



**6<sup>TH</sup> WILDLIFE PROTECTION GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE  
NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2024 – 25**

**9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2025**

**OFFICIAL RULES**

**INDEX**

<b>SR. NO.</b>	<b>PARTICULARS</b>	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
<b>1.</b>	General	3
<b>2.</b>	Registration	4
<b>3.</b>	Competition Rules	4
<b>4.</b>	Memorials	6
<b>5.</b>	Marking Criteria for Memorials	9
<b>6.</b>	Oral Submissions	10
<b>7.</b>	Marking Criteria for Oral Submissions	11
<b>8.</b>	Awards	12
<b>9.</b>	Demeanour and Equity Guidelines	13

<b>10.</b>	Miscellaneous	14
<b>11.</b>	Requests for Interpretation of the Case Study and Rules	15
<b>12.</b>	Disclaimer	15
<b>13.</b>	Contact Details	15

## 1. GENERAL

### 1.1 Team Composition

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

### 1.2 Eligibility

Participation is restricted to bona-fide law students enrolled either in the 3-year L.L.B Law course, or the 5-year integrated Law course studying in India. Participation is limited to only one team per college or university. Cross college/university teams are strictly prohibited.

### 1.3 Language

The official language of the Competition is **English**. All Competition Rounds, including the written submissions (Memorials and Compendiums), shall be in English.

### 1.4 Accommodation

**1.4.1 Accommodation shall only be provided to teams residing outside of Mumbai at the Organisers expense for 3 nights, which are 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.**

**1.4.2** Teams arriving earlier shall contact the hotel directly, (details of the accommodation shall be shared later, as given in clause 1.4.4) and make their bookings accordingly. Extra charges shall have to be incurred by the team for additional days of stay.

**1.4.3** Accommodation shall not be provided to a fourth team member, coach, professor or family member.

**1.4.4** Accommodation for the participants living outside Mumbai shall be notified to them via e-mail a week before the Competition.

**1.4.5** Any concerns that participants have pertaining to room allotment are required to be conveyed to the Organisers. Changes in the room allotment can be made by the Organisers after the same has been conveyed to them at their discretion.

### 1.5 Dress Code

The dress code for the participants during the Rounds of the Competition shall be Black and White Formals with a tie mandatory for gentlemen and Western or Indian Formals for ladies.

## 2. REGISTRATION

2.1 All registering colleges must provisionally register themselves by sending an e-mail to [wpm.glc@gmail.com](mailto:wpm.glc@gmail.com). The last date to register is **25<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. IST**. Only after the provisional registration has been confirmed shall a link to a Google Form and details for the payment of registration fees be provided.

2.2 The Registration Fee is **Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) per Team**. The Registration Fee must be paid via NEFT, the details of which shall be provided once the provisional registration has been confirmed.

2.3 This Registration Fee is inclusive of accommodation which shall be provided for teams residing outside of Mumbai.

2.4 In the event of a team backing out of the Competition **two (2) weeks** prior to the Oral Rounds, the team shall not be eligible for a refund of the Registration Fee.

2.5 All teams shall be given a “team code” by the Organisers on validation of their Registration form. Thereafter, the teams shall use their designated “team code” for all correspondence with the Organisers.

2.6 The assigned “team code” must be used by the teams during the submission of Memorials and Compendiums and during all the Rounds of the Competition.

2.7 All the colleges/universities who have provisionally registered their teams shall be given an opportunity to confirm their provisional registration slot before registrations are accepted from other colleges, nationwide. The provisionally registered colleges shall have to confirm the registration of their teams by filling the Google Form link which shall be shared after provisional registration has been confirmed. In the event of the college failing to confirm the provisional registration of the team within the stipulated time period, the Organisers shall accept registrations from other colleges.

## 3. COMPETITION ROUNDS

The Competition rounds shall comprise of **two (2) Preliminary Rounds, one (1) Quarter-Final Round, one (1) Semi-Final Round and one (1) Final Round**. The Rounds shall be conducted **offline** at Government Law College, Mumbai.

### 3.1 Preliminary Rounds of Arguments

**3.1.1** There shall be **two (2) Preliminary Rounds**.

**3.1.2** A team shall be credited with a win in the Preliminary Rounds if their Round Total as defined in clause 7.2 is greater than that of the Opposing Team.

