

## FAQ'S

Q: The opposing School has forfeited. Where does this leave our School now?

A: Firstly, forfeits are not allowed, and Schools who forfeit are out of the Competition. Your School will get the 3 points for a win and the average points of the winning Schools in your region.

Q: How does the score system work?

A: In scoring rounds -winning Schools are rostered against other winning Schools. Schools get 3 points for a win and 1 point for a loss Schools are scored on the difference mark between the two marks

School A	School B
291	281

School a get 3 points for the win School B gets 1 point for the loss The difference mark is  $(291 - 281) + 10$  for School A and  $-10$  for School B

Q: How do Schools get into the Elimination Rounds?

A: At the end of round 4 -64 Schools progress into the Elimination Rounds. If a School wins all 3 rounds (9 points) then they automatically go into the Elimination Rounds. If a School losses 1 round and has a high difference score -then they have a chance of getting into the Elimination Rounds. Each Region has a quota of Schools to go into the Elimination Rounds. These are worked out at the end of round 4.

Q: My School has a bye. What points will we get?

A: A bye is treated the same as a forfeit. See above.

Q: On the Roster my School is listed with another School and listed twice on the Roster.. What does this mean?

A; At the time of processing the Roster, these 2 Schools had not done their trial, so there Are no scores available for them, so they are listed together. The winner of their trial Will compete against the first School mentioned and the losing School will compete against the second School mentioned.

eg: East Hills High/Green High School v Mountain View High East Hills High/Green High School v Hills High

Green High School won the trial so they compete against Mountain View High East Hills High will compete against Hills High.

Q: My school has participated in the past three mock trials, and we continue to receive conflicting information from magistrates, as to whether a witness may change conversations into direct speech, before the opposing team objects.

A: No. it should not be changed until the other school objects -thus allowing them the objection.

Q: Do we have to present all of the evidence in the witness statement in Examination in Chief or can we be strategic with the questions we ask and only elicit the information supporting our case?

A: Yes -If your team does present all the evidence, the opposing team does not have anything to cross examine your team on, and there cannot earn any points.

Rule 75: "Witnesses must appear in the order in which they appear in the script. There is no choice in the order of witnesses....."

Rule 78: "The witnesses' statement are included amongst the material prepared by the Law Society and must be adhered to strictly. There must be no additional material used. -no expansion material, no deletions, additional material ie maps, diagrams, plans, exhibits apart from the ones provided....."

Rule 84 "The witness' statement must be recited in the order given. There must be no deletion, additions etc."

Rule 85: " If a witness is not reciting the statements in the order given, or deleting or adding to the statements, or there is any inconsistency whatsoever, the opposing team may request a ruling from the Magistrate....."

Q: In the Legal Notes attached to the scripts - there are often precedents mentioned. For instance: Regina v Williams (etc). My understanding is that - the details supplied are the only bits of information we can use during the mock court case.I have based this on Sections 42 and 44 of the 2008 Mock Trial manual – therefore this is what we have done for the last 10 years.

A: The case can be researched, but in the opening & closing statements and during the trial, reference only is given to the cases. As we are dealing with school children and not law students, they are not expected to do much research or use it in the trial. The rules on script are very explicit and NOTHING else is to be introduced in the trial. The following rules refer to the Script.

Rule 38:

Rule 42 & 44

Rule 75:

Rule 76:

Rule 84:

Rule 85

Rule 104 - point 3