

**4th SURANA & SURANA AND RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF LAW
NATIONAL TORT LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

&

JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2021

22 – 24 April, 2022

RULES

Joint Organizer



Surana & Surana
International Attorneys
Chennai | New Delhi

Host & Joint Organizer



Ramaiah College of Law
Bengaluru

Venue

VIRTUAL(ONLINE)

Email: info@msrcl.org



4th SURANA & SURANA AND RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF LAW
NATIONAL TORT LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION
&
JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2021



22 – 24 April 2022

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. AIM & PURPOSE

- a. The Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Court Competition has been conceived with the aim of creating opportunities for learning the development of jurisprudence on emerging trends in tort law besides developing cutting edge skills in research, writing and advocacy.
- b. The judgment¹ writing competition will be a part of Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Court Competition with the following principles and purposes.
 - i. A judgment has a social and civic function besides the primary principle of promoting rule of law and upholding justice.
 - ii. To achieve the above, it must *“have clarity of thought, explain decision to the parties, communicate reasons for the decision to public and provide reason for an appeal court to consider”*.²
 - iii. To develop a well-balanced judicious mind
 - iv. Prevent abuse of legal process (Full rules mentioned in Clause XVII)

II. VENUE AND DATE

The 4th Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Court Competition shall be held virtually from **22th – 24th April, 2022**.

III. LANGUAGE

The competition shall be in the English language.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open for students who are pursuing LLB three year / five year course during the current academic year.

¹ *“The statement given by the Judge of the grounds of decree or order” Section 2 (9) of the Civil Procedure Code 1908. The official and authentic decision of a court of justice upon the respective rights and claims of the parties to an action or suit therein litigated and submitted to its determination (Black’s law Dictionary)*

² *Speech delivered by the Honorable Justice Roslyn Atkinson, Supreme Court of Queensland, to the AIJA Conference, Brisbane, 13 September 2002.*

V. TEAM COMPOSITION

- a. Each team should consist of a minimum of 2 and maximum of 3 members. This number cannot be modified under any circumstances.
- b. There shall be 2 speakers and 1 researcher designated for each team. The researcher shall be allowed to argue with prior permission of the court and National Administrator in case of illness of the designated speakers.
- c. Each team will **be provided a team code** prior to the submission of memorials via e- mail. This team code is only for the memorials. Teams should not disclose the identity of their institution; such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the National Administrator.

VI. REGISTRATION

- a. Online registrations are open from **20th October 2021**. The teams must register online by **14th February, 2022**. Teams will have to register online at www.moot.in
- b. No temporary registration requests will be entertained. Kindly refrain from sending such requests to Surana & Surana or RCL.
- c. Participants will receive an automated system generated acknowledgement on successful submission of registration. Participants will receive an approval as acceptance of their request for participation latest by **15th February, 2022** or earlier.
- d. **Registration Process**

Option 1 - The Registration form cum Approval letter as provided in the rules duly signed & sealed by your university / college / moot society.

Option 2 - Upload both (i) & (ii) together as a single PDF

(i) The Registration form cum Approval letter (without seal & signature) as provided in the rules duly filled along with

(ii) Scanned copy of authorization letter with sign and seal from your university / college / moot society

OR

An email communication from the official id (to be filled as notification email id during online registration process) of the institution, from your university / college / moot society to complete the registration process.

Note:

1. Signatories on the registration form should be any of the following: - Faculty-in-charge of MCA / MCS / MCC, Registrar, Dean, Principal, Director, Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor
2. Registration without the scanned copy of the approval letter / an email communication from the college/institution/university or duly attested registration form will not be valid.

