

MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION
OF
SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD
PRESENTS
THE
7TH NATIONAL MOOT COURT
COMPETITION, 2023
7TH-9TH APRIL, 2023



ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Symbiosis Law School
(SLS) Hyderabad was
established in 2014
under the auspice of
Prof. Dr. S.B.

Mujumdar, inheriting a
legacy of novelty,
dynamism and
excellence in the field
of education, as a
constituting unit of
Symbiosis

International (Deemed
University), Pune.

SLS Hyderabad,
founded on the pillars
of expertise, justice
and service, is
committed to
imparting quality legal
education while
conforming to
acclaimed
international
standards, ably led
under the aegis of
Director Dr. Santosh
Aghav.





ABOUT THE MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION

The Moot Court Association (MCA) of SLS, Hyderabad is a student-run body, guided by Mr. Abhilash Sapre, Faculty In-Charge & Ms. Ashika Pradhan, Assistant Faculty In-Charge, to achieve its objective of creating a harmonious environment for mootng, by inculcating an interest amongst the students through developing and honing their research and oratory skills. To realize this, the MCA is actively involved in conducting various training workshops, orientations, mock trials and moot court competitions for students at multiple collegiate levels, and it organizes national competitions for law schools across India.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It is an absolute pleasure and a genuine delight to undertake the 7th Edition of the National Moot Court Competition, 2023 of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad. As with all the editions, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad has always strived to present an enriching and non-arbitrary arena to students for showcasing their qualitative skills of logical reasoning, legal convincing, artful presentation and masterful research.

The excellence and diversity blended in Symbiosis are unparalleled, with inexhaustive zeal to create trailblazers in the legal fraternity. We believe that realising the goal of learning, unlearning and relearning along the way and practising the profession with the highest of ethical, moral and professional standards, and engaging proactively in societal concerns in the greatest achievement. We, as an institute, are collectively accountable to various stakeholders in ensuring that we contribute these services to the practitioners and beneficiaries of the law.

The National Moot Court Competition of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad is its flagship event, and landmark in its consistency, integrity, equality and fairness.

We heartily welcome everyone to the 7th Edition which aims to be bigger and bolder than before. We are confident that this endeavour would be fruitful and will humbly encourage everyone ardent to participate.

THANK YOU !



7TH NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2023

The institutes of Symbiosis believe in the holistic development of a student, which can be achieved not just with academic education but also with avid participation in co-curriculars. Mooting is one such aspect which proves to be the very backbone of law school in assisting law students by providing them with the requisite practical experience and knowledge.

Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad is delighted to announce the 7th National Moot Court Competition, 2023 (“NMCC”) that aims to enrich students with education and a mastery in the art of oration, argumentation and research from the very start of their careers as lawyers.

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a curved, light-colored facade. Several tall, cylindrical pillars in various colors (orange, blue, green, red) are visible, supporting the structure. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

VENUE

The 7th NMCC shall be held in the premises of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad with an expert panel of eminent personalities, aiming to level up mooting to its zenith.

Our previous editions have featured some of the best mooting teams the country offers, demonstrating their immense proficiency and setting an impressive standard for debate and research.

The background image shows a library interior. In the foreground, there is a light-colored wooden table and a black office chair. Behind them are tall wooden bookshelves filled with books. A red sign is visible on top of one of the bookshelves. The ceiling has a white fan and some lights.

THE MOOT PROPOSITION

The theme of the NMCC for this edition shall be multidisciplinary, centred on Information Technology Laws with special focus on Data Privacy. In this rapidly advancing world, technology is ever-changing and has completely revolutionized society.

In light of such a dynamic need, the Moot Proposition shall aim at enhancing the knowledge of its participants in the said field while also dealing with other relevant subject areas.



TEAM ELIGIBILITY AND COMPOSITION

Aspiring Law Students pursuing five-year integrated undergraduate law program or three-year graduate law program are eligible to register for the competition (two speakers and one researcher or two speakers). However, LL.M. students are ineligible to participate.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

1. Institutes that wish to participate in the NMCC are requested to register and pay the registration fee via the link given below. Please note that this constitutes as the Final Registration.

2. To confirm the Registration, Teams have to fill the Registration Form with a declaration from their Institute authorizing them to participate in the NMCC.

3. There shall be a one-time payment of INR 8,500/- (Rupees Eight Thousand and Five Hundred Only) on or before the last date to register*

4. The teams will be taken on First-Come First-Serve Basis. The total intake for this NMCC 2023 is 30 teams.

5. The teams are required to note the important dates and strictly adhere to the deadlines.

**** The final installment of the Registration Fee [INR 8,500/- (Rupees Eight Thousand and Five Hundred Only)] is inclusive of the fee for food and accommodation.***

REGISTRATION FEE & PAYMENT

A Registration Fee of INR 8,500/- (Rupees Eight Thousand and Five Hundred Only, inclusive of GST) is to be paid at the time of Registration for the NMCC by each respective team. The installments of the Registration Fee are to be paid via Bank Transfer only, and payment made via any other medium shall not be accepted. SLS, Hyderabad and the MCA shall not be liable for any actions in the contrary.



AWARDS & PRIZES

The following prizes shall be awarded to the merit-holders:

** All Merit-Holders shall be provided with Certificates of Merit.*

*** All Participants shall be provided with Certificates of Participation.*

Winners:
INR 50,000 + Trophy

Runners-Up:
INR 30,000 + Trophy

Best Speaker: INR 15,000

2nd Best Speaker: INR 10,000

Best Memorial: INR 10,000

IMPORTANT DATES

<u>TENTATIVE DATE</u>	<u>PARTICULARS</u>
16th February, 2023	Release of the Moot Proposition
16th February, 2023	Commencement of Registration
5th March, 2023	Last day for Registration
25th March, 2023	Submission of Memorials
7th April, 2023	Inauguration Ceremony
8th April, 2023	Preliminary & Quarter-Final Rounds
9th April, 2023	Semi-Final & Final Rounds, and Valedictory Ceremony

**The Above-Mentioned Dates Are Subject To Change. Teams And Institutions Shall Be Duly Informed Of Any Such Changes.*

Previous Editions of the National Moot Court Competition

Symbiosis Law School
Hyderabad has always ensured
holistic development and
learning for students in all
aspects of education.

