

Rules of the American Moot Court Association

As Revised August 10, 2023

ARTICLE 1: ELIGIBILITY AND DEFINITIONS

1.1.1 School eligibility.

Any college or university offering a course of studies leading to a bachelor's degree may become a member of the American Moot Court Association (AMCA) and register teams to participate in AMCA tournaments.

1.1.2 Schools with multiple campuses.

If a school has multiple campuses that grant separate degrees, each degree-granting campus shall be considered a separate school. If multiple campuses do not grant separate degrees, the multiple locations shall collectively be considered one school. However, if two member schools are consolidated and maintain separate campuses, they may petition the AMCA Executive Board to continue to participate as two separate schools.

1.1.3 School membership.

(A) Schools are required to renew their membership annually with the AMCA and pay an annual membership fee set by the AMCA Executive Board. Membership information shall be available on the AMCA web site, and the application for membership and payment of fees shall be completed online before the school may register for any AMCA sponsored tournaments. To complete the membership application schools must provide a school authorization letter as described in (B) and registered contact person's contact information as described in 1.1.4.

(B) To be a recognized member of the AMCA, each school must provide an authorization letter annually. That letter must contain the following components.

- (1) The letter shall be printed on the official letterhead of the school.
- (2) The letter shall indicate the school's authorization for moot court teams to register and participate in sanctioned tournaments.
- (3) The letter shall indicate the signer's willingness to serve as the contact person for the team (unless they are also electing to designate an alternate contact person as discussed in 1.1.4, whereby the signer elects to only be the point of contact for major violations or grievances involving the school's moot court teams).
- (4) The letter shall indicate the school's assumption of responsibility for the conduct of the school's moot court teams and its participants, including any fees and penalties incurred.
- (5) The letter shall have a handwritten signature of the signer, which is then scanned and submitted with registration. The letter shall have a date indicating when the letter was signed, which must be within 30 days of receipt by the AMCA.
- (6) The letter must contain the contact person's current email address, office telephone number, cell phone number and mailing address

(C) The letter must be signed by:

- (1) an administrator of the school or an academic unit or office thereof, including but not limited to titles of president, vice president, chancellor, provost, dean, department chair, and assistants and deputies thereof; a full-time faculty member of the school; a professional staff member of a school's student affairs or student organization office; or an employee of the school holding a position or title substantially equivalent to any of the positions in this section.
- (2) The letter may not be signed by: a part-time faculty member, adjunct faculty, instructor, lecturer, or other equivalent titles; a person not employed by the school or a

person employed by the school but not permitted to act on its behalf; a person who is an undergraduate or law student at the school and does not hold any of the credentials in (B) sub. 2.

As the Primary point of contact, the signer agrees to check email during tournaments where teams are competing.

(D) The annual school membership fee shall be waived for any school sponsoring an AMCA Regional Tournament in that academic year. The other school membership requirements, including submission of the school authorization letter and providing the contact person's contact information shall not be waived. They must be submitted before the sponsoring school can register for any AMCA sponsored events.

Note to Rule 1.1.3: The Executive Board has established an annual membership fee of \$50 per school. The Executive Board will designate a Board member to consider fee waiver requests for new member schools. The other school membership requirements, including submission of the school authorization letter and providing the contact person's contact information shall not be waived. They must be submitted before the new school can register for any AMCA sponsored events

1.1.4 Primary contact person required.

Each member school shall designate a primary contact person. The school may request that the designate a contact person be someone other than the signatory on the authorization letter. The designated [alternate] contact person may not be a student (undergraduate or otherwise). The alternate contact person's title/position and relationship to the school must be set forth so that AMCA can determine eligibility. If a school wishes to designate an alternate contact person, the school must receive prior approval from the AMCA. The school's authorization letter must acknowledge that the alternate contact person is approved and authorized by the school. This letter must be signed by the appropriate administrator as defined by 1.1.3.B Sub 2. At the time of registration, the school shall provide the contact person's current email address, office telephone number, cell phone number(s), and mailing address on the annual membership form. The AMCA shall only send official communications to and accept official communications from a school's primary contact person. Member schools are responsible for notifying the AMCA of changes regarding their primary contact person. All changes in primary contact person must be initiated through a letter from the appropriate administrator as defined by 1.1.3.B Sub 2.

1.1.5 Responsibilities of the primary contact person.

The primary contact person shall be a person with general day-to-day responsibility for all the school's moot court teams, including registering teams for tournaments and paying all fees. The primary contact person is responsible for ensuring that the school's moot court team complies with the rules and policies of the AMCA as well as with all the member school policies, such as prohibitions against discrimination and harassment, that apply to student groups. The primary contact person agrees to check email during tournaments where teams are competing

1.1.6 Selection of the primary contact person.

Each school shall designate the primary contact person who will be responsible for all teams competing from that school. The AMCA shall not intervene in internal school disputes regarding designation of the primary contact person or regarding which teams are authorized to represent a particular school. The administrative authorities of each school shall determine the primary contact person for their institution and determine what teams are officially sponsored by that school.

1.2.1 Team.

A team consists of two undergraduate students, "attorney-contestants," enrolled in a degree program at an

accredited institution of higher education.

1.2.2 Hybrid teams.

The general rule is that a team may consist only of eligible students from a single member school. However, a hybrid team, which is a team composed of students from two different member schools may be allowed to participate if:

(A) The primary contact persons for the two member schools successfully petition the AMCA President to be permitted to form a hybrid team to compete in Regional Tournaments. The deadline for such petitions is October 15th.

(B) Or, the AMCA Regional Tournament Representative authorizes the participation of a hybrid team in a tournament in order to replace a student or team that cannot participate due to illness, an emergency, or failure to appear at the tournament.

1.2.3 Eligibility.

Part- or full-time students are eligible to compete in national tournaments for a five-year calendar period commencing at the first entry of the student into any regional or national tournament held by AMCA. Students enrolled in a graduate program of studies, such as a J.D. program, are **not eligible** to compete in AMCA tournaments. Students with a baccalaureate degree who are enrolled in other baccalaureate programs but who are not seeking and have not earned a professional or graduate degree may continue to compete in moot court competitions, if their school permits such competition. The Tournament Director or AMCA Representative may request proof of “undergraduate status” from contestants, and may determine a team ineligible to compete.

1.2.4 Dual-enrollment high school students.

Dual-enrollment high school students may not participate in AMCA tournaments, absent approval from both the college/university in which they are dually enrolled and AMCA. The five-year calendar limit on eligibility described in Rule 1.1.2 applies to dual-enrollment students.

1.2.5 Use of ineligible team members.

Any team that knowingly uses an ineligible person as a member will be subject to sanctions under Article 9 below. Challenges based on the ineligibility of an opposing team member must be made to the AMCA Representative before or after a hearing, but not to a Judge and not during a hearing.

1.3.1 Hearing.

A hearing consists of forty (40) minutes total of oral argument, including questioning of judges, of both Petitioner and Respondent teams. Each team is permitted a maximum of twenty (20) total minutes.

1.3.2 Time constraints.

Each team may divide their time as they wish with the following constraints:

(A) Both Petitioner and Respondent must state how they will divide their time before the beginning of the round.

(B) Each individual speaker must present a minimum of seven (7) minutes of oral argument, including questioning.

(C) With the exception of Petitioner’s rebuttal, each speaker has only one opportunity to present an argument. The required order is: first speaker for Petitioner; second speaker for Petitioner; first speaker for Respondent; second speaker for Respondent; opportunity for Petitioner’s rebuttal.

(D) Petitioners may reserve, before the round begins, a maximum of three (3) minutes of “rebuttal” from their twenty (20) minute total. Respondents may not be given time for a rebuttal.

(E) Only one team member may deliver the rebuttal, but the name of the speaker doing rebuttal need not be identified at the beginning of the round.

Note to Rule 1.3.2: Since the AMCA scoring guidelines state that teams must make full use of their allotted time, teams that reserve time for rebuttal and then fail to give a rebuttal may be penalized in scoring.

1.3.3 No new constitutional issues in rebuttal.

Petitioner may not introduce new constitutional or legal issues in the rebuttal unless responding to a judge's question that introduces a new constitutional or legal issue.

Note to Rule 1.2.3: Since the AMCA scoring guidelines state that Petitioner may not introduce new constitutional or legal issues in the rebuttal, teams that do so may be penalized in scoring.

1.4.1 Types of tournaments.

The AMCA recognizes Invitational, Regional and National Tournaments (see Article 4 below).

1.4.2 Invitational Tournaments.

Any school that wants to sponsor an Invitational Tournament must first ask the President of the AMCA for permission to use the AMCA Case Problem. However, the AMCA does not sanction Invitational Tournaments, and the sponsors of Invitational Tournaments may depart from the rules specified in this document subject to the agreement of the participating teams.

1.4.3 Regional Tournaments.

A Regional Tournament consists of:

(A) a minimum of three (3) "preliminary hearings," during which teams of contestants argue in behalf of both Petitioner and Respondent, and

(B) at least four (4) "Elimination" hearings, which are used to determine the First Place team. The Tournament Director may organize additional "Elimination" hearings.

1.4.4 Accreditation.

All Regional Tournaments are established and accredited by the Executive Board of the AMCA and shall follow the Code of Professional Conduct and Decorum (Article 2) and all AMCA Tournament Rules.

1.5.1 Tournament Director.

A Tournament Director is any faculty or staff member at an accredited American college or university, or an attorney or other person designated by the AMCA who organizes an inter-collegiate undergraduate tournament authorized by the President for Invitational Tournaments or by the Executive Board of the AMCA for the Regional and National Tournaments.

