# B.A. MALLAL MOOT 2020 Allen & Gledhill LLP

**NUS Mooting & Debating Club COMPETITION RULES**

1. **Introduction**
	1. **Goals.** The B.A. Mallal Moot 2020 (the “**Competition**”) aims to stimulate interest in written and oral appellate advocacy.
	2. **Organiser and Sponsor.** The Competition is organised by the National University of Singapore (“**NUS**”) Mooting and Debating Club (the “**MDC**"), and sponsored by Allen & Gledhill LLP ("**A&G**").
	3. **Eligibility.** The Competition is open to law students enrolled in NUS, SMU or SUSS as of 23rd August 2020 who have not been previously conferred with a Bachelor of Laws, nor its equivalent, in any jurisdiction.

# General Provisions

1. **Language.** The Competition shall be conducted in the English language.
2. **Decisions Shall be Final.** Any decisions made by the MDC and A&G (collectively

**“the Organisers**”) relating to the Competition shall be final.

1. **Communications.** All communications and submissions to the Organisers of the Competition must be made to mallal@nusmooting.com. Any other communications shall not be considered official.
2. **Amendments to Rules.** The Organisers reserve the right to amend any of these Rules, including the Schedule, at any time, without prior notice, and any such amendment shall take immediate effect upon the distribution by the Organisers of any such amendment to participants. The Organisers take no responsibility for any failure of receipt by any participant of such amendment.
3. **Penalties and Disqualification.** The Organisers reserve the right to impose any penalties or disqualifications on any participant for any breach of these Rules and unethical or unprofessional conduct of any participant in the course of the Competition.

# Participation

* 1. Participation in the Competition is based on registration by full completion of the appropriate form as provided by the Organisers by the Registration Date set out in the Schedule herein.
	2. Upon registration, all participants confirm that they are available for all Oral Rounds as set out in the Schedule herein.
	3. The email address provided by participants at the point of registration shall be the sole means of written communications and notifications by the Organisers.
	4. Participants who wish to withdraw from the Competition must provide good reasons in writing to the Organisers no later than the Withdrawal Date stipulated in the Schedule. Any late withdrawals or any failure to submit the Memorial after the Withdrawal Date shall render the participant ineligible for any other competitions organized by NUS MDC for the duration of the participant’s candidature for their legal studies. A&G reserves the right to take such measures as it deems appropriate for any participant who withdraws or fails to submit the Memorial after the Withdrawal Date.
	5. In the event of a withdrawal or absence due to accident or emergency, participants must provide sufficient documentary proof to the Organisers within a reasonable time and, in any event, no later than 3 days after the withdrawal or absence.
	6. In each round of the Competition, participants will be assigned a side (Appellant or Respondent) (“**the Assigned Side**”). Any such assignments are the final decision of the Organisers.
	7. Each participant will be assigned a Participant Number which shall be used during the Preliminary Rounds.
	8. By registering, all participants agree that they will assign all copyright of their Memorials and Skeletal Arguments to the Moot Author, for use by the Moot Author or other persons authorized by the Moot Author for educational purposes only. Participants further agree that their images may be captured by the Organisers either in photographs or videos during the Oral Rounds of the Competition, and grant permission to the Organisers and Moot Author to use such images for any publicity or educational purposes without further reference to the participants.

# The Moot Problem

* 1. The Competition involves a legal problem based on a hypothetical situation. One Moot Problem will be issued for the Preliminary Rounds. The same problem will be used for the Quarter Final Rounds. A second problem will be issued for the Semi-Final and Final Rounds.
	2. No additional facts may be introduced unless they are a logical and necessary extension of facts already set out in the Moot Problem.
1. **Clarifications.** Any requests for clarification~~s~~ must be sent by email to the Organisers by the relevant Clarification Deadline set out in the Schedule herein. All requests for clarification and any answers provided will be notified to all participants by the date set

out in the Schedule herein. The Moot Author retains the sole discretion to decide whether to provide answers to any requests for clarifications.

