

ITALIAN NATIONAL RULES SUPPLEMENT
FOR THE
2026 PHILIP C. JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Italian National Rule 0.0 – Italian National Rules Supplement

The Italian National Rules Supplement (the “Supplement”) for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (the “Competition”) has been adopted by the Jessup National Administrator for Italy (“National Administrator”) with the approval of the Executive Director (the “Executive Director”) of the International Law Students Association (“ILSA”). The Supplement is intended to facilitate the conduct of the Italian National Rounds. It clarifies and, wherever necessary, completes the Official Rules of the Competition.

These Rules shall remain in force from year to year and may be amended by the National Administrator, who will, as far as possible, consult with the Team Advisors of the Teams participating in the previous year’s competition.

Italian National Rule 1.0 – Administration of the Italian National Rounds

The Italian National Rounds are administered by the National Administrator, as approved by the ILSA:

Dr. Agnese Pizzolla

Email: jessup.italianrounds@gmail.com

Italian National Rule 2.0 – Interpretation of the Supplement

Any questions as to the interpretation of the Supplement shall be addressed to the National Administrator. The Executive Director shall serve as final arbiter in implementation and interpretation of the Supplement.

Italian National Rule 3.0 - Team Member eligibility

In accordance with Official Rule 2.3(b)(i), a person may be a Team Member if he or she intends to compete on behalf of an eligible institution at which he or she is enrolled as a full-time or part-time student as of the Team Member registration deadline, i.e. 21 November 2025.

In clarification of Official Rule 2.3(c), a person may not be a Team Member if he or she is undertaking the compulsory training necessary to be admitted to the Bar (the Italian ‘*pratica forense*’).

In clarification of Official Rule 2.4, Executive Director's written permission is not required for students who received an undergraduate degree in a legal field (the Italian ‘*laurea triennale*’) and are currently enrolled in a graduate / J.D. equivalent degree (the Italian ‘*laurea specialistica*’).

Italian National Rule 4.0 – Memorial Submission

In accordance with Official Rule 5(1)(a), each Team must submit its Applicant and Respondent Memorials to the ILSA via its Team Homepage (available through www.ilsa.org), no later than 12 January 2026, 17:00 (5:00 p.m.) Central Standard Time (CST) (UTC/GST – 6), corresponding to **13 January 2026, 00:00 (00:00 a.m.) Central European Time (CET) (UTC/GST +1)** (“Official Memorial Submission Deadline”).

Italian National Rule 5.0 – Memorial Scoring and Penalties

The grading and assessment of penalties for each Memorial will be organized by the Executive Director in accordance with Official Rule 5.16. Prior to the commencement of the Italian National Rounds, the Executive Director will endeavour to ensure that each Memorial has been graded at least four (4) times and will communicate the scores and any penalties to the National Administrator.

Teams will not receive information about other Teams’ penalties. At no time, appeals against the attribution or non-attribution of Penalties to other Teams’ Memorials will be deemed admissible.

Italian National Rule 6.0 – Italian National Rounds

6.1 Preliminary Rounds

Each Team participating in the Italian National Rounds shall participate in Preliminary Rounds consisting of four (4) Oral Rounds, twice as Applicant and twice as Respondent.

6.2 Preliminary Round Pairings

For the purpose of pairings in the Preliminary Rounds, the National Administrator shall establish Teams’ opponents according to a random drawing. The National Administrator, with the agreement of the Executive Director, may modify the pairings in the best interests of the competition, including for absent Teams or other unforeseeable contingencies.

Team Advisors of participating Teams may request the National Administrator to assist to the drawing via online meeting.

Pairings and Memorials of opposing Teams will be distributed to Teams during the Welcome Meeting which will take place in the afternoon the day before the start of the competition.

6.3 Semifinal Rounds

If 8 or more Teams participate to the Italian National Rounds, Semifinal Rounds will be held. The Semifinal Rounds of the Italian National Rounds consist of two (2) pairings of the four (4) Teams ranked first (1st) through fourth (4th) from the Preliminary Rounds.

6.4 Semifinal Rounds Pairings

The pairings in the Semifinal Rounds of the Italian National Rounds shall be determined by use of "power-seeding", i.e. the highest-ranked Team shall compete against the lowest-ranked Team and the second-highest-ranked Team shall compete against the second-lowest-ranked Team.

For purposes of this Rule, all rankings shall be determined by the final standings of the Preliminary Rounds.

6.5 Third Place Round

If three (3) teams will be invited to represent Italy at the International Rounds, a Third Place Round will be held. The Third Place Round of the Italian National Rounds consists of one (1) pairing of the two losing Teams of the Semifinal Rounds.

If the organisation of the Italian National Rounds so requires, the Third Place Round may be held at the same time during which the Championship Round will take place.

6.6 Championship Round

The Championship Round of the Italian National Rounds consists of one (1) pairing of the two winning Teams of the Semifinal Rounds.

6.7 Advanced Rounds Pleading Option

Prior to the commencement of the Advanced Rounds, each advancing Team will be given its completed master Team scoresheet from the Preliminary Rounds, but not individual judges' scoresheets or notes.

In the Semifinal Rounds, the higher-ranking Team from the Preliminary Rounds shall have the right to choose which side it will argue. This right is called the "pleading option."

Pleading option for the Third Place Round and the Championship Round will be determined by Coin Toss: a designated Team Member of the higher-ranking Team from the Preliminary Rounds will call the toss, and the National Administrator will toss the coin. If the Team Member correctly calls the toss, then their Team will have the pleading option. If that Team Member does not correctly call the toss, then the opposing Team will have the pleading option.

The Team with the pleading option has ten minutes to decide which side it wishes to plead. If that Team fails to select, then the opposing Team has five minutes to do so. If the opposing Team fails to exercise its Pleading Option within a five-minute period, the higher-ranked Team will argue Applicant and the lower-ranked Team will argue Respondent.

Italian National Rule 7.0 – Qualification to the International Rounds

The winning team of the Italian National Rounds will be invited to participate to the International Rounds as 'Italian National Champion'.

If, in accordance with Official Rule 1.2(b), two Italian teams will be invited to represent Italy, the Runner-up team will also be invited.

If, in accordance with Official Rule 1.2(b), three Italian teams will be invited to represent Italy, the team winning the Third Place Round will also be invited.

Italian National Rule 8.0 – Exhibition Team

Upon invitation of the Executive Director, the National Administrator may designate one Team competing in the Italian National Rounds to participate as Exhibition Team in the International Rounds.

Participation as Exhibition Team is intended to be exclusively for educational purposes. The possibility to participate as Exhibition Team will be awarded to the most successful Team representing a university which has not participated in person in the International Rounds, either as a Competing Team or as an Exhibition Team, in the last 10 years.

The Executive Director will take a final decision and confirm the invitation directly to the designated Exhibition Team.

Italian National Rule 9.0 – Reporting of Results

In line with Official Rule 10.16, after the conclusion of the Italian National Rounds, each participating Team shall receive the following:

- (i) a copy of individual Moot judges' scoresheets and Penalties, if any, with any attendant comments from Preliminary Rounds;
- (ii) a copy of the Overall Rankings of the Preliminary Rounds, with the Total Win-Loss records, Overall Raw Scores, and Overall Round Points;
- (iii) a copy of the oralist Rankings from the Preliminary Rounds;
- (iv) a copy of the Memorial Rankings; and
- (v) a summary of the Elimination Rounds.

Teams will not receive summary of scores or individual scoresheets of other Teams.