

Stanislaus County Mock Trials Adjudicator Guidelines

1. **Time Schedule – 80 minutes allotted time per trial**
2. **Team Roster**
Before the trial starts each high school will give you a team roster
3. **Attorney Score Sheet & Guidelines for Scoring**
Complete all information on the *Score Sheet* **prior to the presiding judge's decision**. Please include a phone number where you can be reached if there are questions. When scoring please refer to the *Evaluation Criteria*.
4. **Adjudicator Comments (Oral)**
Once scoring has been completed, and the judge has rendered his/her decisions along with comments, adjudicators may offer comments. Total time allowed is a maximum of 10 minutes. This is a crucial period for teams to receive constructive feedback that will assist them in their next trial.
5. **Comment Sheet (Written)**
Feedback for team performance is a crucial part of their Mock Trials learning experience. Presiding Judges and adjudicators are asked to take a moment to complete a comment sheet for each team. This sheet is optional but is appreciated by teams.
6. **Courtroom Observer**
An adult volunteer from each team has been assigned to assist with organization and security of the courtroom and trial. At the conclusion of the trial the volunteer will pick up your score sheet and comment form.
7. **Student artist and journalist**
Trial 1: There may be a journalist in the courtroom. Journalists are not to converse with anyone during the trial.

Trial 2: You may have an artist in the courtroom – the artist will sit in the jury box away from the adjudicators and is not to converse with anyone during the trial.