Rules for the
Thirty-First Annual
Stetson International Environmental
Moot Court Competition
2026–2027

International Finals

The International Finals will be hosted at
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South
Gulfport, Florida 33707
on
April 14–17, 2027

In cooperation with the

Stetson Center for Excellence in Advocacy

Stetson Institute for Biodiversity Law and Policy

Jacobs Public Interest Law Clinic for Democracy and the Environment

Important Dates

Problem distributed ..... July 31, 2026

Deadline for requests for clarification of the Record ..... September 7, 2026

Deadline to register for the memorial-only round ..... October 14, 2026

Memorial due **(must be received by this date)** ..... November 16, 2026

Deadline for protests concerning memorials
..... ten days after memorials have been posted
(memorials will be posted on the Competition website after all regional and national rounds have concluded)

23rd International Wildlife Law Conference ..... April 14, 2027

Foreman Biodiversity Lecture and Welcome Reception ..... April 14, 2027

Check-in, Q&A, and Orientation ..... April 15, 2027

Preliminary Rounds 1 and 2 ..... April 15, 2027

Preliminary Rounds 3 and 4 ..... April 16, 2027

Quarterfinals ..... April 17, 2027

Semifinals ..... April 17, 2027

Championship Round ..... April 17, 2027

Awards Ceremony and Closing Reception ..... April 17, 2027

Check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. on April 15. The orientation for coaches and competitors will begin at 8:30 a.m. on April 15. At least one representative of each team **must** check in and attend the orientation; all team members are invited to attend.

The Championship Round will start at approximately 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 17. The Awards Ceremony and Closing Reception will start shortly after the conclusion of the Championship Round (approximately 3:30 p.m.) and will conclude around 5:00 p.m. Tampa International Airport is about 30–40 minutes from campus.

The problem (or Record) is available on the Stetson International Environmental Moot Court Competition website, https://www.stetson.edu/law/international/iemcc/.

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RULES FOR THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL STETSON INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2026–2027

A. COMPETITION COMMITTEE AND FORUM

1. Competition Committee Defined

The Competition Committee is comprised of Professor Roy Gardner, Professor Jaclyn Lopez, and Katherine Pratt, and other members who may be appointed to serve. Members of the Competition Committee will not be actively affiliated with any team registered to participate in the Competition.

2. Powers of the Competition Committee

a. The Competition Committee has the sole discretion to enforce all Competition rules.

b. The Competition Committee has the sole discretion to interpret the Competition rules. No interpretation of the Competition rules is valid unless obtained in writing from the Competition Committee.

c. The Competition Committee has the sole discretion to answer questions about the Record and all other materials related to the Competition.

d. The Competition Committee has the sole power to resolve any dispute that may arise during the Competition.

e. The Competition Committee has the power to change or supplement the Competition rules, should any changes or supplements become necessary. Changes and supplements will be communicated to participating teams as quickly as possible.

3. Questions and Inquiries

Any questions or inquiries about the Competition should be directed to **all** members of the Competition Committee **in writing**. To the extent a question or inquiry affects other teams, a copy of each written question and answer will be circulated to all participating teams. The deadline for requests for clarification of the Record is September 7, 2026. Each team may submit no more than five (5) requests for clarification of the Record; teams may not break each request for clarification of the Record into sub-parts.

4. Contact with the Competition Committee

The Competition Committee may be reached at

By mail: International Environmental Moot Court Competition
Attn: Katherine Pratt
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South
Gulfport, Florida 33707

By email: gardner@law.stetson.edu, jmlopez@law.stetson.edu, **and** kpratt2@law.stetson.edu.

Copy **all** members of the Committee in email correspondence.

5. Forum

The problem will be set in the mock International Court of Justice (ICJ).