**3.1.3** In the event of a tie in the Round Total of the teams, the decision of the Judges shall be deemed to be final.

### 3.2 Quarter-Final Round Arguments

**Eight (8) teams** shall advance from the Preliminary Rounds of Arguments to the Quarter-Final Round of Arguments.

**3.2.1** Teams that have a 2:0 win-loss ratio in the Preliminary Rounds shall directly advance to the Quarter-Final Round. Such teams shall be seeded according to the Aggregate of their Round Totals in the two Preliminary Rounds (“**Aggregate Scores**”).

**3.2.2** Teams that have 1:1 win-loss ratio shall advance to the Quarter-Final Round based on their Aggregate Scores. They shall be seeded after the teams qualifying through to the Quarter-Final Round with a 2:0 win-loss ratio in the Preliminary Rounds, in order of their Aggregate Scores.

**3.2.3** In case of a tie in the Aggregate Scores of the Preliminary Rounds, the team marked higher in its knowledge and application of law as per the Marking Criteria in Clause 7.3 shall advance to the Quarter-Final Round.

**3.2.4** For the purpose of pairing the **eight (8) teams** that advance to the Quarter-Final Round, the team seeded first in the Seeding Chart shall be paired opposite the team seeded eighth in the Seeding Chart (Seed 1 vs. Seed 8), the team seeded second in the Seeding Chart shall be paired opposite the team seeded seventh in the Seeding Chart (Seed 2 vs. Seed 7), and all other teams shall be paired in such a manner.

**3.2.5** The Quarter-Final Round shall consist of **one (1) Mooting Round** which shall be a “Knock-Out” Round wherein the winner of each Quarter-Final Round pairing shall advance to the Semi-Final Round.

**3.2.6** A team shall be credited with a win in the Quarter-Final Round if their Round Total is greater than that of the Opposing Team.

**3.2.7** In the event of a tie in the Round Total of the teams, the decision of the judges shall be deemed to be final.

### **3.3 Semi-Final Round of Arguments**

**3.3.1** **Four (4) teams** shall advance to the Semi-Final Round of Arguments from the Quarter-Final Round of Arguments. The Semi-Final Round pairing shall be according to a draw of lots.

**3.3.2** The Semi-Final Round shall consist of **one (1) Mooting Round** which shall be a “Knock-Out” Round as well, where the winner of each Semi-Final Round pairing shall advance to the Final Round of Arguments.

**3.3.3** A team shall be credited with a win in the Semi-Final Round if their Round Total as defined in Clause 7.2 is greater than that of the Opposing Team.

**3.3.4** **Two (2) teams** shall advance to the Final Round from the Semi-Final Round. The Final Round pairing shall be according to a draw of lots.

### **3.4 Final Round of Arguments**

The Final Round shall also consist of **one (1) Mooting Round** which shall be a “Knock-Out” Round where the team with the higher Round Total as defined in Clause 7.2 shall be declared as the Best Team.

## **4. MEMORIALS**

### **4.1 Format Specifications**

All teams must submit typed-out Memorials fulfilling the following specifications:

**4.1.1** Memorials shall contain the following:

- (i) Cover Page;
- (ii) Table of Contents;
- (iii) Index of Authorities;
- (iv) Statement of Jurisdiction;
- (v) Questions Presented;
- (vi) Synopsis of Facts;
- (vii) Summary of Arguments;
- (viii) Body of Arguments;
- (ix) Conclusion/Prayer.

- 4.1.2** The Memorial shall not be more than **forty-five (45) pages**, including the Body of Arguments, which shall not be more than **twenty-five (25) pages**.
- 4.1.3** All Memorials must have a soft cover and must be spiral bound.
- 4.1.4** The cover page of the Memorial must be the following colour scheme:  
**Blue:** Petitioner cover page and **Red:** Respondent cover page.
- 4.1.5** The Memorial shall be typed on A4 size page in Font type: Times New Roman, Font size: 12, Double Spacing & 1-inch margin on all sides. Footnotes: Font size 10, no double spacing.
- 4.1.6** The footnotes must follow the 20<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Harvard Bluebook format for citation. Endnotes and/or speaking footnotes are strictly prohibited.
- 4.1.7** The Memorials must not contain any Annexure/Photographs/Sketches /Exhibits/Affidavits etc. Violation of said provision shall subject the team to disqualification or negative marking as deemed appropriate by the judges.
- 4.1.8** Memorials that do not comply with the above-mentioned specifications shall be penalised. Penalties shall be calculated on the basis of the soft copies of the Memorials available with the Organisers and in accordance with clause 4.1.9 of the Rules. Irrespective of the number of violations, the maximum marks deducted shall not exceed 15. The abovementioned deduction shall not be applicable to marks deducted for late submission or plagiarism.
- 4.1.9** Penalties shall be calculated in accordance with the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Section(s) of the Memorial	Description of Penalty	Mark Deduction
1.	Cover Page	Incorrect team code/Absence of team code on the cover page/ Absence of marking side (such as “P or R” in the team code prescribed)	0.5 marks for each violation
		Violation of the colour scheme provided for the Memorial	1 mark
2.	Footnotes, Header and Footer	Incorrect font/font size, incorrect line spacing, and incorrect page margin	0.25-1 mark depending on the degree of the violation
		Failure to include all enumerated sections of the Memorial	2 marks
		Substantive violation in footnotes	1 mark
		Incorrect or inconsistent footnotes	0.5 marks
		Breach of Anonymity	2 marks

