



School of Law,
CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
2025 - 2026
The 2nd SLCU CIVIL TRIAL ADVOCACY
COMPETITION 2025 - 26
RULES AND REGULATIONS



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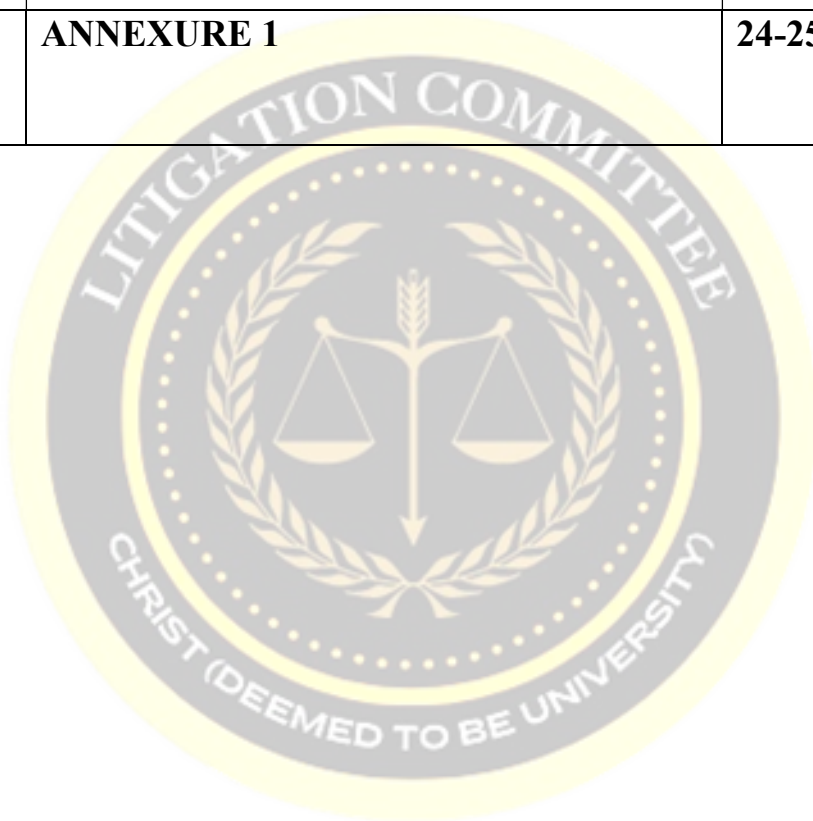
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THE 2nd SLCU CIVIL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION

1. DEFINITIONS

Unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa. Words and expressions beginning with capital letters and defined in these Rules and Regulations shall bear the meanings assigned to them herein, solely for the purposes of the 2nd School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Civil Trial Advocacy Competition, 2025–2026.

- a) **‘Clarifications’** refers to the clarification(s) with respect to the Civil Trial Case File issued by the Organizers;
- b) **‘Competition’** refers to the 2nd School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Civil Trial Advocacy, 2025 - 2026;
- c) **‘Disqualification’** shall mean that the members of a Team will not be allowed to participate in the Competition any further, and shall not be awarded a Certificate of Participation or any cash prize/award;
- d) **‘Judge’** means any person(s) appointed by the Organizers to evaluate the Civil Trial Competition;
- e) **‘Organizers’** means the Litigation Committee of School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), the various sub-committees constituted thereunder, and any person appointed by the said Committee;



- f) **‘Participant’** means a student(s), who, upon completion of registration for the Competition, represents his/her respective College/University and is recognized by the Organizers to participate in the Competition;
- g) **‘Penalties’** means the points which are deductible on account of non-adherence to the limitation of the Court’s time and on any other grounds as determined by the Organizers;
- h) **‘Rules’** means and include the Rules and Regulations of this Competition, any other supplementary Rules issued and notified by the Organizers as and when necessary, and the General Code of Conduct of CHRIST (Deemed to be University).

2. AIM AND PURPOSE

- 2.1.** The School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) 2nd SLCU Civil Trial Advocacy Competition, 2025 - 2026 (hereinafter referred to as ‘Competition’), is conducted for the purpose of nurturing and creating opportunities for the development of requisite skills in litigation, adducing evidence and conducting examinations in the Trial Courts.

