

# RULES & REGULATIONS

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# CHAPTER I

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- 1. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:** These rules may be called “*4<sup>th</sup> GDGU International Law and Technology Moot Court Competition 2024.*”
  - 1.1** They shall come into force from the date of publication, on the official website of the School of Law, GD Goenka University, Gurugram.
  - 1.2** The rules are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Reliance should be placed only on “IVTM, 2024” and not on any previously applicable rules.
  
- 2. DEFINITIONS:** In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in “IVTM, 2024” and reference to a form is a reference to that form attached in the “IVTM, 2024” 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
  - 2.2.** “Clarifications” means 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 GDGU International Law and Technology Moot Court Competition 2024;
  - 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 ad-hoc basis by the “Ex-officio Chairperson or Faculty In – charge” of the Moot Court Association of School of Law, GD Goenka University;
  - 2.5.** “Institution” means and includes “School of Law, GD Goenka University, Gurugram”;
  - 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 as per the requirements of the rounds for 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, central or international 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;

**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 also amend, modify, change or repeal any rule from the same shall be communicated “IVTM, 2024” to the teams in due time. In case of any conflict, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final and binding.

### **TIMELINE OF THE COMPETITION**

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<b>KEY EVENTS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>Final date of Registration</b>	30 March 2024
<b>Soft Copy Memorial Submission</b>	2 April 2024
<b>Last Date for Clarifications</b>	31 March 2024
<b>Draw of Lots and Memorial Exchange (Virtual)</b>	3 April 2024
<b>Inaugural Ceremony</b>	4 April 2024
<b>Preliminary and Quarter Finals (virtual)</b>	4-5 April 2024
<b>Semi-Finals and Finals (on campus)</b>	13 April 2024
<b>Valedictory Ceremony (on campus)</b>	13 April 2024

## CHAPTER II

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### 1. ELIGIBILITY:

- 1.1 Students duly enrolled and pursuing full-time 5 years or 3 years undergraduate law courses from India or a foreign university with law as a major may apply to participate in the fourth edition of GDGU International Law and Technology Moot Court Competition 2024.
- 1.2 Students enrolled and pursuing post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law are not eligible to apply.

### 2. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 2.1 A team shall consist of a maximum of three members that must include two Speakers and one researcher.
- 2.2 Any team, intending to change the team composition of the team shall inform the Governing Council by sending an e-mail at [mootcourt@gdgoenka.ac.in](mailto:mootcourt@gdgoenka.ac.in), the change will be allowed on discretion of the Governing Council.
- 2.3 The Researcher may be permitted to argue as Speaker in case of any unforeseen event.
- 2.4 Prior permission of the organizers of competition in such cases shall be mandatory. In case the team fails to inform the university, the decision will be final.

### 3. REGISTRATION

#### 3.1 General

- 3.1.1 Each team shall register to the fourth edition of GDGU International Law and Technology Moot Court Competition 2024 by filing registration form, in the prescribed manner by 30 March 2024.
- 3.1.2 **Registration form:** <https://forms.gle/gZvFbrnsyCuodPYeA>
- 3.1.3 On receipt of the duly filled registration form the institute shall respond to the participating team, acknowledging the receipt.

**3.1.4** 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.

**3.2 Registration Fee:**

**3.2.1** The registration fee for the competition for National Teams and International Teams is provided below. Registration Fees in any case is non-refundable.

NATIONAL TEAM	INTERNATIONAL TEAM
4000 INR	48.25 USD
<b>ACCOMMODATION IS FREE FOR STUDENTS QUALIFYING FOR SEMI-FINALS AND FINAL ROUND.</b>	

**3.2.2** The registration fee for the fourth edition of GDGU International Law and Technology Moot Court Competition 2024. is to be paid through NEFT transfer or UPI. No other payment method shall be accepted.

**3.2.3** Any additional charges incurred by the team while making the wire transfer are to be borne by the team.

**3.2.4** Payment Details: Kindly pay through the QR Code only. In case of any difficulty, contact the Faculty Convenor- Ms. Priyanka Nair (+91 7011131651)



**E Mail:** [accountsgdgu@gdgoenka.ac.in](mailto:accountsgdgu@gdgoenka.ac.in)

### **3.3 Completion of Registration Process:**

- 3.3.1** All teams must upload a scanned copy of the receipt generated on completion of the NEFT transfer or UPI on the Registration Form. The receipt must contain the reference number after the completion of the wire transfer of the registration fees.
- 3.3.2** Registration to IVTM shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified under clause 3.3.1, any failure, may be treated as withdrawal from the competition and no claim of whatsoever nature shall be entertained thereafter.

### **4. CLARIFICATIONS:**

- 4.1** Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition. These clarifications are to be sent via e-mail at [mootcourt@gdgoenka.ac.in](mailto:mootcourt@gdgoenka.ac.in) in the permit of the assigned deadline.
- 4.2** It is at the discretion of the Governing Council to decide whether a clarification sought for is valid and to be clarified.

