



1ST NLUO-PHFI PUBLIC HEALTH LAW NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2021

JUNE 25-27, 2021

ORGANISED BY

**CENTRE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH LAW
(NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, ODISHA)**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



**PUBLIC
HEALTH
FOUNDATION
OF INDIA**

OFFICIAL RULES



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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-public-health-law>



https://instagram.com/cphl_nluo?igshid=1pe0ourhijbf

1. General Information

- 1.1. These are the rules for the **1st NLUO-PHFI Public Health Law National Moot Court Competition, 2021**.
- 1.2. The competition is being conducted by **Centre for Public Health Law, NLUO** in collaboration with **Public Health Foundation of India**.
- 1.3. The Competition shall be held from **June 25, 2021** to **June 27, 2021** virtually.
- 1.4. The Organizing Committee shall function as the point of contact, and any changes in the Rules of the Competition shall be notified by email to all participating teams.
- 1.5. The Competition shall be conducted in accordance with rules mentioned hereunder. Participants are required to comply with the rules and procedures prescribed herein.
- 1.6. The official email for all correspondence with respect to the Competition is cphl@nluo.ac.in

2. Definitions

- 2.1. **“Bench”** means the judges of an Oral Submission collectively.
- 2.2. **“Compendium”** means a compilation or collection of legal or other authorities that a Team seeks to rely upon during the Oral Submission.
- 2.3. **“Competition”** means the 1st NLUO PHFI Public Health Law National Moot Court Competition, 2021.
- 2.4. **“Identity”** means any fact pertaining to the identity of the Team, its members, or the Institution/College/University represented by the Team and the state or region where such Institution/College/University is located and includes any identification marks/ seal of the Team or the Institution/ College/University represented.
- 2.5. **“Oral Submissions”** means the oral pleadings before a Bench as explained in **Rule 7** of the Rules of the Competition.
- 2.6. **“Oral Score”** means the score given by a judge in accordance with **Rule 8** of the Rules of the Competition.
- 2.7. **“Organizing Committee”** or **“OC”** means the Centre for Public Health Law, NLUO, including any other persons specifically authorized in this respect, appointed for the administration and conduct of the Competition and all events leading to the Competition.

- 2.8. **“Rebuttals”** mean the set of arguments/ challenges that the Petitioner(s) shall raise at the end of the main pleadings of all the Orators.
- 2.9. **“Scouting”** means any person observing the Oral Pleading Session of a Team other than that of the Team such person is associated with.
- 2.10. **“Sur Rebuttals,”** means the defense presented by the Respondent(s) in response to the Rebuttals.
- 2.11. **“Team”** means the registered representatives of any Institution/College/University participating in the Competition and shall include only those members as specified in **Rule 3.2** of the Rules of the Competition.
- 2.12. **“Team Code”** means the code assigned to a Team through draw of lots.
- 2.13. **“Written Submissions”** means the memorandum of written submissions submitted by any Team as per **Rule 6** of the Rules of the Competition.
- 2.14. **“Written Submission Score”** means the score determined in accordance with the **Rule 8** of the Competition.

3. Eligibility and Team Composition

- 3.1. All students enrolled in a three (3) year LL.B. programme or a five (5) year LL.B. programme shall be eligible to participate in the Competition. However, only one team per institution shall be eligible to participate. Students enrolled in post-graduate or diploma courses are not eligible to participate.
- 3.2. The team composition for the Competition shall be either two members (Both the members designated as Speakers) or three members (Two members designated as Speakers and one member designated as a Researcher).
- 3.3. Substitution of any team member or alteration of team composition is not allowed after the date of Registration except in extenuating circumstances and only with the permission of the Organizers.
- 3.4. A Researcher, in extenuating circumstances, may be allowed to argue during the Oral Rounds with the permission of the judges.
- 3.5. Any additional member or Team Coach accompanying a Team shall not be recognized and will not be entitled to a certificate from the OC.