1.5.2 Responsibilities of the Regional Tournament Director.

The Tournament Director is responsible for tournament registration, securing the necessary rooms and equipment, recruiting judges and timekeepers, providing awards, providing meals for competitors, and submitting the AMCA share of registration fees to the AMCA Treasurer.

Note to Rule 1.5.2: If the regional tournament must be held virtually, the regional tournament director will work with the AMCA as these events will be hosted on an AMCA sanctioned Zoom account. Following registration, regional tournament directors will receive the names of competitors from the AMCA. The regional tournament director will be responsible to enter this information into the AMCA scoring system, set the pairings for the event, and assign the judges to each round. The pairings and the list of judges assigned must be sent to each round to the AMCA no later than two days prior to the regional to allow for

the data input needed for tournament setup.

1.6.1 AMCA Representative at Regional Tournaments.

The AMCA Executive Board shall assign an AMCA Representative to each Regional Tournament.

1.6.2 Responsibilities of the AMCA Regional Representative.

The AMCA Representative is responsible for enforcing AMCA rules and resolving problems and conflicts, providing judges' orientation, entering teams and scores into the AMCA scoring system, and forwarding the results of the tournament to the AMCA President and Tabulation Director.

1.7.1 Coach.

A Coach is the contact person for the school as defined in 1.1.3 B Sub 2. An undergraduate may not under any circumstances serve as a coach. All materials and correspondence from the AMCA and Tournament Directors shall be sent to the designated Coach only.

1.7.2 [Deleted]

1.7.3 Number of coaches.

The Coach as defined in 1.7.1 is responsible for managing all correspondence with the AMCA and Tournament Directors, and for confirming scores and representing the school's teams to the tournament officials. Although a school may use the coaching services of any number of additional faculty, staff members and attorneys before or during tournament competitions (except during a hearing as specified in Rule 3.11 below), the Tournament Director or AMCA Representative has the authority to ask coaches to clear the tab room if necessary for entering scores, copying ballots, or settling disputes.

ARTICLE 2: CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND DECORUM

2.1 Ideals of the AMCA.

The ideals of fair play, civility, and professionalism shall guide the conduct of all participants—including students, coaches and judges—throughout all moot court activities including, but not limited to tournament hearings, breaks between hearings, organizational meetings, and team practices.

2.2 Integrity.

Participants shall strive to exemplify the highest ideals of the legal profession, to maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct, and to achieve excellence and integrity.

2.3 Courtesy.

Courtesy toward opposing team members, judges, tournament officials, coaches, and one's own team members is expected of all participants.

2.4 Demeaning, harassing, or disruptive behavior.

Participants shall not engage in any behavior designed to demean, harass or embarrass any other participant or solely to garner notoriety or publicity for themselves or their school.

2.5 Abiding by the rules.

All participants in moot court, including students, coaches and judges, are expected to abide by the rules as established in this document. Failure to conform to the rules may lead to a loss of points or sanctions under Article 9 below.

ARTICLE 3: TOURNAMENT RULES

3.1 Application of rules.

All the rules in this section apply to any Regional Tournament sanctioned/accredited by the AMCA and the AMCA National Tournaments.

3.2.1 Registration required.

Teams must register and remit the required registration fees by the dates posted by the AMCA in order to be eligible to participate in the tournament. Registration dates are set by the AMCA. In the first round of registration, each school may register up to five teams. The following weeks, in rounds two and three, another five teams each week may be registered. In round four, all remaining spots are available on a first come, first served basis. Although each Regional Tournament Director will establish the deadline for registration for her/his Regional Tournament, the final deadline for registration for all AMCA Regional Tournaments shall not be later than November 1.

3.2.2 Registration fees.

The AMCA shall set the registration fees for Regional Tournaments. The AMCA is also responsible for collecting and forwarding to the Regional hosts all registration fees that are established by the Executive Board.

3.3 Team identification.

Each team shall be assigned a team number by the Tournament Director or AMCA Representative. Teams may not be identified or identify themselves by institutional affiliation.

Note to Rule 3.3: For virtual tournaments, students must rename their Zoom screen name to match the name and team number for that tournament (for example, John Smith, team 101). Teams may not be identified or identify themselves by institutional affiliation. Nothing in the background can show any university affiliation.

3.4.1 Timekeeping.

Prior to the beginning of each round, each team shall indicate to the timekeeper and judges how it wishes to allocate its time (subject to the constraints in Rule 1.2.2 above).

3.4.2 Rebuttal.

Petitioners must reserve time for rebuttal before beginning their oral argument. The purpose of a rebuttal is to respond to the Respondent's arguments, and it is inappropriate for competitors to attempt to introduce new arguments during the rebuttal.

3.4.3 If there is no official timekeeper.

If there is no timekeeper to monitor time, and there is no other individual in the courtroom whom the judges can appoint as timekeeper, each team shall keep time for the opposing team.

Note to Rule 3.4.3: Virtual tournaments may use a clock or timer on screen in place of a traditional timekeeper. If no timekeeper is available, each team shall keep time for the opposing team. Screen sharing

is not allowable unless serving as a bailiff for time keeping purposes. Under no circumstances should a judge serve as timekeeper.

3.4.4 Timekeeping procedures.

Timekeepers shall display time cards so that they are visible to the attorney-contestant who is presenting oral argument and to the panel of judges. At the end of the time allocated for each attorney-contestant, the timekeeper shall announce “time” so that the attorney-contestant and judges will know that time has expired.

Comment to Rule 3.4.4. Although Tournament Directors shall attempt to recruit timekeepers for all hearings, there will be hearings in which teams must keep time for their opponents. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that their teams are familiar with the rules regarding allocation of time and experienced in keeping time. The Tournament Director shall provide a watch or timer that allows for accurate timekeeping.

Note to Rule 3.4.4: Virtual tournaments may use a clock or timer on screen in place of a traditional timekeeper. If no timekeeper is available, each team shall keep time for the opposing team. Under no circumstances should a judge serve as timekeeper.

3.4.5 Timekeeping signals at the National Tournament.

Timekeepers at the National Tournament shall display time cards at minute intervals, beginning one minute into each speaker’s argument and ending with a “30 second” warning card and a “Stop” card.

Note to Rule 3.4.5: Failure to receive proper time warnings does not constitute grounds for an appeal.

Note to Rule 3.4.5: Virtual tournaments may use a clock or timer on screen in place of a traditional timekeeper. If no timekeeper is available, each team shall keep time for the opposing team. Under no circumstances should a judge serve as timekeeper.

3.5 Use of notes and visual aids.

Attorney-contestants may use notes at any time during the hearing. No presentation devices or exhibits of any kind may be used in oral argument. Attorney-contestants may not submit a written brief to the judges.

3.6 Extension of oral argument.

Judges may permit a brief extension of oral argument if an attorney-contestant’s time is exhausted while she is answering a judge’s question and she requests such an extension. Outside this exception, attorney-contestants shall stop when their time is up.

3.7 Critique.

After hearing arguments of both teams, judges should, if time permits, offer evaluations of performance in a short “feedback” period.

3.8 Competitions are open to the public.

All hearings shall be open to the public. However, the Chief Justice may clear the courtroom so that judges may enter and calculate their scores at the end of a hearing.

Note to Rule 3.8: Due to technological limitations, virtual tournaments will not be open to the public.

3.9.1 Scouting.

“Scouting” is defined as gathering information about opponents in the AMCA Regional or National

Tournaments for competitive advantage.

3.9.2 Observation of teams from other schools is scouting.

No person, including coaches, students, parents and other spectators, who is affiliated with any team or school may watch or listen to any oral argument other than one involving the team or school with which he or she is affiliated until all teams from that school have been eliminated from the tournament.

3.9.3 No note taking during rounds.

The attorney-contestants may take notes when they are participating in oral argument. However, during rounds, parents and other spectators may not take notes, regardless of who is presenting. Notes may be taken during the oral critique following the hearing. Coaches may attend and take notes during rounds except as prohibited by Rule 3.9.2.

3.10.1 Video and audio recording at Regional and National Tournaments.

No video or audio recording by schools, teams, parents or other spectators is permitted at the Regional and National Tournaments.

3.10.2 Recording by the AMCA is permitted.

The Championship Round and other rounds may be videotaped, photographed or otherwise recorded by the AMCA at the Regional and National Tournaments. A student's decision to enter and participate in the tournament constitutes consent to videotaping, photography or other recording, unless state law imposes stricter requirements. Videos, photographs and audio recordings may be posted on one of the AMCA's websites, used in print publications, or otherwise distributed by the AMCA.

3.10.3 Recordings of Regionals may not be distributed until the National Tournament has ended.

No video or audio recordings of any rounds at Regional Tournaments may be posted on the web or otherwise distributed until the National Tournament has ended.

3.10.4 Recording by the News Media.

The news media may, with the permission of the AMCA or Tournament Director, videotape, record, or photograph during hearings at any sanctioned tournament. By competing in a sanctioned tournament, each participant grants the right to have the participant's likeness and recording used for media purposes, unless state law imposes stricter requirements.

Note to Rule 3.10.4: Due to technological limitations, virtual tournaments will not be open to the media.

3.10.5 Exceptions.

Any exception to these rules on video and audio recording at the Regional and National Tournaments must be approved by both participating teams and by the AMCA or Tournament Director.

3.10.6 Video and audio recordings of other teams may not be distributed.

No team or school may post on the web or otherwise distribute the video or audio recordings of another team or school's arguments without their prior permission to do so.

3.11.1 Use of cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices by participants.

Cell phones, laptops, tablets and other electronic communication devices are prohibited at the counsel table at AMCA Regional and National Tournaments.

Note to Rule 3.11.1: Virtual tournaments will be conducted on Zoom. Students may participate using either a computer or tablet (however a Chromebook is not compatible with this technology and cannot be used). Cell Phones remain prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to communications with the tournament host. Technological problems should be addressed to the tournament host.