# C. Memorial Submission Round

1. **Memorials**
	1. Each Participant must submit, in writing, to the Organisers, a memorial setting out their arguments and authorities in support of their Assigned Side by the Memorial Deadline set out in the Schedule herein.
	2. All memorials must be submitted in both the following forms via email to the organisers as a Word Document
2. **Page limit**. Each memorial must conform to the formatting requirements herein and must not exceed 5 A4 pages (inclusive of the table of headings and citations, but not including the Cover Page).

# Format

* 1. Each memorial must bear a Cover Page in the prescribed format which must bear the Participant Number.
	2. Any participant whose memorial is found to contain any identifying information of the participant or the institution to which the participant belongs will be immediately disqualified.
	3. Each memorial must be typed in Arial font size 10 and double spaced. All margins must be at least one inch or 2.5 cm.
	4. All citations must be full in-text citations. No footnotes and no endnotes are permitted.
	5. All memorials must have two sections :-
1. Table of Headings
2. Arguments and Authorities
	1. No Summary of Facts nor Table of Authorities is required.
3. **Style.** The memorial is a persuasive written argument on the Moot Problem. It is neither an academic dissertations nor an essay. The use of lengthy citations or reproduction of substantial portions of court judgments is strongly discouraged.
4. **Judging Criteria.** The memorial will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the analysis, persuasiveness and coherence of the argument, thoroughness of research, clarity and cogency of writing, and adherence to the formatting and style requirements
5. **No Revision of Memorial**. Upon submission, no memorials may be revised, changed, altered or modified in any manner, including for typographical or grammatical errors, missing pages or for problems caused by faulty computer software.
6. **Advancement to Oral Rounds.** Advancement to the Oral Rounds of the Competition is based on the Memorial Submission Round. Notification of such advancement shall be made in accordance with the Schedule herein.

# D. Oral Rounds

1. All Oral Rounds shall take place at the locations set out in the Schedule herein.

# Schedule

* 1. Participants will be notified of their precise schedule for arguments no later than 48 hours before each Oral Round.
	2. Participants must enter the main Zoom room no later than 30 minutes before their scheduled round. The Organisers reserve the right to bar any participant who registers late.
	3. In the event of the tardiness or absence of any participant to an Oral Round, the Organisers reserve the right to schedule participants to a differently scheduled Oral Round, in which case the judges will be notified, and judging based on Skeletal Arguments will be adjusted accordingly.
1. **Attire.** All participants must be attired in Full Court attire for the Semi-Finals and Finals. For the Preliminary Rounds, Court attire *sans only* the jacket is permitted.
2. Participants must adhere strictly to the time permitted for presentation of oral arguments, including time for any rebuttal or surrebuttal, and questions from the Judges. Any extension of time is solely at the discretion of the Judges.
3. **Scope of arguments.** In oral arguments, participants are not confined to arguments in their written submissions (memorials or Skeletal Arguments) but are strongly advised not to deviate too far. This rule does not apply to a participant’s response to the Judges’ questioning or the logical and necessary extension thereof.

# Rebuttals and Surrebuttals

* 1. Participants must reserve time for rebuttals and surrebuttals at the start of each oral presentation. A failure to do so will forfeit the participant’s right of rebuttal and surrebuttal.
	2. The scope of Rebuttal is limited to arguments raised by the Respondent during the Oral Round.
	3. The scope of Surrebuttal is limited to arguments raised in the Rebuttal.
1. **Exhibits.** No exhibits that are not part of the Moot Problem nor any additional material may be used during the oral arguments, unless with the express permission of the Judges and by prior agreement of opposing counsel.

# Preliminary and Quarter Final Rounds

1. **Oral Argument.** Each participant has **10 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments to the Judges.
2. **Exchange of Memorials.** For the Preliminary Rounds, participants must email their opponents a copy of their memorials by the Memorial Exchange Deadline as set out in the Schedule herein, copying the Organisers in such email. Participants who do not receive their opponents’ memorial by the deadline must contact the Organisers within 2 hours of the Memorial Exchange Deadline.

