

Mock Trial Competition 2022 Manual



Premium Partners





Government of Western Australia
Department of Justice

Student Access Partner

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WA Law School Partners







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Endorsed Programme

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) has recognised the Competition and approved it as a Community Endorsed Programme. Year 10, 11 and 12 students can gain up to 3 WACE units over a 3-year period for their participation in the Competition.

Students (including reserves) are issued with a Certificate. There are three types of certificates that can be issued:

- Mock Trial Competition Standard Level (equates to completing the first half of the competition 3 rounds against other schools.)
- **Mock Trial Competition Advanced Level** (equates to completing the first half of the competition and continuing to compete in at least one of the final rounds in Semester 2.)
- **Mock Trial Competition Participation** (equates to completing less than 3 rounds and is not WACE recognised.)

When schools have ascertained whether their students have met the requirements for either the Standard Level (PLSMTS) or Advanced Level (PLSMTA) of the Mock Trial Competition, they advise SCSA via an electronic data transfer from their school's information record system to the Authority's (SIRS).

- A student who attends a total of three rounds will achieve WACE accreditation in the Endorsed Programme.
- A student must attend at least four rounds in order to achieve WACE accreditation at the Advanced Level.

Attendance Rolls (WACE Endorsement Record)

Attendance Rolls are required for evidence of participation in the Endorsed Programme.

The Attendance Roll must be completed for each team and be signed by the facilitating teacher. The Mock Trial Coordinator shall collect the Roll on the evening of the trial. The Roll is used to prepare each student's Certificate. This follows SCSA's requirements for Community Endorsed Programmes. An Attendance Roll can be found in this Manual.

This Manual explains the rules and procedures used in the competition. Please read it carefully. If there are any areas which need clarification, please contact the Mock Trial Coordinator.

Direct Line: (08) 9324 8604

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Administration

Registration

Team registration is completed online by following the Registration link on the <u>Mock Trial</u> <u>Competition</u> page of the Law Society's website.

The Law Society will issue Certificates for students at the proper time. Please take care to enter the students' names accurately, as there may be a charge for reprints.

A Registration fee for each school team must be paid by credit card at the time of registration. A school may enter more than one team. Schools may enter more than 5 teams only by arrangement with the Law Society. See paragraph 3.1.8 for more details.

Upon registration, schools will receive a Tax Invoice Receipt.

If a school wishes to withdraw, it must do so within a week of registering to receive a refund.

Standard Rounds (Round Robin format)

ROUND 1 3 weeks during March

ROUND 2 3 weeks during May

ROUND 3 3 weeks during June

Finals Rounds (knockout format)

ROUND 4 July (16 teams progress = 8 trials)

ROUND 5 August (8 teams progress = 4 trials)

ROUND 6 September (4 teams progress = 2 trials)

GRAND FINAL October

Please refer to the Law Society's website for the complete Mock Trial Competition Calendar.



Rules

3.1 Entries and Teams

- 1. The Competition is open to secondary students in WA who are not older than 18 years of age as of 31 December of the year of the competition.
- 2. A team shall consist of at least **EIGHT** students and no more than twelve students. Each mock trial team has 6 active roles: Barrister x 2; Solicitor; Witness x 2; and Judge's Associate or Court Orderly. Teams must include up to 6 Reserves. This is to ensure there are no forfeitures due to illness. It is recommended that each Reserve **is** asked to prepare one of the 6 roles for the trial.
- 3. The names of all students in a team shall be entered at the time of registration.
- 4. If for any reason the number of students in a team falls below eight, special written application advising the name of the student withdrawing and the student to be included can be made to the Coordinator. The amendment to the team does not become valid until the Coordinator has given the school confirmation of acceptance of the change to the team.
- 5. Only those persons whose name appears on the original entry form, or who are accepted by the Coordinator pursuant to Rule 4, may participate in the Competition.
- 6. A student shall not be included in more than one team and students may not change from one team to another.
- 7. The Coordinator may reject any entry form or application to change students in a team.
- 8. A school may enter more than one team up to a suggested maximum of 5 teams.
 - Schools seeking to enter more than 5 teams must have first registered 5 full teams (10
 12 students in each team) in order to be eligible to register additional teams.
 - After registering 5 full teams the teacher then contacts the Coordinator to confirm that s/he wishes to register additional teams, and
 - that the additional teams have appropriate coaching or other supervision
 - the teams will endeavour to compete on the same night
 - The Coordinator confirms that 5 full teams have been registered and (balancing both the above issues and the aim of maximising participation) then grants permission for additional teams from that school to be registered

3.2 Arranging the Mock Trials

9. Mock trials take place at the Supreme Court of Western Australia, Stirling Gardens, Barrack Street, Perth and, if required, at the Mandurah Court House. Trials commence at 6pm at the Supreme Court and 5.30pm in Mandurah.



10. Schools will be asked to nominate at least 3 available dates for the first 3 rounds. The Mock Trial Coordinator will then allocate fixtures and listings and send these to all schools.

3.3 Conduct of the Mock Trials

- 11. The Attendance Roll, which serves as the WACE Endorsement Record (Appendix 1 of this Manual) must be completed and signed by the teacher and given to the Mock Trial Coordinator on the evening of the trial. All team members present, including reserves, are to be listed on the roll. The name of the Coach who assisted the team for the Round must also be listed on this document.
- 12. Teams must have at least four team members present within fifteen minutes of the scheduled commencement time. Failure to do so will mean the team forfeits that Round.
- 13. If a team has four members but less than six present on a night for the trial, that team may re-organise and include substitutes from their opponent team's reserves. Substitutes can be used for the trial, but those roles will not be awarded marks. The trial cannot commence until a full team is present. Teachers are urged to encourage their reserves to attend each trial.
- 14. If a student who is not a registered member of the team participates as a substitute, the teacher must inform the judge before the trial commences. This is because no points can be awarded for that role.
- 15. If the trial does not commence within fifteen minutes of the scheduled commencement time, the team responsible for the delay shall forfeit that round. Please refer to section 3.6.
- 16. A trial shall take no more than two and a half hours to complete. Therefore, the trial must be completed, and the court vacated by 8.30pm.
- 17. A warning bell (using a bell, or a spoon and glass, provided by the Prosecution/Plaintiff team) is to be sounded one minute prior to the end of each session of the trial by the Court Orderly. A second ring shall be sounded to signal the end of time allowed. Judges may at their discretion deduct points if team members go over time. Judges should not deduct points if a speaker finishes ahead of time unless they have not covered all of the material. Timekeepers are asked **NOT TO USE** mobile phones for time keeping.
- 18. Witnesses must not refer to any written material while giving evidence during the trial. If a witness forgets evidence contained in their statement, it is the responsibility of the barrister to ask questions to prompt the witness. No marks can be awarded to a witness who reads their statement or refers to their written statement during the trial.
- 19. The witnesses must disclose all of their witness statement. If they do not, the Judge shall read out what was not disclosed and adjust the score for that witness accordingly.



- 20. No notes or other written material may be taken into the witness box or handed to a witness, or passed from witnesses to barristers or solicitors, other than documents that are exhibits in the trial.
- 21. Closing addresses are to be prepared solely by the barristers and solicitor of the team. There is to be no discussion between the barristers and solicitor of each team with any other participants or spectators during the 10-minute adjournment to prepare their closing address.
- 22. No coach or teacher is permitted to prompt, coach or assist the students at any time during a mock trial. Failure to comply may disqualify that team from the Competition.
- 23. Teams are not to relay information between court rooms relating to the progress of argument in other courts occurring on the same night. This approach is not intended to prevent teams debriefing after their trial, but debriefing should only take place at the conclusion of all the hearings.
- 24. As far as practicable, all teams from the same school shall enact their trials on the same evening. School teams who are not competing on the night of the Competition but who will be appearing on a subsequent night using the same case materials must not attend an earlier trial in that Round as observers.
- 25. Only exhibits, documents and information contained in the case material are permitted to be entered into evidence. This modification is made because of the time limitation.
- 26. All exhibits provided in the case material are to be entered into evidence at the trial regardless of objections. An Exhibits List is to be compiled by the Judge's Associate.
- 27. Precedents other than those provided in the case material are not to be used.
- 28. All mock trials shall be conducted in accordance with the modified Rules of Evidence and the Procedures for Court Hearing contained in this manual.
- 29. All participants in this programme are expected to conduct themselves in a positive spirit. Students are involved principally for their enjoyment, and we hope they will accept results without undue disappointment. We ask students and teachers to recognise that judges and coaches give their time to this programme on a voluntary basis, and that without them the Law Society could not offer the programme. Do not approach a judge at any stage during or immediately after the trial unless in the spirit of appreciation.

3.4 Judging Criteria and Scoring

30. The mock trial shall be judged using the criteria set out in the scoring section of this manual and the Judges' Scoring Guide contained in this manual. We do our best to ensure that the scoring is as fair as possible. We brief all of our judges, and they receive the Scoring Guide in order to make it as objective as possible.



- 31. All points given or deducted are at the sole discretion of the Judge.
- 32. The Judge must determine a winner of each mock trial. No draws are allowed.
- 33. The decision of the Judge is final in all cases.

