



Indian Law Society's

ILS Law College

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**REMEMBERING PROFESSOR S. P. SATHE:
18TH INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2024**

RULEBOOK



KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS



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PART I: GENERAL

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The *Remembering Professor S. P. Sathe - 18th International Moot Court Competition, 2024* [“**Competition**”] shall be organized from 23 - 25 February 2024 by Indian Law Society, Pune at ILS Law College, Pune [“**ILS, Pune**”] in an offline mode.

2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

2.1. TEAM MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

2.1.1. Students enrolled in a full-time bachelor's (three-year or five-year or the equivalent of the same in a non-Indian college/university/institution) law program at the time of the Competition are eligible to compete in the Competition.

2.1.2 Each college/university/institution shall be entitled to send only ONE team to the Competition.

2.2. TEAM COMPOSITION

2.2.1. A team shall be composed of either:

- a. Two (2) Members: Both Speakers, or
- b. Three (3) Members: Two (2) Speakers and One (1) Researcher.

2.2.2. Once the team composition is communicated to the Organising Committee, no change in the same shall be permitted unless the Organising Committee has approved such change.

2.3. NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING TEAMS

2.3.1. All colleges/universities/institutions that receive an official invite from the Organising Committee are welcome to register for the Competition. A maximum of twenty-four (24) teams with the highest memorial scores will qualify to appear in the Oral Rounds to be held at ILS, Pune.

2.3.2. In case there is an odd number of participating teams in the Preliminary Rounds, ILS, Pune shall nominate a non-competing dummy team that will not proceed beyond the Preliminary Rounds.



3. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

3.1. The official language of the Competition is English. All the rounds, including the Memorial Submissions shall be conducted in English.

4. DRESS CODE

4.1. The teams are expected to follow a strict dress code of Black Western or Indian formals (Courtroom Formals) during the Oral Rounds.

5. CLARIFICATIONS

5.1. Clarifications can be sought by the participating teams regarding the Moot Proposition and the Rulebook via the Google Form available [here](#).

5.2. The deadline to submit requests for clarifications is **11:59 PM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs) on 25 December 2023 (Monday)**.



PART II: REGISTRATION

6. REGISTRATION PROCESS

6.1. Any college/university/institution that receives an official invite from the Organising Committee can provisionally register for the Competition by submitting the Google Form available [here](#). The deadline for completing provisional registration is **11:59 PM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs)** on **15 December 2023 (Friday)**.

6.2. Final registration for the Competition can be done by submitting the Google Form available [here](#). The link for payment of registration fees for the Indian teams is available [here](#). For foreign teams, kindly send an email to spsathemoot@ilslaw.in for the bank details to make the payment.

6.3. Teams must first complete the payment and then attach proof of payment in the form of a screenshot (.jpeg or .jpg format) or a PDF file in the Google Form at or before **11:59 PM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs)** on **31 December 2023 (Sunday)**.

6.4. All teams shall be given a “Team Code” by the Organizing Committee on validation of their Registration Form and confirmation of payment of registration fees. Thereafter, the teams shall use their designated “Team Code” for all correspondence with the Organizing Committee.

6.5. The designated “Team Code” must be used by the participating teams during Memorial Submission as well as the Oral Rounds of the Competition.

7. REGISTRATION FEES

Description	Indian Teams	Foreign Teams
Fee for Memorial Qualifier Round	INR 3,000/-	USD 50
Fee for Oral Rounds with Accommodation (only for qualifying teams)	INR 12,000/-	USD 200
Fee for Oral Rounds without Accommodation	INR 6,000/-	USD 100

7.1. All fees are non-refundable.



7.2. Fees for Indian teams are inclusive of GST.

7.3. All administrative charges leviable by the bank are to be borne by the registering teams.

8. ACCOMMODATION

8.1. Teams can avail accommodation by paying the specified fee in Rule 7 for the days of the Competition only i.e., 23 - 25 February 2024 (2 nights and 3 days). Should the participants wish to stay the night of 25 February 2024 or arrive a day early i.e., on 22 February 2023, they will have to bear the accommodation costs themselves.



