

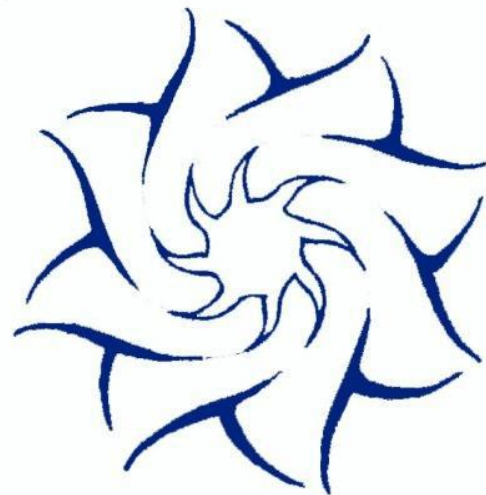
**24th D.M. HARISH MEMORIAL GOVERNMENT LAW
COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MOOT COURT
COMPETITION, 2023**

11th- 12th February, 2023

RULES OF THE COMPETITION



Estd. 1855



HOSTED BY:

Government Law College

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

D.M. HARISH FOUNDATION

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. Participation in the Competition

1.1. Overseas Teams Registration

Overseas teams may participate in the Competition by sending an application to the Organisers via e-mail to dmh.glc@gmail.com latest by 11:59 p.m. IST on **31st October 2022**. **Only after** the application has been confirmed, will a link to a Google Form and details for the payment of registration fees be provided.

1.2. Invited Indian Teams Registration

The organisers shall invite ONLY those Indian Universities/Colleges (refer to Annexure I), which had qualified to the Semi Final Rounds in the 24th D. M. Harish Memorial Government Law College International Online Moot Court Competition, 2023 to participate in the competition. The invited colleges must first provisionally register themselves by sending an email to dmh.glc@gmail.com latest by 11:59 p.m. IST on **31st October 2022**. **Only after** the provisional registration has been confirmed will a link to a Google Form and details for the payment of registration fees will be provided.

1.3. Participation in the Memorial Round

1.3.1. Indian Universities whose names are not included in Annexure 1 must participate in the Memorial Round. Indian Universities/Colleges shall be selected from these to participate in the competition based on the Memorials submitted by them on or before **11:59 p.m. IST on 30th November 2022**. The number of Indian Universities / Colleges may be selected at the sole discretion of the organisers. The Memorials submitted must be in accordance with clause 5.1. The Memorials submitted in accordance with this clause shall be considered the final Memorials. The Indian teams participating in the Memorial Round will not get a chance to revise or change their Memorials upon selection in accordance with clause 1.3.3.

1.3.2. The Indian Universities/Colleges applying through the Memorial Round must fill the Google form by **10th October 2022**.

1.3.3. Indian Universities/Colleges selected in accordance with Clause 1.3.1. shall be notified on **15th December 2022** if they have been selected to participate in the Competition.

1.3.4. Teams selected in this manner will not have the opportunity to improve upon their submitted Memorials and these Memorials shall be considered their final submissions.

1.4. Registration Fee

- 1.4.1. A nominal registration fee of **INR 2500** shall be charged to all the Invited Indian Universities/Colleges and Indian Universities/Colleges that have been selected through the Memorial Round. A registration fee of **USD 65** will be charged to all the Overseas Universities. **No registration fee shall be charged to Indian Universities/Colleges that have applied but have not been selected in accordance with clause 1.3.**
- 1.4.2. For the purpose of clause 1.4.1. Overseas Universities will include all Universities/Colleges/Schools that are not situated in India.
- 1.4.3. The Registration fee charged in accordance with clause 1.4.1. for Indian Universities/Colleges must be submitted by NEFT. The details for making payment of registration fees via NEFT will be provided once the provisional registration has been confirmed.
- 1.4.4. The Registration fee charged for Overseas Universities/Colleges, in accordance with clause 1.4.1, must be submitted by Wire Transfer, the details of which will be provided after receiving the application.

2. General

2.1. Eligibility

Students enrolled in a full-time or part-time law programme at the time of the competition are eligible to compete in the Competition. Each College/Law School or University may enter **one team ONLY**.