B. REGIONAL AND OTHER QUALIFYING ROUNDS

1. Teams Must Compete in a Regional or Other Qualifying Round

Except as provided below, a team must compete in a regional, national, or other qualifying round before advancing to the International Finals. Regional or national rounds are expected to be hosted in person or online by universities in Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, East Asia, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Nigeria, North America, Pakistan, Poland, Southeast Asia, and Tanzania before the International Finals. Memorials submitted from regional or national rounds will be re-graded for the International Finals. Any disputes arising out of regional or national rounds will be resolved by the regional or national round coordinators.

a. A regional, national, or other qualifying round will consist of a written memorial and oral arguments.

b. In determining how many teams advance to the International Finals, each national and regional round will be represented as follows:

Number of teams participating in a regional or national round	Maximum number of teams advancing to the International Finals
2-12	2 teams*
13-18	3 teams*
19-24	4 teams*
25 or more	5 teams*†

*Includes a team from the host institution if the host institution elects to send a team, in accordance with (e) below.
†However, no individual country may send more than four teams to the International Finals, in accordance with (d) below.

c. For purposes of determining advancement to the International Finals, the number of teams participating in a regional or national round shall consist of teams that registered, submitted a memorial, **and** made oral arguments at a regional or national round.

d. No individual country may send more than four teams to the International Finals. No individual school may send more than two teams in the International Finals.

e. With the approval of the Competition Committee and the relevant regional or national round coordinator, a school that hosts a regional or national round and competes in that regional or national round may receive an invitation to advance one team to the International Finals, even if the team from the host school did not otherwise qualify. Only one team from a host school counts toward the maximum number of teams that may advance from a regional or national round.

f. In the interest of having the greatest number of countries participating in the Competition, the Competition Committee may establish additional regional or national rounds.

2. A Team Participating in a Regional or National Round from the Host School

It is permissible for the host school to have a team in the regional or national rounds, as long as the following constraints are met:

a. The team's coach cannot be involved with any aspect of hosting the regional or national rounds, which includes but is not limited to, not having access to the bench brief during the team's preparation for the oral arguments (or after, if the team advances).

b. Practice round judges cannot judge the team during the regional or national rounds.

c. During the regional or national rounds, the coordinators will ensure that all judges do not know the affiliation of the host school's team. All conflicts of interest must be resolved before each round begins.

d. Individual team members should be counseled to not reach out to the legal community for assistance with their oral arguments, unless first approved by the team's coach and the regional or national round coordinator.

3. International Memorial-Only Qualifying Round for Teams from Regions Without a Regional or National Round

a. If a team is from a region without a regional, national, or other qualifying round, the team may qualify for the International Finals through the memorial-only qualifying round.

b. Teams must register for the memorial-only qualifying round by October 14, 2026 and must submit their memorials to the Competition Committee in accordance with these rules by November 16, 2026.

c. In light of the Competition's history and its interest in encouraging greater participation, the Competition Committee will extend invitations to teams through the memorial-only qualifying round if their memorials are of sufficient quality to warrant an invitation; however, no individual country may send more than two teams through the memorial-only qualifying round.

d. Questions about a team's eligibility to participate in the memorial-only qualifying round should be directed to the Competition Committee (see Rule A(4) above).

C. TEAM COMPOSITION

1. Team Defined

a. A team consists of two or three persons, each of whom satisfies the criteria listed in Rule C(2) below. Some regional or national rounds may permit up to five team members. While this is permissible for regional or national rounds in part to encourage broader participation, if a team advances to the International Finals, the team will be restricted to no more than three team members.

b. In light of the Competition's interest in encouraging greater participation and subject to the approval of the relevant regional or national round coordinator and the Competition Committee, a single team may consist of students from different schools.

c. No person may be a member of more than one team, nor may any member of a team discuss the problem or related substantive matters with any member of a different team. Team members may discuss the problem or related substantive matters with only the members of their own team.

d. Only two team members may present arguments or otherwise participate in any particular round (all three may argue during the competition, but only two may argue in any particular round).

e. All team members may participate in any other aspect of the Competition, including practice rounds and researching and drafting the memorial.

f. Only two team members may sit at counsel table during a round. If there is a third team member, the third team member should sit behind the two teammates who are competing, and the third team member is not allowed to communicate (verbally, in writing, or otherwise) with the two teammates who are competing during the round, even if the teammates are not arguing at that particular moment.

2. Qualifications of Team Members

a. No team member may hold a law degree from a United States law school.

b. Each team member must be enrolled in a full-time or part-time Juris Doctor or other Competition Committee-approved program in the school the team member represents.

c. No licensed attorney who has practiced law is eligible to participate.

d. The Competition Committee will determine on an individual basis whether potential team members meet these criteria.

3. Replacing Team Members

A team member may be replaced after the team's memorial has been written or substantially written only with the express written consent of the Competition Committee, which will require a showing of good cause (e.g., health or healthcare issues).

