

SPORTS ARBITRATION MOOT RULES

EDITION 2027



SPORTS
ARBITRATION
MOOT

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The Sports Arbitration Moot

The Sports Arbitration Moot (the “**SAM**” or the “**Moot**”) is an annual team competition for students in law schools. Moot competitions are fundamental tools for the legal education of future practitioners, who get to develop their advocacy skills while completing their studies. The SAM aims to contribute to the creation of a broader and more knowledgeable sports arbitration community.

The SAM consists of a competition where Teams will make oral submissions as Appellant and Respondent. The Online General Rounds (as defined below) of the 2027 edition of the SAM, as well as the SAM Camp, will be held online, with the Elimination Rounds (in which the “**Best 16**” Teams compete, as defined below) taking place in person in Madrid, Spain. The competition calendar of the SAM (the “**SAM Calendar**”) can be found in Annex I and on the [SAM's website](#).

The SAM is entirely conducted in English.

The SAM Rules should be read conjointly with the [SAM FAQ](#).

Eligibility

MOOTIES

Any student enrolled in a law faculty in 2026 or 2027 can participate in the SAM, irrespective of their law degree (undergraduate, LLM, PhD, etc.).

However, except with the approval of the SAM Organization*:

1. Mooties who are qualified in systems where there is no Bar should not have more than two years of post-qualification experience.
2. Mooties who are qualified in systems where there is a Bar should not have any post-qualification experience.

* To request a waiver, please email the SAM Organization at info@sportsarbitration-moot.com.

An individual student who has already acted as an oralist in any of the oral rounds (whether the Online General Rounds or Elimination Rounds) may only participate again as a coach. It is the responsibility of the prospective Team to ensure that this rule is observed.

LAW SCHOOLS

All law schools are eligible to participate in the SAM. Schools that are not law schools but offer a law degree are also eligible.

Each school can only enroll one Team. In case of multiple registrations from the same school institution, the competing Team will be the one that first completes the registration process (including the payment of the fees).

COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

Teams must be composed of at least two and a maximum of six students.

Teams are free to decide how they allocate the workload. During each oral round (the “**Hearing**”)¹, two Team members will be presenting oral arguments. Therefore, pleading alone is not allowed. Teams are most welcome to alternate oralists in between rounds (i.e., a given member may plead during one round while not pleading during the second). The chosen oralists should be mindful of balancing their pleading time among themselves.

Upon confirmation of registration, Teams may amend their team composition through **My SAM Portal** until **31 January 2027** by adding or removing team members. Any changes to a Team's composition after that date may only be made with the prior written approval of the SAM Organization and must be formally requested in writing.

COACHES

Teams can have coaches to train and assist them. Teams can have up to 4 coaches.

Coaches do not need to be affiliated with the law school and can also be students. SAM's ambassadors and arbitrators can also act as coaches.

Coaches need to be registered together with the Team. Coaches cannot plead in oral rounds. When providing their assistance, coaches should bear in mind that the SAM's goal is to be a learning experience for students.

Notwithstanding the above, subject to qualification for the Elimination Rounds, only one coach per qualified Team shall be entitled to attend the final events free of charge (i.e., the SAM Conference, the SAM Final and the SAM Closing Cocktail). It is the responsibility of each qualified Team to indicate which coach is to attend the Elimination Rounds.

Any additional coach wishing to attend the Elimination Rounds and related events must register separately and pay the applicable attendance fee. Further information in this regard will be communicated by the SAM Organization upon the announcement of the Best 16 Teams qualified for the Elimination Rounds.

¹ References to “Hearing” or “Hearings” means the oral rounds conducted during the Online General Rounds or during the Elimination Rounds, as applicable.

ARBITRATORS

SAM Arbitrators may come from any legal system. Coaches can act as arbitrators, except for the Team(s) they are coaching.

SAM Ambassadors can also act as arbitrators, except for the Team(s) they are coaching.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SAM CAMP

The SAM Camp is a week-long crash course which aims to introduce students to sports arbitration and advocacy in preparation for the Online General Rounds. The SAM Camp lectures focus on four core aspects, with additional special lectures occurring on occasion: Legal Research, Oral Advocacy, Jurisdictional issues and Merits issues.

