

# THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016



O.P. Jindal Global University  
*A Private University Promoting Public Service*

## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

### Primer

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#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>I.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	2
<b>II.</b>	<b>ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION</b> .....	2
<b>III.</b>	<b>REGISTRATION OF TEAMS</b> .....	3
<b>IV.</b>	<b>WRITTEN SUBMISSION</b> .....	3
<b>V.</b>	<b>ORAL ROUNDS</b> .....	5
	<b>Round I- Deliberation Round</b> .....	6
	<b>Round II- Query Round</b> .....	6
	<b>'Adda' Round (Informal Session)</b> .....	6
<b>VI.</b>	<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b> .....	8
<b>VII.</b>	<b>CONDITIONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION</b> .....	8
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b> .....	9
<b>IX.</b>	<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> .....	9

# THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Coase Brief Competition (CBC) is a first of its kind, inter-disciplinary competition organized by O.P Jindal Global University (JGU). This competition celebrates the life and scholarship of renowned economist and author, Ronald H. Coase. CBC envisages an inter-disciplinary perspective to a hypothetical problem-set where participants attempt to present solutions beyond their respective academic disciplines. The unique format of this competition allows & encourages students of all schools/institutions across the globe to work and engage in cutting-edge inter-disciplinary research and display academic rigour of the highest calibre. The 1<sup>st</sup> Jindal- Economic Laws Practice (ELP) Coase Brief Competition was successfully conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014, with the winners receiving a prize of INR 50,000. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Jindal Coase Brief Competition was held on 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 with the prize money of INR 75000 which would increase this year.

The purpose of CBC is to provide a platform for different sections of academia and society to intellectually engage on issues whose viable solutions cannot be offered within narrowed silos of single academic discipline. Indeed, the competition aims at engaging students from different academic disciplines intellectually in order to start Co-operating and Co-ordinating over issues which affect different sections of society. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of Jindal Coase Brief Competition will be held on 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

## II. ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION

1. Students pursuing any Undergraduate/Post Graduate course in any recognized Institution/University in India or abroad only can participate in CBC. The highest academic qualification of students should not be above the Masters Level.
2. They must have the required team as per the following criteria:
  - A team may consist of students from one or more universities.
  - Each team shall consist of minimum two and maximum five members, out of which there shall be at least two speakers.

## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

- At least two members should be from different academic disciplines. If a particular student holds degree from different academic disciplines, then the current degree for which he/she has enrolled will be considered.
3. Considering that the official language of communication is English, the team should have at least one participant who can comprehend and converse in English.

### III. REGISTRATION OF TEAMS

1. Any eligible team can register. (See Eligibility Section)
2. Registrations can be done by filling the Google Doc: <http://goo.gl/forms/sjOwyv0Oel>
3. The Registration ends on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.
4. There is no registration fee.

### IV. WRITTEN SUBMISSION

1. All the teams are required to submit a preliminary brief composed of not more than 1000 words on or before December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (11.59 pm).
2. Deadlines and other dates will be as per Indian Standard Time (IST). Shortlisted teams will then be required to submit three more briefs on three different case studies for the Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals of not more than 1000 words by March 08<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
2. A paragraph highlighting the primary issues in brief (maximum 100 words; in addition to 1000 words of brief), referred as the 'Scope of Issues' should be included in the beginning.
3. Index of Authorities/References (can also include various books, reports, surveys, theories, facts, statute, conventions, contracts etc.) should be included after the 100 word Scope of Issues and 1000 word Brief.
4. Teams need not mention whether they are taking a Gambit (*Kindly refer to the section on Oral Rounds*) in their written brief.
5. The Written Submission may contain graphs, annexures, maps, diagrams or any other representation of like nature.

**THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016**

6. The Written Submission (including the preliminary pages) shall be typed on A4-sized paper, with the following mandatory specifications:
- a) Font type: Times New Roman b) Font size: 12 c) Line spacing: 1.5 d) Body of text: Justified.
7. For Footnotes, the formatting specifications are:
- a) Font type: Times New Roman b) Font size: 10 c) Single spacing  
d) Paragraph spacing: 0 e) No additional space between 2 footnotes f) Body of text: Justified
8. Each page (including the preliminary pages) must have a margin of 1 inch on each side.
9. Eight teams will be shortlisted on the basis of the written score over the preliminary brief.  
The evaluation criteria for the written preliminary brief is as follows:

