



RULEBOOK 2021

This Rulebook is intended to supplement the general AMTA Rulebook and make certain modifications, deletions, and additions to the AMTA Rulebook with respect to the 2021 One Last Time tournament (“OLT”).

This Rulebook is only effective for OLT.

Note: If a rule found in the AMTA Rulebook is not listed in this rulebook, then that rule applies to OLT.

Chapter 1 – Definitions, Applicability, the Philosophy of AMTA

Rules 1.1 through 1.10 of the AMTA Rulebook apply to OLT with the following modifications:

Rule 1.2(g) is amended for OLT as follows: A trial ends when the scoring sheets *have been submitted electronically*.

Rule 1.11 of the AMTA Rulebook does not apply; a team need not officially designate any coach. However, a team may use as much or as little coaching, mentoring, or advice as it deems appropriate, except during a trial as set forth in Rule 7.1.

Rules 1.12 and 1.13 apply to the extent a team has coaches.

Rules 1.14 and 1.15 do not apply; AMTA is the host of OLT.

Rule 1.16 applies to any volunteers.

Chapter 2 – Registration, Case Access, and Withdrawal

Chapter 2 of the AMTA Rulebook does not apply and the rules and procedures on the AMTA homepage regarding OLT and registration therein replace those rules.

Chapter 3 – Eligibility

Chapter 3 of the AMTA Rulebook does not apply to OLT and is replaced by the rules found at the following links:

<https://www.collegemocktrial.org/OLT%202021%20Competitor%20Eligibility.pdf>

<https://www.collegemocktrial.org/2021%20OLT%20Proposed%20Alternates%20-%20Roles%20and%20Eligibility%20FINAL.pdf>

Chapter 4 – Rules Applicable to All Sanctioned Tournaments

Chapter 4 of the AMTA Rulebook applies to OLT except as modified here:

Rule 4.1, AMTA Representatives, is modified in that there may be more than two Representatives.

Rules 4.4 through 4.6, Ballots, are replaced for OLT as follows: OLT ballots will be electronic. Participants will receive instructions from the Representatives regarding how to access electronic copies of the ballots.

Rule 4.7, Bye-Buster Teams, does not apply; OLT must have an even number of teams. OLT will have procedures for a designated and already composed “Bye Team” made from alternate students as described in the Alternates eligibility rules.

Rule 4.8, Opening Meetings, is modified in that at the Opening Meeting the pairings for the rounds will be determined. First round opponents will be determined by a challenge system. The challenge order will result from a random draw of teams in the tournament and will be released before Opening Ceremonies. During Opening Ceremonies, teams will be prompted to make their challenges following the challenge order. A team making a challenge will select its opponent. The opponent will then select the side of the case it wants to represent in the first round. No team may pass or refuse to challenge an available opponent.

Rules 4.9 through 4.12 apply to OLT. Teams will conduct Captains' Meetings in the same manner that they did at any AMTA sanctioned tournament in the 2021 season.

Rules 4.14 through 4.17 do not apply to OLT.

Rules 4.19 through 4.20.1 apply to OLT to the maximum extent possible. Judges will be asked to self-report conflicts with participating individuals as well as the schools from which the participants have graduated.

Rules 4.21 and 4.22 are amended for OLT in that the OLT Committee will provide all training and materials for judges.

Rule 4.23 is clarified to indicate that Championship-style high-high pairing as set forth in the Tabulation Manual will be used for OLT. Further, each ballot will call for judges to rank the best two attorneys and best two witnesses; a #1 rank will equate to 5 rank points and a #2 rank will equate to 3 rank points.

Rule 4.24 apply to OLT, except for Rule 4.24(2), which is amended for OLT to provide for a 10-minute review period upon the conclusion of closing ceremonies.

Rule 4.25 is amended for OLT to reflect that AMTA will produce the tabulation summary, and will be responsible for distributing it to participating teams. It is also amended along with Rule 4.24(2) to account for a 10-minute review period following closing ceremonies.

Rule 4.26(1) is amended for OLT to provide that each team shall have no more than 10 spectators in any round. These spectators may include anyone (coaches, family members, friends, etc.). Any spectator (including coaches) watching the round must change their name to: "[Team Number] – Spectator [First Name]". If multiple spectators share the same first name, those spectators must also add the initial of their last names.

Rule 4.26(2), this rule applies to OLT. This rule is further expanded such that if a spectator or competitor elects to watch a round for teams that the spectator has no affiliation, that spectator may not enter any other courtroom during the round. Once a spectator or competitor has selected a room, they must remain in that room for the duration of the trial. *Rationale: This will help keep the Zoom stable and will reduce the likelihood of a Zoom crash mid-trial.*

Rule 4.31, Time Limits, is modified as follows: Each attorney will have 22 minutes in which to complete their direct examination, their cross examination, and their opening statement or closing argument. If an attorney runs out of time prior to beginning any function, the attorney shall receive a score of zero for the unperformed function. Rule 4.31 otherwise applies with references to "team" time limits to be interpreted as the individual attorney time limits.