PART III: FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

9. ROUNDS

The Competition will be conducted in two stages (Memorial Round and Oral Rounds).

9.1. MEMORIAL ROUND

9.1.1. Each participating team shall prepare ONE (1) memorandum for each side, i.e., the Applicant and the Respondent.

9.1.2 A maximum of twenty-four (24) teams with the highest memorial scores will qualify to appear in the Oral Rounds held at ILS, Pune.

9.2. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

9.2.1. There will be two (2) Preliminary Rounds to ensure that each team is given the opportunity to argue from both sides of the Moot Proposition.

9.2.2. The fixtures for the Preliminary Rounds shall be determined by power match-ups based on the scores of the teams in the Memorial Round.

9.2.3. For the Preliminary Rounds, the winner of each such round shall be determined on the basis of the total speaker scores secured by the team in the round.

9.3. QUARTER-FINAL ROUND

9.3.1. Eight teams will proceed to the Quarter-Final Round in four Courtrooms on the basis of: first, total wins in the Preliminary Round; second, total speaker scores of the Preliminary Rounds; and in case of a tie, adding scores of the Memorial Round in the total speaker scores of the Preliminary Rounds.

9.3.2. These teams shall each argue only once for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The fixtures for the Quarter Final Round shall be as follows:

Rank 1 v. Rank 8 (Quarter Final Round I)

Rank 2 v. Rank 7 (Quarter Final Round II)

Rank 3 v. Rank 6 (Quarter Final Round III)

Rank 4 v. Rank 5 (Quarter Final Round IV)



9.4 SEMI-FINAL ROUND

9.4.1. Four teams who win in the Quarter-Final Round on a knock-out basis (i.e., the teams that secure higher total speaker scores in the Quarter-Final Round and, in the case of a tie, then the teams with higher scores in the Memorial Round against the opposing team) will proceed to the Semi-Final round in two Courtrooms.

9.4.2. These teams shall each argue only once for the side allotted by a draw of lots.

9.5 FINAL ROUND

9.5.1. Two teams who win in the Semi-Final round on a knock-out basis will proceed to the Final Round.

9.5.2. These teams shall each argue only once for the side allotted by a draw of lots.

9.5.3. The winner of the Final Round shall be the team that secures a higher total speaker score in the Final Round and in the case of a tie, then the team with higher score in the Memorial Round against the opposing team.

9.5.4. The team which wins the Final Round shall be declared as the 'Winning Team.' The other team shall be declared as the 'Runners-Up Team.'

10. **PROCEEDINGS**

10.1. PRELIMINARY, QUARTER-FINAL, AND SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS

10.1.1. The Preliminary, Quarter-Final, and Semi-Final Rounds shall last for a maximum of sixty (60) minutes. Each team will have thirty (30) minutes for presenting their oral arguments. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. Each speaker shall argue for at least twelve (12) minutes. The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the courtroom clerk prior to the commencement of each round.

10.1.2. Only one (1) speaker from each team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut, as the case may be. Participants must communicate to the Judges, at the beginning of the round, the time reserved by the team for rebuttals or sur-rebuttals.

10.2. FINAL ROUND

10.2.1. The Final Round shall last for a maximum of ninety (90) minutes. Each team will have



forty-five (45) minutes for presenting their oral arguments. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. Each speaker shall argue for at least twenty (20) minutes. The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the courtroom clerk prior to the commencement of the round.

10.2.2. Only one (1) speaker from each team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut, as the case may be. Participants must communicate to the Judges, at the beginning of the round, the time reserved by the team for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.

10.3. EXCHANGE OF MEMORANDA

10.3.1. There shall be an exchange of memoranda between the respective opposing teams, in accordance with the fixtures, prior to all the rounds of the Competition.

10.3.2. The teams are prohibited from making any copies of the exchanged memoranda.

10.4. GENERAL RULES FOR ORAL ROUNDS

10.3.1. Teams participating in the Oral Rounds while making their submissions are not confined by the content of their Memorials. Notwithstanding the aforementioned rule, the Judges shall be provided copies of each team's Memorial and the Judges may pose questions to the team with reference to the same.

