

Rules for Use of the Courthouse

We hope you enjoy use of the courtrooms, but our continued ability to use the Courthouse depends on staying in the good graces of all courthouse personnel, including the judges whose individual permission we must solicit in order to hold this event. We need all participants to follow the following guidelines to help ensure that we can continue to host in courthouses in the future.

In general

- Food and drink (including coffee or sodas) may be consumed only in designated areas.
- We will supply our own trash bins through the building. No trash may be placed in any other trashcans, including those in the courtrooms.

Courtrooms

When the last person leaves a courtroom after the round, there should be nothing to indicate that anyone was there. In particular:

- There must be no eating of any kind (including gum, candy, or mints) inside any of the courtrooms by anyone, including spectators or judges. Participants must immediately report any violations to the Faculty Tournament Director.
- Water is the only beverage that may be consumed inside any of the courtrooms. No sodas, no coffee. Water must be in a secure container and any spills must be cleaned up immediately.
- Participants (competitors, spectators, and volunteer judges) must not move anything except the chairs at counsel table and the bench and may not touch anything except the chairs, the surface of the counsel tables and the bench, and the floor. Participants must not move or touch podiums, computers or other electronic equipment (including microphones), papers or other documents that may be in the courtroom, or easels or exhibits. This rule applies regardless of whether any such items are in the way or will make the round more uncomfortable or difficult for the competitors and regardless of anything a volunteer “judge” may say or do to the contrary. If any questions arise, participants must consult the Faculty Tournament Director.
- The chairs at counsel table must be reset precisely as they were before a team exits the courtroom.

Strict adherence to all of these Rules is essential. Things that may seem small to us—such as a failure to return all chairs at counsel table to their original positions before leaving the courtroom—are rarely viewed that way by the people who work in these courtrooms and will arrive on Monday with the expectation that things will be exactly as they left them on Friday. And, at the end of the day, their opinions are the only ones that matter in terms of our ability to use the courthouse.

The next page contains a form that must be completed by each team’s captain and by a coach for any team that has one. No team will be permitted to compete until we have received its form.

Acceptance of Responsibility

(All teams must complete)

I am the captain/coach of the team indicated below.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the "Rules for Use of the Courthouse."

I acknowledge that I have a responsibility to ask questions if I believe that anything is unclear and always to err on the side of caution.

I acknowledge that it is my personal responsibility to ensure that all of the participants in any round in which my team competes comply with these Rules. I understand that this obligation applies not only to myself and the student members on my team, but also includes the members of the teams against which we will be competing, spectators (whether affiliated with my team or not), volunteer judges, and coaches.

I understand that I must immediately report any violations of those Rules to the Faculty Tournament Director and that failure to do so will be deemed a violation of those Rules.

I understand that the tournament hosts will be taking photographs of the courtrooms before the tournament and will be checking the courtrooms throughout the weekend to ensure strict compliance with those Rules.

I understand that failure to comply with any of these obligations will result in sanctions to be determined in the sole discretion of the the Faculty Tournament Director. I understand that those sanctions may include, but are not limited to, being required to pay for any cleaning expenses. I also understand that any violations may jeopardize my program's future ability to attend this tournament or other tournaments.

X _____
Coach Signature Phone Number Email Address Date

X _____
Captain Signature Phone Number Email Address Date