

3rd

VIPS-MAADHYAM DRCC



योग: कर्मसु कौशलम्
IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

Maadhyam



Council for Conflict Resolution



NATIONAL VIRTUAL MEDIATION COMPETITION

27TH-30TH AUGUST 2020

ABOUT VIPS

Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, affiliated to GGSIPU was established in the year 2000 with the vision to impart world class quality professional education and promote excellence in education. Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies (VSLLS) under the umbrella of VIPS is committed to realize the words of Swami Vivekananda: “Man Making, Character Building and Nation Building”. In recognition for its robust initiatives in legal education, VIPS is recognized by The Bar Council of India, UGC under Section 2(f) and has been accredited by an ‘A’ grade by NAAC. Our esteemed alumni include 14 Gold Medalists, over 20 AOR’S and over 33 judicial officers. In addition, VSLLS has collaborations with foreign and national universities to provide exposure to students at international and national levels along with engaging students in multiple training programs, namely, moot courts, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, research, legal aid, debates etc.

ABOUT MAADHYAM

Maadhyam- Council for Conflict Resolution, is a leading organization in the area of Alternative Dispute Resolution, founded by highly accomplished professionals. Its members comprise of many renowned and experienced arbitrators and internationally accredited mediators. It emphasizes the need to adopt best practices in ADR and capacity building. In this endeavor, Maadhyam seeks to collaborate and engage with ADR professionals and institutions through domestic and international conferences and training programs. It is committed towards empowering individuals and communities to resolve disputes using collaborative processes instead of adversarial ones. It is committed to enriching and empowering young minds through its program for aspiring ADR professionals in various universities and colleges.

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ABOUT VSLLS DRCC

VSLLS DRCC is a platform that provides training and recognition to students participating in alternative dispute resolution activities ranging from Mediation, Arbitration, Negotiation and Client Counseling. Our mission at VSLLS DRCC is to connect, support, and inspire a diverse community committed to empowering society while nurturing and honing their oratorical, research, and analytical skills. We hold regular competitions and workshops encompassing a range of activities under ADR at both Intra and National level. Previously we have held competitions like- National Client Counseling & Mediation Competition (2017), National Negotiation and Mediation Competition (2018), Intra Negotiation (2019), Intra Client Counseling (2020), Arbitration Workshop (2020), National webinar on fundamentals of Arbitration (2020), etc. Through these competitions the participants get a better understanding of the contemporary practices.

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“SETTLE NOT SUE”

The Competition

These rules shall regulate all aspects of the 3rd VIPS-Maadhyam DRCC National Virtual Mediation Competition (hereinafter referred to as “the Competition”) 2020, organized by Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, VIPS DRCC (hereinafter referred to as the Organizing Committee).

The Competition will be held from 27th August, 2020 to 30th August, 2020.

Aim and Purpose

Mediation is a voluntary, party centered and structured negotiation process where a neutral third party assists the parties in amicably resolving their disputes by using specialized communication and negotiation techniques. The goal of mediation is to find a mutually acceptable solution that adequately and legitimately satisfies the need, desire and interest of parties.

Eligibility

The Competition is open to all bona fide students pursuing undergraduate degrees (five and three-year law courses) in law Schools/Colleges/Institutions/Universities only in India (hereinafter “Participating Institution”).

Each Participating Institution is permitted to send a maximum number of **two teams** in the Competition. If at all more teams are registered, that would be subject to only two teams being selected on the First Come First Serve basis.

All Participants must be registered with respective institutions as full-time or part time students for the academic year 2020-2021.

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Structure

TEAM COMPOSITION

1. Each team shall comprise of *three students* consisting of one Mediator and two team members acting as the client-counsel pair (referred to as the “Mediating pair”).
2. One member of the team will be designated as Mediator, whose role shall remain unchanged throughout the Competition. The other two members of the team will form the Mediating pair, representing a Client and his/her Counsel. The respective roles though *not interchangeable* within a round, are changeable in different rounds.
3. The two mediators in one competition session (from different teams) for all purposes will be referred to as Mediator 1 (M1) and Mediator 2 (M2) as designated in the match-ups.

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

4. The competition will be conducted online on the platform “**Zoom**” and the detailed rules and regulations for the same shall be sent well in advance before the competition.
5. Two Teams (Two Mediating Pair) will be the *Requesting* and *Responding Parties* respectively. The Mediating pairs and Mediators for each Session and their roles shall be decided by draw of lots.
6. Each round will have members from four different teams (four members of two teams forming two Mediating Pairs and two Mediators from different teams). To avoid any conflicts, the Mediators will not be assigned to those sessions in which the Mediating pairs belong to the same Institution as that of the Mediator. To maintain this, the Organizing Committee shall regulate the same during draw of lots.