10.3.2. Any memorials or reference material carried into the Courtroom shall not bear any insignia of the college/university/institution to which the team belongs. Using identity indicators on these submissions or reference material will result in immediate disqualification of such a team from the Competition.

10.3.3. **Scouting:** Scouting by the speakers, researcher, or any other person affiliated with a team will lead to the immediate disqualification of such a team. Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if any person affiliated with a team is found:

- a) Witnessing, hearing, observing, etc. the oral submissions in a round, except where the round is one in which the team to which they are affiliated is participating in; or
- b) Reading a memorandum of a team except where: It is of the team to which they are affiliated; or the memoranda have been obtained on account of an exchange of memoranda prior to a round of the team to which they are affiliated.



PART IV: MEMORIALS

11. ANONYMITY

11.1. The “Team Code” assigned to all participating teams in pursuance of Rule 6.4 shall be used by the participating teams during Memorial Submission.

11.2. The memorials shall not contain the names of the team members or any sign, symbol, or text that reveal the identity of the college/university/institution to which the team belongs. Using identity indicators on the memorials will result in immediate disqualification of such a team from the Competition.

12. CONTENTS OF MEMORIALS

12.1. Each memorandum shall necessarily consist of the following and only the following sections:

- a. Cover page
- b. Table of Contents
- c. List of Abbreviations
- d. Index of Authorities
- e. Statement of Jurisdiction
- f. Statement of Facts
- g. Questions Presented
- h. Summary of Pleadings
- i. Pleadings
- j. Prayer

13. FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

13.1. The formatting requirements of the Memorandum are as follows:

13.1.1. Font and Spacing:

- a. The font used in all parts of the memorandum, including headings and sub-headings, must ONLY be Times New Roman (black font colour), font size 12, with 1.5-line spacing, and justified alignment.



- b. The font used in the footnotes must ONLY be Times New Roman, font size 10, with single line spacing, and justified alignment.
 - c. There should be a margin of 1 inch on all sides of the page.
 - d. Each section of the memorial, except the Cover Page(s), must be numbered. Page numbers till Summary of Pleadings (inclusive) must be in small Roman Numerals (e.g. ii, iii, iv). Page numbers of the Pleadings and Prayer must be in Hindu-Arabic Numerals (e.g. 2, 3, 4), beginning at 1.
- 13.1.2. Cover Page: Each memorandum shall have the following and only the following on its Cover Page:
- a. Participant's Memorandum Code assigned by the OC on the top right-hand corner of the Cover Page
 - b. The name and year of the Competition
 - c. The name and place of the forum
 - d. The name of the case
 - e. The title of the Memorial (for instance, "Memorial for the Applicant" or "Memorial for the Respondent").
- 13.1.3. List of Abbreviations and Index of Authorities:
- a. The table of abbreviations must contain all abbreviations used in the Memorandum. This will include common abbreviations such as "&," "%," "ICJ," "UK" etc.
 - b. The Index of Authorities must contain a list of all legal authorities cited in any section of the memorandum. The Index of Authorities must contain the page number(s) of the memorandum where the authorities are so cited. It must be divided based on the category of the authority, such as "Treaties/Conventions," "UN Resolutions and Other Documents," "International Cases and Arbitral Decisions," "Domestic Cases," "Articles and Journals," etc.
- 13.1.4. Statement of Facts:
- a. The statement of facts must contain a brief overview of the relevant facts of the dispute.



- b. It should be limited to the actual facts as stated by the drafter, and necessary inferences.

13.1.5. Questions Presented:

- a. The legal questions presented for adjudication before the Court are the “Questions Presented.”
- b. These must be presented as neutral questions.

13.1.6. Pleadings and Prayer:

- a. The substantive submissions, legal interpretations, and arguments put forth by the participant are to be contained in the pleadings. The exceptions are:
 - i. To the extent that the Prayer sets out the relief;
 - ii. In so far as such argument may be summarized in the Summary of Pleadings; and
 - iii. In so far as the argument may be anticipated in the Questions Presented.
- b. The final relief requested from the Court is to be set forth in the prayer.

13.1.7. Footnotes and Citations:

- a. Footnotes shall be limited to the identification of the authority, and cannot contain any substantive legal arguments.