4. Registration

- 4.1. Each team shall register for the competition by duly filling the Google Form [\[https://forms.gle/6hrJPo191p9N7UtS7\]](https://forms.gle/6hrJPo191p9N7UtS7) **before 25th May 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST)**.
- 4.2. While filling the registration form, teams have to select an official contact person (**Team Liaison**). All communications concerning the competition shall be sent by e-mail to the Team Liaison of the team. It is assumed that all the information communicated and materials distributed to the Team Liaison is communicated to the team.
- 4.3. The registration fee for the competition is **INR 1500**.
- 4.4. If any team requires financial assistance in the nature of subsidized registration fee must communicate the same to the Organizing Committee via mail by **20 May, 2021**. The Organizing Committee will consider all the applications received and decide which team(s) shall be supported. The support is available only by way of waiver of the registration fee payable, either in part or in full as may be decided by the Organizing Committee.
- 4.5. The payment related to registration fee under **Clause 4.3** shall be made through an online transfer (NEFT) payment to

Name of the Account Holder	Registrar, National Law University, Odisha
Name of the Bank	State Bank of India
Address of the Bank	National Law University, Cuttack. Sector-13 CDA, Cuttack-753015
Account No	33807919875
Type of Account	Saving
MICR No.	753002034
RTGS/NEFT IFSC	SBIN0017678
SWIFT Code	SBININBB768

- 4.6. All teams must attach the scanned copy of the payment receipt in the google form mentioned in **Clause 4.1**. In case the team's request of Waiver of Registration Fees, as mentioned in **Clause 4.4**, has been accepted by the Organizing Committee, they must attach the screenshot of the Waiver acceptance mail.
- 4.7. A Team Code shall be assigned to each registered team by the Organizing Committee after the completion of the registration process.

- 4.8. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to debar or cancel the registration of any team.
- 4.9. The decision of the Organizing Committee shall be final and binding on the applicant teams.

5. **Structure of the Competition**

- 5.1. The Moot court Competition shall comprise of following rounds:
 - a) **Preliminary Rounds:** Each team will have to present both the sides i.e., Petitioner or Respondent in this round. The top eight (8) teams, based on the cumulative score of memorials and preliminary rounds shall qualify for the quarterfinals. The draw of lots will take place after this round for the Quarter Final Rounds.
 - b) **Quarterfinal Rounds:** The top eight (8) teams from the Preliminary Round shall proceed to the quarterfinals. This will be a knockout round; hence winners will be decided on the basis of courtroom win. The draw of lots will take place after this round.
 - c) **Semi- Final Round:** The winning 4 teams from the quarter finals shall proceed in this round. This round will again follow the knockout rule. The draw of lots will again take place after the competition of this round.
 - d) **Final Round:** The winner from each court room fixture i.e., 2 teams from the semi-final round shall proceed to this round.
- 5.2. After the virtual orientation of the teams, the team has to argue on behalf of the side in accordance with the draw of lots, (the Petitioner or the Respondent) in the preliminary round.
- 5.3. In case of tie, the team with higher memorial marks will be taken into consideration to decide the winner.
- 5.4. Before the Quarterfinal, Semi-final and Final rounds, draw of lots shall be done to determine the side on which the Team shall be arguing i.e., Petitioner or Respondent.
- 5.5. The Teams shall be mailed the fixtures for each round. Further, the Teams shall also be mailed the soft copy of their opponent's Written Submission prior to the oral rounds.

6. **Memorial Rules**

6.1. **General Rules for Memorial**

- 6.1.1. All the teams must submit the soft copy of the memorial for both sides (Petitioner-Respondent) on or before **11:59 PM (IST), June 15, 2021** to the cphl@nluo.ac.in in MS Word (‘.doc’ or ‘.docx’) format and protected PDF format.
- 6.1.2. Participants are allowed to frame additional issues other than those provided in the moot proposition, if desired.
- 6.1.3. The soft copy of memorials once submitted cannot be revised or resubmitted.
- 6.1.4. The Cover Page of the Memorial must follow the following colour scheme, Blue for the Applicant Cover Page and Red for the Respondent Cover Page.
- 6.1.5. The Memorial must not contain any Annexure / Photographs / Sketches / Exhibits / Affidavits or any other representation of like nature.
- 6.1.6. The memorials must not contain any identification apart from the team code allotted. If any discrepancy or any attempt to disclose identity by any team is noticed by the Organizers, the team will be disqualified.
- 6.1.7. The memorials must be named in the following format: **“Team Code – Petitioner/Respondent”**, for example, **“T 101 - Petitioner”**. The file name shall not carry any other identifying marks.
- 6.1.8. Memorials for both the parties must be submitted in the same mail. Separate submissions or any request for separate submission will not be accepted or entertained.
- 6.1.9. Participants must refrain from using same language or copying from other's memorials and other sources. Even use of publicly available information must be accompanied by proper citations. These rules shall apply to all parts of the memorial and not just the Pleadings and Prayer. The Organizing Committee in consultation with the memorial judges will take a final decision regarding determination of cases of plagiarism and penal measures for such action.
- 6.1.10. Memorials that do not comply with the above-mentioned specifications will be penalized.