2.2. Team Composition

2.2.1 Each team shall have three (3) members only, consisting of two (2) speakers and one (1) researcher.

2.2.2 Certification shall not be awarded to an additional member.

2.3. Official Language

The official language of the Competition is **English**. All Competition Rounds including the written submissions (memorials) will be in English.

2.4. Registration

2.4.1. The duly completed Google Form for Registration with all team details and NEFT/Wire Transfer must be submitted online to the Moot Court Association on or before **11:59 p.m. IST on 31st October 2022** for teams participating in accordance with clause 1.1. and 1.2 (Overseas and Invited Indian Teams). No change in the names of the participants shall be permitted after the receipt of the Registration Form, except at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

2.4.2. The duly completed Google Form for Registration with all team details and NEFT must be submitted online to the Moot Court Association on or before **11:59 p.m. IST on 22nd December 2022** for teams selected in accordance with clause 1.3.3 (Memorial Round Teams). No change in the names of the participants shall be permitted after the receipt of the Registration Form, except at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

2.4.3. All teams shall be given a “Team Code” by the Organisers on validation of their Google Form for Registration and NEFT/Wire Transfer.

2.4.4. The teams shall use their designated “Team Code” for all correspondence with the Organizers.

2.4.5. The same team code must be used by the teams during the submission of Memorials and during all the Rounds of the Competition.

2.5. Dress Code

The dress code for the rounds of the competition shall be as prescribed by the Rules of the Court of Jurisdiction. The dress code for all the functions at the competition shall be western formals for gentlemen and western or traditional formals for ladies.

3. Requests for Interpretation of the Case Study and Rules

3.1. All requests for interpretation of the case study and rules of the competition must be directed to the “*General Secretary, Moot Court Association*”. Such requests for interpretation must be sent via e-mail to dmh.glc@gmail.com. The subject of the e-mail must read “*Request for Interpretation*”.

3.2. The deadline for requests for interpretation of the case study (clarifications) for all the teams will be **11:59 p.m. IST on 10th November 2022**.

3.3. The deadline for requests for interpretation of the case study (clarifications) for the teams **for oral rounds only**, will be **11:59 p.m. IST on 20th January 2023**.

4. Competition Rounds

The competition shall be held over a period of three days and will comprise of two (2) Preliminary Rounds, one (1) Octo-Final Round, (1) Quarter-Final Round, one (1) Semi-Final Round and one (1) Final Round of Arguments.

4.1. Preliminary Rounds

- 4.1.1. There will be two (2) Preliminary Rounds and each team shall argue for both the sides (Applicants and Respondents).
- 4.1.2. A team shall be credited with a win in the Preliminary Rounds if their Round Total (as defined in Clause 8.2) is greater than the opposing team.
- 4.1.3. In case of a tie in the Preliminary Round, the team with the higher Memorial Score will advance to the Octo-Final Round.
- 4.1.4. The top sixteen (16) teams in the Preliminary Rounds shall advance to the Octo-Final Round.

4.2. Octo-Final Rounds¹

The top sixteen (16) teams in the Preliminary Rounds shall qualify to the Octo-Final Round (Round of 16). The following shall be the system for determining the teams that advance to the Octo-Final Round, and for the preparation of the Octo-Final Seeding Chart:

- 4.2.1. Teams that have a 2:0 win loss ratio in the Preliminary Rounds shall directly advance to the Octo-Final Round. Such teams shall be seeded according to their Preliminary Round Total as defined in clause 8.3.
- 4.2.2. Teams that have 1:1 win loss ratio shall advance based on their Preliminary Round Aggregate Total. They shall be seeded after the teams qualifying through with a 2:0 win loss ratio in the Preliminary Rounds, in order of their Round Total.
- 4.2.3. The team seeded first in the Octo-Final Seeding Chart will be paired with the team seeded sixteenth in the Seeding Chart (Seed 1 vs. Seed 16), the team seeded second in the Seeding Chart will be paired opposite the team seeded fifteenth in the Seeding Chart (Seed 2 vs. Seed 15) and all the other teams will be paired in the same manner.
- 4.2.4. The Octo-Final Round shall consist of One (1) Mooting Session and will be a “Knock-out” Round where the winner of each Octo-Final Round pairings will advance to the Quarter-Final Round.
- 4.2.5. A team will be credited with a win in the Octo-Final Round if their Round Total (as defined in Clause 8.3.) is greater than the opposing team.

