

**PHILIP C. JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION
2020 BELGIUM NATIONAL QUALIFYING COMPETITION
NATIONAL RULES SUPPLEMENT**

The Official Rules of the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition ("Official Rules") shall be followed unless one or more of the following Belgian National Rules provides otherwise.

1. DATES

In order to allow all interested parties to make adequate preparations for the Belgian National Qualifying Competition (the "Belgian Rounds"), the dates of the Belgian Rounds shall be set as soon as practicable. In particular:

- (1) The National Administrator shall, taking due regard of the academic calendars of the Belgian law schools and of public holidays, announce in writing to the team representatives a tentative date for the Belgian National Rounds no later than 1 August; and
- (2) The participating schools may modify this date, unanimously and in writing, by written notice to the National Administrator and the ILSA Executive Director no later than 1 November.

It is noted that representatives from the registered and prospective teams agreed in writing that the 2020 Belgian Rounds will be held on 22 and 23 February 2020.

2. VENUE

The National Administrator shall make arrangements for a venue as early as possible, and in any event before 1 November. The venue shall be announced in writing to all participating schools as soon as it is finalized. Any subsequent change of venue shall be announced in writing to all participating schools as soon as it is finalized.

3. MEMORIALS PENALTIES

- (1) The Penalties Expert. No later than 1 October, the ILSA Executive Director shall appoint an expert (the "Penalties Expert") to assess Memorials penalties in the first instance. (For 2019-20, the ILSA Executive Director has appointed Mr. Michael Peil to serve this role.)
- (2) Penalty Assessment. Once all Belgian teams' Memorials have been received by the ILSA Executive Office, the Executive Office shall forward the Memorials to the Penalties Expert with an indication as to whether any of the Memorials are subject to a penalty for tardy submission.

The Penalties Expert shall promptly assess each Memorial for penalties under the Official Rules. The Penalties Expert shall then promptly, and in any event before 1 February, forward to the National Administrator and to the official contact for each Team the following:

- (a) The Team Penalties Summary scoresheet for that Team; and
- (b) An annotated copy of each Memorial, indicating with adequate precision each penalized instance (and, where appropriate, each "close call" instance where a casual reader might assume a penalty need be assessed).

- (3) Appeals. No later than 8 February, each Team Contact may (but is by no means required to) submit to the Executive Director, via email, in a *single document*, any appeals it has against specific penalties imposed upon either of its Memorials.

Each specific appeal must contain sufficient information to allow the Executive Director to determine the validity of the appeal, including, where applicable, reference to the appropriate Official Rule.

The Executive Director shall then review the appeals and re-assess penalties in a holistic manner. That is, if a Team's specific appeal has broader application to other Memorials, she may accordingly adjust those scores as well.

The Executive Director will submit the revised Team Penalties Summary scoresheet to the National Administrator, who will release each Team's scoresheets to that Team prior to the beginning of the Belgian Rounds. *There is no further appeal; the penalties as revised by the Executive Director are final. Any remaining mistakes or inequities shall not form the basis for further actionable appeal or complaint by any Team.*

4. COMPETITION ROUNDS

- (1) The Competition will consist of four Rounds (with 3 rounds each) and one Final Round. Each team argues six times during the Preliminary Rounds, three times as Applicant and three times as Respondent. As long as practicable, a panel of 3 judges will evaluate all the written memorials.
- (2) The top two (2) teams from the Preliminary Rounds advance to the Final Round.
- (3) Should the number of judges required in accordance with §1 of this Article 4 (i.e. 49 judges) not be reached by 31 December 2019, the following provisions will apply:
- a. memorial judges may also serve as oral judges;
 - b. should §3.a of this Article 4 not be efficient, the Competition will consist of two Rounds (with two rounds each) and one Final Round. Each team argues once as Applicant and once as Respondent during the Preliminary Rounds.

5. JUDGES FOR ORAL ROUNDS

- (1) Notification of Judges Roster. No later than 23 January or as soon thereafter as reasonably practicable, the National Administrator shall send to each Team Contact a roster of the judges whom the National Administrator may employ at the Belgian Rounds. In selecting a particular judge for inclusion in the roster, the National Administrator shall ensure that the individual satisfies all the eligibility requirements of the Official Rules and that the individual:
- (a) Is not currently employed, on a full-time or part-time basis, at any law faculty competing in the Belgian Rounds;
 - (b) Is not currently pursuing an academic degree at, and has not within the past three (3) years earned, an academic degree from, any law faculty currently competing in the Belgian rounds; and
 - (c) Has not within the past three (3) years participated in the Jessup – either as a registered coach or as a Team Member – on behalf of any law faculty currently competing in the Belgian Rounds.

In addition to any other measures to ensure compliance, the National Administrator shall inform each proposed judge of these criteria and ask him or her to self-disclose any circumstances that fall afoul of one or more criteria.

- (2) Challenges. No later than 30 January or within one week of the disclosure of potential judges, each Team Contact may (but is by no means required to) challenge the eligibility of any particular judge(s) for inclusion in the roster, by forwarding such challenges to the National Administrator, with copy to the Executive Director. Such challenges shall be limited to the three criteria listed above and, in addition, *any specific relationship between that judge and a specific competitor or coach which would cause a reasonable observer to question the neutrality of the judge.*
- (3) Resolution of Challenges; Publication of Final Roster. No later than 10 February or within one week after challenges as described in subpart (2) above are submitted, the National Administrator, in consultation with the Executive Director (and, if additional information is required, in consultation with one or more Teams and with the judge affected), shall resolve the challenges. The National Administrator shall then forward to each Team and to the Executive Director:
 - (a) a resolution of the particular challenges that Team filed, with reasons; and
 - (b) a final roster of judges.

No further challenges are permitted, and the use or non-use of any judge on the final roster may not form the basis for further actionable appeal or complaint by any Team.

6. FINAL RESULTS

- (1) Review of Preliminary Rounds. At the conclusion of the Preliminary Rounds, the National Administrator shall invite one (1) coach (or the coach's designate) from each Team to a meeting, at which they will briefly and collectively review the original judges' scoresheets and each of the Teams' final scoresheets. This review will be limited to (a) making sure the judges' scores were accurately transcribed to the final scoresheet, and (b) making sure the final scoresheets accurately reflect the Raw Points, Round Points, and Wins and Losses assessed to each Team.

The National Administrator shall correct any discrepancies identified during this review; in case of "close calls" (most commonly, "unresolvable bad judge handwriting"), the judgment of the National Administrator shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Following this review and any correction, the results of the Preliminary Rounds shall be final and not subject to appeal.

- (2) Review of Advanced Rounds. There shall be no review of the results of advanced rounds (including the Championship Round), and the teams expressly waive any complaints directed against the outcome of the Championship Round.

7. ABUSE OF RIGHTS

Abuse of the rights of challenge, appeal, and review contained in this National Supplement shall constitute a "serious breach of sportsmanship" under Official Rule 11.8(b). In such case, the National Administrator shall notify the Executive Director of the relevant facts, and the Executive Director shall determine, after consultation with the affected Team(s), whether disqualification of the Team is appropriate. *Teams may not initiate a complaint for abuse under this provision.*

Such notification – and the Executive Director's determination – may occur before, during, or after the Belgian Rounds. In the event that the Executive Director determines that one or more Teams are disqualified, the Executive Director shall determine, as necessary and in her sole, unappealable discretion, whether designation of a new National Champion (or designation of a new National Representative to the International Rounds) is appropriate.