Adherence to the word limit of the brief ( i.e. 1000 words brief)	Yes=8 points & No =0 points [Note: A team can only get full 8 points or no points at all.]
Adherence to the word limit of the Scope of Issues ( i.e. 100 words )	Yes=2 points & No=0 points [Note: A team can only get full 2 points or no points at all]
Pertinence of Scope of Issues. i. e. whether all issues mentioned are addressed in the Brief or not.	10 points
Use of authentic references and citations, their quality and relevance (as mentioned in index of authorities document)	20 points
Quality of 1000 word brief based on appropriate use of research and analysis.	40 points
Use of simple language, easy to understand vocabulary, appropriate presentation and overall effective writing communication skills.	10 points

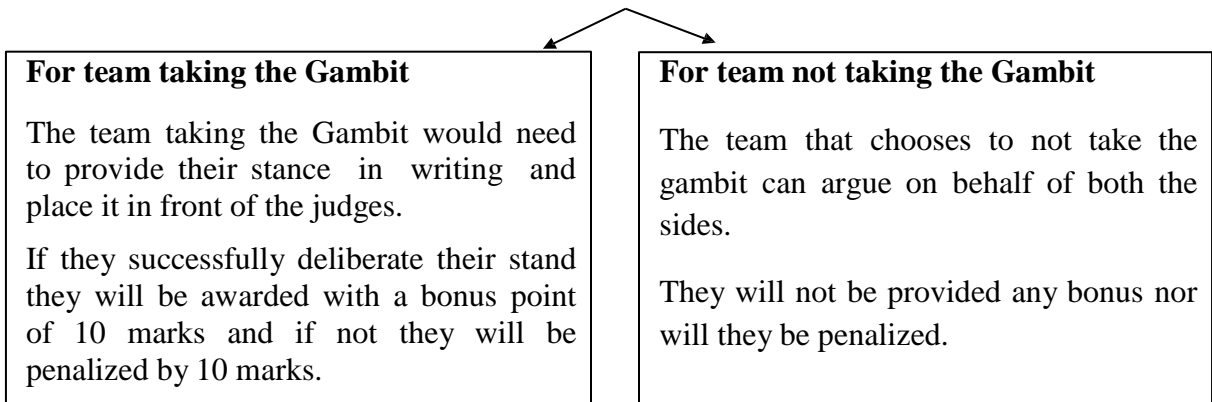
## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

Creativity, Originality and Out of Box thinking	10 Points
<b>Total Score</b>	100 points

10. A team's score in the preliminary written brief will only determine whether it has qualified or not. It will not be included for evaluation of oral rounds.

### V. ORAL ROUNDS

1. The competition will follow a knock out round system. Only the winning team will progress to the next round of the competition.
2. Each round will have one of the three case studies associated with it. Once a case study is used for a particular round, it will not be used for further rounds. Hence, shortlisted participants will have to submit all the three briefs on or before March 08<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
3. Each oral round (i.e. quarter final, semi-final and final) will have a Deliberation Round and a Query Round followed by **Adda** [Kindly refer below].
4. Before the start of a particular oral round, the team has to inform the organizers and the Judges as to whether they are taking the Gambit?
5. A team is said to have taken a 'gambit' if it takes a particular stand on the issue throughout the oral round. The team will be evaluated on how well they defend their position.
6. Therefore, the teams will be presented with two options at the start of the round:



## **THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016**

### **Round I- Deliberation Round**

- i. Each team will be given 10 minutes to present their brief to the audience as well as deliberate on their brief with the Judges. The team should have atleast 2 speakers.
- ii. They will be allowed any mode of presentation for oral argument with or without Powerpoint, audio-visuals etc.
- iii. During the Presentation, the Judges have the right to interrupt the Speaker and pose questions or take any clarification.
- iv. After the expiry of 10 minutes, in case the team needs a time extension, then the speaker would first need to ask the permission of the Judges. Approval or rejection of the request would be done at the sole discretion of the Judges.
- v. The members of the Opposition Team will not be allowed to interrupt the Speaker or the team.

### **Round II- Query Round**

- i. Each team will ask and answer questions from the other team in a query sub-round. No one (including the judges) is allowed to interrupt the teams.
- ii. The maximum time for posing a query is 40 seconds. Only one query can be posed.
- iii. The time for answering the query is 1 minute (maximum) after 10 seconds of reflection.
- iv. There will be four such query sub-rounds with a break of 10 seconds between answering of a query and posing of next query.

