



Ratio **D**ecidendi

Annual Moot Court Competition '18

Leadership Cell

St. Stephen's College

SCHEDULE

<u>Deadline for Provisional Registration:</u>	21 th March 2018
<u>Release of Moot Propositions:</u>	14 th March 2018
<u>Deadline for Seeking Clarifications to Proposition:</u>	23 th March 2018
<u>Release of Clarifications:</u>	24 th March 2018
<u>Deadline for Memorial Submission:</u>	
• <u>Soft Copy:</u>	28 st March 2018
• <u>Hard Copy:</u>	31 th March 2018
<u>Orientation:</u>	25 th March 2018
<u>Memorial Evening:</u>	31 th March 2018
<u>Oral Rounds (Preliminary, Semi Final (For Law Schools Only) and Final Round)</u>	1 st April 2018

Rules & Regulations

1. GENERAL

1.1. DATES AND VENUE:

Ratio Decidendi 2018 – Annual Moot Court Competition will be held on March 31st and April 1st at St. Stephen's College, University Enclave, New Delhi.

1.2. TEAM PREREQUISITES:

- a. The language for the Competition shall be English only.
- b. Participation is restricted to three separate entry levels-
 1. School Students (Class 9th – 12th)
 2. College Students (Non-Law Schools)
 3. Bona Fide Students of Law Schools either enrolled in 3-year course or 5-year integrated course.
- c. Only one team from each participating college shall be registered for the competition. Each team shall comprise of three members (two Speakers and one Researcher).

Note-A maximum of two observers are allowed to accompany the team.

- d. The oral rounds shall comprise of:

For Schools and College (Non-Law Schools)

1. Preliminary Round
2. Final Round

For Law Schools

1. Preliminary Round
2. Semi Final Round
3. Final Round

1.3. REGISTRATION

- a. Registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/RatioDecidendi2018>
- b. Registration fee (only for Law and Non-Law Colleges) is Rs. 1200/- per team.
The fee has to be paid through **Paytm at +91 99101 16360 (Musharrab Noor)**.
A **screenshot** of the successful transaction page has to be sent via **WhatsApp** to the same number with the following details:
 - Team Name
 - College/Institution Name
 - A snapshot of School/College ID of any one team member.

Note: There is no Registration Fee for School Teams.

- c. No certificates shall be provided at the time of the Registration. The same shall be provided only after the Valedictory Ceremony on 1st April 2018. No certificates shall be couriered/ posted.

1.4. DRESS CODE

The dress code for the oral rounds shall be advocate's attire, i.e Black and White combination including Blazer and Formal Shoes. The participants are to dress up in Western Formals for the other events taking place during the competition.

Note: School students are also allowed to wear their school uniforms. Although advocate's attire would be preferable.

2. MEMORIALS

The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed:

- A. Each team must prepare memorials for both parties to the dispute.
- B. Once the memorials have been submitted, no revision, supplements or additions will be allowed.
- C. One advance soft copy in PDF format of each of the memorials for both the parties to the dispute must reach the organizers latest by 28th March, 2018 on leadership.cell.stephens@gmail.com by 2359 Hrs.
- D. Late submissions will result in 1 point penalty per team per day per side.
- E. The written memorials shall conform to the below standards mentioned below:
 - i. The font and size of the text used in all parts of the written submissions (except the covers) shall be in Times New Roman, 12-point and footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, size 10.
 - ii. The text in all parts of each written submission shall have 1.5-line spacing except the text of footnotes and headings which shall be single spaced.
 - iii. The arguments with appropriate citations shall be contained in the pleadings. The Pleadings shall not exceed 20 pages.
 - iv. Memorials must have a one-inch margin on all sides of each page.
- F. The memorials have to be submitted on typed A4 size paper and must contain:
 - Cover Page
 - Table of Contents
 - Index of Authorities
 - Statement of Jurisdiction
 - Statement of Facts (Argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
 - Questions of Law
 - Summary of Arguments
 - Arguments Advanced, Prayer and Appendix (Optional)
 - Exhibits (Optional)

G. MARKING CRITERIA FOR MEMORIALS

1. Knowledge of facts and law (20)
2. Proper and articulate analysis (20)
3. Extent and use of research (20)
4. Clarity and Organization (20)
5. Citation of sources (10)
6. Grammar and Style (10)

H. THE COVER PAGE OF THE MEMORIALS MUST STATE THE FOLLOWING:

- The Case Title
- Identity of brief as prosecution or defense

Note:

- **The identity of the Institution or the members shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial.**
- **Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification. The decision of the organizers will be final. The hard copies must be exact print outs of the soft copies. Non-compliance with this rule would entail disqualification.**
- **The memorial would be assessed only for the preliminary rounds for the selection of the best and the second-best memorial.**

3. ROUNDS

There will be only one Preliminary and one final round of arguments for each entry level. Participants from Law Schools shall be given one extra Semi-Final Round.

