



CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
BANGALORE | DELHI NCR | PUNE

Alternative Dispute Resolution Board,
School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
presents



6th CHRIST Med- Arb Competition

4TH to 6TH FEBRUARY, 2026

RULES

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6TH CHRIST MEDIATION-ARBITRATION COMPETITION, 2026

1. KEY DATES:

EVENT	DATE
Last Date for Provisional Registration	4 th January, 2026
Last Date for Registration and Payment of Fees	15 th January, 2026
Last Date for Seeking Clarifications	10 th January, 2026
Last Date for Submission of Memorials	22 nd January, 2026
Date of the Competition	4 th , 5 th , and 6 th February, 2026

2. INTERPRETATION AND GRIEVANCE RESOLUTION:

- 2.1. All grievances shall be addressed only by sending an email to the ADR Board within 1 hour of the incident at cmac@law.christuniversity.in.
- 2.2. The Student Conveners and Faculty Coordinators of the ADR Board shall have exclusive authority to consider and decide all grievances. Their decisions shall be final, conclusive, and binding on all participants.
- 2.3. The ADR Board retains the exclusive authority to interpret, clarify or amend this policy as necessary, at any point during the competition, and all decisions taken by the ADR Board during the competition shall be final.
- 2.4. The ADR Board retains the exclusive authority to create new rules to cover any aspect in the future that is not covered by the Rules.

3. ELIGIBILITY:

- 3.1. NATIONAL TEAMS: All law students enrolled in either a 5-year integrated law course or a 3-year law course at any university can take part in the competition.

- 3.2. INTERNATIONAL TEAMS:** A student-member must be (i) currently enrolled in a course of study leading to a recognized law qualification (limited to an LLB, UG course in law or an equivalent qualification).

4. REGISTRATION:

- 4.1.** Each University may register one or two teams provisionally for the competition. Universities may request additional slots, which may be granted based on availability.
- 4.2.** Acceptance of Provisional Registration shall be communicated to the Universities which have applied on a rolling basis.
- 4.3.** All participating universities must complete their final registration on or before 15th January, 2026.

5. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 5.1.** Each team must have 3 members.
- 5.2.** For the MEDIATION ROUND:
- a) Two members will act as Client and Counsel.
 - b) One member will act as the Mediator.
- 5.3.** For the ARBITRATION ROUND:
- a) The Client and Counsel from the Mediation Round will become the two Counsels.
 - b) The Mediator from the Mediation Round will be independently participating in the Arbitral Award Drafting segment as per Clause 10.
- 5.4.** Teams cannot bring any coach or instructor to assist them during the competition inside the Court Halls.
- 5.5.** Any request to change team members or their roles must be informed to the ADR Board before the date of the final registration, i.e, 15th January, 2026.
- 5.6.** Post the date of the final registration, the roles shall be fixed and cannot be changed.

6. NATURE OF THE COMPETITION:

- 6.1.** All the teams shall participate in both sessions (the Mediation session followed by the Arbitration session) in all the rounds.
- 6.2.** The Mediation and Arbitration sessions are independent of each other. The confidential information from the Mediation round holds no value for the Arbitration round. The structure of each round is elaborated in Clause 9.
- 6.3. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:**
- a) Preliminary Rounds (including the Arbitral Award Drafting segment for Mediators)
 - b) Quarter-Final
 - c) Semi-Final
 - d) Final
- 6.4.** Preliminary rounds are the opening stage of the competition, where every team gets a chance to perform. These rounds are used to evaluate and select which teams will move forward to the next stages. All competing teams shall participate in the Preliminary Round. Only the 8 highest-scoring Client-Counsel pairs and the 8 highest-scoring Mediators move forward to the next round.
- 6.5.** From the Quarter-finals stage onwards, all following rounds will follow a knock-out format, wherein the highest-scoring Client-Counsel pair and the highest-scoring Mediators per Court Hall will qualify.
- 6.6.** The Semi-final rounds shall consist of the Client-Counsel pairs and Mediators that qualify from the Quarter-finals. These rounds will continue in a knock-out format, where only the highest-scoring Client-Counsel pair and the highest-scoring Mediator from each Court Hall shall advance to the Final Round.
- 6.7.** The Final Round shall be conducted among the Client-Counsel pairs and Mediators that qualify from the Semi-finals. This round will also follow a knock-out, winner-determination format, wherein the highest-scoring Client-Counsel pair and the highest-scoring Mediator in the Final Round shall be declared the Winners of the competition.
- 6.8.** The determination of the highest-scoring Client-Counsel pair shall be based on the cumulative score obtained across both the Mediation session and the Arbitration session.