3.	Miscellaneous	Annexures/Photographs/Sketches/Exhibits/ Affidavits, etc. in Memorial	2 marks
		Non-compliance with page limits	2 marks
		Non-compliance with required contents of the Memorial	2 marks
		Delay in Submission (subject to extensions granted at the discretion of the Organisers)	2 marks per day of delay

#### 4.2 Deadline for Submission of Memorials

**4.2.1** All teams must submit **two (2) soft copies** of their Memorials for each side of the Moot Proposition via Google Form which shall be shared closer to the date of submission. One copy must be in a ‘docx’ format and the other in a ‘pdf’ file extension by **11:59 p.m. on 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2024**.

**4.2.2** The content of the soft copies of the Memorials **should not** differ from the content of the hard copies submitted to the Organisers.

**4.2.3** The Soft Copies of the Memorials must be renamed as: **Team “Code” – Petitioner Memorial** and **Team “Code” – Respondent Memorial**. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in a penalty being levied at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

**4.2.4** The teams qualifying into the Quarter-Final Round must send **eight (8) hard copies** of the Memorials for each side of the Moot Proposition, and **six (6) hard copies** of the Compendium by **11.59 p.m. IST on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025** to the following address:

*The General Secretary  
Moot Court Association  
Government Law College  
'A' Road, Churchgate  
Mumbai – 400020  
India*

**4.2.5** A covering letter must be enclosed with the Memorials specifying the name of the College/University of the participating team. The covering letter must have a seal of the College/University. The team code must also be specified.

**4.2.6** Teams failing to submit their Memorials before the deadline elapses shall be subject to penalisation, which would be at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

### 4.3 Anonymity

- 4.3.1** Identity of the team or the names of the participants must not be revealed in the Memorials in any manner whatsoever and all teams must send the Memorials with a covering letter specifying the name and contact details of the Team Members and their designated Team Code as aforementioned in clause 4.2.5.
- 4.3.2** Teams disclosing their identity through the Memorials in any form shall be subject to penalisation or disqualification at the discretion of the Organisers.
- 4.3.3** The name of the institution should not appear on any Compendium or submissions made to the Bench. In this case, the team shall **not** be allowed to submit the Compendium, or shall be required to submit a **revised** Compendium.
- 4.3.4** Breach of anonymity by the participants during the course of the Competition, either during the oral submissions or as part of the material shared by them, shall be penalised at the sole discretion of the Organisers.
- 4.3.5** All teams must submit their Compendium or the individual pdfs via Google Form, which shall be shared closer to the date of submission latest by **11.59 p.m. IST on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2024**. No changes can be made to these documents once they are submitted. Changes made to the documents once submitted or any variation at the time of the Competition Rounds will result in penalisation at the sole discretion of the Organisers.
- 4.3.6** The Soft Copies of the Compendiums must be renamed as **Team “Code” – Petitioner Memorial** and **Team “Code” – Respondent Memorial**. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in a penalty being levied at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

### 5. MARKING CRITERIA FOR THE MEMORIALS

- 5.1** The Memorials shall be judged by a special panel of Judges.
- 5.2** The following shall be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to each criterion:

Sr. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
1.	Depth and Quality of Research	30
2.	Proper and Articulate Analysis & Clarity and Organization	20

3.	Knowledge and Application of Facts	15
4.	Grammar and Style	15
5.	Referencing	10
6.	Presentation and Evidence of Original Thought	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
Remarks: 0-30: Poor; 30-50: Average; 50-70 Good; 70-90: Very good; 90-100: Excellent		

