



MAHARAJA AGRASEN INSTITUTE OF  
MANAGEMENT STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF LAW



*presents*

4<sup>th</sup>

**JUSTICE J S VERMA  
MEMORIAL NATIONAL  
ADR & CLIENT  
COUNSELLING  
COMPETITION &**

**NAVITAS  
NATIONAL LAW  
FEST**

11<sup>th</sup> MARCH -  
23<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2024



Our Special Collaborator  
**FOUNDATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE RULE OF LAW  
INITIATIVES**

# CLIENT COUNSELLING COMPETITION

## 1. DATE AND VENUE

The competition will be held from 11th March 2024 - 23rd March 2024 in hybrid mode.

DATE	ROUND	MODE	VENUE
12th March 2024	Preliminary Rounds	Online	Google Meet/Zoom
13th March 2024	Quarter & Semi Finals	Online	Google Meet/Zoom
21st March 2024	Finals	Offline	College Campus

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

Students pursuing Law (3-year or 5-year courses) belonging to recognized universities and institutions across the nation are permitted to participate in the competition.

## 3. DEFINITIONS:

In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in “**MAIMS 4th JUSTICE J S VERMA MEMORIAL NATIONAL ADRCC COMPETITION 2024**” as the case may be. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

A. “**Bench**” refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds, virtually.

B. “**Competition**” means the MAIMS 4th JUSTICE J.S. VERMA MEMORIAL ADR & CLIENT COUNSELLING COMPETITION 2024.

C. “**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 ad-hoc basis by the “Ex-officio Chairperson” or “Faculty In – charge” of the Core Committee, Client Counseling Competition of MAIMS.

D. “**Office Memo**” means a sheet of correspondence briefly describing the client(s) and/or his or her problem(s) for which the client seeks the services of the lawyer(s).

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E. “**Institution**” means and includes “MAIMS”.

F. “**Client Counseling**” means the interviewing and advising of the clients with regards to the problem provided by the committee in the competition.

G. “**Client**” – A person or organization, as assigned by the MAIMS in accordance with the office memo for a particular round, seeking and/or receiving the services of the lawyer(s).

H. “**Country of residence**” – For the sake of this Competition, any and every client’s country of residence shall be as mentioned in the office memo for a particular round.

I. “**Observation Round**” refers to the counselling session made by the teams virtually, judge as per the requirements of the rounds for assessment.

J. “**Team Code**” means a unique code assigned by the institution to the registered team.

K. “**Team**” means and includes only bona fide representatives of any University, that state, central or any other department recognized/authorized to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules.

#### **4. DRESS CODE**

Participants shall be appropriately attired for the rounds of the competition.

Gentlemen-White Formal Shirt with Black Formal Pants and a Black Blazer with Black Tie; and

Ladies- White Formal Shirt with Black Formal Pants/Skirt and a Black Blazer.

#### **5. CODE OF CONDUCT**

A. The participating teams shall mention their allotted team codes only, There shall be no use of any real name or college that reveals the team's identity.

B. Team shall uphold the integrity of the competition, any unethical/unprofessional conduct is strictly barred.

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C. The participating team shall not interact in any form with any other client except the client provided to them. Any interaction will be considered misconduct and will result in disqualification of the team.

D. Scouting is prohibited.

## 6. RULES OF THE COMPETITION

A. The themes of the competition are as follows: -

- Preliminary Round - Contract Law
- Quarter Round - Company Law
- Semi Final Round - Criminal Law
- Final Round - Constitution Law

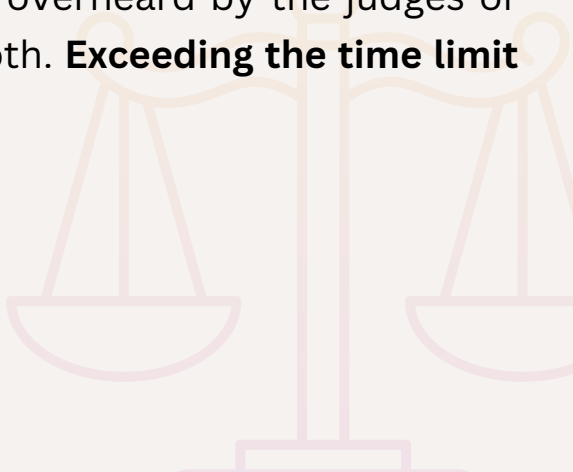
B. There shall be four rounds: -

- i) Preliminary Rounds 1 & 2 (Merit based)
- ii) Quarter Finals (Knock Out Round)
- iii) Semi-Finals (Knock Out Round)
- iv) Finals (Knock Out Round)

