



OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION



Honor Agreement

(Please Sign and Submit to the Mock Trial Coordinator)

1. I am a participant in the Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Program. The goals of this competition are to educate and to foster a competitive spirit. In my dealings and communications with members of the competition I will uphold the dignity and respect of the competition in my behavior towards others, and I will strive to encourage my teammates to do the same. A fundamental sense of integrity and fair play will guide my interactions with other teams, coaches, advisors, volunteers, attorneys and judges. My conduct shall be governed by this Honor Agreement and by standards of fundamental decency and courtesy.
2. The **Rules of Competition**, as well as proper rules of courthouse and courtroom decorum and security, will be followed. The Oklahoma Bar Association/Young Lawyers Division Mock Trial Committee ("Committee") has discretion to impose sanctions, up to and including forfeiture, point reductions, or disqualification for any misconduct occurring while a team is present for competition at any Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Competitive Round; for flagrant rule violations, including excessive/unfair extrapolations and timing schemes to derail opponents; for breaches of decorum which affect the conduct of a trial or which impugn the reputation or integrity of any team, school, participant, court officer, judge, or the mock trial program; or for any violation of this Honor Agreement.
3. Displays of bad sportsmanship by any person affiliated with any team and at any time during a competitive round of the Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Competition are prohibited. Whether winning or losing, all teams are expected to be gracious and supportive of all other competitors. Courtesy and proper decorum are expected by teams, their coaches, their parents, and their guests at the tournament site and any associated events. I recognize that a desire to prevail must be tempered with civility. Rude behavior hinders effective advocacy and as a member of this competition, I will adhere to a high standard of conduct, which participants, attorneys, and the public will admire and respect.
4. I will not abuse the goals of competition by pursuing methods intended to frustrate, harass, prejudice, or cause undue delay to an opposing team in order to gain a tactical advantage. I will not misrepresent any aspect of this competition including but not limited to reporting grievances or registering any protest, which is not grounded in good faith and in cold neutrality of the pertinent circumstances. I shall not knowingly make a false statement of law or fact to a judge or an opposing team. I shall not seek to unduly influence a judge or official. I shall not communicate ex parte with said judge or official. Whether I know a judge or official, I will avoid all appearances of impropriety.
5. I understand that I have a duty to report misconduct. I will not use the grievance procedure as a weapon, but only when a team or person on my team has direct knowledge that another team, teacher coach, or attorney coach has committed a violation of the Rules of Competition that raises a substantial question as to that person's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a participant.

6. I will strive to be punctual and honor scheduled appearances. I recognize that tardiness is demeaning to my competitors and me.

7. Competitive rounds of the Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Competition are designed for students who desire to comport themselves as professionals in and out of the courtroom. It is expected that at the courthouse, and all other locations associated with the Competition, students will respect their surroundings by leaving all courtrooms and common areas in good order, and otherwise behave as young professionals.

I have read and understand the statements above, and I agree that our team will comply with these rules throughout the duration of this Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Competition. I understand that *any* violation of this Honor Agreement by any on our team may result in sanctions, including, but not limited to, point reductions, a team's immediate eviction from the competition and the forfeiture of awards, if any. I recognize and understand that the Committee is vested with full and final authority to carry out disciplinary actions and to determine whether any rule violation or violation of this Honor Agreement has occurred:

SIGNED BY: _____

 Teacher Coaches

 Attorney Coaches

Date: _____
 Mock Trial Team Representing: _____

 Name of School and City

SIGNED BY Team Members:

*This must be completed and submitted before the qualifying rounds begin.