**6. ORAL SUBMISSIONS**

- 6.1** As specified hereinabove in clause 1.1, each team shall have two speakers who shall divide the oral submissions between themselves.
- 6.2** It is to be noted that there shall not be a Researcher’s Test as part of the Competition.
- 6.3** During the course of the Oral Submissions no speaker shall reveal his/her identity or the identity of his/her college/university by any means whatsoever. Doing so shall result in a negative marking as deemed appropriate by the judges.
- 6.4** No change in the team composition shall be permitted. However, in the event of a change, the Organisers are to be notified at the earliest via e-mail stating a valid reason for the same.
- 6.5** No change in the speaker roles and positions shall be permitted after the registration of a team has been completed. If the change persists, the team shall be required to send an e-mail to the Organisers stating a valid reason at least **one (1) week** prior to the Oral Rounds. Failure to notify the Organisers of change in speaker positions in adherence to the deadline given by them, shall be subject to penalisation at the sole discretion of the Organisers.
- 6.6** Each team shall have a maximum of 30 minutes to present their Oral Submissions. This would include the time that each team may want to reserve for their rejoinder.
  - 6.6.1** At the commencement of each session of the Oral Submissions, each team must notify the Court Officer about the amount of time that they want to reserve for their rejoinder. A maximum of 5 minutes can be reserved on the Petitioners’ side for the rejoinder.
  - 6.6.2** It is to be noted that a team representing the Respondent side in a session of the Oral Submissions is not in the capacity to reserve any time for a sur-rejoinder for that

session. Sur-rejoinders could be granted by the judges, and remain at the sole discretion of the Bench for that session.

- 6.6.3 No speaker shall be permitted to address the Court for more than 20 minutes.
- 6.6.4 At the commencement of each session of Oral Submissions each team shall notify the Court Officer as to the division of time between the 2 speakers.
- 6.6.5 Teams shall be required to inform their speaking order to the Organisers.
- 6.6.6 It is to be noted that a speaker shall be permitted to speak **only once** during the course of each round of the Oral Submissions, with an exception for the rejoinder/sur-rejoinder.
- 6.6.7 There shall be **two (2) warning bells** at **five (5) minutes** before the completion of the allocated time for each speaker and at **one (1) minute** before the completion of the allocated time for each speaker respectively. Additionally, there shall be a final bell and at the completion of the allocated time for each speaker.
- 6.6.8 Oral Submissions made under the rejoinder/sur-rejoinder shall be made by only one speaker.
- 6.7 The final decision as to the time structure and the right to rejoinder/sur-rejoinder shall be that of the Judges of the Bench. **(Rejoinder: Rebuttal)**
- 6.8 All teams shall be expected to carry with themselves any case law and authorities which they intend to refer to during the course of their Oral Submissions. Teams must note that they shall not be permitted to submit any material to the judges if such material bears the name of their College/University.
- 6.9 During the course of Oral Submissions, the participants cannot submit to the Court any material containing pictorial representation whatsoever. Further, the participants shall not be permitted to make any audio/visual representation, nor shall they be allowed to use personal computers, laptops and any other technical or mechanical device during their Oral Submissions.
- 6.10 If at any instance a submission is made with any material in violation to clause 6.9 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 team in violation shall be subject to disqualification or negative marking as deemed appropriate by the judges.

**7. MARKING CRITERIA FOR THE ORAL SUBMISSIONS**

**7.1** Each Speaker shall be marked on a total of **100 marks** by each Bench Judge.

**7.2** The Round Total shall be the aggregate of the total of the **two (2) speakers**.

**7.3** The following shall be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to compute the Round Total for each team:

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Marking Criteria</b>	<b>Marks Allotted</b>
1.	Knowledge and Application of Relevant Law	25
2.	Interpretation and Use of Facts	20
3.	Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions	15
4.	Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanour	15
5.	Organization and Flow of Arguments	15
6.	Time Management and Rebuttals	10
	Total	100

**7.4** The decision of the judges pertaining to the marks allotted to any team shall be final.

**7.5** So as to ensure uniformity in the marking system, all the judges shall be provided with a marking guideline.

**7.6** The marks for the Best Memorial Assessment (which shall be judged by a special panel of Memorial Judges) shall not be included in the Round Total of the Quarter-Final Round, Semi-Final Round and the Final Round of Arguments for the purpose of determining the Team and Individual Scores except as specified in Clauses 3.1.3 and 3.2.3.

