

**KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL ASSOCIATION
RULES OF COMPETITION**

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CHAPTER 1: ADMINISTRATION

Rule 1.A - Rules of Competition

1. These Rules of Competition are administered by KHSMTA. The KHSMTA Board, in its sole discretion, may amend these Rules of Competition from time to time with or without notice.
2. All competitions hosted by KHSMTA are governed by these Rules of Competition. Rounds are further governed by the KHSMTA Rules of Evidence.
3. Questions about these Rules of Competition may be directed to the KHSMTA Board at kymocktrial@gmail.com, or if during a KHSMTA competition, in person in the Tab Room. The KHSMTA Board shall have the sole and final authority to resolve any dispute(s) involving these Rules of Competition or any other matter or dispute that arises.
4. Competing Members may introduce and/or reference these Rules of Competition during the Round.
5. By participating in any KHSMTA competition, each Competing Team represents and acknowledges that:
 - a. Its students, coaches, teachers, volunteers, spectators and all others affiliated with the Competing Team have reviewed and agreed to comply with these Rules of Competition.
 - b. The Board reserves the right to take disciplinary measures against any individual or Competing Team for violation of these Rules of Competition, which disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to:
 - i. Reduction of points attributed to a team during a Round at a rate to be determined in the sole discretion of the Board based on its review of the nature and severity of the offense(s).
 - ii. Forfeiture of Round(s) of competition.
 - iii. Temporary or permanent suspension from participating in competitions hosted by the KHSMTA.

Rule 1.B - Definitions

1. “Active Participant” refers to:
 - a. During both opening statements, the Competing Members for both Competing Teams who present their team’s opening statement.
 - b. During direct examination and cross examination (including, if applicable, redirect and recross), the Competing Members who portray the witness then being examined and who are responsible for directing or crossing the witness then being examined.
 - c. During both closing arguments, the Competing Members for both Competing Teams who present their team’s closing argument.
2. “Board” or “KHSMTA Board” refers to the Board of Directors of KHSMTA.
3. “Case Materials” refers to the closed-universe case materials made available by KHSMTA for use during the competition.
4. “Competing Member” refers to each of the six (6) students actively participating in the Round plus, if applicable, the Team’s Student Timekeeper.

5. “Competing Team” refers to a team participating in the competition. A Competing Team is composed of the students on its Team List. In the event that a school has two Competing Teams, the respective Team Lists of such Competing Teams shall determine which students are assigned to which Competing Team. A student may be on the Team List for only one Competing Team.
6. “Designated Coach” refers to one – and not more than one – non-student adult teacher, coach, or volunteer who will serve as a spectator for the Round and who will serve as the team’s designated non-student representative in the Round.
7. “KHSMTA” refers to the Kentucky High School Mock Trial Association.
8. “Presiding Judge” refers to the volunteer judge assigned to preside over the Round.
9. “Team List” refers to the document submitted by each Competing Team in advance of the competition that identifies the student participants for the Competing Team. Except as expressly provided by these Rules, no changes may be made to the Team List once the first round of Competition begins.
10. “Trial Roster” refers to the document prepared by each Competing Team for each Round, designating which Rostered Student will be presenting each role in the Round. Except as expressly provided in these Rules of Competition, no changes may be made to the Trial Roster once the Round begins.
11. “Rostered Student” refers to the student participants eligible for competition and identified on a Competing Team’s Team List.
12. “Round” refers to the trial between two Competing Teams and, if applicable, the Zoom or other virtual room assigned for such trial.
13. “Rules” or “Rules of Competition” refers to these Rules of Competition, as may be revised from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.
14. “Scoring Judge” refers to the volunteer judge(s) in a particular Round tasked with assigning scores to the Competing Teams.
15. “Student Timekeeper” refers to the student participant serving as the Competing Team’s timekeeper in the Round. In the event that a Competing Team has only six (6) students on its Team List, the six (6) Competing Members may alternate timekeeping responsibilities, provided that no Competing Member may serve as the Student Timekeeper for any portion of the trial in which they are an Active Participant.
 - a. In limited circumstances, the Board may permit the use of a timekeeper other than a Rostered Student of the Competing Team; to the extent that a Competing Team obtains prior approval from tournament officials to use such a timekeeper, that timekeeper shall not be permitted to communicate with any Competing Member nor with any other individual (except for the opposing Competing Team’s timekeeper, Tournament Officials, and, to the extent that an inquiry is made of the timekeeper by a Judge, the Judge(s) in the Round) once the Round begins. Such timekeeper is also prohibited from screen sharing, in the event of a virtual competition, or otherwise participating in the Round except to display permitted time cues.
16. “Tab Room” refers to the physical or virtual location of Tournament Officials during each competition.
17. “Team Code” refers to the identifier (generally a letter, number, or combination thereof) assigned by Tournament Officials to the Competing Team for the competition; in order to ensure

anonymity, the Team Code (and not the school name) is the only team identifier that may be displayed or otherwise made known during the Round.

18. "Tournament Official" refers to the Board or its designees tasked with administering the competition.
19. "Trial Roster" refers to the document prepared by each Competing Team for each Round, identifying the Competing Members' names, roles, and pronouns, and the Competing Team's witness order for the Round. Except as expressly provided by these Rules, no changes may be made to the Trial Roster once the applicable Round of Competition begins.

Rule 1.C - Code of Conduct

1. By participating in any KHSMTA competition, each individual and each Competing Team agrees to comply with these Rules of Competition, any courthouse (or other venue, as applicable) rules, and any directives by Tournament Officials or courthouse (or other venue, as applicable) personnel. This includes, but is not limited to, compliance with all security and other measures in place at any KHSMTA competition. Further, every individual is expected to conduct themselves professionally and in accordance with proper courtroom decorum.
2. The KHSMTA Board has discretion to impose sanctions for violation of this Code of Conduct, these Rules of Competition, or any directive of Tournament Officials or courthouse (or other venue, as applicable) personnel. Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Reduction of points attributed to a team during a Round at a rate to be determined in the sole discretion of the Board based on its review of the nature and severity of the offense(s).
 - b. Forfeiture of Round(s) of competition.
 - c. Temporary or permanent suspension from participating in future competitions hosted by the KHSMTA.
3. Sanctions further may be imposed for behavior including, but not limited to, flagrant rule violations, disrespect for or damage to property located in competition spaces, breaches of decorum which affect the conduct of a Round or which impugn the reputation or integrity of any team, school, participant, court officer, judge, or the KHSMTA program.

Rule 1.D - Relationship to Law; Accommodation of Disabilities

1. These Rules will be interpreted and administered consistent with all applicable laws.
2. To facilitate the participation of students with disabilities, Competing Teams may request reasonable accommodation(s) for their Competing Members with disabilities. The Board will consider each request for reasonable accommodation on a case-by-case basis, and will advise the Competing Team as to the outcome of each reasonable accommodation request. Requests for reasonable accommodation must be submitted to the Board no later than thirty (30) days prior to the KHSMTA competition for which a reasonable accommodation is sought.

CHAPTER 2: TEAMS

Rule 2.A - Team Eligibility

1. School Sponsored Teams
 - a. Each public or private high school in Kentucky may register up to two (2) teams for the KHSMTA competition (unless the school is then subject to sanctions providing otherwise) (“School-Sponsored Team”), provided, however:
 - b. Generally, new teams will be permitted to register only one (1) team in their first year of competition;
 - c. Prior to registering a second team, a school sponsor must obtain approval from the Board, which Board has sole discretion to permit or deny the registration of a second team based on factors deemed appropriate by the Board including, but not limited to, the school’s registration and competition history.
 - d. Rostered Students of School-Sponsored Teams must be:
 - i. Enrolled as students in Grades 9-12 of the Kentucky high school which is affiliated with and sponsors the Competing Team. Notwithstanding the foregoing, provided that the applicable public school district so permits, a Kentucky high school (Grades 9-12) student who is homeschooled may compete with the Competing Team for the public school district to which the student would be assigned if the student were to attend public school.
2. Unaffiliated Teams
 - a. To increase participation in mock trial throughout Kentucky, KHSMTA may, from time to time, and in its sole discretion, deem eligible for a KHSMTA competition a team that is unaffiliated with a school (“Unaffiliated Team”). Generally:
 - i. To be eligible for participation in a KHSMTA competition, an Unaffiliated Team must obtain written approval from the Board authorizing the participation of the Unaffiliated Team in the KHSMTA competition prior the Unaffiliated Team being registered to compete;
 - ii. To be eligible for participation in a KHSMTA competition, an Unaffiliated Team must be comprised of students in close geographic proximity (as determined in the sole discretion of the Board),
 - iii. To be eligible for participation in a KHSMTA competition, an Unaffiliated Team must be comprised of students enrolled in at least two (2) separate high schools, with no more than four (4) students from any one (1) high school;
 - iv. Generally, Unaffiliated Teams will be eligible to participate in KHSMTA competitions for no more than two (2) years in a row (at which time it is expected and encouraged for the participants to develop a mock trial program within their respective schools);
 - v. Unaffiliated Teams will be permitted to register no more than one (1) Competing Team for any KHSMTA competition; and
 - b. Rostered Students of Unaffiliated Teams must be students in Grades 9-12 who:

