

Judging Panel Manual



NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
MOCK TRIAL
CHAMPIONSHIP
MAY 16-18, 2019



ATHENS, GA



NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

2019 National High School Mock Trial Championship Judging Panel Manual

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The Bench Brief will be emailed to each judging panel volunteer individually by the Athens2019 Coordinating Team.

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The 2019 National High School Mock Trial Championship

Kevin Epps, Esq.
*Chair, 2019 NHSMT Planning Committee
Young Lawyers Division, State Bar of Georgia*

Dear Judging Panel Volunteer:

Welcome to the 2019 National High School Mock Trial Championship! We are excited to host 46 state champion teams from across the country for this season's National Championship in Athens and I appreciate your willingness to play a crucial role in judging our competition rounds.

You know how carefully our students prepare for the competitions. ***We ask that our Judging Panel volunteers also prepare thoroughly for your important role in the competition.*** To assist you in this preparation, we have designed this Judging Panel edition to contain guidelines that will enhance your analysis of the trial(s) you observe.

This **Judging Panel Manual** contains the following judging aids: the Trial Guidelines (Script) for Presiding Judges, Trial Guidelines for Scoring Evaluators, the Scoring Matrix for evaluating the trial, a list of What to Look for When Scoring a Round, and a Sample Scoresheet.

The **Case Materials** may be found on the "Materials" page section of the 2019 Athens website (athens2019.nhsmtc.org). The **Bench Brief** for the case will be emailed to you separately. You will also find a video that goes through several items that will help in your preparations for trial. The Athens coordinating team will hold an orientation before each Round on competition day, at which time he or she will address any questions you may have about the competition Rounds.

All judging panel volunteers will check in at the Classic Center in Athens prior to each Round. You will receive a personal communication that details the times you are registered for each round. Upon registration, we will provide you a copy of the case materials, bench brief, Rules of Competition and Evidence and the script for the Presiding Judges.

Again, many thanks for your careful attention and preparation. I *know* you will enjoy yourself!

Sincerely,

Kevin Epps

Key Competition Orientation Points

Thank you for giving your time to sit as a member of a judging panel for our competition. Please be sure to look through this Manual to orient yourself on what to expect on the day of the competition. For those who are veterans of the high school mock trial competitions, we welcome your experience and dedication to the program; please look at the Quick Points for your role for a reminder of some key points.

One of the most important things for the competition is an understanding of the scoring structure for each Round. Whether you're a rookie or veteran, please review the section on scoring at the end of this manual.

On-Site Orientation

- There will be an on-site orientation session presented by a member of the National Coordinating team before each Round of competition. This is necessary for Panel check-in, courtroom assignments and to address issues that may arise from prior Rounds.
- All participating Presiding Judges and Scoring Evaluators are required to attend the orientation before their scheduled Round(s).
- All Judging Panel members who volunteer in more than one Round must attend the orientation session before *each* scheduled Round.

Time Commitment

- Ample time should be allowed before the competition date to thoroughly review the case materials and other preparation materials which have been posted online.
- Past experience shows that most judges spend at least two hours reviewing the case materials before arriving at the competition site.
- On the day of competition, at least four (4) hours should be set aside per Round that is scheduled.

Goals & Rationale of the Competition

- The National High School Mock Trial Championship is designed to educate high school students about our legal institutions.
- The Mock Trial program is not a training program for junior lawyers.
- The Mock Trial program encourages young people to develop their analytical abilities and their communication skills while increasing their self-confidence.
- Fundamentally, the Mock Trial is an academic exercise/performance and although this is also a competition, the lasting value of the experience comes from obtaining an understanding of our judicial system and of the constitutional processes used as we strive to create a just society.

Identifying Judging Panel Conflicts with Competing Teams

- Avoiding conflicts for the National Championship are a little bit easier than for a state-level competition since there is only one team competing from each state among the 46 teams in the competition. Essentially, you will not sit on a panel for a team from your home state. If you have a conflict with another state's team through personal contact or familiarity, please make note of that when you register for the Panel or when you check in for the first time at the competition.

Student Expectations of Judging Panel Volunteers

- It is vitally important to the students that the Judging Panel appears both knowledgeable and fair.
- Students have been working on this case for more than four months in preparation for this

competition; therefore, they have probably memorized every nuance, misplaced semi-colon and hidden tidbit of information contained in the materials.

- Students are keenly aware of every act by the Judging Panel listening to the case, and thus it is very important for you to prepare thoroughly by reading the case materials and other trial aides carefully before competition day.
- Volunteer Judging Panel members aren't expected to have studied the case materials for as long or as thoroughly as a student or coach would, but students expect volunteers to make an effort to understand and appreciate their command of every aspect of their case.
- *Students have told us through the evaluation process that rather than feeling more relaxed when a member of the Judging Panel says he or she is unprepared, they feel disappointed and deprived.*
- High school mock trial is very different from real trials and different from college and/or law school mock trials and our students are so keenly aware of the High School Mock Trial Rules that they feel confused and cheated when a Judging Panel volunteer makes a statement such as, "That's not how it is done in real trials."
- Judging Panel members should keep in mind that these are high school students you are observing and critiquing, and tailor your expectations and comments accordingly.
- Obviously, we would like to have the students feel as positively about their participation in the program as possible, so whenever possible, offer positive, constructive criticism and avoid dwelling on the negative aspects of a presentation.
- Discouragement and hurt feelings are not goals of this program.

Mock Trial Rules & Rulings

- Consistency with the National High School Mock Trial Rules is critical to the success of each competition Round.
- Sometimes, Presiding Judges rely on their experiences as judges and lawyers and make rulings that are not recognized or contained in the Mock Trial materials; this is, at best, confusing to the students and not helpful in the context of this academic experience.
- The Presiding Judge should sustain or overrule objections without comment, after giving the attorney offering the evidence a chance to respond.

Student Attorney Roles

- Teams are required to have three student attorneys. The required division of duties is discussed in Rule 3.2 and 3.4.
- Special Rules govern cross-examination responsibilities (see Rule 3.4).
- Student-attorneys will deliver one opening statement per team, conduct direct and cross-examinations, and conclude with one closing argument per team.
- Re-direct examination is allowed, but is optional and may be conducted only as to new issues or facts brought out in cross-examination. Re-cross examination is also allowed, but is limited to issues or fact brought out in the re-direct.
- Student-attorney duties are to be divided equally among the attorneys on each team as prescribed in Rule 3.4.

Student Witness Roles

- There are three witness statements for each side in the case, and all three witnesses will be called during a trial Round.
- The statements are provided in full in the case materials provided on the website.
- Witnesses themselves should view these witness statements as signed statements made under oath.
- Witnesses will testify to materials in the witness statements and related exhibits, and those facts that can be reasonably inferred from these two sources.
- Witnesses can be impeached if they contradict the material contained in their witness statements, although witnesses can draw reasonable inferences from the witness statements.
- Only the witnesses described in the case materials are allowed to testify.
- Witnesses cannot be sequestered, and they must remain in the courtroom throughout the Round.

Introduction of Evidence

- The procedure for the introduction of evidence may be found in Rule 4.20.
- Evidence must be introduced using this particular procedure and no other.
- Time will not stop for the introduction of evidence.

