

Annex IV

SAM AWARD COMPETITION RULES

PARTICIPATION

Participation in the SAM Award Competition (the “**Competition**”) is open exclusively to the universities participating in the 6th edition of the Sports Arbitration Moot (“**SAM**”).

Each university may participate with only one team.

The participating team’s members can only include members who competed for the same university in the 6th edition of the SAM. In other words, students who did not participate with that university in the 6th edition of the SAM shall not be admitted.

Participating teams may consist of all or only some (even just one) of the students who formed part of that university's SAM team.

Questions may be submitted to info@sportsarbitrationmoot.com.

The Competition shall only be confirmed and formally launched if at least ten teams register to participate.

TIMELINE

Teams that have not already registered to participate in the Competition must do so by **7 June 2027, 10:00 CEST, Zurich local time**.

Teams must submit their Awards by **23 August 2027, 23:59 CEST, Zurich local time**.

The results shall be announced before the end of the year 2027.

THE AWARD

The Award shall be written in English.

The Award shall contain, in the following order:

- (a) A cover page;
- (b) A table of contents;
- (c) A summary of the undisputed facts;
- (d) A summary of the positions of the parties;
- (e) A section setting out the tribunal's detailed reasoning; and
- (f) A one-page dispositive section, which shall set out the tribunal's final decision on each of the Appellant's and Respondent's respective requests for relief as presented in the SAM Moot Case.

The Award must not exceed 7,000 (seven thousand) words. This limit is absolute and inclusive of all the above-described sections (cover page, table of contents etc.).

The Award must be produced in A4 Microsoft Word format, using Times New Roman, size 12, and with 1.5 line spacing.

Failure to comply with any of the requirements set out in these Rules will result in disqualification of the Award from the Competition.

By registering for the Competition, participants undertake to comply with these rules and to draft their Awards without any third-party assistance, other than customary secretarial assistance. Participants should act as diligent arbitrators in a true arbitration.

Each Award shall be submitted in PDF format along with a Microsoft Word version which shall only serve verification purposes. The Award must be anonymous, i.e., it shall not contain the name or logo of the university, the name of any of the team members or any feature that could allow the jury to identify the identity of the team.

The Awards shall be submitted to the SAM Organization by email to info@sportsarbitrationmoot.com. The SAM Organization shall ensure that the Awards comply with all re-

quirements set out in these rules and have been timely submitted. The SAM will then transmit to the jury the anonymous PDF copies of all Awards that comply with the requirements set out in these rules.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Awards will be scored by a jury composed of individuals selected by the SAM Organizers among the SAM Arbitrators.

The Awards shall be evaluated on a scale of 1-100, based on the following criteria:

- (a) Clarity of structure and drafting (30 points);
- (b) Quality of legal reasoning (30 points);
- (c) Quality of factual reasoning (20 points); and
- (d) Adherence to the scope of the dispute and requests made by the Appellant and Respondent (20 points). The scope of the dispute is determined by (i) the Moot Case of the 6th edition of the SAM; (ii) the Clarifications and Answers to Questions of the 6th edition of the SAM; (iii) any follow-up emails sent by the SAM Organization during the 6th edition of the SAM; and (iv) the positions of the parties.

For the avoidance of doubt, teams are *not* confined to:

- (a) The legal sources indicated in the positions of the Parties; in application of the principle of *jura novit curia*, teams may develop their reasoning based on additional legal sources not submitted by the hypothetical parties; and
- (b) The legal sources submitted by them prior to the oral rounds of the SAM.

In case of a tie, the team achieving the highest mark in terms of clarity of structure and drafting shall prevail. In case of a tie in terms of clarity of structure and drafting, the relevant teams shall share their position in the overall rankings (and the Prize described in section E, if they share the first place in the overall rankings) *ex aequo*.

PRIZE

The best-rated Award shall be published on the [SAM website](#).

The Award achieving the highest mark pursuant to the evaluation process described in Section D may receive a monetary prize, the allocation and the amount of which are determined at the entire discretion of the SAM Organization.

Last update: 1 September 2026