- 6.9.** The determination of the highest-scoring Mediators shall be determined solely on the basis of their scores in the Mediation Round. The scores of the Arbitral Award Drafting shall not be considered while determining the scores of the Mediators in any of the oral rounds.
- 6.10.** All progressions to subsequent stages shall be made strictly in accordance with these scoring criteria.
- 6.11.** NOTE: No scoresheets of any round of any team will be displayed to the participants during the competition.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT:

- 7.1.** The competition will be conducted in English only.
- 7.2.** Teams must strictly use their team codes when talking to judges or organizers.
- 7.3.** Teams or members must not reveal their names, college, or university to anyone except the organizing committee.
- 7.4.** Any material that displays or in any way indicates the identity or affiliation of a participant is not permitted.
- 7.5.** Scouting or attempting to obtain confidential information from other teams is strictly banned and results in immediate disqualification.

Explanation: '*Scouting*' refers to any conduct where a team or one or more of its members attend a hearing in which they are not participants. Such conduct may result in a team's disqualification, which shall be final and irrevocable. Scouting also includes any attempt to contact the drafter of the moot proposition; or any other activity that is deemed inappropriate or amounting to scouting by the ADR Board.

- 7.6.** Teams not involved in a particular round cannot watch the round of other teams, except for the Final Round. This applies to Mediators in knock-out Arbitration sessions where the Client-Counsel of one team in the knock-out session has qualified, while the Mediator has not. Such a Mediator shall not be allowed to watch the round of his/her Client-Counsel pair.
- 7.7.** Using electronic gadgets during any round is strictly prohibited except as allowed under Rule 10.12.

8. DRESS CODE:

8.1. All participants must dress in Business Formals during the competition.

9. STRUCTURE OF A ROUND:

- 9.1. STRUCTURE OF THE MEDIATION SESSION: A Mediation session will consist of two co-Mediators and two Client-Counsel teams from different teams. One Client-Counsel team will represent the Requesting Party, while the other team will represent the Responding Party respectively. The Client-Counsel team will represent the side allocated to them by the Organizing Committee, as determined by the Draw of Lots as per Rule 19.
- 9.2. RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: Confidential information for each Mediation round shall be released;
- a) 20 minutes before the Mediation session for the Preliminary and Quarter Final Rounds;
 - b) 20 minutes before the Mediation Session for the Semi-Final Round; and
 - c) 30 minutes before the Mediation Session for the Final Round.
- 9.3. During the Confidential Information, the Mediators shall be allowed to discuss their role splits.
- 9.4. Participants are strictly instructed to keep the contents of the Confidential Information exclusively to themselves. No participant may carry mobile phones or other electronic devices during confidential information and rounds. Any violation of this rule shall result in immediate disqualification.
- 9.5. CAUCUS: Mediators or the Parties will have the opportunity to call for one or multiple Caucuses during each Mediation Session. It is the discretion of the Mediators or the Parties to call for a Caucus. While one team is participating in the Caucus, the other team will be asked to leave the Court Hall by the Court Clerk. After this time, they will be requested to re-enter the Court Hall.
- 9.6. TIME ALLOTMENT FOR MEDIATION SESSION: In total, each round is for **60 minutes**. Post the round, time shall be allotted for questions by the Judges to the participants. Grant of additional time to any team during the round is entirely at the discretion of the Judges. Such a decision by the Judge shall be final and binding on the Participants.