3.5 Competition Format and Points

- 34. The Competition is divided into seven rounds.
- 35. All teams participate in the first three rounds of the Competition.
- 36. In the first three rounds, competition points shall be allocated on the following basis:
 - 3 points for a win
 - 1 point for a loss
 - 0 point for a forfeit
 - A team forfeited to is awarded the 3 points
- 37. Upon the completion of the first three rounds, the 16 highest ranked teams progress to round 4. Where there is a tie for the final place or places, those places shall be given to the team with the highest percentage calculated by dividing the number of points scored in trials for the team, by the number of points scored in trials against the team.
- 38. Rounds 4, 5, and 6 shall be on a knockout basis with the winner of each mock trial advancing to the next round. Round 7 is the Grand Final and the winner shall be the outright winner of the Competition.
- 39. The fixtures for the Finals Rounds shall be arranged according to the diagram in this Manual.

3.6 Compulsory Attendance Requirement and Forfeiture

40. A forfeit may occur for various reasons. Forfeits are very disruptive and disappointing for all concerned, and we hope to avoid them if possible. A team intending to forfeit must contact the Mock Trial Coordinator at the first available opportunity. In the event of a forfeit due to illness, the school may be asked to provide medical certificates for the individual/s that were ill, in order to get their WACE accreditation.

To ensure appropriate WACE credits are granted, the following procedure for forfeits applies:

• Where at least 4 team members are available on the night the team is required to compete. Team reserves must be used where possible, and the opposition team reserves may also be used as substitutes (as per rule 15).



- Where a team wins a mock trial due to a forfeit, attendance at the court by all winning team members is still expected. If the trial does not go ahead with reserves or substitutes, students will undertake a modified activity on the night which will allow them to demonstrate their preparation for the trial and accept feedback from the judge.
- Students from the team who have forfeited (i.e., who have lost) the round may also be required to attend court and complete a modified activity. Depending on the reason for the forfeit these students may need to be scheduled to attend to complete the alternative activity on another date.

3.7 Policy regarding the use of electronic devices during the Mock Trials

41. In the spirit of the Competition, students work as a team and must not receive input from anyone outside of the team during the trial. For this reason, we ask all students to rely only on paper notes during the trial. The statement below is the policy regarding the use of electronic devices in the Competition:

The use of any electronic device (other than a simple stopwatch or timer) during the mock trial is not permitted, except in extraordinary circumstances subject to the approval of the Mock Trial Competition Coordinator and the Judge prior to the commencement of the trial. An example of an extraordinary circumstance is where a student needs to use a device to compensate for visual impairment.

3.8 Breach of Rules and Penalties

- 42. If any team or person connected with a team breaches any of the rules of the Competition, the breach shall be referred to the Mock Trial Coordinator.
- 43. If the Mock Trial Coordinator becomes aware of any serious breach of the rules, the Mock Trial Coordinator may refer the breach to the Manager, Education and Community Services, Law Society of Western Australia, (the Manager) who will consider the breach and may in his/her discretion impose any one or more of the following penalties:
 - Team forfeiting that round
 - Forfeiture of some or all of the points scored by a team in a mock trial
 - Forfeiture of competition points scored in a round
 - Suspension or expulsion of a team member, teacher, or coach from the competition
 - A ban of a particular person responsible for a breach from attending a mock trial
 - Disqualification of a team from the competition

The Manager may also elect not to act.

The decision of the Manager concerning a breach and the penalty to be imposed shall be final and binding.



General Information

4.1 Team Composition

- 2 barristers
- 1 instructing solicitor
- 2 witnesses
- 1 court orderly (if P team) or judge's associate (if D team)
- Reserves minimum of two and maximum of six

4.2 Travel

All travel involved shall be at the school's own expense.

4.3 Venue and time

- It is the responsibility of the facilitating teacher at each school to contact the Mock Trial Coordinator to arrange a convenient date for the trial as per the dates for that round.
- Trials must be held at the Courts allocated by the Mock Trial Coordinator or another venue confirmed by the Mock Trial Coordinator. The Grand Final will be held at the Supreme Court of Western Australia, Stirling Gardens, Barrack Street, Perth, at an earlier start time.
- Trials must commence at 6pm unless held at the Mandurah Court House, which commence at 5.30pm. If the trial does not commence within fifteen minutes of the scheduled commencement time the team responsible for the delay shall forfeit that round.
- Each case should take no longer than two and a half hours.
- The courts must be vacated by 8.30pm.

4.4 Dress

The standard of dress should be neat and tidy. Students may wear school uniform, or dress for the part. Witnesses are reminded that hats are not to be worn in any court room at any time, as per court etiquette.

4.5 Conduct

Teams are advised to arrive at the court early in order to be prepared for the commencement of the trial. When all members of the team are present, please see the Mock Trial Coordinator who will escort the team to the courtroom. Due to security requirements, participants may only enter areas of the building as directed by the Mock Trial Coordinator.

Students may take water bottles into the court, but no other food or drink is permitted. **Mobile** phones must be switched off and photographs are not allowed to be taken.

School bags must be kept in courtrooms with the students and should be stored neatly at the back of the court.

Students and spectators are asked to kindly remain quiet during the 10-minute adjournment while the barristers and solicitors are preparing closing addresses.



4.6 Reserves

Reserves are expected to attend each coaching session and mock trial. As a reserve, they are expected to prepare for one of the 6 roles following in the event that a student with a designated role is unable to compete in the mock trial for any reason. This will help to avoid forfeits.

4.7 Barristers

- To enable maximum participation, two barristers appear for each team
- First barrister for the Prosecution/Plaintiff team (P) announces appearances
- First barrister for the Defence team (D) announces appearances
- First barrister (P) gives the opening address (No objections permitted/Judge may ask 1 or 2 questions)
- First barrister (D) gives the opening address (No objections permitted/Judge may ask 1 or 2 questions)
- First barrister (P) calls and examines the first witness (examination-in-chief)
- First barrister (D) then cross-examines the first witness
- First barrister (P) then re-examines the first witness.
- Second barrister (P) calls and examines the second witness (examination-in-chief)
- Second barrister (D) then cross-examines the second witness
- Second barrister (P) then re-examines the second witness
- Second barrister (P) announces the conclusion to their case
- Repeat examination process for opposing team: Examination-in-chief of witnesses (Defence)
 → Cross examination of witnesses (Prosecution/Plaintiff)) → Re-examination (Defence)
- Second barrister (D) announces the conclusion to their case
- Second barrister (P) gives the closing address (May refer only to legal materials provided and to evidence heard, but not any other material.)
- Second barrister (D) gives the closing address (May refer only to legal materials provided and to evidence heard, but not any other material.)



4.8 Solicitor

- Advises the barristers in the preparation of the case.
- Assists the barristers by recording evidence and pointing out important matters.
- Assists in the preparation of the closing address e.g., summarising or contrasting evidence given.
- Must be seen to interact with and assist the barristers with the case.
- Submits their notes to the Judge in the pink or blue folder provided by the Law Society after the
 closing addresses. Only notes taken during the mock trial by the solicitor must be handed to
 the Judge. Do not submit any pre-mock trial notes or preparatory materials to the Judge.

4.9 Judge's Associate

- Is to be provided by the Defence team.
- Announces the case e.g., "State of Western Australia against Robinson" (criminal) or "Robinson and Jones" (civil).
- Takes exhibits from the Court Orderly and shows exhibits to the Judge.
- Marks all exhibits as directed by the Judge (e.g., 'Exhibit A') and includes the item on the Exhibit List.
- Keeps a time sheet recording when each examination and cross examination begins and ends and calculates the duration. The form provided for this purpose must be handed to the Judge after the closing addresses.
- Keeps a list of objections made by each barrister: who made the objection, the nature of the
 objection and the ruling made by the Judge. A form is provided for this purpose and must be
 handed to the Judge after the closing addresses.

4.10 Court Orderly

- Is to be provided from the Plaintiff/Prosecution team.
- Reminds all present in Court to turn mobile phones OFF.
- Opens the Court.
- Closes the Court.
- Maintains order in the Court. When announcing the adjournment for preparation of the closing addresses advises that there is to be no discussion between the barristers and solicitor of each team with any other participants or spectators.
- Calls witnesses.
- · Swears in witnesses.
- Takes exhibits from barristers then shows to the opposing barristers and to the witness.
- Hands exhibits to the Judge's Associate for marking.



- Keeps a time sheet recording when each examination and cross examination begins and ends
 and calculates the duration. The form provided for this purpose must be handed to the Judge's
 Associate, who then hands this to the Judge after the closing addresses.
- Time limits are to be strictly adhered to. A one-minute warning is to be sounded by the Court Orderly (using a bell, or spoon and glass [but NOT a mobile phone] provided by the Prosecution/Plaintiff team). A second sounding to signal the end of time allowed in each case. Time limits are:
 - Opening addresses (5 minutes each)
 - Examinations in Chief (10 minutes each)
 - Cross-Examinations (10 minutes each)
 - Re-Examinations (5 minutes each)
 - Adjournment for preparing closing addresses (10 minutes)
 - Closing addresses (10 minutes each)

4.11 Witness

- Can state facts (or opinions, if they are experts) in support of a party's case.
- During examination-in-chief the witness will:
 - o present their statement of evidence to the Court.
 - o faithfully keep to the facts set out in the statement.
 - o ensure all facts in their statement are disclosed.
- Cannot add to the statement beyond the general scope of the statement provided.
- During cross-examination the witness may:
 - when cross-examined about matters outside their own statement, bring in additional evidence that is within the general ambit of witness statements and the agreed facts, or answer: "I don't know" or "I can't remember," provided such answers do not alter the facts of the statement. Judges are entitled to prohibit a witness giving evidence or, alternatively deduct marks from the witness' score if the witness unfairly introduces evidence that is not within the general ambit of witness statements or the agreed facts.