- e. Soft copy of the registration and approval letter/ an email communication as a **single PDF** to be sent by email to: mootcourt@msrcl.org marked as 4th SURANA & SURANA AND RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF LAW NATIONAL TORT LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION REGISTRATION as subject of the mail latest by **14th February, 2022**. **The provisional team code shall be allotted to the registered teams by Host University soon after receiving the registration particulars.**
- f. On receiving the provisional team code from moot committee/society of RCL you may proceed to pay the registration fees.
- g. **A registration fee of Rs.4,000/-** is to be paid via **NEFT by 16th February, 2022** to the following account:

Account Number: 2871101006278

Account Holder's Name: PRINCIPAL, M. S. RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF LAW

IFSC: CNRB0002699

Bank: CANARA BANK, SANJAY NAGAR BRANCH, BANGALORE

Receipt of the online payment to be sent by email to mootcourt@msrcl.org

- h. In the event a team drops out of the competition or is disqualified the team next in line as per registration data (When the registration exceeds beyond the permitted 40 teams) will be offered the chance to participate in the competition at short notice. Teams will have to submit memorials to be eligible at least 3 days prior to the start of the competition.

VII. ORIENTATION

There will be an Orientation Program for all the participants on **22nd April, 2022** followed by a draw of lots and exchange of memorials. Competition team codes and side will be allotted during the orientation only

VIII. ROUNDS

There will be two preliminary rounds, an octa final, a quarterfinal, a semi-final and a final round.

- Octa final will be conducted if the participation exceeds 30 teams.
- Quarter final will be conducted if the participation exceeds 16 teams.

Preliminary Round

- a. There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments per team, once for applicant & another for respondent.
- b. No team will face each other more than once in the preliminary rounds.
- c. Each team will face a different bench in their second round of arguments.

- d. Preliminary / Octa final / Quarter finals/ Semi-Finals will be held on **22nd & 23rd April, 2022**, and the top sixteen / eight teams will qualify for the Octa finals / Quarterfinals as mentioned above.
 - e. Top sixteen / eight teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Octa / Quarter final rounds that will be decided on
 - a. Win points
 - b. Win points + Aggregate raw points
 - c. Win points + Aggregate raw points (in case of tie minus memorial marks)
- NB: Aggregate raw points = oral scores + memorial score.

Memorial marks will be added to the scores of both the preliminary rounds only.

- f. There will be an Orientation Program for all the participants on **22nd April, 2022 (Friday)** followed by a draw of lots & exchange of memorials.
- g. The dress code shall be the advocate's attire during the rounds of the competition.
- h. The oral arguments need not be confined to the issues presented in the memorials

Octafinal / Quarterfinal / Semi Final Round / Final Round:

- a. Draw of lots/ Power match will decide the side of the arguments in Octa finals, Quarterfinals, and Semifinals & Finals.
- b. Preliminary rounds and Octa-finals will be held on **22nd & 23rd April, 2022 (Saturday)**.
- c. Quarterfinals & Semi-Finals will take place on **23rd April, 2022 (Saturday) evening** (**if time does not permit may be postponed to Sunday 24th April, 2022 (Sunday) at 9.30 am**).
- d. The **Finals** on **24th April, 2022**.
- e. The Octa finals / Quarterfinal / Semifinal are knockout rounds.

IX. RESULTS

- a) Results of the preliminary rounds shall be announced after the completion of rounds of all the teams.
- b) Similarly, the results of the Quarter-Final/Semi-Final Rounds shall be announced after completion of the rounds of all qualified teams of respective rounds.
- c) The results of the Final Round shall be announced during the Valedictory & prize distribution Ceremony.