- i. Have not previously competed in more than one (1) KHSMTA competition season; and
 - ii. Either:
 1. Attend a public or private high school in Kentucky, which high school does not sponsor a high school mock trial team, and which high school has not sponsored a team in any of the three (3) academic years immediately preceding the request to participate as an Unaffiliated Team; or
 2. Are homeschooled, and the public high school to which the student would be assigned if the student were to attend public school does not sponsor a high school mock trial team, and has not sponsored a team in any of the three (3) academic years immediately preceding the request to participate as an Unaffiliated Team.
 - c. Eligibility determinations relating to any Competing Team or Rostered Student are in the sole discretion of the Board in consideration, in part, of the educational objectives of the organization.
3. To be eligible for participation in a KHSMTA competition, Competing Teams must:
- a. Be affiliated with and sponsored by a Kentucky high school, or approved to compete as an Unaffiliated Team.
 - b. Timely register for the KHSMTA competition.
 - c. Timely pay all dues (including, if applicable, late fees) associated with the KHSMTA competition.
 - d. Have in place and in attendance at all KHSMTA competitions a Designated Coach or other chaperone who is a non-student adult.
 - e. Be eligible to represent Kentucky in the National High School Mock Trial Competition in the event that the Competing Team prevails at the State Competition.

Rule 2.B - Team Composition

1. A Competing Team is composed of no fewer than six (6) and no more than fifteen (15) students (including the Student Timekeeper). Competing Teams must submit a full and complete Team List to Tournament Officials prior to the commencement of the first Round of competition. This Team List must identify each and every student participant, including alternates, for the Competing Team. Except as expressly provided by these Rules, no changes may be made to the Team List once the first round of Competition begins.
2. A Competing Team may not add students to its Team List, swap students among its Competing Teams, or otherwise alter the Team List during a tournament (except where permitted by these Rules). However, provided that all other eligibility requirements are satisfied, Competing Teams may alter their Team Lists between the Regionals and State tournaments including, but not limited to, swapping students between Competing Teams for the same school, consolidating Competing Teams from the same school, adding Rostered Students, or removing Rostered Students.
3. For each round of competition, only six (6) of the team members may participate in speaking roles (i.e., witness or attorney), and their participation shall be consistent with these rules. Each

of these six (6) students actively participating in the Round plus, if applicable, the Team's Student Timekeeper, are designated Competing Members for the applicable Round.

4. Prior to the commencement of any Round, a Competing Team may designate any Rostered Student to participate in the Round as a Competing Member. Such designations must be made on the Competing Team's Trial Roster, a copy of which Trial Roster must be provided to the opposing Competing Team and the Judges for the Round. Once the Round commences (i.e. All Clear Time), no substitutions of Competing Members may occur except as expressly permitted by these Rules.
5. Competing Members may communicate only with other Competing Members, Judges, and Tournament Officials during the Round; this limitation includes breaks during the Round.
 - a. For the avoidance of doubt, no person including, but not limited to, coaches, parents, students who are not Competing Members in the Round, or other individuals who are not Competing Members in the Round, may speak to, signal to, communicate with, or coach the Competing Members during the Round (except to the extent permitted by these Rules during an Emergency). Such persons must remain outside the bar in the spectator portion of the courtroom at all times during the Round.

Rule 2.C - Student Timekeeper

1. Each team attending a KHSMTA competition is responsible for providing a Student Timekeeper equipped with two stopwatches and a set of timekeeping cards (consistent with the timekeeping cards in effect for the National High School Mock Trial Competition). For the avoidance of doubt, the Student Timekeeper may not use cell phones or any devices other than standard stopwatches (without internet, Bluetooth, or other communication capabilities) to keep time. During the Round, a Student Timekeeper is considered an Competing Member, and may communicate with other Competing Members in the Round during breaks in the Round. The Student Timekeeper, like all other Competing Members, may not communicate with anyone other than the Competing Members of their Competing Team during the Round, except that a Student Timekeeper may communicate with the other Competing Team's Student Timekeeper, the Presiding Judge or Scoring Judge in response to an inquiry by the Presiding Judge or Scoring Judge, or Tournament Officials.
2. Timekeepers are expected to record time for the Round using a KHSMTA Timekeeping Sheet (attached hereto as Appendix A). Completed Timekeeping Sheets need not be submitted to the Tab Room, but may be referenced by Tournament Officials in the event of a timekeeping dispute.
3. Student Timekeepers are further responsible for bringing completed ballots to the Tab Room. Upon completion of the Round and before any Judges' critique, the two (2) Student Timekeepers in each Round shall collect the completed ballots from the Judges, fold the ballots in half such that their contents are hidden, and report to the Tab Room together with the Round's ballots. Once at the Tab Room, a Tournament Official will review the ballot for completion and legibility; if accepted, the Student Timekeepers will return to the assigned courtroom and advise the Presiding Judge accordingly. If there are missing scores, illegible scores, or other errors on the ballot, the reviewing Tournament Official will mark the ballot accordingly and send it back to the assigned courtroom with the Student Timekeepers for correction or clarification, or the Tournament Official will speak directly with the Scoring Judge to resolve the issue.

CHAPTER 3: THE PROBLEM

Rule 3.A - The Case Materials

1. The problem is an original fact pattern which is documented in the closed-universe Case Materials. Case Materials may contain any or all of the following: statement of facts, indictment, witness statements/affidavits, jury charge, exhibits, and any other materials deemed appropriate or necessary by the Board.
2. Case Materials may not be altered or amended by any Competing Team or Competing Member.
3. Stipulations contained within the Case Materials may not be disputed during a Round. Stipulations will be considered part of the record and already admitted into evidence.
4. Court orders, rulings, and opinions contained within the Case Materials are binding on the Competing Teams and the Presiding Judge. No Competing Team shall attempt to relitigate issues decided by those orders, rulings, or opinions.
5. Witness statements/affidavits contained with the Case Materials are presumed to be signed by the witness, and may not be altered or amended by any Competing Team or Competing Member.
6. Case Materials are subject to revision throughout the competition year. Competing Teams will be notified of any such revisions, and must use the most recent version of the Case Materials in KHSMETA competitions. In the event that there is a dispute relating to the Case Materials in use in any Round, Tab Room intervention may be requested by the Competing Members and/or Judges. Tournament Officials will assess and determine what action, if any, will be taken to resolve the dispute.

Rule 3.B - Three Witnesses Per Side

The Case Materials shall consist of three (3) witnesses per side, each of which may be played by any Competing Member for that side regardless of gender, and each of which must be called in every Round.

Rule 3.C - Witnesses Bound by Statements/Affidavits

Each witness is bound by the facts contained in the witness's own witness statement/affidavit, the Statement of Facts, if present, the Stipulations, if present, and any documents incorporated by reference into the witness statement/affidavit. Fair extrapolations may be allowed, provided reasonable inference may be made from the witness's statement/affidavit. If, in direct examination, an attorney asks a question which calls for extrapolated information pivotal to the facts at issue, the information is subject to objection as an "unfair extrapolation." See Rule 3.E for further information regarding extrapolation. A witness is not bound by facts contained in other witness statements.

Rule 3.D - Reading into the Record Not Permitted.

Stipulations, the indictment, or the Charge to the Jury are deemed constructively read into the record. No Competing Team or Judge shall actually read such documents into the record, except where the reading of

certain portions (e.g. individual stipulations) may be read aloud in the Round as necessary for the argument of objections.

Rule 3.E - Extrapolations

1. Fair Extrapolation. A fair extrapolation is one that is neutral. In other words, a fair extrapolation does not materially advantage or disadvantage either side in the Round.
2. Unfair Extrapolation. An unfair extrapolation is one that materially advantages or disadvantages either side in the Round. If a witness is asked for information not contained in the witness's statement/affidavit, the answer must be consistent with the statement/affidavit and may not materially affect the witness' testimony or any substantive issue of the case. Unfair extrapolations are best attacked through impeachment and closing arguments and generally are to be dealt with in the course of the trial. Attorneys for the opposing team may refer to this Rule in a special objection, such as “unfair extrapolation” or “This information is beyond the scope of the statement of facts.”
 - a. Possible rulings by a Presiding Judge include:
 - i. No extrapolation has occurred
 - ii. The extrapolation was fair;
 - iii. An unfair extrapolation has occurred; or
 - iv. The objection is taken under advisement.
 - b. When an attorney objects to an extrapolation, the Presiding Judge shall rule in open court to clarify the course of further proceedings.
 - c. An allegation of or ruling on unfair extrapolation is subject to review by Tournament Officials if, and only if, (i) an objection is made as described above to the purported unfair extrapolation, (ii) the Presiding Judge issues a ruling on the objection, and (iii) during the next break in the Round, a Competing Member of the Competing Team that contests the decision reports to the Tab Room and advises Tournament Officials of the dispute. Tournament Officials may seek additional information from others (e.g. the opposing Competing Team, the Presiding Judge, or the Scoring Judge(s)) as they deem appropriate. The decision of the Tournament Officials is final.