The witness must say everything that is in the witness statement. The evidence must be presented in the order in which it is written. The trial material is deliberately drafted to create objections, inconsistencies in evidence and cross-examination opportunities. The order or wording of the evidence may be an important part of that drafting.

For example, teams should not pre-empt objections by omitting evidence that is clearly objectionable. The reason that the evidence has been included in the statement is to provide opposing barristers an opportunity to object and argue over the evidence.

If the witness becomes confused or a portion of the statement is otherwise accidentally omitted during examination, counsel may return the witness to an earlier part of their evidence. Otherwise,



the evidence should be elicited from the witness in the manner and order in which it is written in the statement.

If any evidence is omitted during examination-in-chief, the issue should be brought to the attention of the judge at the conclusion of the examination in chief. Minor deviations or paraphrasing need not be raised by counsel but will be considered by the judge in scoring.

Further, the witness <u>must not</u> add any evidence that is not written in the witness statement. Note, however, that this rule does not apply in cross-examination where it may be necessary to provide additional *reasonable* evidence in response to questioning.

A witness must not read off notes. A witness should be awarded zero points if notes are used. At times, this is unavoidable, particularly if a participant has to step in at the last minute as a witness.

4.12 Legal Notes and Background Facts

Legal Notes and occasionally Background Facts will be provided with the case materials. The Background Facts are to be regarded as true; they do not need to be proved. The Legal Notes provided with the Case Material are the only matters of law to be relied upon.

Only documentation or exhibits provided with the case material may be produced.

Rules of Evidence

The proceedings of this Mock Trial Competition shall be governed by the following rules of evidence. Objections are confined to:

- Relevance Evidence
- Opinion Evidence
- Hearsay Evidence



- Character Evidence
- Others: Leading Questions and/or Harassing Questions

Only the barrister responsible for examining, cross-examining or re-examining the witness may object to questions put to the witness or evidence given by the witness.

5.1 Relevance Evidence

- Only relevant evidence is admissible. 'Relevant' means the evidence must prove or tend to prove a fact that is in dispute.
- All irrelevant material is inadmissible. This is an over-riding principle that relates to all evidence put before the Court.

Example 1 - In a case in which the question is negligence, evidence of previous criminal behaviour (e.g., violent assaults or speeding) is generally irrelevant as it would not go to whether or not there was negligence. In contrast, if the negligence in issue is in relation to a car crash, whether the defendant was speeding immediately before the crash or on previous occasions is relevant to (although not conclusive of) whether they were driving with due care at the time of the incident in question.

Example 2 - It might be that a question, particularly in cross examination, does not immediately appear to be relevant. It is acceptable, assuming that the question is leading to matters of relevance, to respond to an objection based on evidence by saying "the line of questioning goes to the issue of credibility/negligence/damage or other matters in issue". Ultimately, it may be necessary to spell out how the question is relevant to proving or disproving the fact in issue. It will, however, not usually be necessary to go to the same level of detail in responding to an objection as it may be in closing (for example, in closing, counsel might say that the prosecution has proved that there was negligence by demonstrating that the defendant was speeding, and in turn speeding was proved by the evidence of [witness 1] and cross examination of the defendant. In responding to an objection, it might be sufficient to say that the question going to speeding is directed to whether the defendant was negligent in his/her driving.

- That evidence is relevant does not make it automatically admissible. The application of the following rules may make it inadmissible. (See 5.2 and following.)
- Background evidence is not necessarily irrelevant.

5.2 Opinion Evidence

 Conclusions or views formed by witnesses based on facts they have observed are not admissible evidence. The facts may be given in evidence, but the opinion may not.

Example 1 - The observation by a witness that a person was red in the face and shaking his fists may be admissible, but the 'conclusion' or 'opinion' that the person was angry would not be admissible.



Example 2 - The observation that a person smelt of alcohol, was slurring his or her words and was unsteady on their feet may be admissible, but the conclusion or opinion that the person was intoxicated would not be admissible.

- The exception to this rule is where opinion evidence is given by a witness who is an expert in the field to which the opinion relates. 'Expert' in this context means someone who has special expertise in a field, whether from qualifications, experience or formal training in that field. Before the opinion can be given in evidence, previous evidence given by that witness must 'qualify' them as an expert in the field to which the opinion relates. This is done by leading evidence from them of qualifications, expertise, etc.
- Another exception is if the opinion evidence comes from the witness' everyday experience.
 For example, if someone had been a qualified driver for several years, they may be able to give opinion evidence that someone else was driving over 70 kms per hour on a road.

5.3 Hearsay Evidence

- Hearsay is the statement by a witness of what they heard someone (who will not be called as a witness) say. Such evidence is not admissible.
- Reasons for the Hearsay rule are:
- o it is secondhand evidence and may have changed in the retelling;
- there is no opportunity to cross-examine the person who originally made the comment or observation; and
- hearsay evidence is easy to concoct and difficult to disprove
 - Example 1 "Mrs Smith told me she saw Mr Simpson driving the car" is not admissible to prove that Mr Simpson was in fact driving the car.
 - Example 2 "The ambulance driver that attended the scene told me that he noticed the windows at the house were broken" is not evidence that windows were broken. To prove that fact, you would need to lead that evidence from the ambulance driver.
- Exceptions to the Hearsay rule are:
- when the statement is made in the heat of the moment and forms part of the overall picture of what occurred;
 - Example: "I overheard the petrol attendant shout, "Help me! That man has a gun", may be evidence that could be lead to prove that the man was armed with a gun.
- when the statement is made by a party to the proceedings and is against that party's interest (an admission);
 - Example: "I broke that window, but it was an accident" is evidence of a criminal damage charge if it was said by an accused and it is evidence against his or her interest (an admission that he caused the damage).



or;

 when the statement is not put forward to establish the truth of a statement, but only that a statement was made.

Example: If a forensic officer gave evidence that the victim said to him or her that the assault occurred in the living room. That evidence is not to establish the truth of the statement, but explains why the forensic officer focused his or her attention on the living room during the forensic examination.

5.4 Character Evidence

- Evidence of bad character of a defendant and/or witness may not be led by the plaintiff/prosecution.
- Evidence of good character may be led by either party, but only if it is relevant.
- If the defence raises their good character or attacks the credit of the witnesses, the plaintiff/prosecution may cross-examine the defendant about their bad character.

5.5 Other Objections

Objections relating to the conduct of the case may be taken, such as:

5.5.1 Leading Questions

• A leading question is one where the form of the question suggests the answer. The barrister must not ask leading questions about matters in dispute in examination-in-chief or re-examination.

Example 1 - "Was the car blue?" suggests that the car was indeed blue. The appropriate form of question is 'What colour was the car' or 'Can you tell me what colour the car was'.

Example 2 – 'Did you see the defendant's car'. A witness can be asked whether they saw a physical object (such as a car) but identifying the car in the question as belonging to someone or being stolen, assumes a fact that might need to be separately proved.

- Leading questions may be asked about matters not in dispute, enabling the witness to be taken quickly to the real matters in dispute.
 - Example 1 In the case of a collision, the time and place of the collision.
 - Example 2 Instead of asking 'What happened next', counsel could consider saying 'you just gave evidence that you were standing on the corner near the store. Did you see anything in the store?'



• However, when it comes to cross-examination, leading questions are allowed and are the best types of questions to ask because they suggest the desired answer to the witness. Used effectively, leading questions reduce the witness's responses to a mere "Yes" or "No." The real power of leading questions is that they allow the barrister to control the witness using short, single fact "questions" (statements, actually) to tell the jury your client's story and show the judge why your client deserves to win.

5.5.2 Harassing Questions

Harassing or arguing with a witness (usually in cross-examination).

Example – "Do you really expect us to believe your story?"



Taking Evidence

6.1 Preparation

Effective presentation of a case requires preparation by the whole team. When preparing their case, teams should: anticipate their opponent's case; research technical matters by reference to the manual and legal notes; and identify likely facts and issues in cross-examination.

Team members are to be aware of the time allowed for their part of the trial. Team members must take into account questions from the judge when calculating the time.

6.2 Opening Address (no more than five minutes)

An opening address sets out what the case is about. Set out the evidence you will lead, and the witnesses you will call. In the case of a jury trial, it is generally considered unwise to refer to the law in great detail in the opening address and for the purposes of this competition you should follow that as a guide.

An appropriate place for detailed discussion of legal principles is the closing address.

In the instance of a civil case, the pleadings are before the Court. It is not necessary to go through the pleadings in great detail. You should assume that the Court is aware of the substance of those documents. Rather, you should identify the issues that are in contest, and discuss how the matter will proceed given those issues.