X. MEMORIALS

The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Non-conformities will be penalised:

- a. Each team must prepare memorials for both parties to the dispute (Plaintiff & Defendant).
- b. The soft copy of the Memorials from both the sides in word format for the Plaintiff and the Defendant should be mailed to mootcourt@msrcl.org or before **7th April, 2022** with a copy to mootcourt@lawindia.com. Late submission will be penalized by **two points** each per memorial for every hour of delay after the due date subject to a maximum of **20** penalty points. **Memorials beyond a delay of 24 hours will not be accepted.** This will by default disqualify you from participating in the Competition. Once the soft copy of the memorials has been submitted, **no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.**
- c. The memorials have to be submitted on A 4 size paper **printed on both the sides** and must contain:
 - Cover page (with prescribed color sheet)
 - The table of contents
 - The index of authorities
 - The statement of jurisdiction
 - The statement of facts (1 page only and argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
 - The statement of issues
 - The summary of arguments (not more than 1 page)
 - The arguments advanced (not more than 15 pages)
 - The prayer
- d. Uniform font style is to be used throughout the memorial. The font style should either be **‘Times New Roman’**. The font size of the text should be 12 (double space) and for footnotes, font size should be 10 (single space) & double space is to be adhered to between two footnotes. Footnoting must conform to the Oxford University Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA), 4th Edition.
- e. The memorial must have a margin measuring one inch on all sides of each page
- f. The page numbering should be on the top right side of each page.
- g. Covers must be placed on briefs as follows:

Plaintiff: Light Blue Color; Defendant: Light Red Color.
- h. The cover page of the memorial must state the following:
 - a. Team code (on the top right corner)
 - b. The cause title
 - c. Identify brief as Petitioners / Applicant / Appellant & Defendant / Respondent as applicable

- i. Identity of the institution or personal identities shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial. Violation of this provision shall result in penalties including disqualification. The National Administrator's decision shall be final.
- j. The teams may submit a separate paper book (compendium) of not more than 50 pages (printed on both sides), which will carry all the case laws that have been referred to in the memorial. The paper book will have a white cover. The teams may submit the compendium through screen sharing with judges during the oral rounds or submitted during virtual registration before commencement of the Competition as advised by the organizers. **Any identifying marks/seal of the college shall attract severe penalties including disqualification.**

XI. ORAL ROUND

Preliminary Round, Octa finals & Quarter finals

- a. Each team will get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. This time will include rebuttal and sur-rebuttal time.
- b. The division of time is at the discretion of the team members, subject to a minimum of **10+ minutes** per speaker. Division of time shall be informed to the court officer before arguments begin.
- c. The oral arguments need not be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.
- d. Passing of notes to the speakers by the researcher during the rounds is allowed.
- e. The researcher shall sit with the speakers at the time of the orals.

Semifinal & Final

- a. Each team will get 45 minutes to present their case that will include rebuttal and sur-rebuttal time
- b. The division of time is at the discretion of the team, with a minimum of **20 minutes per speaker.**
- c. The oral arguments need not be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.
- d. Only the researcher shall sit with the speakers at the time of the orals.

XII. Scouting

Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the team members or additional/accompanying members from the same institution shall result in disqualification.

XIII. Scoring

A. Orals

The parameters for judging the oral presentation on a scale of 0 – 100 points are:

- a. Knowledge of facts
- b. Logic and reasoning
- c. Organisation and clarity
- d. Persuasiveness

- e. Deference to the court
- f. Proper and articulate analysis of the issues arising out of facts
- g. Understanding of the legal principles directly applicable to the issues
- h. Ability to explain clearly the legal principles in general keeping to the time allotted
- i. Knowledge and use of legal sources and authorities and general principles of national law
- j. Ingenuity (ability to argue by analogy from related aspects of law)

B. Written Submissions (Memorials)

- i) The memorials shall be marked on a scale of 1-100 points each.
- ii) Any revisions, supplements or additions to the memorials after submission shall attract severe penalties subject to the discretion of the National Administrator.
- iii) Award of the points shall be based on the following parameters:
 - a. Neatness, legibility, no typographical errors or format errors
 - b. Logical progression of ideas
 - c. Effective use of headings to outline arguments
 - d. Understanding essential legal issues presented
 - e. Focus on essential (not collateral) issues
 - f. Clear, concise and unambiguous writing style
 - g. Forceful and persuasive presentation
 - h. Integration of facts into legal argument
 - i. Understanding of strengths and weaknesses of case
 - j. Discussion of viable alternative arguments
 - k. Understanding and analysis of authority
 - l. Proper use of citations and citation form
 - m. Effective use of authority to support arguments
 - n. Ability to distinguish adverse cases
- c. Non- compliance of the rules mentioned in Clause VIII above shall attract severe penalties.

