

**CHANGES TO
2021 – 2022**

**COMPETITION
RULES AND**

**RULES OF
EVIDENCE**



Competition Rules & Rules of Evidence

TYPES OF CHANGES



- Conforming to National Rules
 - Competition
 - Evidence
- Addressing “things that have come up”
- Implementing Something New
- Clean-Up

Virtual Competition Rules

- Rosters
- “Turns out, we can do that”

CONFORMING TO NATIONAL COMPETITION RULES



Rule	Change
4.19	Added as a new Rule <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applies to how witness may respond during cross examination• Teams have a limited time to complete its cross examination of three witnesses• Rule prohibits “wasting” of opponent’s time by the way the witness responds to questions
4.22	Modification to Redirect/Recross <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limit to single redirect and then a recross• Evidence Rule 611(d) continues to apply limiting scope of the redirect or recross to only matters raised in the cross examination or the re-direct

Rule of Evidence	Change
4.11	Restriction on evidence related to insurance being maintained applies to criminal as well as civil cases
6.12 702 801(d)(1) 803(6)	Rules updates do not involve any substantive changes. Rather, they are now “easier to read” with many involving use of subdivisions rather than a long set of sentences.



Things That Have Come Up



Rule 2.3	New Rule
(1)	<p>Witness May Not Deny Knowledge or Authenticity of Documents.</p> <p>If a Witness's statement or report indicates that the witness is familiar with a document, the witness may not deny familiarity with, or the authenticity of, the document during the trial.</p>
(2)	<p>This Rule Does Not Supplant Evidence Rule 602.</p> <p>Teams are required to meet the foundation elements of Evidence Rule 602.</p>
(3)	<p>Remedy at Trial.</p> <p>This rule should not be referenced at trial as a stipulation. Should the witness deny knowledge of the affidavit or other document the crossing attorney should impeach. If the witness continues to deny knowledge the crossing attorney should reference this particular rule and ask the judge to instruct the witness to admit the authenticity of the document.</p>

Implementing how rounds are set



Rule 5.5A(2)(b)

In the 2020-2021 season, “metro regions” tested a scheduling approach which received positive comments from those who responded to the after-season survey. We are making the process applicable to all regions for the 2021-2022 season.

Pairings for Rounds 1 & 2

- Set before rounds
- Switch side for second round

Pairings for Round 3

- Allocation to three brackets, 2/0; 1/1; and 0/2
- Within their bracket, teams are ranked to based on scoresheets won, then point differential and then points
- Pairings within bracket highest v. lowest rank

Pairings for Round 4

- 0/2 teams will again face each other with effort to avoid team playing a side for third time
- 2/0 teams will be power matched with 1/1 teams

“CLEAN UP”



Restructure of Rule 5.5

Rule 5.5 sets forth the structure of the Mock Trial competition in Minnesota. It has been revised to make it easier to read by use of sub-sections:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| A | Sub-Regional Competition (four rounds) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignment to Regions• “Super Regions”• Schedule of Competition |
| B | Regional Championship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Top two teams• Super Region Power Matching• A school may only send one team |
| C | State Tournament <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16 teams• Random pairings and then power matching |
| D | Coin Flips <ul style="list-style-type: none">• After first two rounds of regional competition• Assign team earlier in alphabet prosecution/plaintiff if heads and defense if tails |

Virtual Rules Updates

Rule	Provisions
3.5(B)	Mock Trial Director has discretion to mandate a format for team rosters to be used
VC Mod. 3.5	Teams are to prepare roster for each round, including those that may need to substitute in should there be a technical difficulty, to be submitted to Mock Trial Director three business days prior to their round
VC Mod. 4.11 & 4.20	Screen sharing of exhibits this season. The document is to be shared by a student member of the team. That could be a member who is not competing or acting as timekeeper in the round.
VC Mod. 4.23	Outstanding witness and attorney awards will be given this season in regional competition. Judges are to record awards on their electronic score sheets.



Questions?

