

1st City Level – Mediation Competition, 2025

Organised by Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell and Pro Bono Club School of Legal Studies, REVA University In Collaboration With

CAMP Arbitration & Mediation Practice Pvt. Ltd.



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Venue: School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru

Date: April 5, 2025

Official Knowledge Partners



Media Partners



For More Information, Contact: adrc.sols@reva.edu.in

RULE BOOK

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DEFINATIONS

For the purpose of the rules for this competition, the following words and expressions are used in the following senses, unless otherwise intended or expressed by the Organisers in the course of the competition:

- *"ADR Committee"* refers to the ADR Committee of the REVA University, Bengaluru.
- *"Caucus"* shall mean a private session that may be called by a Mediating Pair or by the Mediators.
- *"Competition"* shall mean the 1st City Level Mediation Competition, 2025.
- "Competition Rules" shall mean these rules of this Competition.
- *"Confidential Information"* or *"CI"* shall mean certain factual information in relation to a Competition Problem that is provided exclusively to only one party.
- *"Competition Problem"* shall mean any problem framed and circulated by the ADR Committee for use in any rounds.
- *"Eligible Team"* shall mean any team comprising three members, currently enrolled in a 5 Year or 3 Year law degree course in the same Institution at the time of the Competition
- *"General Information"* shall mean factual information with respect to a Mediation Proposition that has been provided to both parties for any round.
- "Host Institution" shall mean REVA University, Bengaluru.
- *"Judge"* shall mean any qualified individual nominated by the ADR Committee to assess and rate the efficacy of the Mediating Pair and the Mediator(s) in a mediation session, in compliance with the rules and regulations governing the Competition.
- "Mediating Pair" shall mean the Client & Counsel of any Eligible Team.
- *"Mediator"* shall mean the member of any Eligible Team, who is designated as a mediator for the Competition.
- *"Participating Team"* shall mean any Eligible Team which has completed the Final Registration of the Competition.
- *"Penalty"* shall include the deduction in marks or disqualification of participants or any other disciplinary action taken by the Organisers on the account of any violation of these rules.
- *"Problem Statement"* shall refer to the Competition Problem and Confidential Information in its entirety.
- "Registration Fee" refers to the fee to be paid by teams for participation in the Competition.
- *"Session Manager"* refers to a member(s) of the Host Institution designated as such, in charge of overseeing the smooth conduct of a particular competition round.
- "Organisers" shall mean the ADR Committee of REVA University, Bengaluru.
- *"Team Code"* shall mean the unique identification code that will be provided to the participating team upon final registration.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The 1st City-Level Mediation Competition is set for April 5, 2025.

The Dress code for Competition is Western Business Formal.

The competition is open to all law students enrolled in a 5-year integrated or 3-year LL.B. course any recognized university in the Bangalore region.

Each university may register a maximum of **two teams** for the competition.

By registering for the competition, all teams are deemed to have accepted and agreed to abide by the rules, regulations, and terms outlined in this document.

Upon successful registration, each team will be assigned a **Unique Identification Code (UIC)**, on **March 26, 2025**, which must be used for all communication and during the competition. Teams must maintain anonymity at all stages of the competition, and any disclosure of their identity may result in disqualification or penalties at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration is limited to a maximum of 20 teams on a first-come, first-served basis.

Teams must complete the registration process by filling out the official online registration form by March 25, 2025. The registration form is available at: <u>https://forms.gle/B1xVHcYs17uQrbK18</u>

The registration form requires teams to specify the roles of each individual member. Once registered, teams will not be permitted to change their composition. Any exceptions may be granted solely at the discretion of the Organizing Committee upon showing valid reasons.

Teams are strongly encouraged to complete the registration at the earliest possible to secure their participation.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Each team shall consist of three members: a Client, a Counsel, and a Mediator.

Participants may switch roles within their team only with prior intimation and approval from the Organizing Committee.

REGISTRATION FEES

The registration fee for the competition is INR 2500/- per team.

This fee is non-refundable and must be paid by all registered teams.

No refund shall be granted under any circumstances unless the competition is officially canceled.

The Organizing Committee reserves the absolute discretion to refuse or cancel the registration of any team.

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PAYMENT METHOD

Participants must follow the steps below to complete the payment of the registration fee for the **1st City-Level Mediation Competition, 2025**:

- 1. Click on the Payment Link provided. (https://www.reva.edu.in/payment)
- 2. You will be redirected to the **REVA University Payment Portal**.
- 3. Select "Conference / Event / Workshop" from the available options.
- 4. Choose the category "Student".
- 5. Fill in the required details:
 - o Full Name o Amount: ₹2,500/-
 - o Mobile Number o Nationality
- 6. Under "Select Fee Type", choose "Level Mediation Competition".
- 7. Click on **"Submit"** to proceed.
- 8. Select "Pay INR 2500/-" to initiate the transaction.
- 9. Complete the payment using any of the available methods:
 - o UPI o Debit/Credit Card
 - o **QR Code** o **Net Banking**

Upon successful payment, participants should retain a copy of the transaction receipt for future reference.