XIV. AWARDS

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| i. Winning team: | Rs. 25000 |
| ii. Runner up team: | Rs. 15000 |
| iii. Best Memorial: | Rs. 10000 |
| iv. Best Student Advocate: | Rs. 7000 |
| v. Best Researcher : | Rs. 7000 |

In addition to the above awards, plaques and certificates will be given to other categories of winners. All participants will be awarded participation certificates.

XV. ANONYMITY

- a) Student counsels may introduce themselves to the court in the usual manner and may also state their names. However, the team's college / institution affiliation may not be mentioned at any time before the awards ceremony.
- b) Further, all team members, coaches, advisors, and observers shall refrain from identifying a team's school at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items, such as school clothing, ties, patches, or pins or carrying identifying material (such as a book with a college logo, or college seal).

XVI. POLICY FOR VIRTUAL ROUNDS

- a) The Oral Rounds for the competition will take place virtually via **Zoom / Cisco WebEx / Google Meet** platform.
- b) It would be the responsibility of every team to ensure a stable internet connection. The audio and video of every member of the team should be clear. Every team must ensure a proper background. The Moot Court Committee will under no circumstances be obligated to provide the participants with any such facility
- c) All participants should mandatorily join with their laptops or desktops and other forms of device are to be avoided.
- d) **The link or the ID and password for the room on Cisco WebEx or Google Meet will be conveyed to the participating teams before the oral rounds.**
- e) Each participating member of every team is advised to install the Zoom / Cisco WebEx / Google Meet platform on their devices well in time.
- f) Each team is required to join the room at least twenty minutes before the scheduled time of commencement of the oral rounds.
- g) The participants' camera and microphone shall be firmly positioned throughout the oral rounds so as to show speakers and to ensure their voices are clearly audible.
- h) All participants must keep their cameras on at all times during the rounds. Camera to be switched off in case of technical glitches with the permission of the bench.
- i) At the time when one participant is speaking, others are expected to keep their microphones on mute. In case a participant is found disturbing the other pleader anyway, he/she or the entire team to which such participant belongs may be disqualified upon the discretion of the bench.
- j) Each participant is responsible for finding a suitable venue and background to participate. The venue must be a quiet location and one which has adequate and reliable internet connectivity and has a desk and chairs for the oralist. Locations in open spaces or hallways or cybercafes or similar areas are NOT permitted.
- k) Participants are cautioned to ensure that all equipment has a power supply sufficient to last for at

least two hours without interruption.

- l) In case of a loss in internet connection, each team will be given a reasonable time to reconnect. If the problem still persists the decision made by the organizers shall be final and binding.
- m) In the event where one or both of the speakers could not join due to connectivity issues, the team may be disqualified from the competition and at no circumstances can other members of the team be allowed to switch roles.
- n) Where a team does not appear within 10 minutes of the scheduled time for the round, the round shall proceed as ex-parte.
- o) Compendium & memorials shall be mailed to mootcourt@msrcl.org along with the team competition codes on completion of the Orientation as directed by the organizers.
- p) Any compiled Research Material (Compendium) or other supplementary documents may be, as per the discretion of the bench, presented by the team by using the “screen sharing” option given they have fulfilled the preceding sub-clause.
- q) Participants will not be allowed to use the feature of personal chat on Cisco WebEx or Google Meet to communicate with their team members or members of the opposing team.
- r) Teams shall not use internet or any other devices during the rounds for anything, except participating in the rounds.
- s) Participants can only sip water on screen during the competition. Consumption of other beverages or eatables is not permitted. Non-Speakers are to switch off video before drinking water.
- t) Participating speakers and researcher are permitted to join for the Virtual Competition from the same premises/room. However, the screen space shall be independent and the speakers, researcher to represent before the bench through individual/separate devices.
- u) Appropriate court room demeanor is to be maintained. This is mandatory.
- v) The organizers shall take best available measures to resolve or mitigate any connectivity issues that may arise. However, in cases where that is not possible, the organizer cannot be held responsible for the unforeseen issues which includes (but are not limited to) – Software failure and connectivity issues.
- w) Participants are expected to cooperate with the organizers and the judges, in case anyone faces any issue.
- x) The decision of the Organizers in consultation with the judges shall be final and binding.

