



NOTRE DAME
LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

**GENERAL COMPETITION
REGULATIONS**

1. GENERAL

- 1.1. Unless otherwise stated these regulations apply to all competitions run by the Notre Dame Law Students' Society (NDLSS).
- 1.2. Competitors must refer to, and be familiar with these regulations as well as the rules of the competition they are competing in. By entering any NDLSS run competition, competitors acknowledge that they have read and understood these regulations and agree to be bound by them.
- 1.3. The Competitions Representative has complete discretion in the application and interpretation of these rules.

2. PRESIDENT

- 2.1. The President must be available to assist and advise the Competitions Representative in the resolution of disputes or complaints.
- 2.2. The President is not permitted to compete in any of the competitions offered by the NDLSS to ensure that the interests of the NDLSS are upheld.
- 2.3. The President may compete in inter-varsity competitions.

3. COMPETITION SIGN-UP

- 3.1. All students wishing to compete in competitions throughout the year must sign up in the manner indicated by the Competitions Representative.
- 3.2. The sign-up period for competitions will open and close at the discretion of the Competitions Representative.
- 3.3. Individuals must nominate themselves for the competitions they wish to compete in during the sign-up period. Where students compete in a team, only one-member needs nominate the team.
- 3.4. Individuals and teams cannot be nominated by a third-party.

3.5. The Competitions Representative has the discretion to accept or refuse early or late entries on a case-by-case basis.

3.6. The total number of individuals or teams that may nominate for a competition is at the discretion of the Competitions Representative. Where the number of individuals or teams must be limited, preference will be given on a first-in-best-dressed basis.

3.6.1. However, in circumstances where an individual or team has been unable to compete in the previous year's competition due to number limitations, they may, at the discretion of the Competitions Representative, be given a higher preference.

3.6.1.1. This only applies to the same competition being run in the following year (i.e. students who missed out on Junior Mooting Competition 2020 may be given a higher preference for the Junior Mooting Competition 2021).

4. COMPETITIONS DRAW

4.1. Once the sign-up period has closed the draw for preliminary rounds of the competition will be created at random.

4.2. Once the results for the preliminary round(s) have been received the draw will be created for the semi-finals at random.

4.3. Once the results for the semi-finals have been received the draw will be created for the grand-final at random.

4.4. All efforts will be taken to ensure no competitor is disadvantaged and to avoid conflicts of interest between competitors and judges as much as possible.

4.5. Competitors and judges must declare any conflict of interest they may have with any judge or opponent.

4.5.1. Competitors must declare this conflict at the first possible instance (i.e., upon receiving the draw, or being informed of their judge).

4.6. Competitors cannot request particular positions, opponents or judges.

5. PROGRESSION THROUGH ROUNDS

5.1. Preliminary round(s) may be held when there are 8 or more individuals or teams.

5.1.1. The number of preliminary rounds and the number of individuals or teams in each round is the discretion of the Competitions Representative.

5.1.1.1. If a subsequent preliminary round contains less competitors than the preceding round, then the highest scoring individuals or teams will proceed.

5.1.2. Competitors will be ranked by judges following scoring and discussion.

5.1.2.1. Whether individuals participating in teams are scored and ranked as individuals or as a team is at the discretion of the Competitions Representative.

5.1.3. The top eight ranked competitors will proceed to the Quarter Final.

5.2. A Quarter Final Round may be held when there are 8 or less individuals or teams competing in a competition.

5.2.1. Quarter Final rounds may not be held if there are multiple preliminary rounds.

5.2.2. Unless stated otherwise, competitors will be scored by the judges and proceed to the Semi-Final on a win-lose basis.

5.2.3. In the event that there are less than 4 winning competitors in the Quarter Final (for example, there are only 3 groups of opposing competitors

producing only 3 winners), the winners will proceed to the Semi-Final and the remaining competitors will be ranked by judges following scoring and discussion. The Top-ranked remaining competitors will proceed to the Semi-Final until all Semi-Final places are filled.