3. DATE AND VENUE

- 3.1.** The 2nd SLCU Civil Trial Advocacy Competition, 2025 - 2026 shall be held, from 28th August, 2025 to 30th August, 2025. It will be held offline in CHRIST (Deemed to be University). The schedule of the Competition will be in accordance with the details specified in Annexure-1.



4. ELIGIBILITY:

- a) The Competition is open for all students who are pursuing a three-year or five-year Under-Graduate Law Degree Course in Universities/Colleges/Law Departments in India, as recognized by the Bar Council of India.
- b) The Participants should send a picture of their University ID Card for verification.

5. LANGUAGE OF THE COMPETITION:

- 5.1.** For the purpose of this Competition, the language of communication shall be English only. Use of vernacular language by the participants during this Competition is strictly prohibited.

6. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 6.1.** The Team shall consist of **three members only**: Two Speakers and One Researcher.
- a) Each member of the Team shall also be given an individual Team member code.

Illustration: One Team will be given a general Team code 'A' and the two Speakers and Researcher will be given the code of 'AS1', 'AS2' & 'AR' respectively.

- b) Each Team is only allowed to disclose their respective Speaker code and Team code during rounds to the Judges or the Court clerks.
- c) No changes in the Team composition shall be permitted once the Final Registration is confirmed by the Organizers. However, the Organizers may



permit the same, subsequent to a request made by the participating Team prior to the commencement of the competition.

- d) The Participants are strictly prohibited from disclosing or revealing their College/University identity to any other Participant belonging to another College/University or the Judges, either directly or through symbolic representation including, but not limited to, their dress code or through applications, books, compendiums and any other material submitted or used by the Participants. Any contravention of the same may lead to disqualification based on the sole discretion of the Organizers.

7. DRESS CODE:

- 7.1.** The dress code for the competition shall be strictly formal.
- 7.2.** Teams are not permitted to wear neckbands or Advocate Gowns for the Competition.
- 7.3.** The Participants are to adhere to the following dress code only:
Gentlemen - Black trousers, White shirt, Plain Black Blazer (without College/ University logo), Black Tie.
Ladies - Black trousers and White Shirt or White Kurta and Black Churidar Pants, Plain Black Blazer (without College/ University logo).

8. REGISTRATION:

- 8.1.** The Competition is open for all students who are pursuing a three-year or a five-year Law Degree Course in Universities/Colleges/Law Departments in India, as recognized by the Bar Council of India.



- 8.2. Participation in the 2nd SLCU Civil Trial Advocacy Competition, 2025 - 2026 is restricted to 20 Teams only. The first 20 Teams that confirm and complete the final registration formalities shall be entitled to participate in the said Competition.
- 8.3. Institutions/Teams interested in participating in the Competition will have to provisionally register by filling the google form link mentioned below and submitting the same.
- 8.4. The slots shall be reserved based on a 'first come' basis for the first 20 Teams. The Teams, through their respective Official College Email ID or any other recognized student association Email ID, are to submit the duly filled Registration form by clicking on the following link.
- 8.5. Only the teams who have completed the provisional registration will be sent the link for final registration and payment.

Google Form link for Registration: <https://forms.gle/8W7ijnwg2u5YwPf46>

Only the teams who have received confirmation of provisional registration via an e-mail from the Committee must submit the registration form.

- 8.6. The Teams shall pay a non-refundable registration fee through the payment link, which will be sent to the registered Teams. It will contain the options of different modes of payment, including but not limited to, UPI payment and Net Banking.
- 8.7. **Only one Team** per College/Institution/University shall be permitted to take part in the Competition.



8.8. Registration Fees per Team: INR 3000 (Inclusive of GST) (ACCOMMODATIONS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY.)