XVII. VIDEO RECORDING

- a. The organizers will arrange for the video recording of only the finals of the competition. Teams that wish to obtain a copy of the recording may do so on payment of Rs.1000/- per copy
- b. The recording shall be sent to the college on payment of Rs.1000/- per copy in the form of a Demand Draft (DD only) drawn on a nationalized bank payable at Bengaluru in favor of

XVIII. DECISION OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL

The organizers reserve the right to amend the rules of the competition.

XIX. RESEARCHER'S TEST

- a. The Researcher's Test shall be conducted on **Friday, 22nd April 2022**, simultaneously during the Orientation and draw of lots. **Participation in researchers' test is mandatory to be eligible to participate in the oral rounds.**
- b. In a team consisting of three members, the member designated as Researcher shall take part in the test. In a team consisting of two members, one of the two Speakers shall take part in the test.
- c. The Researcher's Test shall be in the format of Multiple Choice Questions with the questions based on the applicable law, precedents and facts pertaining to the Moot Proposition.

No additional material such as the bare text of Acts, Memorandum, digital access to platforms or material in any other form should be accessed while responding to the test.

XX. RULES OF THE NATIONAL JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION ON TORT LAW

1. **Title:** The competition will be called "4th Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Judgment Writing Competition on Tort Law 2021". This judgment writing competition will be a part of 4th Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Competition.
2. **Rules:** Besides the rules given below all relevant rules of the 4th Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Court Competition rules are applicable.
3. **Eligibility:** The teams participating in the 4th Surana & Surana and Ramaiah College of Law National Tort Law Moot Court Competition.
4. **Structure:** The structure of the judgment will reflect the forum / court in which the moot case is set and argued

5. Submission:

- a. The participant team must compulsorily submit to the administrator a judgment arising out of the National Tort Law case in M S Word format not exceeding **3000 words** including footnotes, citations etc.
- b. **The submission of the draft of the Judgment is mandatory for eligibility for participation in the oral rounds.** The Last date for submission of the draft of the Judgment in word format for the judgment writing competition is **7th April 2022**. A soft copy of the same shall be forwarded to mootcourt@msrcl.org and mootcourt@lawindia.com
- c. The final copy of judgment on completing the oral arguments for:
 - i. Teams not qualifying to the Semi-Finals shall submit their final judgment via email to mootcourt@msrcl.org and to mootcourt@lawindia.com before 11:59 A.M on **24th April, 2022**, Sunday.
 - ii. Teams qualifying to the Semi-Finals shall submit their final judgment via email to

mootcourt@msrcl.org and to mootcourt@lawindia.com before 11:59 A.M on **25th April, 2022, Monday.**

6. Evaluation criteria (based on application of principle & objective) :

- i. Format (All the steps of a judgment)
- ii. Language and style (lucid expressions, brevity not at cost of clarity)
- iii. Facts in brief
- iv. Issues
- v. Application of law
- vi. *Ratio Decidendi*
- vii. Justification of decision
- viii. Operative order
- ix. *Obiter dicta*
- x. Creative interpretation of citations, facts, law and innovative approach

7. Prize and Certificates (Judgment Writing):

Winner : Rs. 10,000/-

Runner up : Rs. 7,000/-

3rd and 4th best judgment will be awarded certificates.

