

Rule 1.3 — Trial Procedures

- B. When the trial begins, the presider will ask the team members, teachers and attorney coaches to introduce themselves. Other than the clerk and bailiff, team members must not communicate with the scoring attorneys until the conclusion of the trial.
- F. Teams are required to submit team roster to the presider, scoring attorneys, and the opposing team. Teams may add student photos to the team roster, but may not add any other information.
- L. Use of laptop computers, tablets, or cellular phones during trials is prohibited.

Rule 2.1 — Team Eligibility

- O. YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and other similar organizations are eligible to form Mock Trial teams at the discretion of the county coordinator. Team members may not have Mock Trial teams at their school of attendance.

Rule 2.3 — Team Withdraw

- A. Any team that withdraws from a local or state competition will receive a partial monetary refund only if the county coordinator is notified in writing by a date established by the coordinator and if no date is specified, two weeks before the day of the first round of competition.

Rule 3.1 — The Case

- B. The fact situation is a set of indisputable facts. Witnesses may draw reasonable inferences from the facts that do not materially impact the case.

Rule 3.2 — Physical Evidence

- A. The prosecution team must bring to each trial, the physical evidence listed under the heading “Physical Evidence” in the case materials. All reproductions can be as small as 10½ x 7¼ but no larger than 22 x 28 inches. If the prosecution team fails to bring physical evidence to court, it may be reflected in the team performance/participation.
- B. No other physical evidence will be allowed. All persons and evidence not provided for in the case packet are to be considered unavailable and questioning regarding their whereabouts is prohibited.
- E. Evidence should not be altered in any way. It is not permitted to mark on the exhibits.

Rule 3.4

- I. Cross-examination is required for all witnesses. If the cross-examination attorney does not cross one or more witnesses, the cross-examination attorney will receive a cross-examination score of zero for the witnesses.

Rule 3.6 — Creating a Material Fact

- A. Definition and Purpose. For the California Mock Trial Competition, a material fact is a fact that tends to prove a pivotal point in the case. A witness may not create a material fact that is not included in his/her witness statement.
- B. If a witness creates a material fact, the attorney from the opposing team may refer to a special objection listed in the case packet under Mock Trial Simplified Rules of Evidence, “Creating a Material Fact (CMF).”

- C. Interpretation and enforcement. If an attorney believes a material fact was created, the attorney can make a special objection listed in the case packet under Mock Trial Simplified Rules of Evidence, “Creating a Material Fact (CMF).” The presider determines if the fact was material and will rule on the objection accordingly.
- D. Possible rulings by a presider include:
- No creation of material fact has occurred.
 - There was a creation of a fact that could materially alter the case and therefore not allowed.
 - There was a creation of a fact but it is a reasonable inference that is not material to the case.

Rule 3.9 — Clerks/Timing

- A. The Mock Trial Competition involves timed presentations. In Los Angeles County and at the State Finals, the clerk and unofficial timer must bring a stop watch or other timing device a time sheet to each trial. The time sheet can be downloaded from CRF’s website.
- B. The clerks may only use the time cards from CRF’s website, printed out on white paper (card stock recommend but not necessary). In Los Angeles County and at the State Finals, teams must use the laminated time cards provided by CRF (which will be distributed by the presider). The time cards must be returned to the presider after each trial. The time cards will be printed with:
- 2 minute
 - 1 minute
 - 30 seconds
 - Stop
- J. Two-minute, one-minute and 30 second visual warnings must be given before the end of each category. The clerk will automatically stop (both verbal and visual) students at the end of the allotted time for each section. Thus, there will be no allowance for overtime.
- K. Any official team member of the team presenting defense may serve as an unofficial timer. This unofficial timer must be identified before the trial begins. To avoid timing issues, both the official and unofficial timers must sit next to each other during the trial.
- L. If timing variations occur 15 seconds or more at the completion of any task during the trial, the timers will notify the judge immediately that a time discrepancy has occurred. Any time discrepancies less than 15 seconds are not considered a violation. No time discrepancies will be entertained after the trial concludes. The judge shall determine whether to accept the clerk’s time or make a time adjustment.
- N. At the end of the pretrial motion and the trial, the clerk will time the 30-second rule.
- O. The presider and attorney scorers will be allowed 10 minutes for debriefing. Following the verdict, the clerk will begin timing the debriefing. The clerk will provide the presider and attorney scorers with a 2 minute, 1 minute, and 30 second visual warning, and will automatically stop (both verbal and visual) the debriefing.