Illustrative example of an acceptable footnote: Case Concerning the Barcelona Traction, Light and Power Company Limited (Belgium vs. Spain) [46 ILR 178] [hereinafter “Barcelona Traction”].

Illustrative example of an unacceptable footnote: Case Concerning the Barcelona Traction, Light and Power Company Limited (Belgium vs. Spain) [46 ILR 178] [hereinafter “Barcelona Traction Case”] (Where the ICJ held that if it were to decide the case in disregard of the relevant institutions of municipal law it would, without justification, invite serious legal difficulties).

- b. The style of footnoting to be followed throughout the memorandum shall be the Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation: 20th Edition.



14. SUBMISSION OF THE MEMORIALS

14.1. The soft copy of the memorials must reach the following e-mail address: spsathemoot@ilslaw.in at or before **11:59 PM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs)** on **20 January 2024 (Saturday)**.

14.2. Late submission of memorials after the specified deadline will attract a penalty of one (01) mark per hour till **02:59 AM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs)** on **21 January 2024 (Sunday)**. No Memorandum submitted after **02:59 AM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs)** on **21 January 2024 (Sunday)** shall be accepted and such non-submission will result in immediate disqualification of the team from the Competition.

14.3. The subject of the email shall be ‘Memoranda for Code [___].’

14.4. The memoranda must be e-mailed in MS Word (.doc’ or .docx’) format and PDF format. The file names of the soft copy of the memorandum must contain only the memorandum code and the side being represented in the following format: 023A or 155R, where ‘A’ (Applicant) and ‘R’ (Respondent) represent the sides of the Parties set out in the Moot Proposition.

14.5. Each team which qualifies to the Oral Rounds shall be required to carry a minimum of 5 copies of printed memorials from each side to be submitted to the Organising Committee upon arrival on **23 February 2024**.

15. EVALUATION OF MEMORIALS AND QUALIFICATION TO ORAL ROUNDS

15.1. A Memorial Round will be conducted subsequent to the submission and evaluation of the Memorials. A maximum of 24 highest-scoring teams shall be selected based on their Memorial scores. Only these selected teams shall be eligible to participate in the Oral Rounds of the Competition.

15.2. Criteria on which Memoranda shall be assessed are as follows:

Sr. No.	Criteria	Marks
1.	Application and Appreciation of Facts	10



2.	Application of Legal Principles, Authorities, and Precedents	20
3.	Presentation, Structure, and Articulation	10
4.	Ingenuity and Logical Reasoning	10
	Maximum Marks	50
	(Less) Penalty Points	
	Total marks for the Memorandum	50 (minus penalty points)

15.3. The following penalties shall be deducted after each such memorandum has been evaluated.

DESCRIPTION	PENALTY
Failure to include all sections of the Memorials	3 marks for each section per memoranda
Failure to include necessary information on the cover page of the memorandum	1 mark for each violation per memoranda
Delay in submission	Till 02:59 AM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs) on 21 January 2024 (Sunday) : 1 mark per hour of delay After 02:59 AM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs) on 21 January 2024 (Sunday) : Disqualification from the Competition
Use of incorrect font style, font colour, font size or line spacing	1 mark per violation, maximum of 5 marks per memoranda



Incorrect Page Margins or Page Numbers	1 mark per memoranda
Plagiarism (in any part of the memorandum or in full)	10 – 30%: 5 marks Beyond 30%: Disqualification from the Competition
AI-generated Content (in any part of the memorandum or in full)	10 – 30%: 5 marks Beyond 30%: Disqualification from the Competition



PART V: ADJUDICATION

16. MARKING CRITERIA FOR ORAL ROUNDS

16.1. Each judge in each round will mark each team member according to the criteria given below:

Sr. No.	Criteria	Maximum Marks	
		Speaker 1	Speaker 2
1.	Knowledge and Presentation of Facts	10	10
2.	Knowledge and Understanding of Legal Provisions and Content of Arguments	20	20
3.	Arrangement, Presentation, and Logical Reasoning	10	10
4.	Court Etiquette and Time Management	10	10
	Sub-Total	50	50
	Total	100	