Participation in the SAM Camp is reserved for Teams enrolled in the Moot and is included in the registration fee paid by the applicable deadline. The SAM Camp is not open to students or any other individuals who are not participating in the SAM. This exclusion does not apply to coaches, who may participate in the SAM Camp together with their Team members.

Registration

REGISTRATION FORM

In order to register, each Team must complete a registration form available on [My SAM Portal](#) by no later than 6 November 2026.

After registering, upon review by the SAM Organization, the Team will receive instructions for payment of the applicable registration fee. Universities or law schools conducting internal selections should conduct their recruitment process bearing in mind the SAM Calendar. No extensions of the deadline to register will be granted to a Team whose internal selection has not been completed by **6 November 2026**.

Teams applying for a waiver from the registration fee must have completed their registration by the deadline of **6 November 2026**.

FEES

To enroll in the SAM, Teams will have to pay a registration fee which covers participation in the Moot and the SAM Camp (the registration fee includes a Team of up to six Mootties plus their coach(es)).

Teams registering between **7 September 2026 and 2 October 2026 at 23:59 (CEST, Zurich local time)** shall benefit from the **Early Bird Fee** of **EUR 330.00**, which must be paid no later than **16 October 2026**. Teams registering between **3 October 2026 and 6 November 2026 at 23:59 (CEST, Zurich local time)** shall be subject to the **Full Fee** of **EUR 430.00**, which must be paid no later than **20 November 2026**.

The payment of the registration fee can be made either by the students, the law school or a sponsor (e.g., law firms, companies, associations, etc.).

There cannot be any extension to the deadline for payment of the registration fee.

Once the registration fee has been received by the SAM Organization, a confirmation email containing the credentials to access the team dashboard of [My SAM Portal](#) will be sent to the Team.

The registration fee is non-refundable for any Team that withdraws after **31 December 2026**.

WAIVERS

A full or partial waiver of the registration fee may be granted to Teams in need. Priority is given to Teams coming from low-economy countries² and depending on the circumstances. Each application is reviewed and decided on a case-by-case basis.

Applications for registration fee waivers shall be submitted via [this form](#) from **7 September 2026 onwards**.

Any application shall notably include:

- (a) a formal signed letter explaining the reasons for applying for a waiver; and
- (b) a formal signed letter from the university dean or law school director supporting the Team's participation in the SAM and certifying the absence of funding allocated to participating in the SAM, or more generally, international mooted competitions.

The deadline to apply for a full or partial waiver is **2 October 2026**. This deadline cannot be extended. Any application received after this deadline will be automatically dismissed.

The submission of an application does not guarantee that assistance will be granted. Teams are therefore encouraged to seek external support to finance their registration.

A decision on each application will be made no later than a week after the closing of registration.

² According to the World Bank Country and Lending Groups, as amended from time to time.

The grant of a waiver of the registration fee does not relieve the relevant Team of its obligation to complete its registration by the applicable deadline, i.e., **6 November 2026**.

SPONSORSHIPS

Teams are required to indicate that their participation is sponsored when completing the registration form. If the form has been submitted before the sponsorship was secured, Teams are required to promptly communicate their sponsor's details to the SAM Organization via email.³

Where a Team is applying for a registration fee waiver or has been granted one, failure to inform the SAM Organization of the procurement of an additional sponsorship will result in the dismissal of the waiver application or waiver decision, as applicable. The procurement of an additional sponsorship will not automatically result in the rejection or revocation of a waiver; rather, the SAM Organization will assess its implications on a case-by-case basis.

³ At info@sportsarbitrationmoot.com.

Structure of the Moot

The format of the SAM is hybrid.

The pleadings are first structured around a virtual phase, officially named the **Online General Rounds**. These involve three virtual Hearings: one held before a sole arbitrator and two held before a panel of three arbitrators. After each Hearing, the Teams are scored, and their cumulative scores from the Online General Rounds determine a global ranking.

The Best 16 teams in the ranking qualify for the second phase of the Moot, held in person and referred to as the **Elimination Rounds**.