6.2. Rules on the Content and Formatting of Memorials

- 6.2.1. Each Team is required to prepare a memorial for each party of the dispute with the following mandatory heads:
 - a) Cover Page
 - b) Table of Contents
 - c) Index of Authorities
 - d) Statement of Jurisdiction
 - e) Statement of Facts (Must Not Exceed 2 Pages)

- f) Issues Raised
- g) Summary of Arguments (Must Not Exceed 2 Pages)
- h) Arguments Advanced (Must Not Exceed 25 Pages)
- i) Prayer (Must Not Exceed 1 Page)

6.2.2. The Cover Page must contain only the following information:

- a) The Team Code in the upper right corner of each memorial. No other page must contain the team code.
- b) The name of the Forum resolving the dispute.
- c) The name of the Competition.
- d) Name of the parties and status before the Forum
- e) The party on whose behalf the memorial has been prepared

6.2.3. All parts of the memorial (including Headings, Headers and Footers) must be typed on A4 sized paper/format, with the following Formatting Specifications:

- a) Page Orientation: Portrait
- b) Font Type: Times New Roman
- c) Font Size: 12
- d) Line Spacing: 1.5
- e) Margins: One (1) Inch on Each Side

6.2.4. For Footnotes, the Formatting Specifications are as below:

- a) Format: Oxford University Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) 4th Edition
- b) Font Type: Times New Roman
- c) Font Size: 10
- d) Line Spacing: 1
- e) Speaking footnotes or endnotes are not allowed.

7. Oral submissions

7.1. The oral rounds shall be conducted on a virtual platform.

7.2. As specified herein above in Clause 3.2, each team shall have two speakers who shall divide the oral submissions between themselves.

7.3. During the course of the Oral Submissions no speaker shall reveal his/her identity or the identity of his/her college/university by any means whatsoever. Thus, all participants must join the session using their team code and speaker code. In the event any participant reveals his/ her identity or the identity of his/ her college/ university, the team shall be marked negatively as deemed appropriate by the judges.

- 7.4. In the preliminary, quarter-final and semi-final rounds, each team will have **30 minutes** for argument. Each team member shall argue for at least **12 minutes**.
- 7.5. In the final round, each team will have **45 minutes** for arguments, and each team member shall argue for at least **20 minutes**. This time includes the time for rebuttals or sur-rebuttals. Only one speaker can speak in rebuttal or sur-rebuttal.
- 7.6. At the commencement of each session of Oral Submissions each team must notify the Court Officer the amount of time that the team wants to reserve for their rebuttal/Sur-rebuttal. A maximum of 5 minutes can be reserved for the rebuttal/Sur-rebuttal.
- 7.7. At the commencement of each session of Oral Submissions each team shall notify the Court Officer as to the division of time between the 2 speakers.
- 7.8. If any speaker continues to speak after the completion of his/ her time, the additional time which he/ she speaks for will be deducted from the time allocated to his/her co-speaker, or from the time allocated for their rebuttal and sur-rebuttal, as the case may be.
- 7.9. The final decision as to the time structure and the right to rebuttal/sur-rebuttal will be that of the Judges of the Bench.
- 7.10. All teams will be allowed to share their screen in order to make reference to any case law and authorities which they intend to share during the course of their Oral Submissions. Teams must note that they will not be permitted to share any material with the judges if such material bears their name or the name of their College/University.
- 7.11. During the course of oral submissions, the participants cannot submit to the court any material containing pictorial representation whatsoever.

8. Evaluation Criteria

8.1. Evaluation Criteria for Written Submission

Written Submission will be marked on a scale of 100 marks per the following criteria:

S. No.	PARAMETERS (Memorial)	MARKS ALLOTTED
1.	Knowledge of Law & Facts	15
2.	Identification of Jurisdiction and Articulation of Issues	15
3.	Grammar & Presentation Style	5

4.	Application of Law to Facts	10
5.	Use of Authorities	10
6.	Proper Citation	10
7.	Format	10
8.	Originality in Presentation	10
9.	Organization of Arguments	5
10.	General Impression and Clarity of Thought	10
TOTAL		100