In the instance of a criminal case, the opening address should set out what the case is about, noting that there is no need for repetition (in the case of Defence Counsel, who do not need to repeat the agreed facts that the Prosecution has just outlined).

Rather, your opening address should do the following:

- 1. It should introduce the matter factually to the court by way of background (i.e., Why is this case before the Court? What happened?)
- 2. Identify the issues (Don't waste time repeating facts that the other counsel have already outlined, that you do not dispute. Get to the heart of the issue/s to be tried).
- 3. Outline what evidence will be called to support your client's (or the State's) position as to what is in issue.

Do not think that just because you are allocated 5 minutes to deliver an opening address, you must use all of that time. In some instances, it will be appropriate to deliver a short opening address and in other circumstances it will be more appropriate to deliver a lengthier address.

6.3 Examination-in-Chief (no more than 10 minutes)

This is the first step in taking evidence. It can be quite hard as the purpose is to get the witness to tell their entire story without 'leading the witness.' A way to get the witness to do this is to start questions with words such as who, what, when, where, and how. Leading questions may be asked about matters not in dispute, enabling the witness to be taken quickly to the real matters in dispute.



6.4 Exhibits – Tendering and Admissibility

Exhibits provided with the case materials are to be tendered by the barristers *through* the appropriate witness. This occurs during the evidence of the witness who can speak to the exhibit, which is usually the witness who prepared the exhibit or who can give admissible evidence about its contents.

Note: Do not tender exhibits in the opening or closing addresses.

Example 1: If the exhibit is a house plan, then the person who lives in the house can identify it even if they didn't prepare it.

Barrister 1 (Prosecution): (Picks up the house plan) I'll ask the Court Orderly to show you this house plan.

(Court Orderly stands and collects the house plan from Barrister 1)

(Court Orderly passes the house plan to Witness)

(Witness takes the house plan and looks at it)

(Once the Barrister has asked all of the questions s/he would like to ask the document is tendered as an exhibit)

(Faces Judge) Your Honour, I tender the house plan into evidence as an exhibit.

(Court Orderly collects house plan from Witness)

(Court Orderly passes house plan to Judge's Associate)

Example 2: If the exhibit is a photo, then it could be tendered through the person who took it or someone who recognises what it shows.

Barrister 1 (Plaintiff): (Picks up the photo) I'll ask the Court Orderly to show you this photo.

(Court Orderly stands and collects the photo from Barrister 1)

(Court Orderly passes the photo to Witness)

(Witness takes the photo and looks at it)

(Once the Barrister has asked all of the questions s/he would like to ask the photo is tendered as an exhibit)

(Faces Judge) Your Honour, I tender the photo into evidence as an exhibit.

(Court Orderly collects photo from Witness)



(Court Orderly passes photo to Judge's Associate)

For Mock Trial Competition purposes the exhibit is to be regarded as the original and admissible. All Mock Trial Competition exhibits are tendered by agreement and no objections are allowed.

6.5 Cross-Examination (no more than 10 minutes)

Following the examination-in-chief of a witness by their barrister the opposing barrister may cross-examine this witness.

The aim of cross-examination is to:

- Test the accuracy of the evidence first given by the witness in order to demonstrate:
 - lack of perceptions such as capacity, opportunity or quality, e.g., the witness was too far away to really see, or was affected by drugs or alcohol at the time so couldn't really be thinking clearly;
 - o lack of accurate recall; and
 - lack of narrative ability.
- Attack the credibility of the witness (whether they can be believed) on the following grounds:
 - o bias, interest, prejudice e.g., being a friend or relative of the plaintiff or defendant;
 - o prior convictions of witnesses other than the accused;
 - o moral character e.g., having a reputation for lying or dishonesty;
 - o inconsistent statements on previous occasions e.g., statements given to the police.
 - Establish facts which support this barrister's own case.

In cross-examination leading questions **should** be asked.

Example - in a 'driving in a dangerous manner" case, the witness said that the driver was travelling very fast - about 120 km per hour. It might be difficult for a cross-examiner to overcome this. However, by asking a series of questions about the ability of the observer to accurately make that observation they might make some headway (e.g., It was night? [Yes] And it was raining? [Yes] And you wear glasses? [Yes] And the rain had wet your glasses? [Yes] etc). Alternatively, the barrister might want to focus on the road and traffic conditions so that the fact of speeding may be minimised (e.g., It was 3am [Yes] And it was on a straight stretch of Great Eastern Highway [Yes]. With no other cars? [Yes] And with all side streets having a stop sign [Yes] etc).

In cross-examination a barrister should not:

- quarrel with a witness;
- bully the witness to admit they were wrong; or
- ask several questions at the same time without allowing the witness to answer each question in turn.



Please note: For the purpose of the Mock Trial Competition, facts or material additional to the Case Materials or Background Facts cannot be put to a witness in cross-examination.

6.6 Re-examination (no more than 5 minutes)

- At the conclusion of cross-examination, the barrister who called the witness has the
 opportunity to re-examine. The barrister can only re-examine to allow the witness to explain
 matters referred to in the cross-examination. It cannot be used to introduce matters that the
 barrister forgot to ask in the examination-in-chief. Leading questions cannot be asked during
 re-examination.
- Re-examination should be used cautiously. Further questions asked in an effort to clear up matters, often make things worse.

6.7 Closing Address (no more than 10 minutes)

- The purpose of a closing address is to summarise your case, make submissions as to the
 principles of law which are relevant to the case, highlight the strong points and show how the
 evidence supports those points.
- A plaintiff or prosecutor will often limit the issues to be proved to a bare minimum and then show how the evidence they have brought proves them. That is because it is easier to prove a simple case.
- A barrister for the defence may take the opposite approach and create as many issues as
 possible to cast doubt as to whether they have all been proved.
- If there is conflicting evidence that cannot be reconciled, the plaintiff or prosecutor should attempt to show why their witness should be believed.
- Barristers are permitted to prepare a **draft** closing address. This enables them to keep in mind the submissions they need to make as to the law, e.g., highlight prior decisions which favour their case and how they apply to the proven facts of their case and discuss prior decisions which favour their opponent's case, and distinguish those decisions by showing why they should not apply to the facts of their case. However, the most important part of most cases is not what the law is, but how the facts and evidence relate to the law. Preparing a draft closing might help preparation for the case, but is always important to add some extemporaneous comments about the evidence and the witnesses (i.e., which person should be believed). Remember that in this competition the legal material that may be used is only that included in the case material provided.



Proving cases

7.1 Civil cases

- Standard of proof: On the balance of probabilities
- The plaintiff must convince the Judge that in all probability, their witness' version of the facts is the right one 'on the balance of probabilities'.

7.2 Criminal cases

- Standard of proof: Beyond reasonable doubt
- The prosecution is obliged to provide evidence that will convince the Judge that the accused is guilty 'beyond reasonable doubt'.
- It is only the prosecution in a criminal case that must prove the case 'beyond reasonable doubt.'
- The prosecution has to prove the constituent parts of the crime charged. Those constituent
 parts are called 'elements.' These elements are laid down by a particular Act of Parliament or
 case law. Where possible these elements will be drawn to the attention of both prosecution
 and defence in the case material provided.
- In some circumstances when the defendant raises a defence, occasionally the onus is on the
 defendant to prove that defence on the balance of probabilities students should refer to their
 legal notes for the case.



Effective Communication

- Persuasion in a court of law depends on effective communication.
- To communicate effectively you have to get the judge to listen.
- Start confidently. First impressions are important.
- Make sure your voice is well modulated and able to be heard. Do not speak too quickly.
- Try to maintain visual contact with the person you are addressing.
- State your arguments in a clear concise way, keeping close to what you are trying to prove or disprove.
- · Avoid repetition. It becomes boring.
- Avoid developing habits which may become irritating, e.g., saying "I see" every time a witness answers a question.
- Do not argue with a witness.
- Show courtesy to all present in the Court.



Professional Ethics and Courtesy

The Mock Trial Competition enables students to learn some of the courtesies and matters of ethics which must be observed in Western Australian Courts. Some important ones are as follows:

- Barristers must not mislead the Judge by presenting evidence which is known to be untrue.
- A barrister should not argue with the Judge. However, they are allowed to make forceful but courteous submissions. A common phrase used is "With respect . . . I submit."
- A judge is referred to as "Your Honour." It is common to use this method of address fairly frequently, e.g., when beginning a statement directed to the Judge or when replying to a question they have asked.
- Only one barrister shall be standing at any time. A barrister must stand when speaking and sit if the opposing barrister is speaking. A barrister must stand to make an objection, which requires the opposing barrister to sit.
- Barristers must remain behind the bar table. They are not permitted to walk around the courtroom as seen on television or in the movies.
- Barristers must accept the ruling of the Judge even though they may disagree with it. If a reply is called for it is usual to say, "If Your Honour pleases", or "May it please the Court".
- Abbreviations must not be used when quoting reports of cases.

Example - if quoting a case of Smith v Jones 1942 65 CLR 473 say "Smith and Jones (1942) reported in Volume 65 Commonwealth Law Reports at page 473." When referring to what a Judge said in that case, they should be referred to by their full name e.g., Justice Williams not Williams J.