All applicable dates for the Moot are set out in Annex I and on the [SAM website](#).

SKELTON ARGUMENTS AND LEGAL AUTHORITIES

Contrary to other moots, the SAM does not involve drafting memoranda.

However, **by 17 February 2026, 23:59 (CET, Zurich local time)**, Teams shall submit⁴ two sets of documents (in total four documents, two for the Appellant and two for the Respondent⁵), which shall consist of:

1. A **Skeleton Argument** for each party (Appellant and Respondent), i.e., a one-page document with bullet points structured in the order in which the Team intends to address its oral pleadings. A model of Skeleton Arguments is set out in Annex II.

The Skeleton Arguments must be sent in **PDF format**. Each of the PDFs must be named as follows:

⁴ Teams must send the documents to info@sportsarbitrationmoot.com.

⁵ For the avoidance of doubt, each SAM Team must prepare to act as Appellant and as Respondent. This means that each SAM Team is expected to file skeleton arguments and list of legal authorities on behalf of both Appellant and Respondent.

- Team Name_Skeleton_Appellant
- Team Name_Skeleton_Respondent

These Skeleton Arguments are essential to guide the SAM Arbitrators through the Team's arguments in the oral rounds.

Parties should, to the extent possible, structure their oral argumentation in line with their Skeleton Arguments. That said, Parties are not bound by those arguments and may raise new ones as the oral rounds progress.

The Appellant and Respondent will receive the counterparty's Skeleton Argument at least one day before the relevant Hearing. However, both parties are expected to be prepared for any argument that may be raised by the counterparty.

2. A **list of Legal Authorities** (together with the Skeleton Arguments, the "**Submissions**") with the case law, doctrine, commentary, etc. on which each party (Appellant and Respondent) relies. This document must not exceed two pages and must list no more than twenty (20) legal sources per party (including case law and other legal authorities). A model list of Legal Authorities is set out in Annex II.

The list of Legal Authorities must be sent in **PDF format**, making sure that all hyperlinks are working. Each of these PDFs must be named as follows:

- Team Name_List of LA_Appellant
- Team Name_List of LA_Respondent

Teams must limit any attached or hyperlinked files to the relevant extracts of the supporting material they wish to rely on as a legal authority. It is therefore not permitted to include the full version of a book instead of the particular extract relied upon. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the immediate removal of the affected authorities from the list, with no opportunity to substitute with new ones.

Teams must not hyperlink to paid sources such as Jus Mundi or Kluwer, so as to guarantee ease of access to all participating Teams and SAM Arbitrators. A PDF copy may be appended to the List of Legal Authorities instead.

The Appellant and Respondent are bound by the list of Legal Authorities. This means that in making their oral pleadings, the Appellant and Respondent should not invoke Legal Authorities that are not on their lists, except if prompted to by the arbitral panel or in their rebuttal.

Submissions are circulated in the format provided by the Teams to all SAM Arbitrators. Teams should therefore proofread their Submissions thoroughly and test all hyperlinks before filing their Skeleton Arguments and lists of Legal Authorities.

LANGUAGE AND SUBMISSION INADMISSIBILITY

Submissions must be drafted entirely in English, including all authorities, regardless of whether a Team, its members, coach(es) or a SAM Arbitrator shares the nationality of or speaks the same language as the authority relied upon.

Legal authorities listed in a language other than English must be accompanied by a free translation of the relevant extract(s) relied upon by the Team.

Teams may raise, during both the Online General Rounds and the Elimination Rounds, their counterparty's failure to attach a translation of a given authority, and request that the authority be declared inadmissible. The sole arbitrator or panel of arbitrators shall have entire discretion as to the decision on inadmissibility.

SUBMISSION FILING FAILURE

Late Submissions are not accepted. If a Team misses the applicable deadline for filing their Submissions, the SAM Organization reserves the right to apply a 10-point penalty to that Team's overall score (i.e., across the first, second and third Hearing of the Online General Rounds).

If a Team fails to file its Submissions by the applicable deadline, the remaining Teams and SAM Arbitrators will be notified accordingly. The Team concerned may still plead despite not having filed its Submissions, but should be aware of the severe implications this failure will have on its final score.