In the spirit of knowledge and
learning, we have successfully
completed six editions of our
Flagship Event, the National
Moot Court Competition
(NMCC).

In the 6th NMCC, we had the
pleasure of hosting
distinguished personalities from
the legal fraternity, including
Mr. Supratim Chakraborty,
Mr. Sampath Bulusu, Prof. (Dr)
M V Shiju, Prof. Ambrose, Dr.
Cyril and Hon'ble Justice Sri
Ponugoti Naveen Rao.



THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

- Chief Patron –

Dr. Santosh Aghav

(Director, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad)

- Patron -

Dr. Anuradha Binnuri

(Deputy Director, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad)

- Faculty Convenor –

Mr. Abhilash Sapre

(Faculty In-charge, MCA)

- Faculty Co-Convenor –

Ms. Ashika Pradhan

(Assisting Faculty In-charge, MCA)

- Student Convenor –

Mr. Vishvak Sunil

(President, MCA)

- Student Co-Convenor –

Ms. Bobbala Jyothirmmai

(Vice-President, MCA)

- Secretary –

Ms. Srilakshmi Sravani

Kesapragada

- Joint Secretary –

Ms. Sneha P Mandal

- Treasurer –

Ms. Sathya Indrakaran

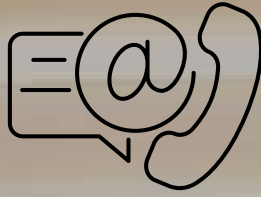


MCA

THE MOOT COURT
ASSOCIATION

SLS HYDERABAD

CONTACT US



: mca@slsh.edu.in



: mcaatslsh

<STUDENT POINTS OF CONTACT>

Mr. Vishvak Sunil (7667061213)

Ms. Bobbala Jyothirmmai (9490833582)

Ms. Sravani Kesapragada (8688756909)

Ms. Sneha P. Mandal (7384414962)

Location of
Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad





SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD

A Constituent of Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune
Re-accredited by NAAC with "A++" Grade – Awarded Category – I by UGC



SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD

7TH NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION –2023

MOOT PROPOSITION

1. Atlantis is a country with a legal regime and a quasi-federal government structure similar to that of India. Over the last decade, Atlantis has emerged as a global superpower. The country has majorly digitized its entire ecosystem with pioneering inventions, particularly in the payments and communications space. Its commendable adaptation of technology has grabbed the attention of the world's largest technology businesses.
2. One such multinational technology conglomerate that has recently entered the Atlantis market is SecureMessage Inc. ("SMI"). SMI has introduced a messaging application called SecureMessage in Atlantis, which provides end-to-end encrypted messaging services to its users. Until SMI's entry in Atlantis, no other messaging application had provided end-to-end encryption of messages as a service to users. Hence, in no time, SecureMessage became one of the most preferred and used messaging applications amongst the residents of Atlantis. Due to its sophisticated privacy features and encryption technology, it garnered more than 70 lakh registered users in Atlantis, within the first 4 months. To cater to the increasing demand, SMI set up a small satellite office in Atlantis.

3. With the massive adoption of technology in all areas, Atlantis saw a surprising and untenable rise in cybercrime and became a hotbed for militant activities. Further, with the rapid proliferation of technology amongst the masses, false news, hate-speech, and propaganda-based news started spreading like wildfire. The Government of Atlantis drew criticism, even on a global stage, for its failure to counter the rising cybercrime, militancy, hate speech, and spread of false information.
4. To combat this aggression, the Government of Atlantis constituted the Central Cyber Surveillance Team (“CCST”). The CCST was designated as the nodal agency, authorized by the Government of Atlantis under Section 69 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000 (which is *pari materia* to the (Indian) Information Technology Act, 2000), to monitor, intercept and decrypt any information in a computer resource. The CCST was exempted from the provisions of the Atlantis Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2022 by the Government of Atlantis.
5. On 17 January 2023, a series of three consecutive bomb blasts occurred around 5:55 pm in Atlantista, the capital city of Atlantis. In the series of blasts, 45 people and 15 children lost their lives. The police force launched operations to nab the perpetrators but were unsuccessful even after the passage of substantial time. While the entire country was reeling from the aftermath of this incident, a message went viral on the SecureMessage application which read, –

“THESE BLASTS WERE JUST A TRAILER – THE SHOW BEGINS NOW”.

6. On 21 March 2023, SMI received an email from CCST. This email indicated that SMI would have to disclose and hand over to CCST, any messages which mentioned words like ‘BLAST’, ‘SHOW’, or ‘TRAILER’. Also, SMI was asked to disclose the first originator of the viral message indicated above. The email indicated that this was an order pursuant to Section 69 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000, read with Rule 4(2) of the Atlantis Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. As part of the requested information, SMI was also asked to provide the personal data of certain residents of Atlantis, such as their phone numbers and personal contacts. Interestingly, CCST’s email dated 21 March 2023, was issued by the Assistant Director (Intermediary Affairs), a rank in the CCST beneath the equivalent of Additional Superintendent of Police. This email did, however, indicate that it was issued with the approval of the Director (Intermediary Affairs) of the CCST, a position which is equivalent in rank to an Additional Superintendent of Police.
7. However, SMI, in its response to CCST, indicated that the requested data was stored in their foreign servers, and access to the same could not be provided unless the process under a mutual Legal Assistance Treaty was followed to obtain the information. Further, in relation to the disclosure of identity and other personal details of individuals, SMI has stated that its encryption policy did not enable identification of the first originator of messages and that it had no technology in place which would allow it to track and monitor messages of users.
8. Upon receipt of such a response from SMI, the CCST sent a default notice to SMI indicating that its non-compliance with the order would result in the imposition of penalties. This information was somehow leaked to the media. Atlas, a privacy enthusiast and activist, filed a Writ Petition in the

Supreme Court against the Union of Atlantis on the ground that intercepting and decrypting private messages of users was in violation of the Right to Privacy under the Constitution of Atlantis. Further, it was contended that the personal data of individuals could not be accessed, any action, on the contrary, being a violation of the Atlantis Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2022 (which has been enacted to protect the privacy of individuals).