Time Limits & Timekeeping

- Obviously, there must be some boundaries or the trials would be too lengthy.
- More importantly, however, time limits force students to prioritize their questions and to reduce the vast amount of material in order to make a concise and direct presentation.
- Two students, one from each team, will act as official Timekeepers.
- The Timekeepers will sit together in the jury box (in front of and away from the Evaluators) or some other convenient and visible location in the courtroom.
- Both Timekeepers will keep time, using a stopwatch and will indicate time remaining in any given portion of the trial by simultaneously displaying yellow time cards.
- The time limits, listed in Rule 4.5, are very important in the mock trial, and it is important that you be strict in your enforcement of these limits.
- Note that under Rule 4.6(c), if there is a discrepancy of more the 15 seconds, the Timekeepers will notify the Presiding Judge and he or she will immediately resolve that discrepancy before the Round continues.
- The Presiding Judge will collect the time sheets from both Timekeepers before the Judging Panel retires for deliberation and will return these documents with the scoresheets and award certificates.

Observers in the Courtroom

- No spectator (whether coach, parent, friend, etc.) may have contact with the student team members once the trial begins, either inside or outside the courtroom.
- Teacher and attorney coaches may not talk to, signal, or otherwise communicate with or coach the students during a Round.
- After the closing arguments are completed, coaches may approach the students while the Judging Panel is completing its scoresheets.
- A team may videotape the trial, provided permission is granted by its opponent.
- Any cameras should be unobtrusive so as not to interfere with the trial process in any way.

Scoring

- When completing the official ballot, each scoring evaluator must make his or her own decisions independently and may not confer with other panel members about the scores.
- The scoring is done on a one (1) to ten (10) point system, with scores of 6 representing an average performance. Zero (0) is not a valid score.
 - A green scratch sheet folder, which will contain the scoring matrix, list of “What to Expect”, and a blank sample scoresheet will be provided to each member of the Panel during each Round of the competition.
 - A copy of the matrix and “What to Expect” is found at the end of this manual.
- The official ballot will be completed by the Evaluators once they have retired from the courtroom at the conclusion of the Round.
- The team with the largest number of Total Points on the official ballot will win that ballot.
- The team with the largest number of ballots per courtroom wins the courtroom.

Awarding Points – Speaking Points

- Speaker Points will be awarded to each student attorney and witness for each stage of the trial.
- Be sure to award a score in each blank box on the ballot.
- Use the points to help differentiate between the varying levels of skill, knowledge and performance of the students.

Awarding Outstanding Attorney & Witness Ballots

- Each Evaluator and the Presiding Judge will cast individual ballots for an Outstanding Attorney and Outstanding Witness in each Round. The ballots will be collected by the liaison and tabulated in the Scoring Room.
- Ballots, timesheets, certificates and comment sheets should be returned to the trial Coordinator in a timely manner and before the critique begins.

Court Artist Contest

- The National Courtroom Artist Contest has brought in state champion court artists from several states. The artists will use Rounds 1 and 2 as practice opportunities before completing their official contest drawings in Round 3. The artists will sit either in the jury box, front row of the gallery, or elsewhere in the courtroom.

Court Reporters

- Several courtrooms will have a student from the Brown College of Court Reporting using the National Competition rounds as practice for their studies. No transcripts will be made nor any dramatic reading back of testimony.

CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

For all Participants in the 2019 National High School Mock Trial Championship

The mission of the National High School Mock Trial Championship is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the American judicial system through academic competitions and other endeavors for students. To ensure everyone in attendance at the 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship follows Rule 1.2 of the *National High School Mock Trial Rules of Competition* and adheres to the highest standards of professionalism and deportment, the following **2018 National Mock Trial Code of Ethical Conduct** will be followed by all team members (both official and non-official), courtroom artists, coaches, observers, and state coordinators (or their official designees) (hereafter referred to as “attendees”) during the 2018 Championship.

- The use of alcohol, drugs, or any other illegal activity is forbidden during the 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship, both at competition sites and all mock trial sponsored events and activities.
- No one associated with the team acknowledging this 2018 National Mock Trial Code of Ethical Conduct can enter any courtroom in which his/her team is not competing.
- Attendees must comport themselves with professionalism and decorum at the courthouse, both inside the courtrooms and in common areas. No food or drink is allowed in the courtrooms and attendees must not go to parts of the building that are not designated as part of the competition.
- It is expected that attendees will respect their surroundings at the courthouse and at all mock trial events and venues, including using appropriate receptacles for trash and leaving restrooms and all common areas in good order.
- Team members promise to compete with the highest standards of sportsmanship and will avoid all tactics they know are wrong and in violation of the letter and the spirit of the Rules.
- Attendees will respect their fellow team members, coaches, opponents, judges, staff, volunteers, and the personnel from hotels and other mock trial venues. Displays of bad sportsmanship are prohibited.
- Coaches, observers, and state coordinators (or their official designees) will focus on the educational value of mock trial, will zealously encourage fair play, will serve as positive role models for team members by displaying the highest level of professionalism and ethical behavior, and will focus on accepting success and defeat with dignity, civility, and restraint.

The Board of the National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc., in consultation with the 2018 National Mock Trial Host Committee possesses discretion to impose sanctions, up to and including forfeiture or disqualification for any misconduct or violation of the 2018 National Mock Trial Code of Ethical Conduct while attendees are present in the 2018 host city, Reno, Nevada, to participate in the competition and any and all other activities associated with the Championship.

All of the attendees associated with the team have read and understand the statements in this 2018 National Mock Trial Code of Ethical Conduct and will comply with this Code of Ethical Conduct and the Rules of Competition throughout the duration of the 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship. Attendees understand that a violation of this Code by anyone associated with a team may result in sanctions, including, but not limited to, the team’s immediate eviction from the Championship and forfeiture of all fees and awards (if applicable).

The Ten Commandments of Judging Mock Trials

- I. Please be mindful that this is a learning experience for the students. No derogatory remarks should be made about the teams or students in the presence of other students or parents.
- II. No verdict or winner should be announced in the courtroom.
- III. No special motion, such as directed verdict or dismissal, or bench conferences (other than those argued from council tables – see Rule 19) are allowed. The Stipulations are at the beginning of the case materials in the manual and are already a part of the record.
- IV. Scoresheets must be complete, with no boxes left blank and no tie in Final Points Total box. No fractions are allowed. Evaluators must sign their sheets.
- V. Any *potential* conflict must be brought to the attention of the Coordinator *before* the Round begins. The Coordinator will then determine if the conflict is sufficient to disqualify the evaluator from a particular courtroom.
- VI. Evaluators must make their scoring decisions independently, as well as voting on the Outstanding Witness and Attorney Awards before any discussion with other Evaluators.
- VII. An Evaluator may award points to a team despite an adverse ruling from the bench. The intent is to evaluate the students on performance, not the outcome.
- VIII. Please do not leave the courthouse until you have been dismissed by the Coordinating team.
- IX. During the debriefing, the critique should be positive and the criticism constructive. Comments should be brief and held within the 10-minute total time limit. Teams must move on to the next Round and do not have time to make significant changes in style or presentation between Rounds.
- X. If evaluators have not prepared thoroughly and are unfamiliar with the case materials, *they should refrain from mentioning this to the students.*

Presiding Judge Materials

On the following pages, you will find the Trial Guidelines (Script) for the competition, which you will use to conduct the business of the court during the round. Below are some quick point reminders as you prepare.

