

Stanislaus County Mock Trial 2018 – 2019 Rules of Competition

Event Dates

Trial I - Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Trial II - Thursday, February 7, 2019

Trial III - Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Championship Round (top two teams) - Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Awards ceremony is scheduled at the Petersen Event Center immediately following the Championship Round. All teams will compete in 3 Rounds/Trials. Both sides (defense and prosecution) participate in all trials. The two top teams will compete in the Championship Round.

Matching (Trial Boards):

Team matching for trials will be randomly determined based on a drawing conducted at the Fall Coaches Meeting. The matchups for Rounds 1 – 3 of the competition are as follows:

Round 1

Prosecution	V.	Defense
Team A		Team B
Team B		Team C
Team C		Team D
Team D		Team E
Team E		Team G
Team G		Team H
Team H		Team K
Team K		Team A

Round 2

Prosecution	V.	Defense
Team A		Team C
Team B		Team D
Team C		Team E
Team D		Team G
Team E		Team H
Team G		Team K
Team H		Team A
Team K		Team B

Round 3

Prosecution	V.	Defense
Team A		Team D
Team B		Team E
Team C		Team G
Team D		Team H
Team E		Team K
Team G		Team A
Team H		Team B
Team K		Team C

Note: Trial Boards may change if a team is added or deleted.

Scoring & Ranking:

Students are rated using a 1-10 scale. Team rankings are based on the win-loss and percentage system (Power Score) in effort to eliminate the artificial highs and lows inherent in any numeric scoring system. Power Scores will be calculated as follows:

- Determine the total number of points awarded to each team
- Divide this figure by the total amount of points awarded in the trial

Example: Scoring Attorney A has the prosecution winning 185 to 175 (defense) and Scoring Attorney B has the prosecution winning 182 to 180 (defense). Prosecution total amount of points is 367 (185 +182) and total amount of points for Defense is 355 (175+180). The two amounts will then be added to determine the total amount of points awarded for the trial (367 prosecution score + 355 Defense Score = 722). The team's "Power Score" will then be calculated by dividing the total team points by the total amount of points awarded in the trial. The prosecution's "Power Score" is 367/722 for 50.8%. The defense's "Power Score" is 355/722 for 49.2%.

A team's "Power Score" (prosecution and defense) from each trial are added together to form the team's

“Cumulative Power Score.”

The procedure for ranking is as follows:

- Teams shall be ranked on the basis of their win/loss record
- When two or more teams have the same record, their ranking shall be determined by the “Cumulative Power Score”
- Ranking by win-loss record and “Cumulative Power Score” ensures that teams who won their matches by substantial margins are ranked higher than teams with an identical record who only won their matches by a few points

Championship Round:

The Championship Round will include the top two teams based on win/loss record and “Cumulative Power Score” (if there is a tie) received from Trials 1, 2, & 3. The top ranked team will decide which side will represent their team (prosecution or defense) in the championship round. It does not matter if the two teams have already faced one another. Points are not carried over from previous rounds.

All other teams are encouraged to attend the Championship Round. The Awards Ceremony will immediately follow the Championship Round. The winning team in the Championship Round represents Stanislaus County at the California State Mock Trials Finals.

Miscellaneous

All trials are open to spectators as long as seating is available.

Every effort will be made to provide at least two scoring attorneys in each courtroom in each trial.

“No-show” registered teams forfeit the trial. The opposing team receives an average of points received in the two other trials.

Any student caught defacing or removing courthouse property will be disqualified from competition and reported to court authorities who have stated that they will prosecute.

Videotaping, audio taping, and/or pictures during trials will not be allowed unless prior approval has been obtained from the Event Coordinator.

The glass area in the courthouse basement jury room is reserved for the previous year’s winning team.

Any issues or allegations that arise during competition will be reviewed and responded to by the Mock Trial event committee.

Teams will be identified by team code and not by school name on the Trial Boards. Name tags will not be used. If for some reason the school name of a team becomes known during the trial, the trial will proceed with no penalty. It is up to the coaches to honor this rule.