

**TWENTIETH ALL INDIA MOOT COURT
COMPETITION, 2021**

FOR

**Adv T. S. VENKATESWARA IYER
MEMORIAL EVER ROLLING TROPHY**

From 5th – 7th November 2021

His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Park Avenue
Road, Ernakulam, Kerala, 682011

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **General Instructions**

1.1. The XXth T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy All India Moot Court is organised under the auspices of His Highness Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, Kerala.

1.2. The competition will be held from 5th to 7th November, 2021 on the **Virtual platform**.

1.3. The competition shall be in the English language.

1.4. It should be duly noted that hereinafter;

“Competition” means the XXth T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy All India Moot Court Competition Organized by the Moot Club His Highness Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, Kerala.

“Judge” means any person appointed to adjudicate/evaluate a participating team’s memorial and oral submissions.

“Memorial” means the written pleadings of each participating team, written and submitted pursuant to these rules.

“Organizers” means Moot Club, His Highness Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, Kerala.

“Participating Institution” shall be presumed to be the parent Law College/University/ Department of the participating team.

“Participating Team” means the team which has registered itself for the Competition.

“Selected Team” means the participating team qualifying from the Memorial Selection round to the Preliminary Round.

“Penalty” means points deducted in case of violation of any rule.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1. The competition is open to the Law colleges, Law schools, Law Departments and Law Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India. The participation is limited to undergraduate students in law, both in the 3-year and 5-year Programs presently undergoing regular courses.

3. **Team Composition**

3.1. Each team should consist of 3 members. There shall be 2 speakers and 1 researcher designated for each team. This number cannot be modified under any circumstances.

3.2. Each team will be provided a team code, at the time of provisional registration, prior to the submission of memorials via e-mail. This team code will be used to refer to the team for the whole competition. Teams should not disclose their or their institution's identity in the memorials; such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the organisers.

4. **Registration**

4.1. Online provisional registrations are open from 15th Sept 2021. The teams shall complete Provisional Online Registration by 11:59 pm on 15th October 2021 at glcenationalmoot@gmail.com. The email for provisional registration shall contain the subject "***Provisional registration for XXth TSV Moot 2021***". No registrations shall be entertained after the last date.

4.2. The registration mail shall mandatorily contain the following details :

4.2.1. Name of the Participants.

4.2.2. Contact number and Email of the team members

4.2.3. College/University details and Year of Study

4.2.4. Contact details of faculty in charge.

4.3. Additionally, a scanned copy of the letter from the participating college/ institution / university duly signed by any of the following persons:- Faculty-in-charge of Moot Club Society/Moot Club Association, Registrar, Principal, Dean, Director, Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor confirming the names of the participants, Year / in which semester/ year of study, representing the college / institution / university for the moot competition will have to be attached during the online registration process The approval letter shall be formatted on the letter head of the participating institution/college/university. Alternatively you may make the provisional registration through the official email ID of the parent institution's Moot Club Society. Registrations without the scanned copy of the approval letter from the college/institution/ university or duly attested registration form will not be considered valid.

4.4. For the purpose of communication, the teams shall specify the name and contact details of their team coordinator, who is a member of the participating team, selected by the teams themselves. All communications about the competition shall be made with the organisers through the team coordinators only.

4.5. Participating teams will receive an acknowledgement mail on successful submission of registration. Team codes shall be issued within 3 days of their provisional registration.

4.6. Only one team can register from a college. The top 16 teams would be selected for the Oral rounds of the competition through **Memorial selection**.

4.7. The Registration forms will be sent to the selected 16 teams on the day of announcing the results of the Memorial Selection (28th October 2021).

4.8. All the Teams selected for the Oral rounds shall register themselves for the competition by payment of Rs.3000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) as Registration Fees latest by 1st November, 2021(11:59pm). Teams have to register online with the link that will be sent

to the teams after confirmation of the memorial selection. The email will also contain the payment details to be done.

- 4.9. Failure of the selected teams to complete the registration process within the prescribed time will not be entertained and would lead to the disqualification of the team from the competition and accordingly the next team from the waiting list would be selected to fill in the vacancy.