4. Coaches and Advisors

a. Each team may have one or more coaches.

b. If a school enters more than one team in the Competition, the same coach cannot coach both teams.

c. Once the Record has been released, coaches/advisors are not allowed to help the team members draft or edit the memorial. A coach or advisor's assistance must be in accordance with Rule H(1) below.

d. Nothing in this rule prevents non-coach, practice round judges from seeing different teams; however, no person may share substantive information from one team with another team. For example, if an individual serves as a practice judge for one team, that person may later serve as a practice judge for another team but may not tell one team what the other team argued during its presentation.

D. SCORING AND AWARDS

1. Breakdown

a. Scores for each Preliminary Round will be determined by counting the team's memorial score as one-third of the total score and oral score as two-thirds of the total score. Scores for the Quarterfinal Rounds will be determined by counting the team's memorial score as 25% of the total score and oral score as 75% of the total score. Scores for the Semifinal Rounds will be determined by counting the team's memorial score as 10% of the total score and oral score as 90% of the total score.

b. The oral score will be determined by a panel of judges. The judges will not know the teams' memorial scores.

c. In the Championship Round, the winner will be determined solely on the decision of the judges. The teams' memorial scores do not factor into the score for the Championship Round.

2. Awards

a. The International Finals will conclude with the announcement of the following awards:

(1) the Competition Champion;

(2) runner-up;

(3) semifinalists;

(4) best overall memorial;

(5) runner-up memorial;

(6) third place memorial;

(7) at least the top five oralists in the Preliminary Rounds; and

(8) best individual oralist in the Championship Round.

b. To be eligible for an oralist award in the Preliminary Rounds, a competitor must argue at least three times. For those who argue four times, the lowest round score will be dropped.

c. The same individual cannot win both best oralist awards—the best individual oralist in the Preliminary Rounds and the best individual oralist in the Championship Round.

E. MEMORIALS (BRIEFS)

1. Sides

a. Each team must submit **either** an Applicant or Respondent memorial to the Competition Committee by November 16, 2026 (for the purposes of these rules, the Applicant is Avifull, and the Respondent is Rusteya).

b. Teams will prepare an Applicant or Respondent memorial based on rules for each regional or national round. The regional or national round coordinator may leave the choice of which side to represent to a team's discretion, assign a side, or require teams to prepare memorials for both sides.

c. If a school enters more than one team in the Competition, one team must represent the Applicant in its memorial, and the other team must represent the Respondent in its memorial (unless they are required to prepare memorials for both sides). The two teams cannot collaborate during the memorial-writing process.

2. Problem

a. The hypothetical facts on which the Competition is based will be drafted by a person or group of persons knowledgeable in the field of international environmental law.

b. The person(s) who drafts the problem will also prepare—or supervise the preparation of—a bench memorial that will be provided to persons who judge oral rounds or memorials.

3. Format

a. The memorial may not exceed **6,500 words** on 8-1/2 x 11-inch pages, with one-inch margins at top, bottom, left, and right. **Footnotes do count toward the word limit.** Deductions will be taken if the memorial is over the word count. [**Note**: Most word processing programs can provide you with a word count. Make sure you select the option to **include** the footnotes in the word count.]

b. The memorial text must be typed in 12-point Arial, Calibri, or Times New Roman font and double-spaced. Footnotes must be typed in 12-point Arial, Calibri, or Times New Roman font and single-spaced. A team does not violate the double-spacing requirement by properly including written material that is single spaced, such as a block quote or point heading. Pages should not have borders.

c. Each memorial must include the following sections, in the order listed: front cover page, table of contents, index of authorities, table of abbreviations (if included), questions presented, statement of jurisdiction, statement of facts, summary of argument, argument with point headings, conclusion, and signature block. A separate affidavit confirming compliance with all rules, along with names of team members and coaches, must also be submitted in a timely manner.

d. The table of contents and the index of authorities must include page numbers to the location(s) of the sections and authorities.

e. The following sections **do** count toward the word limit: statement of facts, summary of argument, argument with point headings, and conclusion. As noted above, footnotes **do** count toward the word limit.

f. The following sections do **not** count toward the word limit: front cover page, table of contents, index of authorities, table of abbreviations (if included), questions presented, statement of jurisdiction, and signature block.