- 9.7. There will be a break in between the Mediation session and the Arbitration session, during which teams may prepare for the forthcoming session of Arbitration. The duration of the break may be altered by the ADR Board as per requirement, with due prior notice. Such a change in duration shall be final. The prescribed duration of the break shall be;
- a) 20 minutes after the Mediation session for the Preliminary and Quarter Final Rounds;
 - b) 20 minutes after the Mediation Session for the Semi-Final Round; and
 - c) 15 minutes after the Mediation Session for the Final Round.
- 9.8. STRUCTURE OF THE ARBITRATION SESSION: An Arbitration Session will have either 1 or 3 Arbitrators, depending on the round (1 for the preliminary round and 3 for the quarter-final and semi-final). The Client-Counsel pair representing the Requesting Party in the Mediation Session of that round shall be the Respondent in the Arbitration Session, and vice versa. The Mediators in the Mediation Session of that round shall be independently taking part in the Arbitral Award Drafting segment during the Arbitration session as elaborated in Rule 10.
- 9.9. TIME ALLOTMENT FOR ARBITRATION SESSION: Each round shall last for **60 minutes**, which is **inclusive** of the time for Rebuttals and Sur-Rebuttals. Each Party will not be permitted to speak for more than **30 minutes**. No individual speaker from 1 team shall speak for more than **16 minutes**.
- 9.10. The time split among the speakers for each team may be decided amongst themselves and intimated to the Court Clerk before the commencement of the Round.
- 9.11. For the preliminary rounds, the teams will be performing in separate Court Halls for the Mediation and Arbitration sessions each.
- 9.12. Confidential Information may be used only for Mediation and not for Arbitration, as the Mediation and Arbitration sessions are completely independent of each other. Any events unfolding in the Mediation session has no bearing on the Arbitration session.
- 9.13. The Mediation session and Arbitration session shall take place in different Court Halls for each team.

10. ARBITRAL AWARD DRAFTING:

- 10.1. The Mediator of each team is required to draft an Arbitral Award based on the Problem. This is a separate event conducted independent of the preliminary rounds.
- 10.2. The Arbitral Award Drafting segment shall be conducted separately during the Arbitration session. The session shall last for **60 minutes**.
- 10.3. No team is exempt from participation in the same. If the teams do not participate, it is a ground for disqualification, which shall be decided by the ADR Board.
- 10.4. Only the Mediator of each team is allowed to take part in the Arbitral Award Drafting Segment.
- 10.5. The Arbitral Award should not exceed 10 pages and should broadly contain the following (the following is indicative):
- a) Cause Title
 - b) Date, identification of the parties and method of appointment of the Arbitrator
 - c) Nature of Award
 - d) Brief on Nature of the Dispute
 - e) Brief on Procedure adopted
 - f) Issues of facts and law
 - g) Summary of both parties
 - h) Relevant Facts and Laws applicable
 - i) Reasons and conclusion
 - j) Interest and liability if applicable, with cost mentioned
 - k) Finality and Enforceability
- 10.6. An Arbitral Award includes an Interim Award as defined in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. However, unless required, Arbitrators are not expected to draft Interim Awards.
- 10.7. The format of the Award shall be in the following chronological order.
- a) Cover Page: The cover page must include the name of the competition, names of the parties, and the name of the student author(s).

- b) Statement of Facts
- c) Issues in Dispute
- d) Arguments from the Claimant and the Respondent
- e) Decision and Award

10.8. The Award must be submitted in both Microsoft Word and PDF format to the ADR Board at (cmac@law.christuniversity.in).

10.9. FORMATTING RULES:

- a) Each page must have 1-inch margins on all sides.
- b) All written submissions must use Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing and justified alignment for the main text.
- c) Footnotes must follow the 21st Edition Bluebook citation style, using Times New Roman font, size 10, single line spacing, justified alignment, and 1-inch margins.
- d) There must be no additional space between consecutive footnotes.
- e) Character spacing must not be condensed in any way.

10.10. The Award shall be drafted during a time specified by the Organizing Committee during the course of the competition (the decision of the ADR Board will be final).

10.11. The use of AI or other drafting tools for drafting the Arbitral Award is strictly prohibited.

10.12. Participants are only allowed to carry physical Bare acts without notes for the session. No form of material such as pre-made notes shall be allowed. No electronics are allowed except the laptop on which the participants would be drafting the Arbitral Award.

11. WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS:

11.1. Each Participating Team shall prepare Memorials on behalf of the Claimants (Statement of Claims) and Respondents (Statement of Defense).

11.2. The last date to submit the written submissions is 22nd January, 2026. In case of 2 or more submissions, the latest submission will be considered for evaluation.

- 11.3.** All the participants are to submit a soft copy of both the written submissions in PDF and Word format to cmac@law.christuniversity.in. The names of the files shall be 'Team Code_Claimant/Respondent.'

Illustration: The file name for the Claimant Memorial of Team Code CMAC 50 shall be 'CMAC 50_Claimant' and the file name for the Respondent Memorial of Team Code CMAC 50 shall be 'CMAC 50_Respondent.'

- 11.4.** Each Memorial should be a maximum of 25 pages. Any changes made to the soft copies after submission and subsequently produced during the rounds will be disqualified.

- 11.5.** FORMAT OF SUBMISSION: Each of the memorials should contain all of, and only, the following components in the following order;

- a) Cover Page [1 Page]
- b) Table of Contents [1 Page]
- c) Index of Authorities
- d) Statement of Jurisdiction
- e) Statement of Facts
- f) Issues Raised
- g) Summary of Arguments
- h) Arguments Advanced / Pleadings
- i) Prayer

- 11.6.** FORMATTING RULES:

- a) Each page must have 1-inch margins on all sides.
- b) All written submissions must use Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing and justified alignment for the main text.
- c) Footnotes must follow the 21st Edition Bluebook citation style, using Times New Roman font, size 10, single line spacing, justified alignment, and 1-inch margins.
- d) There must be no additional space between consecutive footnotes.
- e) Character spacing must not be condensed in any way.

f) The use of AI to draft the Memorial is strictly prohibited.

12. TIME KEEPING:

- 12.1.** The Court Clerk supervising the Round shall be the official timekeeper. Teams have the responsibility to adhere to the time limit. Participants must note that they can only speak for the allotted time limit, as mentioned above.
- 12.2.** The Organizing Committee member shall notify teams about the remaining time during the round. Judges have discretion in this regard, but they will be advised not to give any additional time, and hence participants must adhere to the time split mentioned for the respective rounds.

13. MARKING CRITERIA:**13.1. MEDIATOR (MEDIATION SESSION):**

SL. NO.	PARTICULAR	SCORING RANGE
1.	Opening Statement	/10
2.	Establishing Professional Relationship with the Parties	/10
3.	Identifying Key Issues of Disputes	/10
4.	Understand the Needs and Interests of the Parties	/10
5.	Overall Impact and Management of the Session	/10
6.	Ability to Drive the Session towards a Settlement	/10
7.	Effective use of Conference and Caucus*	/20
8.	Closing Statement	/10
9.	Ability to Answer Questions by the Judges	/10
	TOTAL	/100

***Note:** Criteria 7 shall be marked out of 20.

13.2.CLIENT AND ADVOCATE (MEDIATION SESSION):

SL. NO.	PARTICULAR	SCORING RANGE	
		CLIENT	COUNSEL
1.	Opening Statement	/10	/10
2.	Teamwork between Advocate and Client	/10	/10
3.	Effective use of Caucus and Conference**	/20	/20
4.	Willingness to reach an Amicable Solution**	/20	/10
5.	Strategic use of Facts and Confidential Information	/10	/10
6.	Advocating Client's Interest	--*	/10
7.	Relationship Building and Problem Solving	/10	/10
8.	Closing Statement	/10	/10
9.	Ability to Answer Questions by the Judges	/10	/10
	TOTAL	/100	/100

***Note:** The Client is not marked for Criteria 7.

****Note:** Criteria 3 shall be marked out of 20 for the Client and Counsel. Criteria 4 shall be marked out of 20 for the Client.



