

WEST BANK, PALESTINE NATIONAL RULES SUPPLEMENT 2017

This Rules Supplement has been promulgated by ABA ROLI with the approval of the Executive Director of the International Law Students Association.

Except as modified by this supplement, the Official Rules of the 2017 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (“Official Rules”) shall apply. Teams are responsible for reading and becoming familiar with the Official Rules.

1. Administration

The American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (“ABA ROLI”) is responsible for the administration of the West Bank, Palestine National Competition 2017.

2. Interpretation of Rules

Should any question arise as to the interpretation of this Rules Supplement, such questions shall be addressed to ABA ROLI. Pursuant to Official Rule 1.7, the Executive Director shall serve as final arbiter of implementation and interpretation of this Rules Supplement.

3. Location and Dates

The West Bank, Palestine National Competition 2017 will be held in Ramallah in early February 2017.

4. Language

English shall be the official language of the competition. The English version of the Comments and Corrections and Clarifications are the official versions.

Teams shall submit their written memorials and present oral arguments in English.

If a team is unable to participate in the Competition in English, it may apply to the Administrator for an exception no later than 9 December 2016. If a team applies for such exception, it must set forth the reasons for why it would not be able to compete in English.

5. Memorials

Each team shall send an electronic copy of the Applicant and Respondent memorials to the Administrator on 13 January 2017, in addition to submitting memorials online consistent with the provisions of Official Rule 6.1(b).

Opponents’ memorials will be distributed to the teams before the start of the Competition.

6. Judges

Judge eligibility shall be determined by Official Rule 5. Pursuant to Official Rule 5.5(f), it shall not constitute a conflict of interest that a judge has attended one of the participating schools.

It is especially noted that pursuant to Official Rule 5.5(e) a team must notify the Administrator promptly if it believes a conflict of interest exists or be deemed to have waived the objection.

Teams may not communicate with judges (apart from the pleadings) during the National Rounds until the conclusion of the Final Round.

7. Bailiffs

Bailiffs shall not be drawn from the members of participating Teams or anyone directly affiliated with a participating university.

8. Preliminary Rounds

Each team shall participate in four oral rounds, twice as Applicant and twice as Respondent. Pairings shall be determined by a random draw done by ILSA.

9. Final Round

A Final Round will be held between the top two ranked teams after the preliminary rounds. A coin toss, called by the first ranked team, shall determine which team has the pleading option. The team which wins the coin toss will have a maximum of 15 minutes to choose which side it wishes to argue in the final round.

10. Results

The team which wins the Final Round will represent Palestine in the International Rounds in Washington, D.C.

11. Score Sheets

Teams shall receive photocopies of the score sheets for the memorial and oral rounds pursuant to Official Rule 10.14, however, if requested by a judge, the judges' name may be redacted.

12. Penalties

Memorial penalties shall be calculated by the administrator pursuant to Official Rule 11.1. Teams are reminded to pay close attention to memorial penalties enumerated in Rule 11.1(e). The team contact of each team shall be notified of any penalties imposed before the start of the National Rounds.

The Administrator will apply penalties relating to the oral rounds pursuant to Official Rules 11.3 and 11.8. Teams are reminded that scouting (having someone affiliated with a team observe all or part of a round in which his/her team is not participating; see Official Rule 7.13) during the preliminary rounds is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification.

Penalties during the oral rounds shall be assessed as follows:

- Communication between a team member at counsel table and a member of the audience: 5 points for the first violation, 10 points for the second violation

- Having an electronic device at counsel table (see Official Rule 7.17): 5 points per violation

The following penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the Administrator:

- Inappropriate or unprofessional behavior at the counsel table (see Official Rule 7.10): 5 points per violation
- Inappropriate or unprofessional conduct by any team member, team coach, team advisor or university dean (including, but not limited to harassment of judges or administration staff): 5 points per violation
- Submitting multiple frivolous complaints against other teams: 10 points
- Blatant disregard for the procedures or requirements outlined in the Rules: 10 points

The complaint procedure shall be conducted in accordance with Official Rules 11.4 and 11.7.

Lesley Benn

ABA ROLI

ILSA Executive Director