9. PROCEDURE OF THE COMPETITION:

9.1. The 2nd SLCU Civil Trial Advocacy Competition, 2025 - 2026, School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) shall be conducted in the following two phases:

9.1.1. Researcher's Test:

- a. The Researcher's Test shall be conducted based on the problem case file and legal provisions related to the problem case file. The test is a multiple-choice question (MCQ) test conducted in a room allotted by the Organizers (OC).
- b. An OC member will be present throughout the course of the test.
- c. The researchers will be provided with a set of MCQs by the OC member. The OC member will supervise the test to prevent any malpractice.
- d. Only the researcher of every Team will be allowed to attempt the test. Any other member of the Team that joins or attempts to take it on behalf of the researcher will be grounds for disqualification.
- e. The test would be conducted for a total of 100 marks, and shall include negative marking as well.
- f. The Teams shall mention only the 'Team Code' on the Researcher's Test.
- g. The test will be the deciding criterion for the award of Best Researcher and will not affect the oral round marking.
- h. In case of a tie between Teams, the Team with the higher score in **Higher-Order Application Questions** will be placed in the higher position. If a tie still exists, the



score in **Analytical Reasoning Questions** will be considered, with the Team scoring higher in this category being placed in the higher position. If the tie persists, the score in **Basic Conceptual Questions** will be taken into account, with the Team scoring higher in this category being placed in the higher position.

9.1.2. Oral Rounds

- a. There shall be **no Memorial Submission** for the same.
- b. There shall be **four rounds** conducted for the purpose of this Competition:
 1. Preliminary Rounds;
 2. Quarter-Final Rounds;
 3. Semi-Final Rounds;
 4. Final Round;
 - 1) **Preliminary Rounds**- Each Team shall argue before a distinct Bench, once appearing on behalf of the Plaintiff, and once appearing on behalf of the Defendant. No Team shall argue before the same Judge twice in the Preliminary Rounds. No two Teams shall go up against each other twice in the Preliminary Rounds.
 - 2) **Quarter-Final Round**- The top eight Teams, as determined by the scoring criteria in accordance with Clause 11, shall qualify for the Quarter-Final Rounds. It is to be noted that this round shall be a knock-out round. The Team shall argue only on one side for this round.
 - 3) **Semi-Final Rounds** - The Team that secures a win against the opposition Team in each Quarter-Final Round (in a respective Court Hall) shall qualify for the Semi-Final Rounds. It is to be noted that this round shall be a knock-out round. The Team shall argue only on one side for this round.



4) **Final Round** - The Team that secures a win against the opposition Team in each Semi-Final Round (in a respective Court Hall) shall qualify for the Final Round. It is to be noted that this round shall be a knock-out round. The Team shall argue only on one side for this round.

- c. All the Witnesses are deemed to be under Oath after administering an Oath to the first Witness by the respective Examiner-in-Chief of every Participating Team, and the Teams may not administer the same before examining the subsequent Witnesses. The Witness shall be sent outside the courtroom during the delivery of the final arguments and the examination conducted by the opposing Team.

9.1.2.1. Structure of the Rounds

- d. There shall be no examination-in-chief conducted in any round of the Competition. The examination-in-chief shall be deemed to have been completed through the affidavit provided in the problem case file itself.
- e. The order in which the Speakers will present their examination and statements is to be intimated by the Teams to the Court Officers before the commencement of the rounds and can be altered only with the permission of the Organizers before the start of the respective Round. Roles of Speakers 1 and 2 can be interchanged, subject to approval of the Organizers. **However, interchanging roles between a Speaker and a Researcher and vice versa is not allowed.**
- f. The order in which the rounds shall progress is as follows:
- 1) Cross-examination of Plaintiff Witness by the Defendant.
 - 2) Cross-examination of Defendant Witness by the Plaintiff.
 - 3) Arguments by the Plaintiff.



4) Arguments by the Defendant.

