

PART I

1. INTRODUCTION

These Rules will be henceforth known as the Judgment Deliberation Competition© 2020 Official Rules.

2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

2.1. Team Member Eligibility

Students of any university on a full-time or part-time basis in any formally recognized university, in a 3-year LLB or a 5-year Integrated BA/BBA/BSC/BCOM/BLS LLB course at the time of the competition are eligible to compete in the Competition.

2.2. Team Composition and Selection

A Team shall be composed of two (2) members: a Judge and a Judicial Clerk. These roles are interchangeable only upon the commencement of a new round.

2.3. Outside Assistance to Teams

All research, writing and editing must be solely the product of Team members.

2.4. Use of Opposing Team's Judgment

No Team shall be allowed to view or otherwise become privy to any Judgment other than the respective Judgments of the opposing Teams in the course of the Competition.

3. CLARIFICATIONS OF THE COMPETITION MODULE

Teams may submit written requests for clarifications regarding the Module, comprising the Competition Case File and the Rules. Requests for Clarifications must be received by SPIL Mumbai by 20th February, 2020. Teams may submit requests for clarifications by e-mail to spilmumbai@gmail.com. All clarifications will be issued by the organizing committee as and when clarification request is received.

4. TEAM REGISTRATION

4.1. Registering Names of Team Members

Each Team must submit all Team members' names to spilmumbai@gmail.com by 7th February, 2020. The Team members must fill out the registration form. Participation Certificates will be awarded to Teams with names spelt in the manner thus provided.

Kindly copy paste the following URL to get directed to the Google Form to register as a team –

<https://forms.gle/yzRfZgK7fvw621nq9>

4.2. Registration fee

The registration fee for Judgment Deliberation Competition, 2020 is INR 4000/- for all invited Indian Universities/Colleges. Registration fee of USD 150 will be charged to all Overseas Universities. The same shall be submitted through a National Electronic Fund Transfer (**NEFT**) transaction before 10th February, 2018. Payment details for the same include:

Recipient's Account Name: SPIL Government Law College, Mumbai

Bank A/c Number: 35514475304

A/c Type: Current Account

IFSC Code: SBIN0004283

Kindly intimate the details of the NEFT transaction by an e-mail addressed to spilmumbai@gmail.com.

To discuss any other modes of payment, or for any queries regarding payment, you may communicate with: Mr. Pratik Saini (+91 - 7020555205).

Note: No refund shall be made on cancellation of registration.

4.3. Team Code as Identification

Each Team shall be assigned a Team Code. Teams shall use their Team Codes for identification purposes at all times. Names of participants shall not appear on the Judgment. Signature pages should bear only the team code.

PART II

5. RULES FOR THE JUDGMENT

5.1. Submission of the Judgment

All Judgment submissions must conform to the following general criteria. Teams will be penalized for failure to abide by these requirements.

Soft Copies must be e-mailed to spilmumbai@gmail.com on or before 1st March, 2020. Two (2) hard copies must be submitted on the day of the competition.

5.2. Format of the Judgment

1. Judgments must be typed and reproduced on a white standard A4 paper (21 x 29 ³/₄ centimetres) except for the cover page, where blue coloured paper must be used. The font and size of the text of all parts of the Judgment must be the same and must be in Times New Roman 12-point. (Except the cover page)
2. The text of all parts of each Judgment must have one and a half spacing, except the text of footnotes and headings which may be single-spaced.
3. Quotations of 50 words or more in any part of the Judgment shall be block quoted (i.e. right and left indented) and may be single-spaced.

5.3. Description of Judgment

Parts of the Judgment

The Judgment shall consist of the following parts:

1. **Index**
2. **Summary**
3. **Background**
4. **Decision and Conclusion**

(The judgment may contain the obiter dictum in addition to the ratio decidendi).

Legal Analysis Limited to the “Decision” Section

Substantive, affirmative legal analysis or legal interpretation of the facts of the Case File may only be presented in the “Decision” section of the Judgment. Teams which include analysis or legal interpretation in any other part of the Judgment shall be penalized.

Summary

Summary should comprise of the summary of the “Decision” section in a paragraph form.