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➤ ROUNDS

DRAW OF LOTS

7. The draw of lots shall be conducted on **27th August, 2020**.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

8. The preliminary round shall be conducted through **video-conferencing**, via the platform Zoom or Google Meet (as maybe decided by the Organising Committee). The meeting Id and password will be informed to the teams through email.

9. The prelims shall be conducted on **28th August, 2020** in 2(two) different slots according to the Draw of Lots which shall be notified to the teams.

10. The competition will have one preliminary round for a period of **35 minutes** (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes prior to the session). Followed by a post analysis session with the judges for a period of 5 minutes during which the members of all the teams will receive feedback and comments from the judges regarding the session while discussing their BATNA and mediation strategy.

QUARTER FINALS

11. The Quarter final round shall be conducted through **video-conferencing**, via the platform Zoom. The meeting Id and password will be informed after the preliminary rounds to the teams through email.

12. The quarter finals shall be conducted on **29th August, 2020**.

13. **Eight teams** selected from the preliminary round on **Scoring basis** will qualify for the Quarter-Finals, which will be for a total period of **45 Minutes** (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes prior to the session). Followed by a post analysis session with the judges for a period of 5 minutes.

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SEMI FINALS

14. The Semi-final round shall be conducted through **video-conferencing**, via the platform Zoom. The meeting Id and password will be informed after the Quarter final round to the teams through email.
15. The Semi-final round shall be conducted on **29th August, 2020**.
16. The four teams qualifying for Semi-Final round will be selected on **“Knock- Out” basis** from the quarter final rounds. The time limit of the Quarter Finals will be **45 minutes** (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes). Followed by a post analysis session with the judges for a period of 5 minutes.

FINALS

17. The Finals shall be conducted through **video-conferencing**, via the platform Zoom. The meeting Id and password will be informed after the Semi-final round to the teams through email.
18. The Finals shall be conducted on **30th August, 2020**.
19. The teams selected for finals on a **“Knock-Out” basis** from the Semi-final rounds will compete in the Finals for a total time period of **60 Minutes** (exclusive of the preparation time of 20 minutes prior to the competition session) followed by a 10 minutes post analysis session.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

20. Each Mediating Pair will be provided separate Confidential Information **30 minutes** before the start of each session which will be their **Preparation Time**, except for the Final Rounds where a team will be given **35 Minutes Preparation Time**. The Mediator however will not be provided any Confidential Information.
21. The Mediating pairs and the Mediators will not be permitted to have any contact or communication whatsoever with each other once the Confidential Information has been provided to the mediating pair.

BREAK(S)

22. Each Mediating pair and the Mediator may request for a **single 5-minute Break during each session**. The Team requesting the break will be responsible for adhering to the time limit. Failure will result in a penalty, as deemed fit by the Organizing Committee.
23. If a Mediating pair asks for the Break, the members of the said Mediating pair requesting the Break will be asked to move to a break room/ private room within the meeting itself.

LANGUAGE

24. All Competition Sessions will be conducted in English. The Member (client and counsel) of the same team are allowed to speak in other languages during their breaks but only amongst themselves. They cannot converse with the mediator or the other team in any other language, besides English. However, the parties are free to use any other language whilst discussing something with a fellow team member.

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DRESS CODE

25. The dress code for the competition will be business formals. All the participants are required to adhere to the dress code.

COMPETITION PROBLEMS

26. The Organizing Committee will be releasing the problems of all the rounds of the competition **a week prior** to the date of the Competition. In case of any changes in the schedule, the same shall be notified through the Official Facebook Page (VIPS Dispute Resolution and Client Counseling Competition) for the Competition.

27. MEDIATING PAIR

Judging Criteria

- 1) Statement of parties
- 2) Constructive Approach
- 3) Teamwork Between Advocate and Client
- 4) Effective utilization of the services of the mediators
- 5) Judicious utilization of the time

MEDIATOR

- 1) Opening Statement of the Mediator
- 2) Identification of Issues
- 3) Option Generation
- 4) Control over Mediation
- 5) Extraction and utilization of Confidential information

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Results

28. Throughout the Competition, the Mediating pairs and Mediators will be evaluated separately and will be proceed in the rounds independent of each other. However, the **Best Team** will be based on the scores of **Preliminary rounds by cumulating the score of mediator and the mediating pair.**
29. **Best Mediator, Best Mediating Pair, Runners up Mediating Pair and Runner- up Mediator** will be based on the scores of the **Final round.**
30. The timings and meeting links for the announcement of results for every round will be emailed to all the teams in advance. All participants are requested to join the same 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.
31. Following is a list of the awards that will be presented to the teams.