9. SMI also filed a Writ Petition against CCST and the Government of Atlantis in the Supreme Court. SMI has challenged the interception order received from the CCST on the grounds of unconstitutionality of Section 69 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000, as well as Rule 4(2) of the Atlantis Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, which provides for identification of the first originator of messages. In this regard, SMI has also contended that, given its technology, compliance with the interception order will contravene its status as an ‘intermediary’ as it will be required to break encryption and access the messages of users to disclose the first originator of a message. Therefore, it would impinge on the right of SMI to claim protection under Section 79 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000.

Given the subject matters of national importance, the Supreme Court of Atlantis has clubbed the two Writ Petitions and has scheduled a hearing for the same.

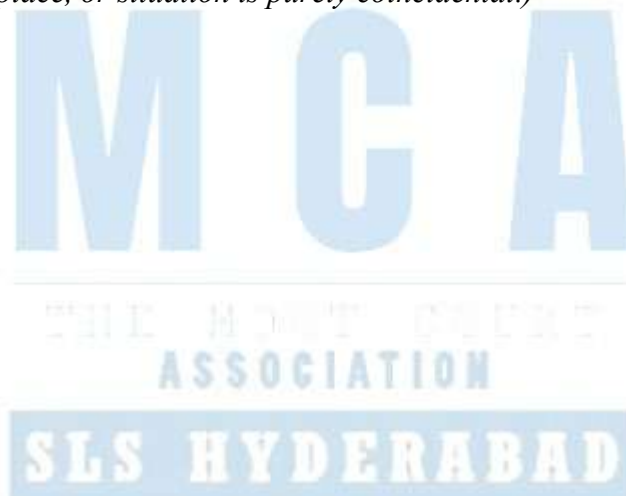
Issues for consideration before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Atlantis are:

- 
- I. Is the exemption power under Section 18(2)(a) of the Atlantis Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2022 and subsequent exemption of CCST from the provisions thereof by the Government of Atlantis constitutionally valid?
 - II. Are the powers under Section 69 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000, read with Rule 4(2) of the Atlantis Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, in conflict with the Atlantis Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2022?
 - III. Are the grounds for the interception, monitoring or decryption reasonable restrictions on the Right to Privacy provided under the Constitution of Atlantis and the Atlantis Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2022?
 - IV. Do the procedural safeguards built into the Atlantis Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Interception, Monitoring, and Decryption of Information) Rules, 2009, apply to an order requiring disclosure of the first originator of a message under Rule 4(2) of the Atlantis Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021? Or are the requests under Rule 4(2) exempt from these safeguards?
 - V. Will complying with the interception order lead to SMI losing intermediary status, thereby rendering it unable to claim exemption from liability under Section 79 of the Atlantis Information Technology Act, 2000?

Note:

1. The laws of Atlantis are *pari materia* to the laws of India, including the judgments delivered by the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts of India. The participants are expected to bring to the Court's attention the relevant jurisprudence, which may include judgments and opinions delivered by courts of common law nations.
2. For purposes of this Moot Problem, please consider that the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, as released on 18 November 2022, has been enacted into law, as is.
3. Participants may rely on judgments from other jurisdictions, provided that the judgments are based on provisions of foreign legislations which are similar to the provisions of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022.
4. Please do not refer to any real-life applications or their terms and conditions for any arguments.

(Disclaimer: All facts mentioned in the above proposition are purely fictitious, and any resemblance to any person, place, or situation is purely coincidental.)





SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD

A Constituent of Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune
Re-accredited by NAAC with "A++" Grade – Awarded Category – I by UGC



SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD

7TH NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION - 2023

RULES AND REGULATIONS



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M C A

THE MOUNT COLLEGE
ASSOCIATION

SLS HYDERABAD



NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, a constituent of the Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Pune, has announced its **7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition – 2023**, to be held from **07th April, 2023 to 9th April, 2023** to enable law students from all across India to participate to showcase their majesty over law and legal principles;

THEREFORE, the Moot Court Association of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, hereby makes the following rules, namely:-

M C A

THE MOOT COURT
ASSOCIATION

SLS HYDERABAD

CHAPTER I

1. **SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:** These rules may be called ‘NMCC Rules, 2023’.

- 1.1 They shall come into force from the date of publication on the official website of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, www.slsh.edu.in.

- 1.2 The rules are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Reliance should be placed only on ‘NMCC Rules, 2023’ and not on any previously applicable rules.

2. **DEFINITIONS:** In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is a reference to that rule in ‘NMCC Rules, 2023’, and a reference to a form is a reference to that form attached in the annexure to ‘NMCC Rules, 2023’, as the case may be. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