Background

Each Judgment shall include a section titled “Background”. The Background shall be limited to the stipulated facts and necessary inferences from the Case File and any clarifications to the same. Background must not include unsupported facts, distortions of stated facts, argumentative statements or legal conclusions.

Summary of Issues Raised

Each Judgment shall include a “Summary of Issues Raised.” The Summary shall consist of a substantive summary of the pleadings of both the sides in paragraph form, rather than a simple reproduction from the Case File.

Decision and Conclusion

The Decision shall contain the substantive legal analysis and interpretation of the factual matrix. The conclusion shall be an answer to the questions presented by both the parties. The teams are open to go beyond the summary of pleadings submitted and base their Judgment on more reined legal research but are not allowed to exceed the ambit of the arguments put before them.

Appendix

All teams have the option of including an appendix. The appendix may contain all relevant provisions of law and a summary of important judgments cited, if any. The appendix shall not exceed 10 pages and should follow the format of the rest of the written submission. No other forms of submission can be relied on during the deliberation proceedings and thus teams are encouraged to include an appendix to their Judgment.

Length

The “Decision” section of the Judgment, including footnotes or endnotes and the “Conclusion” may have no more than 10000 words. The length of all other sections aforementioned (except appendix) should not exceed 1500 words in total.

Margins

Each page of the Judgment (regardless of content) shall have margins of at least one inch, or two point six (2.6) centimetres, on all sides, excluding page numbers.

Cover Page

The cover page chosen for Judgment is to be similar to that of the case file. The heading should be replaced from “Case File” to “Judgment”. The end of the page should have a signing block and the name of the Judge should be represented by the Team Code provided.

Binding

Judgment must be fastened by viro or spiral binding along the left side of the judgment. No other form of binding including stapling or book-binding is permitted.

5.4. Scoring of the Judgment

The Judgment will be judged on the following grounds:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Knowledge of Law and Facts | 20 marks |
| 2. Clarity, Brevity and Style | 20 marks |
| 3. Use of Authorities and Citation | 10 marks |
| 4. Analysis and Organisation | 40 marks |
| 5. General Impression | 10 marks |

