



Memo: 2021 Judicial Updates and Reminders

Please note the following updates to the judicial section documents and procedures. These changes were made in consultation with District Directors, Section Leaders, and the State Office.

TRIAL COURT Section:

**** This year's case has been thoughtfully curated by the Hon. Judge Tyler Atkinson. In the interest of time, we are posting the first draft to the website; however, please note there may be some ongoing updates before it is finalized in the coming weeks.**

- All questions regarding case material and procedures should be submitted [ONLINE HERE](#) or via the link on the website (Judicial Section) no later than October 22, 2021. One document will be provided and will include all questions and our responses by October 29, 2022.
- Review all four attachments, clarifications have been added and team should ensure adherence to rules, procedures and scoring rubric.
 - Judicial Section Guide provides guidance on team composition.
 - Students/Advisors must adhere to Courtroom Decorum as listed in Rules of Procedure. (please review how to address Dress Code concerns)
 - **Trial Timelines:** Free minutes cannot be used during opening or closing
- **Student Leaders, Attorney General and County Court Judge Roles:** These officers are there to support District and County Court teams, and may serve in the role as a Judge if needed.
- **Team Roster Sheet are required:** Teams will complete team rosters pretrial and hand to evaluators. This will help the evaluator set up score sheets and can be found on [website](#).
- **Evaluators will rank Judges** on a scale of 1 to 10 vs 1 to 5 as in previous years.
- **Electronic devices** can only be used if they are in "Airplane/Flight Mode" for notes or time keeping only
- **Bailiffs:** Trial timing is provided in Rules of Procedure.
 - The clock does not stop during objections.
 - Any student, parent, coach or advisor who serves as bailiff must attend a brief training on Thursday evening of State Conference, time noted in schedule.
- Reminder if there are new clubs starting this year, please take a look at the Judicial Curriculum, made available due to the generous support of the Texas Bar Foundation. Advisors can access the curriculum in the resource portal of the website <https://ymcatexasyq.org/resource-portal/>
- The State Office will again use the digital app YAPP at State Conference to announce rounds and release Judicial rankings. * YAPP may also be used at District Conference and is compatible with IOS and Android. Downloading instructions to be provided before District Conferences.