C. Each team will get one opportunity to represent themselves in the competition. Each team will get a total of 25 minutes. Those 25 minutes are to be divided into two parts as follows: -

- First 20 minutes are termed the “Client Consultation Period”. The participants are expected to extract the relevant information, make an outline of the problem, and make legal suggestions for its resolution.

- Next 5 minutes are termed as “Post Consultation Period”. The participants may either talk to each other loud enough to be overheard by the judges or dictate a file memorandum on the interview or both. **Exceeding the time limit will lead to negative marking.**



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D. It is at the discretion of the teams to decide, the division of their roles. The work plan is subject to judging. However, the teams may use a part of this post-interview period to explain their work plan. The judges may question the teams during this period.

E. To preserve anonymity, each team will be identified by an alpha-numeric code, which will be provided to each team during the registration process. Disclosing the name of the participating college to the judges will result in disqualification.

F. Scouting is prohibited and will result in a 5-mark penalty.

G. In case of a tie, the team scoring the higher marks according to Point 5 of the Judging Criteria, shall be considered the winner for the concerned round. If the tie still persists, the marks of the tied teams will be compared with respect to the following point in this Judging Criteria, until either of the teams come out as a clear winner :

Point 4, if still a tie, then

Point 3, if still a tie, then

Point 7, if still a tie, then

Post Consultation Session with the Judges

#### H. WALKOVER POLICY

All participants must have an internet connection sufficient to smoothly run. In case a team is not able to be present at the allotted time or has bad connectivity which results in an undue delay in the round, or results in difficulty in conducting the round, a walkover will be given to the opposing team. We highly recommend that you have an internet connection with a minimum of 20 MBPS.

#### I. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided by Organizing Committee and the details for the same shall be conveyed to the qualifying team.

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## 7. FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

- Each team shall consist of two student participants and would be allotted a meeting room for the interview and counseling. Here, the two student participants will present themselves as advocates in a lawyer's chamber. The client will be a person trained by the organizers and the advocates will be the counsel of the clients regarding the given problem. The two participants are required to elicit all relevant information from the client by interviewing or questioning the client and then counseling the client.
  - All teams will be given their team codes (as, CC-01, CC-02, CC-03 etc.) by the organizers through e-mail to their respective e-mail Ids, the meeting link will be shared as well through the email id.
- The Competition consists of Preliminary Rounds 1&2, Quarter, Semi-Final, and Final rounds. For the preliminary round, teams shall be divided into 4 separate groups, and matchups for the same will be on the basis of a draw of lots. From each group, 2 teams with the highest scores will then qualify for the quarter rounds. Quarter Final, Semi - Final and Finals will be considered knock-out rounds.
- The highest-scoring team among all the teams will be titled the Winner.
- Consultation Period :

All teams will go through a 25-minute session. The first 20 minutes are devoted to consultation with the client during which lawyers are expected to elicit the relevant information, outline the problem, and propose a solution or other means of resolving the problem (Further information is contained in the Judging Criteria for the Client Counselling Competition).

- Post-Consultation Period :