3.11.2 Electronic devices in the courtroom.

Students, parents and other spectators must turn off all electronic devices present in the courtroom during all preliminary and elimination rounds at AMCA Regional and National Tournaments. Coaches may use electronic devices providing that they are not disruptive and they do not violate AMCA rules against scouting and recording.

Note to Rule 3.11.2: Virtual tournaments will be conducted on Zoom. Only competitors, judges, bailiffs, and coaches may log in to the virtual rounds. Judges must have their video and audio on at all times. All other participants in the round must turn on video and mute audio unless speaking or on a shared device.

3.12 No substitutions.

A team of the same two attorney-contestants must represent the Petitioner and/or the Respondent for every hearing of the Tournament. Substitutions are not permitted once the Tournament begins. If a team member is unable to complete the competition, that team will forfeit their next round.

3.13 No coaching during hearings.

Coaches must not contact or attempt to contact by any means, whether personally or through another person, directly or indirectly, verbally or nonverbally, a member of a team during a hearing.

3.14 Closed problems.

The problems presented for the AMCA Tournament are closed problems. Students may discuss cases outside the Table of Authorities **solely to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the official cases**. Judges are to be informed to deduct points as a penalty for use of prohibited materials.

Comment to Rule 3.14. For example, if a case is simply included in a string quotation, that case cannot be discussed unless the student says that this case of X v. Y was cited by the court in [official case within the record] to support its holding. Any detailed discussion of the facts or reasoning of X v. Y would be inappropriate unless those matters specifically appear in the official case.

3.15 Bench briefs.

The AMCA may distribute bench briefs to judges for the purposes of briefing them on the constitutional issues presented in the problem. Students are not to have access to the bench brief. Students with such access are subject to disqualification.

Note to Rule 3.15. The Executive Board has authorized that coaches shall have access to the bench brief on the password protected Coaches Blog on the AMCA website.

3.16 Judges' decisions final.

All decisions of the Judges regarding scoring are final subject to the certification of the ballots by the AMCA Representative or Tournament Director (if she or he is an AMCA Executive Board member) and, in the case of the National Tournament, by the Tournament Administration Committee. In case of an incomplete or unclear judging form, the AMCA Representative or Tournament Director (if she or he is an AMCA Executive Board member) shall have the final determination.

3.17 Rules Specific to Virtual Tournaments.

(A) Use of the chat function in Zoom will be enabled but is limited to essential communication with tournament officials. No other use of the chat function is allowed.

(B) Based upon individual circumstances, students are permitted to compete from different locations or in a single space sharing a computer screen. However, only one student may appear on the screen at a time.

(C) As virtual backgrounds will not work with all computers, competitors are not permitted to use this feature.

(D) Participants must use the gallery view in Zoom during all competitions.

(E) Competitors must download and use the Zoom App for competitions.

(F) Students may not receive outside assistance from anyone during the competition rounds.

(G) Should a judge lose connectivity and be unable to complete the round, the remaining judge(s) ballots will be counted to determine the outcome of the round.

(H) Given that connectivity issues for participants may occur, judges should use their discretion in addressing minor issues. Delays longer than a few minutes should be addressed to the tournament officials.

ARTICLE 4: TOURNAMENTS

4.1.1 National Tournament.

The Executive Board of the AMCA shall establish the location and date of the National Tournament(s).

4.1.2 Bids to the National Tournament.

Teams must qualify to compete in the National Tournament(s) by competing for and winning a bid at a Regional Tournament sanctioned by the AMCA.

4.1.3 Number of bids.

The AMCA Executive Board determines the number of bids to the National Tournament(s).

Note to Rule 4.1.3. The current policy established by the Executive Board sets a total of 128 bids to the Preliminary Rounds of the National Tournament. The top 8 teams from each preliminary round tournament will then form the 32 team final round of the National Tournament, taking into account the school bid limitations imposed under Rule 4.1.7.

4.1.4 National tournament bid criteria.

The Tournament Administration Committee shall allocate automatic bids to the top teams competing in each of the AMCA sanctioned Regional Tournaments. At each Regional, the top 25% of teams will automatically qualify for the Preliminary Round of the National Tournament.

4.1.5 Determination of qualifying teams.

The teams that finish highest in the elimination rounds of each Regional Tournament will qualify for the National Tournament according to a percentage determined by the Executive Board. In cases where the percentage of qualifying teams exceeds the winners of a particular elimination round, the remaining qualifying teams will be selected from the teams that had lost in the preceding round on the basis of ballots won (as formulated in Rule 5.3 and Appendix D) in both the preliminary rounds and the elimination rounds beginning with the round of 16. In the case of a tie, the first tie breaker shall be opponent strength followed by point differential.

Comment on Rule 4.1.5. For example, if 10 teams were supposed to qualify at a Regional Tournament according to the percentage announced by the Tournament Administration Committee, the 8 teams that finished in the quarterfinals or above would automatically qualify. The remaining 2 qualifiers would be selected from the 8 teams that lost in the round of 16 based upon the total of their ballots won in the preliminary rounds and the round of 16.

4.1.6 Allocation of remaining bids.

The Tournament Administration Committee shall allocate any remaining bids (beyond the bids automatically allocated to the Regionals) on the basis of the total ballots won by teams in their regional preliminary and elimination rounds. In case of a tie, the first tiebreaker is that teams from schools that already have qualified teams for the tournament will be passed by in favor of selecting teams from schools that have no teams that have already qualified for the tournament. The second tiebreaker is regional strength.

4.1.7 Limit on teams from a single institution.

Only twelve teams from a single institution may qualify for competition in the Preliminary Rounds of the National Tournament. Only four teams from a single institution may qualify for competition in the Final Round of the National Tournament.

4.1.8 Receipt and return of tournament bids.

Schools that qualify teams to the National Tournament(s) must notify the AMCA President to certify their acceptance of the bids, and they must follow all instructions to complete registration forms and pay registration fees by the established deadline. Any team that does not inform the President of their intention to accept their bid and/or fails to return its registration form and fees by the date specified forfeits its bid.

4.1.9 Declined National Tournament bids.

The Tournament Administration Committee shall be responsible for the reallocation of declined and forfeited bids on the basis of the procedure stated in Rule 4.1.5 above. When a bid is declined or forfeited, a bid shall be offered to the next eligible team in the Regional Tournament from which the original bid was declined or forfeited. In order to be eligible for a national bid, a team must have a score of at least four ballots. If the next team from the Regional Tournament does not have four ballots, the bid shall be offered to the next eligible team at another Regional Tournament assigned to the same Preliminary Round of the National Tournament. In the case of a tie on the total number of ballots won, the first tie breaker shall be regional strength, followed by opponent strength, then point differential. If there are no teams at another Regional Tournament assigned to the same Preliminary Round of the National Tournament with at least four ballots, the bid shall be offered to the next eligible team at a Regional Tournament assigned to a different Preliminary Round of the National Tournament based on the number of ballots won. In the case of a tie on the total number of ballots won, the first tie breaker shall be regional strength, followed by opponent strength, then point differential.

4.1.10 Substitutions.

If both members of a team that has received a bid are unable to compete at the National Tournament, the bid is forfeited and will be reallocated by the Tournament Administration Committee. If one member of a team that has received a bid is unable to compete due to medical or academic reasons, a substitution is allowed subject to the prior approval of the Tournament Administration Committee. If a substitution is necessary, the team shall retain its seeding.

4.1.11 Seeding at the National Tournament.

The Tournament Administration Committee shall be responsible for seeding the teams that qualify based

upon their performance at the Regional Tournaments. Regional Tournament Champions shall be seeded first, following the same criteria used to rank the remaining teams. Teams shall be seeded according to the following criteria: 1) total number of ballots won in elimination and preliminary rounds; 2) regional strength determined by the ballot variance; 3) combined strength; and 4) point differential. If this formula results in a seeding tie, the tiebreaker shall be a coin flip.

4.2.1 Regional Tournaments.

Regional Tournaments are those qualifying tournaments that are recognized and supported by the Executive Board of the AMCA. Each year the Executive Board shall establish a deadline by which all Regional Tournaments are held.

4.2.2 Location and dates.

The Executive Board of the AMCA shall establish the location and dates of Regional Tournaments. The locations and dates of the Regional Tournaments shall be posted on the AMCA website.

4.2.3 [deleted]

4.2.4 Team limits.

There are no limits on the number of teams that a school may register for regional competition. Although schools may enter teams in any Regional Tournament (subject to space limitations to be set by the Regional Tournament Director), no individual may enter more than one Regional Tournament in a given year. Only twelve teams from an institution may qualify for the preliminary round of the National Tournament. If more than twelve teams from the same school earn bids, the school may determine which twelve teams will represent it. Only four teams from an institution may qualify for the final round of the National Tournament.

4.2.5 Unaffiliated teams.

A team comprised of members of two different schools (hybrid) shall be considered unaffiliated for purposes of team limits and same school restrictions. The formation of a hybrid team must be approved by one of the procedures set out in Rule 1.2.2 above.

4.3 Invitational Tournaments.

An Invitational Tournament is an intercollegiate moot competition sponsored by a college, university, law school, or bar association and recognized by the AMCA. The President has the authority to recognize new Invitational Tournaments and to appoint their Tournament Directors. Each year, the President shall issue a report on Invitational Tournaments to the Executive Board of the AMCA.

4.4. Oral Arguments and Brief Writing.

All tournaments must include Oral Arguments, but there is only one brief writing competition that is sanctioned by the AMCA. Written briefs may not be submitted at Invitational or Regional Tournaments. Any pair of students eligible to participate under Article 1.2.3 is eligible to participate in the National Brief Writing Competition, which is separate from the Oral Argument Competition at the National Tournament. Information on the National Brief Writing Competition shall be posted on the AMCA website. See Appendix B for the Brief Writing Competition Rules, Brief Writing Competition Certification Form, and the official AMCA Brief Writing Judging Form.