Judges

- A Judge is allocated to each trial. Judges are members of the legal profession who volunteer their time to assist with the Competition. Volunteer judges may be practising legal professionals, or hold an LLB Diploma, or may be currently enrolled in a School of Law at a Western Australian university.
- Registered legal practitioners who participate as a judge will gain CPD Points. Half of one point is allocated per trial judged, up to a maximum of six points each audit year.
- The trial procedures have been modified in accordance with the requirements of the Mock Trial Competition. Allowable objections are listed in this Manual (Evidence Rules of Evidence).
- All Judges must read this Manual before the trial as some of the procedures differ from those
 used in an actual courtroom and from previous years of the Competition. It is important to be
 familiar with the score sheet before the trial commences.
- Scoring is to be done in accordance with the Competition rules and on the official score sheet.
 No draws are allowed.
- Mock trial procedures must be adhered to, as failure to do so may cause a team to be disadvantaged.
- Only exhibits, documents and information contained in the case material are permitted to be
 entered into evidence regardless of objections. This modification is made because of the time
 limitation and restriction of witnesses that can be called.
- Notes are not permitted to be passed from witnesses to barristers or solicitors.
- Witnesses must disclose all of their witness statement. If they do not, the Judge shall read out what was not disclosed and deduct points from that witness' score.
- Time limits must be strictly adhered to. A trial shall take no more than two and a half hours to complete. A one-minute warning is to be sounded during each section of the trial by the court orderly (using a bell, or spoon and glass). A second sounding will signal the end of time allowed. Judges may at their discretion deduct points if team members go over time. Judges should not deduct points if a speaker finishes ahead of time unless they have not covered all of the material.
- If there is a breach of time limits, the Judges are requested to read out the remainder of the evidence not yet given.
- Judges should check the solicitor's notes made during the mock trial (Note: pre-mock trial notes or preparatory materials are not to be scored and should not be handed up) and award marks for content, questions written down which could assist Counsel and their active participation in the trial.



- Judges will need to check the Judge's Associate's time sheet and objection sheet and also the Court Orderly's time sheet and award marks for content.
- Judges are encouraged to ask the barristers one or two questions after opening addresses and
 closing addresses in order to discern the barristers' depth of understanding of the law and of
 the case. The barristers are high school students who are often participating in their first mock
 trial. They might be nervous, particularly when asked questions by the judge. Judges are
 therefore requested to bear this in mind when assessing the barristers' impromptu answers.
- Judges should give a short judgment at the end of the trial. They should encourage students by giving suggestions on presentation, court procedure, objections, cross examination etc., particularly during the earlier rounds.
- Trials must conclude and the court be vacated by the specified time of 8.30pm.



Coaches

- All coaches should register their details online for the current year's Competition.
- Coaches are members of the legal profession who volunteer their time to assist with the Competition. Coaches may also be articled clerks or University Law Students.
- Members of the legal profession who volunteer as a coach will gain CPD Points. One point is allocated per round coached (approximately three hours of coaching), up to a maximum of six points each audit year.
- Coaches should liaise with the coordinating teacher at the school regarding Working with Children Check (WWCC) requirements.
- Coaches may also volunteer to judge but may not adjudicate any teams they have coached, or any other team that may result in a conflict of interest. Any coach considering this should discuss this with the Mock Trial Coordinator.
- All coaches must read the manual before the trial as some of the procedures differ from those used in an actual courtroom.
- The coach's role is to:
 - Instruct the barristers and solicitor in the preparation and presentation of their case. Students will need to know how to write an opening and closing address. They will also require explanation and technique as to preparation for examination-in-chief, cross-examination and re-examination.
 - o Ensure that all team members are aware of the time limitations for each section of the trial.
 - o Give all team members coaching in court procedures and general advocacy.
 - Ensure witnesses disclose all evidence detailed in the witness statements. Students are not permitted to omit evidence where an objection can be raised. The purpose of writing objectionable material into the witness statement is to provide barristers the opportunity to show their understanding of the rules of evidence. Students can be coached by providing strategies on how to deal with objections.
- Witnesses must not be coached on their facts. Preparation of witnesses must be done by the team barristers.
- The coach should determine the time and venue for their coaching. Coaches are not expected to spend more than 2-3 hours per round coaching.
- Whilst it is envisaged that coaches will offer guidance, it is expected that any preparation of material for presentation to the court will be completed by the students themselves.
- There shall be no coaching, prompting, or assistance of any kind given to any participating students at any time during the conduct of a mock trial.



Suggested Coaching Schedule

Teacher	Coach	Students		
First meeting:				
Prior to the first meeting, ensure the students understand: Difference between criminal and civil Roles and duties of various court personnel Courtroom procedures Previewed case material and manual	 Legal issues and elements that must be proved Components of an opening statement Strategies in preparation of Examination-in-Chief Prediction of Cross-Examination questions Conduct in court 	 Draft Opening Statement Draft Examination-in-Chief questions and desired responses Notes of expected Cross-Examination questions of their witnesses and possible responses 		
Second meeting:				
 Ensure the students: Have completed a draft opening statement and questions Witnesses have memorized the facts presented in their statements Team members are familiar with courtroom procedure. 	 View students performing segments of mock trial (e.g., opening statement, examination-in-chief and predicted cross-examination of witnesses) Offer constructive criticism (e.g., types of questions, unclear phrases) Re-examination questions: when, type of questions Strategies in handling possible objections (e.g., Stand/sit, arguments, confirm with counsel, have a go) Familiarisation of rules of evidence Closing statements and incorporation of legal notes. 	 Fine tune of opening statement, examination-inchief and possible cross-examination questions Draft closing statement Fine-tune mock trial performance 		
Third meeting:				
 Ensure the students have: Fine-tuned their opening statement, examination-inchief and possible cross-examination questions Drafted a closing statement Fine-tuned mock trial performance 	 View students performing mock trial Fine-tune statements, questioning techniques, court conduct etc. through constructive criticism 	 Practise making objections Practise re-directing questions if witnesses do not respond as desired Fine-tune all aspects of case as instructed by coach 		

This schedule is just a guide.

Time spent with the students will depend on their abilities and any previous experience with the Mock Trial Competition.

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Scoring

Winning the case does not necessarily mean winning the round.

A copy of the score sheet is included as an appendix to this manual. The judge shall allocate points for each team member in a mock trial using the scoring system set out on the scoresheet.

DRAWS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

Points scored will take into consideration:

- Issues identified in the Scoring Guide included in this manual
- Student demonstration of understanding the case
- Knowledge of court procedure
- Presentation
- Questioning in accordance with the rules of evidence
- Demonstrating an awareness of the relevant principles of cross-examination and reexamination. If a team does not cross-examine and that is considered a good tactical decision, full marks can be awarded
- Taking objections and responding to objections, demonstrating awareness of the relevant principles and the capacity to make logical, well-argued submissions based on those principles
- · Editing or omission of material in witnesses' evidence; and
- Attention to time limits.

Checking and Finalising the Score Sheet

- The completed score sheet must be signed by the judge and a teacher/coach from each team on the night. Each teacher/coach is responsible for checking the scoresheet thoroughly before it is signed.
- The teacher of the team that wins the mock trial on points must hand the completed scoresheet to the Mock Trial Coordinator before going home after the trial.
- The Mock Trial Coordinator will copy the scoresheet and send copies to both teams on the following business day.



Procedures for the Court Hearing

Judge:	Knocks on the bench to indicate that s/he is ready to begin the mock trial.
Court Orderly:	"Silence! All stand, please."
AII:	Stand
Judge:	Bows
AII:	Bow
Judge:	Sits
All:	Sit
Court Orderly:	"This Mock Court is now sitting."
Judge's Associate:	stand and announce the case e.g., Police against Robinson (criminal) or Robinson and Jones (civil)
Judge:	Who is appearing in this matter?
Barrister 1: Plaintiff/prosecution	"If Your Honour pleases, my name isand I am appearing with my learned friend (Barrister 2) for the plaintiff/prosecution. We are instructed by (Solicitor)."
Barrister 1: Defence	"If Your Honour pleases, my name isand I am appearing with my learned friend (Barrister 2) for the defendant. We are instructed by (Solicitor)."

Barrister 1:



Plaintiff/Prosecution (OPENING ADDRESS) Barrister 1: Defence (OPENING ADDRESS) Judge: "Call the first witness for the plaintiff/prosecution." Barrister 1: "I call _____" (name of witness 1) Plaintiff/Prosecution " (name of witness 1) **Court Orderly:** escort witness 1 to the witness stand Note: Witnesses are permitted to remain in the Court at all times allowing learning by observation of court procedure. "It is your duty to assist the Court in these proceedings by faithfully answering the questions put to you. Do you understand this?" Note: "faithfully" refers to observing the rules for witnesses in this Manual. Witness 1: "Yes" **Barrister 1:** Plaintiff/Prosecution (Examination-in-Chief of Witness 1) When there are no further questions "That concludes this witness' evidence-in-chief, Your Honour." The Judge may ask the opposing Counsel: 'Are you happy with this evidence? Has it all gone in?" If the witness has missed any evidence in his/her statement, at this point the Judge identifies it and reads it out. **Barrister 1:** (Cross-Examination of Witness 1) Defence On conclusion of cross-examination "I have no further cross-examination questions of the witness, Your Honour." **Barrister 1:** Plaintiff/Prosecution (Re-examination of Witness 1, if appropriate) At the end of re-examination

Honour. May the witness be excused?"

