



**GMU-CI Arb (India)
International Maritime
Arbitration Competition
(GIMAC) 2021**

Rules and Regulations

www.gmu.edu.in



1. **SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:** These rules may be called 'GIMAC Rules, 2021'.
 - 1.1. They shall come in to force from the date of publication, on the official website of School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar <https://gmu.edu.in/event/gmu-international-maritime-arbitration-competition-2021/>
 - 1.2. The rules are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Reliance should be placed only on 'GIMAC Rules, 2021' and not on any previously applicable rules.
2. **DEFINITIONS:**
 - 2.1 In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in 'GIMAC Rules', 2021, and reference to a form is a reference to the form mentioned in Chapter II, Rule 3.1 of 'GIMAC Rules', 2021, as the case may be. Unless the context otherwise requires.
 - 2.2 Bench' refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds, collectively;
 - 2.3 Clarifications' means explanation published by the institute on the moot problem, at any point of time of the competition or a query posed by any competing team within the given deadline;
 - 2.4 Competition' means the 'GMU International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2021;
 - 2.5 Governing Council' means the student-faculty-staff body appointed for the administration and smooth conduct of the competition, including all other members conferred with powers on ad-hoc basis by the 'Ex-officio Chairperson' or 'Faculty In - charge' of the Moot Court Association of School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar
 - 2.6 Institution' means School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University, Gandhinagar
 - 2.7 Moot Problem' means a set of facts published by the institution for competition;
 - 2.8 Oral Round' refers to the oral pleadings made by the teams before the bench during any of the rounds of assessment, including time given for rebuttal;
 - 2.9 Team Code' means a unique code assigned by the institution to the applied and registered team;
 - 2.10 Team' means and includes only bona fide representatives of any University, may that be state, central or International or any other department recognized/authorized to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules;

3. **INTERPRETATION:** The Governing Council reserves the right to interpret the rules as it deems fit in order to ensure fairness and equality in the competition. Any such interpretation shall be conclusive and the decision of the Governing Council for the application of the rules shall be final and binding.

3.1 The Governing Council may also amend, modify, change or repeal any rule from 'GIMAC Rules, 2021'; the same shall be communicated to the teams in due time. In case of any conflict, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final and binding.



1. ELIGIBILITY:

- 1.1 Students duly enrolled and pursuing full time 5 years or 3 years undergraduate law course from India or from a foreign university with law as major, may apply to participate in GMU-CI Arb (India) International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2021.
- 1.2 Students enrolled and pursuing post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law are not eligible to apply.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 2.1 A team shall consist of maximum three members that must include two Speakers and one researcher.
- 2.2 Any team, intending to change the team composition of the team shall intimate the Governing Council by sending an e-mail at gimac@gmu.edu.in. However, this change is allowed only once and before June 28, 2021, 16:30 (Monday).
- 2.3 Any person, other than three registered team members, is not eligible to avail facilities reserved for the student participants.
- 2.4 The Researcher may only be permitted to argue as Speaker if any unforeseen and unavoidable event has occurred. Prior written permission of the organizers of competition in such case shall be mandatory. The changes shall be informed to the registration committee at the time of registration. In case the team fails to inform the university decision will be final.

3. REGISTRATION

3.1 GENERAL

- 3.1.1. Each team shall register for the GMU-CI Arb (India) International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2021, by accessing the registration form using the link <https://gmu.edu.in/registration-form/> and sending the softcopy of the duly filled registration form, on or before June 22, 2021, 23:59. (Tuesday).
- 3.1.2. On receipt of the duly filled registration form sent to gimac@gmu.edu.in, the institute shall respond to the participating team, acknowledging the receipt.
- 3.1.3. After the deadline for the registration expires, the Governing Council shall respond to each registered team, with a unique team code, which shall be used to identify the teams during the competition.

3.2 REGISTRATION FEE:

- 3.2.1. The registration fee for the competition is INR. 3000 (In words- Rupees Three Thousand Only) inclusive of GST @18%, and any other facilities provided by the institute to its discretion.