¹Octo-Final Round may or may not be conducted, based on the number of teams participating in the competition. The Organisers reserve the right to omit this round.

4.2.6. In case of a tie in the Octo-Final Round pairing, the team with the higher Memorial Score will advance to the Quarter-Final Round.

4.2.7. In case a tie persists even after the application of Clause 4.2.6. the team with a higher score in the Preliminary Round will advance to the Quarter-Final Round.

4.3. **Quarter-Final Round**

4.3.1. A total of eight (8) teams shall advance to the Quarter-Final Round. The team seeded first in the Quarter-Final Seeding Chart will be paired with the team seeded eighth in the Seeding Chart (Seed 1 vs. Seed 8), the team seeded second in the Seeding Chart will be paired opposite the team seeded seventh in the Seeding Chart (Seed 2 vs. Seed 7) and all the other teams will be paired in the same manner.

4.3.2. Clause 4.2.2. and Clause 4.2.3. shall apply in the event that Octo-Final Rounds are not conducted.

4.3.3. The Quarter-Final Round will consist of one (1) Mooting Session and will also be a “Knock-out” Round where the winner of each Quarter-Final Round pairing will advance to the Semi-Final Round.

4.3.4. A team will be credited with a win in the Quarter-Final round if their Round Total (as defined in Clause 8.3.) is greater than the opposing team.

4.3.5. In case of a tie in the Quarter-Final Round, the team with the Higher Memorial Round score will advance to the Semi-Final Round.

4.3.6. In case a tie persists even after the application of clause 4.3.4. the team with a higher average score of the Octo-Final Round and Preliminary Round (all previous rounds) will advance to the Final Round.

4.4. **Semi-Final Round**

4.4.1. The Semi-Final Round will consist of one (1) Mooting Session and will also be a “Knock-out” Round where the winner of each Semi-Final Round pairing will advance to the Final Round.

4.4.2. A team will be credited with a win in the Semi-Final round if their Round Total (as defined in Clause 8.3.) is greater than the opposing team.

4.4.3. In case of a tie in the Semi-Final Round pairing, the team with the Higher Memorial Round score will advance to the Final Round.

4.4.4. In case a tie persists even after the application of clause 4.4.3. the team with a higher average score of the Quarter-Final Round and Preliminary Round (all previous rounds) will advance to the Final Round.

4.5. **Final Round of Arguments**

The Final Round shall also consist of one (1) Mooting Round which will be a “KnockOut” Round where the team with the higher Round Total as defined in Clause 8.2 shall be declared as the Best Team.

5. **Memorials**

5.1. **Format Specifications**

All teams must submit Memorials/Written Submissions for both sides (Applicants & Respondent) and the Memorials must fulfil all the following specifications:

5.1.1. Memorials must contain the following:

- a) Table of Contents
- b) Index of Authorities
- c) Statement of Jurisdiction
- d) Summary of Facts
- e) Summary of Arguments
- f) Body of Arguments
- g) Prayer.

5.1.2. The Memorial shall not be more than thirty-five (35) pages, including Body of Arguments, which shall not be more than twenty (20) pages.

5.1.3. The Memorial shall be formatted according to the following specifications:

- a) Typed on standard A4 size page
- b) Font type: Times New Roman
- c) Font size for body text: 12; the text of the written submission must have one and a half spacing
- d) Font size for footnotes: 10; text of footnotes may be single-spaced however two separate footnotes must be double spaced
- e) Margin: 1 inch margin on each side of the A4 size page
- f) Alignment of all body text must be in Justified

5.1.4. The footnotes must follow the 20th edition of Harvard Bluebook format for citation. No endnotes or speaking footnotes are permitted.

