

RULEBOOK

1. SHORT TITLE

This rulebook shall be referred to as the official rules of the competition for “5th Bahra University Moot Court Competition, 2026 organised by The Moot Court Society, School of law.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Competition encourages teams of students to argue a fictitious legal case by presenting their legal arguments before a bench comprising experts in the relevant field of law. The competition will help in the overall development of the participants, as it aims to inculcate discipline among the students and enhance their speaking and legal research skills.

3. DEFINITIONS

- “Advanced Rounds” means the Quarter final rounds, Semifinal rounds, and Final round of the competition.
- “Competition” means the 5th Bahra University Moot Court Competition, 2026.
- “Court Master” means the officer of the court. The officer shall be charged with ensuring that the Court runs efficiently. During the competition, this officer will serve as a conduit for communication between the Organising Committee and the Bench.
- “Moot Proposition” means the official moot problem of the Competition, circulated, supplemented, corrected, or clarified by the Organising Committee.
- “Memorial” means the written arguments submitted by the teams on behalf of both the parties according to the rules prescribed below.
- “Organising Committee” means the Moot Court Society of Bahra University, School of Law.
- “Participating team” means any team of any institution participating in the Competition, which has registered itself for the competition as per the rules and regulations.
- “Penalty” means the deductions imposed on the scores of a participating team.
- “Rebuttals” means the arguments presented by the Petitioner(s)/Plaintiff(s) in response to the Respondent(s)/Defendant(s)’ submissions at the end of the main pleadings of all the oralists.

- “Rules” means the official rules of the Competition.
- “Scouting” means witnessing, hearing, observing, etc., the oral submissions of a team other than the team with which such person is associated, and/or reading a memorial of a team to which he/she is not affiliated.
- “Sur-rebuttals” means the defence presented by the Respondent(s)/Defendant(s) to the rebuttals.
- “Speaker” means a participant who presents oral arguments in any given round.
- “Team Code” means the code allocated to each Participating Team for the purpose of this Competition by the Organising Committee.

4. TEAM COMPOSITION

Each team shall comprise a minimum of **two members and a maximum of three members**. The roles shall remain the same throughout the Competition, and no changes in the team composition will be allowed after the final registration. However, in cases of unforeseeable circumstances, the change in team composition may be allowed at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

5. ELIGIBILITY

Students enrolled in three-year LL.B. programme or five-year integrated LL.B. programme at any bona fide college/institute/university across the country are eligible to participate. Not more than two teams shall represent an institution.

6. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will only be provided to the teams participating in the oral rounds for the days of the Competition. The Accommodation Fees will be Rs. 5000 only. (Further Details in Brochure)

7. LANGUAGE

The official language of the Competition shall be English.

8. REGISTRATION

The registration shall be deemed complete only after the successful submission of the registration fees along with a duly filled final registration form latest by 23:59:59 Hrs IST on **April 10th, 2026**. The team shall nominate one team member to be the ‘contact person’. This

person will be responsible for all the official communication between the Organising Committee and the team.

Registration Fees once paid shall be non-refundable. On successful registration, participants will receive an acknowledgment email.

A scanned copy of the registration form (Annexure 1), duly signed by the Head of Department of the college/institution/university, along with the fees receipt of the payment for the moot court competition, has to be attached during the online registration process.

Registrations without the aforementioned requisites shall not be considered valid.

9. REGISTRATION FEES

The registration fees will be Rs. **4000/-**

The payment has to be made online in the account mentioned below:

Bank Name: KOTAK MAHINDRA

Account Holder Name: SAURAV

Account Number: 248850638

IFSC Code: KKBK0004397

The receipt/screenshot of the online transfer has to be uploaded along with the registration form itself. (Details in Brochure)

10. DRESS CODE

The participating teams shall strictly adhere to the following dress code during the Competition:

Female: White salwar and kurta or white shirt and black trousers along with a black blazer, tie, and black shoes.

Male: White shirt, black trousers, along with a black blazer, tie, and black shoes.

11. TEAM IDENTITY

Teams shall not disclose their identity or name of their college/institute/university whatsoever, except in the registration form. They shall communicate only through their team codes during the Competition. Any such disclosure shall result in penalties, including disqualification, subject to the discretion of the Organising Committee.

12. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

12.1 INTRODUCTORY

The Competition shall be bifurcated into the following stages:

- a. Preliminary Rounds (Both Side)
- b. Quarter Finals
- c. Semi- Finals
- d. Grand Finale

12.2 WRITTEN SUBMISSION

The Guidelines for the Memorial Submission Rounds are as follows:

12.2.1 MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

Each team must prepare memorials for both the sides.