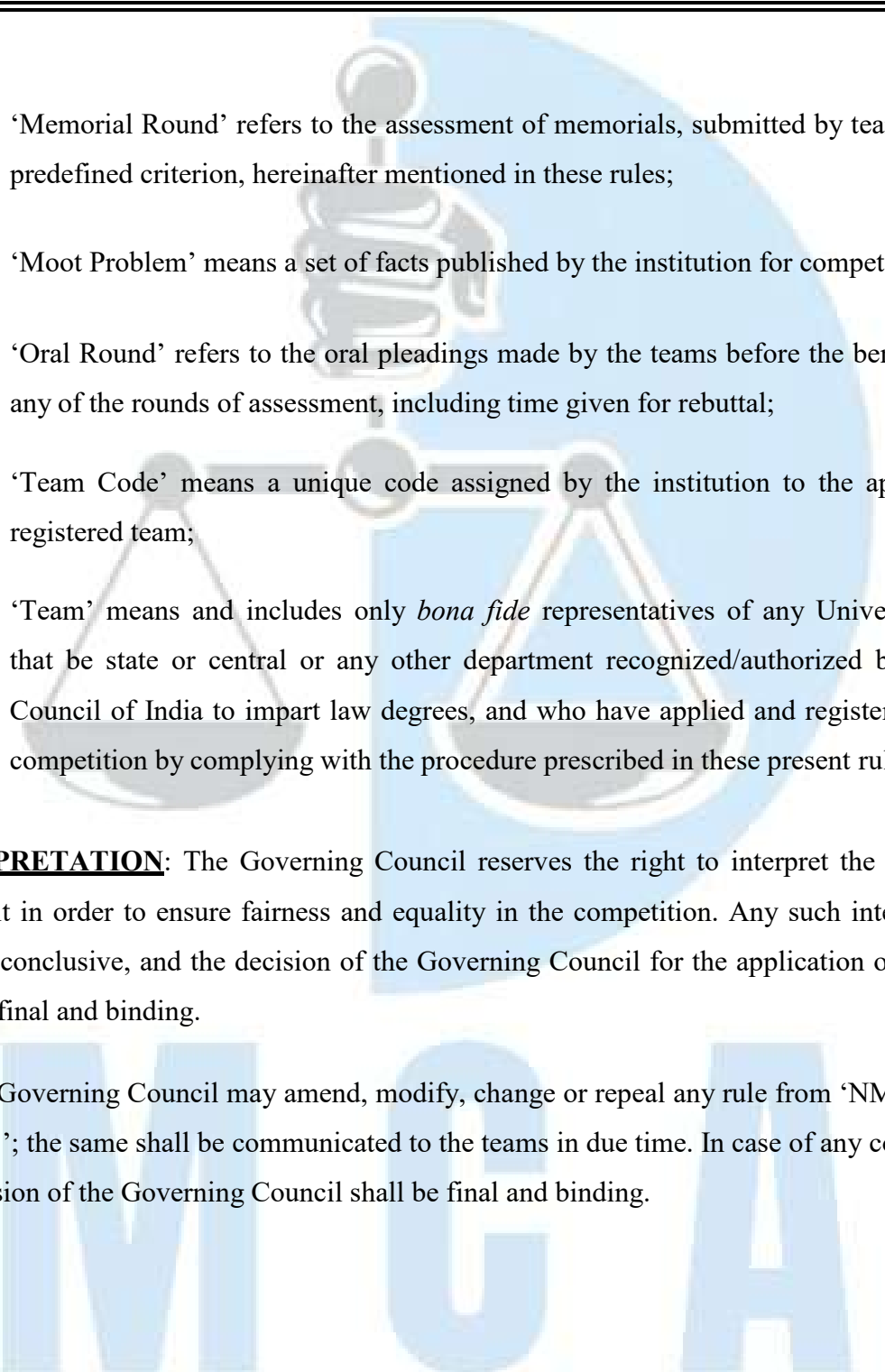
- 2.1 ‘Bench’ refers to the members duly invited by the institute to adjudge any of the rounds collectively;

- 2.2 ‘Clarifications’ means an explanation published by the institute on the moot problem, at any point of time of the competition or a query posed by any competing team within the given deadline;

- 2.3 ‘Competition’ means the ‘7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition –2023’;

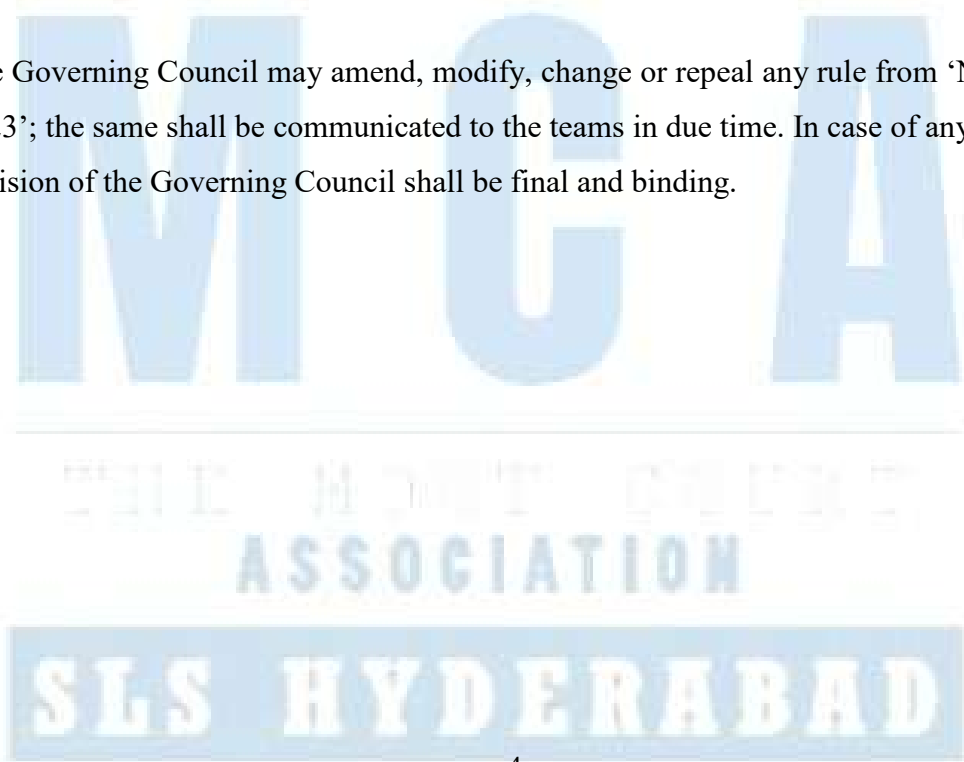
- 2.4 ‘Governing Council’ means the student-faculty-staff body appointed for the administration and smooth conduct of the competition, including all other members conferred with powers on an ad-hoc basis by the ‘Ex-officio Chairperson’ or ‘Faculty In - charge’ of the Moot Court Association of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad;