Quick Points for Presiding Judges

- Follow the provided script for conducting the trial.
- Feel free to ask for Rule numbers if you wish.
- Allow responses to an objection (don't rule without giving the other attorney a chance to respond).
 - ❖ Allow the teams to argue their objections and responses back and forth. This gives the evaluators a bigger picture of the students' knowledge and skills and provides a more complete score.
 - ❖ However, don't let the objection arguments go on forever.
- Please consider the appropriate Rule of Evidence in making your ruling.
- Re-direct and re-cross is allowed. Permit the teams to do these if they wish.
- Do not call a recess after the state's case-in-chief or before closings. If you'd like to give them 30-60 seconds to collect their thoughts at the table, that's fine.
- After dismissing the jury for deliberations, be sure to ask about any Inside the Bar rules violations the teams need to bring up.
- Once the ballots are completed by the Evaluators, the Evaluators and Presiding Judge will independently complete their Outstanding Witness and Attorney ballots.
- Do not announce a winner after deliberations.
- Do not announce any Outstanding Witness or Attorney votes.
- Keep the critique to 5-10 minutes.



A copy of this script will be provided to each presiding judge in each Round.



Trial Guidelines (Script) for Presiding Judges

Materials/Supplies

- A case notebook will be provided to each member of the judging panel which will include the case, Rules of Competition and Evidence, the Bench Brief, and this script.
- Each Judging Panel will be provided the following supplies by the courtroom liaison before each trial Round:
 - Three official scoresheets (in carbonless triplicate)
 - Three unofficial scratch sheets (green cardstock) – Used as a rough draft during the trial
 - Outstanding Attorney and Outstanding Witness ballot
- Prior to the Round, evaluator will need a green scratch sheet folder and the trial notebook for the courtroom.
- After the Round, each evaluator will be provided an official scoresheet and the Outstanding Awards ballot.
- All above materials (used and unused) will be collected by the courtroom liaison before the panel returns to the Judging Panel Orientation room after the critique.

Trial Guidelines (Script) for Presiding Judges



SCRIPT for Pre-Trial Matters

THIS PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE IS REQUIRED!

PLEASE DO NOT SKIP IT!

Please handle pre-trial matters in this order by reviewing the following items with the teams prior to the beginning of the Round:

- Welcome both teams and remind them that while this is a competitive event but that it should be fun, too.
- If video cameras or other recording/photographic devices are present, confirm that neither team objects. (see **Rule 4.14**)
- Remind all present that no communication is allowed between competing team members and others in the courtroom until the trial is concluded. (**Rule 4.12**)
- Remind audience members that only people associated with the participating teams and officials associated with hosting are permitted in the courtroom. Ask anyone not associated with the teams in the Round and/or competition officials to leave immediately. (**Rule 4.13**)
- Remind everyone in the courtroom that they should not wear or display anything that may identify the teams competing in that courtroom to the Judging Panel. (i.e. a letter jacket, team t-shirt, etc.) Also remind them not to say which school team they're associated with. (**Please DO NOT ask a team to identify itself by school or anything other than its code at any point, even post-trial.**)
- Confirm the presence of the student Timekeepers. The Timekeepers should be seated in the courtroom where they will be able to sit together—usually in the jury box and in front of the evaluators—and where they will be most visible to the teams.
- Confirm that Team Rosters have been exchanged by the teams and provided to each member of the Judging Panel and the court reporter. Collect one for yourself.
- Specifically remind Judging Panel members to please refrain from answering or using any electronic device during the course of the Round.
- Instruct all observers in the courtroom to turn off all electronic devices (cell phones, Blackberries, laptops, iPods, iPads etc.) or place them on “silent mode”.
- Instruct observers that they must exit the courtroom in order to use an electronic device.
- Instruct observers to limit the number of times they go in and out of the courtroom. Observers should exit and/or enter the courtroom only during breaks in the action (i.e. after both openings are finished, between witnesses, between sides and before closings begin). Our goal is to **limit distractions** for the teams and the Judging Panel members.
- Announce the case: *Athena General Property and Casualty Insurance Company vs. Hayden Beauregard and Billy/Billie Sherman* (this is the Superior Court of Clarke County, GA)
- Ask each team to introduce its participating members by name and role. (Remind students that they need not re-introduce themselves at a different point in the proceedings.)
- Ask each team if it has any pre-trial matters to cover.
- Ask each team if it is ready for trial.
- Swear the witnesses as a group.

SCRIPT for Swearing the Witnesses

The Presiding Judge should swear in all witnesses en masse using the procedure outlined below.

1. Ask all witnesses to stand and raise their right hands.
2. Read the oath aloud (see **Rule 4.4**):
“Do you promise that the testimony you are about to give will faithfully and truthfully conform to the facts and Rules of the mock trial competition?”
“If so, answer ‘I do.’”
3. After the witness response, the witnesses will be seated and the trial will proceed.

Conduct the Trial

1. Proceed according to the Rules of the National High School Mock Trial Championship.
2. Make rulings on objections raised based **ONLY** upon the Rules of the National High School Mock Trial Championship and the **NHSMTC Rules of Evidence**. The Rules are included in this manual and are located on the Athens 2019 website.
3. Student attorneys should be prepared to locate and cite specific Rules, including Rule numbers, when making or responding to objections, upon request of the Presiding Judge or of their own volition.
4. Please refer to the Rule an attorney specifies when making an objection and make your ruling consistent with the Rule as it currently appears in the Mock Trial materials.
5. Presiding Judges **MUST NOT** attempt to teach during a trial. Please **do not** assist team members by suggesting they raise a more appropriate objection or use a more appropriate Rules citation or ask a more appropriate question on direct or cross, etc.
6. When objecting to something, students must be allowed an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge. Each attorney should be afforded an adequate opportunity to state the grounds for the objection and to respond to the other attorney. It is important that the Scoring Evaluators be able to observe how both sides handle an objection sequence. Do not, however, allow the participants to get bogged down in long debates.
7. Don't simply allow everything to come in, but don't keep everything out, either. The Problem Subcommittee has built in some challenges in regard to the evidence and participants, especially at the State level, must be required to think on their feet and deal with adverse rulings from time to time.
8. Insist that counsel address the court and not each other.
9. Interpret **Rule 2.3** regarding extrapolations strictly and narrowly. Teams have been advised that the best way to handle unfair extrapolations is through impeachment on cross examination and in the closing argument (if appropriate). Teams have been advised to only ask for a ruling on unfair extrapolations under Rule 4 from a Presiding Judge as a **last resort**.
10. Do not allow bench conferences—if a bench conference is requested, arguments must be made from council tables (because this is an educational exercise, not a real trial) so that the Scoring Evaluators may hear and evaluate the participants during each portion of their presentation. (see **Rule 4.10**)
11. Given these parameters, the Mock Trial Round should reflect actual courtroom practice as closely as possible.

Emergencies during the Trial Round

- Rule 1.3 exists to deal with Judging Panel emergencies during a Round.
- If a student has an emergency and needs to leave the courtroom, it is important that the court allow them to do so, but must remind observers not to have communication with the student. The coordinating team should also be notified. (Hopefully, the emergency will be of a nature where the student involved can handle the situation and the trial may move on in the absence of the student.)
- No other team member may leave his/her seat during an emergency break and certainly may not communicate with any coach or spectator outside the bar. (Rule 4.12)
- Team members within the bar should not leave the courtroom without the permission of the court. (see Rule 4.12)
- **Restroom breaks are not an emergency.** Presiding Judges, please DO NOT ALLOW RESTROOM BREAKS BETWEEN PORTIONS OF THE TRIAL.

