GMU

GUJARAT MARITIME UNIVERSITY

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GMU INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ARBITRATION COMPETITION (GIMAC) 2020

RULES AND REGULATIONS

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CHAPTER I

1. **SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:** These rules may be called 'GIMAC Rules, 2020'.

   1.1. They shall come in to force from the date of publication, on the official website of School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat University, Gandhinagar https://gmu.edu.in/event/gmu-international-maritime-arbitration-competition-2020/

   1.2. The rules are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Reliance should be placed only on 'GIMAC Rules, 2020' and not on any previously applicable rules.

2. **DEFINITIONS:** In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in 'GIMAC Rules', 2020, and reference to a form is a reference to that form attached in the 'GIMAC Rules', 2020, as the case may be. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

   2.1 Bench' refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds, collectively;

   2.2 Clarifications' means explanation published by the institute on the moot problem, at any point of time of the competition or a query posed by any competing team within the given deadline;

   2.3 Competition' means the 'GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2020;

   2.4 Governing Council' means the student-faculty-staff body appointed for the administration and smooth conduct of the competition, including all other members conferred with powers on ad-hoc basis by the 'Ex-officio Chairperson' or 'Faculty In - charge' of the Moot Court Association of School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar

2.5 Institution' means School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar

2.6 Memorial Round' refers to the assessment of memorials, submitted by teams, on the predefined criterion, hereinafter mentioned in these rules;

2.7 Moot Problem' means a set of facts published by the institution for competition;

2.8 Oral Round' refers to the oral pleadings made by the teams before the bench during any of the rounds of assessment, including time given for rebuttal;

2.9 Team Code' means a unique code assigned by the institution to the applied and registered team;

2.10 Team' means and includes only *bona fide* representatives of any University, may that be state, central or International or any other department recognized/authorized to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules;

3. **INTERPRETATION**: The Governing Council reserves the right to interpret the rules as it deems fit in order to ensure fairness and equality in the competition. Any such interpretation shall be conclusive and the decision of the Governing Council for the application of the rules shall be final and binding.

3.1 The Governing Council may also amend, modify, change or repeal any rule from 'GIMAC Rules, 2020'; the same shall be communicated to the teams in due time. In case of any conflict, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final and binding.

CHAPTER II

1. ELIGIBILITY:

1.1 Students duly enrolled and pursuing full time 5 years or 3 years undergraduate law course from India or from a foreign university with law as major, may apply to participate in GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2020.

1.2 Students enrolled and pursuing post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law are not eligible to apply.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION:

2.1 A team shall consist of maximum three members that must include two Speakers and one researcher.

2.2 Any team, intending to change the team composition of the team shall intimate the Governing Council by sending an e-mail at gimac@gmu.edu.in. However, this change is allowed only once and before **February 28st, 2020, 16:30**

2.3 Any person, other than three registered team members, is not eligible to avail facilities reserved for the student participants.

2.4 The Researcher may only be permitted to argue as Speaker if any unforeseen and unavoidable event has occurred. Prior written permission of the organizers of competition in such case shall be mandatory. The changes shall be informed to the registration committee at the time of registration. In case the team fails to inform the university decision will be final.

3. REGISTRATION

3.1 GENERAL

3.1.1. Each team shall register for the GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2020, by logging on to https://gmu.edu.in/registration-form/ and filling all the required details. The teams are subsequently required to generate a PDF of the form and email the same to gimac@gmu.edu.in in the prescribed manner on or before **February 05, 2020, 23:59**.

3.1.2. On receipt of the duly filled registration form, Travel and Accommodation form the institute shall respond to the participating team, acknowledging the receipt.

3.1.3. After the deadline for the registration expires, the Governing Council shall respond to each registered team, as specified under clause 3.1.1, with a unique team code, which shall be used to identify the teams during the competition.

3.2 REGISTRATION FEE:

3.2.1. The registration fee for the competition is INR. 3000 (In words- Rupees Three Thousand Only) inclusive of GST @18%, which includes accommodation and food for competition days, library, Wi-Fi and any other facilities provided by the institute to its discretion.

3.2.2. The registration fee for the 'GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2020' is to be paid through NEFT transfer or through Demand Draft.