CHAPTER 4: TRIALS

Rule 4.A - Trial Roster

1. Each Competing Team will be responsible for preparing a Trial Roster for each Round, which Trial Roster shall be completed using the Trial Roster form provided by the Board.
2. The Trial Roster must list the Team Code, and may not contain any information directly or indirectly identifying the Competing Team.
3. Before the beginning of each Round, the Competing Teams must exchange copies of the Trial Roster. Further, before the Round begins or during Pretrial, each Competing Team must provide to each Judge a copy of the Competing Team's Trial Roster for the applicable Round.

Rule 4.B - Identification of Team or Team Affiliation

No one shall disclose directly or indirectly to or in the presence of a Presiding or Scoring Judge the identity of their Competing Team or a Competing Team with which they are affiliated. The only permissible identifier during a Round is the Team Code assigned by Tournament Officials.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if so requested by the Presiding Judge, the Competing Teams may identify their school affiliation **after** the Judges' ballots have been submitted to and confirmed by the Tab Room.

Rule 4.C - Judging Conflicts

1. A Presiding or Scoring Judge may not preside or score over a Round in which they have a judging conflict. For the purposes of this rule, judging conflicts arise only where the Judge has judged the Competing Team in a prior round of the same tournament, is affiliated with a Competing Team, or otherwise has a personal or familial relationship with a Competing Member, provided, however, that if the judge feels that they can remain impartial, and (a) the Competing Teams each waive the judging conflict, or (b) the Tournament Officials make the determination that such judging conflict cannot be reasonably avoided, the Presiding Judge or Scoring Judge may continue to judge the Round. For the avoidance of doubt, it is not a judging conflict where the judge merely recognizes a spectator or vice versa, provided that the judge does not know the spectator's school affiliation.
2. Any judging conflicts must be identified by, and only by, the Presiding Judge, the Scoring Judge(s), or the Competing Members.
3. The KHSMTA Board has sole and final authority to determine whether a conflict exists and to resolve such conflicts, if necessary.

Rule 4.D - Courtroom Setting

1. The Competing Team presenting the Prosecution/Plaintiff shall be seated closest to the jury box. If the jury box is located in the center, the Prosecution/Plaintiff shall be seated to the left while

facing the judge, unless Tournament Officials designate otherwise. No team shall rearrange the courtroom without prior permission of a Tournament Official or Judge.

2. Unless otherwise directed by Tournament Officials, the Presiding Judge shall sit in the judge's seat at the bench of the courtroom (or, in the event that the Round takes place in a location other than a courtroom, in a similar location).
3. Unless otherwise directed by Tournament Officials, the Scoring Judge(s) (except for the Presiding Judge, if also a Scoring Judge) shall sit in the jury box of the courtroom (or, in the event that the Round takes place in a location other than a courtroom, in a similar location).
4. The case will be tried to a jury; arguments are to be made to judge and jury. Competing Teams should address the Scoring Judge(s) as the jury.

Rule 4.E - Team Presentation

1. Teams must present both the Prosecution/Plaintiff and Defense/Defendant sides of the case.
2. For each Round, Competing Teams shall use three (3) Competing Members as attorneys and three (3) other Competing Members as witnesses.

Rule 4.F - Team Duties

1. Except as permitted during an emergency as described by these Rules, the six (6) Competing Members portraying attorneys and witnesses are to evenly divide their duties.

Rule 4.F.2 - Attorney Roles

- a. Attorney roles for each Competing Team are as follows:
 - i. Opening Statement
 - ii. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #1
 - iii. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #2
 - iv. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #3
 - v. CrossRecross Examination of Witness #1
 - vi. CrossRecross Examination of Witness #2
 - vii. CrossRecross Examination of Witness #3
 - viii. Closing Argument (including Rebuttal, if elected, for the Plaintiff/Prosecution)
- b. Each of the three attorneys will conduct one (1) direct/redirect examination and one (1) cross/recross examination; in addition, one (1) attorney will present the opening statement and one (1) other attorney will present the closing argument.
- c. The attorney who examines a particular witness on direct examination is the only person who may respond to objections made by opposing counsel, and is the only person who may make objections to opposing counsel's cross examination questions. Conversely, the attorney who examines a particular witness on cross examination is the only person who may respond to objections made by opposing counsel, and is the only person who may make objections to opposing counsel's direct examination questions.

Rule 4.F.3 - Witness Roles

- a. Witness roles for each Competing Team are as follows:

- i. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #1
 - ii. Cross/Recross Examination of Witness #1
 - iii. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #2
 - iv. Cross/Recross Examination of Witness #2
 - v. Direct/Redirect Examination of Witness #3
 - vi. Cross/Recross Examination of Witness #3
- b. Each of the three witnesses will testify for one (1) direct/redirect examination and one (1) cross/recross examination for the same witness character.
 - c. Each team must call all three (3) of its assigned witnesses. Witnesses must be called only by their own team during their case-in-chief and must be examined by both sides. Witnesses may not be recalled by either side.

Rule 4.F.4 - Scope of Opening Statement

Opening statements must be confined to facts that will be proved by the evidence, and cannot be argumentative. A Scoring Judge has discretion to impose a scoring deduction if the opening statement is not confined to facts that will be proved by the evidence, is argumentative, or otherwise violates these Rules or the KHSMTA Rules of Evidence.

Rule 4.F.5 - Scope of Redirect Examination

- a. If requested, Redirect Examination must be permitted.
- b. Redirect Examination is limited to the scope of the Cross Examination.

Rule 4.F.6 - Scope of Recross Examination

- a. If requested, Recross Examination must be permitted.
- b. Recross Examination is limited to the scope of the Redirect Examination.

Rule 4.F.7 - Scope of Closing Argument

Closing arguments must be based on the actual evidence and testimony presented during the Round, and a Scoring Judge has discretion to impose a scoring deduction if the closing argument is not reflective of the actual evidence and testimony presented during a Round, or otherwise violates these Rules or the KHSMTA Rules of Evidence.

Rule 4.G - Scoring

1. Each function shall be scored on a scale of 1-10
 - a. "Function" in the subsection shall mean the individual student performances during the trial. "Function" shall include:
 - i. Opening statements by student attorneys,
 - ii. Direct examinations by each student attorney,
 - iii. Cross examinations by each student attorney,
 - iv. Performance on direct examination by each student witness,
 - v. Performance on cross examination by each student witness, and
 - vi. Closing arguments by student attorneys.
 - b. In the case(s) where a Function does not occur:

- i. The Function in question will receive a score of 0.
 1. If a replacement Competing Member performs the Function because its intended Competing Member cannot perform the Function, then that particular Function will still receive a score of 0.
 2. Replacement Competing Members specified in accordance to Rule (IV.R.1.a) will be scored as normal.
 - ii. Some missing Functions can affect the scores of other related roles (i.e. attorney-witness pairings) and will be handled with special rules. Examples include:
 1. If a crossing attorney does not perform a cross examination, the student attorney will receive a 0 and the crossed student witness will receive the same score they received during direct examination.
 2. If a direct examination does not occur, the directing attorney and witness will both receive 0. The crossing attorney can still perform their cross examination. The crossing attorney and crossed witness will be scored as normal for the cross examination.
 - iii. Factors that prevent a Function from occurring (including but not limited to):
 1. Violation of Rules of Competition,
 2. Time constraints,
 3. Emergency Procedures.
 - c. Any final decisions and clarifications of scoring not included within the Rules of Competition will be made at the discretion of the KHSMTA Board.
2. Competing Members will be scored based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, their use of notes. Competing Members are expected to be off notes.
- a. Although practicing attorneys may use notes in presenting their cases, the use of pre-written notes is discouraged and may result in a scoring deduction at the discretion of a Scoring Judge. However, notes that are written by an attorney during the course of the Round may be used without penalty.
 - b. Witnesses are not permitted to use notes while testifying during the trial.
 - c. Attorneys may consult with each other at counsel table verbally or through the use of notes; however, distracting communications are discouraged and may result in a scoring deduction at the discretion of a Scoring Judge.
 - d. Trial materials such as exhibits and witness statements are not considered notes and may be used freely during the Round.
 - e. The use of laptops, cell phones, or other electronic devices is prohibited.