- 2.5 ‘Institution’ means and includes ‘Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad’, a constituent of Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Pune;

- 
- 2.6 ‘Memorial Round’ refers to the assessment of memorials, submitted by teams, on the predefined criterion, hereinafter mentioned in these rules;
- 2.7 ‘Moot Problem’ means a set of facts published by the institution for competition;
- 2.8 ‘Oral Round’ refers to the oral pleadings made by the teams before the bench during any of the rounds of assessment, including time given for rebuttal;
- 2.9 ‘Team Code’ means a unique code assigned by the institution to the applied and registered team;
- 2.10 ‘Team’ means and includes only *bona fide* representatives of any University, may that be state or central or any other department recognized/authorized by the Bar Council of India to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules;

3. **INTERPRETATION:** The Governing Council reserves the right to interpret the rules as it deems fit in order to ensure fairness and equality in the competition. Any such interpretation shall be conclusive, and the decision of the Governing Council for the application of the rules shall be final and binding.

3.1 The Governing Council may amend, modify, change or repeal any rule from ‘NMCCRules, 2023’; the same shall be communicated to the teams in due time. In case of any conflict, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final and binding.



CHAPTER II

1. ELIGIBILITY:

- 1.1 Students duly enrolled and pursuing a five-year integrated undergraduate or a three-year graduate law program may apply to participate in the 7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition.
- 1.2 Students enrolled and pursuing a post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law are not eligible to apply.
- 1.3 Students from any University/Department/Institute not recognized by the Bar Council of India to impart law degrees are not eligible to apply.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 2.1 Each team shall consist of **Three** members only, comprising **Two speakers** and **One researcher**.
- 2.2 All three members of a team should belong to the same institution, cross-institute teams are strictly ineligible to participate in the 7th NMCC, 2023
- 2.3 Any team intending to change their team composition shall intimate the Governing Council by sending an e-mail to mca@slsh.edu.in.
- 2.4 Any person, other than the three registered team members, is not eligible to avail of facilities reserved for the student participants.

3. REGISTRATION

3.1 GENERAL

- 3.1.1 Each team shall register for the 7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition by filling the [registration form](#). Additionally, the teams are expected to upload a scanned copy of the duly filled registration form, in the prescribed manner (**Refer to Annexure- I**) in the google form on or before **5th March 2023 (Sunday)**.
- 3.1.2 Registration after the given deadline shall not be accepted under any

circumstances.

- 3.13 On receipt of the duly filled registration form, the institute shall respond to the participating team, acknowledging the receipt.
- 3.14 After the deadline for the registration expires, the Governing Council shall respond to each registered team, as specified under clause 3.1.1, with a unique team code, which shall be used to identify the teams during the competition.
- 3.15 On completion of the registration process, any team may withdraw from the competition by filling the [withdrawal form](#). Additionally, the teams must upload a scanned copy of the duly filled withdrawal form (**Refer to Annexure - II**) on or before **8th March 2023 (Sunday)**.
- 3.16 Registration to the 7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition shall be on a **first come first serve basis** wherein only the first **thirty (30) teams** shall be eligible to participate.

32 REGISTRATION FEE:

- 3.21 The registration fee for the competition is INR. 8,500 (In words- Rupees Eight Thousand Five Hundred Only) inclusive of GST @18%, which includes accommodation and food for competition days, library, Wi-Fi and any other facilities provided by the institute at its discretion.

33 PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION FEE:

- 3.31 The registration fee for the '7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition' is only to be paid through a wire transfer. The required details for the same are contained in **Annexure III**. No other payment method shall be accepted.
- 3.32 The deadline for payment of the registration fee is **5th March 2023 (Sunday)**.
- 3.33 Any additional charges incurred by the team while making the wire transfer are to be borne by the team.
- 3.34 All teams must upload a scanned copy of the receipt generated on completion of the wire transfer in the [registration form](#). A screenshot of the payment confirmation must be uploaded.

34 COMPLETION OF THE REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- 34.1** All the teams shall send a soft copy of the registration form, and travel form (**Refer to Annexure – I**) along with the receipt generated after the completion of the wire transfer of the registration fees, at mca.accounts@slsh.edu.in. The softcopies of the aforementioned documents must be emailed to the Governing Council within the deadline of payment of the registration fee, i.e., **5th March 2023 (Sunday)**.
- 34.2** Registration to 7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, National Moot Court Competition shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified under clause 3.4.1, any failure, may be treated as a withdrawal from the competition, and no claim of any nature shall be entertained thereafter.

35 ON-SITE REGISTRATION:

- 35.1** All selected teams are requested to reach Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, by **12:00 Noon, on 7th April, 2023 (Friday)**. Hardcopies of all required documents (Registration Form, College Authorization Form, student ID and 5 copies of Memorials from each side) are to be brought and submitted on arrival as per Rule 5, Chapter III.
- 35.2** There will be an onsite registration where teams will receive their schedule for the event, followed by the inauguration ceremony. Teams are requested to hand over hard copies of their memorials during the on-site registration.

4 CLARIFICATIONS:

- 4.1** Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition and must be clear. These clarifications are to be sent to the governing council by filling the [Clarification Form](#).
- 4.2** It is at the discretion of the Governing Council to decide whether a clarification sought for is valid and to be clarified.
- 4.3** The clarification e-mails are to be sent on or before **4th March, 2023 (Tuesday)**.

5 ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:

5.1 Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form during the Competition, except by means of their Team Code allotted by the Governing Council.

