

National High School Mooting Competition

Overview and rules



Contents

Page 3 Competition Overview

- Dates
- Who can participate?
- Preliminary rounds
- National Grand Final Day
- Mooting resources
- Guest attendance at National Grand Final Day
- Scholarships
- Registration and travel expenses
- Questions

Page 4 High School Mooting Competition Rules

1. Registration
2. Team Composition
3. Key dates of the competition
4. The moot problem
5. Preparation for the competition
6. The moot

Page 5

6. The moot
7. Written summary of arguments
8. Progression to the grand final day
9. Interpretation of these rules and exceptions
10. Conditions of entry and participation in the competition



Competition Overview

The National High School Mooting Competition is designed to share Bond Law's knowledge and skills in advocacy and oral presentation with students who are interested in a career in law or in expanding their horizons. In 2024, the Preliminary Rounds of the competition will be held virtually through video conference software, and the National Grand Final Day will be held on campus at Bond University, Gold Coast.

Participation provides students with the opportunity to:

- Be challenged by preparing, articulating and defending legal submissions
- Experience courtroom environments
- Mount legal arguments before one or more Moot Court Judges
- Apply legal rules to realistic cases
- Gain insight into the workings of the legal system
- Apply to be considered for for a Mooting Scholarship (please note that other eligibility criteria apply)

Dates

The Preliminary Rounds of the competition will be held from Monday, 13 May, 2024 to Friday, 17 May, 2024. The National Grand Final Day will be held on Saturday, 1 June, 2024.

Who can participate?

The competition is open to all schools and students in Years 11 and 12 and is a good introduction to legal practice and mooting before arriving to study law at Bond.

It is ideally suited to those students who are interested in a career in law, have strong academic results or who may undertake further legal education as a single degree or as part of a combined degree.

Preliminary rounds

The Preliminary Rounds of the competition will be held virtually over five consecutive working days and schools will be assigned a competition date and time.

The eight top-scoring teams will progress to the semi-finals which will take place on the National Grand Final Day, and the two top-scoring teams will then progress to the Grand Final, which will be held on the same day.

National Grand Final Day

The National Grand Final will be held on campus at Bond University. Please note that all schools and participants in the National Grand Final Day (which includes the semi-finals) will need to be able to travel as relevant and visit the campus.

Mooting resources

Mooting videos will be available as resources to teachers/coaches and participants on the website. The Faculty of Law will also arrange two Mooting Masterclass for both teacher/coaches and participating students.

Guest attendance at National Grand Final Day

Family members of participants are encouraged to attend the National Grand Final Day. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to tour Bond University and see their children in action in front of esteemed moot judges. Academic advice on Bond programs can be provided while parents, students and school staff are visiting the campus. On the day, it is expected that all participating teams will stay for the full day of activities, including the awards ceremony. Awards will be presented at the end of the day.

An invitation to attend the Grand Final will also be extended to students who have not participated in the competition and other interested parties.

Scholarships

Bond's Judge John Newton Mooting Scholarships are available each year to qualifying students. Three scholarships of 50% tuition fee waiver are available to students who have competed previously in the National High School Mooting Competition and who wish to study law at Bond, either as a single degree Bachelor of Laws program, or as part of a combined degree program.

Students who participate in the National High School Mooting Competition may apply to be considered for the Bond University Judge John Newton Mooting Scholarships. Please note that other eligibility criteria apply.

Details are available on the Bond website at bond.edu.au/entry-to-bond/scholarships, via school career advisors, or directly from the University.

Registration and travel expenses

All participants of the teams who progress to the National Grand Final Day and who reside outside the South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales geographical areas will be flown to the Gold Coast at the expense of Bond University, to attend the National Grand Final Day. Bond will fund the cost of three team members and one teacher from each team.

Please note:

The costs associated with any additional teachers/coaches wishing to attend are to be paid for by the participating school.

It is the school's responsibility to provide the correct information when working with Bond University when booking travel arrangements. Charges will apply if changes are made after bookings have been completed.

If a school withdraws from the competition and decides not to travel after Wednesday, 29 May, 2024, charges will apply to recover any costs that have been incurred by Bond University

Questions

Any questions relating to the competition can be emailed to highschoolmooting@bond.edu.au.