3.2.3. Any additional charges incurred by the team while making the wire transfer are to be borne by the team.

3.2.4. All teams must email a scanned copy of the receipt generated on completion of the NEFT transfer at **gimac@gmu.edu.in**

3.3 COMPLETION OF REGISTRATION PROCESS:

3.3.1 All teams shall send a soft copy of the registration form, travel form along with the receipt generated after the completion of the wire transfer of the registration fees, at **gimac@gmu.edu.in.** February 05, 2020| 23:59 (Wednesday) will be the last date of registration, any form mailed after the said date will not be accepted.

3.3.2 Registration to GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2020 shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified under clause 3.3.1, any failure, may be treated as withdrawal from the competition and no claim of what so ever nature shall be entertained thereafter.

3.4 ON-SITE REGISTRATION:

3.4.1. All teams are requested to reach Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar by

March 06, 2020. Hardcopies of all required documents are to be brought and submitted on arrival.

3.4.2. There will be an onsite registration where teams will receive their schedule for the event followed by the inauguration ceremony. Teams are requested to hand over hard copies of their memorials during the on-site registration.

4 CLARIFICATIONS:

4.1. Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition. These clarifications are to be send via e-mail at **gimac@gmu.edu.in**

4.2. It is at the discretion of the Governing Council to decide whether a clarification sought for is valid and to be clarified. The clarification e-mails are to be send on or before February 10th, 2020, 23:59

5 ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:

5.1. Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form during the Competition, except by the means of their Team Code allotted by the Governing Council.

5.2. Teams must not reveal the name of their institution or names of the participants, anywhere in the memorials or in the course of the oral arguments. Teams must also not make use of or display in any manner whatsoever any logo, pins, badges etc. that indicates the university represented by them.

5.3. **Any material presented to the Panel, including but not limited to compendium, should be devoid of any identification mark(s)/seal(s) of the Team. If any such mark(s)/seal(s) exist, it must be rendered unrecognizable before being presented to the judges.**

5.4. Any violation of Rules 5.1- 5.3 shall attract severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the Governing Council. The decision of the Governing Council in this regard shall be final and binding; not subject to challenge.

While submitting the memorial, the e-mail should have no reference to the name of the institution and should only contain the team code.

CHAPTER III

1. MEMORIALS AND MEMORIAL ROUND:

1.1 GENERAL:

1.1.1 Each team shall research into the domain of moot problem, subject to Rules 1.2.2- 1.2.5, Chapter III, and prepare memorial from both sides, namely, Claimant and respondent as the case maybe.

1.2 FORMAT OF MEMORIAL:

1.2.1 The memorials are to be submitted in the format prescribed under Rules 1.2.2-1.2.4., Chapter III. If a team fails to comply with the given format, it may be penalized in the form of deductions from the memorial marks.

1.2.2 The memorials shall contain all of, and only, the following heads, namely-· Cover Page (It shall include the team code of the team on upper right-hand corner, name of the case, parties on behalf of whom written submissions are made, name of the forum approached for dispute resolution and year. **The Cover page of the memorial on behalf of Claimant shall be in BLUE, and respondent shall be in RED**).

- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

1.2.3 FONT AND SPACING:

- All written submissions shall be typed on A4 size paper in the following format in Times New Roman (font type), in 12 points (font size), line

spacing 1.5, both sides Justified, and headings to be bold in the same font and size.

- Each page shall have 1-inch margin from each side.

1.2.4 The memorial shall be spiral bound only and shall not contain more than **30 pages** (excluding cover page, table of content, list of abbreviations and index). Kindly refrain from adding plastic sheets while spiral binding.

1.2.5 **CITATIONS:** All teams shall give footnotes by adhering to Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation (20th Edition).

1.2.6 **PLAGIARISM:** The governing council reserves the right to disqualify a team, at any stage of the competition, if the memorial or any other part thereof, is found to be plagiarized.

2 SUBMISSION OF SOFTCOPIES:

2.1 Each provisionally registered team shall submit a soft copy, both in Microsoft Word format and PDF format (.docx and .pdf) of the memorials from both sides, via email to the Governing Council at gimac@gmu.edu.in on or before **March 01, 2020| 23:59 (IST)**.

2.1.1 The subject of the email should be the following "Memorial Submission TN "XXX" (the team code of the team)". The name of the file containing the memorial from the claimant/s side should be "**CLAIMANT**" (as the case maybe). The name of the file containing the respondent/s side should be "**RESPONDENT**".