5. **Rounds**

- 5.1. The inaugural session will be held on 5th November 2021 followed by the briefing of rules and regulations of the competition and draw of lots. There will be a memo exchange and the teams will receive the memorials of their opposite teams in the Preliminary Rounds on the same day after the draw of lots.
- 5.2. The teams who advance from each round would be declared after the respective rounds. The Final result and the winners of the various categories will be announced only during the valediction / prize distribution ceremony.
- 5.3. Timekeeping will not be interrupted in the event of minor technical failures. The Bench may grant an extension of time at its discretion.
- 5.4. Rebuttal/Sur-rebuttal: The maximum time provided would include the time that each team may want to reserve for their rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. At the commencement of each session the team shall notify the Court Officer as to the apportioning of time between the 2 speakers (including rebuttal/sur-rebuttal). In case any speaker continues to speak after the completion of his/her time, the additional time that was used, will be deducted from the time allocated to his/her co-speaker, or from the time allocated for the rebuttal/sur-rebuttal, as the case may be. The final decision as to the time structure and the right to rebuttal/sur-rebuttal shall vest with the Judges.

- 5.5. The participants have to ensure they have a proper and uninterrupted internet connection and other itinerary for the competition. The organisers will not be responsible for any time lost due to the interruptions due to any connectivity issues during the rounds.
- 5.6. Compendium: All teams should mandatorily submit their respective compendiums, if any, for both petitioner and respondent, prior to the competition as mentioned in the guidelines given below. The teams will not be allowed to share any other contents other than what has been submitted in the compendium.
- 5.7. Teams must note that they will not be permitted to share any material with the judges if such material bears their name or the name of their College/University or any other items which disclose their identity. The compendium must not include any pictorial representations.
- 5.8. In particular, the participants are not permitted to share their screen, or present any other text or written materials at any stage. The team may however submit a file to Google Drive minimum 24 hours prior to the competition which will contain their authorities and reference which will be used during the oral rounds. All the authorities and documents must be in pdf format. This file in the Google Drive will be sent to the presiding judges prior to the competition.
- 5.9. The sharing of the screen (Compendium) will be done by the organisers at the request of the participants, with the permission of judges. Reference numbers must be given to all the documents and files for easy accessibility. The participants must use these reference numbers for requesting screen sharing. The organizers will not be responsible for any technical difficulties in opening or faults in the marking of the documents given in the google drive by the teams.

5.10. **Preliminary Round**

5.10.1. There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments per team, one for petitioner & another for respondent.

5.10.2. Preliminary rounds will be held on 6th November 2021 (Saturday). The schedule for the rounds shall be released later.

5.10.3. Each Preliminary round will consist of 1 hour in total. Each team will be given 30 minutes to speak. Each speaker must speak for a minimum of 10 minutes and can go maximum upto 15 minutes. The remaining time from the total of 30 minutes can be used by the team for the rebuttal session. The teams have to specify to the court officer how many minutes they have allotted for the arguments of each speaker and for the rebuttal, before the commencement of the rounds.

5.10.4. Any extra time allotted to a speaker will be under the discretion of the judges. Exceeding the allotted time will attract penalties unless approved by the judges.

5.10.5. Top eight teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Quarter final rounds which will be held on the same day afternoon.

5.10.6. Memorial scores will be considered only as the tiebreaker in qualifying to the quarter finals .

5.11. **Quarterfinal**

5.11.1. Draw of lots by spinning of wheel online, will decide the side of the arguments in Quarterfinals, Semifinals & Finals. Quarter Finals will be held on 6th November 2021 (Saturday), The rounds from the Quarter Finals will be knockout rounds.

5.11.2. The format for Quarter final round will be the same as Preliminary rounds, consisting of 1 hour in total for the round and 30 minutes per team. All the other rules of the Preliminary rounds are also applicable in the Quarter final round.

5.11.3. The results of the Quarter final rounds will be announced on the same day and the draw of lots to the Semi final rounds will be done following that.

5.11.4. The Memorial scores will only be considered for the Quarter final round as a tie-breaker.

5.12. **Semi Final Round**

5.12.1. The Semi Final rounds will be held in the morning of 7th November, 2021.

5.12.2. The Semi final rounds will consist of 90 minutes in total. Each team will get 45 minutes to present their case that will include rebuttal time. Each speaker must speak for a minimum of 15 minutes and can go maximum upto 20 minutes, and the remaining time from the total of 45 minutes can be used by the team for the rebuttal session. The teams have to specify how many minutes they have allotted for the arguments of each speaker and for the rebuttal, before the commencement of the rounds.

5.12.3. The winners, decided on the knock out basis, will proceed to the Final round.

5.13. **Final Round**

5.13.1. The final round will be held on 7th November 2021. The draw of lots to the final round will be done at least 1 hour prior to the commencing of the round. The teams will receive the memorials of the opposite team soon after the draw of lots.

5.13.2. The format for the final round will be the same as that of Semi final rounds, consisting of 90 minutes in total for the round and 45 minutes per team. All the other rules of the Semi-final rounds are also applicable in the final round.

