JIMS ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL CAMPUS

(Affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University & Approved by AICTE, NCTE, BCI by New Delhi)

MOCK TRIAL SOCIETY

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Presents

JIMS - IPTSE MOCK TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION, 2026



ccj.jimsdol@jagannath.org

REGISTER NOW

JIMS CAMPUS, GREATER NOIDA

PRELIMS AND QUARTER FINALS

29th - 30th January, 2027

ONLINE

SEMI FINALS AND FINALS

13th February, 2027

OFFLINE

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TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

The JIMS - IPTSE Mock Trial Advocacy Competition, 2026 will be held in II phases. Phase I will be held on 29th & 30th January, 2027, in online mode, comprising the Preliminary, Quarter-Final, and Semi-Final Rounds. Phase II will be held on 13th February, 2027, in offline mode at the Department of Law, JIMS Engineering and Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida, where the Final Rounds will be conducted.

The competition aims to foster legal excellence by creating a dedicated space for skill development. It is designed to nurture practical proficiency in litigation, evidence establishment, and examination, empowering students to master the art of advocacy within the Trial Court framework.

This Mock Trial Advocacy Competition 2026 is based on Indian Criminal Laws, conducted in accordance with the laws and procedures laid down under Intellectual Property Rights (IPR Laws), Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023, and any other applicable Laws/Acts.

The rules and procedures contained in this document are binding on all teams involved in the competition, governing their conduct and procedures. The ultimate authority for the interpretation of rules and resolution of conflicts rests with the Mock Trial Society, Department of Law, JIMS Engineering and Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida. Determinations made by the organizers are conclusive and must be adhered to by all participating teams.

DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated, the following shall be construed herein as:

1. **Organising Committee:** Means Mock Trial Society, Department of Law, JIMS Engineering and Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida, or any other person(s) appointed for the purpose of organizing the Competition.
2. **Competition:** Means the JIMS - IPTSE Mock Trial Advocacy Competition, 2027, organized by the Department of Law, JIMS Engineering and Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida.
3. **Disqualification:** Means that the team will not be allowed to participate in the competition, and shall not be awarded a certificate of participation or any other prize.
4. **Judge:** Means any person appointed to evaluate a participant's Memorial or Oral Pleadings.
5. **Trial Proposition:** Means the official proposition, including the exhibits, evidence, and testimonies of the Competition, supplemented by corrected by any Clarifications or Corrections published by the Organizers.
6. **Participants:** Means student representatives from eligible law colleges/schools/universities, recognized by the organizers for the purpose of participating in this competition.
7. **Rules of the Court:** Means the official rules of the competition and any applicable supplementary rules, subject to change by the organizers.
8. **Oral Round:** Refers to the oral pleadings made by participants before the judges during any of the rounds of assessment.
9. **Scouting:** Means that participants must only attend rounds in which their team is pleading. They are not allowed to observe any other ongoing rounds. Upon commencement of the oral pleading rounds, participants may not interact with each other.
10. **Penalties:** Mean point(s) deduction for the violation of any rule provided in this rulebook by the participants.

ELIGIBILITY

● Students pursuing a 3-year or 5-year LL.B. degree, or an LL.M. degree, from any Law School, College, University, or Institution recognized by the Bar Council of India (BCI) are eligible to participate.

● Participants shall carry their college identity card for identification during the competition.

● There is no bar on the number of students/teams who may register from each institution, except at the sole discretion of the Organizing Committee.

LANGUAGE

The official working language of the Jagannath Trial Advocacy Competition, 2027, shall be as follows-

- Counsel is directed to adhere strictly to the use of english language in all communications, submissions and proceedings.
- However, witnesses may give their testimony in either english, hindi or bilingual form, as may be appropriate.

TEAM COMPOSITION

TEAM COMPOSITION

• Each team may consist of 3 to 5 members (minimum 2 witnesses, maximum 3 witnesses).

a) team comprises 3 members, the team should communicate the same to the Organizing Committee, and the Organizing Committee or the team will arrange the witness, so that the composition of the team shall be as follows: two Counsel and two Witnesses, one of which is provided by the Organizing Committee.

b) Four-Member Team: Two members shall be designated as Counsel, and two members shall be designated as Witnesses.

c) Five-Member Team: Two members shall be designated as Counsel, and three members shall be designated as Witnesses.