"I have no further re-examination questions of the witness, Your



Judge: "The witness is excused from the witness stand and may return to

their seat.'

Judge: "Call the second witness for the plaintiff/prosecution.

Barrister 2:

Plaintiff/Prosecution "I call _____" (name of witness 2)

Court Orderly: "_____" (name of witness 2)

escort witness 2 to the witness stand

Note: Witnesses are permitted to remain in the Court at all times

allowing learning by observation of court procedure.

"It is your duty to assist the Court in these proceedings by faithfully

answering the questions put to you. Do you understand this?"

Witness 2: "Yes"

Barrister 2:

Plaintiff/Prosecution (Examination-in-Chief of Witness 2)

When there are no further questions

"That concludes this witness' evidence-in-chief, Your Honour."

The Judge may ask the opposing Counsel: 'Are you happy with this evidence? Has it all gone in?" If the witness has missed any evidence in his/her statement, at this point the Judge identifies it and

reads it out.

Barrister 2:

Defence (Cross-Examination of Witness 2)

On conclusion of cross-examination

"I have no further cross-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour.

Barrister 2:

Plaintiff/Prosecution (Re-examination of Witness 2, if appropriate)

At the end of re-examination

"I have no further re-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour. May the witness be excused?"

Judge: "The witness is excused from the witness stand and may return to

their seat.'



Barrister 2:

Plaintiff/Prosecution "Your Honour, that is the case for the plaintiff/prosecution."

Judge: "Call the first witness for the Defence."

Barrister 1:

Defence "I call _____" (name of witness 1)

Court Orderly: " ______ " (witness 1)

escorts witness 1 to the witness stand

Note: Witnesses are permitted to remain in the Court at all times

allowing learning by observation of court procedure.

"It is your duty to assist the Court in these proceedings by faithfully

answering the questions out to you. Do you understand this?"

Witness 1: "Yes"

Barrister 1:

Defence (Examination-in-Chief of Witness 1)

When there are no further questions

"That concludes this witness' evidence-in-chief, Your Honour."

The Judge may ask the opposing Counsel: 'Are you happy with this evidence? Has it all gone in?" If the witness has missed any evidence in his/her statement, at this point the Judge identifies it and

reads it out.

Barrister 1:

Plaintiff/Prosecution (Cross-Examination of Witness 1)

On conclusion of cross-examination

"I have no further cross-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour."

Barrister 1:

Defence (Re-examination of Witness 1, if appropriate)

At the end of re-examination

"I have no further re-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour. May the witness be excused?"

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Judge: "The witness is excused from the witness stand and may return to

their seat."

Judge: "Call the second witness for the Defence.

Barrister 2:

Defence "I call _____" (name of witness 2)

Court Orderly: "______" (name of witness 2)

escort witness 2 to the witness stand

Note: Witnesses are permitted to remain in the Court at all times

allowing learning by observation of court procedure.

"It is your duty to assist the Court in these proceedings by faithfully

answering the questions put to you. Do you understand this?"

Witness 2: "Yes"

Barrister 2:

Defence (Examination-in-Chief of Witness 2) When there are no further questions

"That concludes this witness' evidence-in-chief, Your Honour."

The Judge may ask the opposing Counsel: 'Are you happy with this evidence? Has it all gone in?" If the witness has missed any evidence in his/her statement, at this point the Judge identifies it and

reads it out.

Barrister 2:

Plaintiff/Prosecution (Cross-Examination of Witness 2)

On conclusion of cross-examination

"I have no further cross-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour."

Barrister 2:

Defence (Re-examination of Witness 2, if appropriate)

At the end of re-examination

"I have no further re-examination questions of the witness, Your

Honour. May the witness be excused?"



Judge:	"The witness is excused from the witness stand and may return to their seat."
Barrister 2: Defence	"Your Honour, that is the case for the Defence."
Court Orderly:	"All stand! This Mock Court is adjourned for ten minutes. Participants and spectators are requested to remain quietly in their seats. Please note that there is to be no discussion between the barristers and solicitor of each team with any other participants or spectators."
All:	Stand
Judge:	Stands and bows
All:	Bow
Judge:	Leaves courtroom
	ADJOURNMENT FOR 10 MINUTES
Barristers and Solicitor:	Prepare submissions, no other person may assist
Judge:	Knocks on the bench to indicate the mock trial will re-commence.
Court Orderly:	"Silence! All stand, please."
All:	Stand
Judge:	Stands and bows



All:	Bow
Judge:	Sits
All:	Sit
Court Orderly:	"This Mock Court is now sitting."
Barrister 2: Plaintiff/Prosecution	(CLOSING ADDRESS)
Barrister 2: Defence	(CLOSING ADDRESS)
Judge:	"May I see the solicitors' notes?"
Court Orderly:	Collects solicitors' notes and hands to Judge's Associate.
Court Orderly:	"All stand! This Mock Court is adjourned."
All:	Stand
Judge:	Stands and bows
All:	Bow
Judge:	Leaves courtroom to consider verdict and tally scores
	SHORT ADJOURNMENT
Judge:	Knocks on the bench to indicate that the mock trial will re-convene.
Court Orderly:	"Silence! All stand, please."



All:	Stand
Judge:	Stands and bows
All:	Bow
Judge:	Sits
All:	Sit
Court Orderly:	"This Mock Court is now sitting."
Judge:	Delivers judgment in the case, announces the winning team and scores for each team and provides constructive feedback to each team.
Court Orderly:	"All stand! This Mock Court is adjourned."
All:	Stand
Judge:	Stands and bows



Appendices

The following pages comprise these documents:

Attendance Roll (WACE Endorsement Record)
Notice of Appearance
Timesheet
Objection Sheet
Exhibit List
Scoresheet
Scoring Guide
Summary of Documents used in a Mock Trial
Diagram showing how Finals Fixtures are arranged



Attendance Roll (WACE Endorsement Record)

Hand to the Mock Trial Coordinator on the night

School:			
Team Name:			
Teacher's Name:			
Coach's Name:			
Round No:	Date	:	
Student's Name Please list all team Court Room	members attending the	Year Level	Role (B1, B2, S, W1, W2, CO, JA or R)
B1 = Barrister 1 B2 = Barrister 2 S = Solicitor W1 = Witness 1		W2 = Witness 2 CO = Court Orderly JA = Judge's Assoc R = Reserve	
Teacher's Signature:			



Notice of Appearance

Instructions:

• The Court Orderly ensures that this Notice of Appearance is completed by both teams before the court sits. It is provided for the judge at the commencement of the trial. This is how the judge knows the names of the barristers. This document also assists the judge when recording comments about the key players during the trial.

Round No:	Date:
Prosecution / Plaintiff Team	Defence Team
Team Name:	Team Name:
Barrister 1:	Barrister 1:
Barrister 2:	Barrister 2:
Solicitor:	Solicitor:
Witness 1:	Witness 1:
Witness 2:	Witness 2:
Court Orderly:	Judge's Associate:



Timesheet

- Timesheets will be kept by both the Court Orderly and the Judge's Associate and handed to the judge after closing addresses.
- A one minute warning is to be sounded during each section of the trial by the court orderly (using a bell or a spoon and glass provided by the prosecution team).
- A second sounding to signal the end of time allowed. If there is a breach of time limits, the judge is requested to read out the remainder of the evidence not yet given.

Round No: Date:

Role	Start	End	Time Taken
Barrister 1 P Opening Address (5min)			
Barrister 1 D Opening Address (5min)			
Barrister 1 P Examination-in-Chief Pros/Plaintiff Witness 1 (10min)			
Barrister 1 D Cross-Examination Pros/Plaintiff Witness 1 (10min)			
Barrister 1 P Re-Examination Pros/Plaintiff Witness 1 (5min)			
Barrister 2 P Examination-in-Chief Pros/Plaintiff Witness 2 (10min)			
Barrister 2 D Cross-Examination Pros/Plaintiff Witness 2 (10min)			
Barrister 2 P Re-Examination Pros/Plaintiff Witness 2 (5min)			
Barrister 1 D Examination-in-Chief Defence Witness 1 (10min)			
Barrister 1 P Cross-Examination Defence Witness 1 (10min)			
Barrister 1 D Re-Examination Defence Witness 1 (5min)			
Barrister 2 D Examination-in-Chief Defence Witness 2 (10min)			
Barrister 2 P Cross-Examination Defence Witness 2 (10min)			
Barrister 2 D Re-Examination Defence Witness 2 (5min)			
Barrister 2 P Closing Address (10min)			
Barrister 2 D Closing Address (10min)			



Objection Sheet

Round No: Date:

Objection by: Plaintiff/Prosecution	Ruling: (allowed/not allowed)	Objection by: Defence	Ruling: (allowed/not allowed)

Nature of Objection:

Relevance (R), Hearsay (H), Opinion (O), Character (C), Argumentative (AE)

Please specify if any other objection is made.