Rule 4.H - Standing During Trial

Generally, to the extent physically able, student attorneys will stand while giving Opening Statements or Closing Arguments, conducting Direct and Cross Examinations, and arguing objections.

Rule 4.I - Using a Podium During Trial

Generally, to the extent physically able, student attorneys are expected to present their materials without use of a podium.

Rule 4.J - Trial Order

Each Round shall occur in the following order:

1. Pre-Trial, if requested by either or both parties or the Presiding Judge
2. Plaintiff/Prosecution Opening Statement
3. Defense Opening Statement
4. Direct Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1
5. Cross Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
6. Direct Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2
7. Cross Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
8. Direct Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3
9. Cross Examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
10. Brief Recess (if requested by the Competing Teams and granted by the Presiding Judge)
11. Direct Examination of Defense Witness #1
12. Cross Examination of Defense Witness #1
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
13. Direct Examination of Defense Witness #2
14. Cross Examination of Defense Witness #2
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
15. Direct Examination of Defense Witness #3
16. Cross Examination of Defense Witness #3
 - a. One (1) Redirect Examination permitted, if requested by applicable attorney
 - b. One (1) Recross Examination permitted, if Redirect Examination completed and if Recross Examination requested by applicable attorney
17. Brief Recess (if requested by the Competing Teams and granted by the Presiding Judge)
18. Plaintiff/Prosecution Closing Argument

19. Defense Closing Argument
20. Plaintiff/Prosecution Rebuttal, if applicable

Rule 4.K - Motions and Objections

1. The only motions permitted are:
 - a. Motion to strike testimony following a successful objection to its admission.
 - b. Motion to admit into evidence an exhibit provided in the Case Materials.
2. Objections available to the Competing Teams are those objections arising under the KHSMTA Rules of Evidence or otherwise set forth in these Rules. Such objections include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Argumentative Questions: An attorney shall not ask argumentative questions. However, the Presiding Judge may, in the Presiding Judge's discretion, allow limited use of argumentative questions on cross-examination.
 - b. Lack of Proper Predicate/Foundation: Attorneys shall lay proper foundation prior to moving the admission of an exhibit or witness testimony into evidence. After the exhibit has been offered into evidence, the exhibit may still be subject to objection on other grounds.
 - c. Assuming Facts Not in Evidence: Attorneys may not ask a question that assumes unproved facts. However, an expert witness may be asked a question based upon stated assumptions, the truth of which is reasonably supported by evidence (sometimes called a "hypothetical question").
 - d. Questions Calling for Narrative or General Answer: Questions must be stated so as to call for a specific answer. (Example of improper question: "Tell us what you know about this case.")
 - e. Non-Responsive Answer: A witness's answer is objectionable if it fails to respond to the question asked.
 - f. Repetition: Questions designed to elicit the same testimony or evidence previously presented in its entirety are improper if merely offered as a repetition of the same testimony or evidence from the same or similar source.
 - g. Unfair Extrapolation: See Rule 3.E for further information regarding extrapolation.
3. Where a Competing Member makes an objection, the Presiding Judge has discretion to request further explanation/information as to the basis for the objection, to permit or deny responses/arguments by the appropriate Competing Members as to the objection (provided, however, that each Competing Team should generally be allowed at least one opportunity for response/argument when an objection is made), and to rule on objections, which evidentiary rulings are final.
4. Objection arguments are to be held in open court, but are deemed constructively outside the presence of the jury.
5. Bench conferences may be granted at the discretion of the Presiding Judge, but should generally be made from counsel table in the educational interest of handling all matters in open court.
 - a. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where there is an actual or potential Emergency requiring intervention by the Presiding Judge, a Competing Member may request to approach the Bench to address such potential Emergency privately with the Presiding Judge. In such

cases, a Competing Member of the opposing Competing Team shall also be permitted to approach the Bench and participate in the Bench conference.

6. No objections are permitted during **or related to** opening statements or closing arguments.

Rule 4.L - Voir Dire

Voir dire examination of a witness is not permitted.

Rule 4.M - Offers of Proof

No offers of proof may be requested or tendered for the purposes of preserving the record for appeal.

Rule 4.N - Introduction of Exhibits

1. All exhibits will be pre-marked in the Case Materials and shall be identified according to their assigned marking in the Case Materials (e.g. an exhibit labeled “Exhibit 1” in the Case Materials shall be referenced as “Exhibit 1” during the Round, even if it is not the first exhibit to be introduced).
2. As an example, exhibits may be introduced in a manner such as – but not limited to – the following process:
 - a. The proponent attorney (the attorney seeking to enter the exhibit into evidence) should show the exhibit to opposing counsel, and note for the record the same (e.g., while approaching opposing counsel with the exhibit, “Let the record reflect that I am showing opposing counsel the document pre-marked for identification purposes as Exhibit 1.”).
 - b. The opposing attorney (the attorney assigned to the testifying witness) shall receive such exhibit, promptly confirm that it appears to be the exhibit identified by the proponent attorney, and hand the exhibit back to the proponent attorney.
 - c. The proponent attorney should ask permission of the Presiding Judge to approach the witness (unless the Presiding Judge has advised the Competing Members of an alternate preference), and upon receiving such permission should approach the witness, handing the witness a copy of the exhibit, and stepping away from the witness (e.g., before approaching the witness, “May I approach the witness with a copy of Exhibit 1?”).
 - d. The proponent attorney should ask the witness to identify the document (e.g., “I have handed you Exhibit 1; can you identify this document?”).
 - e. The witness, if able, should identify the document (e.g., “Yes, it is a map of the facilities.”).
 - f. The proponent attorney should ask the witness a series of questions that are offered for proof of the admissibility of the exhibit. These questions lay the foundation or predicate for admissibility, including questions of the relevance and materiality of the exhibit.
 - g. The proponent attorney should offer the exhibit into evidence (e.g., “Your Honor, we offer Exhibit 1 into evidence at this time.”),
 - h. The Presiding Judge should ask if there are any objections. If the Presiding Judge does not ask if there are any objections, the opponent attorney nonetheless may assert an objection.

- i. If there is an objection, the opponent attorney should state the grounds for such objection, prompting an objection argument and ruling on the exhibits admissibility. If there is no objection, the opponent attorney should so state, and the Presiding Judge should admit the exhibit into evidence.
- j. If the exhibit is admitted into evidence, the proponent attorney should offer the Presiding Judge and Scoring Judge(s) a copy of the exhibit, seeking permission from the Presiding Judge before approaching either (e.g., “May I approach the Bench to tender a copy of Exhibit 1?” and “May I approach and publish to the jury?”).
- k. If the exhibit is admitted into evidence, the proponent attorney may then proceed to question the witness on the exhibit.
- l. Upon the conclusion of questioning related to the exhibit, or following the Presiding Judge’s ruling that an exhibit is inadmissible, the proponent attorney should ask permission to approach the witness to retrieve the exhibit (e.g., “May I approach the witness to retrieve Exhibit 1?”).

Rule 4.O - Timekeeping

1. Timekeepers are responsible for fairly and accurately keeping and reporting the time during the Round, including during any timing disputes.
2. In general, time limits are mandatory and will be enforced. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Presiding Judge has discretion to allow a brief extension of time, for example, while the Competing Member concludes the question/answer, or sentence that was in progress when time expired. Such extension of time, even if brief, may result in the reduction of the score assigned to the applicable testimony or statement/argument.
3. Time runs from the beginning of the witness examination (e.g. when the attorney asks the witness to introduce themselves or similar), opening statement or closing argument (e.g. when the attorney states, “May it please the Court, . . .” or similar) until its conclusion, provided, however:
 - a. Timekeeping will not start during pre-trial (though, generally, pre-trial should be brief), when the oath is administered, during Bench conferences, or when the Presiding Judge or Tournament Officials are handling any other administrative matters.
 - b. Timekeeping will not start during the introduction of counsel or witnesses prior to the opening statement; however, if counsel or witnesses are introduced once the opening statement has commenced, such time shall be included in the time allotted for the opening statement.
 - c. Timekeeping will not start when an attorney responds to a presiding judge’s inquiry as to whether or not that side is ready to proceed, asks for permission to reserve time for a rebuttal, or asks permission to use/move a podium.
 - d. Timekeeping does stop during objections and objection arguments. Timekeeping stops at the moment an attorney says, “Objection,” or, “I object.” Timekeeping resumes after the ruling by the Presiding Judge and the examining attorney says the first word to continue examination.
 - e. Timekeeping does not stop for the introduction of exhibits (unless and until there is an objection raised as to the admission of an exhibit, which objection would stop the clock as described above).

