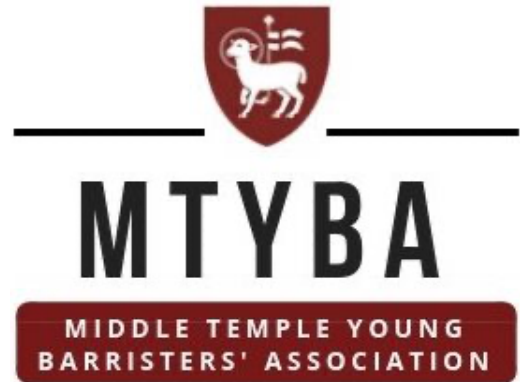


# MTYBA ADVOCACY COMPETITION, 2021

RULES AND DETAILS.



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## REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Competition is only open to members of MTYBA (i.e. post-call members of the Inn up to 7 years PQE).

All applicants must register their participation in the Competition by providing their full name, year of call, and Middle Temple membership number.

MTYBA's Advocacy Competition is one of the few mootings/advocacy competitions which is open to all 'young barristers' of the Inn, regardless of whether they have completed the BPTC and are seeking pupillage, or are beyond even that point.

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## FIRST ROUND:

The first round will take place at the Inn (Rutledge Suite) on the evening of Monday 8 November 2021 (6-8pm).

Competitors will be allocated a time, and provided with their brief 15 minutes in advance.

They will then be asked to present either a bail application or a plea in mitigation, lasting 10 minutes, to one of our judges.

The highest scoring competitors will then proceed to the second round.

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT WE MAY ACCOMMODATE THESE.

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## SECOND ROUND

The second round will take place at the Inn (Rutledge Suite) on the evening of Monday 15 November 2021 (6-8pm).

Competitors will be emailed their brief 24 hours in advance of their allocated time.

They will then be asked to present a civil application, lasting 15 minutes, before one of our judges. The application will be for one of the following:

- Setting aside default judgment
- Summary judgment
- Strike out
- Interim injunction
- Relief from sanctions

Only the top four advocates will progress to the final round.

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## FINAL ROUND:

The final round will take place on the evening of Monday 29 November 2021 (6-8pm).

Finalists will be emailed their brief on Monday 22 November 2021. Skeleton Arguments must then be submitted by midnight on Saturday 27 November 2021. These Skeleton Arguments will then be shared between the Finalists by MTYBA on Sunday 28 November 2021. Please see below for further details relating specifically to the final round rules.

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## PRIZES

The two top scoring advocates will be crowned MTYBA Advocacy Competition Winners 2021. Prizes will be awarded to the four Finalists.

Each Winner will receive:

- A gift card worth £100 to spend at The Ivy Collection; and
- A bottle of Middle Temple Port.

Each Finalist will receive:

- A bottle of Middle Temple Port.

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## FULL RULES FOR FINAL ROUND: Appeal

### Format

- The four finalists will each be assigned one of the below roles:
  - Lead Counsel for the Appellant;
  - Junior Counsel for the Appellant;
  - Lead Counsel for the Respondent;
  - Junior Counsel for the Respondent.
- The Brief will contain two distinct points of appeal. Leaders will argue the first point of appeal, and Juniors will argue the second.
  - There is hence no need for the Lead or Junior Counsel to collaborate before the competition.
- The order of speeches will be as follows:
  - (1) Lead Counsel for the Appellant;
  - (2) Lead Counsel for the Respondent;
  - (1) Junior Counsel for the Appellant;
  - (2) Junior Counsel for the Respondent.
- There will be no right of reply.

## Timing

- Each Counsel will have a maximum of 15 minutes to address the Court.
- The Judges may interrupt Counsel at any point in order to ask questions. The number, length and nature of the questions is at the Judge's discretion.
  - The 15 minute time limit includes judicial intervention.
- Counsel will be warned by a subtle means when they have:
  - 5 minutes left;
  - 1 minute left;
  - to conclude their speech forthwith.

## Skeleton arguments and authorities

- Each Counsel must produce a written Skeleton Argument, outlining their submissions briefly, and citing their authorities.
- The Skeleton Argument must be no longer than two sheets of A4.
- Counsel may cite a maximum of three authorities.
- On the specified date, Counsel must electronically submit a copy of their Skeleton Argument to MTYBA, along with full copies of their cited authorities.
- There is no requirement to produce paper bundles. However, if a paper bundles is produced, Counsel should only print the covering page of the authority, and the relevant section referred to in their submissions.
- Case authorities can be downloaded using the electronic resources at the Middle Temple Library.

## Judging

- The Competition will be judged by Benchers, Judges, and experienced practitioners of the Middle Temple.
- Judging is at the complete discretion of the Judges. In general, they will be looking at the quality of argument, persuasiveness, confidence and fluency. They will also take into account the written skeleton argument, and the ability to deal with judicial intervention.
- A competitor will be marked down if they miss the deadline to exchange Skeleton Arguments and authorities.
- At the end of the Competition, Judges may adjudicate on the points of law raised. They will then announce which two participants have won the Advocacy Competition, and provide some feedback and constructive advice to participants on their performance.