Exhibit List

Case:	
Judge's Associate (Name):	
Signed:	

Round No: Date:

Exhibit No.	Description	Submitted P = Prosec D = Defence	ution	/Plaintiff
		Р	or	D
		Р	or	D
		Р	or	D
		Р	or	D
		Р	or	D
		Р	or	D

2019 MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION SCORESHEET

ALL SCORES ARE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE AND ARE FINAL

Defence School:	Team Name:	Score: 1775	Coach/teacher Signature:	ITIFF DEFENCE	DB1	/10	/10	DB1 /10	DB1	/20	
Date:	Court:	/175 Judge:		PROSECUTION/PLAIN	PB1		PB1			PW1	PB2
rosecution School:	eam Name:	ë	oach/teacher Signature:	ITEM	OPENING		XIC (& RE-EXAMINATION)	OBJECTIONS	XXM	(PROS/PLAINTIFF)	XIC (& RE-EXAMINATION)
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/10

DB2

/10

DB2

/20

WITNESS 2 (PROS/PLAINTIFF)

OBJECTIONS

XX X

Prosecution Witness 2

/20

2019 MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION SCORESHEET

DEFENCE	/10			/20	/10			/20	/20	/15		/10	/175
	DB1	/10	/20	DW1	DB2	/10	/20	DW2	DB2	DS //15	/10	AL	/175
PROSECUTION/PLAINTIFF		PB1	PB1		(NOIL)	PB2	PB2		PB2	PS	LY CO	TE CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTO	
ITEM	XIC (& RE-EXAMINATION)	OBJECTIONS	V Sefence V	WITNESS 1 (DEFENCE)	XIC (& RE-EXAMINATION)	OBJECTIONS	V Someten V	WITNESS 2 (DEFENCE)	CLOSING	SOLICITORS	COURT ORDERLY	JUDGE'S ASSOCIATE	TOTALS

The following matrix has been developed as a guide to scoring each role in the Mock Trial Competition.

Please note that this is a guide only, as students may demonstrate qualities that fall into different categories.

ALL SCORES ARE TO BE ALLOCATED AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE AND ARE FINAL

Outstanding Almost flawless performance Very rarely awarded	Only where a student clearly exceeds all expectations of the role and excels in their performance	9.5-10 marks	All Distinction criteria met and exceeded Thoroughly familiar with the factual material, the legal principles and their application Clearly relaxed and in control Thoroughly polished presentation
Distinction Very sound performance Rarely awarded	Where a student has demonstrated all aspects of the role with a good performance, clearly in the top group of barristers in the competition	8.5-9 marks	Excellent structure, clear, logical, easy to follow Clear and persuasive case theory All material facts presented clearly and concisely Clear and concisely Clear and concisely Clear and concise summary of the specific legal principles relevant to the case Concise outline of the evidence to be provided Reasonable rebuttal of the other side's likely position Not nervous Excellent eye contact, Good pace in delivery, good voice modulation, poised, confident and persuasive
Credit A good all round performance Most students will be in this or the Average range	Where a student gives a solid performance that meets most criteria while still missing some aspects of content or delivery	7-8 marks	Well ordered structure that is easy to follow, though may have a few irrelevant or missing points Most material facts presented At least one legal issue identified and concisely expressed Some outline of the evidence to be relied upon Some attempt made to rebut an obvious part of the other side's position Case theory can be clearly understood Reasonable eye contact, good pace and voice modulation, only a few nerves showing, manner reasonably confident and persuasive
A reasonable performance across most criteria Most students will be in this or the Credit range	Where a student has made a reasonable attempt at most of the parts of the role, but who demonstrates room to improve their performance	5-6.5 marks	Reasonably well ordered thoughts, may be hard to follow Some material facts presented but not all Some irrelevant material Some of the legal argument raised but not all No or minimal attempt to rebut the other side's obvious position No real case theory some nerves Reasonable eye contact Reasonable tone and modulation Stumbles occasionally on notes Reads more than persuasively presents
Weak A performance that needs improving in a number of respects Rarely Awarded	Where a student has shown some level of understanding of the role, but who on the whole is missing most aspects of the requirements of the role.	3-4.5 marks	Poor structure and ordering of thoughts Irrelevant material presented Material facts not given central focus No real attempt to address the legal issues No attempt to rebut the other side's case No or little eye contact. Reads notes and has no or very little modulation and fails to present the case as opposed to read their notes
Very Weak A very poor performance Very rarely awarded if ever	Where a student has clearly failed to grasp or display the main requirements of the role	0-3 marks	Ideas not particularly ordered No real structure Repetition Missing significant material facts No attempt to address legal principles Clearly nervous Appears unprepared No eye contact, reading entirely from notes, no modulation, pace too fast or too slow
			OPENING ADDRESS

2017 Mock Trial Competition – Judge's Scoring guide

Outstanding Almost flawless performance Very rarely awarded 9.5-10 marks	All distinction criteria met and exceeded Perfect questioning with the judge being unable to conceive better questions to ask Perfect eye contact and presentation Completely polished 9.5-10 marks	Demonstrating excellent awareness of the grounds for making or not making objections Objects perfectly with flawless reasoning Making a considered and excellent response with flawless reasoning	19-20 marks	Avoids all unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief Excellent relevance to evidence-in-chief Excellent relevance to own case Perfect eye contact and presentation Completely polished 19-20 marks	Full and accurate recital of evidence Stays within ambit of statement and agreed facts and introduces additional evidence Cross-examination: copes excellently under cross-examination Presentation: excellent speech and excellent modulation Introduces appropriate dramatic effect to the role that extends the role above and
Distinction Very sound performance Rarely awarded 8.5-9 marks	Asks no objectionable questions Good re-examination Good eye contact Asks clear questions Great differentiation between questions	good ounds for g ectry with and good	17-18.5 marks	Avoids, almost without exception, unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief very good relevance to evidence-in-chief very good relevance to own case Good eye contact Asks clear questions 17-18.5 marks	Full and accurate recital of evidence Stays within ambit of statement and agreed facts and introduces additional evidence Cross-examination: copes very well under cross-examination Presentation: speaks very clearly and excellent modulation Introduces appropriate dramatic effect to the role
A good all round performance Most students will be in this or the Average range 7-8 marks	Asks few or no objectionable questions Re-examines if necessary Reasonable eye contact Asks clear questions Good differentiation between questions	Demonstrating good awareness of the grounds for making or not making objections Makes strong objections Making a considered and appropriate response	14-16.5 marks	Avoids, in the main, unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief Good relevance to evidence-in-chief Good relevance to own case Reasonable eye contact Asks clear questions 14-16.5 marks	Full and accurate recital of evidence Stays within ambit of statement and agreed facts and introduces additional evidence Cross-examination: copes well under cross-examination Presentation: speaks very clearly and good modulation
Average A reasonable performance across most criteria Most students will be in this or the Credit range 5-6.5 marks	Proper introduction of evidence Questioning according to rules of evidence Re-examination if necessary Asks few objectionable questions Decent eye contact Asks few confusing questions Little differentiation between questions	Demonstrating awareness of the grounds for making on not making objections Makes a considered response	10-13.5 marks	Avoiding unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief Relevance to evidence-in-chief Relevance to own case Asks few objectionable questions Decent eye contact Asks few confusing questions Asks few confusing questions	Full and accurate recital of evidence Stays within ambit of statement and agreed facts Cross-examination: good coping skills Presentation: speaks clearly and good modulation
Weak A performance that needs improving in a number of respects Rarely Awarded 3.5-4.5 marks	Asks objectionable questions Questions fail to bring forward a significant amount of relevant information from the witness statements No or little eye contact Little differentiation between questions Asks confusing questions	Demonstrating poor awareness of the grounds for making or not making objections Attempts to make a considered response but may respond poorly Makes some decent objections, but not many	7-9.5 marks	Some unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief Poor relevance to evidence-in-chief Poor relevance to own case No or little eye contact Asks confusing questions 7-9.5 marks	Incomplete and inaccurate recital of evidence Extends beyond ambit of statement and agreed facts Cross-examination: copes poorly Argues with counsel Presentation: mumbled speech and poor modulation
Very Weak A very poor performance Very rarely awarded if ever 0-3 marks	Asks lots of objectionable questions (leading, repetitive, etc) Questions fail to bring forward the majority of relevant information from the witness statements Clearly nervous No eye contact Appears unprepared No differentiation between questions Asks confusing questions O-3 marks	Demonstrating no awareness of the grounds for making or not making objections Unable to make a considered response Does not make any objections or makes poor objections Does not respond well to objections	0-6.5 marks	Unnecessary repetition of evidence-in-chief No relevance to evidence-in-chief No relevance to own case No relevance to own case No eye contact Appears unprepared Asks confusing questions O-6.5 marks	Reads witness statement or reads from notes (= 0 points) Incomplete and inaccurate recital of evidence Extends beyond ambit of statement, agreed facts and unfairly introduces new evidence Cross-examination: unable to cope Argues with counsel Presentation: Incomprehensible speech and no modulation
	EXAMINATION IN CHIEF	OBJECTIONS		CROSS EXAMINATION	WITNESS