Total: 100 marks

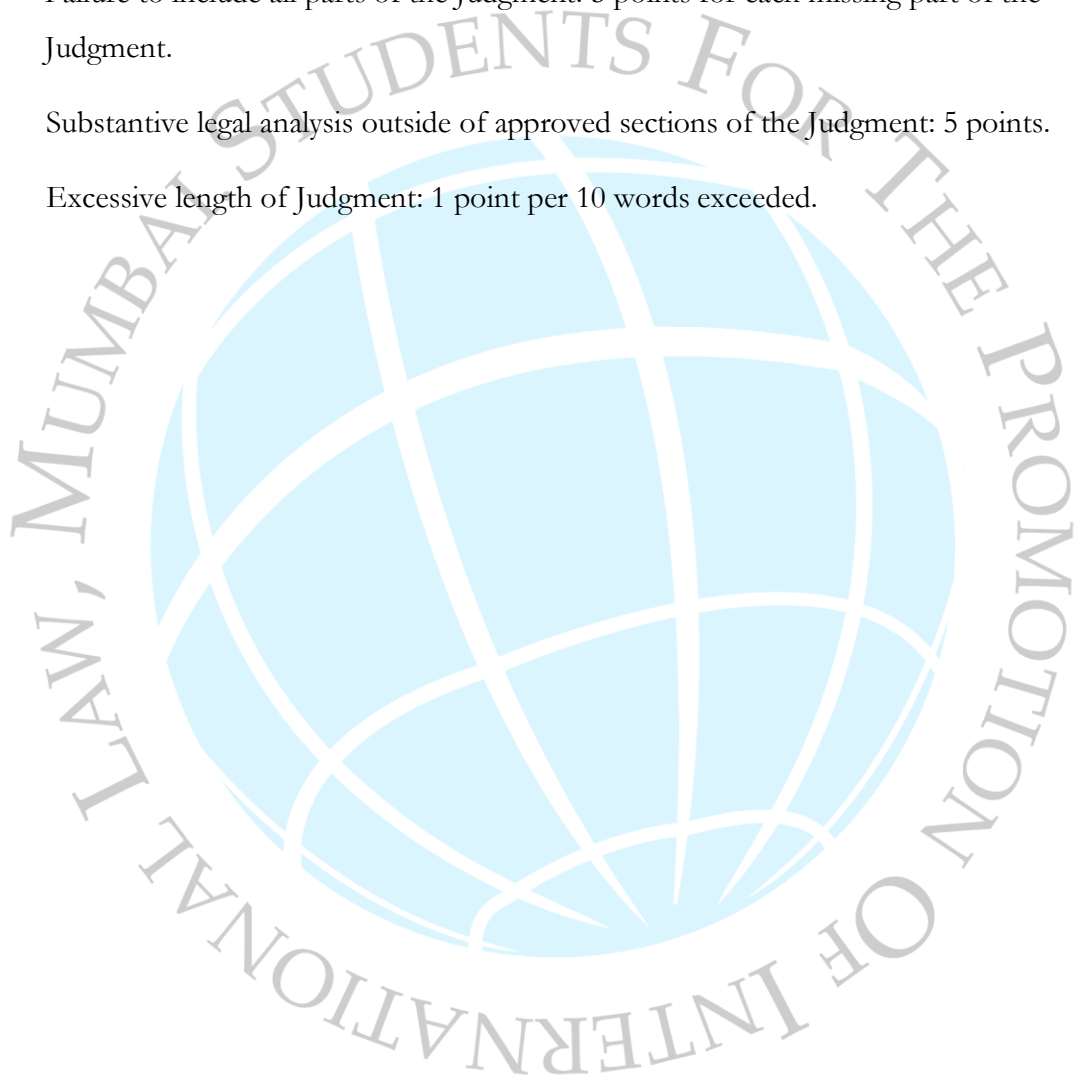
5.5. Delay in Mailing Judgment

Judgments postmarked after the deadline as designated shall be penalized five (5) points and addition three (3) points per day.

5.6. Other Mandatory Judgment Penalties

Penalties shall be assessed for violations of other Rules concerning the Judgment by reference to the following:

1. Font of inconsistent size, improper line spacing, or improper format of block quotations: 2 points per violating page, up to a total of 10 points.
2. Failure to include all parts of the Judgment: 5 points for each missing part of the Judgment.
3. Substantive legal analysis outside of approved sections of the Judgment: 5 points.
4. Excessive length of Judgment: 1 point per 10 words exceeded.



PART III

6. RULES FOR DELIBERATION ROUNDS

6.1 General Procedure

Each Deliberation room shall consist of 3 teams. The deliberation table shall be taken by the participant Judge and the observer table shall be taken by the Judicial Clerk participant. The roles are interchangeable at the option of the Teams upon the commencement of a new Round. The Deliberation Table shall also consist of minimum 2 marking Judges. They will be present on the table as brother Judges.

The winners of each deliberation room will automatically qualify for the next round. Thereafter, further qualification of other teams will take place through the league system of scoring. The same rule shall be followed for all further rounds. The scores considered for qualification in the preliminary rounds will be a cumulative of Deliberation Round Scores and Written Judgment Scores. Each round will be preceded by an exchange of Judgments of brother judges for scrutiny.

The exchange will provide teams a reasonable amount of time for scrutiny. Each round shall consist of three Sessions:

Judgment Reading Session

Each Judge shall be given **seven (7) minutes** to make a presentation of the team's judgment. The presentation should not be a mere recital of the judgment but should be in a manner as to draw the remaining judges to lead to a consensus towards the Judgment delivered by the team. The presentation can be assisted only by the written judgment and no other documents or electronic modes of presentation are permitted. Only the participant Judge in the round makes the presentation. The Judicial Clerk participant is allowed to only take notes during the process.

Comment Session

Every participant Judge will make a critical statement on the Judgment presented by the fellow participant Judges. Comments will also be made by Marking Judges. Comments can be in the form of questions, criticism, approval, additions, etc. Each team will be given **five (5) minutes** to make their comments. Only the participant Judge in the round can make comments. The Judicial Clerk participant is only allowed to pass notes made during the presentation session to the participant Judge.