### **A D D A (Informal Session)**

- i. Every individual present in the competition shall have the opportunity to discuss, deliberate and engage with the case study for thirty minutes (maximum). The Judges will moderate this discussion.
- ii. This round is merely an informal discussion and will not be evaluated by the Judges. This is merely to engage the audience in the nuances of the case study.

## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

7. The Evaluation Criteria for the oral rounds will be as follows:

### **i. For a team not taking gambit**

Quality of written brief and adherence to word limit	20 points
Answer to Questions, communication and other deliberation skills	20 points
Proper and Articulate Analysis, Extent of Use of Research in oral round	20 points
Originality, out of box thinking and contribution to existing set of ideas and practices	10 points
Knowledge of Existing Facts	10 points
Overall Style, Poise and Demeanor	5 points
Organization and Time Management	5 points

- Maximum possible points for team without gambit: 90

### **ii. For a team taking gambit: i.e. it wishes to stick to its well-defined stand throughout the deliberation and query round.**

Quality of written brief and adherence to word limit	20 points
Answer to Questions, Communication and other deliberation skills	20 points
Proper and Articulate Analysis, Extent of Use of Research in oral round	20 points
Originality, out of box thinking and contribution to existing set of ideas and practices	10 points
Knowledge of existing facts	10 points
Overall Style, Poise and Demeanor	5 points
Organization and Time Management	5 points
Gambit	+ 10 (if it defends successfully) - 10 (if it doesn't defend successfully)

## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

- Maximum possible points for team with gambit and able to defend it successfully: 100
  - Maximum possible points for team with gambit and not able to defend it successfully: 80
8. A team's score in any round will not be included for evaluation in further rounds.
9. Irrespective of the Gambit, the Team with highest score in the oral round wins. If total marks of both the teams are same then the team with highest average marks in '*Originality, out of box thinking and contribution to existing set of ideas and practices*' shall be declared as the winner.

### VI. IMPORTANT DATES

30-Oct-2015	The Preliminary case study is released
20-Dec-2015	Registration window for teams closes
25-Dec-2015	Teams Submit Coase Brief for the preliminary round
29-Dec-2015	Announcement of results of teams qualified for Quarter-Finals and release of remaining 3 case studies for the shortlisted teams
08-Mar-2016	Teams submit Coase Briefs for the remaining 3 case studies
29-Mar-2016	Quarter-Finals
29-Mar-2016	Semi-Finals
31-Mar-2016	Finals

### VII. CONDITIONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

1. **Plagiarism:** The Coase Brief Competition has a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism is the "wrongful appropriation" and "stealing and publication" of another author's "language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions" and the representation of them as one's own original work. The submitted memorials will be put through thorough strict plagiarism checks. If there is any plagiarism, it will lead to direct disqualification of the participants/teams. The participants are encouraged to use citations for ideas, language, thoughts and expressions that have been lifted from someone else's work. The prescribed

## THE COASE BRIEF COMPETITION 2016

form of citations include- Bluebook, Oxford, ILI, Chicago etc.

2. **Fake credentials:** Any team found providing fake credentials/information with regards to the eligibility criteria will stand disqualified immediately.
3. **Scouting:** Any act of gathering information about the other participating/qualifying teams, copying their memorials or any other form of communication activity that jeopardizes any other team's chance in the competition or increases/ better a team's chance of winning the competition will render such teams disqualified.

### VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The memorials/briefs submitted by participants will become the Intellectual Property of O.P. Jindal Global University.
2. The briefs that have been selected by the board of members of the Coase Brief Committee (Professors and other dignitaries).
3. The Coase Brief 2016 Management Council's decision will be final and binding on the participants and the competition as a whole.

### IX. CONTACT DETAILS

1. Email Address- [coasebrief@jgu.edu.in](mailto:coasebrief@jgu.edu.in)
2. Phone numbers:

Chandana Arval (Jindal Global Law School)	(+91) 9050624088
Vinaykumar Paravasthu (Jindal Global Business School)	(+91) 9700048280
Palak Gulati (Jindal School of International Affairs)	(+91) 9728700181
Shantanu Tyagi (Jindal School of Government & Public Policy)	(+91) 9810765551
Tejaswini Chepyala (Jindal School of Liberal Arts)	(+91) 8816933945