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13.3. COUNSEL (ARBITRATION SESSION):

SL. NO.	PARTICULAR	SCORING RANGE	
		SPEAKER 1	SPEAKER 2
1.	Knowledge and Marshalling of Facts	/20	/20
2.	Application of Legal Principles and Usage of Authorities	/20	/20
3.	Structure, Articulation and Clarity	/20	/20
4.	Persuasiveness, Ingenuity and Ability to Respond to Questions	/20	/20
5.	Etiquette, Presentation Style and Time Management	/20	/20
	TOTAL	/100	/100

13.4. ARBITRAL AWARD DRAFTING SEGMENT:

SL. NO.	PARTICULAR	SCORING RANGE
1.	Logical Structure and Organization	/10
2.	Legal Reasoning and Application of Law	/20
3.	Clarity in Identifying Issues and Framing Relief	/20
4.	Depth of Analysis and Use of Evidence	/10
5.	Persuasiveness and Balance of Arguments	/20
6.	Originality and Innovation	/10
7.	Language, Grammar, Style and Structure	/10
	TOTAL	/100

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13.5. MEMORIAL:

SL. NO.	PARTICULAR	SCORING RANGE
1.	Application and Appreciation of Facts	/20
2.	Identification of Issues	/10
3.	Application of Legal Principles, Authorities and Precedents	/20
4.	Ingenuity and Logical Reasoning	/15
5.	Lucidity and Writing Skills	/15
6.	Referencing	/10
7.	Formatting and Presentation	/10
	TOTAL	/100

14. TIE BREAKING CRITERIA:

14.1. The Tie Breaking Criteria for each Marking Criteria under Rule 13 is as elaborated under this rule.

14.2. In the event of a tie in scores, the criteria shall be applied sequentially in the order listed per criteria until the tie breaks.

Illustration: If Mediator A and Mediator B are tied on overall marks, their scores under Criteria 7 shall be compared first. If the tie persists, Criteria 4 shall be considered next, followed by Criteria 2, 3, 6, 5 and so on in that order. The tie shall be considered broken when the score in the designated criteria of one of the mediators is higher than the other.

14.3. Mediator (MEDIATION SESSION): 7 – 4 – 2 – 3 – 6 – 5 – (1 + 9 + 8)

14.4. Counsel (ARBITRATION SESSION): 3 – 5 – 2 – 4 – 1

14.5. Client AND ADVOCATE (MEDIATION SESSION): 5 – 6 – 7 – 3 – 2 – 4 – 1 – 8

14.6. ARBITRAL AWARD DRAFTING SEGMENT: 6 – 3 – 2 – 4 – 5 – 1

14.7. MEMORIAL: 3 – 2 – 4 – 1 – 6 – 5

15. AWARDS:

15.1. Best Arbitral Award: The Best Arbitral Award shall be given to the highest scoring Arbitral Award amongst all the awards drafted and submitted at the end of the Arbitral Award writing round after the conclusion of the preliminary round. The winner of the Best Arbitral Award shall receive an internship opportunity at Poovayya & Co. and prize money amounting to INR 6,000/-.

15.2. Best Preliminary Mediator and Best Preliminary Client-Counsel pair: The highest scoring Mediator and Client-Counsel pair from the Preliminary Rounds of both Mediation and Arbitration shall be adjudged as the Best Preliminary Mediator and Best Preliminary Client-Counsel pair. The winner of the Best Preliminary Mediator and Best Preliminary Client-Counsel Team shall receive an internship opportunity at ALMT Legal and prize money amounting to INR 5,000/- respectively to the Mediator and the Client-Counsel Pair.

NOTE: The Best Preliminary Mediator and Best Preliminary Client-Counsel may or may not be from the same team, as per the scores obtained by the Mediator and the Client-

Counsel pair respectively. For the purpose of the award, the highest scores of the Mediator and the Client-Counsel pair shall be calculated separately.