- g. If a Team submits, refers, or files a compendium of cases, it should be done by uploading the document to Google Drive and sending the link via email to the committee's email ID (litigation.committee@law.christuniversity.in). Additionally, a hard copy of the compendium should be provided to the judges before the rounds start.
- h. Please note that none of the compendiums should disclose the Team's identity or their university. Any such disclosure will result in disqualification.
- i. Each Speaker of a Team may either conduct the Cross-examination or present the Arguments on their behalf. No single Speaker shall be allowed to conduct both the Cross-examination and the Arguments in a round.
- j. The time allocated for each phase of the Trial shall not be paused during the objections raised, the objection argument, the Court's questions to the Witness in either of their examinations and the questions posed to the Counsels in the course of their arguments. If one part of the trial goes beyond the time limit, that time shall be deducted from the next round, as per the discretion of the judges.

9.1.3. Allocation of Time:

- 1) The Teams shall examine the Witnesses within the time allotted to them.
- 2) The time allocated for any of the phases of the Trial, if not utilized, shall not be utilized for any other phase of the Trial.
- 3) There shall be no re-examination of any of the Witnesses from both Plaintiff and Defendant.



9.1.4. Allocation of Time (Preliminary Rounds):

Each Team shall get a maximum of **25 minutes in each Preliminary Round**. Thus, the **total time of each Preliminary Round shall not exceed 50 minutes**.

- a) Cross-examination of Plaintiff Witnesses by Defendant - 15 minutes;
- b) Cross-examination of Defence Witnesses by Plaintiff – 15 minutes,
- c) Arguments by Plaintiff -10 minutes;
- d) Arguments by the Defendant - 10 minutes.

9.1.5. Allocation of Time (Quarter and Semi-Final Rounds):

a. Each Team shall get a maximum of **28 minutes in each Round** including the perusal of notes. Thus, the **total time of each Round shall not exceed 56 minutes**

- 1) Cross-examination of Plaintiff Witnesses by Defendant - 18 minutes,
- 2) Cross-examination of Defence Witnesses by Plaintiff - 18 minutes,
- 3) Arguments by the Plaintiff - 10 minutes,
- 4) Arguments by the Defendant - 10 minutes.

9.1.6. Allocation of Time (Final Round):

a. Each Team shall get a maximum of **35 minutes in the Final Round** including the perusal of notes. Thus, the **total time of the Final Round shall not exceed 70 minutes**.

- 1) Cross-examination of Plaintiff Witnesses by Defendant - 20 minutes,
- 2) Cross-examination of Defence Witnesses by Plaintiff - 20 minutes,
- 3) Arguments by the Plaintiff - 15 minutes,
- 4) Arguments by the Defendant – 15 minutes.



10. EVALUATION PARAMETERS AND TABULATION PATTERN:

10.1. Parameters for evaluating Speakers: Each Speaker shall be marked on the following criteria:

PARAMETERS	MARKS
Knowledge of Pleadings	20
Knowledge and Application of relevant Civil Laws	20
Application of Civil Procedure Code and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023 to Documentary evidence	30
Ability to Conduct Cross-Examination	10
Court Etiquette and Time Management	20
TOTAL MARKS	100



10.2. Parameters for evaluating Witness: Every Witness-cum-Researcher in the Preliminary Rounds shall be marked on the following criteria:

PARAMETERS	MARKS
Knowledge of Problem	20
Ability to Answer Questions	20
Ability to maintain the Character of Witness	20
Logical Reasoning and Clarity	20
Court Etiquette	20
TOTAL MARKS	100



11. **PROCEDURE AND SCORING:**

11.1. **Preliminary Rounds:**

- a. The Teams shall be assigned a 'Team Code' which will be decided by conducting a draw of lots. The Fixture that establishes the two Teams that shall go up against each other, the side that they shall argue for in the respective Preliminary Round and the court hall where the Competition shall be conducted shall be decided on the basis of the Team Code that shall be allotted on the basis of draw of lots and a fixture list which shall be decided by the Organizers and displayed during the draw of lots.
- b. The Researcher of each Team will also act as a Witness for their Team and will be subject to Cross examination by the opposing counsel.
- c. Each round shall be decided through the allocation of a total of 12 round points based on the Cross-examination and Arguments.
- d. A panel of two (2) Judges shall judge each of the Preliminary Rounds.
For each Judge, if the cumulative oral score (Speaker 1 score + Speaker 2 score + Witness score) of one Team exceeds the cumulative oral score (Speaker 1 score + Speaker 2 score + Witness score) of the other Team by ten (10) marks (inclusive of difference of 10 marks), the Team with the higher cumulative score shall be awarded five (5) points, and the Team with the lower cumulative score shall be awarded zero (0) points.
If the difference is less than ten (10) marks, the Team with the higher cumulative score shall be awarded three (3) points and the Team with the lower cumulative score shall be awarded two (2) points.