ORAL ARGUMENTS

Timeline of Hearings

Hearings are generally held over three consecutive weeks. Each Team pleads three times, once per week. Failure to appear at a given Hearing results in forfeiture of that round.

The Hearings of the SAM 2027 will be organized as follows:

1. From **1 March to 5 March 2027**: Hearing before a sole arbitrator;
2. From **8 March 2027 to 12 March 2027**: Hearing before a three-arbitrator panel;
and
3. From **15 March 2027 to 19 March 2027**: Hearing before a three-arbitrator panel.

Teams must take all due precautions to ensure their effective participation in the Hearings, including access to a stable internet connection and to a properly functioning camera, microphone and speaker.

A calendar of Hearings (the “**SAM Calendar of Hearings**”) will be released at least two weeks before the first day of the Online General Rounds.

Structure of Hearings

In each oral round, each Team is allocated 20 minutes to present its oral arguments. Only two Team members may plead in any given round, and the division of the allocated time between the two oralists is decided by the Team. Accordingly, each round will have a total pleading time of 40 minutes. The sole arbitrator or arbitral panel may, at its

discretion, extend the duration of the Hearing to a maximum of 60 minutes to allow for questioning, bearing in mind the principle of equality between the parties.

Before or at the start of the Hearing, the two competing Teams should try to agree on how the pleadings will be structured and how the time will be split. In the absence of agreement, the sole arbitrator or arbitral panel shall decide.

For the avoidance of doubt, the table below indicates the classic structure of a SAM Hearing:

Stage	Duration
Appellant's pleadings	20 minutes maximum
Respondent's pleadings	20 minutes maximum
Extension allowance for questions (at the arbitral panel's discretion)	20 minutes maximum
Hearing duration	Without extension allowance: 40 minutes maximum (excl. rebuttals) With extension allowance: 60 minutes maximum (excl. rebuttals)
Rebuttal and Surrebuttal	1 minute each maximum

The arbitral panel is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the applicable time limits and retains full control of the Hearing, acting as it would in a real hearing (including by interrupting a line of reasoning, asking questions, asking the parties to address arguments in a different order, etc.). Each Team remains responsible for monitoring its own use of time, and for raising any necessary requests or concerns in relation to time management. Oralists should aim for a balanced speaking time, as it may otherwise affect scoring.

Rebuttal

Rebuttal and surrebuttal shall not exceed 1 minute per party. Any agreement between the parties or the arbitral panel to extend rebuttal time will not be permitted.

The time for rebuttal and surrebuttal is not included in the 20 minutes allotted for the oral arguments. In other words, it is not deducted from the overall pleading time.

Taking notes and communicating with other Team members

Teams may take written notes at any point during the Hearing.

Oralists may communicate with each other during the Hearing, provided this does not disrupt the smooth running of the Hearing. Other Team members (and coaches) may not communicate with the two oralists during the Hearing.

Electronic devices

The usage of electronic devices (e.g. phones, laptops, tablets, etc.) is strictly forbidden during the in-person Elimination Rounds. Teams should prepare and refer to hard copies where needed.

Likewise, Teams may not use any materials other than those referred to in the present Rules (e.g. the SAM Case, procedural order(s), Skeleton Arguments, Legal Authorities, etc.) or, in relation to the Online General Rounds, other materials that may be available on their laptop (e.g., a PowerPoint presentation).

Virtual Hearing Protocol

The Virtual Hearing Protocol is enclosed below as Annex III.