**7.7** The Round Total for the Preliminary Rounds of Arguments shall be an aggregate of the total marks of each Speaker by each Judge (as indicated in Clause 7.3) in the Round and an average of the Best Memorial Assessment (as indicated in Clause 5.2).

**8. AWARDS**

**8.1** The following awards shall be presented:

- (i) Best Team
- (ii) Second Best Team
- (iii) Best Speaker
- (iv) Second Best Speaker
- (v) Best Memorial
- (vi) Second Best Memorial

**8.2** All participants shall be presented with E-Certificates of Participation and all the winners of awards as specified in Clause 8.1 shall be presented with Certificates of Merit and a cash prize.

## **9. Demeanour and Equity Guidelines**

### **9.1 Demeanour**

**9.1.1** It is expected of all participants to respect the Rules of this Competition and maintain highest professional conduct during all various stages of the Competition.

**9.1.2** Any disruptive practices or actions that aim to, or end up disrupting decorum are strictly discouraged.

**9.1.3** Participants are requested to not indulge in protracted arguments and avoid repetitive commentary.

**9.1.4** The Judges' decisions shall be final and it is expected of teams to accept it unanimously without showing any disregard or disrespect towards the Bench's opinions and verdicts. Participants are requested to refrain from any actions or activities which shall negatively impact the integrity of the Institution or bring upon any disrepute.

**9.1.5** The rules and integrity of this Competition are to be upheld and violation of any aforementioned guidelines shall be condemnable by the Organisers.

**9.1.6** If any participant or team have complaints regarding the conduct or demeanour of any individual, they are advised to formally address their concerns to the General Secretary of the Moot Court Association.

**9.1.7** Action against alleged parties shall be at the sole discretion of the Organisers.

### **9.2 Equity**

The Organisers want to ensure that this Competition, in all its fora, is free of any discrimination, bias, and vilification, and wish to protect the equity of every participant and other personnel.

**9.2.1** Participants are expected to address other participants, Judges, volunteers, members of the Moot Court Association, and any other person associated with the Competition in any capacity with respect and conduct themselves in a civilized manner.

- 9.2.2** Any behavior or misconduct by a participant that causes any other individual any kind of discomfort which includes but is not limited to the portrayal of any form of vilification, discrimination, harassment, bullying is strictly discouraged.
- 9.2.3** Causing breach of an individual's equity and/or causing them any discomfort pertaining to aforementioned guidelines is condemnable by the Organisers.
- 9.2.4** If any participant feels that their equity has been breached and/or have related complaints, they are advised to formally address the General Secretary of the Moot Court Association regarding their concerns.
- 9.2.5** Action against cases of breach of equity and other activities of misconduct shall be at the discretion of the Organisers, and their decision on the matter shall be considered as final.

**10. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 10.1** No member of any team or any individual connected with any team shall be permitted to hear the arguments in any court room 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 disqualification from the Competition, against any team found to be scouting through a team member or through any other means.
- 10.2** All Participants are expected to maintain decorum in Court during the Rounds of the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- 10.3** The Organisers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.
- 10.4** The Organisers' decision as regards to the interpretation of rules or procedures shall be declared final.
- 10.5** In case of any situation not contemplated in the Rules, the Organisers' decision on the same shall be final.
- 10.6** The Organisers reserve the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above Rules if so required and as they may deem appropriate.
- 10.7** The decision of the General Secretary of the Moot Court Association regarding all and any concerns raised by participants including but not limited to complaints related to demeanour, equity, general violations, would be deemed as final.

**11. REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATION OF THE CASE STUDY AND RULES**

- 11.1** All requests for interpretation of the Case Study and Rules of the Competition must be directed to the General Secretary of the Moot Court Association.
- 11.2** Such requests for interpretation must be sent via e-mail to [wpm.glc@gmail.com](mailto:wpm.glc@gmail.com), and the subject of the e-mail must read “Request for Interpretation”.
- 11.3** The last date to seek interpretation/clarifications to the Moot Proposition is **3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2024**.

**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 problem is fictitious and any resemblance to any incident or person, if any, is not intended, but merely co-incidental.

**13. CONTACT DETAILS**

**E-mail Address:** [wpm.glc@gmail.com](mailto:wpm.glc@gmail.com)

**Moot Court Association Contact Persons:**

**Registration:** *Ms. Nishka Khatri (+91 92140 27170)*

**Memorials:** *Ms. Radhika Chhaparia (+91 80045 89109)*

**Accommodation and Travel:** *Ms. Tanvi Jog (+91 95756 79920)*