- 3.2.2. The registration fee for the 'GMU-CI Arb (India) International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2021' is to be paid through NEFT transfer. No other payment method shall be accepted.
- 3.2.3. Any additional charges incurred by the team while making the wire transfer are to be borne by the team.
- 3.2.4. All teams must email a scanned copy of the receipt generated on completion of the NEFT transfer at gimac@gmu.edu.in

3.3 COMPLETION OF REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- 3.3.1 All teams shall send a soft copy of the registration form, along with the receipt generated after the completion of the wire transfer of the registration fees, at gimac@gmu.edu.in. **June 22, 2021, 23:59. (Tuesday)** will be the last date of registration, Any form mailed after the said date will not be accepted.
- 3.3.2 Registration to GMU-CI Arb (India) International Maritime Arbitration Competition, 2021 shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified under clause 3.3.1, any failure, may be treated as withdrawal from the competition and no claim of whatsoever nature shall be entertained thereafter.

4. CLARIFICATIONS:

- 4.1 Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition. These clarifications are to be send via e-mail at gimac@gmu.edu.in
- 4.2 It is at the discretion of the Governing Council to decide whether a clarification sought for is valid and to be clarified. Participant seeking clarification are to submit request e-mails on or before June 25, 2021, (Friday) 23:59

5. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:

- 5.1 Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form during the Competition, except by the means of their Team Code allotted by the Governing Council.
- 5.2 Teams must not reveal the name of their institution or names of the participants, anywhere in the memorials or in the course of the oral arguments. Teams must also not make use of or display in any manner whatsoever any logo, pins, badges etc. that indicates the university represented by them.
- 5.3 **Any material presented to the Panel, including but not limited to compendium, should be devoid of any identification mark(s)/seal(s) of the Team. If any such mark(s)/seal(s) exist, it must be rendered unrecognizable before being presented to the judges.**
- 5.4 Any violation of Rules 5.1- 5.3 shall attract severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the Governing Council. The decision of the Governing Council in this regard shall be final and binding; not subject to challenge.
- 5.5 While submitting the memorial, the e-mail should have no reference to the name of the institution and should only contain the team code.

1. MEMORIALS:

1.1 GENERAL:

1.1.1 Each team shall research into the domain of moot problem, subject to Rules 1.2.2- 1.2.5, Chapter III, and prepare memorial from both sides, namely, Claimant and respondent as the case may be.

1.2 FORMAT OF MEMORIAL:

1.2.1 The memorials are to be submitted in the format prescribed under Rules 1.2.2- 1.2.4., Chapter III. If a team fails to comply with the given format, it may be penalized in the form of deductions from the memorial marks.

1.2.2 The memorials shall contain all of, and only, the following heads, namely-

Cover Page (It shall include the team code of the team on upper right-hand corner, name of the case, parties on behalf of whom written submissions are made, name of the forum approached for dispute resolution and year. The Cover page of the memorial on behalf of Claimant shall be in **BLUE**, and respondent shall be in **RED**).

- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

1.2.3 FONT AND SPACING:

All written submissions shall be typed on A4 size paper in the following format in Times New Roman (font type), in 12 points (font size), line spacing 1.5, both sides Justified, and headings to be bold in the same font and size.

Each page shall have 1-inch margin from each side.

1.2.4 The memorial shall be both in Microsoft Word format and PDF format (.docx and .pdf) only and shall not contain more than **30 pages** (excluding cover page, table of content, list of abbreviations and index). Kindly refrain from adding any extra pages to the memorial.

1.2.5 CITATIONS:

All teams shall give footnotes by adhering to Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation (20th Edition).

1.2.6 PLAGIARISM:

The governing council reserves the right to disqualify a team, at any stage of the competition, if the memorial or any other part thereof, is found to be plagiarized.

2. SUBMISSION OF SOFTCOPIES OF MEMORIAL:

2.1 Memorial

2.1.1 Each provisionally registered team shall submit a soft copy, both in Microsoft Word format and PDF format (.docx and .pdf) of the memorials from both sides, via email to the Governing Council at gimac@gmu.edu.in on or before June 30, 2021, 23:59. (IST). (Wednesday)

2.1.2 The subject of the email should be the following "Memorial Submission TN "XXX" (the team code of the team)". The name of the file containing the memorial from the claimant/s side should be "CLAIMANT" (as the case maybe). The name of the file containing the respondent/s side should be "RESPONDENT".

2.1.3 Submissions made after the specified deadline may lead to penalties in the form of deductions from the memorial marks. **Every six (6) hours delay in submission would attract a penalty of two (2) marks; starting at 24:00, July 1, 2021; with an increment of deduction by two (2) marks for every six (6) hours lapse.**

2.1.4 The registered team may submit a soft copy of compendium in PDF format (.pdf) via email to the Governing Council at gimac@gmu.edu.in on or before July 06, 2021, 23:59. (IST). (Tuesday).