SCORING

Scoring rules

The score will be on a scale of 1 to 100, taking into account the following factors:

1. A maximum of 30 points for structure and persuasion

*Assesses the clarity and logical flow of the arguments, the **effective use of structure** to guide the arbitrators, and the overall persuasiveness of the presentation.*

2. A maximum of 25 points for Case mastery

*Evaluates the depth of **knowledge** of the case facts and exhibits, the ability to reference relevant information accurately and efficiently, and the skill in guiding the arbitrators through key materials. Teams should also be assessed on their ability to **present** themselves in a formal manner and in accordance with arbitration hearing practice.*

3. A maximum of 25 points for time management and responsiveness

*Assesses the efficient use of the allotted time, the ability to address arbitrators' questions **thoughtfully** and directly, and the skill in handling interruptions while maintaining the flow of argument. The ability of the oralists to work as a team to monitor time and handle questions efficiently should also be valued.*

4. A maximum of 20 points for legal authority and application

*Measures the appropriateness and effectiveness of the **legal authorities and case law** cited in the Submissions, and the ability to clearly explain their relevance to the arguments presented.*

The scores will be reflected in a scoring sheet that must be completed by each arbitrator during or immediately after the Hearing. The scoring sheets will not be shared with the Teams.

Scoring determination - SAM Online General Rounds

The ranking is determined on the basis of each Team's cumulative performance across the first, second and third Hearings.

Each oralist appearing in a given Hearing is scored on a scale of 0 to 100 as described above. Scores are aggregated as follows:

1. In Hearings before a sole arbitrator, the maximum score per Team is 200 points (i.e., two oralists with each oralist being able to obtain up to 100 points per Hearing).
2. In Hearings before a three-arbitrator panel, each arbitrator independently scores the oralists. The maximum score per Team for a given Hearing is therefore 600 points, reflecting a maximum of 200 points per Team from each of the three arbitrators.

The maximum possible score for the Online General Rounds is 1,400 points per Team (up to 200 points during the first Hearing, and up to 600 points per Team during each of the second and third Hearings).

The final ranking reflects the aggregated scores awarded independently by the SAM Arbitrators, applying the scoring rules set out above.

The score required to qualify within the Best 16 Teams depends on the overall performance of all participating Teams across the three Hearings.

Scoring determination - SAM Elimination Rounds

The Elimination Rounds are knockout rounds, at the end of which a three-arbitrator panel decides which Team progresses to the next stage of the Moot.

The panel determines the winner on the basis of the scoring rules set out above.

SAM AWARD COMPETITION

The SAM Award Competition is a parallel and non-mandatory Competition held alongside the Sports Arbitration Moot. It is designed to introduce Teams to the process of drafting an arbitral award.

Participation in the SAM Award Competition is open exclusively to the Teams participating in the Sports Arbitration Moot. As this is not a mandatory activity within the Moot, the Competition will run only if a sufficient number of Teams participate. Confirmation in this respect will be communicated after the final of the Sports Arbitration Moot.

The Teams' performance in the SAM Award Competition is evaluated independently of the Sports Arbitration Moot.

The rules applicable to the SAM Award Competition are enclosed below in Annex V.

Prizes

Upon request, each participant will receive a certificate of participation in the SAM. Additionally, there will be prizes for the:

1. **Best Team** (collective prize for the Team that wins the final of the SAM)
2. **Best Appellant** (collective prize for the Team that gets the highest score while acting as Appellant during the Online General Rounds)
3. **Best Respondent** (collective prize for the Team that gets the highest score while acting as Respondent during the Online General Rounds)
4. **Best Oralist** (individual prize for the best oralist during the Online General Rounds)
5. **Best Legal Research** (collective prize for the Team that provides the highest-scored legal study during the Online General Rounds)
6. **Best Team Spirit** (collective prize for the Team that best represented and promoted the values of the SAM during its participation)⁶
7. **Best Award** (collective prize for the Team with the highest-scored arbitral award as part of the SAM Award Competition)

For the Best Appellant, Best Respondent, Best Oralist and Best Legal Research, only the scores from the Online General Rounds are taken into account. The final calculation considers the aggregate individual scores of all appearing oralists and the weighted average across the three Hearings of the Online General Rounds.

The award for Best Team will be given to the winner of the SAM.

All prizes will be announced during the closing ceremony, after the final of the SAM.

⁶ Instructions to compete for Best Team Spirit are sent by the SAM Organization via email to the participating Teams and shared on social media.

The SAM Organization may, at its entire discretion, award monetary prizes and/or other awards to the winner of the SAM, the runner-up of the SAM and the winner of the SAM Award Competition. The nature and value of such prizes shall be determined and communicated by the SAM Organization in due course.