### **5. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:**

- 5.1** Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form during the Competition, except by the 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 in the course of the oral argument rounds, by any visual or audio means. 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 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.

## CHAPTER III

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### 1. MEMORIALS:

#### 1.1. General:

1.1.1. Each team shall research into the domain of moot problem, subject to Rules 1.2.2-1.2.5, Chapter III, and prepare a memorial from both sides, namely, Petitioner and 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-

- Cover Page (It shall include the team code of the team on upper right-hand corner, 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 Petitioner shall be in BLUE, and Respondent shall be in RED)
- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer
- Annexures (If any)

### **1.2.3. Font and Spacing:**

All written submissions shall be typed on A4 size paper in the following format:

**Font type:** Times New Roman

**Font Size:** 12

**Line Spacing:** 1.5

**Alignment:** Justified

**Margin:** 1 inch (each side)

**No. of pages:** 35 pages in total

### **For Footnotes follow:**

**Font Size:** 10

**Line Spacing:** 1

**Alignment:** Justified

### **1.2.4. Citations:**

All teams shall give footnotes by adhering to Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation (20th Edition).

### **1.2.5. 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, is found to be plagiarized.

## **2. SUBMISSION OF MEMORIALS:**

**2.1.** Each registered team shall submit a soft copy in PDF format (.pdf) of the memorials from both sides, via submitting it on this link: <https://forms.gle/xhAU6Bu1zYXukfxw8> on or before 1 April 2024 (11:59 PM IST).

**2.2.** Soft copies of the Memorials shall be submitted on the link and not on the mail, it will not be accepted there.

**2.2.1.** The name of the file containing the memorial from the petitioner/s side should be “IVTM-4XX P” (as the case may be). The name of the file containing the respondent/s side should be “IVTM- 4XX R”.



- 2.3. Each registered team shall submit **4 hard copies** of the memorial from both sides in duly spiraled manner at the registration desk on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.
- 2.4. Submissions made after the specified deadline may lead to penalties in the form of deductions from the memorial marks. Every twenty-four (24) hours delay would attract a penalty of ten (10) marks.
- 2.5. Submissions made after the specified deadline will not be considered for the Best Memorial.

### **3. ASSESSMENT OF MEMORIALS:**

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. Identification of Issues and Nature of relief sought (10 marks)
- b. Knowledge of fact and Law (15 marks)
- c. Use of Authorities/Precedents (20 marks)
- d. Argumentation and Clarity of Thoughts (20 marks)
- e. Proper Citation and Correct Format (15 marks)
- f. Grammar and Style Presentation (10 marks)
- g. Originality (10 marks)

### **4. RIGHTS OVER MEMORIALS**

- 4.1. The administering authority of the competition reserves the rights 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.

### **5. COMPENDIUMS**

- 5.1. The teams can at their own discretion send their compendium, along with their memorials on 2 April 2024 (11:59 PM IST).
- 5.2. If the teams are referring to any books then the material of the book shall be quoted in the following format “Name of the book/Author/Page number/Paragraph”, and if the teams are referring to any case law then it shall be quoted in compendium not otherwise.

## CHAPTER IV

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### 1. DRESS CODE:

- 1.1. The participants shall adhere to the following dress code while in the courtrooms:
- a. **Ladies:** White shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer.
  - b. **Gentlemen:** White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.

### 2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:

#### 2.1. GENERAL:

- 2.1.1. The formal commencement of the competition shall be on 3 April 2024.
- 2.1.2. The rounds will be conducted in Online Mode (Preliminary Rounds and Quarter Finals) and On Campus (Semi-Finals and Final Rounds).
- 2.1.3. The competition shall have one Preliminary Round, one Quarter Final Round, one Semi Final Round and the Final Round which will be followed by the valedictory ceremony.

#### 2.2. ORAL ROUND:

As per Rule 2.1.2, Chapter IV, the Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-final rounds, semi-final round and final round shall be held.

#### I. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS-

- a) Each team has to argue from the side allotted in the draw of lots i.e., Petitioner or Respondent.
- b) The Petitioners shall be allotted a total of 20 minutes to speak. The Respondent shall be allotted 20 minute arguments. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall not be allowed. The maximum time for rebuttals for each side shall be 2 minutes which will be included in their allotted time.
- c) The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 12 minutes for one speaker.
- d) At the end of the preliminary rounds, the top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarter Finals. The top 8 teams will be selected on the basis aggregate scores.
- e) A team shall be credited with a win, if its total marks in the respective session are higher than those of its opponent teams.