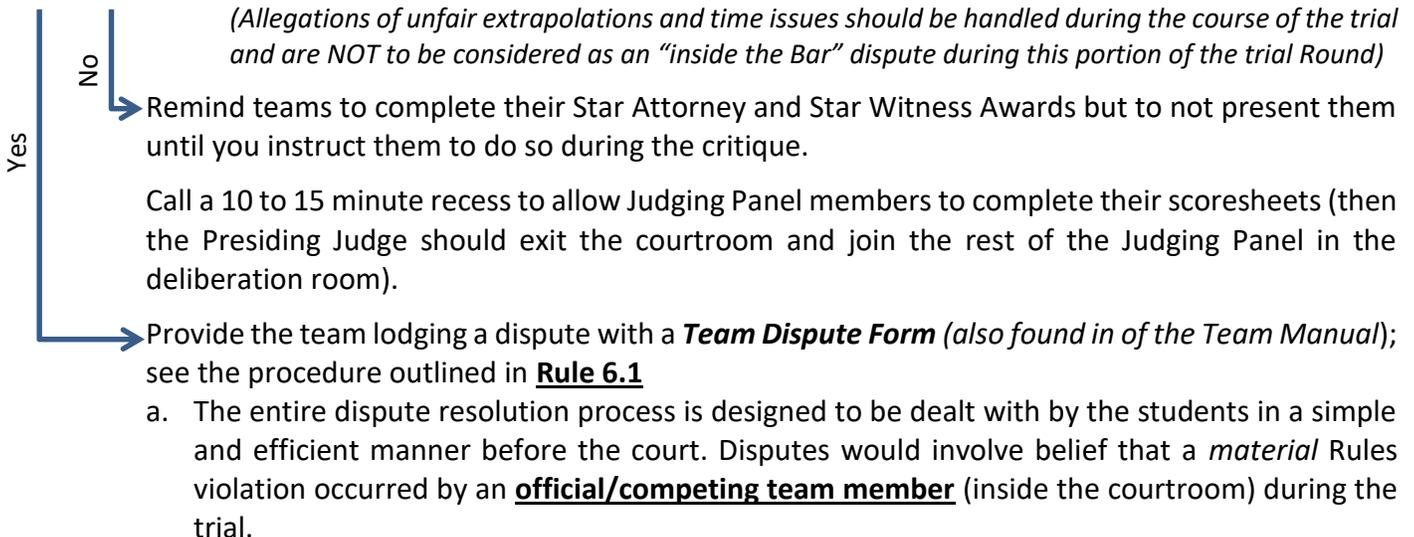
SCRIPT for Concluding the Trial Round

1. Ask the audience to give the teams a quiet round of applause.
2. Remind the Scoring Evaluators that they may not confer when completing their scoresheet or the Outstanding Attorney and Witness Awards.
3. Ask the Scoring Evaluators to retire to their deliberation room to complete their scoresheet.
4. Ask the Timekeepers if there were any time discrepancies during the trial that have not already been brought to the attention of the Presiding Judge and then have them deliver the completed timesheets to you.
 - a. The Timesheets should be turned in to the Trial Coordinator with the rest of the Round's materials after the critique.
5. Conduct the dispute resolution procedure – outlined below:

SCRIPT for the “Inside the Bar” Dispute Resolution Procedure – after jury has retired

See Rules 6.1 – 6.3 for more information

Ask if either team has reason to believe that a *material* Rules violation has occurred during the trial.
(Allegations of unfair extrapolations and time issues should be handled during the course of the trial and are NOT to be considered as an “inside the Bar” dispute during this portion of the trial Round)



*The trial Coordinators will deal with Rules violations outside the courtroom or by a non-team member with a separate process. [See **Rule 6.4**]*

- b. At the conclusion of the dispute resolution procedure, make no announcement as to the outcome. Recess to write your results on the form and consult, if necessary, with the evaluators. [See **Rule 6.2 and 6.3**] They have the option of altering their scores after considering the dispute.
- c. Call for a recess of 10 to 15 minutes.

Presiding Judge Retires to Deliberation Room

1. When in the jury deliberation room, remind the Scoring Evaluators that they must complete their scoresheet independently of one another.
 - a. Students should be evaluated **only on their performance**, including their substantive presentation and knowledge of the facts and law.
 - b. We expect every student participant to observe proper courtroom decorum, to speak as clearly as possible and abide by the Code of Ethical Conduct at all times; however, students **should not be** evaluated based upon their dress, their jewelry, their hairstyle or any other aspect of their physical appearance or their real-life accent, dialect or the fact that English may not be their first language. We are proud that students from diverse racial, ethnic, religious and economic backgrounds participate in the Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition.
2. The courtroom liaison will collect all scoresheets from the Scoring Evaluators and check for errors or missing parts.
3. Each of the Evaluators and the Presiding Judge should also independently complete their Outstanding Witness and Attorney Award ballots, giving them to the liaison.
4. Return with the scoring Evaluators to the courtroom to perform the critique.

Perform the Critique

1. Before starting the critique, allow each team to present their Star Attorney and Star Witness Awards.
2. Please limit the critique for the entire Panel to a total of **10 minutes**.
3. **Do not announce scores, the results of the Round or the identities of the Outstanding Attorney and/or Witness.**
4. **Be brief!** The teams are on a very tight schedule.
5. **NEVER** ask the teams to identify their school or state.
6. Humor is a welcome tension reliever during critiques – remind everyone that their experience during the competition weekend should be exciting, enjoyable and fulfilling.
7. Comments should be of a general nature and not directed toward individual members of the team.
 - a. Do not attempt to give coaching pointers or other critique of performance, theme, theory, arguments, questions, answers, etc. to the teams. Each team’s coaches have spent the previous several months preparing the teams to present the case in a specific manner. Well intentioned Judging Panel members who attempt to help “fix” items unwittingly undermine the coach’s preparations for the team.
8. Be fair and distribute your comments broadly – students listen closely during the critique for clues about which team won the Rounds, so please be careful not to give away the result.
9. For many students, critiques are the most valuable part of the competition. The most valuable assistance you can provide is to point out generally what the team did well and/or make general **constructive** comments on any deficiencies in the presentation. Please keep in mind that teams have no time to change major portions of their presentation between Rounds.

10. Please bear in mind the educational goals of this activity. These are high school students, not yet candidates for the Bar, so our criticism should be constructive and supportive, avoiding vigorous remarks laden with our own emotions that can be personally destructive to students. What is at stake here is not legal hardball—a cold-blooded approach to winning or losing. The stakes are the proper education and development, nurture and guidance, of young people. Please keep those goals in mind when speaking to students and coaches outside the courtroom as well.
11. Please do not make personal derisive comments either to the participants or any person while on the premises of the competition. Please keep in mind at the competition that many of the students' friends and family members may be within earshot. Also, please remember these are high school students (some as young as fourteen years old) from diverse racial, ethnic, religious and economic backgrounds. These students participate in mock trial as an extracurricular activity and devote hundreds of hours preparing for and participating in the competition.
12. Do not refer to “real world” Rules during the trial or the debriefing session.
13. Please do not tell students “they are better than real lawyers”.
14. Please do not publicly compare team performance with another team in this region or with a team you saw in a different competition at some other point in time. These sorts of comparisons are not helpful.
15. Please do not approach teams or coaches who do not win the regional championship after the debriefing or the entire competition has concluded and suggest to them “they should have won” and/or that the champion team “was not as good as they were”.

Accompany the Liaison back to the Judging Panel Orientation Room

- Turn in all of the materials provided to the Judging Panel by the courtroom liaison. Please do not throw any competition materials away in a courtroom or hallway trash can. We do not want teams to find items related to other teams.
- The Panel must be cleared and released by the Scoring Room prior to the evaluators leaving the competition site.

