

**3RD INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION
COMPETITION, 2024 (VIRTUAL)**

**Hosted by, The Kerala Law Academy Law
College, Peroorkkada, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.**

DATE: 13th – 15th, March 2024



ABOUT THE COMPETITION -

Third International Mediation Competition (IMC) organized by Kerala Law Academy Law College, Thiruvananthapuram is a step taken towards acting as facilitator in increasing the ADR Culture among aspiring lawyers. In the milieu of backlog of cases reaching its saturation, alternative mechanisms of dispute resolution such as mediation and negotiation provide an amicable way out. IMC is aimed at helping all the competing teams to hone their skills and ready themselves to face the dynamics of the legal world. The competition seeks to provide a prodigious experience which will amplify the interests of young minds in this niche practice of law. The competition will help students brainstorm probable solutions for a near to reality challenge while providing them the comfort of choosing their roles as per their preferences. It therefore tries to break the monotony of theory-based learning and helps the students put their knowledge and skills to use. Our collaborators provide a buttress to our efforts as we tend to work in a harmonious manner in order to help each participating student achieve his/her true potential. We look forward to hosting you, Welcome aboard.

WHO ALL CAN PARTICIPATE?

The competition is open to all Law Colleges / Law Schools / Universities; Departments of Law. The registered contestants must be full time or part time law students. Students doing post-graduation in law and students undergoing correspondence courses are not eligible to participate in the competition.

1. Cross-Institute Teams shall not be eligible to participate in this Competition.
2. Only one team from each participating institution shall be registered for the competition.

EEE STRUCURE -

1. Indian Teams: INR 1750 & International Teams: \$30
2. The payment of registration fees shall be made through the payment gateway and the link for the same shall be sent after the confirmation of provisional registration which can be done by sending a mail showing interest to participate to klamediation2024@gmail.com.
3. Participants can also directly register through the link provided below. <https://keralalawacademy.in/forms/3rd-international-mediation-competition-2/>
4. In case of any withdrawal after making the payment of the registration fee, the same shall not be refunded.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS -

The competition will be held via the Video Conferencing Platform – Zoom

1. The competition will be held for 3 days which will consist of 3 stages: Day 1: Inauguration Session. Day 2: Prelims (2 rounds- including interchanging of roles). Day 3: Semi-Finals, Finals & Result declaration.
2. 3 Members are required in a team.
3. The competition will be in the form of a co-mediated session and there would be weightage given to the individual performance of all the participants.

REGISTRATIONS –

1. Provisional registration – All the interested institutions are requested to provisionally register by sending us an email at - klamediation2024@gmail.com, the subject of the email should be “Provisional registration – 3rd IMC 24”.
2. After the confirmation of provisional registration or through direct registration, the participants must register on or before 5th March, 2024 by submitting the duly filled Proforma provided on the Kerala Law Academy Website. - <https://keralalawacademy.in/forms/3rd-international-mediation-competition-2/>
3. The Participants are required to register as a Team of 3 students viz, a Mediating Pair (Client and Counsel) and a Mediator.
4. The Organizing Committee will communicate the acceptance of the provisional registration and e-mail the payment gateway link along with all other necessary details for the completion of registration formalities.
5. On successful completion of the payment, The Organizing Committee shall send a confirmation of participation email after verifying the entire process.

MEDIATION PROMPTS & PREPARATIONS

The case scenario and details of the allocated time slot will be provided in advance to the participating teams. This time can be used for preparation for the event. For the preliminary round, teams will receive the topic, and slot timings 72 hours before the start of the round.

STAGES OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will take place in three stages. At Preliminary stage, there will be two rounds for one pair of teams.

Preliminary Rounds - Each Team shall be once the Responding Party and once the Requesting Party in each session.

No Team shall compete against the same team more than once in the Preliminary Rounds.

Semi Finals - The 4 best teams from the preliminary stages will compete in pairs.

Finals - The best two teams from the semi-finals will face each other.

TEAM COMPOSITION

A team contains three members; a mediator, client and a counsel (mediating pair). Participating teams can decide on the role allocation between the members.

CLARIFICATIONS

The Team(s) may submit queries regarding the mediation problem during the prescribed time frame. The response to the Clarifications is subject to the drafter's discretion. The Clarifications will not be accepted after 8th of March 2024.

VIRTUAL MEDIATION ROOM

The details of the virtual mediation room will be given to the participating team in advance. During the event, the room will consist of:

- Two or more Judges,
- Two mediators (from different opposing teams),
- Party A and the counsel (requesting team),
- Party B and the counsel (responding team),
- Two session supervisors

The members of the organizing committee may enter the virtual room. Anyone entering the room, other members listed above, must strictly turn off their audio and video to avoid any disturbance during the competition. Session supervisors shall take measures to ensure dignity of proceedings in the mediation room.

DRESS CODE

The dress code for the Competition shall be business formals.

- Female Counsel and Mediator: White formal shirt, white saree and black blouse or white salwar kameez
- Male Counsel and Mediator: White or black pants and white shirt.
- The above-mentioned dress code extends to the Inaugural and Valedictory Ceremony as well.