Rule 4.33, All-Loss Rule, is modified as follows: The all-loss time shall be 2 hours and 15 minutes after that trial begins. The all-loss time will be determined by the AMTA Representatives.

Chapter 5 – Tournament Specific Rules

Chapter 5 of the AMTA Rulebook does not affect OLT, except as follows:

The AMTA Representatives and/or the OLT Committee Chairperson shall have the ability to interpret these rules and make such adjustments to their operation as may be necessary to adapt these rules to the OLT format.

Chapter 6 – Championship Series Bids

Chapter 6 of the AMTA Rulebook does not apply to OLT.

Chapter 7 – Roles and Duties of Participants

Chapter 7 of the AMTA Rulebook applies to OLT with modifications to the below listed rules:

Rule 7.1(1), Communication During a Round, does apply to OLT.

Rule 7.1(2), Wireless Devices, does not apply to OLT.

Rule 7.11, Accommodations, is modified in that the January 1 deadline set forth in the rule is changed to July 28 for OLT.

Rule 7.15, Non-testifying Witnesses, does not apply to OLT. *See also* Rules 7.1(1), 8.1.

Rule 7.25, Scoring Judges, is amended to the extent that the OLT Committee has discretion to determine the number of scoring judges at any point prior to the beginning of the first round.

Rule 7.26, Ballots, is amended for OLT as follows: Each judge will be provided an electronic scoring ballot.

Chapter 8 – Trial Procedures

Chapter 8 of the AMTA Rulebook applies to OLT with modifications to the below listed rules:

Rule 8.1, Arrangement of the Courtroom, is modified for OLT as follows:

Display names for attorneys: Each attorney's display name is only their side, a dash, and their first and last name: e.g., Plaintiff - Alex Winter; Defense - Dylan Hendricks.

Display names for witnesses: Each witness' display name is their side, a dash, the character name exactly as set forth in the case materials, and their real names in parenthesis (*e.g.*, P - Alex Steiner (Sue Johnson)).

Both attorneys and witnesses may elect to include their preferred pronouns at the end of their display name. Ex wit: P – Sana Yoshida (Kelly Doos) (they/their); Ex atty: D –

Parker Paige (she/her). The ability to include preferred pronouns is optional and is not required.

Rule 8.5.1, Trial Order, is amended for OLT to reflect there are two witnesses per side.

Rule 8.9(6) is amended as follows: Complaints of egregious improper invention are to be brought to the OLT Dispute Panel. An allegation of an egregious improper invention during the Plaintiff case in chief must be brought to the Panel before the Defense begins its case in chief. An allegation of an egregious improper invention during the Defense case in chief must be brought to the Panel before closing argument begins. The Panel has the authority to impose any appropriate penalty or sanction, including but not limited to dismissal from the tournament.

Rule 8.10, Manner of Examination, is modified for OLT as follows: Each participant may stand or remain seated for statements, examinations, and arguments in their discretion and within the preferences of the presiding judge. Exhibits or demonstratives shown to a witness via screen sharing for identification purposes shall be deemed to be shown outside the presence of the jury.

Rule 8.14, Benchbooks, does not apply to OLT. The host will provide all judges with a link to a virtual benchbook.

Chapter 9 – Rules Violations, Penalties, Sanctions

Chapter 9 of the AMTA Rulebook applies to OLT with modifications to the below listed rules:

Rules 9.3 - 9.7 generally apply, but with the following amendment:

The OLT Dispute Panel will comprise the Rules Chair, Tab Director, one of the case authors, and the OLT Committee Chair. The Panel may also consult the CRC Chair as needed.

The Panel's duties are to:

- a) Resolve all claims of egregious improper invention under Rule 8.9(6);
- b) Resolve any disagreements between the AMTA Representatives under Rule 9.3(3);
- c) Hear any appeals from a ruling of the AMTA Representatives under Rule 9.4;
- d) Interpret rules as authorized by Rule 9.7(2);
- e) Issue in-tournament penalties (as listed in Rule 9.2) for sanctionable conduct under Rule 9.5(2).

Chapter 10 – Policies of the AMTA Board of Directors

Chapter 10 of the AMTA Rulebook does not affect OLT.

Chapter 11 – Additional Rules Governing Virtual Competitions

Rules 11.4 – 11.7 do not apply to OLT.