



OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM



PERFORMANCE RATING FORM EXPLANATORY INFORMATION

Explanation of Presentation Ratings

1. Individual participants will be rated on a scale of one to ten (1-10) speaker points, according to their role(s) in the trial, as indicated in the Explanation of Presentation Ratings chart on the following page.
2. The scoring evaluator is scoring INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION in each speaker category.
3. The scoring evaluator is NOT scoring the legal merits of the case.
4. Scoring evaluators may individually consider penalties for violation(s) of the Rules of the Competition.
5. Penalties will reduce point awards in the appropriate performance categories.
6. Penalties will not be indicated separately on the official score sheet.
7. Scoring evaluators may NOT assign FRACTIONS or zeroes in any scoring category.
8. Ties are NOT ALLOWED in the TOTAL POINTS boxes.
9. The team with the highest number of total points on a score sheet wins that score sheet/ballot.
10. The team winning the majority of the ballots per trial wins that trial.

POINTS	PRESENTATION	CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING STUDENT PRESENTATION
1-2	Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exhibits lack of preparation/understanding of the case materials.• Communication unclear, disorganized and ineffective.• Unsure of self, does not think well on feet, depends heavily upon notes.
3-4	Below Average	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exhibits minimal preparation/understanding of the case materials.• Communication minimally clear and organized, but lacking in fluency and persuasiveness.• Minimally self-assured, but lacks confidence under pressure.
5-6	Average	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exhibits minimal adequate preparation/understanding of the case materials.• Communication is clear and organized, but could be stronger in fluency and persuasiveness.• Can perform "outside the script" but exhibits less confidence than with the script.
7-8	Above Average	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exhibits mastery of the case materials• Communication is clear, organized, fluent and persuasive• Thinks well on feet, poised under pressure, uses notes sparingly.
9-10	Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Superior in qualities listed for 7-8 points' presentation.• Can sort essential from non-essential to use time effectively.• Uses notes sparingly for reference.

Explanation of Tie-Breaker Box

1. The team with the highest total point score on your score sheet wins that score sheet.
2. In the tie-breaker box in the bottom right-hand section of the Score Sheet/Ballot, write "P" or "D" to indicate the team you intend to win your score sheet.
3. In the event of a mathematical error occurs that results in a tie in Total Points, the tie-breaker will be used to determine the winner of your score sheet.
4. Do not leave the courtroom until mock trial staff have checked your score sheet and released you to leave.

IMPORTANT – Please note the following Penalty Assessments before completing the ballots if applicable: These can be found on page 12 of the Rules of Competition under Rule VI.B – PENALTY POINTS

2. **Mandatory Penalty Assessments:**

- a. Each Scoring Panelist will deduct one (1) point from a team's score for each one-half minute ($\frac{1}{2}$) of time that exceeds the **time limits for each phase** of the trial as specified in Rule IV.G.1. (unless the Presiding Judge has extended the time in accordance with Rule IV.G.7.) Partial minutes will be rounded as follows: **1 second to 15 seconds, round down to 0; 16 seconds to 30 seconds, round up to 30 seconds; 31 seconds to 45 seconds, round down to 30 seconds; and, 46 seconds to 59 seconds, round up to 1 minute.**
- b. Each Scoring Panelist will deduct twenty (20) points from a team's score if the same attorney gives both the opening statement and the closing argument.
- c. Each Scoring Panelist will deduct four points from a team's score if the attorney examining a particular witness, either on direct or cross-examination, is not the attorney who makes objections when that same witness is being examined by opposing counsel.
- d. Each Scoring Panelist will deduct ten (10) points from a team's score for each violation of the Rule IV.D.2 on contact/communication between teacher coaches, attorney coaches and spectators during the trial, unless the Presiding Judge has determined the contact to be harmless in accordance with Rule IV.D.2.

3. **Discretionary Penalty Assessments:**

- a. For any other type of infraction of these rules, the Presiding Judge may impose a penalty ranging for zero (0) points to twenty (20) points depending on the severity of the infraction, the willfulness of the offending team, and the prejudice to the opposing team. The judge's decision on the assessment of discretionary penalty points is final.