Final Notes for all Judging Panel Members

1. If you have seen either team in a previous round, you should be brought to the attention of the Liaison immediately.
2. If you personally know a student or coach, please do not engage in personal conversations during the competition. The appearance of a Judging Panel member having a previous personal connection to a team member or team gives other teams a reason to doubt your impartiality in scoring. We trust your professionalism; however, appearances can be tough to overcome. It is very disheartening for a team to see a Panel member greet an opposing team member by name and ask him/her “How’s your grandma doing?”
3. **Please do not leave the judging panel orientation room until the trial coordinator officially releases you after returning to the judging panel room after the critique.** The scoring room must have time to review the scoresheets from your Judging Panel to determine if there are any potential problems (i.e. blanks, ties, mathematical errors, illegible writing, etc.). If an error is found, the Coordinating team will need you on hand to correct the error before the competition can move forward. The Scoring room will work as quickly as possible to “clear” each Judging Panel in a timely manner. We thank you for your patience as our volunteer coordinating staff provides our students with the best possible competition experience.

4. **Do not base your decisions on the merits of the case** – student knowledge and performance are the only items that should be evaluated.
5. Refrain from mentioning to students if you are not thoroughly prepared to serve on a Judging Panel or are unfamiliar with the materials or Rules. Students will be highly disappointed if they learn that this is the case, because they have spent so much time and effort preparing their presentations.

****** Thank you for your service! ******

Scoring Evaluator Materials

On the following pages, you will find the guidelines for scoring the competition round. Below are some quick point reminders as you prepare.

Quick Points for Scoring Evaluators

- You are giving scores on the performance of the students in their roles, not in the merits of the case.
- Vary your scores throughout the Round. All speaking parts should not be 9s and 10s. Use the scores to differentiate between good, great and incredible. See page 25 for more details on the intended scale.
- Use your green scratch sheet to score during the Round. Feel free to change scores in previous parts as the trial goes along.
- If you make a mistake on the official scoresheet, “X” out the wrong number and write the correct number next to it, along with your initials. DO NOT write the correct number on top of the wrong number.
- All blank boxes on the ballot need to be completed.
- The Final Point Totals cannot be tied.
- Sign your scoresheet.
- Do not ask the teams to identify their school or state.
- If you know a student or coach personally, do not “catch up” with them after the Round. The perception of bias is as dangerous as is its practice.
- Do not announce a winner after deliberations.
- Do not announce any Outstanding Witness or Attorney awards.
- Return to the Judging Panel room until you are dismissed by the Coordinating team. Any corrections on your scoresheet need to be completed by you for transparency.





Trial Guidelines for Scoring Evaluators

Prepare for the Round(s)

- Please be familiar with the case materials before you come to the competition. (There will be a review and orientation session before each Round, during which time you may ask questions about specific points.)
- Your preparation may proceed in this order:
 - View the orientation video on the Mock Trial website.
 - Review the **Bench Brief** for this mock trial case (this will be emailed to each Judging Panel volunteer).
 - Read the case.
 - Familiarize yourself with the NHSMTC Rules of Evidence used for this competition and with the Rules of the Competition related to trial Rounds found earlier in this Manual.
 - Familiarize yourself with the **Scoring Matrix** and **What to Look for When Scoring Teams** (the next section of this Manual).
 - Familiarize yourself with the other information contained in these Guidelines.

Materials/Supplies

- A copy of the case materials, rules, and this Judging Panel Manual will be provided to each Panel member upon check-in at the competition.
- Each Judging Panel will be provided the following supplies by the courtroom liaison before each trial Round:
 - Three official scoresheets (in carbonless triplicate)
 - Three unofficial scratch sheets (green cardstock) – Used as a rough draft during the trial
 - Four Outstanding Attorney and Outstanding Witness ballots
- Prior to the Round, evaluator will need a green scratch sheet and the trial notebook for the courtroom.
- After the Round, each evaluator will be provided an official scoresheet and the Outstanding Awards ballot.
- Except for the notebook, all above materials (used and unused) should be returned to the Courtroom Liaison when the panel returns to the Judging Panel Orientation room after trial.

Pre-Trial Matters

- Prior to opening statements, each team will provide each evaluator with a Trial Squad Roster Form and introduce themselves to the court.
- The Presiding Judge will handle all pre-trial matters and administer the mock trial oath.

Evaluate Student Performance

Please consider the following items when evaluating the students

1. The trial should proceed according to the Rules of the National High School Mock Trial Championship.
2. ***Students should be evaluated only on their performance***, including their substantive presentation and knowledge of the facts and law, **not** the legal merits of the case.
3. **Please use the scoring guidelines found in this manual (in the following section).**
4. Use the green scratch sheet to record scores throughout the trial and transfer these scores to the official scoresheet after the Round and any dispute process is complete. Scoring Evaluators should strive to avoid any revisions or deletions on the official scoresheet.
5. **DO NOT** confer with other panel members regarding individual scores or the scoresheet itself. **Complete your scoresheet independently of all other Panel members.**
6. A Scoring Evaluator may award points to a team despite an adverse ruling from the bench. (Scoring Evaluators are not bound by the decisions of the Presiding Judge.) The intent is to evaluate the students on performance, not outcome. – Rule 5.3
7. We expect every student participant to observe proper courtroom decorum, to speak as clearly as possible and abide by the Code of Ethical Conduct at all times; however, students **should not be** evaluated based upon their dress, their jewelry, their hairstyle or any other aspect of their physical appearance or their real-life accent, dialect or the fact that English may not be their first language. We are proud that students from diverse geographic, racial, ethnic, religious and economic backgrounds participate in the National High School Mock Trial Championship.
 - Some attorneys are conditioned to saying “Thank you, your Honor” out of respect for the court after a ruling from the bench, even if the ruling is not in their favor. So as to not dissuade the attempted respect by the students, Evaluators should not deduct points for doing so.
8. As part of the evaluation of a student attorney, the Evaluator may look at how well that attorney raises and responds to objections. Obstructionist behavior and excessive technical objections should not be rewarded.
9. Witnesses who engage in excessively long, excessively non-responsive answers to a majority of the questions asked of them in order to deliberately run the clock down on an opposing team’s attorney should not be rewarded for this type of obstructionist behavior.
10. Evaluators may take into consideration when scoring an individual participant, that participant’s reliance (or non-reliance) on notes. It is up to the individual Scoring Evaluator how much weight to give this matter, and whether to deduct or reward points for the use (or non-use) of notes, within the overall scoring structure.
11. Evaluators may take into consideration when scoring an individual participant that participant’s use and knowledge of specific Rules and Rule numbers. The student may demonstrate his/her knowledge by citing Rules and/or Rule numbers of his/her own volition or upon request of the Presiding Judge. It is up to the individual evaluator how much weight to give this matter, and whether to reward or deduct points, within the overall scoring structure.

12. Team members who ask questions that require an unfair extrapolation or team members who offer an answer that includes an unfair extrapolation should have points deducted from their individual performance score. Teams have been advised that the best way to handle unfair extrapolations is through impeachment on cross examination and in the closing argument (if appropriate). Teams have been advised to only ask for a ruling on unfair extrapolations under Rule 4 from a judge as a last resort.
13. **Rule 4.11** strictly limits the use of costumes and illustrative devices. Evaluators should interpret Rule 20 strictly and narrowly, since the stipulations for this year's case **prohibits all** costuming options.