In case of a tie, the Teams shall be awarded two point five (2.5) points each. Hence, a total of 5 points per Judge shall be allocated for the cumulative score (Speaker 1 score + Speaker 2 score + Witness score) of each Team.

Illustration: Team X argues on behalf of the Plaintiff and Team Y argues on behalf of the Defendant in Round 1. Judge 1 awards a cumulative oral score of 190 Marks to Team X and a score of 180 Marks to Team Y, since the difference between the cumulative score awarded by Judge 1 is 10 Marks, Team X will be awarded 5 points and Team Y will be awarded 0 points. Judge 2 awards a cumulative score of 187 Marks to Team X and a score of 180 Marks to Team Y, since the difference between the cumulative score awarded by Judge 2 is less than 10 Marks, Team X will be awarded 3 points and Team Y will be awarded 2 points. The total points secured by Team X by for the oral rounds shall be 8 points and the total points secured by Team Y by the Speakers for the oral rounds shall be 2 points.

- e. **Each Preliminary Round of a Team shall be marked out of a total of 300 marks by each Judge.** [Speaker 1 marks (out of 100) + Speaker 2 marks (out of 100) + Witness marks (out of 100)].
- f. The cumulative oral score of a Team in each round shall be calculated by the sum total of marks awarded to a Team out of 600.
- g. The cumulative oral score provided to either Speaker by both the Judges across both of the Preliminary Rounds **only** shall be taken into consideration for declaring the **Best Advocate Award**.
- h. The top eight (8) Teams that shall secure the maximum number of points at the end of both the Preliminary Rounds shall qualify to the Quarter-Final Rounds. If



a tie exists between the Teams with respect to the total number of points secured, in order to qualify to the Quarter-Final rounds or determine their relative position in qualification, the tie shall be resolved by considering the Team with the **higher Oral Scores** to proceed to the next round, or to be placed at the higher position relatively.

11.2. Procedure and Tabulation Pattern for the Quarter-Final Rounds and Semi-Final Rounds:

- a. The Teams, in accordance with the relative positions after the scores have been tabulated, shall be paired for the Rounds by the method of power match-up. The Team with the higher relative position in the pair of Teams is assigned the side (either Plaintiff or Defendant) based on a draw of lots conducted.

Illustration: Team X with the highest relative position will team up with Team Y with the lowest relative position as per the method of power match up.

- b. Each Round shall be judged by a Panel of 2 Judges.
- c. **Each Team shall be marked out of the total of 300 marks by each Judge.** [Speaker 1 marks (out of 100) + Speaker 2 marks (out of 100) + Witness marks (out of 100)].
- d. The total marks of a Team in the respective round shall be calculated by the determining the sum of marks awarded to them by both the Judges i.e., **A Team will be marked out of a total score of 600.**

11.3. Tabulation pattern for the Final Round:

- a. The Teams, in accordance with their relative positions, after the scores have been tabulated, shall be paired for the Final Round by the method of power match-up.



The Team with the higher relative position among the pair of Teams is assigned either side (Plaintiff or Defendant) based on a draw of lots conducted.

- b. The Final Rounds shall be judged by a Panel of 3 Judges.
- c. **Each Team shall be marked out of a total of 300 marks by each Judge.**
[Speaker 1 marks (out of 100) + Speaker 2 marks (out of 100) + Witness marks (out of 100)].
- d. The total marks of a Team in the respective round shall be calculated by the determining the sum of marks awarded to them by all the Judges cumulatively i.e., **A Team will be marked out of a total score of 300*3.**