4.5 Withdraw Penalties for AMCA Tournaments.

AMCA Regional tournaments determine bids to the pre-National and National Championship Tournament (NCT). Regional registration numbers are used to ensure balanced competitions and to set the percentage

of teams that advance to the NCT.

Given the need for reliable information regarding registration numbers at regional tournaments, the AMCA will impose a penalty on schools that drop teams close to the start of a regional tournament.

4.5.1 Withdrawal penalties for regional tournaments.

Penalty Structure. Late cancellation and/or failure to appear at a regional tournament, without good cause, will subject a school to the following penalties:

(A) \$50 for teams that drop within 14 days of the start of the tournament, but more than 7 days before the start of the tournament;

(B) \$100 for teams that drop within 7 days of the start of the tournament, but more than 48 hours before the start of the tournament;

(C) \$200 for teams that drop within 48 hours of the start of the tournament, but more than 24 hours before the start of the tournament;

(D) \$250 for teams that drop within 24 hours of the start of the tournament, but before the start of the tournament;

(E) \$300 for teams that drop after the start of the tournament, that fail to show for the tournament, or that leave the tournament early without permission of the AMCA Representative.

While substitutions will still be allowed (see Rule 4.1.10) if within the same competition season, if an institution has more than one team drop from a regional tournament less than seven days before it is scheduled to start, students from that institution will not be allowed to participate in the following competition season.

Failure to pay the above fines by September 1 will ensure that students from that institution will not be allowed to participate in the upcoming competition season.

4.5.2 Definition Of “Start Time.”

The start time of a tournament is deemed to be the start of the check-in/registration period. For example, if a regional tournament’s check-in period begins at 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on November 15, a team would have to cancel by 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on November 1 to avoid any penalty.

4.5.3 Appeal Of Penalty.

The Competition Issues/Appeals committee may consider appeals of penalty assessments and may waive or reduce fines if it determines that extraordinary circumstances are shown as to the school’s failure to timely communicate withdrawal of its team(s) and/or that sufficient steps have been taken by the school to prevent the actions that resulted in the fine being incurred from reoccurring. Extraordinary circumstances are a determination to be made at the discretion of the Committee but may include serious illnesses, canceled flights/accommodations, and sudden deaths of close family members.

4.5.4 Withdrawal penalties for the championship series.

Penalty Structure. The following penalties shall be assessed to each school that returns a previously accepted bid, fails to appear at a championship series tournament, or leaves a championship series tournament early:

(A) \$50 for each team that drops 7 or more days before the start of the tournament to which it

accepted a bid;

(B) \$150 for each team that drops less than 7 days but at least 72 hours before the start of the tournament;

(C) \$250 for each team that drops less than 72 hours but at least 48 hours before the start of the tournament;

(D) \$350 for each team that drops less than 48 hours but at least 24 hours before the start of the tournament;

(E) \$500 for each team that drops less than 24 hours before the start of the tournament, or fails to appear at the tournament, or leaves the tournament early without permission of the AMCA Representative.

While substitutions will still be allowed (see rules 4.1.10) if within the same competition season, an institution has more than one team drop from a regional tournament less than seven days before it is scheduled to start, students from that institution will not be allowed to participate in the following competition season.

Failure to pay the above fines by September 1 will ensure that students from that institution will not be allowed to participate in the following competition season.

4.5.5 Definition Of “Start Time”.

For the purposes of assessing penalties under this Rule, the start time of a tournament is deemed to be the start of the check-in/registration period. For example, if a tournament’s check-in period begins at 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on January 14, a team would have to cancel by 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on January 7 to receive the lowest penalty.

4.5.6 Appeal Of Penalty.

The Competition Issues/Appeals Committee may consider appeals of penalty assessments and may waive fines if the reasons for failing to comply with this Rule are extraordinary. Extraordinary circumstances are a determination to be made at the discretion of the Committee but may include serious illnesses, canceled flights/accommodations, and sudden deaths of close family members.

4.5.7 Procedure For Drops.

To properly withdraw a bid after acceptance, a team must notify both the tournament host and the Tournament Administration Committee Chair. The time of notification of withdrawal does not occur until both parties are notified.

ARTICLE 5: JUDGING CRITERIA

5.1 Scoring system.

All tournaments sanctioned by the AMCA shall use the 400-point scoring system outlined on the AMCA Official Ballot (Appendix A).

Note to Rule 5.1: The AMCA will use a modified ballot for virtual competitions.

5.2 Scoring based on presentation.

Oral arguments shall be scored on the basis of quality of presentation, not on the merits of the case.

5.3 The AMCA scoring system is standardized to two ballots.

The scores for each preliminary hearing are calculated in a manner that assumes there are TWO ballots. Thus, in three preliminary rounds, the maximum score a team can attain is 6-0, or 6 ballots; and the worst

record is 0-6, or 0 ballots. Ties count as .5 ballots. The scoring system tabulates a team's score based upon the portion of the ballots that it actually receives from the number of judges assigned to a particular hearing as indicated in the Calculation Sheet (see Appendix D). As Rule 6.1.4 indicates, teams in the preliminary rounds will be ranked by ballots won.

5.4 Brief writing competition.

The National Brief Writing Competition shall be scored using the nine criteria summarized on the AMCA Brief Writing Evaluation Form (Appendix B). Rule 3.14 applies to the Brief Writing competition: "The problems presented for the AMCA Tournament are closed problems. Students may discuss cases outside the Table of Authorities solely to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the official cases." See Appendix B for the Brief Writing Competition Rules, Brief Writing Competition Certification Form, and the official AMCA Brief Writing Judging Form.

ARTICLE 6: TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS

6.1.1 Regional Tournaments: Preliminary rounds.

The Regional Tournaments shall consist of at least three preliminary rounds of competition in which all teams compete. Each competing team shall represent each side of the case with the scoring system algorithm used to randomly assign which team represents Petitioner and Respondent in the third round. If there are four preliminary rounds, then each team represents each side twice.

6.1.2 Pairings at Regional Tournaments.

Teams shall present Oral Arguments before different Judges in each round, and no two teams shall be paired for more than one hearing during the preliminary rounds.

6.1.3 Same school constraint.

Teams shall be randomly paired against other teams except that teams from the same school should not be paired during the preliminary rounds at Regional Tournaments if possible. It is permissible for a team to face a different team or teams from the same school.

6.1.4 Advancing to elimination rounds.

Teams shall advance to the elimination rounds based upon the number of ballots won in the preliminary rounds as calculated by the formula in Rule 5.3. In the event of a tie on these criteria, strength of opposition, overall point differential, and other criteria used by the AMCA scoring system shall determine which team advances.

6.1.5 Number of teams that break.

Regional Tournaments must break at least 16 teams unless granted an exemption by the Executive Board of the AMCA.

6.1.6 Ties in Regional Tournament elimination rounds.

All panels of judges in elimination rounds should, if possible, be made up of at least three judges and should consist of an uneven number of judges. If the outcome of an elimination round results in a tie, the victory will be awarded to the team with the higher seed (based upon record, strength of opposition, overall point differential, and other criteria used by the AMCA scoring system). However, pursuant to Rule 3.16 above, an AMCA Representative or Tournament Director (if she or he is an AMCA Executive Board member) may ask a judge for clarification of her ballot if a tied ballot is the consequence of an incomplete or unclear judging form.

Note to Rule 6.1.6: The AMCA judges' orientation includes a strong recommendation that judges avoid tied ballots and select a winner when completing ballots in elimination rounds. However, pursuant to Rule 3.16, a judge's decision is final, and a Regional Tournament Director or AMCA Representative does not have the authority to force judges to change their ballots to avoid ties.

6.1.7 Breaking brackets.

In all Regional Tournaments, brackets shall NOT be broken to prevent teams from the same school from competing during the elimination rounds.

6.2.1 The National Tournament(s): Preliminary rounds.

The National Tournament(s) shall consist of at least three preliminary rounds of competition in which all teams compete. Each competing team shall represent each side of the case with the scoring system algorithm used to randomly assign which team represents Petitioner and Respondent in the third round. If there are four preliminary rounds, then each team represents each side twice.

6.2.2 Pairings at the National Tournament(s).

Teams shall present Oral Arguments before different Judges in each round, and no two teams shall be paired for more than one hearing during the preliminary rounds.

6.2.3 Pairings in preliminary rounds.

In the first round, teams shall be paired against other teams using a formula based upon their regional record and regional tournament strength based on regional variance subject to the constraint listed below in 6.2.4.

6.2.4 Same school constraint.

No team shall face another team from the same school in a preliminary round at the National Tournament(s).

6.2.5 Advancing to elimination rounds.

Teams shall advance to the elimination rounds based upon the total ballots from the preliminary hearings. In the event of a tie, strength of opposition, overall point differential, and other criteria used by the AMCA scoring systems shall determine which team advances.

6.2.6 Number of teams that break.

A minimum of sixteen teams shall advance to the elimination rounds at the National Tournament(s). All teams that finish with at least 3 ballots (according to the formula in Rule 5.3) or with a 2-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds shall advance to the elimination rounds.

6.2.7 Brackets.

Teams in the elimination rounds shall be paired according to a "brackets" scheme such that the highest scoring team shall be paired against the lowest scoring team in the eliminations, and so forth.

6.2.8 Breaking brackets.

In all National Tournaments, brackets shall NOT be broken to prevent teams from the same school from competing during the elimination rounds.