- f. Timekeeping does not stop for periods during which a presenting attorney is conferring with co-counsel.
4. Time limits for trial functions are as follows:
 - a. Opening Statement: 5:00 Minutes
 - b. Direct and Redirect Examination: 25:00 Minutes
 - c. Cross and Recross Examination: 20:00 Minutes
 - d. Closing Argument (including Rebuttal, where applicable): 5:00 Minutes
5. Student Timekeepers are responsible for displaying applicable timekeeping cards (consistent with the timekeeping cards in effect for the National High School Mock Trial Competition) for each Competing Team, and will notify the Judges and Competing Members that time has expired by showing the “STOP” Time Remaining card.
6. Time Discrepancies. At the end of each task during the Round (i.e., at the end of each opening, at the end of each witness examination, at the end of each cross-examination, and at the end of each closing argument), if there is more than a 15-second discrepancy between the Competing Teams’ Student Timekeepers, the Student Timekeepers must notify the Presiding Judge of the discrepancy. The Presiding Judge will then rule on the discrepancy, the Student Timekeepers will synchronize their stopwatches accordingly, and the Round will continue. Any discrepancies between Student Timekeepers less than 15 seconds need not be raised to the Presiding Judge. The Presiding Judge or a representative of either Competing Team may seek further review/intervention from Tournament Officials during the Round by reporting to Tab Room. No time disputes will be entertained after the Round concludes

Rule 4.P - Swearing of Witnesses and Sequestration

1. The swearing of witnesses will occur in one of two ways: either the Presiding Judge will indicate all witnesses are assumed to be sworn, or the below oath will be conducted by the Presiding Judge. The Presiding Judge may swear the witnesses individually or as a group.
2. The following or similar oath may be used by the Presiding Judge before questioning begins: “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?”
3. Competing Teams may not invoke the rule of witness sequestration (actual or constructive). Witnesses are deemed to have been present during the trial proceedings occurring prior to their testimony.

Rule 4.Q - Supplemental Material and Costumes

1. Competing Teams may refer to and/or use only the Case Materials provided by the Board, these Rules, the KHSMTA Rules of Evidence, and any other materials expressly permitted by the Board or Case Materials. No illustrative aids of any kind (including, but not limited to, enlargements of exhibits) may be used unless provided in the Case Materials.
2. No props or costumes are permitted unless specifically authorized in the Case Materials.
 - a. Props include any physical object not provided in the Case Materials which are case-specific, and which may have substantive impact on the Round, as determined in the sole discretion of the Tournament Officials. Absent extenuating circumstances (as

determined by Tournament Officials), the following are examples of items likely to be deemed impermissible props (non-exhaustive): tape measures, tissues or handkerchiefs, tripods, easels, toothpicks, straws, hats, medical devices that are not necessary for the Competing Member, and/or other items placed in the courtroom, or otherwise used in the presentation of materials.

- b. Costuming includes hairstyles, clothing, accessories, and make up which are case-specific, and which may have substantive impact on the Round, as determined in the sole discretion of the Tournament Officials. It is expected that Competing Members will be dressed in courtroom-appropriate attire (i.e. in business casual or more formal attire). Absent extenuating circumstances (as determined by Tournament Officials), attire that does not meet this standard will be deemed costuming.
 - c. An accent is not considered costuming.
3. The student playing a witness is allowed to act as though the witness is afflicted with any condition, deformity, or disability only as described in the affidavits. Under no circumstances is the opposing Competing Team permitted to question the existence of such conditions based on the fact that the student playing the witness does not actually have them. While the opposing Competing Team may cross examine the witness on the extent of the condition based on information provided in the affidavits, the opposing Competing Team may not challenge the witness to prove the existence of the condition by asking the witness to show it to the jury.
 4. A witness is prohibited from making reference to his or own physical traits or gender or physical traits or gender of other witnesses where such information is not included in any witness statement. For example, a witness cannot call attention to their size to show inability to complete some physical act included in the case materials, or state that they were treated differently because of their gender. An attorney is likewise prohibited from making arguments pointing out physical traits of a witness not otherwise included in the case materials. Such references are unfair extrapolations. Teams are not prohibited, however, from raising issues about general or common human traits and abilities relevant to the case.
 5. No exhibits may be modified before the Round, but attorneys and witnesses may highlight, underline, or otherwise mark exhibits during direct or cross examination. Such marked documents may be used as demonstrative exhibits during the Round and during closing arguments, but may not be entered into evidence. If a team wishes to mark an exhibit entered by the opposing Competing Team, it must substitute its own clean copy of that exhibit for this purpose before any markings are made.
 6. Exhibit notebooks are not to be provided to the Presiding Judge or Scoring Judges unless provided by the Tournament Officials.
 7. Unless provided by the Tournament Officials, name tags or name plates at counsel table are not permitted.

Rule 4.R - Viewing a Trial

1. Except for those authorized by Tournament Officials, no individual associated with a Competing Team (e.g. participant, alternate, coach, parent, family member, etc.) may view Rounds other than the Competing Team's Rounds as long as their Competing Team remains in the competition.

2. No individual associated with a Competing Team (e.g. participant, alternate, coach, parent, family member, etc.) may communicate with any individual associated with another Competing Team in any manner in an effort to obtain information about an opponent.
3. It is not a violation of this rule for Competing Teams to participate voluntarily in practice, scrimmage, or invitational matches separate from the KHSMTA competition.

Rule 4.S - Videotaping/Photography

1. Prior to videotaping, audio recording, or photographing during a Round, a Competing Team must obtain permission from the opposing Competing Team. Any Competing Team has the option to refuse participation in videotaping, audio recording, and still photography by an opposing Competing Team. A Competing Team's video or audio recordings of Rounds may only be used by the Competing Team for educational purposes and may not be distributed to others not directly associated with the participating Competing Teams or posted publicly without the express consent of both Competing Teams that participated in the Round.
2. Photographers or videographers at the request or with the permission of Tournament Officials may photograph or record any Round; any such videos of Rounds taken at the request or with the permission of Tournament Officials will not be released to any team until the year's State tournament has concluded. Media coverage will be allowed.

Rule 4.T - All Loss

Rule 4.T.1 - All Clear Time

For the purposes of this provision, "All Clear Time" refers to the time at which Tournament Officials advise Judges that there are no conflicts and the Round begins.

Rule 4.T.2 - All Loss Time

For the purposes of this provision, "All Loss Time" refers to the time 180 minutes after All Clear Time.

Rule 4.T.3 - Rounds to be Completed Prior to All Loss Time

Rounds must be completed before All Loss Time occurs, or a penalty will be imposed as described further herein. A Round is deemed completed upon the conclusion of closing arguments (including any rebuttal argument). The Round shall be deemed completed even if any ballot must be returned to a judge due to error, incompleteness, or illegibility.

Rule 4.T.4 - Penalty for Violation of All Loss Time

If All Loss Time occurs prior to the completion of a Round, the Competing Teams may complete the Round and ballots will be awarded as usual; however, each Competing Team in the Round that extended beyond All Loss Time shall have one (1) ballot subtracted from its final total of ballots won, except as otherwise provided herein. The actual record of each Competing Team prior to the imposition of the one-ballot penalty shall be used for the purposes of pairing and tiebreakers.

Rule 4.T.5 - Request for Intervention and Tournament Official Intervention

A Rostered Student of either Competing Team must make a timely request for intervention to the Tournament Officials in Tab Room if the Competing Team believes that, through no fault of its own, the Round is likely to exceed All Loss Time. Upon such notice or of their own accord, Tournament Officials will investigate the matter, which may include the observation of some or all of the Round, communication with the Judges, and/or communication with a representative of each Competing Team, and will intervene as deemed appropriate by the Tournament Officials. Tournament Officials may waive some or all of this All Loss rule or its penalties if Tournament Officials determine that the delay in the completion of the Round is due to no fault of the Competing Team(s). The decision of the Tournament Officials is final.

Rule 4.T.6 - No Relief from Judges

No Presiding Judge or Scoring Judge may grant relief from the operation of this All Loss rule.