• The identity of the team, i.e., the name of the Law College/School/University, must not be disclosed to the Judges or to other Participating Teams. Any such disclosure shall lead to disqualification.

• No change in the names of the participants/team composition in the Registration Form shall be permitted after receipt of the registration form, except at the sole discretion of the Organizing Committee.

• Teams may be accompanied by a team coach, an assistant, or any other person. However, these individuals are barred from assisting the team during the competition.

ORAL ROUNDS STRUCTURE

The competition will be conducted in three stages:

- Online: Preliminary, Quarter-Final Rounds & Semi-Final Final (on 29th & 30th January).
- Offline (at the venue): Final Round (on 13th February)
- Selection for the Semi-Finals will be based on cumulative scores of the Preliminary rounds (Memorial + Oral Rounds).

Preliminary Round:

- Each team must present arguments before a distinct bench, representing the Prosecution and Defense once each.
- No two teams will face each other more than once. A draw of lots shall determine the fixtures. If a tie persists, it shall be resolved based on Memorial scores, in a knockout format.
- Every counsel shall conduct either the chief or cross-examination and deliver the opening or closing statement.
- Every counsel must compulsorily conduct one examination and deliver one statement.

Quarter-Finals:

●The top 8 teams with the highest cumulative scores in the Preliminary Round will qualify for the Quarter-Finals.

●Teams will advocate for only one side; this is a knockout round, with fixtures determined by a draw of lots.

Semi-Finals:

●The four teams with the highest aggregate speaker score will qualify for the Semi-Final round.

●Teams will argue for only one side; this is a knockout round, with fixtures determined by a draw of lots.

Finals:

●Winners from each courtroom (based on highest aggregate speaker score) will qualify for the Final round.

●Teams will argue for only one side, determining the ultimate winner of the competition. Fixtures shall be determined by a draw of lots.

PROCEDURE

The procedure of the trial shall be in the following chronological order:

Courtroom master reads out the 'courtroom officer script'
Opening statement by the prosecution
Opening statement by the defense
Examination-in-chief of prosecution witness
Cross-examination of the prosecution witness
Examination-in-chief of the defense witness
Cross-examination of the defense witness
Closing statement by the prosecution
Closing statement by the defense

NOTE:

1. Every Counsel must examine at least one witness.
2. No additional facts, documents or witnesses may be introduced beyond what has been provided by the organisers.
3. Time allotted for one phase of the trial cannot be used for any other phase.
4. Re- examination of any witness by either side is not allowed.

WITNESSES

- Teams will bring their own witnesses.

If a team comprises of three members and I have communicated the same to the organising committee prior to the commencement of the competition, then one witness will be provided to the team.

Teams will be allotted a witness briefing period immediately preceding their round. The maximum duration of the briefing period is 15 minutes for each of the Preliminary, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final, and Final Rounds.

- The Prosecution and Defense shall each examine a maximum of 3 witnesses; the order of examination is determined by the team conducting the examination-in-chief.
- No additional evidence or witness may be produced or examined beyond what is permitted.
- Teams conducting examination or cross-examination shall refrain from arguing with the witnesses.
- The Prosecution shall not conduct examination-in-chief of Defense witnesses, and vice versa, irrespective of time remaining.
- Witnesses remain part of the round until it ends.
- All witnesses are deemed to be under oath after the oath is administered to the first witness; the oath need not be re-administered for subsequent witnesses.

Marking Criteria (Witnesses):

- Ability to appear credible and reliable — 20 Marks
- Consistency with case facts — 20 Marks
- Responsiveness and composure — 20 Marks
- Courtroom demeanor and presentation — 20 Marks
- Ability to handle cross-examination — 20 Marks
- TOTAL — 100 Marks

MARKING SCHEME

CRITERIA	MAXIMUM MARKS
Logical flow of arguments	10
Novelty in analysis and arguments	10
Variety and depth of research	10
A holistic understanding of the issues highlighted in the problem	10
Integration of the facts into legal arguments	10
Appropriate inference of the facts from the evidence	10
Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of the case	10
Proper use of the citations and citation form	10
Effective use of authority to support arguments	10
Clarity of drafting, neatness and formatting	10
TOTAL	100

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TIME ALLOCATION:

Preliminary & Quarter-Final Round (30 minutes per team – Online):
Semi-Final Round (40 minutes per team – Offline):
Final Round (50 minutes per team – Offline):

REGISTRATION AND FEE:

Registration Process: To confirm participation, teams from participating institutions must register by completing the prescribed Google Form and submitting it along with proof of payment.

