

Mock Trial Training

South Carolina Bar
Law Related Education (LRE) Division
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South Carolina
BAR FOUNDATION
Lawyers Sustaining Justice

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Mock Trial Preparing for Competition Day

Slide Index

- Competition Dates – 2011/12
- Important Dates – 2011/12
- Important Paperwork
- Code of Ethical Conduct
- Dress Attire for Students
- Trial Communication
- Viewing a Trial
- Teams Codes / Identity
- Video Cameras / Pictures
- Parents' Meetings
- Withdrawing from the Competition



Competition Dates – 2011/12

Middle School Competitions:

Regionals: November 5, 2011
 State: December 10, 2011
 Nationals: April or May 2012

High School Competitions:

Regionals: February 25, 2012
 State: March 9-10, 2012
 Nationals: May 3-6, 2012

State champion **MUST** compete in the national championship!


Important Dates – 2011/2012

	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
REGISTRATION OPENS	August 8, 2011	August 8, 2011
CASE RELEASED ON-LINE	August 31, 2011	October 28, 2011
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION WINDOW	August 31, 2011 thru March 16, 2012	August 31, 2011 thru March 16, 2012
REGISTRATION DEADLINE -- without late fee	September 2, 2011	October 7, 2011
REGISTRATION DEADLINE -- with late fee of \$50	September 16, 2011	October 21, 2011
DROP DEADLINE -- without being banned from next year's competition	September 30, 2011	January 6, 2012
FULL PAYMENT NO LATER THAN	September 30, 2011	January 6, 2012
REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS	October 3, 2011 ☺	January 17, 2012 ☺
REGIONAL COMPETITIONS	November 5, 2011	February 25, 2012
STATE COMPETITION	December 10, 2011	March 9-10, 2012

☺ **Proposed Regional Locations Include:**
 Charleston, Columbia, Conway, Greenville, and Lexington

Important Paperwork

Possibly Required by School / School District ☺

SC Bar Requires:	School/School District Requires:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registration Form ■ Payment ■ School Information Sheet ■ Signed Ethical Conduct Form ■ Signed Talent Release Forms <small>(allows for photos and videos to be taken and published)</small> ■ Team Rosters <p>☺ Check with your school and/or school district on ALL required paperwork!</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Permission for New Class or After School Activity ■ Permission Form for Field Trip / Competition ■ Parental Permission Form for Students to Participate in Field Trip / Competition for Regional and State ■ Transportation Request ■ Payment Request ■ Request for Additional Funds to Support Snacks, Mileage, etc.

Trial Communication (Rule 1.12)

- Coaches, teachers, alternates and observers have no communication with teams during the trial and stay behind the bar.
 - (includes emergency recess and/or scheduled recess)
- Team members in front of the bar may only communicate among themselves.
- Attorney coaches and teachers are discouraged from having contact with scoring and presiding judges on the day of the competition to prevent the appearance of impropriety.

Viewing a Trial (Rule 4.13)

- No one can watch any team except for their own; otherwise, will be disqualified.
 - *Except artists and journalists that are randomly assigned by the SC Bar.*
- No person shall display or speak anything of their origin.
- Everyone sitting behind the bar is required to be in a seated position.

Viewing a Trial (Rule 4.13)

- All official team members, sponsors and visitors will be required to wear lettered nametags.
- Middle School Badge Limit: 16 badges
- High School Badge Limit: 14 badges
 - + up to 4 badges (2 artists / 2 journalists)
 - 18 badges
- There are only **24 visitor badges** allotted per team. Team members exceeding the allotted amount of team badges are to wear visitor badges.



Team Codes/Identity

- No school names, logos, or colors on any items should be brought into the courthouse.
- School identity should be kept confidential from the scoring judges



Video Cameras and Pictures (Rule 4.14)

- Video cameras and pictures permitted with full consent.
- A team may refuse video and/or pictures with no reason required or stated.
 - *For example, "Our team requests no video be taken during this round, but our team is fine with photos."*
- No flash pictures.
- Pictures taken from seated position with *no movement* around the courtroom.
- Depending on the courthouse used, teams may be notified in advance of no video or pictures.



Parents' Meetings

- Discuss rules and share the "What to Expect at the Competition" information;
- Nominate one person to operate a video camera;
- Discuss communication rules applying to visitors (including not addressing the court for any reason);
- Discuss travel plans; and
- Plan for snack and prepared meals.
 - (No grilling, cooking, or heating devices permitted on courthouse grounds.)
- Discuss Ethical Conduct Agreement with parents and planned visitors.

Withdrawing from Competition

- A Team Drop Form must be submitted in order to withdraw a team from competition.
- A Team Drop Form is signed by the lead teacher coach and the school principal.
- If a teams withdraws from the competition after the drop deadline, the team automatically forfeits eligibility to compete the following competition year.
- Registration fees are non-refundable.

Questions?

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