Miscellaneous

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The most frequently asked questions in relation to the conduct of the Moot, its preparation and its organization are answered in a dedicated section available on the [SAM website](#), as well as the [SAM FAQ](#), which carries the same force as the present Rules.

PRIVACY AND DATA REGULATION

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Swiss Federal Act on Data Protection (FADP) apply to the personal data collected by the SAM. You are therefore entitled to the protections and rights provided under these regulations.

By participating in the SAM, all participants consent that recordings, photographs and/or digital images (such as screenshots) may be taken for the use of promotional and/or educational materials of the SAM. Participants agree to the use of their images for the described purposes and acknowledge that their identity may be revealed in connection with the published image(s). Participants authorize the use of these images without requesting any compensation. Consent to the use of photographs or any digital means can be withdrawn at any time by written notification to info@sportsarbitration.com.

The Moot is an educational event, and it is necessary that personal data be collected for its operation. The SAM will not disclose any personal data to third parties without permission having been obtained.

By registering through [My SAM Portal](#), Teams consent to their Team email address being shared with other participating Teams for purposes related to the Moot, including the organization of practice hearings. The identity and contact details of individual Team members and coaches will remain confidential and will not be disclosed.

If you have concerns or queries about the way your data is being used, please contact the SAM Organization by email at info@sportsarbitration.com.

CONTACT DETAILS

All communications regarding the SAM must be sent by email to info@sportsarbitrationmoot.com. Contact shall be made exclusively through the Team's general email address. Such email address shall be indicated by the Team in the registration form.

Annex I

OFFICIAL CALENDAR

7 September 2026	Team Registration Start
2 October 2026	Early Bird Deadline
2 October 2026	Fee Waiver Application Deadline
16 October 2026	Early Bird Fee Payment Deadline
6 November 2026	Team Registration Deadline
9 November 2026	Moot Case Release
20 November 2026	Full Fee Payment Deadline
11 - 15 January 2027	SAM Camp
18 January 2027	Clarification Questions Deadline
8 February 2027	Procedural Order Release
17 February 2027	Submissions Filing Deadline (23:59 CET)
1 - 19 March 2027	SAM Online General Rounds
27 & 28 May 2027	SAM Elimination Rounds, Madrid, Spain

The detailed SAM Calendar of Hearings will be communicated at least two weeks before the start of the Online General Rounds.

The Online General Rounds occur on weekdays only, anytime between 8 AM and 8 PM in the Team's local time zone. Please refer to the above-mentioned section regarding the structure of Hearings for more information.

Registered participants shall note the dates of the Online General Rounds and plan accordingly. Upon enrolling in the Moot, participants are expected to anticipate any scheduling conflicts with exams, internships, or other commitments and to make arrangements to avoid disruptions.

Once released, no requests for modifications to the SAM Calendar of Hearings or the calendar of the Elimination Rounds will be accepted.

Annex II

MODEL SUBMISSIONS

See next page.

MODEL SKELETON ARGUMENTS

The Skeleton Arguments must be sent in PDF format. Each of the PDFs must be named as follows:

- Team Name_Skeleton_Appellant
- Team Name_Skeleton_Respondent

Teams will find below a model for Skeleton Arguments, in a totally unrelated case to the present one. Teams are free to adapt this model as they deem fit, bearing in mind that Skeleton Arguments should not be more than one page per Party:

A. Issue 1: Lack of jurisdiction

a. First argument: The arbitration agreement is not valid

- []
- []

b. Second argument: Even if the arbitration agreement were valid, the Tribunal was not properly constituted

- []
- []

B. Issue 2: Claimant is liable for breach of contract

a. First argument: Claimant's failure to perform

b. Second argument: Claimant's delay in payment

C. Issue 3: [...]

MODEL LIST OF LEGAL AUTHORITIES

All lists of Legal Authorities must contain:

- The Legal Authority's number, ordered sequentially starting from 1 up to a maximum of 20, with "AL" for Appellant and "RL" for Respondent's list;
- The reference to the Legal Authority in sufficient detail; and
- A hyperlink to access the Legal Authority. If the Legal Authority cannot be accessed via a hyperlink (because it is not available online), it must be scanned and attached to the PDF; the "Access" column must indicate "attached".