- Early Bird Registration fee (including GST): ₹3,499
- Late Registration Fee (including GST): ₹4,499
- Refund Policy: The registration fee, once paid, is strictly non-refundable under any circumstances. Payment Details:

For payment through e-mode (NEFT/IMPS/UPI):
Bank Details: [Insert Bank Details Here]
QR Code: [Insert QR]

COURTROOM ETIQUETTE

Participants shall:

- Maintain complete respect for the court and courtroom decorum at all times.
- Refrain from arguing with witnesses during examination or cross-examination.
- Ensure that the time allocated for each phase of the trial is used appropriately, without pausing during objections, court questions, or questions posed to counsel.
- Refrain from any behaviour of indiscipline towards the Organizers, staff members, or student volunteers — such conduct shall be dealt with strictly.
- Not seek feedback immediately upon completion of any round.
- Not attempt to approach the framer of the trial proposition or the judges of the competition prior to the competition; any such attempt shall be met with strict consequences.

DRESS CODE

Participants must be dressed in formal attire in the courtroom. Robes and collar bands are not permitted.

Female Participants:

- Black formal blazer
- Black trousers/skirt
- Full-sleeved white shirt with black tie, or white kurta
- Formal footwear

Male Participants:

- Black formal blazer
- Black trousers
- Full-sleeved white shirt with black tie
- Formal footwear

MISCONDUCT

The following acts shall constitute misconduct:

- Disclosing or attempting to disclose the identity of the team's Law College/School/University to the Judges or to other Participating Teams.
- Wearing or carrying items that may reveal institutional affiliation, such as badges, blazers, pins, or other identifying material (e.g., books bearing college logos or seals).
- Any behaviour of indiscipline towards Organizers, staff members, or student volunteers.
- Any difference between the hard copies and soft copies of written submissions.
- Approaching the framer of the trial proposition or the judges of the competition prior to the competition.
- Use of mobile phones during rounds, or scouting (watching other teams' rounds).

The Organizing Committee may impose penalties up to and including disqualification for any act of misconduct.

SCOUTING

Scouting means that participants must only attend rounds in which their own team is pleading. Teams are not permitted to observe the rounds of any other teams.

Scouting in any form is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any team member will result in immediate disqualification. Upon commencement of the oral pleading rounds, participants shall not interact with each other. The decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding in this regard.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Time allocated for any phase of the trial, if not utilized, shall not be transferred to any other phase, and shall not be paused during objections, objection arguments, court questions to witnesses, or questions posed to counsel during opening/closing statements.
- Any attempt to approach the framer of the moot/trial problem or judges of the competition, prior to the competition, shall be met with strict consequences.
- If any member of a team is notified or informed of any detail concerning the competition, it shall be deemed that the entire team has been duly notified.
- The Problem for the Competition is fictitious and does not intend to resemble any incident or person, living or dead. Any such resemblance is purely coincidental, and the problem does not attempt to influence or predict the outcome of any actual matter.
- The Organizers reserve the right to amend, alter, vary, or change the Rules governing the Competition in any manner, which shall be communicated to the teams within a reasonable time.
- Use of mobile phones or scouting (watching other teams' rounds) is strictly prohibited.
- The decision of the Judges and the Organizing Committee shall be final and binding on all participants.

- **DECLARATION**
- By registering for the JIMS - IPTSE Mock Trial Advocacy Competition, 2026, every participant acknowledges having read and understood this rulebook and agrees to abide by its rules. Failure to comply with these rules may result in penalties, including disqualification from the competition. The committee will have the final say.
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- **CONTACT**
- All queries regarding registration and the competition may be addressed to the Mock Trial Society, Department of Law, JIMS Engineering and Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida, through the official registration form and communication channels notified by the Organizing Committee.
- contact details:
- Convenor : 8809200722 (Estuti)
- Co - Convenor : 7417126939 (Priyanshu)
- Organizing Head : 9508227651 (Harshita)
- Point Of Contact: 7011889933 (Anoushka)
- mail: mocktrialcommittee.jims@gmail.com
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- For registration and payment details, refer to the official Google Form circulated by the Organizers:

Mock Trial Proposition

LINK FOR PROPOSITION

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-a53tttlulS7kL5Gi_fTTZtSgX6sO6WW/view?usp=drivesdk

Organising Committee

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