11.4. Tiebreaker in the Grand Total score of the Quarter-Final Rounds, Semi-Final Rounds, and the Final Round:

- a. To resolve the tie between the Teams with the same Grand Total score, the Team that secures the highest aggregate of Speakers' score in the column titled 'Ability to Conduct Cross Examination' in the scoresheet of that Round shall be considered the first tie-breaker.
- b. If the tie still exists, then the Team which has secured the highest aggregate of Speakers' scores in the column titled 'Understanding of Code of Criminal Procedure and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023' in the scoresheet of that Round shall be considered the second tie-breaker.
- c. If the tie still exists, then the Team which has secured the highest aggregate of Speakers' score in the column titled 'Persuasiveness, deference to the Court, and



time management' in the scoresheet of that round shall be considered the third and final tie-breaker.

11.5. Scoring for the Researcher's Test:

- a) Participants will not be given a copy of the problem case file by the Organizers during the Researcher's Test.
- b) The Researcher's Test shall be conducted in the form of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs), which shall be based on the problem case file.
- c) The use of any electronic devices is strictly prohibited. Any participant who is found using electronic devices will be subject to disqualification.
- d) Only the researchers are allowed to participate in the Researcher's Test. Interchanging roles between Speaker and Researcher and vice versa is not allowed.
- e) This test will serve as a determinant of the **Best Researcher**, as outlined in Clause 14.

12. MISCELLANEOUS:

- a) All participating Teams must be conversant with Indian laws, legislations and procedures as followed by the Indian courts, whilst taking evidence and advancing final arguments for the Plaintiff and Defendant.
- b) The statements of the Defendant and Plaintiff Witnesses, as annexed with the Civil Trial Case File, shall serve as an aid to build the storyline, and the Defendant /Petitioner Team shall stand by the same.
- c) No change shall be considered with respect to a Witness's character, occupation, age and relationship.



- d) Any change in the statements of the Witnesses which require any form of additional documents (other than the ones provided) to be proved shall be strictly prohibited.
- e) Teams will not be allowed to observe the oral Rounds of any other Teams.
- f) Scouting is strictly prohibited. Any Team engaging in such an activity shall be disqualified.
- g) All Clarifications must be sent by an email with the subject as “Clarifications: 2nd SLCU CTAC 2025 – 2026” to litigation.committee@law.christuniversity.in on or before the date specified in Annexure -1, post which, no queries regarding the Civil Trial Case File shall be entertained.
- h) If any unforeseen circumstances arise, the Organizers, in consultation with the faculty-in-charge, reserve the right to formulate any rules or criteria of scoring that have not been expressly defined in the aforementioned rules and regulations.

13. **DISCLAIMER**

- 13.1. The contents of the Civil Trial Case File are purely imaginary and neither intend nor attempt to resemble any incident or any person living or dead.
- 13.2. All materials, names, characters, locations, dates, etc., in the Civil Trial Case File, are fictitious and do not intend to or attempt to hurt the feelings or sentiments of any community or degrade the values and ideologies of any group of people, religion, or individual. Any resemblance to the same is unintended and merely a coincidence.
- 13.3. All the rights regarding this Civil Trial Case File are reserved by the Litigation Committee of School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University).



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14. AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

The following are the Awards that will be presented during the valedictory ceremony:

CRITERIA	AWARDS
Winners	INR 20,000
Runners-Up	INR 15,000
Best Advocate	INR 5,000
Best Researcher	INR 3,000



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ANNEXURE-1: SCHEDULE OF THE 2nd SLCUCTAC

Sl No.	Date	Event
1.	29th July, 2025	Release of Provisional Registration
2.	7th August, 2025	Last Day for Provisional Registration
3.	11th August, 2025	Last Day for Final Online Registration and Submission of Payment Details and Release of Confirmation Mail
4.	12th August, 2025	Release of Problem Casefile
5.	16th August, 2025	Last day to seek clarifications regarding Problem Casefile
6.	21st August, 2025	Release of clarifications by Organizers



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7.	28 th August, 2025	Inauguration, Draw of Lots and Preliminary Round 1 & 2
8.	29 th August, 2025	Researcher's Test, Quarter final Rounds and Semi-Final Rounds
9.	30 th August, 2025	Final Round and Valedictory

