



BHS HIGHER EDUCATION SOCIETY

6th Lex Fortissimus

BILS NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION



RULES AND REGULATIONS

12TH APRIL – 14TH APRIL, 2019

VENUE: BANGALORE INSTITUTE OF LEGAL STUDIES

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Rules and Regulations

I. Aim and Purpose

The aim of this competition is to bridge the gap between classroom learning and practical life. A Trial Advocacy Competition creates a platform for the students where they exhibit their skills that they will need in the future. As our esteemed Dean mentioned, the bread and butter of an advocate is dependent on his ability to build a case, using witnesses and documentary evidence effectively. A Trial Advocacy Competition recreates this atmosphere and allows the students to hone their abilities in this direction.

II. Venue and Date

The Lex Fortissimus BILS National Trial Advocacy Competition will be hosted at the Campus of Bangalore Institute of Legal Studies from **12th April, 2019 to 14th April, 2019**. The BILS campus is located in the heart of the city of Bangalore and has lush Lalbagh Gardens within its proximity. The campus is 38 kms away from the Kempegowda International Airport, and 7 kms from the City Central Railway Station (SBC) and Kempegowda Bus Station (aka Majestic). For address and location details refer to the last page of the rule copy.

III. Language

The Trial Advocacy Competition and all its proceedings and documents will be in English only.

IV. Eligibility

The competition is open for students who are studying three year LL.B. or five year integrated LL.B. course during the current academic year. The college/university must be affiliated to the Bar Council of India.

V. Team Composition

- a. Every college can be represented only by one team consisting of three members. Each team should consist of 2 speakers and one researcher.
- b. The team composition included in the registration form shall be considered final. Any changes will have to be intimated in the form of an e-mail to the lex.fortissimus@gmail.com at the earliest date possible. These requests will only be entertained up to 8 days before the date of registration at the venue. These requests will be entertained only on a case by case basis and a decision will be taken by the Lex Fortissimus Dispute Redressal Forum (“LFDRF”) and their decision will be final.
- c. The researcher shall be allowed to argue with prior permission of the court and Court Administrators in case of illness of the designated speakers.

VI. Dress Code

All the participants are required to adhere to the following dress code:

Boys: Black and White Western Formals with Black Blazer.

Girls: Black and White Western/Indian Formals with Black Blazer.

VII. Registration

- a. Registration fees for this competition will be **Rs.4,000/- (Rupees Four Thousand Only)** per college per team.
- b. Teams that are interested in registering will first need to write a mail to lex.fortissimus@gmail.com expressing their interest to participate.
- c. On receiving a confirmation mail for us, the teams will need to email the soft copy of the documents listed below, to the lex.fortissimus@gmail.com address by **20th March, 2019** to complete the registration process.
 - i. *Scanned Copy of the duly filled Registration Form.*
 - ii. *Scanned copy of the NEFT Acknowledgement.*

Hard Copy Submissions:-

Teams will need to post the hard copy of the documents listed below by **25th March, 2019** to the Bangalore Institute of Legal Studies. The address for the same can be found in Annexure II.

- Duly filled Registration Form.
- Copy of the NEFT Acknowledgement.
- Duly Filled Travel Form

NEFT Details:

For Funds Transfer by NEFT

Bank Name: Syndicate Bank

Bank Branch: Vijaya College Campus, Bangalore

IFSC (Indian Financial System Code): SYNB0000475

Account Name: The Principal, Bangalore Institute of Legal Studies

Account Number: 04752200006479

The envelope should also include at the very top “RE: 6th LF - BILS NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION, 2019”.

VIII. Oral Submissions

A. Pre-trial Session and Other Information

- Organizers shall provide the witnesses for all the rounds.
- The witness list for the Prosecution and Defence shall be as provided in the Brief. No other witnesses will be entertained.

- Teams shall submit a list of witnesses they intend to examine to the Court Coordinator at the end of the draw of lots for all the rounds. A minimum of 4 witnesses should be chosen by each team.
- Participants shall be allotted 30 minutes to brief their witness just before the trial begins for the qualifying and semi-final rounds. For the Final Round 45 minutes are allotted for briefing the witnesses.
- Teams shall brief the witnesses within the prescribed time.
- Teams shall plan to examine any of the witnesses from the list within the allotted time.
- Each counsel shall examine the witnesses of either side in every round.
- Any one of the witnesses may turn hostile in any or all the rounds and the participants should be prepared to handle the situation.
- Order of conducting trial amongst the two co-counsels shall be notified to the Court-Officers prior to the commencement of each Round.