8.2. Penalties on Memorials

PARAMETERS (Memorial)	MARKS DEDUCTED
Late Submission	2 mark per memorial every 12 hours after deadline. Disqualification beyond 48 hours
Wrong File Name	1 Mark per Memorial
Exceeding Page Limits	1 Mark per exceeding page
Failure to include the required information on the cover page	1 Mark per violation
Failure to use the correct colour coding	2 Marks per Memorial
Failure to include all sections of the Memorials	2 marks per section
Disclosure of identity of the team or of institution being represented (in Memorials)	5 marks – one time penalty
Use of incorrect font style, font size or line spacing	1 mark per violation, maximum of 10 marks per side
Incorrect Margins	2 marks - one time penalty
Plagiarism in Memorials	10 – 25% 5 marks Beyond 26% memorial disqualified

8.3. Evaluation Criteria for Oral Pleading Sessions

Oral Pleadings will be marked on a scale of 100 marks as per the following criteria:

S. No.	PARAMETERS (Oral Rounds)	MARKS ALLOTTED	
		Speaker 1	Speaker 2
1.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	5	5
2.	Interpretation and Application of Law	10	10
3.	Use of Authorities and Precedents	10	10
4.	Articulation and Response to questions	10	10
5.	Logical reasoning, clarity, brevity and ingenuity of arguments	5	5
6.	Arrangement, presentation and content of argument and Advocacy Skills	5	5
7.	General Presentation, Court Mannerisms and Time Management	5	5
		50	50
Total		100	

9. Awards

- 9.1. All participants will be presented with E-Certificates of Participation and all the winners of awards will be presented with E-Certificates of Merit and a cash prize in addition to E-Certificates of Participation.

Awards	Prize Money
Winners	Rs. 21,000
Runners Up	Rs. 15,000
Best Speaker	Rs. 10,000
Best Memorial	Rs. 10,000

10. Schedule

S. No.	PARTICULARS	DATES
1.	Commencement of Provisional Registration/ Release of the Moot Proposition	May 5, 2021

2.	Last date of Final Registration	May 25, 2021
3.	Submission date of Written Submissions	June 15, 2021
4.	Oral Rounds	June 25-27, 2021

11. Code of Conduct

- 11.1. The Rules governing the conduct of the Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification at the sole discretion of the Organizing Committee
- 11.2. All participants shall adhere to the online meeting guidelines, notified by Organizing Committee via email, from time to time throughout the period of competition.
- 11.3. Any attempt to contact the framers of the Moot Problem will result in immediate disqualification.
- 11.4. The identities of the teams shall not be disclosed in any form in the memorials or the compendiums.
- 11.5. All participants shall maintain decorum in the Court Hall during the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- 11.6. Scouting of a team's future opponent is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.
- 11.7. No team member or individual participating in the Competition shall attend the arguments of any other team or individual except for the Final Round or receive information from any person who has attended any of the other rounds in the Competition.
- 11.8. The Dress Code for the participants shall be formals. Men are expected to wear Western Formals only (Black Blazer, Black tie, Black Pants and White Shirt). Women can wear either Western Formals (Black Formal Skirt or Black Pants, White Shirt) or Indian Formals (White Kurta, Black Salwar).
- 11.9. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action with regard to any dispute, unethical, unprofessional or immoral conduct.
- 11.10. The Competition shall be conducted in English language only. All oral submissions and written submissions (memorials and compendium) shall be in English.

12. Rule for online platform

- 12.1. The Platform for conducting the moot shall be intimated after the registration of the teams is completed.
- 12.2. The participants must ensure that they have a strong internet connection with good audio and video facilities. They must use laptops or PC for the oral rounds. The use of cell phones is prohibited at all times.
- 12.3. The background of the participants on video shall be plain and shall not contain any symbols or any representations.
- 12.4. The participants (speakers) must ensure that any noise or audio other than the voice of the participant should not occur during the online oral rounds. It is advisable to plan and prepare for the online oral rounds in advance accordingly.
- 12.5. Participants shall be permitted to use the screen sharing feature for making their submissions.
- 12.6. The teams must ensure that they do not disclose the identity of their college at any stage during the competitions. Any kind of canvassing shall lead to the disqualification of the teams.
- 12.7. At the time when one participant is speaking, others are expected to keep their microphones on mute.

13. Miscellaneous

- 13.1. If and when any one of the members 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.
- 13.2. In case of any doubt in the understanding or interpretation of any matter concerning the Competition, the decision of the Organizing Committee shall be final and binding.
- 13.3. If there is any situation which is not contemplated in the rules, the Organizing Committee's decision on the same shall be final and binding.
- 13.4. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to amend, alter, vary or change, in any manner whatsoever, the Rules governing the Competition, which would be communicated to the teams within a reasonable period of time.

14. Contact details

Student Coordinators:

Khushi Bhardwaj- 7077679999 || Sambram Mohapatra- 7008152529