5.2 Teams must not reveal the name of their institution or names of the participants, anywhere in the memorials or during the course of the oral arguments. Teams must also not make use of or display in any manner whatsoever any logo, pins, badges etc., that indicates the university represented by them.

5.3 Any material presented to the Panel, including but not limited to a compendium, should be devoid of any identification mark(s)/seal(s) of the Team. If any such mark(s)/seal(s) exist, it must be rendered unrecognizable before being presented to the judges.

5.4 Any violation of Rules 5.1- 5.3 shall attract severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the Governing Council. The decision of the Governing Council in this regard shall be final and binding; not subject to challenge.

5.5 While submitting the memorial, there should be no reference to the name of the institution, and it should only contain the team code.



CHAPTER III

1. MEMORIALS AND MEMORIAL ROUND:

1.1 GENERAL:

- 1.1.1** Each team shall research into the domain of the moot problem, subject to Rules 1.2.2- 1.2.5, Chapter III, and prepare memorials from both sides, namely, plaintiff/ petitioner/ appellant and defendant/respondent as the case may be

1.2 FORMAT OF MEMORIAL:

- 1.2.1** The memorials are to be submitted in the format prescribed under Rules 1.2.2- 1.2.4., Chapter III. If a team fails to comply with the given format, it may be penalized in the form of deductions from the memorial marks.
- 1.2.2** The memorials shall contain all of, and only, the following heads, namely-
- a.** Cover Page (It shall include the team code of the team on the upper right-hand corner, the name of the case, parties on behalf of whom written submissions are made, name of the forum approached for dispute resolution and year. **The Cover page of the memorial on behalf of the plaintiff/ petitioner/ appellant shall be in BLUE, and the defendant/ respondent shall be in RED).**
 - b.** Table of Contents
 - c.** List of Abbreviations
 - d.** Index of Authorities
 - e.** Statement of Jurisdiction
 - f.** Statement of Facts
 - g.** Issues Raised
 - h.** Summary of Arguments
 - i.** Arguments Advanced
 - j.** Prayer

1.2.3 FONT AND SPACING:

- a. All written submissions shall be typed on A4 size paper in the following format in Times New Roman (font type), in 12 points (font size), with line spacing of 1.5, both sides Justified, and headings to be bold in the same font and size.
- b. Written submission shall contain a border.
- c. Each page shall have a 1-inch margin from each side.

1.2.4 The memorial shall be spiral bound only and shall not contain more than **25 pages** (excluding the cover page, table of content, list of abbreviations and index). Kindly refrain from adding plastic sheets while spiral binding.

1.2.5 CITATIONS: All teams shall give footnotes by adhering to Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation (21st Edition).

1.2.6 PLAGIARISM: The governing council reserves the right to disqualify a team, at any stage of the competition, if the memorial or any other part thereof, if found to be plagiarized.

2. SUBMISSION OF SOFTCOPIES:

2.1 All teams shall submit a soft copy, both in Microsoft Word format and PDF format (.docx and .pdf) of the memorials from both sides here on or before **25th March, 2023**

2.1.1 Submissions made after the specified deadline may lead to penalties in the form of deductions from the memorial marks. (See annexure II for deductions).

2.1.2. The discretion to waive off any penalty shall lie with the faculty-in-charge and the governing council, power being exercisable only in extraordinary circumstances

3. **ASSESSMENT OF MEMORIALS:**

3.1. Each side of the memorials shall be assessed out of 100 marks, by a team of experts on the predetermined criterion, as specified hereunder:

- a. Knowledge of facts and law (20marks)
- b. Proper and articulate analysis (20marks)
- c. Extent and use of research (20marks)
- d. Clarity and organization (20marks)
- e. Presentation (10marks)
- f. Originality (10marks)

3.2. The parameter that attracts deductions along with the number of marks to be deducted for failure to comply with rules under Chapter III, is annexed as **Annexure- IV**.

4. **SUBMISSION OF HARD COPIES:**

4.1 Hardcopies of the following documents are to be submitted by the teams **on the day of their arrival for the competition, i.e., 7th April, 2023 (Friday)** while they register onsite:

- a. Registration form; and
- b. Memorials

4.2 The teams that qualify for the Memorial Round, shall bring **5 hard-copies of their memorial from both sides** (total 10 copies) when they arrive on **7th April, 2023 (Friday)**.

4.3 The softcopy submitted for the Memorial Round and the hardcopy submitted during the registration have to be identical. Any discrepancies observed may lead to a severe penalty that may include but is not limited to, the disqualification of the team.

5. RIGHTS OVER MEMORIALS

5.1. The administrating authority of the competition reserves the right to disseminate and produce the memorials as and when deemed necessary for the purpose of the competition. Submission of the memorials will constitute the team's consent to do the same. The Governing Council will not take any responsibility for the mistakes found in the final submission of the memorials.



CHAPTER IV

1. DRESS CODE:

1.1 The participants shall adhere to the following dress code while in the courtrooms:

- a. **Ladies:** White salwar and kurta or white shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer and black shoes.
- b. **Gentlemen:** White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.

1.2 The above-mentioned dress code extends to the Inaugural and Valedictory Ceremonies as well.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:

2.1 GENERAL:

211 The competition will be held for three days, i.e., 7th, 8th and 9th April, 2023. The two Preliminary Rounds and the Quarter-Final Round shall be conducted on 8th April, 2023 (Saturday), followed by the Semi-Final Round and Final Round on 9th April, 2023 (Sunday).

212 The competition shall have two Preliminary Rounds, one Quarter-Final Round, one Semi-Final Round and the Final Round. The structure of every oral pleading round shall be as follows: the Petitioners/ Appellants shall present their arguments first, followed by the Respondents. After the conclusion of the Respondents' pleadings, Petitioners/ Appellants may proceed with the Rebuttal, followed by Sur-rebuttal by the Respondents.

