# INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION INTERNATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE MEDIATION TOURNAMENT (IIMT) 2023

**RULES**

Because of the growing importance of mediation throughout the world, this international competition is designed to help students better understand the mediation process and peaceful conﬂict resolution. The primary difference between this tournament and others is that it requires participants not only to act as advocates and clients but just as important to act as mediators.

An important component of the tournament is the training for participants in mediator and advocacy skills. Pre-tournament training takes place at the site of the tournament or online or a combination of both methods prior to the tournament. Members the INADR Board and other recognized experts in mediation and advocacy provide the pre-tournament training.

**Registration**

1. Registration for the tournament occurs through the INADR website by using the registration forms linked to that website (inadr.org). The number of teams may be limited by the capacity of the host institution and the number of teams per educational institution may be limited as well. That information will be clearly stated in the registration materials.
2. By registering for the tournament, a team agrees to pay the registration fee and conﬁrms that each team member meets the formal requirements. Additionally, registration indicates that the respective team members have read and understood the Tournament Rules.
3. All teams are selected in the order of the completion of the registration process and notified via email to the primary contact email addresses indicated in the registration form. Registration is complete when registration information is received, and registration fee payment is received. Prospective teams will have the information necessary to complete the registration process and the fee payment on the website.

**Team Composition**

1. Participants must be enrolled in an undergraduate degree program. Law school students in years 1-3 of their 5-year law school degree program are eligible to participate in the IIMT.
2. A team is composed of three participants. If there are individual participants from an institution (without the necessary team of 3 participants) they should indicate their intention to participate and the Organizer will contact them to discuss the possibility of participation.
3. In the three preliminary rounds, each member of a team must act as a mediator once, an advocate once, and a client once. Teams that use more than three team members, for any reason, will not be eligible to advance to the advanced rounds; but individual team members may still be eligible for individual awards. If a team reaches the semi and ﬁnal rounds, the teams decide who will act as mediator, advocate, or client.
4. Each round includes co-mediators who are from different schools (Mediator Team A and Mediator Team B). There is also an advocate/client team representing each side (Adv/Cl Team C and Adv/Cl Team D) who are from different schools.
5. The co-mediators and the advocate/client teams are all from different schools/institutions, Co-mediators will not mediate for their own schools/institutions in any preliminary round or in the semiﬁnal and ﬁnal round.
6. Each team may be accompanied by a maximum of two coaches. The teams declare in the registration form the number of coaches who will attend the tournament. Note that an additional registration fee may be required for coaches in attendance.

**Format of Tournament and Mandatory Orientation**

1. The official language of the tournament is English.
2. The IIMT consists of three preliminary rounds. After completing the preliminary rounds, the ballots for each team are scored as per the scoring criteria below and an equal number of top mediator and advocate/client teams qualify for the semi-final round. The number of teams in the semifinal round is dependent on the number of participating teams in the tournament and this information is given to enrolled teams a week prior to the event. The top four teams in each category from the semifinal round qualify for the ﬁnal round. Note that all scores from the preliminary rounds are used to determine participation in the semifinal round, but that only the scores from the semifinal round are used to determine participation in the final round.
3. There will be a mandatory orientation session before the preliminary rounds. This session is for both coaches and participants. The organizing committee will provide all necessary information and answer all remaining questions.
4. General information on all cases will be sent to the registered teams 10-14 days before the start of the tournament. Conﬁdential information will be circulated to advocate client pairs 60 minutes before each tournament round commences. Mediators do not receive confidential facts, but judges are given the full case facts. Note that every mediation during a specific round uses the same case, but there are different cases for every round.

**Scoring**

Mediators and advocate/client teams are scored separately. In each mediation, the

co-mediators are scored against each other, and the advocate/client teams are scored against each other. Both are scored in six categories, receiving 0-10 points in each.

2. The categories for mediators are:

* 1. Opening Statement of the Mediator;
  2. First Caucus;
  3. Conference;
  4. Qualities of A Good Mediator;
  5. Cooperation Between Mediators;
  6. Self-Evaluation.

1. The categories for advocate/client teams are:
   1. Advocate's Opening Statement and Client’s Opening Statement
   2. First Caucus;
   3. Conference;
   4. Teamwork Between Advocate and Client;
   5. Overall Evaluation;
   6. Self-Evaluation.
2. Because the purposes of these tournaments is education, there is a self-evaluation element on each ballot. The purpose of self-evaluation is to demonstrate reflection and learning from each respective mediation session. Each participant should thoughtfully answer these two questions: First, if you had to do the mediation over again, what would you do the same and what would you do differently? Second, what did you learn from your colleagues in the round? The process and purpose of self-evaluation will be further explained during the mandatory orientation meeting described above.
3. There are 2-3 judges per round and the judges score independently. Sample ballots are available before the start of the tournament. Judges use the prompts on the ballots to assist them in scoring. Judges are only observers during the mediation and offer feedback only at the end of the round. Judges should not ask participants which school they represent. All judges have received a training session before judging a round.