Rule 4.U - Emergencies

Rule 4.U.1 - Student Emergency Prior to Start of Round

Should an emergency arise prior to the start of a Round that prevents a Competing Member from participating in the Round, the Competing Team must:

- a. If the Competing Team has identified on its Team List seven (7) or more total Rostered Students on its Team List, substitute one of its remaining Rostered Students for the Competing Member and reflect the substituted Rostered Student on the Trial Roster and ballots. This substituted Rostered Student will take the place of the Competing Member for all purposes in the applicable Round, and will be scored as usual.
- b. If the Competing Team's School has registered two (2) teams for the competition, and the Competing Team has identified only six (6) total Rostered Students on its Team List:
 - i. Immediately report to the Tab Room and advise Tournament Officials that the Competing Team has fewer than the six (6) required Competing Members available.
 - ii. At the Competing Team's election, either:
 1. Identify one (1) Rostered Student from the School's second Competing Team, which Rostered Student will be assigned to the School's first Competing Team for the remainder of the tournament, and which Rostered Student will be scored as usual (provided, however, that a School may not substitute a Competing Member from its second Competing Team where the same would result in the second Competing Team having fewer than six (6) Competing Members); or
 2. Proceed in accordance with Rule 4.U.1.c below.
- c. If the Competing Team so elects in accordance with Rule 4.U.1.b.ii.2 above, or if a Competing Team is the only Competing Team from the School, and has identified only six (6) total Rostered Students on its Team List:
 - i. Immediately report to the Tab Room and advise Tournament Officials that the Competing Team has fewer than the six (6) required Competing Members available.
 - ii. For each function assigned to the unavailable Competing Member, substitute another Competing Member. The substituted Competing Member must perform the role to effectuate a complete Round of competition, but will automatically receive a score of zero (0) for each substituted function.

- iii. The Tournament Official will accompany the Competing Team members back to the assigned courtroom to address the emergency and to advise the Presiding and Scoring Judges regarding Round administration and scoring.

Rule 4.U.2 - Student Emergency During a Round

Should an emergency arise during a Round that prevents a Competing Member from performing some or all of the Competing Member's functions in the Round, the Competing Team must:

- a. With a representative of the other Competing Team, immediately report to the Tab Room and advise Tournament Officials that one of the Competing Members in the Round is unable to complete the Round.
- b. Identify a Competing Member from the Trial Roster (including, but not limited to, the Student Timekeeper for the Round), which substituted Competing Member must perform the role to effectuate a complete Round of competition, but will automatically receive a score of zero (0) for each substituted function.
- c. The Tournament Official will accompany the Competing Team members back to the assigned courtroom to address the emergency and to advise the Presiding and Scoring Judges regarding Round administration and scoring.

Rule 4.U.3 - Emergency Requiring Evacuation During a Round

Should an emergency arise during a Round such that evacuation from the building is required:

- a. The Presiding Judge must immediately stop the Round, pending resolution of the emergency.
- b. The Student Timekeepers must pause all stopwatches.
- c. Every individual must calmly and orderly exit the building, following directives of Tournament Officials and courthouse (or other venue, as appropriate) personnel.
- d. Competing Members:
 - i. May discuss the Round only with other Competing Members during the emergency break.
 - ii. May communicate with Designated Coaches or other adult chaperones as needed in relation to the emergency and evacuation, but not regarding the Round.
- e. When it is deemed safe to return to the building, the Presiding Judge will resume the Round upon the return to the courtroom of all Competing Members or as otherwise directed by Tournament Officials.
- f. All Loss time will be adjusted to accommodate the time lost during the evacuation.

Rule 4.U.4 - Miscellaneous

- a. During a trial, the Presiding Judge or Tournament Official has the discretion to declare an emergency and adjourn the Round for a short period of time to address the emergency. In the event that a Presiding Judge declares an emergency and/or adjourns the Round for a short period of time to address the emergency, a representative of each Competing Team must report to the Tab Room immediately to advise Tournament Officials of the emergency. Tournament Officials will advise the Competing Teams and Judges in relation to the emergency and continuation of the Round.
- b. Final determinations of emergency, forfeiture, reduction of points, and advancement will be made by the KHSMTA Board.

Rule 4.V - Critique

1. After the Presiding Judge receives notice that the ballots have been accepted, the Round is deemed concluded, and the Competing Teams may receive critique from the Presiding and/or Scoring Judges. Such critique is optional for Competing Teams; Competing Teams wishing to forgo critique should advise the Presiding Judge accordingly. The Presiding Judge and Scoring Judges are requested to limit critique to 10 minutes total with both teams as a group after the Round. Student Timekeepers should monitor the critique following the Round. Generally, there is no critique following the fourth round. Tournament Officials reserve the right to limit or eliminate critique for any Round or Tournament.
2. Nothing in this rule prohibits Competing Teams from seeking or receiving feedback from Presiding and/or Scoring Judges after the round for their own performance, though such Judges are not obligated to provide feedback.

CHAPTER 5: TOURNAMENTS

Rule 5.A - Tournament Format

Generally, the KHSMTA Nationals-qualifier competition will consist of Regionals tournaments, which Regionals tournaments will serve as State qualifiers. The top sixteen (16) Teams will advance from the Regionals tournaments onto the State tournament. The State tournament will occur thereafter. After four (4) Rounds of competition at the State tournament, the top two (2) Teams will compete in a Championship Round as described in these Rules. The winner of the State tournament Championship Round will be invited to represent Kentucky at the National High School Mock Trial Championship. Regionals tournaments may be eliminated or modified as deemed necessary by the Board in its sole discretion.

Rule 5.B - Registration Fees

1. Each competition year, the Board will establish processes for Competing Teams to register for the KHSMTA competition, and will determine the dollar amount of Registration Fees and Late Fees for the competition year. The Board will further establish the following deadlines:
 - a. Registration Deadline: The date by which a team must register to be eligible for competition.
 - b. Late Registration Deadline: Late registrations will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and will be subject to a Late Fee, if approved.
 - c. Withdrawal Deadlines:
 - i. Withdrawal without Penalty: The date on or before which a team may withdraw from the KHSMTA competition without penalty, and with full reimbursement for Registration Fees already paid for the competition season.
 - ii. Withdrawal with Partial Reimbursement: As of this date, a team that withdraws from competition will forfeit 50% of their Registration Fee, if already paid, or will be subject to a penalty in the amount of 50% of the Registration Fee amount, if the Registration Fee has not already been paid.
 - iii. Withdrawal without Reimbursement: As of this date, a team that withdraws from competition will forfeit 100% of their Registration Fee, if already paid, or will be subject to a penalty in the amount of 100% of the Registration Fee amount, if the Registration Fee has not already been paid.
 - d. Registration Fee Due Date: The date by which any outstanding Registration Fees (including late fees, if applicable) must be paid to avoid incurring a late fee.
 - e. Registration Fee Final Deadline: The date by which any outstanding Registration Fees (including late fees, if applicable) must be paid to avoid the revocation of registration. Teams that have not paid their Registration Fees and any other balances in full by this date will not be permitted to participate in the KHSMTA competition, absent extenuating circumstances as determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

Rule 5.C - Regionals

Rule 5.C.1 - If there are two (2) Regionals tournaments

- a. The top eight (8) Teams from each Regionals tournament will receive a bid to advance to the State tournament.
- b. In the event that a qualifying Team declines its bid to the State tournament, the next-highest ranking team from that Regionals tournament will receive the bid. This process will continue until eight (8) Teams from each Regionals tournament have accepted bids to the State competition.

Rule 5.C.2 - If there are three (3) Regionals tournaments

- a. The top four (4) Teams from each Regionals tournament will receive a bid to advance to the State tournament (“Automatic Bid”).
 - i. In the event that a qualifying Automatic Bid Team declines its bid to the State tournament, the next-highest ranking Team from that Regionals tournament will receive the bid. This process will continue until four (4) Teams from each Regionals tournament have accepted Automatic Bids to the State tournament.
- b. The remaining four (4) bids to the State tournament (“Open Bids”) will be offered as follows:
 - i. Among the remaining teams from the three Regional Tournaments, Open Bids will be allocated in the following order of precedence
 1. If all Regional Tournaments use the same number of ballots
 - a. Highest record (Highest number of ballots won)
 - b. Highest Combined Strength of Schedule (“CS”)
 - c. Highest number of Competing Teams in applicable Region
 - i. A Competing Team in a Regional Tournament with a higher number of total Competing Teams will take precedence over a Competing Team competing in a Regional Tournament with lower number of total competing teams
 - d. Highest Opponent’s Combined Strength of Schedule (“OCS”)
 - e. Highest Point Differential (“PD”)
 - f. If all of the above are tied, there will be a random draw to select the team(s) that will earn the Open Bid(s)
 2. If Regional Tournaments use different number of ballots
 - a. Highest Percentage of Ballots Won
 - b. Highest Percentage of Combined Strength of Schedule (“CS”)
 - i. If a Regional Tournament uses 8 total ballots, a team can have a maximum possible CS of (8 ballots x 4 teams) = 32.
 - ii. If a Regional Tournament uses 12 total ballots, a team can have a maximum possible CS of (12 ballots x 4 teams) = 48.
 - iii. A team’s CS percentage will be calculated as (Team’s CS) / (Maximum Possible CS) x 100.
 - c. Highest number of Competing Teams in applicable Region (Refer to Rule 5.C.1.b.i.1.c)