All the participants who have submitted the judgments would get participation certificates. The winners (winner / runner up) would be awarded respective individual certificates.

Surana & Surana International Attorney will have no further obligation regarding this competition.

8. Jury

The results announced by the eminent juries will be final and no further representation will be entertained in this regard

9. Results:

- a. Will be communicated by mail / email / posting on the websites of Ramaiah College of Law / www.moot.in
- b. Winning entries will be uploaded at www.moot.in / and at the website of Ramaiah College of Law, Bengaluru and Linked In page of Surana & Surana Moots Alumni.
- c. Prize, cheques and certificates will be sent by post to the respective winners.

XXI. COPYRIGHT

- a. The copyright over the memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully in, Ramaiah College of Law, Bengaluru

and Surana & Surana International Attorneys Chennai. The participants shall certify in writing the originality of materials contained therein and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

- b. Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and Ramaiah College of Law, Bengaluru, and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.
- c. Distribution of these materials on affiliated websites such as www.moot.in does not constitute consent to any use of this material for commercial redistribution either via the Internet or using some other form of hypertext distribution. Links to the collection or individual pages in it are welcome.

XXII. ORGANISING TEAM

The Principal, RCL, will be the National Administrator.

Any clarification for the competition can be sought from:

Regarding Case / Submission of Memorials / Accommodation / Transport / etc.

Ms. Somalatha Moly T S

Faculty coordinator

Ph: +91-9447320165

Email: somalathamoly@msrcl.org

Ms. Astha Khare

Faculty coordinator

Ph: +91-9450691037

Email: asthakhare@msrcl.org

Regarding online registration:

Preetam Surana

Surana & Surana International Attorneys

Head (Admin), Litigation & Arbitration Practice

Advocate & Head, Academic Initiatives

Email: mootcourt@lawindia.com

Ph: 044 – 2812 0000, Fax: 91 – 44 – 2812 0001

Student coordinators

1. Nikhil Erinjingat
Ph: +919591021093
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4th SURANA & SURANA AND RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF LAW
NATIONAL TORT LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION
&
JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2021



22 – 24 April 2022

IMPORTANT DATES

Commencement of Online Registration	20th October 2021
Last date for Online Registration	14 th February, 2022
Last date for receiving soft copies of Reg. Form / Approval letter and	14 th February, 2022
Last date for payment of Registration fee & submission of Payment particulars	16 th February, 2022
Last date for seeking clarifications of Problem	14 th February, 2022
Release of Clarifications of problem	18 th February, 2022
Last Date for Submission of Memorials (Soft Copy)	7 th April, 2022
Last date for submission of Draft Judgment for the judgment writing competition	7 th April, 2022
Inauguration, orientation and Researchers Test, Oral Rounds: Prelims-1	22 nd April, 2022
Oral Rounds – Prelims 2, Octa finals, Quarter finals & Semi Finals	23 rd April, 2022
Last date for Submission of Final Judgment for teams not qualifying to the Semi-Finals	24th April, 2022
Oral Rounds – Finals, Valediction & Declaration of Results	24 th April, 2022
Last date for Submission of Final Judgment for teams qualifying to the Semi-Finals	25 th April, 2022



**4th SURANA & SURANA AND RAMAIAH COLLEGE OF
LAW
NATIONAL TORT LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION
&
JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2021**



22 – 24 April 2022

Date:

Registration form/ Approval letter

(Please fill in capital letters)

Undertaking

1. We hereby state that our participation complies with the rules and regulations of the competition.
2. We certify that the materials submitted/to be submitted are prepared by us and agree to indemnify the organizers, i.e. the Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and the Ramaiah College of Law, Bengaluru for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

(All particulars must be given)

Name & Address of the participating Institution:

Notification Email:

Name of the participant	Gender	Course	Year / Semester	Signature

Primary Team Telephone Number & Email	
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