All Written Submissions must be in English.

One soft copy from each side of the memorial (both in pdf and .docx/.doc format) must be uploaded latest by **16:00:00 Hrs IST, April `12th, 2026** on mootcourtsociety@bahrauniversity.edu.in

The name of the file should be the allocated team code, followed by the first letter of the party whose arguments are presented in that memorial. For example, if the allocated team code is TC-01, then TC-01[P] for Petitioner(s)/Plaintiff(s) and TC-01[R] for Respondent(s)/Defendant(s).

Late submission will result in 01-mark penalty per hour per side. For every hour or part thereof of delay in the submission of the Memorial beyond the stipulated time, 01 mark shall be deducted for each side of the Memorial. Any Memorial submitted after the expiry of 24 hours from the prescribed time shall not be accepted, and the team shall not be permitted to participate

in the competition. The decision of the Organising Committee in this regard shall be final and binding.

Note: The above deduction shall apply irrespective of whether the delay constitutes a complete hour. For instance, a Memorial submitted at 16:01:00 Hrs IST shall also attract a deduction of 01 mark.

For the Oral Rounds, the participants must submit **5 hard copies of the memorials** (each side i.e. 10 copies in total) during the commencement of the Competition. The participants should not mention the name of the institution they represent on the hard copy of the memorials. Once the memorials have been submitted, no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.

12.2.2 FORMAT OF THE MEMORIAL

1. Cover page: It must be blue for the Petitioner(s)/Plaintiff(s) and red for the Respondent(s)/Defendant(s). The constituents of the first page are as follows:

The name of the forum before which the proceedings are being conducted;

The name and year of the Competition;

The name of the Case;

The title of the Memorial (either “Memorial for Petitioner(s)” or “Memorial for Respondent(s)”))

2. Table of Contents

3. List of Abbreviations

4. Index of Authorities

5. Statement of Jurisdiction

6. Statement of Facts

7. Issues Raised

8. Summary of Arguments

9. Arguments/Pleadings Advanced

10. Prayer

12.2.3 MEMORIAL FORMATTING GUIDELINES

All the memorials submitted must comply with the following content specifications. Non-conformities shall be penalized.

Font & Size (Main Body): Times New Roman, 12 pts.

Font & Size (Footnotes): Times New Roman, 10 pts.

Spacing (Main Body): 1.5 Line Spacing

Spacing (Footnotes): 01 Line Spacing

Alignment: Justified

Page Margins: 01 Inch on all sides

All the pages of the memorial should be numbered at the bottom.

The entire memorial (including the cover page) should not exceed 45 pages and the Arguments Advanced should not exceed 15 pages.

The use of endnotes is not permitted.

The memorials must follow the OSCOLA pattern of citation method.

12.2.4. EVALUATION

The memorials shall be marked on a scale of 100, 0 being the minimum a team can score and 100 being the maximum.

Non-compliance with the prescribed Format of the Memorial (12.2.2) will lead to a penalty of 02 marks.

Incorrect Memorial formatting guidelines (12.2.3) of Font & Size (General and Footnotes), Spacing (General and Footnotes), Alignment, and Page Margin will lead to a penalty of 01 mark for every page on which there is a violation.

Exceeding the page limit prescribed in the Memorial formatting guidelines (12.2.3) will lead to penalty of 03 marks for each page that is in excess of the limit.

Non-compliance with the page numbering style prescribed in the Memorial formatting guidelines (12.2.3) will lead to 02 marks penalty.

Non-compliance with the citation style will lead to a penalty of 01 mark for every footnote that has a different citation style.

12.3 DRAW OF LOTS

The fixtures of the teams for the Preliminary rounds shall be determined by the draw of lots, which shall be conducted on **16th April, 2026**.

12.4 ORAL ROUNDS

The oral rounds shall take place in offline mode within the premises of Bahra University, School of Law at P.O. Wakhnaghat, Distt. Solan, Himachal Pradesh, 173234

In case the team comprises of three members, i.e., two speakers and one researcher, the researcher shall sit with the speakers during the oral rounds, but at no point shall he/she be allowed to address the bench unless specifically asked by the judges. Also, there shall be no oral communication between the team members and the speaker during the oral submissions.

Each team shall inform the timekeeper about the allocation of time of their speakers and the time reserved for rebuttals and sur-rebuttals before the round starts.

The teams shall reach the respective courtroom **15 minutes** prior to the beginning of the respective oral rounds. In case any team fails to reach the courtroom within the stipulated time given in the schedule, the rounds shall be conducted ex-parte and marking would be done as if the opposing team had argued.

