



Queensland University of Technology Health Law Moot
Competition Rules 2024

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MOOT CONVENOR:

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1. Teams

- 1.1 Each team participating in the QUT Health Law Moot (“Moot”) must be composed of either two or three students. Teams with three students are encouraged to include all team members as oralists during the competition, although only two students from each team may speak in any individual moot.
- 1.2 All team members must read these competition rules carefully and are expected to be familiar with their contents. Participation in the Moot constitutes acceptance of the rules.

2. Written Submissions

- 2.1 Written submissions must be emailed to the Moot Convenor at james.duffy@qut.edu.au. These written submissions must be received by 5pm Monday 27 May 2024.
- 2.2 Written submissions must also be emailed to opposition teams in the preliminary rounds. A copy of the competition draw, and an email address for each team, will be made available to all teams in advance of the Moot.
- 2.3 Written submissions for the preliminary rounds must be emailed to opposition teams by 5pm on the day before a scheduled moot.
- 2.4 Late submissions will incur a 10% reduction in the overall team mark for a moot. The Moot Convenor has absolute discretion as to whether to apply any deduction in marks.
- 2.5 Submissions must be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, with page margins of 2.54 cm. Referencing should be done according to the AGLC4.
- 2.6 Written submissions must not exceed 3000 words, excluding footnotes. Footnotes must not include substantive material and are limited to citations only.
- 2.7 No list of authorities is required, but full citations must be provided in the written submissions.
- 2.8 Written submissions must be clearly labelled with the team’s number (as assigned by the Moot Convenor) and University included in the header of the document. Page numbers must be included in the bottom right-hand corner of the footer on each page.

2.9 Written submission file names must be saved as follows:

‘Team number. Applicant/Respondent (University)’

For example: 1. Applicant (Queensland University of Technology)

1. Respondent (Queensland University of Technology)

3. Oral Submissions

3.1 In each moot, each team will be represented by a Senior Counsel and a Junior Counsel. Speakers shall present in the following order:

- Senior Counsel for the applicant/s
- Junior Counsel for the applicant/s
- Senior Counsel for the respondent
- Junior Counsel for the respondent

3.2 Rebuttal and surrebuttal are permitted in this moot but are not mandatory. If the applicant (rebuttal) or respondent (surrebuttal) wish to engage in rebuttal/surrebuttal, they must inform the bench at the time of giving appearances.

3.3 Teams will have a total of 30 minutes in which to present their oral submissions (including rebuttal/surrebuttal). This time is to be divided approximately evenly (+/- two minutes) between the two speakers. Teams do not have to use the full 30 minutes allocated and will not be penalised if they speak for fewer than 30 minutes.

3.4 Judges may, at their discretion, grant an extension of time of up to two (2) minutes per speaker, provided that the teams request an extension of time from the bench in an appropriate manner.

3.5 Mooters may request to dispense with formal citations after providing at least one complete case citation.

3.6 Team members will be given a warning for their time to expire when:

- There is 5 minutes remaining.
- There is 1 minute remaining.
- Time has elapsed.

3.7 Moot mentors and coaches must not communicate in any way with team members while a moot is in progress.

3.8 During oral presentations, teams must not use any device to access the internet or to otherwise communicate with persons outside the moot court. Mobile telephones may be used only for the purpose of keeping time, but may be excluded at the discretion of the presiding judge(s).

3.9 During attendance and participation in the moot, all team members should appear in formal attire.

4. Coaching and Moot Mentors

4.1 Coaches and moot mentors may provide general direction, feedback and advice but are not to devise written or oral arguments for the team. Oral and written arguments are to be devised solely by team members.

4.2 Coaches and moot mentors may conduct practice moots.

4.3 Coaches and moot mentors are welcome to attend the Moot but may not view moots other than those in which their team is competing. The exception to this is the grand final Moot. Coaches and teams are also permitted to watch the quarter final and semi final moots if their university is no longer competing in the competition.

5. Collusion

5.1 No competitor is permitted to collaborate with any other team during the competition.

5.2 Penalties for breach of this rule are at the discretion of the Moot Convenor and may include:

5.2.1 A warning.

5.2.2 Penalties applied to moot performance scoring.

5.2.3 Disqualification.

6. Judging

6.1 Oral submissions will be judged in accordance with the score sheet, to be posted when the problem question is released.

6.2 Judges are encouraged to give feedback to teams at the conclusion of each round.

However, a failure to give reasons will not constitute grounds for appeal.

- 6.3 In the preliminary rounds, judges will not reveal the winner of each moot, or individual speaker scores.

7. Competition Format

- 7.1 There will be ‘preliminary rounds’ held at the Queensland University of Technology (Gardens Point Campus) from Monday 8 July to Thursday 11 July 2024.
- 7.2 Each team will moot the applicant side at least once and the respondent side at least once during the preliminary rounds.
- 7.3 The draw for the preliminary rounds will be provided in advance of the competition.
- 7.4 Teams will progress to the final rounds based on a cumulative point score in their preliminary round moots.
- 7.5 The Moot Convenor has absolute discretion to determine whether the teams will break to a quarter final, semi final, or grand final.
- 7.6 Teams will be allocated to represent either the applicant/s or respondent in each moot after the preliminary rounds. A coin toss will determine the applicant and respondent in each of the quarter finals, semi finals and grand final.
- 7.7 The semi finals and grand final will be held on Friday 12 July 2024.
- 7.8 The grand final will be decided by three judges, without reference to any previous round scores.

8. Best Speaker Prizes

- 8.1 The competition will award a *Best Speaker in the Grand Final*, chosen by the three judges based on mooter performance in the grand final. This prize cannot be shared.
- 8.2 The competition will award an *Overall Best Speaker*, based on the speaker scores during the preliminary rounds of the moot. This prize can be shared if the top speaker scores are tied.

9. Release of Marks

- 9.1 No win / loss result or individual speaker scores will be released at the conclusion of each preliminary round.

10. Queries About the Problem or the Rules

- 10.1 If a competitor has a question about the problem or the rules, they should make it known to the Moot Convenor by email.
- 10.2 Any requests for clarifications/corrections to the moot problem should be directed to the Moot Convenor before 5pm 29 April 2024 (Queensland time). Requests should note the paragraph number/s to which they relate and explain why the requested information is expected to have legal significance for the problem. If any clarifications or corrections are deemed necessary by the Moot Convenor, these will be released on the moot website. The Moot Convenor will not respond individually to any requests for clarifications or corrections.

11. Disputes and Appeals

- 11.1 Any dispute in relation to a breach or alleged breach of these rules will be finally and conclusively resolved by the Moot Convenor.
- 11.2 There will be no appeals from the decisions of judges except in the case of an obvious typographical or transcription error in the score sheet. In particular, there will be no appeals on grounds of merit, unreasonable decisions, or lack of reasons given for decisions.