6. Dress Code

The dress code for the participants during the court sessions shall be as follows:

6.1. Female participants : White Salwar Kameez and Black Coat or White Shirt, Black Pants and Black Coat.

6.2. Male participants : White Shirt and Black Pant with Black Coat and Black Tie.

6.3. Gowns and Bands are NOT permitted to be worn by the Participants in the Competition

7. Memorials

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

7.1. Last day for the submission of soft copies of memorials without penalty is 21st october, 2021, latest by 11:59 pm. Late submission of the memorials will attract a penalty of 5 marks for each passing day. No memorials will be accepted after 22nd October 2021, 11:59 pm.

7.2. All participating teams must submit memorials for both Petitioner and Respondent for the Problem Statement.

7.3. All participating teams must submit typed memorials fulfilling the following specifications:

The memorials shall contain the following:

- i. Cover Page

- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Index of Authority
- iv. Statement of Jurisdiction
- v. Statement of Facts
- vi. Issues Involved
- vii. Summary of Arguments
- viii. Body of Arguments
- ix. Prayer

7.4. The Team ID should be clearly mentioned on the top right corner of the Cover Page in the following manner:-

7.4.1. Suppose the Team ID allotted is TC 37, then it should appear as TC 37_P on the Petitioner's Memorial and as TC 37_R on the Respondent's Memorial.

7.4.2. The Cover Page, along with the Team ID shall essentially consist of:

- a) The name and place of the forum
- b) The relevant legal provision for filing the suit/petition
- c) Name of the parties and their standing (Petitioner or Respondent)
- d) Memorial filed on behalf of...
- e) Counsel appearing on behalf of...

7.5. The memorial shall not exceed thirty (30) pages, including the Body of Arguments, which shall not be more than twenty (20) pages.

7.6. The memorials shall be typed on A4 size pages in Font type: Times New Roman, Font Size: 12, Line spacing: 1.5- and 1-inch margin on each side. Footnotes should be in Font type: Times New Roman, Font Size: 10 and Line spacing: 1. Use of the BlueBook 20th Edition citation format shall be adhered to. There shall be page numbering at the middle bottom of the page and paragraph numbering.

- 7.7. The memorials shall not contain any Annexure / Photographs / Sketches / Exhibits / Affidavit etc. Violation of the said provision will attract deduction of marks.
- 7.8. The identity of the Participating Institution or the names of the participants if revealed in the memorials in any manner would amount to disqualification.
- 7.9. The Cover Page of the Memorial from the side of the Petitioner shall be Blue in color and from the side of the Respondent shall be Red in color.
- 7.10. **Deadline for Submission of Memorials:** All teams must send via email the soft copy of their memorials, which must be a 'pdf' file extension, by 11:59 p.m. IST on 21st October, 2021 to the official mail ID glcenationalmoot@gmail.com . Name of the PDF files should be given as "*Petitioner Memo <Team Code>*" and "*Respondent Memo <Team Code>*" respectively. The subject of the email must be: ***Memorial for <Team Code>***.
- 7.11. Not adhering to the above mentioned formatting and submission guidelines will attract a penalty of 3 marks.
- 7.12. In light of the current pandemic, hard copies of their memorials will not be entertained.

8. **Scouting**

- 8.1. Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. No member of any team or any individual connected with any team will 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.

9. **Anonymity**

9.1. Student counsel may introduce her/himself to the court as ‘counsel’ with their designated team codes only. Under no circumstances, the participants should disclose their actual name, the team's college / institution affiliation during the oral rounds, in any written submissions (Memorial and Compendium) or at any stage of the competition. They may only mention their identity at the awards ceremony.

9.2. 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 books with a college logo, or college seal).

9.3. Either of the above actions, or any other such action that discloses the identity of the participant shall result in the disqualification of the team from the competition at the discretion of the organisers.

10. **Researcher’s Test**

10.1. The Researcher’s Test shall be conducted on Saturday, 6th November 2021, prior to the oral rounds. Participation in the researchers' test is mandatory to be eligible to participate in the oral rounds.

10.2. In a team consisting of three members, the member designated as Researcher shall only take part in the test.

10.3. 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.