A. PRELIMINARY ROUND

- a. Draw of Lots will be held on 31st March 2018. Leadership Cell retains the right to choose if the team is not present during registration.
- b. There will be one preliminary round of argument per team, either as Prosecution and or as Defense.
- c. Speaker 1 and Speaker 2 to remain the same throughout the competition.
- d. Teams will be provided with their opponent team's memorials on the evening of 31st March, 2018.
- e. Preliminary round will be held on 1st April 2018.
- f. Top eight teams will qualify for the final round. The qualification to the finals will be based on:

- i. Marks in the preliminary round.
- ii. In case of a tie in marks, memorial marks of two teams will be considered.
- iii. In the exceptional case of a tie in all of the above, the qualification of team will be based on draw of lots.
- g. Return of the other side's memorial immediately after the preliminary round to the court-clerks is compulsory.
- h. The Preliminary Round will be knockout round.

B. FINAL ROUND

1. There will be one final round of argument per team.
2. Teams Selected in Final Round will have to argue in exchanged position.

EXPLANATION-

Team A and Team B got selected in finals. Team A was a defendant and Team B was a prosecutor in preliminary round. In the Final Round, Team A would be a prosecutor and Team B would be a defendant.

3.1. TIME AND MARKING SCHEME FOR ORAL ROUNDS

A. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS AND QUARTER FINAL ROUNDS

- a. Each team will get a total of 25 minutes to present their case.
- b. Each speaker should speak for a minimum of 10 minutes.
- c. 10 minutes will be reserved for rebuttal and surrebuttal.

B. FINAL ROUND

- a. Each team will get a total of 25 minutes to present their case.
- b. One speaker shall not use more than 10 minutes of the total time.
- c. 10 minutes will be reserved for rebuttal and surrebuttal.

Note: Semi – Final Round for Law School Teams would be an additional round and shall be conducted in the same fashion as Final Round.

C. MAXIMUM TIME ALLOTTED

At the commencement of each session the team shall notify the Court Officer as to the division of time between the 2 speakers.

D. ANONYMITY

- a. Student Counsel may introduce him/herself to the court in the usual manner and may also state their names. However, the team's college affiliation shall not be indicated to the judges at any time.
- b. Further all team members shall refrain from identifying a team's college at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items (such as college clothing, ties, patches, or pins) or carrying identifying material (such as books with a college logo or college seal etc.)

E. MARKING CRITERIA FOR ORAL ROUNDS

- a. Knowledge of law and its application to facts (50)
- b. Research content of arguments and ability to answer questions (35)
- c. Mannerism, deference to the court and time management (15)

4. SCOUTING

- a. Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other team till the time the team is declared to have advanced to the next round. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the teams will result in disqualification.
- b. Any team can file a written complaint with the Organizers, regarding a case of scouting. The decision of the Organizers will be final.
- c. The researchers shall sit with the speakers at the time of the orals and shall not attend the court sessions of any other team participating in the competition.

5. CASH AWARDS AND TROPHIES

Best Team (One from each participation level)	Rs. 5000/-
Best Lawyer (One from each participation level)	Rs. 3000/-
Best Researcher (One from each participation level)	Rs. 1000/-

- ❖ All the Participants will get participation certificates post the Valedictory Ceremony. No certificates shall be couriered / posted after the event.
- ❖ 10 Consolation Prizes will also be awarded on the basis Sum of Rank Criteria.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

6.1. GENERAL ETIQUETTE:

- a. The participants are expected to behave in a dignified manner and not to cause any unnecessary inconvenience to the organizers. Deference to the Judges of the Moot Court Competition is expected to be maintained within and outside the Court room.
- b. The Organizers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.

6.2. DELAYS IN APPEARANCE/PRESENTATION

- a. If a team scheduled to take part in a round does not appear within 5 minutes of the scheduled time, the other team shall be allowed to submit ex-parte.
- b. The criteria of rebuttals shall not be considered in such cases for evaluation in place of which an average for the same would be given on the basis of the marks scored by such team on other criteria.
- c. During the announcement of results for the next round if the team qualifying for the next round is absent, then the team which is next in merit will automatically qualify.

6.3. DISCLAIMER

The Material in the Moot Court proposition is not intended to and does not attempt to resemble any incident or any person living or dead. All material in the problem is fictitious and any resemblance to any incident or person, if any, is not intended, but merely co-incidental.

6.4. INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES:

- a. The Organizer's decision as regards the interpretation of rules or any other matter related to the competition will be final.
- b. If there is any situation, which is not contemplated in the rules, the Organizer's decision on the same shall be final.
- c. The Organizer's reserve the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules if so required and as they may deem appropriate at any time during the competition.

Any dispute arising in the moot court rooms during the rounds would be at the discretion of the presiding officer of the respective court room.