g. **Limit on Use of Authorities:** In memorials, teams may not use any case issued or action that affects the status of any treaty (e.g., signature, ratification, entry into force) after October 12, 2026. [**Note:** This limitation does not apply to oral arguments.]

h. **Citations:** All citations must conform to the most current version of either *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* or the *ALWD Guide to Legal Citation*. In the statement of facts, citations to facts from the Record must appear in footnotes. Teams from outside the United States should make a good effort to comply with proper citation format.

i. **Identification and Affidavit:** To facilitate anonymous grading, names of the team members and the school they represent must not appear on the memorial. Names of the team members and the school they represent should appear only on the electronic affidavit. **Each team must submit the required affidavit when submitting the memorial**. (See Rule E(4)(b)–(c) below for additional information.)

Each team will be assigned an identification number that is to appear in the uppermost right-hand corner of the front cover page of the team's memorial. For the national and regional rounds, teams should request an identification number from the national or regional round coordinator. Teams participating in the memorial-only qualifying round should request an identification number from the Competition Committee. Teams advancing to the International Finals will receive a new identification number for the International Finals from the Competition Committee.

4. Service of the Memorial

a. Every team **must** submit an electronic copy of its memorial to the Competition Committee. This rule applies to all regional and national rounds, including those rounds in which the memorials are being judged by judges affiliated with that particular regional or national round. **All memorials must be submitted to the Competition Committee at the same time that the memorial is submitted to a regional or national round.**

b. In addition to the memorial, each team must provide an affidavit. The affidavit is provided in the memorial submission portal. The affidavit must be completed at the same time the memorial is submitted.

c. The memorial and affidavit should be submitted to the Competition Committee electronically using this link: https://stetsonlaw.formstack.com/forms/iemcc_memorial_submission, **or** by using the portal on the Stetson IEMCC website, at https://www.stetson.edu/law/international/iemcc/. National and Regional Round coordinators will specify their own submission processes.

d. The memorial must be uploaded in Microsoft Word format as a .doc or .docx file. Name the memorial using your team's assigned identification number and "A" for Applicant or "R" for Respondent. For example, if you are assigned team number 2700 and wrote for the Applicant, the file name should be 2700A.doc or 2700A.docx.

e. The electronic version of the memorial **must be received** by the Competition Committee no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on November 16, 2026. The Committee will post the memorials on the Competition website after **all** regional and national rounds have concluded (see Rule E(5) below).

f. Memorials that arrive after the deadline will receive a deduction for being submitted late.

5. Service on Other Teams

Teams should not send copies of their memorial to any other team. As noted in Rule E(4)(d) above, the Competition Committee will post the memorials of teams advancing to the International Finals on the Competition website after **all** national, regional, or other qualifying rounds are complete.

6. No Changes After Submission

Once the memorials have been submitted to the Competition Committee or to any regional, national, or other qualifying round, no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed. In addition, no written material outside the memorial will be accepted.

7. Grading

a. For the International Finals, each memorial will be scored by a panel of judges.

b. The scores will be averaged, and that average will be the memorial score used throughout the International Finals; however, the memorial score will not be used to determine the Championship Round winner.

c. Memorials will be graded for both content and style. The factors memorial judges will consider include, but are not limited to, the following: legal substance; use of authority and extent of research; issue analysis; logic and reasoning; clarity and organization; persuasiveness; thoroughness; style; grammar; spelling; citation frequency and form; and compliance with Competition rules, including formatting rules. See Rule H(1)(b) regarding use of generative AI tools.

d. Memorial scores will not be released until after the Competition is completed. After the Competition, the Competition Committee will release a list that reflects the memorial rankings by quartile.

e. The minimum score on any memorial will be 60.

8. English

Each memorial must be submitted in English.

F. ORAL ARGUMENT PROCEDURES

1. Time and Place

a. All oral arguments will be held in person at Stetson University College of Law on April 15–17, 2027.

b. Courtroom assignments will be provided during orientation.

c. The first and second Preliminary Rounds will be held on Thursday, April 15, and the third and fourth Preliminary Rounds will be held on Friday, April 16.

d. During the Preliminary Rounds, each team will argue four times and will argue for both the Applicant **and** Respondent.

e. One team representative must check in and attend the mandatory orientation meeting on Thursday, April 15, at 8:30 a.m.

