

The Steering Committee
China University of Political Science and Law
December 6, 2024

**Qualifying Tournament in China for
The 2025 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court
Competition
NATIONAL RULES SUPPLEMENT**

This Qualifying Tournament is held in China among teams wishing to participate in the International Tournament in order to choose the top teams that shall be designated as the National Representatives.

This Qualifying Tournament shall be presided over by China University of Political Science and Law, and the Steering Committee (the Committee) shall take charge of administration.

The oral pleadings shall be held in China University of Political Science and Law from February 15 to February 18, 2025. The eight teams that advance to the Quarterfinal Rounds will be designated National Representatives of China to the International Rounds. In addition, the top losing team in the Round of 16, as determined by Preliminary Round ranking, will be designated a National Representative of China to the International Rounds.

1. Team Composition

In the Qualifying Tournament, each Team shall be composed of two (2) to five (5) student members, who will obtain the certificates endowed by the Chinese Steering Committee.

2. Judge Panels and Eligibility of Judges

In the preliminary rounds of competition, the panels will be formed with two or three judges, but the three-judge to seven-judge panels shall be utilized in the Round of 16, Quarterfinal Rounds, Semifinal Rounds and the Championship Round depending upon the number of the judges available.

Judges will be selected according to the Official Rules of the 2025 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (Official Rules).

3. Anonymity of Participants

Participants must not reveal their school to judges through direct or indirect means at any time

during the competition. The Administrator may disqualify or impose a Penalty against any Team that intentionally or inadvertently discloses its school to judge, whether or not such disclosure occurs during an Oral Round. The term “participants” includes Team Members, Team Advisors, and spectators affiliated with the Team.

4. The Oral Pleading Procedure

4.1 Preliminary Rounds

Each Team shall compete four times in the Preliminary Rounds of the Qualifying Tournament, twice as Applicant and twice as Respondent.

The pairings for the Preliminary Rounds shall be done with the assistance provided by the ILSA. At the General Meeting before the Competition begins, Teams shall be notified of the side it shall argue for and both teams shall be granted a reasonable time for preparation. Memorials of the opposite sides will be provided immediately upon the notification.

In case that Team do not appear at the start of the Tournament, the Committee shall have the power to revise the pairings or authorize *ex parte* proceedings.

4.2 Rounds of 16

The Rounds of 16 shall be held among the sixteen (16) highest ranking teams from the Preliminary Rounds in order to determine which Teams shall advance to the Quarterfinal Rounds.

In the Rounds of 16, the pairing shall be determined by “power-seeding” as follows: the sixteenth-ranked Team versus the first-ranked Team, the fifteenth-ranked Team versus the second-ranked Team, the fourteenth-ranked Team versus the third-ranked Team, the thirteenth-ranked Team versus the fourth-ranked Team, the twelfth-ranked Team versus the fifth-ranked Team, the eleventh-ranked Team versus the sixth-ranked Team, the tenth-ranked Team versus the seventh-ranked Team, the ninth-ranked Team versus the eighth-ranked Team.

In the Rounds of 16, each Team argues only once as Applicant or as Respondent to determine the winning Team.

4.3 Quarterfinal Rounds

The Quarterfinal Rounds shall be held among the eight (8) winning teams from the Eighth final Rounds in order to determine which Teams shall advance to the Semifinal Rounds.

In the Quarterfinal Rounds, the pairing shall be determined by use of “power-seeding”, i.e., the highest-ranked remaining Team shall compete against the lowest-ranked Team. The rankings to be used will be the final rankings from the Preliminary Rounds.

In the Quarterfinal Rounds, each Team argues only once as Applicant or as Respondent to

determine the winning Team.

4.4 Semifinal Rounds

The Semifinal Rounds shall be held among the four (4) winning teams from the Quarterfinal Rounds in order to determine which Teams shall advance to the Championship Round.

In the Semifinal Rounds, the pairing shall be determined by use of “power-seeding”, i.e., the highest-ranked remaining Team shall compete against the lowest-ranked Team. The rankings to be used will be the final rankings from the Preliminary Rounds.

In the Semifinal Rounds, each Team argues only once as Applicant or as Respondent to determine the winning Team.

4.5 Championship Round

In order to upgrade national competitive competence, there will be a Championship Round between the top two Teams from the Semifinal Rounds.

4.6 Pleading Option

In the Rounds of 16, Quarterfinal Rounds and Semifinal Rounds, the higher-ranking Team from the Preliminary Rounds shall have the right to choose which side it will argue. This right is called the “pleading option”.

In the Championship Round, the side a team would argue for in the Championship Round shall be decided by “Tossing a Coin” according to Official Rules 8.

5. Competition Scoring

5.1 Preliminary Rounds

The scoring of the preliminary rounds shall apply to Rule 10 of the Official Rules of the 2025 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

5.2 The Rounds of 16, Quarterfinal Rounds, Semifinal Rounds and the Championship Round

The decision regarding the winner of the Rounds of 16, Quarterfinal Rounds, Semifinal Rounds and the Championship Round shall be by majority vote of the judges. No ties are allowed.

5.3 Ranking of Oralists

Individual oralists shall be ranked from highest to lowest average oral score. An oralist’s average oral score is the average of the scores awarded to that oralist by each judge during the Preliminary Rounds, excluding the single lowest score awarded to the oralist. If an oralist argued in

only one (1) Preliminary Round, he or she is not eligible for ranking. The top twenty (20) oralists are the **Best Oralists**.

5.4 Ranking of Memorials

Total Applicant and Respondent Memorial scores for each Team shall be determined by adding the Total Raw Score of a Team's Applicant Memorial and the Total Raw Score of the Respondent Memorial respectively, for a total of three (3) judges' scores in each side. Team Memorials shall be ranked from the highest Total Memorial score to the lowest. Ties are permitted. This score shall be used to determine **Best Memorial Awards**, three (3) for the Best Overall Applicant Memorial and three (3) for the Best Overall Respondent Memorial.

5.5 Two (2) Judge Panels

If only two (2) judges score a given Memorial or a given Oral Round, the Administrator shall create a third score by averaging the scores of the two judges.

6. Clarifications of the Competition Problem or Rules

The Chinese National Rules Supplement has been promulgated by the Chinese Steering Committee with the approval of the Executive Director. This Rules Supplement is intended to facilitate the proceeding of the Chinese National Division Qualifying Tournament. The Rules Supplement completes, and wherever necessary, replaces the Official Rules.

The 2025 Chinese National Division Timetable, which will be announced in February 2025, is deemed to be an integral part of the Rules Supplement. The dates appearing in the Chinese National Division Timetable replace the dates appearing in the Official Rules.

The Executive Office is the final arbiter of implementation and interpretation of the National Rules Supplement.

Teams may submit written requests for clarifications of the National Qualifying Tournament Problems or these Rules. Requests for such Clarifications must be received by the Committee before February 11, 2025. Teams may submit requests for clarifications by email. The address is: chinajessup@163.com.

All clarifications to legitimate requests will be summarized and posted on February 13, 2025.

7. Other Matters

Unless stipulated above, the Official Rules for the 2025 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition shall apply, and the Committee and the National Administrator will jointly take charge of National Tournament.

In case of unpredictable events that would happen during the course of Tournament, the Committee shall proceed at his discretion for the interests of all the Teams and the Tournament.