B. Trial Session

i. Qualifying Round

- There will be two rounds for each team (Prosecution and Defence) to be determined by a draw of lots.
- Each team shall appear for both the sides compulsorily before a new bench of Judges and against a new participating team.
- Teams cannot use any electronic devices, like laptops, mobile phones, tablets etc. during the court proceedings.
- Each team shall have 1 hour (Cumulative) time to complete its Opening Statement, Examination-in-Chief, Cross Examination and Closing Statement for one appearance.
- Four teams shall qualify for semi-finals based on the highest number of wins and the aggregate marks in each round shall be considered. In case of tie, team with highest marks in orals will qualify to the semi-finals. In case of further tie the decision of the organizers shall be final.
- All records and documents are presumed to be in the custody of the courts.
- No additional affidavits, memorandum, witnesses, documentary or other evidence can be introduced by the team during the trial. Non-adherence to this rule will invite immediate disqualification.

ii. Semi-Final Round

- Each team shall appear once and the side they represent shall be determined by a draw of lots.
- Each team shall have 1 hour (Cumulative) time to complete its Opening Statement, Examination –in- Chief, Cross Examination and Closing Statement.
- Teams cannot use any electronic devices, like laptops, mobile phones, tablets etc. during the court proceedings.
- This is a Knock-Out Round where the team that wins qualifies to the Final Round.
- All records and documents are presumed to be in the custody of the courts.
- No additional affidavits, memorandum, witnesses, documentary or other evidence can be introduced by the team during the trial. Non-adherence to this rule will invite immediate disqualification.

iii. Final Round

- Each team shall appear once and the side they represent shall be determined by a draw of lots
- Each team shall have 1 hour and 20 minutes (Cumulative) time to complete its Opening Statement, Examination –in- Chief, Cross Examination and Closing Statement.
- Teams cannot use any electronic devices, like laptops, mobile phones, tablets etc. during the court proceedings.
- This is a Knock-Out Round. The highest scoring team of this round shall be adjudged the Winner of the competition and the other team will hold the Runners-Up position.

IX. Scouting

Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the team members shall result in disqualification.

X. Evaluation

Oral Submissions

Parameters for Adjudgment (Total: 100 Marks)

- i. Knowledge of facts.
- ii. Logic, reasoning, clarity and systematic analysis of the issues arising out of facts.
- iii. Articulation, persuasiveness & deference to court.
- iv. Adherence to trial procedures and rules.

- v. Ingenuity & innovate ability to argue by analogy.
- vi. Choice of witnesses and ability to elicit favourable facts from the witnesses.
- vii. Building a favourable case by using the witnesses and evidence given.
- viii. General Impression.

XI. Anonymity

- a. Student Counsel may introduce herself/himself to the court in the usual manner and may also state her/his names. However, the team's college / institution affiliation may not be mentioned at any time before the awards ceremony.
- b. Further, all team members shall refrain from identifying a team's school/college/university at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items, such as school/college/university clothing, ties, patches, or pins or carrying identifying material (such as a books with a college logo, or college seal).
- c. Any violation of the aforementioned rules will attract severe penalties. The penalty will be determined on a case by case basis by the LFDRF. The decision of LFDRF will be final.

XII. Decision of the Judges and the Organising Committee is Final and Binding.

XIII. Awards

Winning Team: Rs. 20,000

Runner Up Team: Rs. 10,000

Best Advocate: Rs. 7,500

XIV. Food and Accommodation

The Organizers of the competition will provide the requisite meals to the participants. There will be no provision for accommodation. Participants are welcome to make their own arrangements at these or other places of their choice. Transport to and from the venue is the responsibility of the participants.

XV. Clarifications

For further clarifications, please contact:

Mrs.Kamalakshy K.,
Assistant Professor,
Moot Court Coordinator,
Bangalore Institute of Legal Studies,
R.V.Road, Basavanagudi,
Bangalore 560 004.
E-mail ID: lex.fortissimus@gmail.com

Student Convenor: Priyal Kothari - +91 80034 10068

Annexure I – Important Dates

Last Date for E-mail Submission of the Registration Form and NEFT Acknowledgement.	20 th March 2019
Last Date of Postal Receipt of the Registration Form and NEFT Acknowledgement.	25 th March 2019
Inauguration & Desk Registration.	12 th April 2019
Qualifying Round.	13 th April 2019
Semi Final Rounds, Final Round & Valedictory.	14 th April 2019

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6th Lex Fortissimus

BILS NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION, 2019

Annexure II- Postal Address of Institution

Address for submissions of hard copies and the venue of the Trial Advocacy Court Competition.

Bangalore Institute of Legal Studies,
Vijaya College Campus, R. V. Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560004
Phone No. +91 80 2693 3227 (9:30 am to 4:00 pm)

<https://goo.gl/maps/GKLe3wXryQn>

<http://bils.ac.in/campus-tour.htm>

Email Address for all correspondence and submission of soft copy.

lex.fortissimus@gmail.com