5.2.4. A maximum of 4-competitors may proceed to the Semi-Final.

5.3. A Semi-Final Round may be held where there are 4 or less individuals or teams competing in a competition.

5.3.1. Unless stated otherwise, competitors will be scored by the judges and proceed to the Grand Final on a win-lose basis.

5.3.2. In the event that there are only 3 teams in a Semi-Final Round, competitors will be ranked by judges following scoring and discussion. The top 2 competitors will proceed to the Grand Final.

5.3.3. A maximum of 2 competitors may proceed to the Grand Final.

5.4. A Grand Final Round may be held where there are 2 competitors competing in a competition.

5.4.1. Unless stated otherwise, the round will be decided on a win-lose basis.

6. STANDARD OF BEHAVIOUR

6.1. All competitors are expected to conduct themselves in a fair and professional manner during any competition-related activity. This includes, but is not limited to: meetings, preparations, communications, and the competition itself. Competitors conducting themselves contrary to this may face a penalty.

6.2. Competitors must not cheat during competitions. Cheating may include, but is not limited to:

6.2.1. Obtaining a competition question before it is released;

- 6.2.2. Obtaining competition information or facts before their release;
 - 6.2.3. Receiving assistance or coaching unless authorised or permitted in writing by the Competitions Representative;
 - 6.2.4. Sabotaging another competitor;
 - 6.2.5. Plagiarism;
 - 6.2.6. Collusion; or
 - 6.2.7. Attempting any of the above.
- 6.3. The Competitions Representative has the discretion to determine what actions amount to cheating or behaviour contrary to 6.1.
- 6.4. Students who engage in behaviour contrary to 6.1 or cheat in a competition may face a penalty or penalties determined by the Competitions Representative.
- 6.4.1. These penalties may include, but are not limited to:
 - 6.4.1.1. Disqualification;
 - 6.4.1.2. Prohibition from participating in future competitions for a set or unlimited time period;
 - 6.4.1.3. University based disciplinary action.
 - 6.4.1.3.1. University based disciplinary action is governed by the University of Notre Dame Australia's rules, regulations and procedures.

7. ATTENDANCE

- 7.1. Competitors are expected to arrive at the designated location on time.

- 7.2. If a competitor is running late is must be communicated to the Competitions Representative at the earliest opportunity.
- 7.3. If a competitor arrives more than 15 minutes late, or does not attend a competition round, they may be disqualified.
- 7.4. Non-attendance at a competition round, without informing and receiving approval from the Competitions Representative will be treated as a withdrawal without valid reason.

8. REVIEW OF COMPETITON RESULTS

- 8.1. Competitors may request a review of the results of a competition round.
- 8.2. Requests must be submitted in writing, via email, to the Competitions Representative at competitions.ndlss@nd.edu.au.
- 8.3. Requests must be received no later than 24 hours after the results of that round are released.
 - 8.3.1. If a request is received later then 24 hours after the results of that round were released, the Competitions Representative may accept the request up to 7 days after the release of that rounds results if there are exceptional circumstances.
 - 8.3.1.1. What constitutes exceptional circumstances is at the discretion of the Competitions Representative.
- 8.4. Requests must include the competitor's contact details, the competition decision the competitor wishes to be reviewed, who made the decision, the reason for the review and any other relevant information. Requests without this information will not be considered.

8.5. All requests for review will be decided by the Competitions Representative in a timely manner, as quickly as possible, generally within 48 hours.

8.6. Decisions made regarding a review of a competition result are final.

9. WITHDRAWING FROM COMPETITIONS

9.1. Students must be dedicated and prepared to compete – this includes time management and managing conflicts in schedules.

9.2. Students must not withdraw without valid reason, or unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, once nominations for the competition have closed.

9.3. What constitutes a valid reason, or unforeseen or exceptional circumstance, is at the discretion of the Competitions Representative and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

9.3.1. Having work or assignments due will generally not be considered a valid reason, or exceptional or unforeseen circumstance.

9.3.2. If dates of competitions change after registration, causing competitors to be unable to compete, there will be no penalty.