11. Online Platform Rules

- 11.1. The participants must ensure that they have a strong and stable internet connection with good audio and video facilities. They must use Laptops or PCs for the oral rounds. If the participants are using mobile phones for video conferencing, it must be kept in a stable position.
- 11.2. Participants should obtain prior verification and approval from the organizers for using any virtual backgrounds at least 2 days before the start of the competition. Any virtual background that has not been approved by the organisers would attract strict action by the organisers.
- 11.3. The participants (speakers) must ensure that any noise or audio other than the voice of the participant should not disturb the other participants during the online oral rounds. It is advisable to plan and prepare for the online oral rounds in advance accordingly.
- 11.4. Participants should keep their videos 'ON' during the entire rounds. At the time when one participant is speaking, others are expected to keep their microphones on mute.
- 11.5. 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.
- 11.6. The participants must not start the session before the host.
- 11.7. Team members may not communicate with each other in writing or electronically during the rounds.
- 11.8. In exceptional circumstances, the Organizers may reschedule the entire hearing.
- 11.9. If a Team fails to join the hearing, the hearing will proceed ex parte. The attending Teams will present their oral pleadings and be scored by the judges.

11.10. In case of late appearance not caused by technical difficulties, the Bench may decide to give penalty points.

11.11. If Team Members are experiencing technical difficulties, they must inform the Organizers immediately.

12. Evaluation

12.1. A bench of THREE JUDGES selected from a panel of judges drawn from an array of judicial officers, advocates and academicians will preside over each of the court sessions. The Final round will be presided over by THREE Judges which will include Judges of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala.

12.2. Each court will assign marks to both individual participants and the team.

12.3. An individual participant will be evaluated to a maximum of 100 marks by each judge. The division of marks for all the rounds will be on the basis of the following criteria:

Sl. No	Particulars	Marks
1	Substance in arguments, articulation of factual issues, factual analysis and use of evidence	20
2	Knowledge of law, interpretation, articulation of legal issues and legal analysis	20
3	Use of authorities and citations	10
4	Skills of advocacy, persuasiveness and response to questions	25
5	Clarity, brevity, ingenuity, language and style	15
6	Court manners and general impression	10

12.4. The memorials will be evaluated to a maximum of 100 marks and the division of marks will be on the basis of the following criteria:

Sl. No	Particulars	Marks
1	Knowledge and Application of Facts and Law	25
2	Depth and Quality of Research	25
3	Proper and Articulate Analysis	20
4	Clarity and Organization	10
5	Citation of Authorities and Referencing	10
6	Grammar and Style	10

12.5. To bring rationalization in the matter of awarding marks and for judicious evaluation, performances are catalogued into Excellent, Good, Average and Below Average and the range of marks to be awarded in each category will be forwarded to the judges. **Decision of The Judges Will Be Final.**

12.6. The fixture for the Prelims, Quarter and Semi Final rounds would be intimated to the participants during the briefing for the Rounds.

12.7. His Highness Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam reserves the right to make amendments to the rules of the competition for the smooth and proper conduct of the competition. In the matter of disputes or complaints, the decision of the Appeal Committee chaired by the Principal will be final.

13. **Awards**

Honours in this competition include:

- (i) Best Team
- (ii) Second Best Team
- (iii) Best Student Advocate
- (iv) Second Best Student Advocate
- (v) Best Memorial
- (vi) Second Best Memorial
- (vii) Best Researcher

The winners of the above mentioned titles will be awarded cash prizes and e-certificates. In addition to the above, e-certificates will be given to other categories of winners and all other participants.

14. **Copyright**

14.1. The copyright over the memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully in His Highness the Maharajas' Government Law College Ernakulam. The participants shall certify 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.

14.2. Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of His Highness the Maharajas Government Law College Ernakulam 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.

14.3. 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.

15. **Miscellaneous Rules of the Competition:-**

15.1. Upon completion of the competition, the organising committee reserves the exclusive right to use the memorials submitted to them, as they deem appropriate.

15.2. 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.

15.3. The organising committee reserves the right to amend, add, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.

15.4. The Organisers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct. The organising committee's decision as regards the interpretation of these rules or any other matters related to the Moot Court competition shall be final and binding. If there is any situation, which is not covered by these rules, the decision of the organising committee shall be final.

Any clarifications regarding the competition may be sent to glcenationalmoot@gmail.com with the Title ***“Request for clarification”***

For further queries contact:

Personnel (Faculty)

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IMPORTANT DATES

Release of Moot Problem	15th September 2021
Last date for Provisional Registration	15th October 2021
Last date for seeking clarifications of Problem	18th October 2021
Last date for Submission of Memorials (Soft Copy in pdf format only)	21st October 2021
Memorial Selection and Intimation	28th October 2021
Last date for Completion of Final Registration and Payment of Registration Fee.	1st November 2021
Draw of Lots & Inauguration	5th November 2021
Researchers Test and Preliminary Round	6th November 2021
Semi-finals and Final Round	7th November 2021