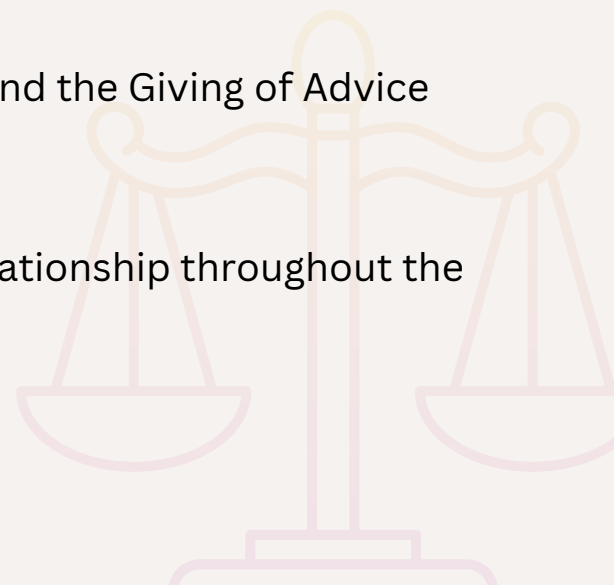
During the post-consultation period, the students may either talk to each other loud enough to be overheard by the judges or dictate a file memorandum on the interview or both. The concept behind the post-consultation period is to summarize the interview, indicate the scope of the legal work to be undertaken, and state the legal issues that should be researched. An explanation of the position or attitude taken by the students may be useful. Judges may question the teams during the post-consultation period.

- If the students feel that some documents are appropriate, like a letter to the client confirming their retention as attorneys, the fee arrangement etc, or a letter to opposing counsel or to the party with whom the client is having their legal problems, they may dictate such a document at the post-consultation stage.
- The problems of the preliminary round will be allocated to students through mail on **11th March 2024** and on the same day, i.e 11th March 2024 draw of lot will be done via Google meet.
- The Judges may penalize students who allow the interview session to run excessively beyond the 20-minute period allows in the rules. However, the judge in their discretion, considering the circumstances, may allow some more time beyond the 20-minute period for the interview session. If the extended consultation session allowed an opportunity for a team to gather more information than other teams, this circumstance should be taken into consideration by the judges in making their decision.
- Judges should stop students after 25 minutes regardless of whether the students are in the consultation or post-consultation process.
- During the consultation and post-consultation, the team may use books, notes, and other materials.

## 8. JUDGMENT CRITERIA

The following are the judging criteria: -

- 1) Establishing the working atmosphere
- 2) Listening to the problem
- 3) Identification of the client's goals, expectations, and requirements
- 4) Problems Analysis
- 5) Legal analysis, Alternative Courses of Action, and the Giving of Advice
- 6) Effective Conclusion
- 7) Teamwork
- 8) Continuation of an ethical and professional relationship throughout the interview
- 9) Post-consultation round



## 9. AWARDS

- A. Best Team: **INR 12,000/-**
- B. Best Advocate: **INR 7,000/-**
- C. Best Client: **INR 7,000/-**
- D. Runner-Up: **INR 9,000/-**
- E. All participants will get E-Certificates.
- F. All winners will get a Trophy and Certificate of Merit subject to their presence at the Valedictory Ceremony.

## 10. REGISTRATION PROCESS

- A. The Last Date of Registration is **5th March 2024**.  
Registration Link & Payment Link - <https://forms.gle/etHANVYiX3UbtuqZ6>
- B. Registration Fee for this event is **INR 2,950/- (inclusive of GST)**
- C. Fee Payment Details:

### NEFT/ BANK TRANSFER

**Account No-** 604202050000047

**Account Holder Name-** Maharaja Agrasen Institute of  
Management Studies

**Bank Name-** Union Bank of India

**IFSC Code-**UBIN0560421

**Branch-**Sector 22, Rohini, Delhi -110086

## 11. IMPORTANT NOTE

- A. The Host Institute will release the scoresheets of all the rounds one month after the date of the competition.
- B. The Organising Committee has the power to take additional measures.
- C. In case of less number of registrations secured in the competition, the institute reserves an absolute right to cancellation of the said format of the competition. The refund shall be issued to the applicants as per the process and through coordination with the student conveners.
- D. Final Round is subject to **COVID-19** conditions and restrictions.



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## 12. CONTACT DETAILS

For queries and clarifications, you may contact the Event Convenors:

**Raghav Verma**

(C) 9891259077

[raghavverma.5514703522@mains.ac.in](mailto:raghavverma.5514703522@mains.ac.in)

**Divya Ahuja**

(C) 9910323690

[divyaahuja.35214703522@mains.ac.in](mailto:divyaahuja.35214703522@mains.ac.in)

Kindly mention the subject of the mail as “Query for Client Counselling Competition”.

**To reach out to our socials:**

<https://linktr.ee/NavitasLawFest>