The pleading time shall be as prescribed by the rules of individual rounds and can only be extended at the discretion of the bench.

12.4.1 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

There shall be two preliminary rounds. Each team shall present its oral pleadings once as a Petitioner(s)/Plaintiff(s) and once as a Respondent(s)/Defendant(s).

The team arguing from the side of Respondent(s)/Defendant(s) in the first Preliminary Round shall argue from the Petitioner(s)/Plaintiff(s) side in the Second Preliminary Round and vice versa.

Each team shall be allotted a total of **thirty minutes** per round to present their submissions, including time for answering questions from the Hon'ble Bench, rebuttals, and sur-rebuttals.

The said thirty minutes shall include a maximum of **5 minutes** for the rebuttals/sur-rebuttals. No speaker shall be allowed to speak for less than **10 minutes**.

In case of more than eight teams with two wins, the team with higher cumulative score will advance. In case there are less than 8 teams with two straight wins, teams with less than two wins may also advance to the next round on the basis of higher cumulative team scores in both the Preliminary Rounds.

12.4.2 QUARTER FINAL ROUNDS

The top 8 teams after both the Preliminary Rounds shall advance to the Quarter Final Rounds.

Each team shall be allotted a total of **thirty minutes** to present their submissions, including time for answering questions from the Hon'ble Bench, rebuttals, and sur-rebuttals.

The said thirty minutes shall include a maximum of **5 minutes** for the rebuttals/sur-rebuttals. No speaker shall be allowed to speak for less than **10 minutes**.

The Quarter-Final Rounds shall be a knock-out round.

12.4.3 SEMI FINAL ROUNDS

Each team shall be allotted a total of **forty minutes** to present their submissions, including time for answering questions from the Hon'ble Bench, rebuttals, and sur-rebuttals.

The said forty minutes shall include a maximum of **10 minutes** for the rebuttals/sur-rebuttals. No speaker shall be allowed to speak for less than **15 minutes**.

The Semi-finals round shall be a knockout round.

12.4.4 FINAL ROUNDS

Each team shall be allotted a total of **forty minutes** to present their submissions, including time for answering questions from the Hon'ble Bench, rebuttals, and sur-rebuttals.

The said forty minutes shall include a maximum of **10 minutes** for the rebuttals/sur-rebuttals. No speaker shall be allowed to speak for less than **15 minutes**.

The team having a higher score shall be declared the winner of the competition. In case a tie persists, the score of the memorial shall be considered to declare the winner.

13. CLARIFICATIONS

Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition till **26th March, 2026**.

All the clarifications must be sought through official Email Id-

mootcourtsociety@bahrauniversity.edu.in .

Any request for clarification made must be clear and related to the facts of the case, not any substantive arguments.

The clarifications shall be released by **March 30th, 2026**. The list of clarifications after the release shall be declared to be a part of the proposition.

It is at the discretion of the Organising Committee to decide whether a clarification sought is valid and to be clarified.

14. RIGHTS OVER THE MEMORIALS

The Organising Committee 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 committee also reserves the right to publish the memorials.

15. CODE OF CONDUCT

All the team members must refrain from disclosing their identity or the identity of their institution in any form during the course of the competition. Any such disclosure shall lead to immediate disqualification of the team.

No team shall observe the oral rounds of another team. Any kind of scouting shall lead to immediate disqualification.

The participants shall not record any audio or video during the oral proceeding.

Any participant indulging in misconduct directed towards the judges or the Organising Committee shall lead to immediate disqualification.

The teams are not allowed to contact the judges immediately after the conclusion of the rounds for feedback. Nevertheless, they may approach the judges for the same after the culmination of the competition, with minimum inconvenience caused to them.

Use of mobile phones, laptops or any sort of electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the oral proceedings for any purposes.

16. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In case of any dispute arising out in the course of the competition, the discretion shall solely vest with the Organising Committee and their decision shall be final and binding.

In the event of any matter not covered by the rules, the decision of the Organising Committee shall be final and binding on that subject. It is to be noted that the timings of oral rounds are subject to change as per the schedule of an event and discretion of timing to change is upon the Organising Committee.

17. RESULTS

The results will be announced after the completion of each round for all the teams in the Preliminary/ Quarter / Semi Final rounds. The final result and the winners of the various categories will be announced only during the valedictory ceremony to be held on **April 18th, 2026**. The teams shall be first differentiated on their win-loss record after the Preliminary Rounds. If there is a tie, the team with the higher aggregate score shall be ranked higher. If the tie subsists, the team with the higher memorial score shall be ranked higher.

Contact Information:

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