2. Time per Team and Rebuttal Time

a. Each oral round will be limited to sixty minutes; each team will have thirty minutes to argue.

b. Teams representing the Applicant in a round may reserve up to five minutes of their time for rebuttal by (1) informing the bailiff before the round how much rebuttal time will be reserved and the time breakdown for each team member, **and** (2) requesting rebuttal time from the presiding judge in the beginning of the Applicant's argument.

c. Only one team member may argue on rebuttal; either participating member may give rebuttal. The team member arguing the rebuttal does not need to be designated in advance of the argument.

d. Previously reserved rebuttal time may be waived by the Applicant following the close of Respondent's argument; however, the Applicant may not otherwise reallocate rebuttal time once the round begins.

e. Sur-rebuttal by the Respondent will **not** be allowed.

f. Each participating team member must intend to speak for at least ten minutes (in addition to rebuttal time).

g. Nothing in this rule requires a 50/50 split of time between teammates; however, any reserved time not used by one oralist will not be reallocated to another oralist.

h. During the oral arguments, a bailiff will keep time for each team and provide the following timecards: 10, 7, 5, 3, 1, and stop. Oralists are welcome to take a timer to the podium; however, the bailiff's timer is the official time. (If an oralist takes a timer to the podium, the timer cannot have email or internet capabilities, and the timer must not make any sounds.)

i. During the oral arguments, laptops, phones, or other similar electronic devices are not permitted at counsel table or the podium. Coaches and other people observing oral arguments also are not allowed to use laptops, phones, or other similar electronic devices during a round.

3. Anonymity

a. Although counsel may introduce themselves to the tribunal in the usual manner, the team's law school affiliation must not be mentioned at any time before, during, or **after** the oral argument (because some judges may preside in more than one round).

b. Further, all team members, coaches, advisors, and observers must refrain from identifying a team's school at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items, such as school clothing, patches, or pins, or carrying identifying material, such as a notebook with a school logo.

c. Each team will be provided with a table card with the school's team number. The card should be placed on counsel table facing the judges at the beginning of each round and should remain on the table throughout the round. Teams should keep their table cards with them throughout the Competition.

4. Contact with Judges

a. All team members and individuals affiliated with a team are prohibited from speaking with the judges before a round.

b. Because individuals may judge more than one round, until a team is eliminated from the Competition, team members and individuals affiliated with the team should not speak with judges about any substantive matters or a team's identification.

5. Judges and Judging Criteria

a. Barring unforeseen circumstances, each round will be judged by at least three persons.

b. Judges will be provided with a copy of the bench memorial and the problem.

c. Oral argument judges will **not** be provided with copies of the teams' memorials.

d. Each judge will score each participating team member; the judges' scores for that round will be averaged to determine the team's oral-argument score for a round.

e. Each judge will receive a grading form outlining the factors to be considered during the judging process; the grading form will also identify what excellent, average, and below average scores should be in each category.

f. The factors to be considered include, but are not limited to, the following: organization and clarity; analysis and thoroughness; knowledge of facts and law; courtroom manner and style; ability to answer questions and control argument; persuasiveness; and professionalism. The minimum score on any individual oralist's argument will be 60.

6. Critiques

Each judge will be requested to provide a short oral critique at the end of each round. Judges' scores for the oral arguments will be anonymized and emailed **after** the Competition (see Rule J(2) below). Each team will receive only its own oral argument scores; a team will not receive any other team's oral argument scores. It may take several weeks after the Competition for teams to receive their compiled oral argument scores.

7. Announcements

a. After all of the Preliminary Rounds have been completed, the eight teams advancing to the Quarterfinal Rounds will be announced.

b. After the Quarterfinal Rounds have been completed, the four teams advancing to the Semifinal Rounds will be announced.

c. After the conclusion of the Semifinal Rounds, the two teams advancing to the Championship Round will be announced.

d. The winner of the Championship Round will be announced during the Awards Ceremony.

8. Stetson's Participation

Stetson may not enter a team in the International Finals.

9. English

All oral arguments will be conducted in English. Judges may take into consideration that English is not a team's first language in scoring the competition.

10. Visual Aids

Visual aids and other similar devices cannot be used during oral argument. No documents (cases, reports, etc.) may be handed to the judges.

