

Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition State Finals Judging Panel Volunteer Form

You can count on me to serve at the time(s) indicated below:

Ending Times are approximate

ROUND 1 on Saturday, 13 March 2010, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Lawrenceville (16 Presiding Judges and 48 Scoring Evaluators needed for this round.)

ROUND 2 on Saturday, 13 March 2010, 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Lawrenceville (16 Presiding Judges and 48 Scoring Evaluators needed for this round.)

SEMI-FINAL ROUND on Sunday, 14 March 2010, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Lawrenceville (20 Scoring Evaluators needed for this round.)

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND on Sunday, 14 March 2010, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Lawrenceville (22 Scoring Evaluators needed for this round.)

I would prefer the role of: Presiding Judge Scoring Evaluator

I have had (#) ROUNDS (if less than 1 yr) of judging experience as a: Presiding Judge Scoring Evaluator

OR

I have had (#) YEARS (if more than 1 yr) of judging experience as a: Presiding Judge Scoring Evaluator

I have HSMT Coaching Experience: Yes No

of Years Coaching? Team Coached?

I have a "conflict"* with the team(s) from (Identify by school name)

I served as a 2010 regional judging panel volunteer in the following city: _____

___ I must travel 85+ miles from my home to Lawrenceville to attend the tournament.

The mock trial program will be glad to provide you with overnight lodging at a hotel near the Justice Center on the evening before your assigned round, breakfast and lunch on the day of your assigned round and reimbursement for mileage at the current rate. By checking this box, you are indicating that you would like us to make a reservation for you at a nearby hotel. Reimbursement forms for mileage will be sent with the hotel reservation information by 5 March 2010.

Do you have mobility issues that our trial coordinator should be made aware of? Yes No

If yes, please (in general terms) describe on the reverse of this form or on a separate sheet of paper—thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

State Bar Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Save and email form to StacyR@gabar.org or print and fax it to 404/527-8717

Georgia Mock Trial Competition—ATTN: Stacy Rieke

Your STATE FINALS competition assignment notice and hotel information (if applicable) will arrive by 5 March 2010.

Please contact the mock trial office with any questions: 404/527-8779 or 800/334-6865 ext. 779 or StacyR@gabar.org



2010 STATE FINALS TOURNAMENT—JUDGING PANEL INFORMATION

Due to the **largest** number of teams **ever** participating in this season's State Finals, please consider serving in **multiple rounds** (especially on Saturday). This will help us meet the required number of presiding judges and evaluators necessary to fully staff all competition rounds.

Thank you!

Judging Panels

Presiding Judge: In each courtroom there will be one presiding judge who is responsible for maintaining order, moving the trial along in the designated time allotment, ruling on evidentiary motions, and overseeing all procedures during the trial.

Scoring Evaluator: In each courtroom there will be at least three scoring evaluators who will evaluate the students' performances and who will be responsible for completing a score sheet based upon individual performances of each team. Students are scored on their presentation skills, **not** on the merits of the case.

Orientation

There will be an orientation session presented by Justice George Carley of the Supreme Court of Georgia before each round of competition. All participating presiding judges and scoring evaluators are required to attend the orientation before their scheduled round(s). All judging panel members who volunteer in more than one round must attend the orientation session before *each* scheduled round. This is necessary for check-in, courtroom assignments and to address issues that may arise from prior rounds.

Time Commitment

Ample should be allowed before the competition date to thoroughly review the case materials and listen to the orientation CD, which will be provided. Past experience shows that most judges spend approximately two hours reviewing the case materials before arriving at the competition site. On the day of competition, at least four (4) hours should be set aside per round that is scheduled.

Pre-Requisite

To participate at the Georgia HSMTC State Finals tournament, volunteers should have at least **two (2) rounds** of previous experience serving on a judging panel in a **high school** mock trial tournament or at least 1 season of previous experience coaching a **high school** mock trial team. (Coaches with a team active in the state finals tournament may not serve on a judging panel.) The rules and procedures are very different in a high school mock trial tournament than in a college or law school mock trial tournament, therefore we ask for volunteers with **high school** mock trial experience, so that our students have the well-prepared judging panels when they present their case in a competition round.

*Conflicts

The Subcommittee on the Rules has identified several areas of conflict that judging panel volunteers may have with teams in the competition. These conflicts may include, but are not limited to the following examples: the judging panel member (J/E) formerly coached a team in the competition, the J/E is a family member of a team member or coach, the J/E works in the same firm, office or department as a coach, the J/E has a spouse that is a member of the faculty of a team's school and/or (at state finals only) the J/E served as a judging panel or coordinating team volunteer in a regional competition. Having a conflict with a team in the competition does not necessarily exclude a volunteer from serving on a judging panel during the competition, however we must be able to identify all potential conflicts in order to address them appropriately.

Instructions

Please provide **all** of the information requested on the following page (including a cell phone number, which will be kept confidential and only be used in an emergency situation on competition day). A **confirmation report** will be sent to you between **15 February and 5 March**. The report will contain instructions for obtaining the Judging Panel preparation materials from our website. We will not mail hard copies of these materials to volunteers this season. All delivery of preparation materials will be accomplished online. All panels will be assigned according to individual responses as much as possible. *The Judging Panel Coordinator will make the final decisions regarding presiding judge/scoring evaluator placement.*