6.2.9 Coin toss.

In elimination rounds at Regional Tournaments and National Tournament(s), competing teams shall determine which team represents Petitioner and Respondent using a coin-toss procedure unless the two

teams have already met in the preliminary rounds of the same tournament. If two teams were previously matched in the preliminary rounds, they will switch sides (from Petitioner to Respondent and from Respondent to Petitioner) in the elimination round in which they are matched again.

6.2.10 Ties in elimination rounds at the National Tournament(s).

All panels of judges in elimination rounds will, if possible, be made up of at least three judges and will consist of an uneven number of judges. If the outcome of an elimination round results in a tie, the victory will be awarded to the team with the higher seed (based upon record, strength of opposition, overall point differential, and other criteria used by the AMCA scoring system). However, pursuant to Rule 3.16 above, the Tournament Administration Committee may ask a judge for clarification of her ballot if a tied ballot is the consequence of an incomplete or unclear judging form.

Note to Rule 6.2.10: The AMCA judges' orientation at the National Tournament includes a strong recommendation that judges avoid tied ballots and select a winner when completing ballots in elimination rounds. However, pursuant to Rule 3.16, a judge's decision is final, and the AMCA does not have the authority to force judges to change their ballots to avoid ties.

ARTICLE 7: TOURNAMENT JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

7.1.1 Judges.

Judges for tournaments may be recruited by the Tournament Director from local bar associations, institutional moot court and law school alumni, or any other reasonable source. Tournament Directors shall make every effort to recruit at minimum two individuals to act as Judges for each hearing.

7.1.2 Preparation of Judges.

The Tournament Director and AMCA Representative are responsible for ensuring that Judges are instructed regarding the Tournament Rules and the scoring system. The Tournament Director shall provide Judges with copies of the case problem and bench briefs (if available) in advance of the tournament. The AMCA Representative shall provide a judges' orientation that summarizes AMCA rules and scoring.

7.1.3 Coaches as Judges.

Whenever there are insufficient Judges to provide adequate Judges for a round of competition, the Tournament Director and AMCA Representative may recruit Coaches to serve as Judges. When Coaches serve as Judges, they may not judge any oral arguments involving their own teams. Coaches who serve as Judges shall set aside any partisan interests and shall be fair and reasonable in presiding and scoring as Judges.

7.2 Officials.

Every tournament shall have a Director. At the National Tournament the President of the AMCA shall act as Tournament Director. The Tournament Director may recruit such other officials as are needed to assist with the smooth operation of the tournament.

7.3 Tabulation of scores.

All AMCA sanctioned tournaments shall use the official AMCA scoring system. The AMCA Representative shall supervise the input of the data into the scoring system to ensure accuracy and fairness.

7.4 Verification of scores.

At the conclusion of the preliminary rounds, a summary of the data inputted as well as the win/loss decision of each round shall be made available to the Coaches for inspection. Where paper ballots are used, coaches shall have the opportunity to match the score sheets against the data input to ensure that no errors were made prior to the assignment of the next round. Teams without Coaches shall not have access to this material, but they may request that a Coach review their scores for possible errors.

7.5 Announcement of scores.

All scores shall be kept confidential. Only the tabulators, Coaches, and the tournament officials shall have access to ballots. Announcement of scores to student-competitors shall be made only after all ballots have been entered and verified for accuracy.

7.6 Distribution of score sheets.

At the conclusion of the Tournament, the Tournament Director and AMCA Representative shall provide copies of the score for all the teams from each school to the Coach of that school.

ARTICLE 8: TOURNAMENT FACILITIES

8.1 Facilities.

The Tournament Director shall provide facilities that are adequate for the tournament. Each hearing shall be held in a separate room. The tournament host is responsible for providing lecterns or podiums, time cards, and timers or watches for all rooms where hearings are held.

Note to Rule 8.1: Virtual tournaments will be conducted on an AMCA sanctioned Zoom platform

8.2.1 Handicap accessibility.

The AMCA is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities at its Regional and National Tournaments.

8.2.2 Request for accommodation due to physical disability.

Any member institution requesting special accommodations for one of its students must submit specific, written information to the Tournament Director at the time of registration or as soon as is practicable thereafter if a student's situation changes. This information should include: 1) the specific nature of the disability, 2) the specific functional limitations of the student, and 3) the specific accommodation that is requested.

8.2.3 Provision of accommodation.

The AMCA or the Tournament Director may provide the accommodation recommended, or such other accommodation that it/he/she deems reasonable to address the identified functional limitation. Coaches may appeal the decision of a Regional Tournament Director to the Executive Board of the AMCA. Any accommodations provided will be with the intent to provide an equal but not advantageous opportunity for the student to compete and is not intended to alter the fundamental nature of the activity of moot court.

ARTICLE 9: RULE VIOLATIONS

9.1.1 Complaints and sanctions.

As specified under Rule 3.16, all decisions of the Judges regarding scoring are final. If a team believes that an opposing team has violated the Tournament Rules, such as by utilizing material from cases outside

the Table of Authorities, it is the responsibility of that team to bring such a violation to the attention of the Judges during the course of oral argument. The Judges shall deduct points for any rule violation as they deem appropriate.

9.1.2 Egregious violations.

A Coach may file a complaint of an egregious violation of the Tournament Rules (defined in 9.1.3 below) with the AMCA Representative or Tournament Director (if she or he is an AMCA Executive Board member). The AMCA Representative is empowered to meet with the Coaches of the teams involved in the complaint and to seek a mutually satisfactory resolution of the complaint.

9.1.3 Definition of egregious violations.

Violations of the rules that are sufficiently egregious to warrant AMCA sanctions include, but are not confined to, the following:

- (A) Coaching during a hearing.
- (B) Physical or verbal abuse of any participant, including students, coaches, judges and tournament officials.
- (C) Destroying or defacing an opponent's notes or other property.
- (D) Using an ineligible person as a team member.

These examples are not intended to provide an exclusive list of egregious violations, but rather are intended to serve as a guide for participants. However, minor, inadvertent or harmless rule infractions shall not be used as a means to gain strategic advantage or to harass an opponent.

9.2.1 Sanctions at AMCA Regional Tournaments.

If informal resolution of a claimed rule violation is not possible and the complaint involves egregious conduct, the Regional Tournament Director, the AMCA Representative, or a Coach may file a written appeal documenting the violation in question to the Executive Board of the AMCA. The Executive Board of the AMCA may, by a majority vote, sanction a student, team or coach for an egregious violation of the rules. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to the following:

- (A) verbal or written warning
- (B) loss of seeding
- (C) loss of individual or team awards
- (D) exclusion of an individual, team, coach or observer from further attendance at, or participation in the next National Tournament, or
- (E) exclusion of an individual, team, coach or observer from future participation in AMCA Regional Tournaments.

9.2.2 Sanctions at the AMCA National Tournament(s).

If informal resolution of a claimed rule violation is not possible and the complaint involves egregious conduct, the President of the AMCA may, in consultation with and the agreement of at least two members of the Executive Board not involved in the complaint, impose sanctions on the offending team. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to the following:

- (A) verbal or written warning
- (B) loss of points
- (C) loss of individual or team awards
- (D) re-argument of a particular hearing before a new panel of judges, or
- (E) exclusion of an individual, team, coach or observer from further attendance at, or participation in, the current tournament. In addition, by a majority vote of the entire Executive Board of the AMCA, a team may be excluded from future participation in AMCA sanctioned tournaments.

ARTICLE 10: AMCA PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

10.1.1 Executive Board.

The AMCA shall be governed by an Executive Board of Directors.

10.1.2. Legislative authority.

The Executive Board has the legislative authority to establish and amend the Rules of the AMCA, including the basic rules of conduct, tournament procedures, scoring system and all other rules and practices.

10.1.3 Amending the rules.

Amending the AMCA Rules shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the Executive Board who are present.

10.1.4 Quorum.

One-half of all the members of the Executive Board must be present or represented in order for the Board to conduct official business or to vote on changes in the Rules of the AMCA.

10.1.5 Tournament dates and locations.

The Executive Board has the authority to establish the date and location of the National Tournament and the dates and locations of all sanctioned Regional Tournaments.

10.1.6 Executive Board membership.

The Executive Board has the authority to elect new members of the Executive Board.

10.1.7. Nomination and election of members.

All candidates for the Executive Board must complete the AMCA Board of Directors Candidacy Application form. The AMCA Nominating Committee shall select from these applicants a slate to nominate for Board membership, and the nominees shall be elected to the Executive Board by a majority vote of the Board. New members of the Board shall be elected to one-year terms. Thereafter, Board members will typically serve three-year terms, and must reapply at the end of a term, using the AMCA application form, and be reelected by a majority vote of the Board.

10.1.8 Same-school limitations.

Colleges and universities may have no more than one voting member on the AMCA Executive Board.

10.1.9 Executive Board meetings.

The Executive Board shall meet bi-annually: in January before the National Tournament and during the summer at a time and location established by the Executive Board. The President of the AMCA has the authority to call additional meetings of the Executive Board.

10.1.10 No voting by proxy or electronic participation.

Members of the Executive Board who cannot attend a biannual meeting in person may submit their views on agenda items in writing, but voting by proxy or electronic participation through Skype or other means is not permitted.

10.2.1 Executive Cabinet.

The Executive Board of Directors will continue to make decisions for the organization at its biannual meetings whereas the executive cabinet will, in the interim, assume responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the organizations. The Executive Cabinet shall consist of the following positions:

- (A) President
- (B) Vice President
- (C) Treasurer
- (D) Secretary
- (E) Chairs of the tabulation, rules and case committees

10.2.2 Responsibilities of the Executive Board of Directors.

Each board member will serve on at least two of the committees below.

(A) Tournament Administration (chaired by the President)—oversees the administration of the national tournaments in both oral argument and brief writing. This committee will oversee the planning and execution of the events as well as the selection of teams to the national oral argument competition.