Scan QR to Access REVA University Payment Portal

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COMPETITION STRUCTURE

Qualifier Round: All participating teams will compete in the qualifier round. The top **6 teams** securing the highest aggregate marks shall qualify for the **Semi-Final Round**.

Semi-Final Round: The **6 qualified teams** will compete in the Semi-Final Round. The **top 2 teams** securing the highest aggregate marks shall qualify for the **Final Round**.

Final Round: The **2 best-performing teams** from the Semi-Final Round will compete in the Final Round. The team securing the highest marks in the Final Round shall be declared the **Winner** of the competition.

DRAW OF LOTS

The draw of lots for the Qualifier round will take place on the day of the competition.

Teams will determine their roles (**Requesting Party or Responding Party**) through the draw of lots to ensure **fairness and transparency**.

Match-ups for the preliminary round will also be decided through the draw of lots.

CAUCUS

A private caucus is a confidential session held between the mediators and one of the mediating parties, without the presence of the opposing party.

The caucus provides a platform for the mediating party to share information privately with the mediators that may strengthen their case or offer valuable insights.

The mediating parties may request a private caucus at the beginning of the session during their introduction.

If the mediators consent, the caucus may be called at any point during the session as needed.

Once the private caucus concludes, volunteers will prompt the opposing parties to rejoin the main session, resuming the mediation.

TIME LIMITS

Each mediation session, including the except final round, will have a **60-minute time limit** to ensure efficiency and effective dispute resolution.

Any extension beyond the allotted time is strictly at the discretion of the assessors.

All teams must report to the mediation hall 20 minutes before their scheduled session.

Late arrival may result in negative marking or disqualification, at the discretion of the faculty coordinator of ADRC and the assessors.

Session Breakdown (Per Round):

- **Opening Statements by Mediators:** 2.5 minutes each (Total 5 minutes)
- Joint Mediation Session: 24 minutes

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- **Private Caucus:** 4 minutes per team (Total 8 minutes)
- **Post Joint Mediation Session:** 14 minutes
- Concluding Remarks by Mediators: 2.5 minutes each (Total 5 minutes)

No additional time will be granted beyond the allotted 60 minutes.

Assessors may, at their discretion, allow a 2-minute buffer in exceptional circumstances.

Participants exceeding the allocated time will be penalized through negative marking.

Note:

- The **Final Round** shall have a total duration of **1 hour 15 minutes**.
- The above time limits may be modified on the day of the competition at the **discretion of the Organizing Committee**.
- The Organizing Committee reserves the right to **amend the time limits** based on necessity and time constraints.

INTERPRETATION OF THE MEDIATION PROPOSITION

The General Information (GI) and Confidential Information (CI) for the competition problems will be provided on the day of the competition.

Teams must rely solely on the facts provided in the competition problem. Neither the mediating parties nor the mediators are permitted to introduce new facts or modify existing ones but may draw reasonable inferences from the given information.

Any deviation from a reasonable interpretation of the mediation proposition may result in a penalty. In case of any doubts regarding the interpretation, the decision of the Competition Administrator shall be final and binding.

The Organizing Committee retains the exclusive authority to regulate all aspects related to the competition problem.

SCORING CRITERIA

Throughout the competition, Mediating Teams (Client & Counsel) and Mediators will be evaluated individually and may qualify for successive rounds independently of each other.

The assessment criteria for Mediating Teams and Mediators will be detailed in the official scoring sheets provided to the judges.

Tie-Breakers:

Mediating Teams:

In case of a tie in scores during the Preliminary or Knockout Rounds, the team advancing to the next round shall be determined based on:

• Higher number of score sheets indicating a "win".

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• Greater points scored during the joint session.

Mediators:

In case of a tie in scores during the Preliminary or Knockout Rounds, the mediator advancing to the next round shall be determined based on:

- Higher cumulative scores earned during the Private Caucus.
- Greater points scored in the Opening and Closing Statements.

The Organizing Committee's decision on all scoring matters shall be final and binding.

RANDOM PAIRING

During the Qualifier Round, a Mediator from a team shall not, under any circumstance, be paired with the Mediating Pair (Client & Counsel) of the same team to maintain fairness and impartiality.

In the Semi-Finals and Final Round, pairings will be conducted randomly. As a result, there may be instances where a qualifying Mediator and a qualifying Mediating Pair from the same team are grouped together.

The Organizing Committee retains the discretion to make necessary adjustments to ensure the integrity and fairness of the competition.