The list of Legal Authorities must be sent in PDF format, making sure that all hyperlinks are working. Each of these PDFs must be named as follows:

- Team Name_List of LA_Appellant
- Team Name_List of LA_Respondent

See the Models below.

Model for Appellant's list of Legal Authorities

Legal authority number	Reference	Access
AL-1	CAS 2019/A/6298 Manchester City FC v. UEFA, paras. 83-85	https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Award_CAS_6298_internet.pdf
AL-2	A. Duval, A. Rigozzi, Yearbook of International Sports Arbitration 2017, Asser Press, pp. 97-99	Attached
AL-3		
AL-4		
AL-5		
AL-6		
AL-7		
AL-8		
AL-9		
AL-10		
AL-11		
AL-12		
AL-13		
AL-14		
AL-15		

Model for Respondent's list of Legal Authorities

Legal authority number	Reference	Access
RL-1	A. Rigozzi, E. Hasler, "Double Hatting, Sports Arbitration and Article 6(1) ECHR: A Recent Decision by the Paris Court of Appeal", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 21 August 2021	http://arbitrationblog.kluwerarbitration.com/2021/08/21/doublehittingsports-arbitrationand-article-61echr-a-recentdecision-by-the-pariscourt-of-appeal/
RL-2	<i>Mutu and Pechstein v. Switzerland</i> – ECHR Cases 40575/10 and 67474/10, Judgment 2 October 2018	https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#%22appno%22: [%2240575/10%22], %22itemid%22: [%22001-186828%22]
RL-3		
RL-4		
RL-5		
RL-6		
RL-7		
RL-8		
RL-9		
RL-10		
RL-11		
RL-12		
RL-13		
RL-14		
RL-15		
RL-16		
RL-17		
RL-18		
RL-19		
RL-20		

Annex III

VIRTUAL HEARING PROTOCOL

The SAM consists mainly of oral rounds, during which Mooties have the opportunity to practice their oral advocacy skills. To ensure that as many Teams as possible can join the Moot, the oral rounds are held online via videoconference, except for the Elimination Rounds, which are held in person.

The Online General Rounds will be conducted through a videoconferencing platform such as Zoom (or Microsoft Teams). Participation in the Moot does not require Teams to hold a paid subscription or licence for the designated platform.

However, each Team will need access to a camera, microphone and speaker. Teams may join together from the same location or have their participants join from different locations. Teams are strongly encouraged to use a desktop or laptop device, with an external or integrated camera. Alternatively, participants may join using their phones or tablets, provided their devices support Zoom and have sufficient battery to last through the oral round.

Teams are encouraged to keep a device with at least a 4G data connection and mobile hotspot functionality available as a backup internet connection at all times during the Hearing.

Furthermore, Teams are encouraged to connect from a quiet location, where they will not be disturbed, with appropriate lighting and a stable internet connection.

SCHEDULE

At least two weeks before the start of the Online General Rounds, each Team will receive the official SAM Calendar of Hearings, including:

- The date and time of the Team's hearings.

- The names and the submissions of the Teams it will be competing against.
- A Zoom (or Microsoft Teams) link to access the virtual Hearing room.

The times of the oral rounds are displayed in Zurich local time (GMT+1). The Online General Rounds occur on weekdays only, anytime between 8 AM and 8 PM in the Team's local time zone.

JOINING ZOOM

If you don't have an account with Zoom, please sign up at <https://zoom.us/signup> using your email. Be sure to use your full name so that you are allowed into the Hearing room.

Please join the Zoom (or Microsoft Teams) session 10-15 minutes before the oral round is scheduled. You will be placed in the waiting room and the host will let you in. Joining ahead of time can also be an opportunity to arrange the structure of our pleadings with the opposing Team.

Please join the Zoom (or Microsoft Teams) session 10-15 minutes before the scheduled oral round. Once admitted by the host, you will be placed in the waiting room. Joining ahead of time can also be an opportunity to arrange the structure of pleadings with the opposing Team.