2.1.2 Submissions made after the specified deadline may lead to penalties in the form of deductions from the memorial marks. **Every six (6) hours delay in submission would attract a penalty of two (2) marks; starting at 24:00, March 02, 2020; with an increment of deduction by two (2) marks for every six (6) hours lapse.**

3 ASSESSMENT OF MEMORIALS: Each side of the memorials shall be assessed out of 100 marks, by a team of experts on the predetermined criterion, as specified hereunder:

a. Identification of Issues and Nature of relief sought (10 marks)
b. Knowledge of fact and Law (15 marks)
c. Use of Authorities/Precedents (20 marks)
d. Argumentation and Clarity of Thoughts (20 marks)
e. Proper Citation and Correct Format (15 marks)
f. Grammar and Style Presentation (10 marks)
g. Originality (10 marks)

4 SUBMISSION OF HARDCOPIES:

4.1 Hardcopies of the following documents are to be submitted by the teams **on the day of their arrival for the competition** while they register onsite:

a. Registration form; and
b. Memorials

4.2 The teams that qualify the Memorial Round, shall bring **5 hard-copies of their memorial from both the sides** (total 10 copies) when they arrive on**March 06, 2020**.

4.3 The softcopy submitted for the Competition and the hardcopy submitted during the registration have to be identical. Any discrepancies observed may lead to a severe penalty that may include but is not limited to, the disqualification of the team.

5 RIGHTS OVER MEMORIALS

5.1 The administrating authority of the competition reserves the rights to disseminate and produce the memorials as and when deemed necessary for the purpose of the competition. Submission of the memorials will constitute the team's consent to do the same. The Governing Council will not take any responsibility for the mistakes found in the final submission of the memorials.

CHAPTER IV

1. DRESS CODE:

1.1 The participants shall adhere to the following dress code while in the courtrooms:

a. Ladies: White shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer and black shoes.

b. Gentlemen: White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.

1.2 The above-mentioned dress code extends to the Inaugural and Valedictory Ceremonies as well.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:

2.1 **GENERAL:**

2.1.1 The formal commencement of the competition shall be on March 06, 2020 with the registration of teams followed by inaugural ceremony, draw of lots and Memorial Exchange for Preliminary Rounds.

2.1.2 The preliminary rounds & Quarter finals will be on March 07, 2020. Semi-finals and finals will take place on March 08, 2020 which will be followed by the valedictory ceremony.

2.1.3 The competition shall have two Preliminary Rounds, one Quarter Final Round, one Semi-Final Round and the Final Round.

2.2. PRELIMINARY AND QUARTER FINAL ROUND:As per Rule 2.1.2, Chapter IV the Preliminary Rounds and Quarter-final round shall be held.

I. For Preliminary Rounds:

a. Each team shall argue once from both the sides in no particular order.

b. No team shall argue against the same team more than once in preliminary rounds, nor will they argue before the same panel of judges. This will be

determined by a predetermined confidential fixture by the Governing Council.

c. The Claimants shall be allotted a total of 15 minutes to speak, including any surrebuttal. The Respondent shall be allotted 15 minutes for rebuttal and arguments. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges.

d. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 8 minutes for one speaker.

e. Before the commencement of the each round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

f. At the end of the preliminary rounds, the top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarter Finals. The top 8 teams will be selected on the basis of number of rounds won.

g. A team shall be credited with a win, if its total marks in the respective session are higher than those of its opponent team.

h. In the case, based on the method of qualification, less than 8 teams have qualified for the quarter finals, the combined total marks of both the preliminary rounds shall be considered. The team with the higher score will advance to the Quarter Finals. If the situation is such that there is a tie in scores of preliminary rounds, then it would be resolved by considering the memorial scores.

II. QUARTER FINAL

a. The Quarter Finals will be Knock-out round and will take place on March 7, 2020. The top 4 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the semi-final rounds.

b. The side to be represented by a team shall be determined by way of draw of lots with the teams picking the lots after the completion of the preliminary rounds.

c. Each team shall get a total time of 20 minutes to present their case and this shall include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Surrebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges.

d. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team

members, subject to a maximum of 12 minutes for one speaker.

e. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

f. In no case, would the researcher be allowed to plead; however he/ she is allowed to pass notes to the orator.

g. No team is allowed to carry laptops, iPads, mobile phones or any other electronic devices inside the courtroom for research or any other purpose.