(B) Case Problem—shall develop ideas for competition problems, shall formulate the case problem for the next year and present it to the Board of Directors for discussion, revision, and a vote of approval. The committee shall further ensure that the problem is ready for publication no later than May 1 each year.

(C) Rules—shall receive and consider all proposals for changes in the AMCA Rules, shall periodically review the Rules, and shall make recommendations for rule changes at the bi-annual meetings of the Executive Board.

(D) Host communication and recruitment (chaired by the Vice-President)—shall recruit hosts for regional and national tournaments. This committee will also communicate information to the various hosts each year from the Board of Directors and shall receive the results and tabulations from hosts following the conclusion of each competition.

(E) Alumni and Development (chaired by the Treasurer)—shall foster and cultivate an active community of AMCA alumni to ensure opportunities for alumni to contribute, both in time and resources, to the organization. This committee shall also pursue philanthropy, grants, and other funding opportunities.

(F) Website administration/outreach/member communications (chaired by the Secretary)—shall review and provide content for the AMCA website and shall oversee the communications between the AMCA Board of Directors and the membership at large.

(G) New school recruitment, Board membership recruitment, Mentorship, and academics—shall lead the drive to bring additional participating schools and board members into the organization. This committee shall additionally provide mentorship to new programs to ensure the opportunity for success in moot court is available to all. Finally, this committee will provide resources for AMCA members who wish to create moot court course and curricula, to conduct research on moot court, and to serve as liaisons to member institutions.

(H) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion—shall ensure fair treatment, equality of opportunity, and fairness in access to information and resources for all in an environment built on respect and dignity for all. The committee shall strive to build a culture of belonging by actively inviting the contribution and participation of all people.

(I) Legal affairs—shall review existing AMCA policies and procedures and recommend additions or changes to policies to ensure the AMCA is in compliance with all federal and state laws.

(J) Judge orientation/recruitment—shall maintain a database of judges who have volunteered at

past regional and national tournaments. This committee shall further assist hosts in the recruitment of judges as needed.

(K) Tabulation and Technology—shall maintain, review, and update the AMCA scoring system and other technology as appropriate. The committee shall further collect and disseminate scoring and rankings from the national tournaments.

(L) Competition Issues/Response—while competition issues will continue to be handled at each competition by the assigned AMCA representative, in consultation with the President, this committee shall handle any appeals from the judgements made at competitions. This committee shall also be tasked with enforcing the AMCA rules and imposing sanctions on programs which violate the letter and/or spirit of the AMCA rules.

(M) Committee rules:

- (1)** No board member may serve on more than three committees at a time
- (2)** No board member may chair more than one unless approved by the executive committee
- (3)** Chairs of each committee will be selected by the President, in consultation with the executive cabinet
- (4)** Chairs serve a one-year term which is renewable
- (5)** Committee service would be evaluated by the cabinet annually.

10.2.3 Emeritus Members of the Board of Directors.

Past Board members who have retired or are unable to travel to attend meetings or tournaments are eligible for the status of Emeritus board member.

Emeritus board members are permitted to participate in discussions, virtual meetings, and serve on committees but are a non-voting member of the board of directors.

10.3.1 Executive Board of Directors Member Qualifications, Duties and Responsibilities.

The AMCA is governed, organized and run by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for all aspects of the AMCA tournament structure, case materials, rules, and other operations of the American Moot Court Association. All members of the Board of Directors are volunteers. Members of the AMCA Board of Directors are not compensated in any way for their time as it relates to fulfilling their duties as a member of the Board.

Qualifications: Members of the AMCA board must be current or retired faculty members at an AMCA member institution or a member of the bar in good standing. Candidates must wait at least three years beyond the awarding of an undergraduate degree to apply for membership.

Board of Directors duties and responsibilities:

The members of the Board of Directors of the AMCA, who serve without salary or compensation, shall promote and represent the goals and values of the AMCA. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Provide general assistance at the national tournament(s);
- Serve as AMCA Regional Tournament Representatives, to assist in the tabulation of scores at tournaments, and to generally assist the Tournament Director with tournament administration;
- Recruit new schools to participate and mentor such programs;
- Engage in outreach activities that promote the goals and programs of the AMCA;
- Attend the in-person bi-annual AMCA Board meetings;
- To discuss vigorously and advocate forcefully in board meetings, but then be able to act as a unified team in implementing the decisions of the board;

- Serve on AMCA committees;
- Put the goals and values of the organization above their partisan team interests
- Approve new members of the Board of Directors;
- Approve the AMCA annual budget;
- Approve the annual selection of the case problem;
- To serve with a high degree of integrity and civility.

10.4.1 Officers of the AMCA.

(A) The **President** of the AMCA shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the organization. The President shall be elected, for a three-year term, by majority vote of the Board of Directors of the AMCA.

- Serve as chief executive officer of the AMCA and as the public face of the organization;
- Lead the Executive Cabinet in overseeing the day to day operations of the organization;
- Convene monthly meetings of the Executive Cabinet;
- Chair the Tournament Administration Committee and supervise the allocation of bids to the National Tournament;
- Collaborate with the host of the National Tournament to organize and serve as Tournament Director of the National Tournament.

(B) The **Vice President** of the AMCA shall serve as a member of the Executive Cabinet. The Vice-President shall be elected, for a three-year term, by majority vote of the Board of Directors of the AMCA.

- The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence or incapacitation of that officer;
- Participate in monthly meetings of the Executive Cabinet;
- Chair the Host Recruitment and Communication committee;
- Promote the expansion of the American Moot Court Association by working with prospective member schools, established member schools, institutions that currently host AMCA tournaments, and potential new hosts for invitational, regional and national tournaments.

(C) The **Recording Secretary** of AMCA shall serve as a member of the Executive Cabinet. The Secretary shall be elected, for a three year term, by majority vote of the Board of Directors of the AMCA.

- Chair the Website administration/outreach/communications committee;
- Maintains and publicizes an annual calendar of key deadlines and events;
- Recording the minutes of the Executive Cabinet and Board of Directors meetings;
- Providing all members with an up-to-date list of the members of the Board of Directors;
- Maintaining the files of the Board of Directors, including its minutes, reports, and other records.

(D) The **Treasurer** of AMCA shall serve as a member of the Executive Cabinet. The Treasurer shall be elected, for a three year term, by majority vote of the Board of Directors of the AMCA.

- Chair the Alumni and Development committee;
- The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the finances of the AMCA;
- Issuing bi-annual financial reports to the Board of Directors;
- Maintaining the organization's bank account, scholarship funds, and investments;
- Collecting annual membership and tournament fees;
- Overseeing the yearly reporting and filing of AMCA's business documents to relevant state and

federal agencies.

(E) The **Executive Cabinet** of the AMCA shall consist of the four principal officers and the chairs of the two tabulation, rules, and case committees.

- The Executive Cabinet shall meet monthly (either virtually or in-person) and conduct the day to day activities of the organization.
- The Executive Cabinet shall coordinate the Invitational and Regional Tournaments and ensure that these tournaments conform to the rules and procedures of the AMCA;
- Release the case problem once it has been approved by the Case Committee and the Board;
- Maintain and update a website devoted to the AMCA;
- Direct outreach activities that promote the goals and programs of the AMCA;
- Issue an annual report on Invitational Tournaments and Regional Tournaments;
- Approve the formation of hybrid teams for participation in regional tournaments;
- Maintain the historical records of the AMCA;
- Supervise the task of writing a new problem;
- And call special meetings or conferences of the Board of Directors when necessary.
- The President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Cabinet and vote only in the case of a tie.

APPENDIX A

AMCA APPROVED JUDGING FORM FOR ORAL ARGUMENTS

AMERICAN MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION

Official Ballot

Prelim I

Prelim II

Prelim III

Round 16

Quarter

Semi

Final

Judge Name: _____

Time: _____ Room: _____

Please read the guidelines on the back which correspond to specific content areas before filling out your ballot.

Petitioner Team # _____

Respondent Team # _____

Petitioner #1 Name _____

Respondent #1 Name _____

Score 100 points for each content area
400 points maximum for each speaker

*Score 100 points for each content area
400 points maximum for each speaker*

_____ Knowledge of Subject Matter (0-100)

_____ *Knowledge of Subject Matter (0-100)*

_____ Response to Questions (0-100)

_____ *Response to Questions (0-100)*

_____ Forensic Skill & Courtroom Demeanor (0-100)

_____ *Forensic Skill & Courtroom Demeanor (0-100)*

_____ Organization, Logic & Clarity of Argument (0-100)

_____ *Organization, Logic & Clarity of Argument (0-100)*

_____ **#P1 TOTAL POINTS**

_____ ***#R1 TOTAL POINTS***

Comments:

Comments:

Petitioner #2 Name _____

Respondent #2 Name _____

Score 100 points for each content area
400 points maximum for each speaker

*Score 100 points for each content area
400 points maximum for each speaker*

_____ Knowledge of Subject Matter (0-100)

_____ *Knowledge of Subject Matter (0-100)*

_____ Response to Questions (0-100)

_____ *Response to Questions (0-100)*

_____ Forensic Skill & Courtroom Demeanor (0-100)

_____ *Forensic Skill & Courtroom Demeanor (0-100)*

_____ Organization, Logic & Clarity of Argument (0-100)

_____ *Organization, Logic & Clarity of Argument (0-100)*

_____ **#P2 TOTAL POINTS**

_____ ***#R2 TOTAL POINTS***

Comments:

Comments:

Total Petitioner Team Points: _____

Total Respondent Team Points: _____

(both speakers #P1 & #P2)

(both speakers #R1 & #R2)

Scoring Guidelines
American Moot Court Association

Scoring Advocates:

Please score each speaker on a 100-point scale for each of the four different categories described below. Excellent advocates should earn the equivalent of an A (90-100), good advocates should earn a B (80-89), satisfactory advocates should earn a C (70-79), and poor or unsatisfactory advocates should earn a D or F (0-69). Accurate scores assist us to distribute orator awards and rank teams.