Best Team

Cash Prize: Rs. 7,500/-

E-Certificate of Merit

Best Mediating pair

Cash Prize: Rs. 6,000/-

E-Certificate of Merit

Best Mediator

Cash Prize: Rs. 6,000/-

E-Certificate of Merit

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Runners up Mediating pair

Cash Prize: 4,000/-

E-Certificate of Merit

Runner up Mediator

Cash Prize: 4,000/-

E-Certificate of Merit

E-Certificate of Merit

Quarter Finalists, Semi-Finalists and Finalists

Other Participants

E-Certificate of Participation

Code of Conduct

32. Participants are to conduct themselves with the required etiquette during the span of the entire competition. Reckless or irresponsible behavior by any of the team members of an institution may result in the disqualification of the entire team.
33. All or any grievances are to be presented only to the Organizing Committee of the Competition and the decision of the Organizing Committee will be final.
34. Participants shall not reveal their personal identities or that of their University to any judge or participant during the course of the competition.
35. Any attempt to obtain the Confidential Information shall render a team liable for immediate disqualification.
36. Failure to adhere to any of the time limit will result in a penalty against whomsoever the delay is attributable to. The penalty will be decided by the Judges/ Organizing Committee.

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Clarifications

37. The Participants may seek Clarifications regarding any aspect of the Problems, Rules or Procedure vide a mail at vipsdrcc@gmail.com latest by **24th August, 2020** (three days prior to the competition).

Interpretation

38. Any question regarding the interpretation of any provision of this rule shall be subject to the decision of the Organizing Committee and any decision made by them thereon shall be final.

39. In case where marks of two or more teams are same, then marks of the constructive approach of the mediating pair will be taken into consideration. Further, in case construction approach marks are same, then marks of effective utilization of services of the mediators, will be seen.

40. In case marks of two or more mediators are the same, then marks of 'identification of issues' will be taken into consideration. Further, in case marks of identification of issues are same, then marks of 'control over the mediation session' will be seen.

41. Each team member may join the web platform from a maximum of two devices in order to ensure smooth functioning of the event in case any device stops functioning during the competition. One device shall be in the waiting room at all times while the other device is functioning. In case the device being used stops, the other device can be connected, for which 5 minutes will be given to the team, which will not be included in the allotted time. In case all devices stop working, the respective participant will be given a total time of 10 minutes to rejoin the platform and continue with the competition. During this time, the competition time will be stopped.

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42. Further, if the participant is unable to join after the said 10 minutes, then that team will be marked accordingly while the other participating team may be provided with an alternative team to proceed with their round. It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure a good and stable internet connection.

Contact Us

43. Any further clarifications, questions or queries the participants may feel free to contact any contact number mentioned below: -

- **Student Convener:** Vansh Vermani +91-9717734035
- **Student Co- Convener:** Vritti Gulati +91- 9897772479

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ORGANISERS**PATRON IN CHIEF**

Prof. (Dr.) R. Venkata Rao
Chairperson, VSLLS & VSES

Sh. A.S. Chandhiok
Sr. Advocate / Arbitrator/ Sr.Mediator
President, Maadhyam

PATRON

Prof. T.V. Subba Rao
Emeritus Professor

Ms. Sadhana Ramachandran
Advocate / Sr. Mediator
Senior Vice President, Maadhyam

ORGANISING COMMITTEE**DEAN, VSLLS**

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FACULTY CO-CONVENER

Ms. Amita, Assistant Professor

FACULTY MEMBERS

Ms. Monika Srivastava
Guest Faculty and Mediator

Dr. Deepali Vashisht
Assistant Professor (Sr.)

Ms. Avneek Kaur Sethi
Assistant Professor

Ms. Upma Shree
Assistant Professor

Ms. Chitwan
Assistant Professor

STUDENT CONVENER

Vansh Vermani

STUDENT CO-CONVENER

Vritti Gulati

STUDENT MEMBERS

Divij Kumar

Aradhya Chaturvedi

Jahnvi Sharma

Prableen Kaur Chandhok

Sparsh Goyal

Namami Jain

Vanshika Gupta

V. Vaishnavi

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