G. SEQUENCE OF ORAL ROUNDS AND ADVANCEMENT AT THE INTERNATIONAL FINALS

1. Preliminary Rounds

a. Four Preliminary Rounds will be held.

b. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, each team will argue in each Preliminary Round.

c. Each team will argue on- **and** off-memorial at least once in the Preliminary Rounds. This means that each team will represent the Applicant at least once during the Preliminary Rounds **and** will represent the Respondent at least once during the Preliminary Rounds.

d. During the first and second Preliminary Rounds, teams will be power-protected based on memorial score (higher memorial scores compete against lower memorial scores).

e. During the third and fourth Preliminary Rounds, teams will be power-matched based on their record in the first two or three Preliminary Rounds, respectively (highest-ranking team competes against second highest-ranking team, etc.). The Competition Committee may alter the power-matched rankings so that teams will not compete against any team more than once during the Preliminary Rounds.

f. The schedules for the first two Preliminary Rounds will be available at the orientation meeting on Thursday, April 15. Since the third and fourth Preliminary Rounds are power-matched (see Rule G(1)(e) above), the schedule for the third and fourth Preliminary Rounds will be announced after the completion of the second Preliminary Round or the third Preliminary Round, respectively.

g. Each team will be scored on a combination of its average memorial score and average oral score (one-third memorial and two-thirds oral).

h. Each team's score will be compared to its opponent's score in that round.

i. The teams with the best won-lost records will advance to the Quarterfinal Rounds.

j. In the event of a tie in won-lost records, the team winning the highest percentage of judges' ballots during the four Preliminary Rounds will advance.

k. If a tie occurs on ballots, the team with the higher memorial score will advance.

l. The Competition Committee will not change pairings simply because teams from the same school are scheduled to argue against one another.

2. Quarterfinal Rounds

a. The eight highest-ranking teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Quarterfinal Rounds.

b. The highest-ranking team will argue against the lowest-ranking team. The higher-ranking team will choose which side it wants to represent.

c. Each team will be scored on a combination of its average memorial score and average oral score (25% memorial and 75% oral).

d. Each team's score will be compared to its opponent's score in that round, and the winning team from that courtroom will advance. (Scores of teams in one room will not be compared to scores of teams in another room.)

e. In the event of a tie, the team winning the highest percentage of judges' ballots in the Quarterfinal Round will advance.

f. If a tie occurs on ballots, the team with the higher memorial score will advance.

3. Semifinal Rounds

a. The highest-ranking team will argue against the lowest-ranking team. The higher-ranking team will choose which side to represent.

b. Each team will be scored on a combination of its average memorial score and average oral score (10% memorial and 90% oral).

c. Each team's score will be compared to its opponent's score in that round, and the winning team in that courtroom will advance. (Scores of teams in one courtroom will not be compared to scores of teams in another courtroom.)

d. In the event of a tie, the team winning the highest percentage of judges' ballots in the Semifinal Round will advance.

e. If a tie occurs on ballots, the team with the higher memorial score will advance.

4. Championship Round

a. The higher-ranking team will choose which side to represent.

b. The winner of the Championship Round will be determined solely on the basis of oral presentation in the Championship Round. The judges will caucus to determine the winning team and the best oralist in the Championship Round. The judges are not obligated to use score sheets.

c. The winner of the Championship Round will be designated the Competition Champion.

H. OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

1. Assistance on Memorials

a. A team may receive only the following assistance on the memorial:

(1) Team members may discuss with their coach and with others affiliated with their school (as long as other rules contained herein are not violated) general principles of international environmental law.

(2) The coach may provide general guidance on the overall organization of the brief but cannot assist with the actual writing and cannot edit the paper or correct citation format.

(3) Teams for which English is a second language may seek assistance within their schools regarding English grammar and spelling.

b. **Use of generative AI tools**: If teams choose to use generative AI tools to assist with creating the content of their memorial, they are fully responsible for ensuring that no fictitious, fabricated, or non-existent facts, information, quotations, and/or sources are included. The Competition Committee will oversee a review, separate from the memorial grading, that examines the legitimacy of every source cited. Memorials found to contain any such inaccuracies will receive significant penalties, up to and including disqualification.

c. A team may hold practice oral rounds before its memorial is submitted to the Competition Committee or to a regional or national round.

