

Rules and Regulations

PART I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

RULE 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 These Rules shall be known as the National Moot Court Competition 2026–27.
- 1.2 These Rules shall govern all aspects of the Competition, including registration, eligibility, memorial submission, oral pleadings, evaluation and participant conduct.
- 1.3 Registration for the Competition shall constitute acceptance of these Rules by every participating Team.
- 1.4 The Competition shall be conducted by the Moot Court Association, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut.

RULE 2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The Competition is open to students enrolled in a Five-Year Integrated Law Programme, Three-Year LL.B. Programme, or an equivalent undergraduate law programme offered by a recognised university or institution.
- 2.2 Multiple Teams from the same institution shall be eligible to register for the Competition.
- 2.3 Each Team shall consist of not more than three (3) members. A Team may consist of two (2) or three (3) members.
- 2.4 Where a Team consists of two (2) members, both members shall participate as Speakers and One of them to be denoted as Researcher.
- 2.5 Where a Team consists of three (3) members, two members shall participate as Speakers and one member shall participate as Researcher.
- 2.6 No observer or additional member shall be permitted to participate in the Competition.
- 2.7 Once registration is completed, no refund will be available and no change in Team composition shall ordinarily be permitted except with prior approval of the Organising Committee.

RULE 3. REGISTRATION

3.1 Registration shall be completed through the prescribed online process within the notified deadline.

3.2 A Team shall be deemed duly registered only upon receipt of registration confirmation from the Organising Committee.

3.3 Every registered Team shall be allotted a unique Team Code, which shall be used throughout the Competition for all official purposes.

3.4 Teams shall ensure that all information furnished during registration is accurate and complete.

RULE 4. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Every participant shall adhere to these Rules and all instructions issued by the Organising Committee.

4.2 Any act of misconduct, unfair practice or violation of these Rules may result in deduction of marks or disqualification.

4.3 The interpretation of these Rules and the regulation of any matter not expressly provided herein shall rest with the Organising Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

PART II

COMPETITION STRUCTURE & PROCEDURE

RULE 5. ROUNDS OF THE COMPETITION

5.1 The Competition shall consist of the following rounds: Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-Final Round, Semi-Final Round and Final Round.

5.2 The Top Eight (8) Teams based on the cumulative Preliminary Round scores shall qualify for the Quarter-Final Round.

5.3 The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final Rounds shall be conducted on a knockout basis, with the winners of each round advancing to the subsequent round and the losing Teams being eliminated.

5.4 The Organising Committee reserves the right to modify the Competition structure depending upon the number of participating Teams.

5.5 In the event of a tie, the Team with the higher Memorial score shall be ranked higher.

RULE 6. DRAW OF LOTS

6.1 The Draw of Lots shall be conducted prior to the commencement of the Competition.

6.2 The Draw of Lots shall determine the Opposing Team and the Side to be represented.

6.3 The allocation made by the Organising Committee shall be final and binding.

RULE 7. TIME ALLOCATION

7.1 The time allotted for each Oral Round shall be as follows:

ROUND	TIME PER TEAM	REBUTTAL
Preliminary Round	25 Minutes	As permitted
Quarter-Final Round	30 Minutes	As permitted
Semi-Final Round	30 Minutes	As permitted
Final Round	35 Minutes	As permitted

7.2 The allotted time shall include the main submissions, rebuttal, and sur-rebuttal.

7.3 The time allotted to each Speaker shall be distributed between the Speakers at their discretion, provided that such distribution is reasonable and equitable.

7.4 The allocation of speaking time shall be communicated to the Court Master before the commencement of each Oral Round.

RULE 8 - EX PARTE PROCEEDINGS

8.1 A Team failing to report within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled commencement of a Round may be proceeded ex parte.

8.2 The attending Team shall present its submissions before the Bench and shall be evaluated on merit.

PART III

MEMORIAL RULES

RULE 9 - MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

9.1 Each Team shall prepare and submit two Memorials – one on behalf of the Applicant/Petitioner (Blue Cover Page) and one on behalf of the Respondent (Red Cover Page).

9.2 Memorials shall be submitted in soft copy (PDF format) for the Preliminary Rounds.

9.3 Memorials shall be submitted in hard copy for the Quarter, Semi-Final and Final rounds, on or before the deadline notified by the Organising Committee.

9.4 Each Team shall submit five (5) hard copies of each Memorial, within the deadline, unless otherwise notified.

9.5 Memorials submitted after the prescribed deadline may result in deduction of marks or disqualification.

RULE 10 - MEMORIAL FORMAT

PARTICULAR	REQUIREMENT
Paper Size	A4
Font	Times New Roman
Font Size (Text)	12 pt
Font Size (Footnotes)	10 pt
Line spacing (Text)	1.5
Line Spacing (Footnotes)	1
Margins	1 inch on all sides
Citation Style	Bluebook (22 nd Edition)
Maximum Length	40 Pages (Including Cover Page)

RULE 11 - MEMORIAL COVER & PAGINATION

11.1 All Memorials shall conform to the specifications prescribed under Rule 10.

11.2 All pages shall be consecutively numbered.

RULE 12 - CONTENTS OF THE MEMORIAL

12.1 Every Memorial shall contain the following sections:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Statement of Issues
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

RULE 13 - ANONYMITY

13.1 Memorials shall bear the allotted Team Code only.

13.2 The name of the Institution, Faculty Member, Coach, or any Team Member shall not disclose anywhere in the Memorial and throughout the competition.

