



## Warren Moot – Rules of Participation

### 1. Application of Rules

- 1.1 By registering in the Warren Moot competition, a participant agrees to be subject to these Rules.

### 2. Registration, eligibility and teams

- 2.1 A participant must be a current member of Victorian Women Lawyers.
- 2.2 A team must comprise two counsel and one or two instructing solicitors (**Team**). A Team must notify the Mooting Coordinator of any changes to the members of a Team as soon as practicable before the competition commences.
- 2.3 Members of a Team may switch roles from one round to another.
- 2.4 Team members may not be replaced or substituted once the competition has commenced.
- 2.5 Any Team which forfeits a moot will not be eligible to compete in any other round and their opposing Team will be deemed to have won that moot.
- 2.6 A Team that does not meet the requirements of this section 2 may be disqualified from participating in the competition.

### 3. Competition structure

- 3.1 The competition will comprise one practice round (**Mock Trial Round**), three knock-out rounds (**Knock Out Rounds**) and a final round (**Grand Final**).
- 3.2 To qualify for the Final, a Team must participate in the Mock Trial Round and each Knock Out Round.
- 3.3 The fixtures for each round will be randomly allocated by the Mooting Coordinator and notified to participants in advance.
- 3.4 The mooting problems may be based on any area of law.

### 4. Competition format

- 4.1 A fact scenario/problem for each round will be distributed via email by the Mooting Coordinator at least 14 days before the relevant round.
- 4.2 A Team must not seek or receive any assistance with research or preparation in relation to any fact scenario/problem.
- 4.3 Teams must submit to the Mooting Coordinator, via email, an outline of each Counsel's written submissions (3 pages in total maximum) by 12pm, two days before their round. Authorities

referred to in the submissions should contain full citations in accordance with the Australian Guide to Legal Citation.

- 4.4 In preparing their argument, Teams must limit themselves to the facts provided in the moot problem.
- 4.5 During each moot:
- a. Counsel may speak for 15 minutes each or Senior Counsel may speak for 20 minutes and Junior Counsel may speak for 10 minutes (the division of time must be specified in the written submissions); and
  - b. Counsel may seek, by the leave of the court, a right of reply.
- 4.6 A timekeeper will be allocated to each moot and will indicate when counsel has reached their time limit. By a method disclosed to participants at the beginning of the round, the timekeeper will provide Counsel an indication of time at 2 minutes before the time each Counsel is supposed to conclude their submissions by.
- 4.7 Penalties may apply if Counsel exceed their allocated time.

## 5. Court Etiquette and Attire

- 5.1 All formalities of Court must be preserved unless dispensed with. We recommend that Teams research courtroom etiquette prior to competing.
- 5.2 Participants will be required to wear business attire for the first 3 rounds of the competition . Counsel of each Team participating in the Semi-Finals and Grand Final will be required to wear robes. Please contact the Mooting Coordinator if you require assistance in organising robes for the Semi-Finals or Grand Final.

## 6. Adjudication

- 6.1 The decision of the adjudicator at the conclusion of a moot is final.
- 6.2 An adjudicator may, at their discretion, ask questions of Senior Counsel or Junior Counsel during their submissions. It is presumed that Teams will factor this into their speaking time.
- 6.3 Marking will be as follows:

	<b>Senior Counsel</b>	<b>Junior Counsel</b>
Organisation and Presentation	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent
Written Submissions	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent
Development of Argument	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent
Responses to questions from the Bench	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent
Speaking ability and delivery	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent	Good/ Very Good/ Excellent

- 6.4 The adjudicator will announce the winning Team at the end of the Moot.
- 6.5 Individual marks will not be provided to the Teams and the adjudicator's assessment sheet will be returned to the Mooting Coordinator for their records.
- 6.6 Draws are not permitted.

**7. Breach of Rules**

- 7.1 Victorian Women Lawyers reserves the right to disqualify any Team for breach of these Rules or for unacceptable conduct as set out in rule 7.2 below.
- 7.2 Unacceptable conduct includes, but is not limited to:
- (i) failing to appear at a moot without prior notice;
  - (ii) delaying the progress of any moot;
  - (iii) failing to respect the authority of a judge; or
  - (iv) breaching these rules or the rules of Victorian Women Lawyers.

**VICTORIAN WOMEN LAWYERS**

GPO 2314 Melbourne VIC 3001

DX 350 MELBOURNE

**Telephone** 03 9607 9390 **Facsimile** 03 9607 9558 **Email** [vwl@liv.asn.au](mailto:vwl@liv.asn.au) **www.vwl.asn.au** ABN 32 198 567 354