3. ASSESSMENT OF MEMORIALS:

Each side of the memorials shall be assessed out of 100 marks, by a team of experts on the predetermined criterion, as specified hereunder:

3.1 Identification of Issues and Nature of relief sought (10 marks)

3.2 Knowledge of fact and Law (15 marks)

3.3 Use of Authorities/Precedents (20 marks)

3.4 Argumentation and Clarity of Thoughts (20 marks)

3.5 Proper Citation and Correct Format (15 marks)

3.6 Grammar and Style Presentation (10 marks)

3.7 Originality (10 marks)

4. RIGHTS OVER MEMORIALS

- 4.1 The administrating authority of the competition reserves the rights to disseminate and produce the memorials as and when deemed necessary for the purpose of the competition. Submission of the memorials will constitute the team's consent to do the same. The Governing Council will not take any responsibility for the mistakes found in the final submission of the memorials.



1. DRESS CODE:

- 1.1. The participants shall adhere to the following dress code while in the courtrooms:
 - a. Ladies: White shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer and black shoes.
 - b. Gentlemen: White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.
- 1.2. The above-mentioned dress code extends to the Inaugural and Valedictory Ceremonies as well.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:

2.1 GENERAL:

- 2.1.1 The entire moot court competition shall be conducted in virtual mode only.
- 2.1.2 The formal commencement of the competition shall be on July 08, 2021 (Thursday) with the inaugural ceremony followed by, draw of lots and Memorial Exchange for Preliminary Rounds.
- 2.1.3 The researcher test will be conducted on July 08, 2021 (Thursday), preliminary rounds will be conducted on July 09, 2021 (Friday) & Quarter finals, Semi-finals on July 10, 2021 (Saturday). The Finals will take place on July 11, 2021 (Sunday) which will be followed by the valedictory ceremony.
- 2.1.4 The competition shall have two Preliminary Rounds, one Quarter Final Round, one Semi-Final Round and the Final Round.

2.2. ORAL ROUND PROCEDURES:

- 2.2.1. The oral rounds will be conducted virtually through online platform. The meeting links and guidelines for the same shall be sent to the participants via email.
- 2.2.2. The oral rounds shall comprise of preliminary rounds, quarter finals, semi-finals and final rounds. There shall be two preliminary rounds.
- 2.2.3. The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the Court Master prior to the commencement of each round.
- 2.2.4. There will be no extension of time. If the judges are of the opinion that a certain exigency does require an extension of time, they may extend the cumulative speaking time for a team.
- 2.2.5. There shall be no oral communication between team members and the speaker delivering oral submissions.

- 2.2.6. The teams shall not disclose to the judges, in any manner whatsoever, for the entire duration of the rounds, either their own individual identities or the identity of the institution that they represent.
- 2.2.7. Sur-rebuttals maybe allowed at the discretion of the judges.
- 2.2.8. If a team scheduled to participate in the oral submissions of a round does not appear for ten (10) minutes after the scheduled commencement of such round, the team will be disqualified and the other team shall make oral submissions ex-parte.
- 2.2.9. No team is allowed to use laptops, iPads, mobile phones or any other electronic devices inside the courtroom for research or any other purpose during the sessions.
- 2.2.10. In no case, would the researcher be allowed to plead; however he/ she is allowed to pass notes to the orator via private chat using the provided platform.

2.3. RESEARCHER TEST:

- 2.3.1. The Researcher Test shall be conducted on July 08, 2021 (Thursday) and the online examination link, timings and guidelines for the same will be sent via email to respective researcher designated by each team.
- 2.3.2. Only the participant designated as a researcher at the time of final registration shall be considered for the researcher test.
- 2.3.3. The duration of the test would be of forty-five (45) minutes. The test shall consist of objective type questions (multiple choice questions) based on the facts in the Moot Problem and the law applicable to the same.
- 2.3.4. The Researcher test shall consist of 25 questions of Objective type (multiple choice questions) and carry a maximum of 100 marks.
- 2.3.5. Each question in the test shall carry maximum of 4 marks for every correct answer and penalty (negative marking) of 1 mark for incorrect answer marked in the Objective Type Question Papers.
- 2.3.6. The rules for the penalty imposed on the incorrect answer is mentioned below:
 - a. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the participant, one (1) mark will be deducted as penalty.
 - b. If a question is left blank i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

2.4. PRELIMINARY ROUND:

As per Rule 2.1.3, Chapter IV the Preliminary Rounds shall be held on July 09, 2021 (Friday).