13.3 Any breach of anonymity may result in deduction of marks or disqualification.

RULE 14 - EVALUATION OF MEMORIALS

14.1 Memorials shall be evaluated out of 100 Marks on the following criteria:

CRITERIA	MARKS
Extent and use of research	20
Legal and factual analysis	20
Clarity and organisation of the submission	20
Grammar, Style & Citation	20
Overall Presentation	20
Total	100

RULE 15 - ORIGINALITY

15.1 Every Memorial submitted shall be the original work of the participating Team and proper citation shall be provided for all authorities relied upon.

15.2 Plagiarism, fabricated citations or any form of academic misconduct may result in deduction of marks or disqualification.

PART IV

ORAL PLEADINGS & COURTROOM ETIQUETTE

RULE 16 - SPEAKERS & RESEARCHER

16.1 Each Team shall be represented by two (2) Speakers during the Oral Rounds.

16.2 The Researcher shall not address the Bench except with the prior permission of the Bench.

16.3 Speakers shall confine their submissions to the issues arising from the Moot Proposition and shall not introduce any new facts during the Oral Rounds.

RULE 17 - REBUTTAL & SUR-REBUTTAL

17.1 Rebuttal and Sur-Rebuttal shall be confined strictly to responding to the arguments advanced by the opposing Team and shall not introduce fresh arguments or authorities, except with the permission of the Bench.

RULE 18 - COURTROOM CONDUCT

18.1 Participants shall conduct themselves with dignity, courtesy and professionalism throughout the Competition.

18.2 Speakers shall address the Bench respectfully and comply with all directions issued by the Judges and the Court Master.

18.3 Communication between the Speakers and the Researcher shall be limited to written notes during the proceedings.

18.4 Mobile phones and electronic communication devices shall remain switched off or on silent mode throughout the Oral Rounds.

18.5 Participants shall refrain from any conduct that may disrupt or prejudice the proceedings.

RULE 19 - ORAL EVALUATION — 100 MARKS

CRITERIA	MARKS
Knowledge of Facts & Law	20
Application of Law	20
Response to Judicial Questions	15
Advocacy & Presentation Skills	15
Courtroom Etiquette	10
Time Management	10
Logic, Persuasiveness & Organisation	10
Total	100

PART V

CONDUCT & GENERAL PROVISIONS

RULE 20 - PROHIBITED CONDUCT

20.1 Scouting or observing another Team's Oral Round for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage is strictly prohibited.

20.2 Participants shall not communicate with coaches, faculty members or spectators during the course of an Oral Round.

20.3 Any attempt to influence the Judges or interfere with the conduct of the Competition shall result in appropriate disciplinary action, including deduction of marks or disqualification.

20.4 The decision of the Bench concerning courtroom procedure and the decision of the Organising Committee concerning disciplinary matters shall be final.

RULE 21 - DRESS CODE

21.1 All participants shall be dressed in formal court attire during the Competition.

Male Participants	Female Participants
White Shirt	White Shirt/Kurta
Black Trousers	Black Trousers
Black Tie	Black Tie
Black Blazer/Coat	Black Blazer/Coat
Black Formal Shoes	Black Formal Shoes

21.2 Participants failing to comply with the prescribed dress code may not be permitted to participate in the Oral Rounds.

RULE 22 - ONLINE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

22.1 Preliminary Rounds shall be conducted through the online platform notified by the Organising Committee.

22.2 Teams shall join the virtual courtroom at least 15 minutes before reporting time.

22.3 Teams shall ensure stable internet, functioning camera and microphone, suitable lighting and an appropriate background.

22.4 Participants shall comply promptly with directions concerning audio, video and screen-sharing.

22.5 The virtual courtroom shall be treated as a formal court setting.

RULE 23 – CLARIFICATIONS

23.1 Requests for clarification regarding the Moot Proposition shall be submitted only through the official email address within the prescribed timeline.

23.2 Clarifications issued by the Organising Committee shall form an integral part of the Moot Proposition and shall be binding on all participating Teams.

PART VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

RULE 24 - POWERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

24.1 The Organising Committee shall interpret and administer these Rules for the orderly conduct of the Competition.

24.2 The Committee may issue clarifications, corrigenda, procedural directions and schedules.

24.3 Procedural arrangements may be modified where reasonably necessary, while seeking to preserve fairness.

24.4 In exceptional circumstances not expressly addressed, the Committee may adopt a reasonable procedure consistent with the objectives of the Competition.

24.5 The Committee may constitute sub-committees and delegate administrative functions.

24.6 No participant shall claim a vested right to a particular administrative arrangement where change is reasonably required.

MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION

Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University,

Meerut