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. See Criteria for Evaluating below. NO FRACTIONS OR ZEROS.
2. The scoring evaluator is scoring INDIVIDUAL STUDENT KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE in each speaker category.
3. The scoring evaluator is NOT scoring the legal merits of the case.
4. Scoring should be done in the moment. Please do NOT wait until the end of the round nor deliberate with other evaluators. Each scoring evaluator must independently assign scores.
5. Ties are NOT ALLOWED in the TOTAL POINTS boxes.
6. The team with the highest number of total points on a score sheet wins that score sheet/ballot.

We do Judge/Comment on	We do NOT Judge/Comment on
Every aspect of performance	Personhood characteristics – race, gender, religion, accent, disability or impediment
Responsiveness to the Court	Pronouns or gender identification or sexual orientation
Responsiveness to the other team	Socioeconomic indicators (such as manner of dress or clothing)
Ability to adjust in real time	Cultural characteristics (dress, makeup, or jewelry) unless it constitutes illegal costuming
Teamwork and cooperation	Whether presenter fits your personal preferences, biases or stereotypes – style, smiles enough, wears a skirt, etc.
Organization and coherence	Merits of the case
Attorney knowledge, control and confidence	Outcome of individual objection
Witness credibility and character believability	Personal or professional relationship with a coach, attorney advisor or observer of any team

NOTE: If you personally or professionally know a teacher, student, observer, or coach, DO NOT engage in personal conversations before, during or after the competition. The appearance of a conflict of interest or personal connection to a team member or team creates doubt as to your impartiality in scoring in the minds of students and observers.

Attorney Presentation	
Opening Statement	**Closing Argument**
Clearly summarize the key facts of the case. Present a concise case theory explaining what happened and why. Preview the witnesses, their expected testimony, and how the evidence supports the case. Reference relevant laws or statutes and state the burden of proof. Conclude with a clear request for the specific relief sought.	Delivers a clear, persuasive summary of the case using specific evidence and testimony from the trial. Weaves in exhibits, laws, and jury instructions to logically support the side's theory. Highlights the strengths of their own witnesses and effectively exposes weaknesses in the opposing case. Offers reasoned, well-structured arguments that rebut opposing claims without becoming repetitive or argumentative. Concludes with a confident, justified request for the desired verdict or relief.
Direct Examination	**Cross Examination**
Demonstrates solid command of the Rules and Evidence. Uses clear, logically ordered open-ended questions to elicit relevant testimony. Properly establishes foundation and introduces exhibits. Handles objections effectively and adapts smoothly to rulings. Maintains case theory throughout questioning and keeps redirect narrowly focused	Demonstrates solid command of the Rules of Evidence. Uses controlled, focused questions to challenge direct testimony or support their own case. Maintains composure while managing the witness and avoiding intimidation. Handles exhibits, prior statements, and objections correctly and efficiently. Adapts smoothly to rulings while keeping questioning aligned with case theory. Keeps recross limited to issues raised on redirect.
Witness Presentation	
Direct Examination	**Cross-Examination**
Delivers a natural, credible portrayal that feels genuine, not memorized. Demonstrates full command of facts, exhibits, and character. Gives logical, consistent testimony that highlights strengths and addresses weaknesses. Avoids unfair extrapolation and unnecessary reliance on written statements	Answered the questions asked, did not volunteer information. Consistent with prior statements and evidence, if impeached, responded clearly and credibly. Maintained appropriate tone, composure, and body language under pressure. Listened carefully; made necessary concessions without unnecessarily weakening their case. Cross-examination either preserved the witness's credibility or exposed weaknesses.

POINTS	PRESENTATION	CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING STUDENT PRESENTATION
1-2	Poor	• Exhibits a lack of preparation/understanding of the case materials. • Communication is unclear, disorganized, and ineffective. • Unsure of self, does not think well on their feet, depends heavily upon notes.
3-4	Below Average	• Exhibits minimal preparation/understanding of the case materials. • Communication is minimally clear and organized, but lacking in fluency and persuasiveness. • Minimally self-assured, but lacks confidence under pressure.
5-6	Average	• 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	• 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	• 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 the 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/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.

OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL
MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM

Oklahoma Bar Center
P.O. Box 53036
Oklahoma City, OK 73152

SCORE SHEET/BALLOT

P = Prosecution Team Code _____ **D** = Defense Team Code _____ Location _____
Date:_____ **Round** (circle one) 1 2 3 4 Final

Poor 1 – 2	Below Average 3 – 4	Average 5 – 6	Above Average 7 – 8	Excellent 9 – 10

Using a scale of 1 to 10, rate each of the trial presentations. ***No fractions allowed.***	**P**		**D**
Opening Statement	(_____)		(_____)
Prosecution/Plaintiff First Witness Direct Examination **First Witness** Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____) (_____) (_____)	Cross-Examination	(_____)
Prosecution/Plaintiff Second Witness Direct Examination **Second Witness** Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____) (_____) (_____)	Cross-Examination	(_____)
Prosecution/Plaintiff Third Witness Direct Examination **Third Witness** Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____) (_____) (_____)	Cross-Examination	(_____)
Defense/Defendant First Witness Cross-Examination Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____)	Direct Examination Witness Presentation Witness Presentation	(_____) (_____) (_____)
Defense/Defendant Second Witness Cross-Examination Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____)	Direct Examination Witness Presentation Witness Presentation	(_____) (_____) (_____)
Defense/Defendant Third Witness Cross-Examination Direct Examination Cross-Examination	(_____)	Direct Examination Witness Presentation Witness Presentation	(_____) (_____) (_____)
Closing Argument	(_____)		(_____)
Total before deductions if applicable.	(_____)		(_____)
Minus: Penalty Points (Attached explanation) **(total mandatory and/or discretionary points)**	(- _____)		(-_____)
Total (*Total scores in each column*)	(_____)	NO TIES	(_____)

WHITE: Coordinator
YELLOW: Prosecution/Plaintiff PINK: Defense/Defendant ➡

Panelist's Printed Name_____ ***Panelist's Signature***_____
revised 10
Teacher's Signature_____ ***Teacher's Signature***_____

Trial Site Coordinator's Signature_____