2017 Mock Trial Competition – Judge's Scoring guide

Outstanding Almost flawless performance Very rarely awarded	All the criteria set out in the bisfinction category met and exceeded. Clearly relaxed, and in control of the address and the conduct thereof An exemplary understanding of the material, the evidence as elicited throughout the trial, the case law, and the interaction between the same.	14-15 marks	All of the criteria recorded in the Distinction category; plus Professional conduct of the Solicitor An overall appraisal of the notes of the Solicitors, general conduct, and team work that elevates the Solicitor into the level of 'Outstanding'.
Distinction Very sound performance Rarely awarded	Well reasoned ideas, logical flow, and excellent structure and discussed with full understanding of the same Discusses all relevant case law, with an ability to distinguish that which is not favourable, and advocate for that which is No irrelevant material discussed at all Excellent eye contact A well reasoned case theory, made clear by the address No nerves showing Rebuts all relevant issues displayed in the other side's case theory, and supports with relevant evidence and case law where necessary No reliance on notes, contemporaneous in their address, and persuasively advocates their side's position Answers questions from His/Her Honour with finesse, and incorporates the answers into their address, being flexible in the delivery thereof	12.5-13.5 marks	All of the criteria recorded in the Credit category; plus All notes are clear, concise and accurately record the proceedings An obvious team ethos between Barristers and Solicitor.
A good all round performance Most students will be in this or the Average range	Well ordered flow of address, ideas are reasoned and logical. Close to all relevant issues addressed, with little to no irrelevant material discussed at length Addresses relevant legal principles, has understanding, but when challenged by His/Her Honour, falters Discusses some relevant case law, especially relevant to their side's case theory, however has some difficulty in distinguishing that which is not favourable Good eye contact An apparent case theory Few nerves showing Some rebuttal of the other side's case Modulates voice well No reliance on notes, with an obvious contemporaneity of their address, incorporating issues that have arisen as the trial has progressed Answers questions from His/Her Honour with little difficulty, shows broad understanding of relevant to their address unscathed	10-12 marks	Well recorded notes of the proceedings Involvement with the Barristers throughout the proceedings (ie informing the Barrister when they've missed evidence in chief, or further questions to ask in cross) Clear involvement with the Barristers in the drafting of the closing address
Average A reasonable performance across most criteria Most students will be in this or the Credit range	Some logical order to flow of address, ideas have reasoning Some irrelevant material presented, but mostly focussed on central issues Attempts to address relevant legal principles, but does not have in depth understanding of said principles Tries to discuss relevant case law but does not appear to have full understanding of the contents thereof Some eve contact Some eve contact Some attempt at modulation in voice Some reliance on notes, erring on the side of reading rather than persuading the bench Attempts to respond to questions from His/Her Honour, and demonstrates some knowledge of the topics asked Tries to rebut the other side's case, but has some difficulty	8-9.5 marks	Active participation in proceedings Notes to barristers during trial including comments on evidence Accurate contemporaneous notes of hearing
Weak A performance that needs improving in a number of respects Rarely Awarded	Poor structure of address, with no logical flow of ideas Material that is irrelevant presented, with focus taken away from material facts that are in issue Some attempt to address relevant legal principles No attempt to discuss, rely upon, or distinguish case law provided (where relevant) No attempt to rebut the other side's case No or little eye contact Clearly nervous Little or no attempt at modulating voice A clear reliance on notes, with address obviously scripted Tries to respond to questions from His/Her Honour, but falters, cannot return to address flexibly.	6-7.5 marks	Some notes written throughout the trial, and provided to the Barristers Some contemporaneous notes of the hearing Some participation throughout the proceedings Involvement with the Barristers in the drafting of the closing address
Very Weak A very poor performance Very rarely awarded if ever	No attempt to address relevant legal principles No attempt to discuss, rely upon, or distinguish case law provided (where relevant) No attempt to rebut the other side's case Discusses issues or elements of case, in depth, whilst not in issue (ie wastes time on irrelevant issues) Clearly nervous No attempt at modulating voice No attempt at modulating voice Clearly a scripted address, with no contemporaneity with how the case has progressed Cannot respond to questions from His/Her Honour	0-5.5 marks	No contemporaneous notes No interaction with the Barristers throughout the course of the trial Clearly no input or involvement in the drafting of the closing address
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2017 Mock Trial Competition – Judge's Scoring guide

Outstanding Almost flawless performance Very rarely awarded	9.5-10 marks	Courtroom role carried out correctly and with a high degree of polish (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Completion of time sheet and Notice of Appearance is without error Displays perfect court etiquette Very effectively maintains courtroom order Time limits are strictly adhered to and wamings are consistently provided	9.5-10 marks	Carries out role with a high degree of confidence and polish and without error Announces case without prompt when required Displays perfect court etiquette List of objections accurately records all objections made and by whom
Distinction Very sound performance Rarely awarded	8.5-9 marks	Courtroom role carried out correctly and with polish (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Completion of time sheet and Notice of Appearance is very good Displays court etiquette of a high standard Effectively maintains courtroom order Time limits are adhered to and warnings are provided	8.5-9 marks	Carries out role confidently and with polish Announces case without prompt when required Displays court etiquette to a high standard List of objections records all objections made
A good all round performance Most students will be in this or the Average range	7-8 marks	Courtroom role carried out correctly and with some polish (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Completion of time sheet and Notice of Appearance is above satisfactory Displays good court etiquette Maintains good courtroom order Time limits are mostly adhered to and wamings are provided	7-8 marks	Carries out role correctly and with some polish Announces case correctly Displays good court etiquette List of objections is properly completed
A reasonable performance across most criteria Most students will be in this or the Credit range	5-6.5 marks	Courtroom role carried out correctly (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Completion of time sheet, Notice of Appearance and appropriate court etiquette Satisfactorily maintains courtroom order Time limits are generally well-monitored	5-6.5 marks	Carries out role satisfactorily Announces case with little error Displays satisfactory court etiquette Satisfactorily lists objections made Takes exhibits from Court Orderly when required and presents to presiding judge
Weak A performance that needs improving in a number of respects Rarely Awarded	3-4.5 marks	Courroom role carried out with some difficulty (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Completion of time sheet, Notice of Appearance is to a low standard Court etiquette requires improvement Maintains courtroom order with difficulty Poorly keeps teams to time	3-4.5 marks	Carries out role with some difficulty and a lack of polish Announces case with some difficulty Court etiquette requires improvement List of objections lists the majority of objections made Requires some prompting in taking exhibits and presenting to judge
Very Weak A very poor performance Very rarely awarded if ever	0-3 marks	Courtroom role carried out poorly (open/close Court, circulate documents, call and swear witnesses) Fails to complete time sheet, Notice of Appearance Court etiquette is of a low standard Fails to maintain courtroom order Fails to keep teams to time	0-3 marks	Carries out role poorly Fails to announce case correctly and when required Court etiquette is of a low standard List of objections fails to list any or only lists few objections Fails to take exhibits and present to judge
		сопкт окрекгу		JUDGE'S ASSOCIATE

Document	Who is responsible for this document?	To whom is it submitted? When?	What is it for?
Attendance Roll (WACE Endorsement Record) showing the correct names of all Team Members present on the night, and their roles. It also records the participation of the Coach. The teacher must sign this document.	The teacher Please note that the teacher must sign this document	Hand to the Mock Trial Coordinator, if possible early in the evening before the Trial begins.	The Law Society requires this document in order to maintain accurate participation records
Notice of Appearance (The P team must bring a blank copy to the trial)	Court Orderly	The CO ensures that it is completed by both teams and provides it for the Judge at the commencement of the Trial	This is how the Judge knows the names of the Barristers. The document assists the Judge when recording comments during the Trial
Timesheet (prepared by JA) Exhibits List (compiled by JA) Objection Sheet (prepared by JA) (The D team must bring blank copies to the trial)	Judge's Associate	The JA hands these documents to the Judge after closing addresses, together with the CO's Timesheet and each side's Solicitors' Notes (see below)	The Judge will assess the quality of this documentation (see Scoring Guide)
Timesheet (prepared by CO) (The P team must bring a blank copy to the trial)	Court Orderly completes and hands to Judge's Associate	The CO hands his/her Timesheet to the JA. The JA then adds it to the documents listed above, and hands all these documents to the Judge after closing addresses	The Judge will assess the quality of this documentation (see Scoring Guide)
Notes taken by the Solicitor during the Trial, presented in a pink or blue folder provided by the Law Society clearly marked with the team's role (P or D)	Court Orderly collects and hands to Judge's Associate	The CO collects the Solicitors' Notes from both sides and hands them to the JA after the closing addresses. The JA then adds the two folders to the documents listed above, and hands all these documents to the Judge after closing addresses	The notes are used by the Judge to assess the Solicitor's involvement during the Trial (see Scoring Guide)
Completed Scoresheet , signed by the Judge, and checked and signed by a coach/teacher from each team (The Law Society will provide a blank scoresheet at each trial)	After the trial, the winning team	Hand to the Mock Trial Coordinator before going home after the Trial	The Mock Trial Coordinator will record the scores, and the Scoresheet will be copied and sent to both teams on the following day

Finals Fixtures



