

2015 Kentucky Middle School Mock Trial Tournament Score Sheet

P = Prosecution: _____ (Team Code)	D = Defense: _____ (Team Code)
Date: _____	ROUND: (CIRCLE ONE) 1 2 3 4 Final

Using a scale of 1 to 10, rate the P and D in the categories below.
 Use whole numbers. DO NOT use decimals/fractional points or award zero points.
DO NOT ADD SCORES AT THE END OF THE ROUND – TAB ROOM WILL ADD TOTALS.
OVERALL TIES ARE PERMITTED UNDER THE 2014 KHSMT RULES.

Not Effective	Fair	Good	Excellent	Outstanding
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10

SCORE SHEET/BALLOT	P	D
Opening Statement		
Prosecution First Witness: _____	Direct Examination	
		Cross-examination
	Witness Presentation	
Prosecution Second Witness: _____	Direct Examination	
		Cross-examination
	Witness Presentation	
Prosecution Third Witness: _____	Direct Examination	
		Cross-examination
	Witness Presentation	
Defense/Defendant First Witness: _____		Direct Examination
	Cross-examination	
		Witness Presentation
Defense/Defendant Second Witness: _____		Direct Examination
	Cross-examination	
		Witness Presentation
Defense/Defendant Third Witness: _____		Direct Examination
	Cross-examination	
		Witness Presentation
Closing Argument		

_____ Judge's Code

Kentucky High School Mock Trial Tournament

Explanation of the Performance Ratings Used on the Score Sheet

(See Rules 5.3, 5.4, Criteria for Scoring and Performance Ratings, and Score Sheet)

Individual participants will be rated on a scale of 1 – 10 points, according to their roles in the trial. The Scoring Judge is scoring **individual performance** in each category. The scoring judge is NOT scoring the legal merits of the case.

Scoring Judges may individually consider penalties for violation of the Rules of the Competition. Penalties would reduce point awards in the appropriate performance categories below. Penalties will not be indicated separately on the score sheet.

In Rounds 1-4, judges may recognize outstanding individual presentations by selecting one OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY and one OUTSTANDING WITNESS per round per team. Each judge determines individually which student will receive his/her vote.

Points	Performance	Criteria for Evaluating Student Performance
1 - 2	Not Effective	Unsure of self, illogical, uninformed, not prepared, speaks incoherently, definitely ineffective in communication.
3 - 4	Fair	<i>Minimally</i> informed and prepared. Performance is <i>passable</i> , but lacks depth in terms of knowledge of task and materials. Communication lacks clarity and conviction.
5 - 6	Good	Good, solid, but less than spectacular performance. Can perform outside of written notes, but with less confidence than when using written notes. Logic and organization are adequate, but not outstanding. Grasps major aspects of the case but does not convey mastery of it. Communications are clear and understandable, but could be stronger in fluency and persuasiveness.
7 - 8	Excellent	Fluent, persuasive, clear and understandable. Organizes materials and thoughts well and exhibits mastery of the case and materials. Thinks quickly and spontaneously. Does not read from notes that were prepared before trial.
9 - 10	Outstanding	Superior qualities listed for 7-8 points performance. Additionally thinks well on feet, is logical, and keeps poise under duress. Can sort essential from nonessential and use time effectively to accomplish major objectives.

The team with the higher number of points shall win the ballot; the team winning the majority of the ballots shall win the round.

Scoring Judges are reminded to tally all scores, check totals closely, and sign the score sheet before returning the score sheet to the appropriate tournament official.

Criteria for Scoring & Performance Ratings

CRITERIA FOR SCORING A TRIAL ROUND

The following criteria should be considered by scoring judges during the course of a team's trial presentation. Scoring judges should consider "5" the average point award. All points assessed in a trial round are subjective.

Opening Statement

- Provided a case overview
- Identified the theme/theory of the case
- Mentioned the key witnesses
- Provided a clear and concise description of their team's side of the case
- Stated the relief requested
- Discussed the burden of proof
- Presentation was non-argumentative
- Points shall be deducted for use of notes, except for notes made during the course of the trial

Direct Examinations (Student Attorneys)

- Properly phrased questions – non-leading
- Used proper courtroom procedure
- Demonstrated understanding of facts, issues, and law
- Used case theme/theory appropriately/effectively during line of questioning
- Handled objections appropriately and effectively and did not overuse objections
- Did not ask questions that called for an unfair extrapolation from the witness
- Demonstrated an understanding of the *Federal Rules of Evidence (Mock Trial Version)*
- Handled physical evidence appropriately and effectively (if applicable)
- Points shall be deducted for use of notes, except for notes made during the course of the trial

Cross-Examinations (Student Attorneys)

- Properly phrased questions – leading
- Effective questioning
- Properly impeached witness (if applicable)
- Handled objections appropriately and effectively
- Did not overuse objections
- Used various techniques, if necessary, to handle a non-responsive witness
- Demonstrated an understanding of the *Federal Rules of Evidence (Mock Trial Version)*
- Handled physical evidence appropriately and effectively (if applicable)
- Points shall be deducted for use of notes, except for notes made during the course of the trial

Witness Performance

- Credible portrayal of character
- Showed understanding of the facts of the case
- Sounded spontaneous, not memorized
- Poised and observed appropriate courtroom decorum
- Avoided unnecessarily long and/or non-responsive answers on cross-examination
- Points should be deducted for the use of unfair extrapolations

Closing Argument

- Theme/theory continued in closing argument
- Summarized the evidence
- Emphasized the supporting points of their own case and damaged the opponent's case
- Concentrated on the important, not the trivial
- Applied the applicable law
- Discussed burden of proof
- Responded to any questions from the judge with poise (if applicable)
- Overall, the closing argument was persuasive
- Points shall be deducted for use of notes, except for notes made during the course of the trial