- 2.4.1 Each team shall argue once from both the sides in no particular order.

- 2.4.2 Each team has to argue on behalf of either side will be determined by draw of lots and shall be communicated on July 08, 2021.
- 2.4.3 No team shall argue against the same team more than once in preliminary rounds, nor will they argue before the same panel of judges. This will be determined by a predetermined confidential fixture by the Governing Council.
- 2.4.4 The Claimants shall be allotted a total of 30 minutes to speak, including any sur-rebuttal. The Respondent shall be allotted 30 minutes for rebuttal and arguments. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges.
- 2.4.5 The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes for one speaker.
- 2.4.6 Before the commencement of the each round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.
- 2.4.7 At the end of the preliminary rounds, the top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarter Finals. The top 8 teams will be selected on the basis of number of rounds won.
- 2.4.8 A team shall be credited with a win, if its total marks in the respective session are higher than those of its opponent team.
- 2.4.9 In the case, based on the method of qualification, less than 8 teams have qualified for the quarter finals, the combined total marks of both the preliminary rounds shall be considered. The team with the higher score will advance to the Quarter Finals. If the situation is such that there is a tie in scores of preliminary rounds, then it would be resolved by considering the memorial scores and if the tie still persists then the marks obtained by the researcher in researchers test will be considered.

2.5. QUARTER FINALS

- 2.5.1. The Quarter Finals will be Knock-out round and will take place on July 10, 2021 (Saturday). The top 4 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the semi-final rounds.
- 2.5.2. The fixtures will be prepared by the Governing Council on the basis of power match-ups generated using the ranks from the Qualifying Round. Each team has to argue on behalf of which side will be determined by draw of lots.
- 2.5.3. Each team shall get a total time of 30 minutes to present their case and this shall include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Sur-rebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges.
- 2.5.4. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes for one speaker.

- 2.5.5. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.
- 2.5.6. In no case, would the researcher be allowed to plead; however he/ she is allowed to pass notes to the orator.
- 2.5.7. No team is allowed to carry laptops, iPads, mobile phones or any other electronic devices inside the courtroom for research or any other purpose.

2.6. SEMI-FINALS

- 2.6.1. The Semi-Finals will be held on July 10, 2021 (Saturday).
- 2.6.2. The Semi-Finals will be a knock-out round. The top 2 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the Final round.
- 2.6.3. After the completion of quarter-finals rounds the draw of lots will be conducted which will determine whether the participant will appear as Claimant or Respondent.
- 2.6.4. Each team shall get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Surrebuttal'. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall be subject to the discretion of the judges. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes for one speaker.
- 2.6.5. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

2.7. FINALS

- 2.7.1. The Final round will be held on July 11, 2021 (Sunday). A team will be credited with a win in the Final round if the total marks are higher than those of its opponent team.
- 2.7.2. Each team shall get a total of 45 minutes to present their case. This time will include the time for 'rebuttal' and 'Surrebuttal'.
- 2.7.3. The division of time between the speakers is the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 25 minutes for one speaker.
- 2.7.4. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate to the 'Court Master' as to how they wish to allocate their time.

3. ASSESSMENT CRITERION FOR ORAL PLEADINGS:

Team performance of the Speakers shall be judged in all rounds out of 25 Marks on the basis of following criterion-

- 3.1 Knowledge of the Facts and Laws
- 3.2 Application of Laws to the Fact and Interpretation
- 3.3 Argumentative Skills and Response to Questions

3.4 Clarity of Thoughts and Expression

3.5 Skills of advocacy and Court Mannerisms

Note for participants - To ensure uniformity in marking in each court room to do away with subjectivity to an extent, follow the point's scheme given as under-

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
5	4	3	2	1

4. PENALTIES:

4.1 Scouting:

No member of any team will be permitted to witness the arguments in any courtroom in which that team is not one of the participating teams whilst that team is a part of the competition. If this rule is violated, the Governing Council shall take strict actions, which may include but may not be limited to, the expulsion of the said team from the competition.

4.2 Non – Disclosure of Identity:

Teams shall not disclose their identity, i.e. the name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular university or institution. Such disclosure shall result in disqualification subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

4.3 Copyright:

The copyright with regard to the memorials submitted for the participation in the Competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers. The participants shall certify the originality of the memorials and the materials used and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of further use and exhibition of these materials. The Organizers shall have the right to publicly display, distribute either electronically or otherwise and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.