- d. Highest Percentage of Opponent's Combined Strength of Schedule
 - i. Maximum possible OCS = (Highest Possible CS x 4 teams)
 - ii. A teams' OCS percentage will be calculated as $(\text{Team's OCS}) / (\text{Maximum Possible OCS}) \times 100$
- e. Highest Percentage of Point Differential ("PD")
 - i. This will be calculated as $(\text{Team's PD}) / (\text{Highest Possible Total PD}) \times 100$
- f. If all of the above are tied, there will be a random draw to select the team(s) that will earn the Open Bid(s)
- ii. Competing Teams remain eligible for an Open Bid even if another Competing team from that school was awarded an Automatic Bid or another Open Bid.
- iii. There is no guarantee that an Open Bid will be awarded to any particular region (i.e. it is possible that all open bids may go to Competing Teams from a single Regional Tournament, and it is possible no bids may go to a Competing Team from a particular Regional Tournament).
- iv. Open Bids will be announced as soon as practical during the week following the Regional Tournament (i.e. subsequent to the Closing Ceremonies). Tournament Officials will notify the Competing Team of their Open Bid by contacting the primary coach listed on the Competing Team's registration form.
- v. In the event that a qualifying Open Bid Team declines its bid to the State tournament, the next-highest ranking Team, regardless of Regionals assignment, will receive the bid. This process will continue until all four (4) Open Bids have been accepted.

Rule 5.D - Advancement to State

Teams qualifying for advancement to the State tournament will be advised as soon as practical of their advancement. Teams must accept their place at the State competition within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notice of the bid (i.e. 24 hours following Closing Ceremonies or subsequent notice of bid from Tournament Officials, as applicable) unless advised otherwise. Qualifying Teams will be deemed to have declined their bid for advancement to the State tournament if they do not timely accept the bid.

Rule 5.E - Tournament Tabulation and Pairings

1. Except as otherwise provided herein, tabulation and pairings for each KHSMTA tournament will follow the then-applicable American Mock Trial Association Tabulation Manual.
2. Each Competing Team is guaranteed four (4) Rounds of competition, two per side.

Rule 5.F - Selection of Sides for Championship Round

1. Following the conclusion of the fourth Round of competition at the State Tournament, the top two ranked Competing Teams will advance to the Championship Round.
2. In determining which Competing Team will represent which side in the Championship Round, the following procedure will be used:

- a. If the Competing Teams have competed against each other in the State Tournament, they will automatically switch sides for the Championship Round.
- b. Otherwise, the Competing Team with the letter/numerical code that comes first in alphabetical/numerical order will be considered the “Designated Team.”
- c. A coin (or, in the event of virtual competition, a virtual coin) will be tossed by a designee of the Tournament Officials. If the coin comes up heads, the Designated Team shall represent the prosecution/plaintiff in the Championship Round. If the coin comes up tails, the Designated Team shall represent the defense/defendant.

Rule 5.G Virtual Competition

This Section shall apply in the event of a virtual KHSMTA competition. Zoom/Virtual Rules and Etiquette will be as follows.

Rule 5.G.1 - Allowed Individuals

Only the following individuals may enter a Zoom/virtual room for any particular Round:

- a. The Competing Members from each Competing Team in the Round.
- b. One Designated Coach per Competing Team in the Round.
- c. Spectators associated with the Competing Teams, provided that Tournament Officials reserve the right to establish a cap on the amount of Spectators per Competing Team in the Round, which cap will be announced in advance of the Round.
- d. Except for Tournament Officials, no individual affiliated with a team other than the Competing Teams in the Round may join the Round.

Rule 5.G.2 - Identification of Team or Team Affiliation

No one shall disclose directly or indirectly the identity of their Competing Team or a Competing Team with which they are affiliated. The only permissible identifier during a Round is the Team Code assigned by Tournament Officials.

Rule 5.G.3 - Zoom/Virtual Names

- a. Competing Members:
 - i. If in the role of Attorney, must use as their Zoom/virtual name their Team Code followed by “- P” to denote Prosecution/Plaintiff or “- D” to denote Defense, followed by their name as listed on the Roster (e.g. “A10-P John Smith”).
 - ii. If in the role of Witness, must use as their Zoom/virtual name their Team Code followed by “- P” to denote Prosecution/Plaintiff or “- D” to denote Defense, followed by their character’s name, followed in parentheses by their name as listed on the Roster (e.g. “A10-P Kennedy Lyon (John Smith)”).
 - iii. If in the role of Student Timekeeper, must use as their Zoom/virtual name their Team Code followed by “- P” to denote Prosecution/Plaintiff or “- D” to denote Defense, followed by “Student Timekeeper” (e.g. “A10-P Student Timekeeper”).
- b. Designated Coaches:
 - i. One non-student adult teacher, coach, or volunteer per Competing Team per Round is to be the Designated Coach for the Competing Team and must use as their Zoom/virtual

name their Team Code followed by “– P” to denote Prosecution/Plaintiff or “– D” to denote Defense, followed by “Designated Coach” (e.g. “A10-P Designated Coach”).

- c. Spectators:
 - i. All spectators – including non-competing team members – must use as their Zoom/virtual name the Team Code of the Competing Team with which they are affiliated followed by “Spectator” (e.g. “11 – Spectator”).
- d. Judges:
 - i. Tournament Officials request that judges use as their Zoom/virtual name “Presiding Judge –” or “Scoring Judge –” followed by their name (e.g. “Presiding Judge – John Smith”).

Rule 5.G.4 - Communication During the Round

- a. Competing Members may communicate with Competing Members of their same Competing Team, the judges in their Round, and Tournament Officials; Competing Members may not communicate with any other individual during a Round, except that a Student Timekeeper may also communicate with the other Competing Team’s Student Timekeeper via Zoom’s (or other virtual platform) private chat feature.
 - i. Such communication among Competing Members may occur using the Zoom/virtual chat feature. Alternatively, Competing Members may communicate with each other outside of Zoom (or other virtual platform) (e.g. via text, GroupMe, Google Chat, or other messaging service), provided that such communications must include only Competing Members in that Round. For example, it is not permitted to utilize a group message that includes coaches, team members who are not participating in the Round, or others. Whereas, it is permitted to utilize a group message that includes only the Competing Members for that Round.
- b. Designated Coaches may communicate only with the Designated Coach for the opposing team and may not communicate with any other individual during a Round, except that, in the event that a Judge or Tournament Official directs an inquiry to the Designated Coaches, each Designated Coach may respond to the inquiry.
- c. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Competing Member or Designated Coach may communicate with tournament officials as needed.
- d. Spectators may not communicate with any other individual in the Round via Zoom (or other virtual platform), and may not communicate with Competing Members in any manner.

Rule 5.G.5 - Displaying Documents During the Round

Competing Team Members may display an exhibit, affidavit, these Rules of Competition, or other document included in the Case Materials, or KHSMTA Rules of Evidence (collectively, “Documents”) by using the “Share Screen” feature of Zoom (or other virtual platform).

- a. The Competing Member displaying the Document using the “Share Screen” feature of Zoom (or other virtual platform) may be any Competing Member for the Competing Team, but may not be any other individual.
- b. No Designated Coach, Spectator, or other individual besides a Competing Team Member or a Presiding Judge may use the “Share Screen” feature of Zoom (or other virtual platform).

- c. Unless and until an exhibit is entered into evidence by the Presiding Judge, it is deemed to be constructively outside the view of the jury. All other Documents are deemed to be constructively outside the view of the jury.
- d. No team may object to the display of an exhibit on the basis that the exhibit has not yet been entered into evidence, nor that the display of the Document will prejudice or otherwise influence the jury.
- e. Upon the earliest of the following, the Competing Team Member using the “Share Screen” feature shall stop the screen share of an exhibit:
 - i. The Presiding Judge sustains an objection to the exhibit’s entrance into evidence or otherwise orders that the Screen Share be ended.
 - ii. The Competing Team has completed its line of questioning or other substantive use of the Document.

Rule 5.G.6 - Recording of Rounds and Communications

- a. Competing Teams are advised that each Round and every communication in each Round may be recorded by Tournament Officials. This includes, but is not limited to private chats through the Zoom (or other virtual platform) chat feature. No individual other than Tournament Officials may record a Round.
- b. Records of Rounds and communications during such Rounds may be used, among other purposes, by Tournament Officials for the purposes of investigating and/or making determinations regarding compliance with these Rules of Competition.