III. SEMI-FINALS

a. The Semi-Finals will be held on March 08, 2020.

b. The Semi-Finals will be a knock-out round. The top 2 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the Final round.

c. After the completion of quarter-finals rounds the draw of lots will be conducted which will determine whether the participant will appear as Claimant or Respondent.

d. Each team shall get a total of 25 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Surrebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 15 minutes for one speaker.

e. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

IV. FINALS

a. The Final round will be held just after the Semi-Finals on March 08, 2020. A team will be credited with a win in the Final round if the total marks are higher than those of its opponent team.

b. Each team shall get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Surrebuttal'.

c. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes for one speaker.

d. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

3. **ASSESSMENT CRITERION FOR ORAL PLEADINGS:** Team performance of the Speakers shall be judged in all rounds out of **25 Marks** on the basis of following criterion-

a. Knowledge of the Facts and Laws
b. Application of Laws to the Fact and Interpretation
c. Argumentative Skills and Response to Questions
d. Clarity of Thoughts and Expression
e. Skills of advocacy and Court Mannerisms

Note for participants - To ensure uniformity in marking in each court room to do away with subjectivity to an extent, follow the point's scheme given as under-

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
5	4	3	2	1

4. **PENALTIES:**

4.1. **Scouting:** No member of any team will be permitted to witness the arguments in any courtroom in which that team is not one of the participating teams whilst that team is a part of the competition. If this rule is violated, the Governing Council shall take strict actions, which may include but may not be limited to, the expulsion of the said team from the competition.

4.2. **Non – Disclosure of Identity:** Teams shall not disclose their identity, i.e. the name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular university or institution. Such disclosure shall result in disqualification subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

4.3. **Copyright:** The copyright with regard to the memorials submitted for the

participation in the Competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers. The participants shall certify the originality of the memorials and the materials used and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of further use and exhibition of these materials. The Organizers shall have the right to publicly display, distribute either electronically or otherwise and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.

5. **PRIZES AND AWARDES:**

- Winning Team : Rs. 1,00,000 /-
- Runner up Team :Rs. 50,000/-
- Best Speaker :Rs. 20,000/-
- Best Researcher : Rs.20,000/-
- Best Memorial :Rs. 20,000/-

a. Certificates for participation will be given to all the participants.

b. Separate Certificates will be provided to the Quarter-Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Runners-up and Winners.

c. All Certificates and awards will be presented to the participants only at the Valedictory Ceremony which will be held on March 08, 2020. Certificates will not be sent by post/courier to any participant under any circumstances whatsoever. The participants are advised to finalize their travel plan accordingly.

d. Cash awards will be send by post after getting details of winners such as Institution ID card, Pan Card & Bank Accounts details.

e. It is the responsibility of teams to distribute cash prize among themselves.

CHAPTER V

1. **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:** No team shall indulge in any act of misconduct in or outside of the courtroom, undermining the credibility of judges or that of the competition. Any act to the contrary may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.

- Accommodation shall be provided to the participants inside the GNLU campus located on Attalika Avenue, Knowledge Corridor, Koba, Koba (Sub P. O.), Gandhinagar - 382426 (Gujarat), only during the days of the Competition.

- Accommodation shall be provided to male and female participants separately.

- Accommodation shall be provided from March 06-08, 2020. In case of extension of stay, the participants are to bear any extra expense incurred on accommodation.

Accommodation and any other services will not be provided for any member apart from the three participants under any circumstances.

- All the teams shall be bound to follow the code of conduct and the rules laid down by School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University.

- Participating teams should carry with them required study or reference materials for their own use during the oral rounds of competition.

Carrying, possessing or/and consuming liquor, cigarettes or any other intoxicating substance shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.

- Any behaviour of indiscipline with the Governing Council or 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.

- No audio or videotaping of oral pleadings is permitted.

No team shall ask for feedback immediately on completion of any round. However, at the end of all the rounds the participants may talk to the judges, with minimum inconvenience caused to them.

- Any attempt to approach the framer of the moot problem or the panel of judges of the competition, prior to the competition shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.

- The organising committee reserves the right to amend, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.

- The organising committee shall not be held responsible for any loss or non-delivery of the Memorials.

2. **FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT**: Regarding the rules of the competition or any other queries, send your queries at gimac@gmu.edu.in with subject line "Competition Problem-Queries". You can also contact any of the following members of the Organizing Committee between 10 am to 5:00 pm.(IST)

Faculty Convener
Mr. Abhay Singh Thakur
(Assistant Professor)
Email: abhay-smlpa@gmu.ac.in, Phone: +91-7044070150

Co-Convener
Ms. Shyamali Kumar
(Teaching and Research Associate)
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