High School Mooting Competition Rules

1. Registration

- 1.1. School registrations will open on Monday, 29 January, 2024, and each school intending to compete should complete the online registration form by Friday, 9 February, 2024. The competition will be capped at 70 teams, and registration will be on a first-come-first-served basis.
- 1.2. Once the membership of the team has been finalised, schools who have registered should then register the names of their team members by completing the online participant registration by Friday, 1 March, 2024. Each team member and teacher/coach will be required to complete the online form individually. Full student contact details are required, and a team will not be accepted without full details. Failure to register team members and teacher/coaches by 1 March, 2024 may result in the team forfeiting its place in the competition.
- 1.3. No changes to team members will be accepted after Monday, 22 April, 2024 except with the permission of the Director: National High School Mooting Competition.
- 1.4. Each school (or school campus) is permitted to enter one team.
- 1.5. There is no registration fee payable.

2. Team Composition

- 2.1. Teams consist of a minimum of two and a maximum of three students of that school in the role of Senior Counsel, Junior Counsel and Instructing Solicitor. (Note: the third team member acting as Instructing Solicitor is optional).
- 2.2. Teams should comprise of students in Year 11 or 12. Year 10 students may however perform the role of Instructing Solicitor.
- 2.3. Team members cannot be replaced after the Preliminary Round. If a team progresses to the National Grand Final Day, the students who participated in the Preliminary Round must participate. The Instructing Solicitor may take on the role of one of the counsel, if required.
- 2.4. Students are only permitted to be a member of one team in any given year.
- 2.5. Teachers/coaches must accompany their team or be in attendance at the Preliminary Rounds and on the National Grand Final Day, as applicable.

3. Key dates of the competition

- 3.1. The moot problem will be released no later than 19 February, 2024.
- 3.2. A Masterclass for teachers will be held. This Masterclass is for teachers and coaches only. Students may not attend. The Masterclass will not be recorded.
- 3.3. A Masterclass for participating students and teachers/coaches will also be held. Details will be provided closer to the event. This session may be recorded.
- 3.4. Preliminary Rounds will take place from Monday, 13 May to Friday 17 May, 2024. The Preliminary Rounds will be conducted over a videoconferencing platform (i.e. virtually).
- 3.5. The National Grand Final Day will be held at Bond University on Saturday, 1 June, 2024. The Semi Final rounds will be conducted between the top eight teams in the morning, and the Grand Final will take place between the two top performing teams in the afternoon.

4. The moot problem

- 4.1. The moot problem will be provided to participating schools only.

5. Preparation for the competition

- 5.1. Bond University will assign each team a side (i.e. Appellant or Respondent) for which they must prepare arguments. In the event that there are two teams from a school, both teams will be allocated the same side.
- 5.2. Whilst all care is taken with determining the competition draw, Bond University reserves the right to change the moot allocation time/date if required.
- 5.3. In preparing their arguments, teams must limit themselves to the facts provided, as well as the stated grounds of appeal, and may not alter the fact scenario, introduce new grounds of appeal, or introduce new facts. Teams must also limit their arguments to the prescribed cases, as well as the cases of which the web addresses have been provided in the statement of facts, if any. Reference may be made to other cases cited in the prescribed cases, but only to the extent that they are cited, quoted or referred to. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a loss of marks.
- 5.4. Instructions regarding the use of the videoconferencing platform will be provided to participating teams. Teams will be required to participate in a scheduled technical trial.

6. The moot

- 6.1. Senior and Junior Counsel will each be limited to a speaking time of 10 minutes for oral submissions. Time will be paused in case of a technical problem.
- 6.2. All team members must be clearly visible on screen, with video cameras on, for the duration of the moot, including during oral submissions of opposing counsel and feedback.
- 6.3. Team members may use separate video log-ins, or use one for the whole team. Team members may be in one physical room or in separate rooms. If possible, however, all three team members should be visible on a single screen.
- 6.4. No assistance of whatever nature may be provided to team members during the moot by anyone other than the team members, including through digital messaging. Failure to comply with this rule will lead to immediate disqualification. At the start of the round, teams will be required to confirm that they are alone in the room and that they will not receive any outside assistance during the moot.
- 6.5. There is no right of reply in the Preliminary Round, although a right of reply of one minute per team may be exercised in the final rounds by both teams. Teams should reserve the one minute for reply from the total combined speaking time of both Counsel. One Counsel must give the reply.
- 6.6. Time signs will be shown when there is one minute of speaking time remaining, and when time has expired.
- 6.7. Teams will be marked as follows: 35% for presentation, 35% for content and 30% for the mooters' ability to deal with questions from the moot judges.
- 6.8. Individual and team marks will not be provided to participants. Judges will provide short feedback in the Preliminary Round (time permitting) upon conclusion of the moots on individual and team performances.