Concluding the trial

- At the end of the trial, the Presiding Judge will ask the Evaluators to retire to a separate room to complete their scoresheets individually and in private.

The Dispute Resolution Procedure

- After the Scoring Evaluators leave the courtroom, the Presiding Judge will conduct a dispute resolution process.
- Evaluators will be informed of any dispute raised and the outcome of the process by the Presiding Judge.
- If the dispute process is invoked, the Evaluators have the option of altering their scores after considering the dispute.

Complete the Scoresheet

1. Once you have retired from the courtroom, you will then complete the official triplicate scoresheet. You may refer to any notes you made in the scratch sheet folder. However, only scores on the three-part carbon scoresheet will be tallied.
2. Please be sure to complete your scoresheet **independently** of other panel members and
 - ✓ Use a ballpoint pen and press down hard when completing the official scoresheet so that all entries go through to the third carbon copy
 - ✓ Check that all blanks are filled in on your scoresheet (**NO BLANKS!**)
 - ✓ Check that there is **NO TIE** in the **Final Point Total** boxes
 - ✓ Use a calculator to add up each team's scores
 - ✓ Check that you have **signed** the scoresheet
3. Strive for **ZERO revisions and/or deletions** on the official scoresheet.
 - a. If you must make a revision or delete an item, cross out the incorrect item (pressing down so that the correction goes all the way through to the third carbon copy) and re-write it legibly out to the side of its original position. Initial any changes made to the official scoresheet.
 - b. **DO NOT** write or scribble over an incorrect item. If the revisions and/or deletions are so numerous that the scoresheet is potentially unreadable, ask your Courtroom Liaison to provide a new official scoresheet and recopy the entire scoresheet. Return both the old and new sheets to the liaison.
4. The courtroom liaison will collect all scoresheets from the Evaluators and check for errors or missing parts.
5. Each of the Evaluators and the Presiding Judge should also independently complete their Outstanding Witness and Attorney Award ballots, giving them to the liaison.

6. Return with the Presiding Judge to the courtroom to perform the critique.

Perform the Critique

1. Before starting the critique, allow each team to present their Star Attorney and Star Witness Awards.
2. Please limit the critique for the entire Panel to a total of **10 minutes**.
3. **Do not announce scores, the results of the Round or the identities of the Outstanding Attorney and/or Witness.**
4. **Be brief!** The teams are on a very tight schedule.
5. **NEVER** ask the teams to identify their school or state.
6. Humor is a welcome tension reliever during critiques – remind everyone that their experience during the competition weekend should be exciting, enjoyable and fulfilling.
7. Comments should be of a general nature and not directed toward individual members of the team.
 - a. Do not attempt to give coaching pointers or other critique of performance, theme, theory, arguments, questions, answers, etc. to the teams. Each team’s coaches have spent the previous several months preparing the teams to present the case in a specific manner. Well intentioned Judging Panel members who attempt to help “fix” items unwittingly undermine the coach’s preparations for the team.
8. Be fair and distribute your comments broadly – students listen closely during the critique for clues about which team won the Rounds, so please be careful not to give away the result.
9. For many students, critiques are the most valuable part of the competition. The most valuable assistance you can provide is to point out generally what the team did well and/or make general **constructive** comments on any deficiencies in the presentation. Please keep in mind that teams have no time to change major portions of their presentation between Rounds.
10. Please bear in mind the educational goals of this activity. These are high school students, not yet candidates for the Bar, so our criticism should be constructive and supportive, avoiding vigorous remarks laden with our own emotions that can be personally destructive to students. What is at stake here is not legal hardball—a cold-blooded approach to winning or losing. The stakes are the proper education and development, nurture and guidance, of young people. Please keep those goals in mind when speaking to students and coaches outside the courtroom as well.
11. Please do not make personal derisive comments either to the participants or any person while on the premises of the competition. Please keep in mind at the competition that many of the students’ friends and family members may be within earshot. Also, please remember these are high school students (some as young as fourteen years old) from diverse racial, ethnic, religious and economic backgrounds. These students participate in mock trial as an extracurricular activity and devote hundreds of hours preparing for and participating in the competition.
12. Do not refer to “real world” Rules during the trial or the debriefing session.
13. Please do not tell students “they are better than real lawyers”.
14. Please do not publicly compare team performance with another team in this region or with a team you saw in a different competition at some other point in time. These sorts of comparisons are not helpful.
15. Please do not approach teams or coaches who do not win the regional championship after the debriefing or the entire competition has concluded and suggest to them “they should have won” and/or that the champion team “was not as good as they were”.

Accompany the Liaison back to the Judging Panel Orientation Room

- Turn in all of the materials provided to the Judging Panel by the courtroom liaison. Please do not throw any competition materials away in a courtroom or hallway trash can. We do not want teams to find items related to other teams.
- The Panel must be cleared and released by the Scoring Room prior to the evaluators leaving the competition site.

Final Notes for all Judging Panel Members

1. If you have seen either team in a previous round, you should be brought to the attention of the Liaison immediately.
2. If you personally know a student or coach, please do not engage in personal conversations during or after the competition. The appearance of a Judging Panel member having a previous personal connection to a team member or team gives other teams a reason to doubt your impartiality in scoring. We trust your professionalism; however, appearances can be tough to overcome. It is very disheartening for a team to see a Panel member greet an opposing team member by name and ask him/her "How's your grandma doing?"
3. **Please do not leave the judging panel orientation room until the trial coordinator officially releases you after returning to the judging panel room after the critique.** The scoring room must have time to review the scoresheets from your Judging Panel to determine if there are any potential problems (i.e. blanks, ties, mathematical errors, illegible writing, etc.). If an error is found, the Coordinating team will need you on hand to correct the error before the competition can move forward. The Scoring room will work as quickly as possible to "clear" each Judging Panel in a timely manner. We thank you for your patience as our volunteer coordinating staff provides our students with the best possible competition experience.
4. **Do not base your decisions on the merits of the case** – student knowledge and performance are the only items that should be evaluated.
5. Refrain from mentioning to students if you are not thoroughly prepared to serve on a Judging Panel or are unfamiliar with the materials or Rules. Students will be highly disappointed if they learn that this is the case, because they have spent so much time and effort preparing their presentations.

***** Thank you for your service! *****

What to Look for When Scoring Teams

The following criteria should be considered by scoring Evaluators during the course of a team's trial presentation. These criteria are taken directly from the Scratch Scoresheet provided to each Judging Panel member during each Round of the competition. See the "Explanation of Performance Ratings" section of these materials for more details on evaluating student performance and assigning scores.

*During competition Rounds, Evaluators may award and deduct points at their discretion. All scores/points in a competition Round are subjective (see **Rules 5.3 and 5.4** for details).*

The following criteria should be considered by scoring evaluators during the course of a team's trial presentation.