2.2 PRELIMINARY AND QUARTER-FINAL ROUND:

221 Each team shall argue once from each side, i.e., once as Petitioner/ Appellants and once as Respondents. The representing sides shall be allotted to the teams via the draw of lots conducted, which shall be notified to the teams shortly after the opening ceremony. The memorials of the opposing team shall be made available to the teams during the draw of lots.

222 No team shall plead against the same team in the subsequent preliminary round, it shall be the duty of the governing council to ensure that the opposing teams in the subsequent rounds are distinct.

- 223 For the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall strictly get a total time of **30 minutes** to argue, subject to a **minimum of 10 minutes per speaker**. The speaking time is **inclusive of a maximum of 2 minutes for the Rebuttals and 2 minutes for the sur-rebuttal, as the case may be**. Any grant of extension shall be at the discretion of the judge, which shall not exceed **5 minutes** per team.
- 224 Eight (8) teams based on the higher number of wins in the Preliminary Rounds shall proceed to the Quarter Finals. The teams with two wins in the preliminary rounds shall proceed further in the competition, followed by the teams with one win-one loss, this procedure shall be followed until the top 8 teams are decided.
- 225 In the event of a tie, the absolute marks awarded to the teams in the preliminary rounds shall be considered to decide the teams furthering to the quarter-final rounds.
- 226 The representing sides of each team shall be decided by the draw of lots, whereas the opposing teams shall be decided by way of power match-ups.
- 227 Case compendium or any other relevant material to be submitted to the panel shall be submitted only through court masters.
- 228 In no case, would the researcher be allowed to plead; however, he/ she is allowed to pass notes to the orator.
- 229 No team is allowed to carry laptops, iPads, mobile phones or any other electronic devices inside the courtroom for research or any other purpose.
- 2210 The participants are allowed to bring Bare Acts and Hard Copies of the Memorials inside the Courtroom.
- 2211 For the Quarter-Final Rounds, each team shall strictly get a total time of **30 minutes** to argue, subject to a **minimum of 10 minutes per speaker**. The speaking is **inclusive of a maximum of 3 minutes for Rebuttals and 3 minutes for sur-rebuttals, as the case may be**. Any grant of extension shall be at the discretion of the judges, which shall not exceed **5 minutes** per team.

2.3 SEMI-FINAL ROUND:

- 231 Top four (4) teams from the Quarter-Final Round shall qualify for the Semi-Final round, wherein the winning team of each courtroom in the quarter-final shall

proceed to the Semi-Finals.

- 232** The representing sides of each team shall be decided by the draw of lots, whereas the opposing teams shall be decided by the way of power match-ups.
- 233** Each team shall get a total time of **40 minutes** to argue, subject to a minimum of 15 minutes per speaker **inclusive of a maximum of 3 minutes for the rebuttals or sur-rebuttal**, as the case may be. Any grant of extension shall be at the discretion of the judges, which shall not exceed 5 minutes per team.

2.4 FINAL ROUND:

- 241** The top two teams from the Semi-Final Round shall qualify for the Final round. It shall be a knockout round, wherein the side for pleading shall be determined on the basis of a draw of lots.
- 242** In case of a tie, the team with a higher score in Written Submission shall qualify.
- 243** The representing sides of the finalists shall be decided by way of a draw of lots.
- 244** Each team shall get a total of **50 minutes** to argue subject to a minimum of 20 minutes per speaker, including a maximum of 3 minutes for rebuttals and sur-rebuttals, as the case may be.

3. ASSESSMENT CRITERION FOR ORAL PLEADINGS:

3.1 Team performance of the orators shall be judged in all rounds on the basis of the following criterion-

- a.** Knowledge of the Facts (20 marks)
- b.** Application of Laws to the Fact and Interpretation (20 marks)
- c.** Argumentative Skills (20 marks)
- d.** Clarity of Thoughts and Expression (10 marks)
- e.** Court Mannerisms (10marks)
- f.** Response to Questions (10 marks)
- g.** Rebuttal/ Sur-rebuttal (10 marks)

4. RULES FOR QUALIFICATION:

- 4.1** Each preliminary round shall be decided on the basis of allocation of a total of 100 marks, which includes 50 percent of the marks of the memorial round and 50 percent of the marks of oral pleadings.
- 4.1.1** The team scoring the highest out of 100 in each round will be declared as the winner.
- 4.1.2** Any team winning both rounds will qualify for Quarter-Final Round. If there are more than 8 teams winning both rounds, then the average of the total marks obtained in both preliminary rounds will be a decisive criterion, and the same applies if less than 8 teams have won both rounds. If a tie persists, then the team which has obtained higher memorial marks shall qualify for the quarter-finals.
- 4.2** In the Quarter-Final round, marks obtained out of 100 in the oral pleadings will be the sole decisive factor for determining which team will qualify for the Semi-Final Round. In case of a tie in oral pleading marks, then the memorial marks will determine the qualifying team. Even then, if the tie persists, the team with the highest individual speaker score shall qualify for the Semi-Final round.
- 4.3** In the Semi-Final round, marks obtained out of 100 in the oral pleadings will be the sole decisive factor for determining which team will qualify for the Final Round. In case of a tie in the oral pleading marks, the memorial marks will determine the qualifying team. Even then, if the tie persists, the team with the highest individual speaker score shall qualify for the Final round.
- 4.4** In the Final Round, average marks obtained by both orators of a team in the oral pleadings out of 100 will be the sole decisive factor in determining the team that has won the competition. In case of a tie in the oral pleading marks, the marks obtained in the memorial round will determine the winner of the competition. Even then if the tie persists, the team with the highest individual speaker score shall win the round.

5. SCOUTING:

5.1. No member of any team will be permitted to witness the arguments in any courtroom in which that team is not one of the participating teams whilst that team is a part of the competition. If this rule is violated, the Governing Council shall take strict actions, which may include but may not be limited to, the expulsion of the said team from the competition.