- 15.3. Winning Mediator:** The highest scoring mediator in the Final Round shall be adjudged as the Best Mediator. The Winning Mediator shall receive an internship opportunity at Keystone Partners and prize money amounting to INR 15,000/-.
- 15.4. Runner-up Mediator:** The Runner-up Mediator in the Final Round shall be adjudged the Runner-up Mediator. The Runner-up Mediator shall receive an internship opportunity at Keystone Partners and prize money amounting to 7,500/-.
- 15.5. Winner Client-Counsel Team:** The highest team score obtained after taking the cumulative score of both the sessions, Mediation and Arbitration, in the Final Rounds shall be adjudged the Winning Client-Counsel pair. The Winning Client and Counsel shall receive an internship opportunity at J. Sagar Associates and AZB & Partners respectively and prize money amounting to INR 15,000/-.
- 15.6. Runner-up Client-Counsel Team:** The second-highest team score obtained after taking the cumulative score of both the sessions, Mediation and Arbitration, in the Final Rounds shall be adjudged the Runner-up Client-Counsel Team. The Runner-up Client-Counsel shall receive an internship opportunity at J. Sagar Associates and AZB & Partners respectively and prize money amounting to INR 7,500/-.
- 15.7. Best Memorial:** The highest cumulative average score of both the memorials submitted shall be considered for the award of Winning Memorial. The winner of the Best Memorial shall receive an internship opportunity at CMS INDUSLAW and prize money amounting to INR 6,000/-.

NOTE: The ADR Board's role is limited to facilitating an opportunity for internship for award recipients. Internship applications are subject solely to the respective firm's internal policies, including its independent evaluation and selection procedures on the participant's individual merit. Award-winning participants may apply by writing to the ADR Board with details of their achievement following which the ADR Board will facilitate the opportunity with the concerned firm; however, acceptance or rejection shall be based entirely on the firm's merit-based assessment internal interview and/or selection process. The ADR Board does not guarantee placement or selection and has no role to play beyond the facilitation of the opportunity.

NOTE: Prize amounts displayed or advertised represent the gross value of the award. Disbursement of prize money shall be subject to applicable statutory deductions, including tax deducted at source, as mandated by law.

16. PENALTIES:

16.1. If participating teams are found acting contrary to the rules of the competition, then the following action will be taken:

SL. NO.	GROUND	PENALTY
1.	Sharing/discussing the confidential information	Disqualification from competition
2.	Breaching memorial anonymity	Disqualification from competition
3.	Misbehaving with the Judges	Disqualification from competition
4.	Incorrect/inadequate order of contents required	2 marks each
5.	Incorrect formatting in footnotes or main content of the memorial	1 mark each
6.	Exceeding the page limit of the main content	2 marks per page
7.	Incorrect or inadequate information/incorrect formatting of the cover page	2 marks

17. CLARIFICATIONS:

17.1. For any clarifications regarding the problem or the conduct of the competition, teams are requested to mail their queries and concerns to the ADR Board at cmac@law.christuniversity.in by 10th January, 2026.

18. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

- 18.1.** If there is any Conflict of Interest between participant(s) and a Judge, the OC shall be informed and the required action for resolving such a conflict shall be taken, which can be, but not limited to, changing the Court Hall of the participant(s) or Judge(s).
- 18.2.** Grounds for Conflict of Interest:
- a) Blood relationship between the Judge and the participant.
 - b) The participant has interned under the Judge.
 - c) Any other reason that may cause bias for the Judge in acting as a Judge for the participant.
- 18.3.** Decision of the ADR Board in regards to conflict of interest, in consultation with the Faculty Co-ordinators shall be final and binding.

19. DRAW OF LOTS:

- 19.1.** A Draw of Lots for the Preliminary Rounds shall be conducted through a Google Meet after the memorial submission. The details of the conduct of the Draw of Lots shall be explained in the Google Meet session. The date of the Draw of Lots shall be intimated after the final registration.
- 19.2.** Teams must submit both the Memorials to be eligible for the Draw of Lots.
- 19.3.** The Draw of Lots shall determine the sides (Requesting Party/Respondent and Responding Party/Claimant) which the parties will represent in the Preliminary Rounds.
- 19.4.** The participants are requested to memorize the same throughout the competition.
- 19.5.** Each team shall be identified by an alphanumeric code comprising one letter and one numeral during the Draw of Lots. **The letter 'A' shall indicate the Claimant, while the letter 'B' shall indicate the Respondent.** The numerical component shall be allotted for administrative and reference purposes only.