5.1.5. The Cover Page of the Memorial must have the following colour scheme:

Blue: Applicant Cover Page

Red: Respondent Cover Page

5.1.6. The Memorial must not contain any Annexure/Photographs/Sketches/ Exhibits/Affidavits etc.

5.1.7. Memorials that do not comply with the above-mentioned specifications will be subjected to penalties. Penalties will be calculated on the basis of the soft copy of the Memorial available with the Moot Court Association and in accordance with clause 5.1.8 of the rules. Irrespective of the number of violations, the maximum amount of marks deducted shall not be more than 15 marks. This does not apply to marks deducted for late submission or plagiarism.

5.1.8. Penalties shall be calculated in accordance with the following:

Sr. No.	Violation	Mark Deduction
1.	Formatting violation in body text	1
2.	Formatting violation in footnotes	1
3.	Substantive violation in footnotes	1
4.	Violation of submission guidelines	2
5.	Annexure/Photographs/Sketches/ Exhibits/Affidavits etc. in Memorial	2
6.	Non-compliance with page limits	2
7.	Non-compliance with required contents of memorial	2
8.	Late Submission	3
9.	Plagiarism	10

5.2. Deadline for submission of Memorials

5.2.1. The deadline for submission of the soft copies of memorials for teams participating in accordance with clause 1.1. and 1.2 (Overseas and Invited Indian Teams) will be **10th January, 2023** by **11:59 p.m. IST**. The teams must send a “pdf” file extension along with a word “docx” file extension, to dmh.memorials@gmail.com. The subject of the e-mail must be:

Memorial for team code “mention team code”

5.2.2. We request all teams to **not** send **hard copies** of their memorials.

5.2.3. The Indian Teams qualifying through the Memorial Round will be duly notified on **15th December 2022**.

5.2.4. The Indian teams qualifying through the Memorial Round will not get a chance to revise their Memorials. The Memorials submitted by them on or before **30th November 2022** shall be considered as their final Memorials.

5.3. **Anonymity**

5.3.1. Identity of the team or the names of the participants must not be revealed in the Memorial in any manner.

5.3.2. Teams disclosing their identity through the Memorials in any form will be subject to disqualification.

5.3.3. The name of the institution should not appear on any compendium or submission that needs to be submitted to the bench. In this case, the team would be requested to stop screen sharing immediately and **will not** be allowed to submit the compendium.

5.3.4. Teams must maintain anonymity while screen sharing. The identity of the participants and the college should not be revealed through any desktop applications, judgement copies, compendiums or memorials during the course of screen sharing or oral submissions.

5.3.5. No team is permitted to share their compendium or research with the judges through the chat box.

5.3.6. Screen shared memorials should be the same as the memorials sent by the teams via mail.

5.3.7. All teams must email their compendiums or individual pdfs which they will be screen sharing to dmh.glc@gmail.com latest by **11:59 p.m. IST on 27th January 2023**. **The screen shared content should be the same as the one sent via email.** No changes can be made to these documents once they are shared with us via email.

5.4. **External Assistance**

5.4.1. All research, writing and editing must be solely the product of Team members. No Team shall be allowed to view or otherwise become privy to any Memorial/Written Submission other than the respective Applicant and Respondent Memorial of the scheduled opposing Teams in the course of the Competition.

5.4.2. Team members are permitted to discuss with their coach (if any) and with others affiliated with their College/Law School/University general principles of

international law ONLY. Persons other than the official team members are not permitted to research on the Case-Study of the Competition.

5.4.3. The coach/faculty members/others affiliated with the College/Law School/University may provide general guidance on the overall organization of the brief, but cannot assist with the actual writing and are not permitted to edit the Written Submission/Memorials or correct the citation format.

5.4.4. Academic guidance beyond that permitted by the Official Rules of the Competition will lead to the immediate disqualification of the team.

5.5. The above memorials shall be evaluated in accordance with clause 6 of the rules.

5.6. After the completion of the Competition, the Organisers reserve the right to use the Memorials submitted to them, as they may deem appropriate.

6. Marking Criteria for the Memorials

6.1. The Memorials will be judged by a special panel of four Judges.

6.2. Every Memorial will be marked on a total of Hundred (100) marks by each of the four judges. Two judges will evaluate the applicants and the other two will evaluate the respondent memorials. The average ($1/4^{\text{th}}$ the total) of the marks of all four judges, out of a maximum of four hundred (400) marks will be taken as the final score.