6. PRIZES AND AWARDS:

6.1 The team that scores the highest in the Final Round shall be declared the “Winners” and shall be awarded a Trophy and a Certificate of Merit.

6.2 The opposing team that qualifies for the Final Round shall be declared the “Runners up” and shall be awarded a Trophy and a Certificate of Merit.

6.3 “Best Speaker” shall be determined on the basis of the highest average marks obtained in the preliminary round, and shall be awarded a Trophy and a Certificate of Merit.

6.4 “Best Memorial” shall be determined on the basis of the highest marks obtained in the memorial round, and shall be awarded a trophy and a certificate of merit.

6.5 Every participating team shall be awarded a ‘Certificate of Participation’.

6.6 Trophy, Gifts, Cash prizes and other prizes given by sponsors, if any, shall be additional to what has been mentioned under clauses 6.1- 6.5.

CHAPTER V

1. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

- 1.1 No team shall indulge in any act of misconduct in or outside of the courtroom, undermining the credibility of judges or that of the competition. Any action to the contrary may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without any scope of appeal.
- 1.2 Accommodation shall be provided to the participants inside the Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Hyderabad campus, only during the days of the Competition.
- 1.3 Accommodation shall be provided to male and female participants separately.
- 1.4 Accommodation shall be provided from **12:00 Noon 7th April, 2023 to 6:00 PM on 9th April, 2023**. In case of an extension of stay, the participants are to bear any extra expense incurred on accommodation.
- 1.5 Accommodation and any other services **will not be provided** for any member apart from the three participants under any circumstances.
- 1.6 All the teams shall be bound to follow the code of conduct and the rules laid down by Symbiosis International (Deemed University) and its constituent departments.
- 1.7 Carrying, possessing or/and consuming liquor, cigarettes, or any other intoxicating substance shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- 1.8 Any behavior of indiscipline with the Governing Council or any other staff member or student volunteer shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- 1.9 No audio or videotaping of oral pleadings is permitted.
- 1.10 No team shall ask for feedback immediately on the completion of any round. However, at the end of all the rounds the participants may talk to the judges, with the minimum inconvenience caused to them.
- 1.11 Any attempt to approach the framer of the moot problem or the panel of judges of the competition, prior to the competition shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without any scope of appeal.



SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD

A Constituent of Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune
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ANNEXURE- I

REGISTRATION FORM

(To be filled in block letters)

Institution Details:-

Name- _____

Address _____

Contact No.- _____

Faculty-in-Charge- _____ Mob. No.- _____

Email ID- _____

Team Details:-

Speaker: 1-

Name- _____

Gender- _____

Contact No.- _____

Email ID- _____

Year/Semester- _____

Sign _____

Photo

Speaker: 2-

Name- _____

Gender- _____

Contact No.- _____

Email ID- _____

Year/Semester- _____

Sign _____

Photo

Researcher-

Name-_____

Gender-_____

Contact No.-_____

Email ID-_____

Year/Semester-_____

Sign_____

Photo

We, the undersigned, confirm that the above mentioned three students are *bonafide* students of our institute and we have obtained permission from our parents to participate in the Moot Court Competition hosted by Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad.

Faculty-In-Charge

Sign and Seal of Head of Institution

Place:_____

Date:_____

SEAL OF THE INSTITUTE

TRANSACTION DETAILS

***[To be filled only after Memorial Selection Round]**

Date_____

TRANSACTION ID._____

BANK_____

SENDER'S NAME:_____

ASSOCIATION

SLS HYDERABAD



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TRAVEL PLAN

Arrival Details*:

Date of Arrival- _____

Mode of Transportation- _____

Train/Flight/Bus No.- _____

Time of Arrival**- _____

Place of Arrival- _____

Departure Details*:

Date of Departure from SLS-H _____

Mode of Transportation- _____

Train/Flight/Bus No. and Time**- _____

**Kindly clearly specify the time of arrival/ departure of your mode of commutation with 'AM' and 'PM'.





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ANNEXURE-II

WITHDRAWAL FORM

We, the team members of TN - __, would like to withdraw our team from the upcoming 7th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, and National Moot Court Competition- 2023 due to the following reason(s): _____

We are aware of the consequences of our actions and take back our claim to participate in the Competition.

Name & Signature:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Faculty in Charge

College Seal

SLS HYDERABAD



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ANNEXURE-III

PAYMENT DETAILS

1. All Participating Teams are expected to remit a registration fee of Rs. 8500/- (Rupees Eight Thousand Five Hundred) inclusive of GST. Kindly note that any payments made to the Host shall not be refunded in any case, teams are requested to be mindful of the bank account details.

Bank: Andhra Bank

A/C Holder Name: Symbiosis Law School,

Hyderabad A/C No.: 216310100005057

Branch: Mamidipally

IFSC Code:

UBIN0821632

Swift Code: UBININBBOSH

THE HOST COLLEGE
ASSOCIATION

SLS HYDERABAD



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ANNEXURE-IV

DEDUCTION CRITERIA

S.No	PARTICULARS	DEDUCTION
1.	Failure to adhere to the colour scheme of the written submission	0.25 mark for each written submission
2.	Failure to place team code as specified	0.25 mark for each written submission
3.	Failure to adhere to the page limit	0.25 for every page exceeded for each written submission
4.	Failure to submit the written submission within the stipulated time	1 mark for every hour that passes following the lapse of the deadline (subject to Rule 17.3, Chapter III)
5.	Failure to adhere to the format of the memorial, font and spacing (refer to Rules 13 and 14)	1 mark for each written submission
6.	Incorrect and inconsistent footnoting and citations (refer to Rule 15)	0.25 mark for each written submission

7.	Plagiarism exceeding the specified limit (refer to Rule 16)	1 mark for every 10% over the specified limit
8.	Revealing the identity of the team in the written submission	Direct Disqualification of the team.



MCA

THE MCA COURT
ASSOCIATION

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