MISCELLANEOUS

➤ Secrecy of Identity: During the course of the Oral Submissions, the speaker shall neither reveal his/her identity nor the identity of their College/University by any means whatsoever. Such actions on part of any member of the team will lead to disqualification of the team from the competition.

➤ Scouting: Scouting is strictly prohibited. Teams found scouting will be disqualified immediately.

LANGUAGE AND DURATION OF SESSION

The official and only language of the Competition shall be English.

Introduction + Problem Prompt - 5 minutes

Mediation - 50 minutes

Feedback and scoring - 10 minutes

A caucus time of 5-7 minutes will be, on request, allotted to the teams.

Private Caucuses & Conferences: Whenever the Mediator(s) calls for a caucus, the other party shall leave the room. The caucus shall take place between the Mediator and one party at once.

Equal opportunity shall be given to the teams in the competition. If any doubts arise with regard to the time allotment the concerned issue shall be raised to the judges and the competition committee members, and a decision shall be taken accordingly.

CODE OF CONDUCT & APPEAL COMMITTEE

The organizers are entitled to change the format of the competition, without prior intimation. In case of complaints/disputes, the same shall be submitted to the appeal committee, which shall consist of Sri. K. Hareendran, the Professor, Principal of KLA as its President and two other faculty members of the host institution. The decision of the Appeal committee shall be final.

Any behaviour of indiscipline with the Judges, Organizing Committee, any other staff member or student volunteer shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the Competition without scope of appeal. Any attempt to approach the framer(s) of the problem(s) or the panel of Judges of the Competition, prior to the Competition shall lead to immediate disqualification from the Competition without scope of appeal.

POWER TO MAKE AMENDMENTS: MODIFICATIONS OR REVOCATIONS.

The Organizing Committee shall have power to amend, modify or revoke the provisions of these rules, either in part or in whole, subject to the feasibility, transparency and smooth functioning of the Competition.

Any such amendment shall be deemed to be part of these rules.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE ARGUMENTS

1. The competition will be held either in Zoom. All the Participants are required to have the respective app in their Desktop or Laptop:-
2. During the competition, participants are required to use Desktops or laptops. Mobile phones can cause technical issues and therefore not permitted for video conference, for the purpose of participate in the competition.

3. Sound internet connection is a mandatory requirement. The organizers will not be responsible for any such connection errors from the side of the participants.
4. In each panel or section there will be a technical assistant who will be helping the participants and judges to deal with the technical issues.
5. The organizing team will take all the responsibility in case of any technical error on the part of the organizers.
6. Screen Sharing or any kinds of malpractices are not allowed and if found, such team will be disqualified.
7. When the competition starts, the team members are asked to switch on their videos till the end of the session. With respect to the mike, the team member has to unmute it while they are speaking and mute when they are not speaking in order to avoid disturbances, failing which, points may be deducted from the score by the judges at their discretion.
8. Team members are requested to participate in the competition in a closed or disturbance free area for the smooth conduct of the competition.
9. Link, passcode or entry for the particular slot will be sent to the WhatsApp group created by Participant Management Committee, before the rounds. The teams are supposed to join the slot 20 minutes prior to the actual time.
10. Every participant should use earphones during the rounds except in cases of medical conditions which should be intimated to the organizers in advance.
11. There should be a distance of 1 meter between the webcam and the participants.
12. There should not be anyone present in the room with the participants, in case of any malpractices the team will be disqualified.

AWARDS

- Winners - 20,000/- + Certificate of Merit
Runner up – 10,000/- + Certificate of Merit
Best Mediator - 5000/- + Certificate of Merit

E- Certificate

An E-certificate of participation will be issued to teams' competing in both rounds of the preliminary stage.

SCHEDULE OF THE COMPETITION:

- Registration – On or before 5th March 2024, Tuesday (05.03.2024)
- Allotment of Team Code – 7th March 2024, Thursday (07.03.2024)

- Release of Office Memo – 10th March 2024, Sunday (10.03.2024)
- Online Desk Registration – 13th March 2024, Wednesday (13.03.2024)
- Inaugural Session – 13th March 2024, Wednesday (13.03.2024)
- Preliminary Round – 14th March 2024, Thursday (14.03.2024)
- Semi Final Round – 15th March 2024, Friday (15.03.2024)
- Final Round – 15th March 2024, Friday (15.03.2024)

CONTACT:

For any queries, please write to klamediation2024@gmail.com or contact any of the following

Faculty Convenors:

1. Dr. Dakshina Saraswathy (General Secretary, KLA Moot Court Society): 9744169215
2. Adv. Salini A.P: 7012480983
3. Adv. Priya M.K: 9633311359
4. Adv. Arya Sunil Paul: 9495178906
5. Adv. N.K Sasidharan: 8281606060
6. Adv. Binu P.M.: 9746179873
7. Adv. Sajith Sankaranarayanaru S.: 8089808424

Student Convenors:

1. Arya M.A. (Student Convenor, KLA Moot Court Society): 7356877165
2. Navami R.S.: 9544984544
3. Sharmada S: 9961188599

Student Co Convenors:

1. Bhanusree J.S.
2. Sarang S
3. Irene Elsa Cherian
4. Karthika Sathyan