Knowledge of Subject Matter (100-point scale)

- Demonstrates thorough knowledge of the record
- Directs the Court to important points in the record
- Clearly identifies and focuses on the central constitutional issue
- Understands relevant constitutional doctrines and applies them clearly
- Demonstrates thorough knowledge of the cases in the Table of Authorities
- Provides case citations to support arguments
- Only uses cases outside the Table of Authorities solely to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the official cases.

Response to Questioning (100-point scale)

- Does not evade the Court's questions and answers questions clearly
- Answers questions with authority, identifying relevant rules and/or case names
- Fits relevant questions into overall analysis and presentation
- Makes clear transition back to argument after answering a question
- Listens carefully to the Court's questions
- Answers questions directly, starting with "Yes, Your Honor" or "No, Your Honor"
- Addresses questions posed by the Court to opposing counsel
- Uses questions to advance an argument by connecting responses to larger issues

Forensic Skills and Courtroom Demeanor (100-point scale)

- Demonstrates proper respect and courtesy toward the Court and opposing counsel
- Projects an image of professionalism in appearance and presentation
- Begins presentation with "May it please the Court," stays within the time limits, and ends with a specific conclusion
- Maintains eye contact and talks to the Court in a conversational manner rather than reading from notes
- Uses correct pronunciation and grammar, uses appropriate vocabulary, and avoids distracting "ahs," "ums," or "ers"
- Speaks in a conversational but formal style, with good inflection and clear voice
- Exhibits a professional stance at the podium and uses gestures effectively and appropriately for appellate argument

Organization, Logic and Clarity of Argument (100-point scale)

- Provides brief overview or "road map" of argument
- Presentation is well organized and focused on the constitutional question certified by the Court
- Clearly distinguishes central from marginal issues
- Arguments are clear and direct
- Central issues are clear to the Court when the advocate finishes
- Respondent does respond to the constitutional and legal arguments presented by petitioner
- Petitioner, in rebuttal, addresses and rebuts the constitutional and legal arguments presented by respondent
- Petitioner does NOT introduce new constitutional or legal issues in the rebuttal

APPENDIX B:

BRIEF WRITING COMPETITION

The AMCA National Brief Writing Competition is separate from the Oral Argument Competition at the National Tournament. Any two-person team meeting eligibility rules for the American Moot Court Association (AMCA) may participate.

AMCA BRIEF WRITING COMPETITION RULES

AMCA BRIEF WRITING COMPETITION CERTIFICATION FORM AMCA

APPROVED JUDGING FORM

AMERICAN MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION

BRIEF WRITING COMPETITION RULES

(Updated September 8, 2021)

AMCA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Any team meeting eligibility rules for the American Moot Court Association (AMCA) may participate. The Brief Writing Competition is held in conjunction with the AMCA National Tournament but is not required in order to compete in oral argument.

The AMCA Brief Writing Competition is open only to undergraduate students who are currently enrolled in a baccalaureate program. Anyone who has earned a graduate degree or is currently enrolled in a graduate program of studies, such as a J.D. program, is not eligible to enter the AMCA Brief Writing Contest.

SUMMARY OF RULES

The AMCA Brief Writing Competition shall be scored using the criteria summarized on the AMCA Brief Writing Evaluation Form available at the AMCA website. The problems presented for the AMCA Tournament are closed problems. Students may discuss cases outside the Table of Authorities solely to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the official cases.

All teams submitting written briefs are expected to rely upon their own research and originality of thought in preparing their briefs. Teams may not seek *any* assistance from other students, from their professors and coaches, from tutors or writing centers, or from any attorneys, law professors or other sources.

The brief shall be a written argument reflecting the issues to be decided by the Court for the problem posted at the AMCA website. **A team or individual may submit only one brief: either a brief for Petitioner or a brief for Respondent.**

Each team shall submit to the AMCA the original copy of its brief. The original shall be submitted electronically in PDF format. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

Each brief shall, without exception, be limited to TWENTY (20) double-spaced 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages, with printed matter (excluding page numbers) not to exceed 6 1/2 x 9 inches. The typeface/font used must be Times New Roman and 12-point font. This twenty (20) page limitation shall include only the argument itself and the conclusion (i.e., the cover page, questions presented, table of contents, table of authorities, statement of the case, summary of the argument and appendices are not included in the twenty (20) page limit).

Except to the extent that the Rules herein are inconsistent, the Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States shall govern the format of the briefs. A formal statement of jurisdiction, however, will not be required. All citations shall be complete and in the form prescribed by *A Uniform System Of Citation* (most recent edition).

A team number assigned by the AMCA will be added to each brief as it arrives.

NOTE: The name of the undergraduate college or university, the names of the team members, or the geographical region SHALL NOT appear anywhere on the brief. Briefs shall not be signed, and no information (real or fictional) serving to identify a team or team member shall appear on or within the brief itself.

Failure to conform to the provisions of these rules will result in reduction of a team's brief score by twenty points. Egregious violations will result in disqualification.

Brief Writing scores will not be considered in judging oral argument.

ATTACHMENT CERTIFYING ORIGINAL WORK

All briefs must include a statement by members of each team certifying that the brief submitted for the competition is their work alone, and that no outside assistance from attorneys or faculty was used. The certification form is to be separate from the PDF file of the brief, but must be attached to the same email as a PDF file. Briefs submitted for this competition must be original work and may not have been used, in whole or in part, in any other competition.

SERVICE OF BRIEF

Each team shall serve the original copy of its brief, to be RECEIVED by the AMCA ON OR BEFORE NOON (12:00 p.m. Eastern Time), December 13, 2021.

All briefs must be submitted electronically as a PDF file. The email address for submissions is:

FitchburgStatemootcourt@gmail.com

No brief will be considered which is not received by noon (12:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on Monday, December 13, 2021. Failure to file a timely brief will result in automatic disqualification from the Brief Writing competition. Briefs may not be revised or amended after they are served. No supplemental briefs will be accepted.

AMCA Brief Certification Form

This completed certification form must be submitted in the same email as your written brief, but as a separate PDF document.

AMCA Eligibility Requirements

The American Moot Court Association (AMCA) Brief Writing Competition is open only to undergraduate students who are currently enrolled in a baccalaureate program. Anyone who has earned a graduate degree or is currently enrolled in a graduate program of studies, such as a J.D. program, is not eligible to enter the AMCA Brief Writing Contest.

Summary of Rules

The AMCA Brief Writing Competition shall be scored using the nine criteria summarized on the AMCA Brief Writing Evaluation Form available at the AMCA website. The problems presented for the AMCA Tournament are closed problems. Students may discuss cases outside the Table of Authorities solely to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the official cases. Students may not seek any outside assistance in writing the briefs that they submit to the AMCA.

Student Certification

We, the authors of this brief, certify that we have not received any outside assistance in writing the brief that we are submitting to the AMCA Brief Writing Competition.

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Printed name: _____ Printed name: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

School: _____ School: _____

Eligibility Certification

[To be completed by your coach, pre-law advisor, or other professor or administrator at your school.] I certify that the students listed above are currently enrolled at this college or university.

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Email: _____

School: _____

This form must be scanned and emailed as a separate PDF document along with your brief. None of this information will be shared with the judges who evaluate your brief.

Judging Criteria for the AMCA Brief Writing Competition

I. Substance of the Brief:

A. Legal Argument and Analysis (100 Points Total):

- Identifies and focuses on relevant legal issues derived from the case problem
- Effectively utilizes legal rules, doctrines, and tests that are appropriate for addressing relevant legal issues, including accurately stating and explaining legal rules
- Legal analysis is persuasive, demonstrating logic, critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and intellectual rigor; arguments by analogy are clear and useful
- Successfully addresses “bad” facts and contrary law, distinguishing accurately where appropriate; identifies and defeats contrary arguments
- States clear conclusions regarding the application of legal rules, doctrines, and tests as applied to issues derived from case problem
- Establishes a clear theme for each issue that is argued consistently throughout all sections of the brief and helps the reader understand the argument

B. Use of Legal and Case Problem Resources (100 Points Total):

- Effectively uses cases in the provided Table of Authorities to advance, support, and focus arguments
- Includes all material facts; excludes extraneous facts
- Successfully and accurately uses facts to support and advance one’s position including but not limited to using any statutes/initiatives, statistics, and Appendices included in the record
- Utilizes cases outside the provided Table of Authorities only to the extent that they are quoted and cited within the provided cases
- Effectively engages the majority and dissenting opinions included in the record and addresses relevant legal strengths and flaws in lower court opinions provided in the case problem

II. Writing Quality:

A. Writing Style and Grammar (100 Points):

- Clearly and cogently expresses arguments, avoiding excess verbiage and unnecessary use of “legalese”
- Writing style, including word choice and sentence structure, make brief readable, engaging, and persuasive
- Sections, subsections, and paragraphs are written and organized to bring clarity to arguments
- Lacks grammatical and spelling errors and has correct capitalization.

B. Legal Writing Mechanics (100 Points):

- Organization and execution of various brief sections (i.e., the questions presented, table of contents, statement of the case, the summary of the argument, and

argument) demonstrate understanding of the purpose of each section and work together to produce a coherent argument

- Uses correct citation form (e.g., appropriate use of long cites, short cites, pin-cites, parentheticals, signals, italics), consistent with *A Uniform System of Citation*
- Headings are appropriate and effective
- Overall appearance of the brief, including proper cover page, margins, font, page numbering, and citations to the record, is appropriate for a legal brief submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States

APPENDIX C PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

The following procedural appendix is included as an aid in training teams for competition. Thus, most of the following points are recommended rather than required by AMCA rules. However, items in italics are mandatory as they are abstracted from the rules.