- f) In the case of a tie, the total marks of memorial and the preliminary round will be considered. The team with the higher score will advance to the Quarter Finals. Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

## **II. QUARTER FINALS-**

- a) The Quarter Finals will be a Knock-out round. The top 4 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds, shall qualify for the semi-final rounds.
- b) The side to be represented by a team shall be determined by way of draw of lots with the teams picking the lots after the completion of the preliminary rounds.
- c) Each team shall get a total time of 20 minutes to present their case and this shall include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Sur-rebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges. The maximum time for rebuttals for each side shall be 2 minutes which will be included in their allotted time.
- d) The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 12 minutes for one speaker.
- e) Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.
- f) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

## **III. SEMI-FINALS-**

- a) The Semi-Finals will be a knock-out round. The top 2 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the Final round.
- b) After the completion of quarter-finals rounds the draw of lots will be conducted which will determine whether the participant will appear as Petitioner or Respondent.
- c) Each team shall get a total of 25 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Sur-rebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 15 minutes for one speaker. The maximum time for rebuttals for each side shall be 2 minutes which will be included in their allotted time.
- d) Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to

how they wish to allocate their time.

e) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

#### **IV. FINALS-**

- a) The Final round will be held just after the Semi-Finals. A team will be credited with a win in the Final round if the total marks are higher than those of its opponent team.
- b) Each team shall get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Sur-rebuttal'. The maximum time for rebuttals for each side shall be 3 minutes which will be included in their allotted time.
- c) The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 17 minutes for one speaker.
- d) Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.
- e) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

#### **3. ASSESSMENT CRITERION FOR ORAL PLEADINGS:**

Team performance of the Speakers shall be judged in all rounds out of 25 Marks on the basis of following criterion

**3.1.** Knowledge of the Facts and Laws

**3.2.** Application of Laws to the Fact and Interpretation

**3.3.** Argumentative Skills and Response to Questions

**3.4.** Clarity of Thoughts and Expression

**3.5.** Skills of advocacy and Court Mannerisms

**Note for participants** - To ensure uniformity in marking in each courtroom to do away with subjectivity to an extent, follow the points scheme given as under.

<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

#### **4. PENALTIES:**

##### **4.1. Non-Disclosure of Identity:**

Teams shall not disclose their identity, i.e. the name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular university or institution. Such disclosure shall result in disqualification subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

##### **4.2. Copyright:**

The copyright with regard to the memorials submitted for the participation in the Competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers. The participants shall certify the originality of the memorials and the materials used and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of further use and exhibition of these materials. The Organizers shall have the right to publicly display, distribute either electronically or otherwise and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.

*The copyright with regard to the audio-visual files, conferencing, submitted for the participation in the Competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers, which will be further posted on the social media platforms for clarity and purposes.*

## 5. CERTIFICATION, PRIZES AND AWARDS:

CATEGORY	PRIZES
<b>WINNER</b>	25,000 INR (USD 301.56) CASH PRIZE/ TROPHY/ CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
<b>RUNNER-UP</b>	15,000 INR (USD 180.94) CASH PRIZE/ TROPHY/ CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
<b>BEST MEMORIAL</b>	10,000 INR (USD 120.625) CASH PRIZE/ TROPHY/ CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
<b>BEST SPEAKER</b>	10,000 INR (USD 120.625) CASH PRIZE/ TROPHY/ CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
<b>BEST RESEARCHER</b>	10,000 INR (USD 120.625) CASH PRIZE/ TROPHY/ CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

- 5.1. Hard copy Certificates for participation will be given to all the participants during the valedictory ceremony.
- 5.2. Certificates for Quarter-Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Runners-up, Winners and Best Speakers will also be provided during the valedictory ceremony.
- 5.3. Cash awards will be sent after getting details of winners such as Institution ID card, Pan Card & Bank Accounts details for which they will be contacted via email by the Moot Court Committee.
- 5.4. It is the responsibility of teams to distribute cash prizes among themselves.

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## CHAPTER V

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

- (i) No team shall indulge in any act of misconduct during the rounds, undermining the credibility of judges or that of the competition. Any act to the contrary may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- (ii) All the teams shall be bound to follow the code of conduct and the rules laid down by School of Law, GD Goenka University.
- (iii) Any behaviour 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.
- (iv) No team shall ask for feedback immediately on completion of any round. However, at the end of all the rounds the participants may talk to the judges, with minimum inconvenience caused to them.
- (v) 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 scope of appeal.
- (vi) The organizing committee reserves the right to amend, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.
- (vii) If anything, not covered by rules, the decision of the organizing committee will be binding.
- (viii) No team is allowed to use mobile phones during any of the oral rounds, for the purposes of research, phone call, texting, or any other purposes.
- (ix) **No use of mobile phones/ tablets will be allowed in the courtroom.**
- (x) If any member of a team is notified or informed of any detail or information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as a whole has been duly notified or informed, however the communication will be made to all but to the possible extent. Also, the individual is responsible to communicate the information with the team.

- (xi) Conversion charges for converting other currency into Indian rupee has to be incurred by the International Teams.