Concluding Session

Each Team may reserve up to **five (5) minutes** for Concluding. Only the participant Judge in the round can give Comments. The Judicial Clerk participant is only allowed to pass notes made during the presentation comment session to the participant Judge. The participant Judge is expected to satisfy all the queries put forth by brother Judges in this session.

6.2 Order of Submission

The order of the oral submissions in each Round at all levels of the Competition shall be as:

1. Presentation Round

Participant Judge 1 → Participant Judge 2 → Participant Judge 3

2. Comment Round

Participant Judge 1 → Participant Judge 2 → Participant Judge 3

3. Concluding Round

Participant Judge 1 → Participant Judge 2 → Participant Judge 3

** Oral Communications during the Oral Round shall be strictly limited to the following. Any Team which engages in communications not listed in this Rule shall be penalized.

6.3 Number of Rounds

Competition will consist of 3 rounds:

1. Preliminary rounds

Each deliberation shall consist of 3-4 teams. The winners of each deliberation room will proceed to the next round. The remaining slots for the rounds (if any) shall be filled on the basis of cumulative score.

2. Quarter finals/Semi-finals rounds

The winners of each deliberation room will proceed to the next round. The remaining slots for the rounds (if any) shall be filled on the basis of cumulative score.

** Judgment scores will not be relied on from this round onwards.

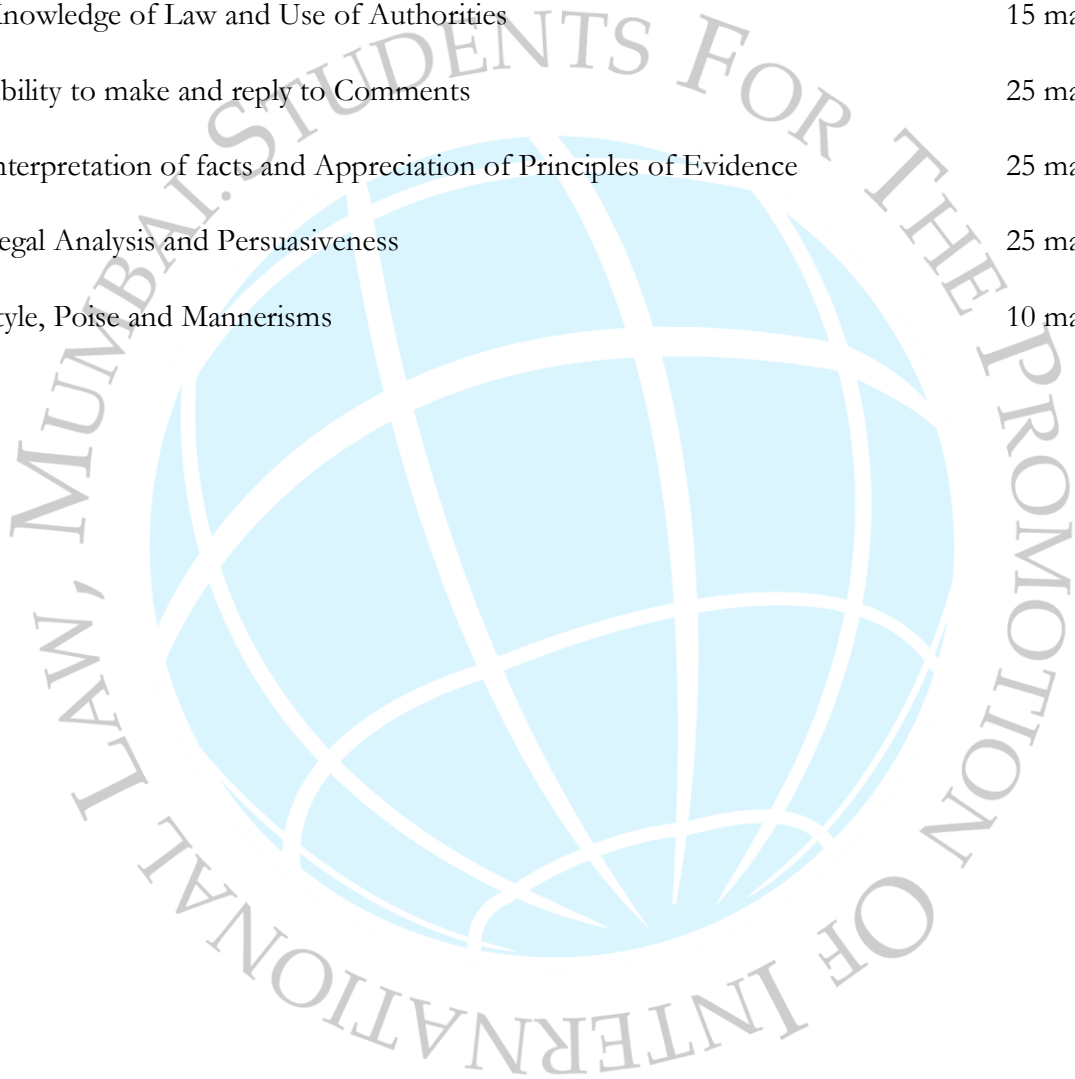
3. Final Rounds (3 teams)