6.3. The following will be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to each category:

Sr. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
1.	Knowledge of Law and Extent of Research	30
2.	Proper and Articulate Analysis, Clarity and Organization	25
3.	Knowledge of Facts	15
4.	Evidence of Original Thought	10
5.	Grammar and Style	10
6.	Correct Format and Citation	10
	Total	100

7. Oral Submissions

7.1. As specified hereinabove at 2.2.1., each team shall comprise of two speakers who shall divide the oral submissions between themselves.

7.2. During the course of the Oral Submissions no speaker shall either reveal his/ her identity or the identity of their University/College by any means whatsoever.

7.3. **Time Distribution**

7.3.1. Each team will have a maximum of 30 minutes to present their Oral Submissions. This will include the time that each team may want to reserve for their rejoinder. *Teams must note that they will not be granted a sur-rejoinder as a matter of right and will lie at the sole discretion of the judges.*

7.3.2. At the commencement of every session of Oral Submissions each team shall notify the Court Officer as to the division of time between the 2 speakers including the time reserved for their rejoinder. A maximum of 5 minutes can be reserved for the rejoinder (**Rejoinder: Rebuttal**).

7.3.3. No single speaker will be permitted to address the Court for more than 20 minutes. This includes the time the speaker addresses the Court during the rejoinder/sur-rejoinder.

7.3.4. Teams shall not split the time reserved for a rejoinder between themselves and only one speaker will be permitted to address the Court during a rejoinder/sur-rejoinder.

7.3.5. Five (5) minutes before the completion of the allocated time for each speaker there will be a warning bell, and at the completion of the allocated time for each speaker there will be a final bell.

7.3.6. No speaker will be allowed to speak in excess of the time allotted to each speaker. Extra time will be given to each speaker as per the discretion of the judges. If the judge so requires, the extra time taken by the speaker may be deducted from the time allotted to his/her co-speaker or from the time allotted for rejoinder.

7.3.7. The final decision as to the time structure and the right to rejoinder/sur-rejoinder will be that of the Judges.

7.4. **Submission of additional material**

7.4.1. All teams will be expected to carry along any case law(s) and authorities to which they intend to refer. *Teams must note that they will **not be permitted** to submit any material to the judges if such material bears the name or seal of their College/University.*

7.4.2. No other document, other than the Memorial of the appropriate side of the opposing team, shall be allowed to be exchanged between any two teams at any given time in the competition.

7.4.3. During the course of oral submissions, the participants cannot submit to the court any material containing pictorial representation whatsoever. Further the participants will not be permitted to make any audio/visual representation nor will they be allowed to use personal computers, laptops and any other technical or mechanical device during their oral submissions except for the device being used to join the virtual session.

7.4.4. If at any instance a submission is made with any material in violation of the above rules and if any picture, sketches, photos, cartoons, caricatures, audio film, video film, projector-slide or a computer-generated image is submitted or presented to court, the teams shall be disqualified from the competition forthwith.

8. Marking Criteria for the Arguments:

8.1. Points Allocation

8.1.1. Each Speaker will be marked on a total of 100 marks by each Bench Judge. The following will be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to each Speaker by each Judge in the Round:

Sr. No	Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
1.	Understanding of Law and Procedure	20
2.	Application of Facts	20
3.	Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions	20
4.	Use of Authority	10
5.	Organisation and Flow of Arguments	10
6.	Reference to Memorials	10
7.	Advocacy Skills, Court Craft and Demeanour	10
	Total	100

8.1.2. The decision of the judges as to the Marks allocated to any team shall be final.

8.1.3. So as to ensure uniformity in the marking system all the judges will be provided with a marking guideline.

8.2. Round Total for the Preliminary Rounds

The Round Total for the Preliminary Rounds will be an aggregate of the total marks of each Speaker by each Judge (as indicated in clause 8.1.1) in the Round and one-fourth (1/4th) of the Team's Memorial Marks (as indicated in clauses 6.2 and 6.3).