1.1 **General procedures.** As much as possible, moot court should resemble the form and procedures of an appellate court. Attorney-contestants should wear business apparel and always treat the court with respect. Attorney-contestants should avoid being overly aggressive in presenting their arguments and should never exhibit hostile behavior toward the court or to opposing counsel.

1.2 **Use of gestures.** Attorney-contestants should present their argument from behind the podium or lectern, and should avoid distracting gestures such as waving their arms or pounding the podium.

1.3 **Use of notes.** Attorney-contestants may use notes at any time during the hearing. However, they are encouraged to give their opening statements without notes and to minimize the use of notes at other times. Attorney-contestants should maintain eye contact with the Judges throughout their oral argument.

2 **Opening statement.** In their opening statement, attorney-contestants should state “May It Please the Court” and wait for an affirmation from the Court. The first speaker should introduce both him or herself and his or her teammate and should inform the court which question or issue each team member will address. The second speaker should also introduce him or herself to the court. The opening statement of each attorney-contestant typically provides a brief summary of the key points of argument to be presented or provides the court with a clear picture of the case.

3 **Statement of the facts of the case.** The first speaker for Petitioner should be prepared to provide a clear, concise statement of the facts. However, the statement of facts should be as short as possible to provide the factual context for discussing the legal and constitutional issues of the case. Sometimes the first speaker for Petitioner will simply ask the court if it wants a summary of the facts before moving to her main arguments. In general, Respondents should not provide a second statement of the facts, but Respondents may want to draw attention to some facts that they believe have been omitted or misrepresented by Petitioner.

4 **Presenting arguments.** Attorney-contestants should provide a “road map” of their overall argument, and they should start with their strongest points to ensure that they do

not run out of time without presenting their strongest points. In general, attorney- contestants should state their conclusions first and then provide the facts and law to support their conclusions. Attorney-contestants should provide case citations to support their arguments, but should avoid lengthy quotations from cases. Time permitting, each speaker should provide a summary of the arguments that integrates their main points into a coherent whole.

5 **Conclusion.** Attorney-contestants should conclude with a one-sentence request for relief and an "unamplified identification of the ground on which the relief would be based." A "prayer" is not a proper concluding request in the Supreme Court of the United States.

6 **Petitioner's rebuttal.** As specified in Rule 1.2.2, *Petitioners may reserve a maximum of three minutes of "rebuttal" from their twenty minute total.* As specified in Rule 3.4.1, Petitioners must make their request to reserve time for a rebuttal *prior to the beginning of each round.* The purpose of a rebuttal is to respond to the Respondent's arguments, and it is inappropriate to attempt to introduce new arguments during the rebuttal.

7 **Questioning by Judges.** In a typical hearing, attorney-contestants will not be able to present their arguments without frequent interruption by Judges' questions. When interrupted by a Judge's question, an attorney-contestant should stop speaking immediately and focus on understanding and replying to the Judge's question. When answering a Judge's question, the attorney-contestant should address the Judge as "Your Honor." Attorney-contestants should always attempt to provide clear and definite answers that address the Judge's concerns. Evasive answers tend to engender more pointed questions and to lower the attorney-contestant's scores. Unwillingness to answer a question will be interpreted as disrespect for the court. Once an attorney-contestant has answered a Judge's question, she should return to the presentation of her argument.

APPENDIX D

CALCULATION SHEET FOR TABULATING PRELIMINARY ROUNDS AT THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

If two judges:

Each judge's decision will count as an independent win, loss or tie based upon the criteria described in Article 5 above and be awarded the corresponding number of ballots.

If three judges:

A team would receive the following range of ballot: (win-loss-tie)

3 wins = 2 ballots (3-0-0 decision)

2.5 wins = 1.67 ballots (2-0-1 decision)

2 wins = 1.33 ballots (2-1 or 1-0-2 decision)

1.5 wins = 1 ballots (1-1-1 decision)

1 win = 0.67 ballots (1-2 or 0-1-2 decision)

0.5 win = 0.33 ballots (0-2-1)

0 wins = 0 ballots

If four judges:

(win-loss-tie)

4 wins = 2 ballots (4-0 decision)

3.5 wins = 1.75 ballots (3-0-1 decision)

3 wins = 1.5 ballots (3-1 or 2-0-2 decision)

2.5 wins = 1.25 ballots (2-1-1 or 1-0-3 decision)

2 wins = 1 ballot (2-2 or 1-1-2 decision)

1.5 wins = .75 ballots (1-2-1 or 0-1-3 decision)

1 win = .5 ballots (1-3 or 0-2-2 decision)

0.5 win = .25 ballots (0-3-1 decision)

0 wins = 0 ballots

If five judges:

(win-loss-tie)

5 wins = 2 ballots (5-0 decision)

4.5 wins = 1.8 ballots (4-0-1 decision)

4 wins = 1.6 ballots (4-1 or 3-0-2 decision)

3.5 wins = 1.4 ballots (3-1-1 or 2-0-3 decision)

3 wins = 1.2 ballots (3-2, 2-1-2, or 1-0-4 decision)

2.5 wins = 1 ballot (2-2-1, 1-2-3, or 0-0-5 decision)

2 wins = 0.8 ballots (2-3, 1-2-2, or 0-1-4 decision)

1.5 wins = 0.6 ballots (1-3-1 or 0-2-3 decision)

1 win = 0.4 ballots (1-4 or 0-3-2 decision)

0.5 win = 0.2 ballots (0-4-1 decision)

0 wins = 0 ballots

If six judges:

(win-loss-tie)

- 6 wins = 2 ballots (6-0 decision)
- 5.5 wins = 1.83 ballots (5-0-1 decision)
- 5 wins = 1.67 ballots (5-1-0 decision, 4-0-2 decision)
- 4.5 wins = 1.50 ballots (4-1-1 decision, 3-0-3 decision)
- 4 wins = 1.33 ballots (4-2-0 decision)
- 3.5 wins = 1.17 ballots (3-2-1 decision)
- 3 wins = 1 ballot (3-3-0 decision)
- 2.5 wins = 0.83 ballots (2-3-1 decision)
- 2 wins = 0.67 ballots (2-4 decision)
- 1.5 wins = .50 ballots (1-4-1 decision)
- 1 win = 0.33 ballots (1-5-0 decision)
- 0.5 win = 0.17 ballots (0-5-1 decision)
- 0 wins = 0 ballots (0-6 decision)

If seven judges:

(win-loss-tie)

- 7 wins = 2 ballots (7-0 decision)
- 6.5 wins = 1.86 ballots (6-0-1 decision)
- 6 wins = 1.71 ballots (6-1 or 5-0-2 decision)
- 5.5 wins = 1.57 ballots (5-1-1 or 4-0-3 decision)
- 5 wins = 1.43 ballots (5-2, 4-1-2, or 3-0-4 decision)
- 4.5 wins = 1.29 ballots (4-2-1, 3-1-3, or 2-0-5 decision)
- 4 wins = 1.14 ballots (4-3, 3-2-2, 2-1-4 or 1-0-6 decision)
- 3.5 wins = 1 ballot (3-3-1, 2-2-3, 1-1-5 or 0-0-7 decision)
- 3 wins = 0.86 ballots (3-4, 2-3-2, 1-2-4, or 0-1-6 decision)
- 2.5 wins = 0.71 ballots (2-4-1, 1-1-5, or 0-2-5 decision)
- 2 wins = 0.57 ballots (2-5, 1-4-2, or 0-3-4 decision)
- 1.5 wins = 0.43 ballots (1-5-1 or 0-4-3 decision)
- 1 win = 0.29 ballots (1-6 or 0-5-2 decision)
- 0.5 win = 0.14 ballots (0-6-1 decision)
- 0 wins = 0 ballots

If nine judges

(win-loss-tie)

9 wins = 2 ballots (9-0 decision)

8.5 wins = 1.89 (8-0-1 decision)

8 wins = 1.78 ballots (8-1-0 or 7-0-2 decision)

7.5 wins = 1.67 ballots (7-1-1 or 6-0-3 decision)

7 wins = 1.56 ballots (7-2-0 or 6-1-2 decision)

6.5 wins = 1.44 ballots (6-2-1, 5-1-3, or 4-0-5 decision)

6 wins = 1.33 ballots (6-3-0, 5-2-2, 4-1-4, or 3-0-6 decision)

5.5 wins = 1.22 ballots (5-3-1, 4-2-3, 3-1-5, or 2-0-7 decision)

5 wins = 1.11 ballots (5-4-0, 4-3-2, 3-2-4, 2-1-6, or 1-0-8 decision)

4.5 wins = 1 ballot (4-4-0, 3-3-3, 2-2-5, 1-1-7, 0-0-9 decision)

4 wins = 0.89 ballots (4-5-0, 3-4-2, 2-3-4, 1-2-6, or 0-1-8 decision)

3.5 wins = 0.78 ballots (3-5-1, 2-4-3, 1-3-5, 0-2-7 decision)

3 wins = 0.67 ballots (3-6-0, 2-5-2, 1-4-4, or 0-3-6 decision)

2.5 wins = 0.56 ballots (2-6-1, 1-5-3, or 0-4-5 decision)

2 wins = 0.44 ballots (2-7-0 or 1-6-2 decision)

1.5 wins = 0.33 ballots (1-7-1 or 0-6-3 decision)

1 win = 0.22 ballots (1-8-0 or 0-7-2 decision)

0.5 win = 0.11 ballots (0-8-1 decision)

0 wins = 0 ballots (0-9 decision)