a) **It should contain: Cover Page, Table of Contents, Index of Authorities, Statement of Jurisdiction, Arguments Advanced, Prayer.**
- b) The colour of the Cover Page of Written Submission for the Prosecution should be **Blue** and that for the Defense should be **Red**.
- c) The Written Submission should not exceed eight pages, including the cover page.
- d) The **'Team Code'** should be mentioned on **top-right corner of the cover-page and every page of both Written Submissions**. Names of the team members or their college/university shall not be mentioned anywhere in the Written Submission. If the said rule is violated, the Written Submission shall be considered as not submitted, and the team will be marked zero in Written Submission.
- e) The Written Submission should be printed on one side of the paper, typed on A-4 sheet with black ink.
- f) The Font Style of the contents of the Written Submission should be Times New Roman, Font Size should be 12 and spacing 1.5.
- g) The footnotes be in Times New Roman style, size – 10, spacing 1.
- h) Written Submission must have enough margins on all sides of each page.
- i) Teams can follow any Citation format; however, the same should be uniform throughout the Written Submission.
- j) Teams should ensure that the content in their Written Submission is not copied and/or plagiarized.
- k) The Written Submission must be same, in both contents and format, in the soft copy as well as the hard copy, and no revisions in the Written Submission are permitted after submission of soft copy.
- l) Relevant annexures, if any, may be kept as compendium if required.

Soft Copy of Written Submission must be in **.pdf format** and be **emailed** at mootcourt@symlaw.edu.in latest by **March 14, 2023 (2359 hours IST)**. The subject line of the email should be **"Memorials for Team (team code): SMF'23 KTS Tulsi Mock Trial Competition, 2023"**. Hard copies (03 copies of each side) are required to be submitted by the team upon

arrival at the campus. The teams that qualify for Final Rounds will have to make available 3 additional copies to the Event Heads at least two hours prior to the Final Rounds.

Evaluation Criteria for Written Submissions (each side)

S. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks
1.	Application of Law to Facts	10
2.	Use of Authorities	5
3.	Adherence to Format & Clarity of Thought	10
	GRAND TOTAL	25 X 2 = 50

X. EVALUATION OF ORAL ROUNDS

The oral pleadings of **each** speaker shall be marked **on a scale of 100 marks**. However, for calculation of **Final Team Score** in each round, the **cumulative score of Speakers, Written Submission and all judges** shall be taken. All oral rounds shall be evaluated on the following grounds:

S. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks
1.	Knowledge of Facts	10
2.	Knowledge and application of substantive law	10
3.	Knowledge and application of procedural law	15
4.	Effective and Intelligent Conduct of Chief and Cross Examination of Witnesses	25
5.	Advocacy (Persuasiveness; Cohesion, Style & Structure of Arguments; Expression; Articulation; Innovation)	20
6.	Clarity of Thought and Deference to Court	10
7.	Court Mannerism & Professional Conduct	10
	TOTAL	100

XI. WITNESSES

The witnesses will be assigned and generally briefed by the organizers. However, each team will have an opportunity to specifically brief their witnesses. The witnesses to be briefed will be assigned to each team 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the preliminary and semi-final rounds, and 30 minutes prior to the final round.

XII. ANONYMITY

A pleader may state his or her name before beginning to plead. However, no team/member shall disclose their college affiliation to any judge at any time. Such disclosure shall amount to disqualification.

XIII. SCOUTING

Sitting in other court room(s) or listening to the proceedings of any other team is strictly prohibited and is a fit case of SCOUTING. Any team or any member thereof found indulging in scouting shall result in disqualification of the concerned team.

XIV. AWARDS

- a. All awards and certificates shall be announced and awarded at the Prize Distribution Ceremony on March 19, 2023.
- b. Winning team shall receive prize in cash for rupees twenty thousand in addition to 'Winner' certificate.
- c. Second best team shall receive prize in cash for rupees fifteen thousand.
- d. Third best team shall receive prize in cash for rupees ten thousand.
- e. In addition to cash prize, the teams will also receive other exciting prizes, including SCC Subscription.
- f. All teams will receive participating certificates only during Valedictory Ceremony. Certificates will not be provided to the participants who are absent during the ceremony.

XV. SAVINGS

- a. The Organising Committee shall be the final authority to resolve and decide all disputes arising out of the rules and arising during the competition. Its decision shall be final and binding on all.
- b. NO CASH PRIZE shall be given to any team from the host college if they stand as the finalists and/or third best team in the competition. However, other prizes in kind shall be awarded to them.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Teams are required to report to the venue for Desk Registration on the day(s) scheduled for oral rounds at 0800 hrs IST.
- b. Participants are required to carry their **college ID-Card** for the purpose of identification at desk registration. Participants should also carry their PAN Card.

XVII.IMPORTANT DATES

- a. Registrations Open: March 01, 2023
- b. Last Date for Registrations: March 11, 2023
- c. Last Date to seek clarifications with respect to the problem: March 08, 2023 – via email at mootcourt@symlaw.edu.in .

For any further information:

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***** ALL THE BEST! *****