Opening Statement

- Provided overview on the witnesses and their testimony, evidence, and how it will prove the case
- Introduced a theme/theory of the case
- Outlined the burden of proof
- Requested relief (what the side is asking the court to decide)
- Non-argumentative

Direct Examinations

- Asked properly phrased open ended questions that allowed explanation or description of the situation
- Sequenced questions logically
- Did not ask questions that required any unfair extrapolations
- Laid foundation for witness testimony
- Elicited relevant, important evidence from witnesses
- Continued with consistent theme/theory of the case
- Provided proper objections during opposing team's cross-examination
- Utilized objections to move the case forward and not just to throw the other side off their game
- Made/defended objections utilizing rules of evidence or the rules of the competition
- Recovered well after objections
- Adjusted to judges' rulings
- Addressed actual testimony
- Followed proper protocol for introducing exhibits
- Demonstrated an understanding of the rules of competition and evidence
- Limited re-direct to scope of cross-examination
- On re-direct, rehabilitated witnesses

Cross Examinations

- Continued with consistent theme/theory of the case
- Provided proper objections during opposing team's direct examination
- Made/defended to objections utilizing rules of evidence or the rules of the competition
- Utilized objections to move the case forward and not just to throw the other side off their game
- Recovered well after objections
- Adjusted to judges' rulings
- Addressed actual testimony

- Elicited facts favorable to the attorney's case
- Asked properly phrased questions that weakened the testimony given during direct examination
- Used appropriate leading questions suggesting a "yes/no" answer
- Attempted to appropriately control the witness consistent with the judges' rulings
- Properly impeached the witness, if needed, without appearing to harass or intimidate
- Followed proper protocol for introducing exhibits
- Demonstrated an understanding of the rules of competition and evidence
- Limited re-cross-examination to scope of re-direct examination

Closing Argument

- Incorporated what transpired during trial
- Summarized the evidence with reasoned arguments
- Outlined the strengths of his/her side's witnesses and the weaknesses of the other side's witnesses
- Discussed relevant exhibits when appropriate
- Theme was carried through to closing
- Refers to jury instructions or other legal standards when necessary
- Asked for the verdict, including a request for relief, and explained why the verdict was justifiable
- Effectively answered and rebutted opponent's case

Witness Performance

- Presented an interesting and authentic character
- Played up the strengths of his/her statements and adequately explained the weaknesses
- Understood the facts of the case and the exhibits
- Provided logical testimony
- Sounded spontaneous and not memorized
- Did not give excessively long or non-responsive answers on cross-examination
- Portrayed a consistent character under cross-examination
- Maintained factual position under cross-examination
- Did not offer answers that included any unfair extrapolations
- Recovered well after objections
- Remained in character when not on the witness stand

***** Do NOT reward excessive interruptions and/or obstructionist behavior.**

***** Do NOT reward unfair extrapolations.**

Explanation of the Performance Ratings Used on the Mock Trial Scoresheet

The next page includes the matrix of the differing point categories to be used by Evaluators. Individual participants will be rated on a scale of 1-10 speaker points, according to their role(s) in the trial. The scoring evaluator is scoring INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE in each speaker category. The overall score for each speaking role is a culmination of the student's performance that may include bits from two different categories on the Matrix. The Evaluator makes the final determination as to where the performance gained and/lost points. The Evaluator is NOT scoring the legal merits of the case.

Rules Violations: Scoring evaluators may individually consider penalties for violation(s) of the Rules of the Competition or the Code of Ethical Conduct. Penalties would reduce point awards in the appropriate performance categories and/or Team Points. Penalties will not be indicated separately on the ballot. Please see Rule 27 for the treatment of rule infractions.

Individual Scores: On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the highest), rate the performance of the town teams in the categories on the ballot. Each category is to be evaluated separately. DO NOT GIVE FRACTIONAL POINTS.

Ties are NOT ALLOWED in the Final Point Total boxes. The team with the largest number of total points on the scoresheet wins the judge's ballot. The team with the largest number of ballots per courtroom wins the courtroom. Scoring evaluators are reminded to sign the ballot.

SCORING MATRIX

	ATTORNEYS	WITNESSES
1 – 3 Ineffective	<p>Case/rules/legal issues not understood</p> <p>Trial procedures not understood</p> <p>Delivery not persuasive or articulate</p> <p>Script/notes was total relied upon</p> <p>No questions/arguments moved case forward</p> <p>Asked questions intended for an unfair extrapolation</p> <p>No understanding of making/responding to objections</p> <p>No understanding of how to recover from objections</p> <p>Eye contact not made</p> <p>Voice weak, unclear or inaudible</p> <p>Failed to consider other team's presentation</p>	<p>Witness statements and exhibits not understood</p> <p>Responses not thorough, persuasive, or natural</p> <p>Responses not consistent with facts</p> <p>Consistently went materially outside case materials</p> <p>No understanding of how to recover from objections</p> <p>Eye contact not made</p> <p>Voice weak, unclear or inaudible</p> <p>Deliberately attempted to waste opposing counsel's time</p> <p>Performance was not credible or convincing</p>
4 – 5 Poor	<p>Case/rules/legal issues poorly understood</p> <p>Trial procedures slightly poorly understood</p> <p>Poise and delivery needed work</p> <p>Script/notes was highly depended upon</p> <p>Few questions/arguments moved case forward</p> <p>Asked questions intended for an unfair extrapolation</p> <p>Struggled to make/respond to objections</p> <p>No understanding of how to recover from objections</p> <p>Little eye contact made</p> <p>Voice often difficult to hear</p> <p>Failed to consider other team's presentation</p>	<p>Witnesses statements and exhibits poorly understood</p> <p>Responses felt generic and/or scripted</p> <p>Responses sometimes inconsistent with facts</p> <p>Materially went outside case materials more than once</p> <p>No understanding of how to recover from objections</p> <p>Little eye contact made</p> <p>Voice often difficult to hear</p> <p>Deliberately attempted to waste opposing counsel's time</p> <p>Performance was passable, lacks depth</p>
6 Average (Proficient)	<p>Case/rules/legal issues fairly understood</p> <p>Trial procedures fairly understood</p> <p>Delivery had some hesitation/stumbles</p> <p>Script/notes used occasionally</p> <p>Questions/arguments moved case forward</p> <p>Questions asked called for no unfair extrapolation</p> <p>Missed appropriate opportunities to object</p> <p>Recovered adequately after objections</p> <p>Eye contact maintained some of the time</p> <p>Voice sometimes difficult to hear</p> <p>Minimally responsive to other team's presentation</p>	<p>Witness statements and exhibits fairly understood</p> <p>Performance was somewhat credible and convincing</p> <p>Some responses felt scripted</p> <p>Responses consistent with facts</p> <p>Materially went outside case materials once</p> <p>Recovered adequately after objections</p> <p>Eye contact maintained some of the time when appropriate</p> <p>Voice sometimes difficult to hear</p> <p>Answers most cross questions responsibly</p>
7 – 8 Very Good	<p>Case/rules/legal issues well understood</p> <p>Trial procedure understanding was very good</p> <p>Delivery was persuasive</p> <p>Script not used, reacts to the moment</p> <p>Notes only used for issues raised during trial</p> <p>Questions/arguments moved case forward</p> <p>Questions asked called for no unfair extrapolation</p> <p>Objections/responses were appropriate</p> <p>Recovered well after objections</p> <p>Eye contact mostly maintained</p> <p>Voice was clear, audible, and confident</p> <p>Adjusted case other team's presentation</p>	<p>Witness statements and exhibits well understood</p> <p>Responses mostly felt spontaneous and not memorized</p> <p>Responses consistent with facts</p> <p>Did not materially go outside case materials</p> <p>Rarely went outside scope of case materials</p> <p>Recovered well after objections</p> <p>Eye contact mostly maintained when appropriate</p> <p>Voice was clear, audible, and confident</p> <p>Answers most cross questions responsibly</p> <p>Performance was mostly credible and convincing</p>
9 – 10 Outstanding and Superior	<p>Case/rules/legal issues excellent understanding</p> <p>Trial procedure understanding was superior</p> <p>Delivery was compelling</p> <p>Script not used, reacts to the moment</p> <p>Notes only used for issues raised during trial</p> <p>Questions/arguments were compelling</p> <p>Objections/responses were appropriate and mastered</p> <p>Superior recovery after objections</p> <p>Questions asked called for no unfair extrapolation</p> <p>Eye contact maintained</p> <p>Voice was clear, audible, confident and with conviction</p> <p>Excellent responses to other team's presentation</p> <p>Compelling trial presentation</p> <p>Took command of courtroom, but not overbearing</p>	<p>Witness statements and exhibits excellent understanding</p> <p>Performance felt spontaneous and natural</p> <p>Responses consistent with facts</p> <p>Did not materially go outside case materials</p> <p>Superior recovery after objections</p> <p>Eye contact maintained when appropriate</p> <p>Voice was clear, audible, confident and with conviction</p> <p>Answers most cross questions responsibly</p> <p>Took command of courtroom, but not overbearing</p> <p>Performance was compelling</p>