Rule 5.G.7 - Use of Cameras and Microphones

- a. Presiding Judges will be requested to enable video and, as necessary, microphones. Scoring Judges may elect whether to enable video and, as necessary, microphones.
- b. Competing Team Members:
 - i. Must enable video at all times in which they are an Active Participant.
 - ii. Except as otherwise required or permitted by these Rules or requested by a Judge or Tournament Official, must disable video at all times in which they are not an Active Participant.
 - iii. If in the role of Timekeeper, may enable their cameras for the purpose of alerting Competing Members of remaining time by holding time cards up to their cameras; Timekeepers are to disable their cameras at all other times except as otherwise required or permitted by these Rules or requested by a Judge or Tournament Official. Timekeepers are also encouraged to use the Zoom Chat feature to alert all participants in the Round (Competing Members, Judges, Designated Coaches, and Spectators) of the time remaining.
 - iv. Must enable microphones at all times during which they are presenting.
 - v. Must disable microphones at all times during which they are not presenting.
- c. Designated Coaches:
 - i. Must disable video and microphone at all times, unless responding to the inquiry of a Presiding Judge or Tournament Official.
- d. Spectators:
 - i. Must disable video and microphone at all times.

- e. Additional Requirements:
 - i. Conflict Checks:
 - 1. Each Competing Member and each Judge must enable their camera upon the Judges' entry to the Zoom/virtual room for the purpose of determining whether there is a judging conflict.
 - ii. Introductions During Pretrial:
 - 1. During or prior to pretrial, each Competing Member must make introductions, one Competing Team at a time, as follows:
 - a. Each Competing Member must enable their camera and microphone during their Competing Team's introductions.
 - b. Each Competing Member must introduce themselves by stating the following information:
 - i. The Competing Member's name;
 - ii. The Competing Member's role in the Round (i.e. if a witness, the character that the Competing Member portrays; if an attorney, the character that the attorney directs, the character the attorney crosses, and, if applicable, the statement the attorney presents).
 - iii. Conclusion of Trial:
 - 1. After the trial concludes (i.e. upon the conclusion of closing arguments including, if applicable, rebuttal), each Competing Member must enable their camera. This is intended to assist the Judges as they complete their ballots, including rankings of best attorneys and best witnesses in the Round.

Rule 5.G.8 - Use of Devices and Physical Spaces

- a. Competing Members must:
 - i. Use a device not in use by any other individual during the Round.
 - ii. Be in a room with no other individual(s) that is not a courtroom and does not resemble a courtroom. Competing Members may be, but are not required to be, in the same building (e.g. the school of the Competing Team), provided that each Competing Member must be in a separate room.
 - iii. Use as a background in Zoom (or other virtual platform) the actual background of the room in which the Competing Member sits, or the optional Witness Zoom background or Attorney Zoom background provided by Tournament Officials.
- b. Competing Members will be scored based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, their use of notes. Competing Members are expected to be off notes.
- c. Competing Members may present while seated or while standing, at their election.

Rule 5.G.9 - Technical Difficulties

- a. In the event that a Competing Member experiences technical difficulties such that the Competing Member is unable to hear or view, or be heard or be viewed during the Round, the Competing Member shall have up to, but no more than, ten (10) minutes to disconnect and reconnect to the Zoom/virtual call in an effort to resolve such technical difficulties.
- b. In the event that a Competing Member is unable to participate in an assigned role as a result of technical difficulties even after an attempt to reconnect as described in subpart (i) above, another

Competing Member of the Competing Team must present the material of that Competing Member in their absence.

Rule 5.G.10 - Virtual Tab Room

- a. The Tab Room will be a virtual Zoom (or other virtual platform) room, and the means to access the Tab Room will be made available to Competing Teams no later than the start of the competition.
- b. The Tab Room will be open to Designated Coaches only until the fourth Round begins at which time no individual other than Tournament Officials as designated by the Board will be permitted to review ballots.
- c. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Tab Room will remain open for the entirety of the competition for the purposes of resolving issues or conflicts among Competing Teams.
 - i. If an issue arises that requires the attention of a Tournament Official, Competing Members, Designated Coaches, or Presiding or Scoring Judges are to report to the Tab Room.
 - ii. Tournament Official(s) will involve other individuals if deemed necessary by the Tournament Official(s).

Rule 5.G.11 - Witness Order

The Board may establish a set order in which Competing Teams must call their witnesses. If a witness order is set by the Board, Competing Teams will be so advised in advance of the competition. No Competing Team or other individual may alter the witness order set by the Board.

Rule 5.G.12 - Judge Comments

Given the nature of the virtual competition, Judges will be asked to provide only general, brief verbal comments (approximately five minutes), or not to provide verbal comments to Competing Members following the Round.

CHAPTER 6: TAB ROOM

Rule 6.A - Tab Room Generally

1. Each KHSMTA competition shall have a designated “Tab Room” from which Tournament Officials will administer the competition, resolve disputes, tabulate ballots, and pair Competing Teams.
2. The Tab Room location will be made known to Competing Teams prior to the start of the competition.
3. The Tab Room will be open until the start of the fourth Round of competition (“Open Tab Room Period”). During the Open Tab Room Period, one (1) representative per Competing Team may enter the Tab Room to review only their Competing Team’s ballots, tournament pairings, or other Tab Room activities. Such Competing Team representatives may take photographs of or otherwise record of only their own Competing Team’s ballots (for the avoidance of doubt, this includes scoring sheets as well as Judge comment sheets); however, no ballots (for the avoidance of doubt, this includes scoring sheets as well as Judge comment sheets) may be removed from the Tab Room or moved from their designated location in the Tab Room. The Tab Room is closed once the fourth Round of competition begins (“Closed Tab Room Period”).
 - a. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Tab Room will remain open for the entirety of the competition for the purposes of resolving issues or conflicts among Competing Teams. See “Dispute Resolution” below.

Rule 6.B - Dispute Resolution

The Tab Room will remain open for the entirety of the competition for the purposes of resolving issues or conflicts among Competing Teams.

1. If an issue arises that requires the attention of a Tournament Official, Competing Members, Designated Coaches, or Presiding or Scoring Judges are to report to the Tab Room.
2. Tournament Official(s) will involve other individuals if deemed necessary by the Tournament Official(s).
3. To the greatest extent possible, if a dispute involves a Competing Team of which a Tournament Official is a coach or has some relationship to one or more of that Competing Team’s members, that Tournament Official will not participate in any resolution of that dispute.
4. The decision of Tournament Officials related to an issue or conflict among Competing Teams is final.

Rule 6.C - Review Period

Rule 6.C.1 - After Rounds One, Two Three

After rounds one, two, and three, there shall be a review period, which begins immediately upon the conclusion of pairing the next-occurring round. The review period shall last 30 minutes. If the

next-occurring round starts the following morning, the Tournament Officials may hold the review period on the following morning during the 30 minutes immediately prior to the Judge's orientation meeting.

Rule 6.C.2 - After Round Four, and Championship Round

The review period after round four or the Championship Round shall begin immediately upon conclusion of the awards ceremony. The review period shall last 30 minutes.

Rule 6.C.3 - Team Responsibility During Review Period

- a. During each review period, each Competing Team's Tab Room representative may review scoring ballots and the official pairing cards. If any error in the tabulation of the preceding Round or pairing of the following Round is suspected, regardless of whether it affects the reporting Competing Team, it shall be reported prior to the expiration of the review period.
- b. Any error not timely discovered or reported is deemed waived. The Tournament Officials may correct any error not timely discovered or reported, but only if the subsequent Round can be repaired without undue tournament schedule disruption, as determined by the Tournament Officials in their sole discretion.

Rule 6.C.4 - Legible Score Presumed Accurate

A legible numerical score, properly placed upon the scoring ballot, shall be conclusive evidence of the Scoring Judge's intended score. No Competing Team shall have any claim for relief on the grounds that the Scoring Judge's comments or individual rankings suggest the legible score was intended for another function of the trial or otherwise improperly given.

Rule 6.C.5 - Correction of Errors Timely Discovered and Reported

- a. Tournament Officials shall correct any timely reported error in win/loss record, combined strength, point differential, ranking, recording of results, or final placement.
- b. Tournament Officials shall further correct any timely reported error in the pairing of the following Round, if the correction can be made without undue disruption of the tournament schedule, as determined by the Tournament Officials in their sole discretion.

Rules 6.D - Finality of Decisions

1. Evidentiary rules of a Presiding Judge during a Round are final and will not be overturned by any Tournament Official.
2. Decisions by Tournament Officials as to any conflicts, purported rule violations, reported errors, or otherwise are final.

APPENDIX A: RULES CHANGES

Major updates to the Rules of Competition are identified below

Revision #	Major Updates
2023.09.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant document formatting which includes various rules being renumbered.• Created rules for Unaffiliated Teams (Rule 2.A.2)• Expanded rules on the Open Bid system for more than two Regionals tournaments (Rule 5.C.2)• Expanded rules for costuming (Rule 4.Q)