2. Affidavit

a. Each team must submit an affidavit to the Competition Committee at the time of its memorial submission.

b. By submitting the affidavit and memorial to the Competition Committee, each team member certifies that the memorial has been prepared in accordance with the Competition rules and that it represents the work product solely of such team's members

3. Assistance on Oral Argument

A team may be assisted in the preparation of its oral argument, except as limited by Rule H(4) below.

4. No Collaboration with Other Teams

a. No member or coach of any team still eligible to participate or actually participating in the Competition may attend any practice or argument of another team or receive information from any person who has attended such practice or argument.

b. In addition, while a team is still active in the Competition, no team member, coach, or other affiliated person may "scout" other active teams.

c. If a school sends two teams, and one team is eliminated but the other is still active, both teams will then be treated as one team, for purposes of this rule only.

I. CHALLENGES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

1. National and Regional Rounds

As stated in Rule B(1), any disputes arising out of regional or national rounds will be resolved by the regional or national round coordinators.

2. Memorials and Pre-Oral Argument Challenges

a. Any complaint or challenge related to a memorial or any other pre-oral argument matter must be submitted in writing to the Competition Committee no later than ten days after the memorials have been posted on the Competition website.

b. Should the allegedly offensive conduct occur after that time, the complaint should be submitted within 24 hours of its discovery.

c. The complaint or challenge should be directed to the Competition Committee and should specify in as much detail as possible the nature of the complaint or challenge. No other person should be copied on the complaint or challenge.

d. After reviewing the complaint or challenge, the Competition Committee will, if necessary, contact other affected teams and issue a ruling.

e. The ruling of the Competition Committee will be final and cannot be appealed.

3. Oral Arguments and Other Competition Challenges

a. Complaints or challenges concerning any oral argument or conduct during the Competition must be reported to the Competition Committee within ten minutes of the conclusion of the round in which the allegedly offensive conduct occurs.

b. Conclusion of the round, for purposes of this rule, will be the end of the Applicant’s rebuttal period.

c. Complaints or challenges that occur during the Competition that do not relate to a particular oral argument should be reported to the Competition Committee as soon as possible, but in no event later than fifteen minutes before the next scheduled oral argument round.

4. Conflicts of Interest

A judge's alleged conflict of interest should be reported to the Competition Committee before that particular round commences. Teams are responsible for reporting alleged conflicts of interest to the bailiff before the round commences. Otherwise, the conflict is deemed waived.

5. Penalties

Penalties may range from warnings, to point deductions, to disqualification, depending on the nature and severity of the offense. Multiple offenses by a single team will warrant more severe penalties.

6. Waiver

Failure to comply with the procedures in this section will waive the complaint or challenge.

J. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Use of Problem

The problem for this Competition may be used by participating schools for intra-school competitions only with the approval of the relevant regional or national round coordinator and upon notice to the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee has granted permission for the problem to be used in the regional or national rounds in Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, East Asia, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Nigeria, North America, Pakistan, Poland, Southeast Asia, and Tanzania to select teams to participate in the International Finals.

2. Scores

Scores will not be made available, either orally or in writing, until the Competition is completed. The Competition Committee will provide the oral argument scores, the memorial rankings by quartile, and a list of memorial judges' comments (if any are provided) to each team's designated representative via email after the Competition is completed. It may take several weeks for the Competition Committee to compile the scores and email each team.

3. Professionalism

All teams should conduct themselves ethically and with professionalism.

4. Costs

All costs associated with the Competition will be borne by the schools of individual team members or by individual team members. Stetson will not reimburse participants for costs associated with the Competition. Teams may seek grants or other financial assistance from law firms or other entities.

5. Fees

Each team advancing to the International Finals must pay a registration fee by check, wire transfer, online payment, or credit card by March 15, 2027. Online payment information will be provided to teams that qualify for the International Finals via email. Checks should be payable to "Stetson University College of Law" and mailed to:

International Environmental Moot Court Competition
Attn: Katherine Pratt
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South
Gulfport, Florida 33707

For wire transfer or credit card information, email Rob Ratkiewicz, Associate Director of Business Operations, Stetson University College of Law, at ratkiewicz@law.stetson.edu. The amount due per team is:

Schedule I	United States	$400 per team
Schedule II	Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, UK	$300 per team
Schedule III	East Asian Regional Rounds, Southeast Asian Regional Rounds	$200 per team
Schedule IV	All others	$100 per team