9.4. Withdrawing from a competition without a valid reason, or an exception or unforeseen circumstance, may result in the competitor being prohibited from entering competitions in the following semester and for the remainder of the current semester.

10. COMPETITION ATTIRE

10.1. All competitors are expected to wear formal business attire, including a suit jacket, for all competitors.

- 10.2. A competitor who is not dressed appropriately may not be permitted to compete, being treated as failure to attend which may be treated as a withdrawal without a valid reason under 7.4.

11. AUSTRALIAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (ALSA) CONFERENCE

- 11.1. The winners of the following competitions may be eligible to represent the NDLSS and compete at the ALSA Conference in the July following the competition:

11.1.1. Trial Advocacy;

11.1.2. Negotiations;

11.1.3. Senior Client Interview;

11.1.4. Senior Moot;

11.1.5. International Humanitarian Law Moot.

- 11.2. Attendance at ALSA is not guaranteed and may depend on many things including, but not limited to, financial difficulty or lack of sponsorship.

- 11.3. In the event that a winner cannot attend the conference the runner-up may be eligible to attend and compete in their place.

- 11.4. In the event that a runner-up cannot attend the conference, the Competitions Representative has the discretion to select and nominate a competitor or team to attend.

- 11.5. In the event that one member of a team cannot attend the conference for any reason, the Competitions Representative has the discretion to nominate a competitor to compete with that team, or to nominate a different team.

- 11.6. A winner who graduated before the conference following their competition is not eligible to represent the NDLSS at ALSA.

12. COMPETITION SPECIFIC RULES

12.1. The Competition Representative may create rules to govern specific competitions.

12.2. Competitors must abide by these rules.

13. COMPETITIONS OFFICE HOLDERS AND SUB-COMMITTEE

13.1. The NDLSS Constitution governs the office holders for Competitions.

13.1.1. They include, the Competitions Representative and the Competitions Officer.

13.2. The Competitions Officer may exercise, so far as the NDLSS Constitution permits, all the powers of the Competitions Representative listed above.

13.3. The Competitions Representative and Officer will form the Competitions Executive, and will manage the competitions portfolio.

13.4. The Competitions Representative may create and regulate a Competitions Sub-Committee.

13.5. The Competitions Representative may delegate powers to members of the Competitions Sub-Committee.

13.5.1. The delegation of these powers must be done in writing.

13.5.2. The Competitions Representative may revoke the delegation of power at their discretion.

13.5.3. The Competitions Representative retains the right to overrule any use of delegated power.

14. DISPUTES AND QUERIES

- 14.1. Any queries or disputed arising in the course of any competition, or relating to the interpretation of any competition rules, must be directed to the Competitions Representative.
- 14.2. The Competitions Representative is the final arbiter of any disputed arising in the course of a competition and has the discretion to decide the dispute on a case-by-case basis, except if the dispute relates to the Competitions Representative, then see regulation 14.4.
- 14.3. The Competitions Representative must advise the President as to any disputes or complaints that arise.
- 14.4. Where the dispute relates to the Competitions Representative, the dispute must first be brought to the Competitions Representative in an attempt to find a mutually satisfactory resolution.
- 14.4.1. If the aggrieved party is dissatisfied with the Competitions Representative's decision or resolution, then they may appeal the decision or resolution to the President.
- 14.4.2. If the Competitions Representative is dissatisfied with the President's decision or resolution, then the dispute may be brought before the Committee.

15. AMENDMENTS

- 15.1. The Competitions Representative has the discretion to amend these rules at any time.
- 15.2. If the rules are amended, the previous version shall cease to be in force from the day the amendment comes into effect.
- 15.3. This version comes into effect on 8 February 2021.

16. MISCELLANEOUS

16.1. Competitors, Judges and other participants agree that by participating in an NDLSS competition their photograph and image, including a video or audio recording may be taken, distributed or published by the NDLSS.

16.1.1. Competitors, Judges and other participants may request that their image not be used by emailing the Competitions Representative at competitions.ndlss@nd.edu.au.