The Marking Judges shall through votes in a secret ballot select the Winner of the Competition. In case of a tie the President Judge will exercise a second vote.

6.4. Scoring

The participant Judge will be marked on the following grounds:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Knowledge of Law and Use of Authorities | 15 marks |
| 2. Ability to make and reply to Comments | 25 marks |
| 3. Interpretation of facts and Appreciation of Principles of Evidence | 25 marks |
| 4. Legal Analysis and Persuasiveness | 25 marks |
| 5. Style, Poise and Mannerisms | 10 marks |



PART IV

7. DRESS CODE

The teams are expected to follow a strict dress code of western formals. Courtroom formals are not essential.

8. AWARDS

Following are the prizes for this edition of the competition:

Winning Team – INR 20,000/-

Runners Up – INR 14, 000/-

Best Written Judgment – INR 10,000/-

Prize winners will also be given certificates for the same along with the certificates for participation. Participation certificates will only be distributed at the Valedictory Function and teams not present to collect them will not be entitled to receive the certificates subsequently other than in special circumstances. Winners will also receive trophies and other prizes.

9. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided to the participating teams who select “Yes” in the Google Form for two days of the competition i.e. 5th March evening check-in till 7th March afternoon check-out. Teams must arrive before 06:00 hrs on 6th March, 2020. Extra charge of up to INR 2000/- may be levied for such room accommodation.

Note: A Team consists of two (2) Members. Observers and extra members will not be considered part of the team. The participating teams will be received by the volunteers of the Organizers at their respective venues of arrival. To enable the organizers to do the same, please provide prior intimation of your travel details. Participants are requested to kindly mail their travel details to SPIL Mumbai at spilmumbai@gmail.com on or before 20th February, 2020. Any subsequent changes made to said plans should also be intimated to SPIL Mumbai.

Participants must provide SPIL Mumbai with one e-mail address to facilitate vital communication. That e- mail address shall be used for the purpose of intimating important

information from time to time by SPIL Mumbai in connection with the Competition.

Information communicated to that e-mail address will be deemed to have been communicated to both the participants. All communication with SPIL Mumbai must be addressed to the following e-mail address: spilmumbai@gmail.com

10. MISCELLANEOUS

1. If any one of the members of a team is notified / informed of any detail or information, it shall be deemed that the said team as a whole has duly been notified / informed.
2. In case of any doubt in either understanding any of the details or interpreting them, the decision taken by SPIL Mumbai shall be final and binding.
3. Rules should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification.
4. SPIL Mumbai shall resolve unanticipated or unexpected contingencies, if any, and the decision in this regard shall be final and the acceptance of any such decision is a precondition to participation in the Competition.
5. Any reference to time will be construed as a reference to Indian Standard Time.

RULES FOR JUDGMENT DELIBERATION COMPETITION

CONTACT US:

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