17. AWARDS

17.1. Prizes for the Competition are as follows:

- a. Winning Team: Trophy and Certificates
- b. Runners-up team: Trophy and Certificates
- c. Best Memorial: Trophy and Certificates
- d. Second-Best Memorials: Certificates
- e. Best Agent of the Competition: Trophy and Certificates



- f. Second-Best Agent of the Competition: Certificates
- g. Best Agent of the Finals: Certificate
- h. Justice V. A. Naik Prize for the best team from Maharashtra: Trophy and Certificates

17.2. Members of each team will receive a certificate of participation.

17.3. Cash prizes will be announced shortly.



PART VI: MISCELLANEOUS

18. CONFIRMATION OF TRAVEL ITINERARY

18.1. Participating Teams that qualify to the Oral Rounds of the Competition will be required to pay the required fee under Rule 7 and they must confirm their travel itinerary to the Organising Committee at or before **11:59 PM IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs) on 05 February 2024 (Monday)**.

19. ORGANIZERS' EXTRAORDINARY POWERS

19.1. All participants are expected to maintain decorum in the Courtrooms during the Oral Rounds of the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.

19.2. The Organising Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional, and immoral conduct throughout the duration of the Competition.

19.3. The Rules governing the conduct of the Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof, in letter or in spirit, can attract penalties or disqualification at the sole discretion of the Organising Committee.

19.4. If any member of a participating team is found participating under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or other narcotic substances, the concerned team will be immediately disqualified from the Competition.

19.5. Any act prohibited under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Information Technology Act, 2000 (and the rules under the statute), any other central/state or local law is applicable to regulate the conduct of participants in all regards. Accordingly, the participants shall bear personal responsibility for the same and the Organising Committee shall not be liable.

19.6. No participants shall possess or use any electronic device(s) – Mobile, Laptop, Tablet, Smart Watch etc. in the Courtroom during the Oral Rounds of the Competition.

19.7. The Organising Committee reserves the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules without any prior notification, if so required and as they may deem appropriate.

19.8. ILS, Pune follows a Zero-Tolerance Policy towards Sexual Harassment and Ragging. Accordingly, ILS, Pune reserves the right to disqualify the concerned participants for engaging in such conduct, without prejudice to any other action which can be initiated under appropriate law.



19.9. The Organising Committee shall resolve unanticipated or unexpected contingencies, if any, and the decision of the Organising Committee in this regard shall be final and binding.

19.10. In case of any dispute arising out of the rules, or otherwise, the decision of the Organising Committee shall be final and binding.

20. **DISCLAIMER**

20.1. The material in the Moot Proposition is neither intended to nor does it attempt to resemble any incident or any person, living or dead. Any such resemblance is purely coincidental. The material in the Moot Proposition is a fictitious factual account prepared for the purposes of the present Competition only and it does not attempt to influence or predict the outcome of any matter whatsoever.

20.2. The copyright of the memorandum as well as any other submissions made by the participating teams during the Competition shall vest with ILS, Pune. The acceptance of such vesting is a precondition to participation in the Competition.

21. **TIMELINE OF THE COMPETITION**

Event	Date
Release of the Moot Proposition and Rulebook	06 December 2023 (Wednesday)
Registrations Open	06 December 2023 (Wednesday)
Deadline for Provisional Registration	15 December 2023 (Friday)
Deadline for Seeking Clarifications	25 December 2023 (Monday)
Deadline for Final Registration	31 December 2023 (Sunday)
Release of Clarifications	05 January 2024 (Friday)



Deadline for Submission of Soft Copy of Memorials	20 January 2024 (Saturday)
Announcement of Teams Qualifying for Oral Rounds	31 January 2024 (Wednesday)
Payment of Registration Fee and Confirmation of Travel Itinerary by Qualifying Teams	05 February 2024 (Monday)
Draw of Lots, Exchange of Memorials, and Inauguration Ceremony	23 February 2024 (Friday)
Preliminary and Quarter-final Rounds	24 February 2024 (Saturday)
Semi-final and Final Rounds and Valedictory Ceremony	25 February 2024 (Sunday)



PART VII: CONTACT DETAILS

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE: spsathemoot@ilslaw.in | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)

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