8.3. **Round Total for the Octo-Final/Quarter-Final/Semi-Final/Final Rounds**

The Round Total for the Octo-Final, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final Round will be an aggregate total of the marks obtained by each speaker from each judge (as indicated in table 8.1.1.). A Team's Memorial Marks will not be a part of their Round Total in the Octo-Final, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final Rounds. However, in case of a tie, Memorial Scores will be used as a tie-breaker.

9. **Online Platform Rules**

- 9.1. The participants must ensure that they have a strong internet connection with good audio and video facilities. They must use laptops or PC for the oral rounds. The use of cell phones is prohibited.
- 9.2. The background of the participants on video shall be plain and shall not contain any symbols or any representations.
- 9.3. The participants (speakers) must ensure that any noise or audio other than the voice of the participant should not occur during the online oral rounds. It is advisable to plan and prepare for the online oral rounds in advance accordingly.
- 9.4. Participants shall be permitted to use the screen sharing feature for making their submissions. Participants are required to use latest version of Firefox or Google Chrome. Participants are not permitted to use Safari.
- 9.5. The teams must ensure that they do not disclose the identity of their college at any stage during the competitions. Any kind of canvassing shall lead to the disqualification of the teams.
- 9.6. At the time when one participant is speaking, others are expected to keep their microphones on mute.
- 9.7. The participants must not start the session before the host.
- 9.8. **The Meeting ID, Password and Link to each session shall be shared with the participants before each round.**

10. Awards

- 10.1 An e-certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 36,000/- for the **Best Team** and an e-certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 27,000/- for the **2nd Best Team**.
- 10.2 An e-certificate and cash prize of Rs 15,000/- for the **Best Memorial** and an e-certificate and cash prize of Rs. 12,000/- for the **2nd Best Memorial**.
- 10.3 An e-certificate and cash prize of Rs. 14,000/- for the **Best Speaker**, an e-certificate and cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- for the **2nd Best Speaker** and an e-certificate and cash prize of Rs. 14,000/- for the **Best Speaker in the Final Round of Arguments**.
- 10.4 The Best Speaker and Runner up Speaker Awards will be determined by the Total Scores in the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition by adding the four (4) judges' scores from two (2) Preliminary Rounds. The total score from those two (2) Rounds shall be averaged to determine the Speaker's ranking, whereas the Best Speaker in the Final Round of Arguments will be determined on the basis of the Individual speaker scores in the Final Round of Arguments.
- 10.5 All participants will get e-certificates of Participation and all the winners of awards specified in 10.1. to 10.3. will get e-certificates of Merit.

11. Miscellaneous

11.1. Scouting

No member of any team will be permitted to hear the arguments in any courtroom in which that team is not one of the contesting teams whilst that team is still in the competition. The Organisers shall take strict action, including expulsion from the competition, against any team found to be scouting through a team member or through any other means.

11.2. Organisers' Extra-Ordinary Power

11.2.1. All Participants are expected to maintain decorum in the Court during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession. The Organisers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.

11.2.2. The Organisers decision as regards the interpretation of rules or any other matter related to the competition will be final and binding.

11.2.3. If there is any situation which is not contemplated in the rules, the Organisers decision on the same shall be final and binding.

11.2.4. The Organisers reserve the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules without any prior notification, if so required and as they may deem appropriate.

12. Disclaimer

The Material in the moot problem is not intended to and does not attempt to resemble any incident or any person living or dead. All material in the moot problem is fictitious and any resemblance to any incident or person, if any, is not intended, but merely co-incidental.

13. Contact Details

Email Address: dmh.glc@gmail.com ; mcaglc@gmail.com

In case of any queries, we request you to contact the following members of the Moot Court Association:

Registrations: Mr. Agastya Vijayaraghavan (+91 7021137909)
Ms. Drishti Patrawala (+91 9820496388)

Memorials: Mr. Karan Nair (+91 9137128855)

General Secretary of the Moot Court Association:
Ms. Sakshi Shetty (+91 9136127507)

Annexure 1

List of Indian Universities/Colleges which had qualified to the Semi Final Rounds in the 23rd D. M. Harish Memorial Government Law College International Online Moot Court Competition, 2022:

1. Gujarat National Law University
2. National Law University, Odisha
3. National Law University, Delhi