

**MISSOURI HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL
COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD**

I. Purpose and Eligibility

- a. The Missouri High School Mock Trial program is dependent on teacher and attorney coaches that dedicate countless hours to the success of their teams. These coaches not only teach their students about public speaking, the law, and advocacy, but ultimately become mentors to the students. The purpose of this award is to honor the many hard-working teachers and coaches without whom this program could not succeed.
- b. Recipients of the award shall be teacher and attorney coaches that dedicate themselves to the education and betterment of the students; are committed to the principles of fairness, honesty, and civility; put the interests of the students above all; and although not as important, have shown sustained success in the competition.
- c. Eligibility for the Coach of the Year Award shall be:
 - i. Subject to Subsection (iii) below, any teacher or attorney coach actively involved in mentoring or coaching one or more teams that compete in the Missouri High School Mock Trial program, anywhere in the State of Missouri; or
 - ii. A teacher or coach who has “retired” from coaching within one year of the date the award is announced; and
 - iii. Any active member of the BAMSL High School Mock Trial Committee (hereinafter, the “Committee”) is **ineligible** to receive this award.

II. Selection Process, Presentation, and Website Dedicated to Award Winners

- a. The selection process shall be as follows:
 - i. On or about December 1, the Missouri State Coordinator shall solicit nominations for the Coach of the Year award. The solicitation shall include a nomination form.
 - ii. Any student, parent, teacher, or attorney coach may nominate someone to be Coach of the Year.
 - iii. The nominations should indicate the nominee’s name, affiliated school(s), and a brief (no more than 2-pages double spaced) explanation of why the nominee is deserving of the award with an emphasis on how the nominee meets the stated purpose of the award (as outlined above). **No person may nominate themselves.**

- iv. Nominations are due by the first date of competition in the January Round. After receipt of all nominations, the Committee shall review the nominations and select the recipients. Any member of the Committee actively involved with coaching a team in the competition shall recuse him or herself from the selection process, to ensure fairness.
- b. The winner of the Coach of the Year shall be announced after Round 2 of the State Competition, prior to the announcement of the schools advancing to the quarterfinals. In the event the award recipient's team did not qualify for the state competition, or the award recipient cannot attend the presentation, the Committee will make alternate arrangements to properly honor the award recipient.
- c. Each year, there shall be two recipients of the award. One award shall be made to a teacher/sponsor, and the other shall be made to an attorney coach.
- d. BAMSL shall keep a record of all award recipients. BAMSL will also publish notification of the award recipient in its *St. Louis Lawyer* periodical or in any other manner the State Coordinator, in conjunction with BAMSL's Executive Director, deems appropriate.

III. Special Rules for the 2021-2022 Year

- a. This award shall begin in the 2021-2022 competition year. Given the large number of worthy candidates that have been coaching for many years, the Committee may expand the number of eligible recipients of the award solely for the 2021-2022 competition.

Agreed and Adopted by the Committee on September 7, 2021.