**27A. Quarter Finals Skeletals and Exchange of Skeletals.** The Rules set out in 32, 32.1, 32.2, 32.3 and 33.3 shall apply in the Quarter Finals.

1. **Additional authorities.** Participants who wish to refer to additional authorities must notify their respective opponent by email copying the Organisers no later than the deadline set out in the Schedule herein.
2. **Judging criteria.** Participants will be evaluated on the basis of the quality and coherence of their oral arguments, their presentation style (which includes persuasiveness, clarity and structure), and the ability to respond substantively to the Judges’ questions.

# Quarter Finals

**29A.** The top 36 participants with the highest scores in the Oral Arguments will advance to the Quarter Finals.

**29B.** In the event that any Quarter-Finalist fails to acknowledge notification of their advancement by a return email to the Organisers within the time stipulated in the Schedule, that Quarter-Finalist forfeits the right to continue participation in the Competition.

# Semi-Finals and Finals

1. **Semi-Finals.** The top eight participants with the highest scores in the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Semi-Finals. Each Semi-Finalist is permitted **15 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments.
2. **Finals.** The top four Semi Finalists will advance to the Finals. Each Finalist is given **18 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments.

# Skeletal Arguments.

* 1. Semi-Finalists and Finalists are required to exchange Skeletal Arguments within the deadline set out in the Schedule herein, copying the Organisers.
	2. Skeletal Arguments must be in Arial minimum 12 points, on a single A4 page with 2.5 cm margins, and contain the substance of the submissions to be made and fully cited authorities. The replication of the Table of Headings with accompany authorities can suffice.
	3. Skeletal Arguments will be made available to the judges to aid the Oral Arguments and will not be scored separately.

**33.3** All Skeletal Arguments must have, at the top left corner, the full name of the participant and the side that the participant represents. There shall be no other identifying information about the participant. For example,

Anne Wee

Counsel for Appellant

# Awards

1. **Memorandum competition**. The Participant with the highest score for the written memorandum will receive $250 in prize money.
2. **Oral competition.** The winner of the Finals will receive $1,500 in prize money. The 1st runner- up will receive $750, with the joint 2nd runners-up receiving $250 each. All semi-finalists will also be offered an internship at Allen & Gledhill LLP.

# Schedule

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| **Event** | **Date and Time** |
| Registration Deadline | Tuesday 25 August 20202359 hours |
| Assignment of Participant Number and Assigned Side | Wednesday 26 August 2020By 2200 hours |
| Withdrawal Date | Tuesday 1 September 20202200 hours |
| Memorial Deadline | Friday 4 September 20202359 hours |
| Notification of Advancement to Preliminary Rounds | Tuesday 8 September 20202200 hours |
| Memorial Exchange Deadline | Wednesday 9 September 20202200 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | Thursday 10 September 20202200 hours |
| Preliminary Oral Rounds | Saturday 12 September 2020Participants must be available between 8 30 a.m. and 5 p.m. |
| Announcement of Quarter-Finalist  | Monday 14 September 20202200 hours |
| Quarter-Finals | Saturday 19 September 2020Quarter-Finalists must be available between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. |
| Announcement of Semi-Finalist  | Monday 21 September 20202200 hours |
| Release of Semi-Finals and Finals problem | Monday 21 September 20202200 hours |
| Exchange of Skeletal Arguments for Semi-Finals | Sunday 27 September 20202200 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | Monday 28 September 20192200 hours |
| Semi-Finals | Monday 5 October 2020Semi-Finalists must be available between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. |
| Announcement of Finalist  | Tuesday 6 October 20202200 hours |
| Exchange of Skeletal Arguments for Finals  | Friday 9 October 20202200 hours |
| Notification of Additional Authorities | Saturday 10 October 20202200 hours |
| Finals | Monday 12 October 2020Finalist must be available between 5p.m. and 9.30p.m. |