**Mediators**

1. Under INADR practice, mediators may make a separate or joint opening statement. In the one hour of preparation time prior to the round, the mediators should meet and discuss how they will conduct the mediation, including whether or not to split the mediators’ opening statement.
2. Under INADR practice, each co-mediator must conduct a caucus (private meetings between both mediators and one party) during the mediation. The timing of the caucus is at the mediator’s discretion. The co-mediators can decide who will conduct the ﬁrst caucus and with which party, but each mediator must conduct the ﬁrst caucus with a different party. The co-mediator not conducting the caucus will observe and may ask clarifying questions at the end of the caucus. Mediators should not try to take over their co-mediator’s first caucus.
3. After the required caucus with each side, co-mediators can use a conference or caucus format as they wish, though they must conduct at least one meaningful conference session. The mediators should try to ensure that caucuses are not used by parties to create unfair competitive advantage—e.g., by staying in caucus for extended periods of time so that the other advocate/client team is deprived of time in front of the judges. The mediators are responsible for ensuring that caucus time is used effectively. As a guideline, caucuses of longer than 10 minutes are discouraged.
4. Responsibility rests with the mediators for timekeeping and adherence to the allotted time periods. Each mediation is limited to 90 minutes.

**Advocate/Client Pairs**

1. The Advocate/Client pairs will each offer a brief summary of the facts and the client’s goals for the mediation after the mediators’ openings. The Advocate/Client Opening Statements may be offered by the Client, Advocate, or, ideally, both. This brief summary of facts and goals should take no more than 8 minutes.
2. During the balance of the mediation, whether in the caucus or conference, the advocates and clients should work together with the mediators to achieve the clients’ goals. The advocates and clients should act realistically and professionally in the spirit of mediation. Advocates and clients who appear to be seeking an unfair advantage by unnecessarily extending caucuses may be penalized by the judges.

**Coaches and Other Observers**

1. Coaches must attend the Mandatory Orientation Session in advance of the tournament.
2. Coaches may confer with their students up until the mediation commences; they may assist their teams after the distribution of the Conﬁdential Information until the mediation begins. Thereafter, they may not give any advice or instructions to, or attempt to communicate in any way with, any of the participants until the conclusion of the Self Evaluation.
3. Coaches and other persons associated with a team may observe the mediations in which their teams are participating but will not communicate throughout.
4. Coaches may also observe all self-evaluations associated with mediations in which their teams are participating.
5. Coaches may not observe or “scout” any other teams.
6. No person associated with a team, including a team member who is not participating in that round, may communicate in any way with the participating team members until all self-evaluations are complete. This rule means that mobile phones in the hands of participants must be placed in airplane mode to prevent communication with anyone during the 90-minute mediation session.
7. Violation of the above-mentioned rules could result in a loss of points or even disqualiﬁcation.

**Additional Important Rules**

* 1. The purpose of this competition is to help all students develop their mediation and advocacy skills. The focus is on how the students perform during the round. Therefore, no pre-prepared materials may be brought into the round to be presented to the judges or other competitors in the round. This includes any use of technology such as smartphones/ watches, PowerPoint, or any other presentation software.
  2. Competitors may themselves use any competition-supplied materials (general and conﬁdential information) or personal notes they have prepared to assist them during the round. Only photographs or documents from the General Information may be shown to anyone during the mediation unless the Conﬁdential Information includes a visual aid of some kind that specifically allows the advocates and clients to use it during the mediation.
  3. Teams may use a calculator and a stopwatch, as well as a whiteboard if one is present in the room; but teams should not expect that the competition host will provide whiteboards, ﬂip charts, markers, etc,
  4. Participants are expected to be on time for all scheduled competition events. Teams that are late for the release of Conﬁdential Information or for their rounds are subject to penalties, up to and including disqualiﬁcation from the competition.
  5. Mediation sessions are conducted by all participants in good faith. Lying is unethical and forbidden during the Tournament.
  6. The tournament cases are self-contained and include all relevant facts. While teams may draw reasonable inferences to ﬁll in gaps in the facts provided, they are cautioned to stay within a reasonable range of inference. They should not invent material, self-serving facts, change any of the facts contained in the General or Conﬁdential Information, misrepresent facts, deviate from the facts, or deny them. If judges feel a team has gone beyond a reasonable inference, they should score the team accordingly.
  7. Participants must behave with integrity.

**Advanced Rounds and Awards**

1. Advancing to the semi-finals round is determined first by the number of ballot wins, second by the margin of victory, and third by total points. Additional questions regarding scoring can be answered during mandatory orientation.
2. Awards are given for both individual and team performances in mediation roles and in advocate/client roles. Advocate/client roles are evaluated as a unit, there are no separate awards for advocate or client.
3. Awards are also given to new teams at the tournament for exhibiting the spirit of mediation during the tournament.
4. The teams will receive written feedback from judges at the conclusion of the tournament.
5. Teams are encouraged to be at the awards dinner to receive individual and team awards. INADR will not be responsible for sending awards to teams who do not attend the final awards dinner.