4.4 The team shall be disqualified if any member is found attending the arguments of any other team except for the Final Round.

4.5 All the participants shall adhere to the online meeting guidelines, notified by the Organizers via email, from time to time throughout the period of competition. Passing of links to any third party shall lead to immediate disqualification.

4.6 All the participants must have a strong internet connection and the organizers bares no responsibility for the technical issues faced by the participants. The participants must strictly adhere to sub-clause No. 2.2.8 mentioned at page 13.

5. PRIZES AND AWARDS:

5.1 Prizes

1. Winning Team : Rs. 1,00,000 /-
2. Runner up Team : Rs. 50,000/-
3. Best Speaker : Rs. 20,000/-
4. Best Researcher : Rs.20,000/-
5. Best Memorial : Rs. 20,000/-

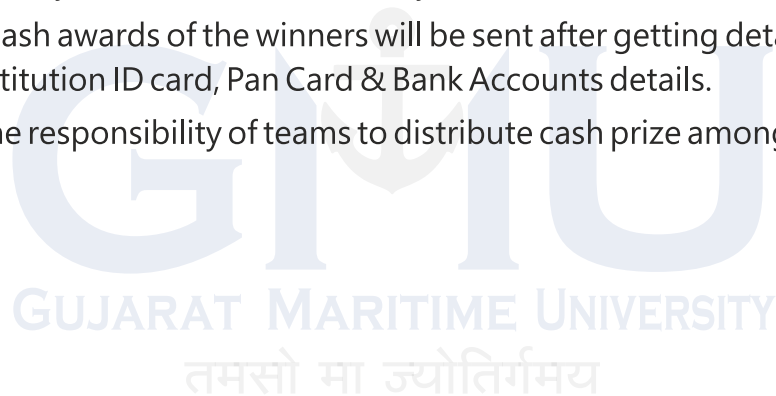
5.2 'Certificates of participation' will be given to all the participants.

5.3 Separate Certificates will be provided to the Quarter-Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Runners-up and Winners.

5.4 All Certificates and awards will be sent to the participants after the Valedictory Ceremony which will be held on July 11, 2021.

5.5 The Cash awards of the winners will be sent after getting details of winners such as Institution ID card, Pan Card & Bank Accounts details.

5.6 It is the responsibility of teams to distribute cash prize among themselves.



1. TECHNICAL REGULATIONS FOR VIRTUAL ORAL ROUNDS.

- 1.1 The detailed procedure and guidelines for the virtual oral rounds shall be communicated through email after the completion of the registration process to the registered participants. It shall consist of platform details, guidelines relating to virtual oral rounds, communication among team members, communication with the host, time keeping, and court room contact person details.
- 1.2 The trial runs shall be conducted on July 07, 2021 and the details of the same shall be communicated via email to the registered participants.
- 1.3 Any other technical or procedural regulation will be communicated time to time through email.

2. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

- 2.1 No team shall indulge in any act of misconduct in or outside of the courtroom, undermining the credibility of judges or that of the competition. Any act to the contrary may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- 2.2 All the teams shall be bound to follow the code of conduct and the rules laid down by School of Maritime Law, Policy and Administration, Gujarat Maritime University.
- 2.3 All the details regarding the competitions shall be communicated to the participants through email only and no other mode of communication. If and when any one of the members of a team is notified or informed of any detail or information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as a whole has been duly notified or informed.
- 2.4 Any behaviour of indiscipline with the Governing Council or any other staff member or student volunteer shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- 2.5 No audio or videotaping of oral pleadings is permitted without the permission of the governing council. The governing council reserves all rights of audio and video taping, or any other form of audio or visual reproduction, of any oral round or part thereof.
- 2.6 No team shall ask for feedback immediately on completion of any round. However, at the end of all the rounds the participants may talk to the judges, with minimum inconvenience caused to them.
- 2.7 Any attempt to approach the framer of the moot problem or the panel of judges of the competition, prior to the competition shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.

- 2.8 The governing council shall not be held responsible for any loss or non-delivery of the Memorials.
- 2.9 In case of any dispute with regards to this competition, the right to take appropriate action shall vest with the governing council and the decision of the governing council shall be final and binding.

3. FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:

Regarding the rules of the competition or any other queries, send your queries at gimac@gmu.edu.in with subject line "Competition Problem-Queries". You can also contact any of the following members of the Organizing Committee between 10 am to 5:00 pm. (IST)

FACULTY CONVENER

Mr. Abhay Singh Thakur

(Assistant Professor)

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