- 6.9. Students and persons affiliated with participating schools may not watch other teams moot. Where a school enters more than one team, the teams are not allowed to watch each other. Teachers and/or coaches may however watch all teams they coach.
- 6.10. Teams experiencing technical difficulties should contact the Faculty of Law Engagement Manager via email at highschoolmooting@bond.edu.au. If a team is unable to logon, or unable to logon within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time of a moot, the moot will be forfeited unless alternative arrangements can be made.
- 6.11. The moots in the Preliminary Rounds and the Semi Finals are closed to external parties. Only the two participating schools and the guests of those schools will be permitted to watch the relevant moot.
- 6.12. Additional sign-ons will be provided to participating schools for observers. All observers are required to register with Bond University in advance to maintain the integrity of the proceedings.
- 6.13. Students should anticipate being energetically questioned by the moot judge(s) during their oral submissions and are expected to be able to respond logically to the questions asked and to comply with directions given.
- 6.14. Where an advocate is interrupted by questions from the judge(s), they will be expected to adjust the submissions to conclude within the allotted speaking time. Students may not seek extra time simply on the basis that they were asked questions. Judges may, however, in their discretion allow extensions of time.

7. Written summary of arguments

- 7.1. Each team may, but is not required to, prepare a written summary of argument outlining the submissions they will make. The essential feature of a summary is that it lays out in logical sequence the line of argument that is to be presented and the authority for each proposition of law that is to be argued. It is not a script of the oral argument, only a summary. Written submissions must be emailed to Bond the day before the moot. Emails should be sent to highschoolmooting@bond.edu.au (no later than 3:00 pm).
- 7.2. Written submissions may not exceed two pages, and should include only an outline of the arguments, not speaking notes. No other documents including copies or cases, may be provided. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a loss of marks.
- 7.3. Where a school enters two teams, each team is required to submit their own, original submissions, should the team choose to provide a written summary of arguments.

8. Progression to the National Grand Final Day

- 8.1. After completion of the Preliminary Rounds, the top eight teams progress to the Semi Finals based on scoring. The top scoring four Appellant teams will moot against the top scoring four Respondent teams on the National Grand Final Day. The top two teams (i.e. top Appellant team on the day and top Respondent team on the day) will progress to the Grand Final. The National Grand Final Day will be held at Bond University on Saturday, 1 June, 2024.
- 8.2. Teams that participated in the Preliminary Rounds are not required to change sides for the Semi Finals or Grand Final, if relevant.
- 8.3. The school announced as the winner and runner-up of the National Grand Final will each receive a trophy. The team members of the winner and runner-up teams will also receive a trophy at the awards function. A trophy will also be awarded to the third-placed team, with the team members of the third-placed team each receiving a certificate.
- 8.4. An award will be given to the Best Oralist in the National Grand Final and the Runner-Up Best Oralist in the National Grand Final. The Best Oralist and Runner-Up Best Oralist in the Semi Finals will also be given an award. The recipients of these awards will each receive a trophy.
- 8.5. All schools that participated in the National Grand Final Rounds must be present at the awards function.
- 8.6. The Grand Final may be video-recorded and participants will be requested to provide permission for recording on registration.

9. Interpretation of these rules and exceptions

- 9.1. Requests for clarification of these rules or any exceptions sought to these rules should be submitted in writing to highschoolmooting@bond.edu.au.
- 9.2. A decision of the Director High School Mooting Competition on the interpretation of these rules or any exceptions or variations to these rules will be final.

10. Conditions of entry and participation in the competition

- 10.1. A contact and media waiver form will be issued to each student wishing to enter in the competition. It is a requirement of participation that all forms are returned completed before their competition date.
- 10.2. It is the School's responsibility to notify Bond University of any student who is not willing to be photographed.
- 10.3. Each team member will be required to register their contact details online as requested by the Faculty.
- 10.4. Students entering the competition will receive information from Bond University about study, programs and events related to studying here. Students will have the option to unsubscribe.

Faculty of Law

Bond University
Gold Coast Queensland 4229
Australia

Phone: 07 5595 2067 | 0410 097 294

Email: highschoolmooting@bond.edu.au



CRICOS Provider Code 00017B
TEQSA Provider ID PRV12072

The information published in this document is correct at the time of printing (2023). However, all programs are subject to review by the Academic Senate of the University and the University reserves the right to change its program offerings and subjects without notice. The information published in this document is intended as a guide and persons considering an offer of enrolment should contact the relevant Faculty or Institute to see if any changes have been made before deciding to accept their offer.

bond.edu.au