Defense 1 (Beauregard): HMD
(Team Code)

Defense 2 (Sherman): AVR
(Team Code)

Courtroom: 3C

Round (Circle one) 1 2 3 4 Final

On a scale of 1 to 10, rate the teams in the categories below, recording one numerical score in each box under the ↓. Do NOT use fractional points or give any scores of zero. Please use a ballpoint pen and press down hard.

Not Effective 1-3 Poor 4-5 Average (Proficient) 6 Very Good 7-8 Outstanding and Superior 9-10

	D1 – Beauregard	↓	D2 – Sherman	↓
OPENING STATEMENT	→	8	→	9
D1'S FIRST WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Beauregard</u>	Direct Exam. by Attorney	7	Cross Exam. by Attorney	8
	Witness' Performance	8		
D1'S SECOND WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Clarke</u>	Direct Exam. by Attorney	7	Cross Exam. by Attorney	8
	Witness' Performance	6		
D1'S THIRD WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Johnston</u>	Direct Exam. by Attorney	8	Cross Exam. by Attorney	10
	Witness' Performance	9		
D2'S FIRST WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Bewley</u>	Cross Exam. by Attorney	6	Direct Exam. by Attorney	8
			Witness' Performance	7
D2'S SECOND WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Sherman</u>	Cross Exam. by Attorney	9	Direct Exam. by Attorney	8
			Witness' Performance	7
D2'S THIRD WITNESS Witness Role: <u>Spengler</u>	Cross Exam. by Attorney	8	Direct Exam. by Attorney	7
			Witness' Performance	9
CLOSING ARGUMENT (and rebuttal, if any)	→	8	→	9
Evaluator's Name (Please Print): <u>Hiram Grant</u>	FINAL POINT TOTAL	92	← NO TIES →	97

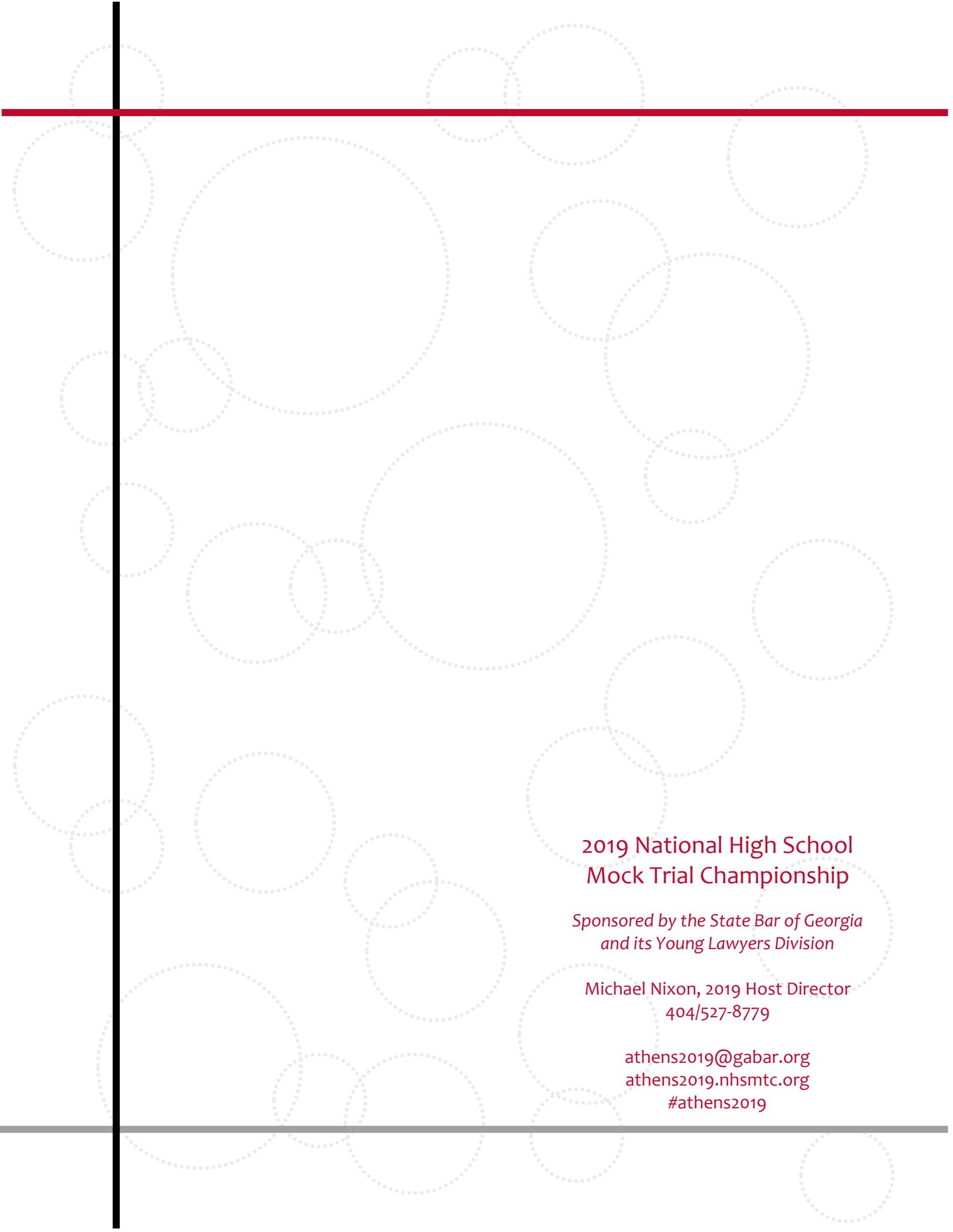
Please double-check your scores to ensure there are no ties. Then, circle the score of the winning team and return this score sheet to your Courtroom Liaison.

A Note to our Georgia Judging Panel Members

There are a few key differences between the procedures utilized by the Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition and the National High School Mock Trial Championship and we wanted to make sure our Georgia evaluators were aware.



<i>Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition Procedure</i>	<i>Nationals Difference</i>
Evaluators award Team Points	Team Points are not used
Final Point Total calculated by Scoring Room	Each Evaluator must calculate the Final Point Total on his/her scoresheet. We'll provide calculators.
Judging Panel worksheet (8½" x 14" comment sheet) used	Judging Panel worksheet not used
Outstanding Witness and Attorney Awards decided upon by each Panel as a group	Each evaluator and presiding judge casts independent and secret ballots for an Outstanding Witness and Outstanding Attorney in each Round. The winners are calculated across all four Rounds of the preliminary competition.



2019 National High School Mock Trial Championship

*Sponsored by the State Bar of Georgia
and its Young Lawyers Division*

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#athens2019