Once you enter the room, please change your name following these instructions:

- If your Team is joining the session from the same physical location, use the Team Name (e.g. "Uni. Zurich").
- If your Team is joining from different locations, use the Team Name followed by the participant's name and surname (e.g. "Uni. Zurich - Christina Martin").

Teams will also be provided with the SAM's official background for the Zoom (or Microsoft Teams) video, one for the Appellant and another for the Respondent. Please use the background corresponding to the party you are representing.

The Zoom (or Microsoft Teams) session will have break-out rooms for the Appellant, the Respondent and the arbitral panel. Participants will be allocated to their break-out rooms by the host whenever necessary, including during the arbitral panel's deliberations.

The arbitral panel's deliberations will be held at the end of the Hearing, for a maximum of 10 minutes. The arbitral panel will then return to the main room to give feedback to the Teams, without disclosing scores. The arbitrators will subsequently submit the completed scoring sheets to the SAM Organization, which will be used to determine the ranking and the Best 16 Teams advancing to the Elimination Rounds.

HEARING ROOM ETIQUETTE

To ensure that the Hearing runs smoothly and without interference:

- Team members who are not oralists in a given Hearing must switch off their cameras during the pleadings and mute themselves.
- Team members who are oralists must mute their microphones when not speaking.
- If the Team is joining collectively from the same location, the camera must be directed solely at the oralists.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

If a connection is lost due to a technical issue, Teams and SAM Arbitrators shall try to re-establish the connection. If it is impossible for technical reasons to complete the argument within the allotted hour, the presiding arbitrator may grant up to one additional hour. This extra time is only meant to address technical issues and not to extend the oral Hearing for the purpose of extending the time for presenting arguments.

If a connection to a SAM arbitrator is lost during the oral Hearing, the two remaining SAM Arbitrators should wait no more than 5 minutes for the arbitrator to reconnect. If the arbitrator does not reconnect within that period, the two remaining arbitrators will

continue to conduct the Hearing. Each arbitrator will score only the oralists they heard. For the missing score, the average of the scores given by the two arbitrators present throughout the online session will be applied.

If a second arbitrator experiences technical issues and cannot be reconnected within 15 minutes, the remaining arbitrator will complete the Hearing, and a single score entered for each oralist for that argument will be multiplied by three.

DISPLAY OF EXHIBITS

Teams cannot display exhibits (e.g., a PowerPoint presentation) using screen-sharing features or otherwise.

We recommend that Teams print out the Moot Case and exhibits, and direct the arbitrators' attention to the relevant exhibits during the presentation, using page numbers and paragraphs.

External exhibits are strictly forbidden. Teams may use only the exhibits provided in the Moot Case.

RECORDINGS

Teams may record the online Hearings, provided all attendees agree at the start of the oral round. Recording by one Team must not disturb the smooth running of the Hearing.

The SAM Organization is not responsible for arranging or providing recordings of the online Hearings.

The Hearings of the Elimination Rounds shall not be recorded. Only the final of the Moot will be recorded by the SAM Organization and livestreamed on YouTube.

PRACTICE SESSIONS

Teams are encouraged to practice their pleadings before the oral rounds begin and may connect with other Teams to practice their arguments.

Mock hearings organized between Teams do not count for the scoring in the official Moot and are not indicative of a Team's projected performance during the Online General Rounds or Elimination Rounds.

Once the SAM Calendar of Hearings is published, Teams should not hold practice sessions with Teams they will face during the Online General Rounds.

CONSENT

By participating in the SAM, all participants consent that recordings, photographs and/or digital images (such as screenshots) may be taken for the use of promotional and/or educational materials of the SAM. Participants agree to the use of their images for the described purposes and acknowledge that their identity may be revealed in connection with the published image(s).

Participants authorize the use of these images without requesting any compensation. Consent to the use of photographs or any digital means can be withdrawn at any time by written notification to the SAM Organization at info@sportsarbitration.com.

By registering through [My SAM Portal](#), Teams consent to their Team email address being shared with other participating Teams for purposes related to the Moot, including to facilitate the organisation of practice hearings.

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