MARKING SCHEME

Each participant will be evaluated based on the following criteria, with a total of 25 points per role:

1. Mediator (25 Points)

- **Opening Statement** Clarity in setting the tone, explaining the mediation process, and establishing ground rules (5 Points)
- **Confidentiality & Trust-Building** Ensuring confidentiality and creating a secure environment for open discussions (5 Points)
- Time Management Efficiently managing the session while allowing balanced participation (5 Points)
- Facilitation & Cooperation Encouraging productive discussions and assisting parties in reaching an agreement (5 Points)
- Impartiality & Neutrality Maintaining fairness, avoiding bias, and ensuring both parties feel heard (5 Points)

2. Counsel (25 Points)

- **Opening Statement** Clear and structured introduction outlining key interests and objectives (5 Points)
- Utilization of Confidential Information (CI) Strategic and ethical use of confidential facts to strengthen negotiations (5 Points)
- **Collaboration & Teamwork** Effective coordination with the client and mediator to achieve a favorable resolution (5 Points)

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- Legal & Strategic Competence Demonstrating understanding of legal aspects and applying negotiation tactics effectively (5 Points)
- Negotiation & Problem-Solving Ability to develop creative, interest-based solutions (5 Points)

3. Client (25 Points)

- Opening Statement Effective articulation of concerns, expectations, and interests (5 Points)
- Utilization of Confidential Information (CI) Thoughtful use of confidential data to advance their position (5 Points)
- Knowledge of Facts Demonstrating awareness and clarity regarding the case details and issues (5 Points)
- Collaboration & Cooperation Working effectively with counsel and engaging constructively in mediation (5 Points)
- Negotiation & Flexibility Willingness to explore solutions and adapt to the evolving discussion (5 Points)

Note: The decision of the assessors shall be final and binding. The Organizing Committee retains the right to modify the evaluation criteria if necessary.

INTERPRETATION CLAUSE

The Organizing Committee reserves the exclusive right to interpret these Rules and Procedures as it deems appropriate to uphold fairness and equality for all participants and stakeholders in the Competition. The Committee's interpretation shall be final and conclusive. Any decision regarding the application of these Rules and Procedures shall be binding on all participants and stakeholders.

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IMPORTANT DATES

| Sl. No. | Particulars | Date |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | Commencement of Online Registration | 08.03.2025 |
| 2. | Last date of registration | 25.03.2025 |
| 3. | Release of Brochure and Rule Book | 08.03.2025 |
| 4. | Inauguration Ceremony | 05.04.2025 |
| 5. | Preliminary Rounds | 05.04.2025 |
| 6. | Semi – Final Rounds | 05.04.2025 |
| 7. | Final Round | 05.04.2025 |
| 8. | Valedictory Ceremony | 05.04.2025 |

Unless specified otherwise, all mentioned dates shall be interpreted as **11:59 PM Indian Standard Time** (IST) on the respective day. For example, if the last date for registration is March 25, 2025, it shall be understood as March 25, 2025, 11:59 PM (IST). The Organizing Committee reserves the right to modify deadlines for any individual team at its discretion.

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AWARDS

WINNER: (Medal, Certificate of Excellence & Prizes worth 10,000/-)

Client Counsel Pair
Mediator

RUNNER UP: (Medal, Certificate of Excellence & Prizes Worth 5,000/-)

Client Counsel Pair
Mediator

BASED ON QUALIFIER ROUND: (Medal & Certificate of Appreciation)

Best Counsel
Best Client
Best Mediator

Certificate of Merit for all Semi - Finalists

Certificate of Participation

*Certificates to be distributed after the Closing Ceremony.

Exclusive Internship Opportunity with CAMP Arbitration & Mediation Practice!

The **top two** best-performing participants will be awarded a prestigious long-term internship (Minimum 3 months) with CAMP Arbitration & Mediation Practice. The Organizing Committee holds the exclusive right to nominate the best performers. Internship duration may be extended at CAMP's discretion, offering invaluable hands-on experience in dispute resolution.

*(*T & C Apply*)

Internship Opportunity with Mohit Mokal Mediation!

The **Winning Team** will receive an exclusive internship opportunity with Mohit Mokal Mediation, gaining hands-on experience in Negotiation & Mediation.

*(T & C Apply)

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY.SPECIAL AWARDS - MANUPATRA



- One Free <u>Manupatra Academy</u> course of choice for the Winning Team.
- 75% discount on any one <u>Manupatra Academy</u> course for the Runner-up Team.
- 50% discount on any one <u>Manupatra Academy</u> course for the Team Placed Third.
- 15% discount on any one <u>Manupatra Academy</u> course for all other Participants.

CONTACT DETAILS

Faculty Coordinators:

- 1. Asst. Prof. Rebant Juyal: rebant.juyal@reva.edu.in
- 2. Asst. Prof. Monika Chaudhary: monika.chaudhary@reva.edu.in

*All communication with the Faculty Coordinator must be conducted strictly between 08:30 AM to 04:30 PM (Monday to Friday). Any queries or requests outside this timeframe will not be entertained, except in cases of urgent necessity, subject to the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

Student Coordinators

- Akshat R.N. (Convener, 9206550601)
- Akansha Pillai (Convener, 7440834232)
- Megha Kaimal (General Secretary, 7880075616)
- Aparnaa V.P (Event & Outreach Coordinator, 8248441589)
- Saniya Khanum (Event & Outreach Coordinator, 9381663186)
- Vikky Kumar (Media Head, 9483633097)

For any further clarification please write us on: <u>adrc.sols@,reva.edu.in</u>

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Our Social Media Handles



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