

SECTION 11 – GRIEVANCES – Original Provision

RULE 11.1 – Procedure

- a) Only student competitors (“the complainant”) may file a Grievance Form. A Grievance Form will be available at any time after the final preliminary round. The complainant must clearly state the entire grievance or complaint in the space provided. Grievances or other inquiries from non-student competitors are not allowed.

- b) The complainant shall submit a completed Grievance Form to the Competition Administrator either in person or via email within two (2) hours after the announcement of the 16 teams advancing to the elimination round. Any grievances during the elimination rounds should be made immediately to the Competition Administrator. No grievance forms will be accepted after the conclusion of the competition.

- c) The Competition Administrator will bring the complaint before the Rules Committee for a decision. The Rules Committee may request those involved to answer questions or give information concerning the complaint. Any questions or information gathered must be done in the presence of the full Rules Committee.

- d) The Rules Committee will make a decision in accordance with Rule 2.4(c). A decision will be made within a reasonable amount of time and the concerned parties will be notified. Decisions affecting the structure of the competition or causing a delay will be communicated promptly to all competitors, judges, and bailiffs. The decisions of the Rules Committee and/or the Competition Administrator are final.

SECTION 11 – GRIEVANCES – Amended Provision

RULE 11.1 – Procedure

- a) Only student competitors (“the complainant”) may file a Grievance Form (Appendix B)(the Form may also be found on the competition website). The complainant must clearly state the entire grievance or complaint in the space provided. Grievances or other inquiries from non-student competitors are not allowed.

- b) The complainant shall submit a completed Grievance Form to the Competition Administrator via email within twenty (20) minutes after the final Preliminary Round. Any grievances during the elimination rounds should be made immediately to the Competition Administrator. No grievance forms will be accepted after the conclusion of the competition.

- c) The Competition Administrator will bring the complaint before the Rules Committee for a decision. The Rules Committee may request those involved to answer questions or give information concerning the complaint. Any questions or information gathered must be done in the presence of the full Rules Committee.

d) The Rules Committee will make a decision in accordance with Rule 2.4(c). The Rules Committee will answer complaints before the announcement of the advancing teams. The concerned parties will then be notified. Decisions affecting the structure of the competition or causing a delay will be communicated promptly to all competitors, judges, and bailiffs. The decisions of the Rules Committee and/or the Competition Administrator are final.

SECTION 16 – VIRTUAL COMPETITION – Original Provision

RULE 16.3 – Technology

e) Technological Difficulties

1. Competitors will connect to the Zoom room with their computer and will use their phone for audio. Each competitor must keep their video on for the duration of the round. However, each competitor not arguing must keep their audio on mute. In the case that the video fails or freezes, the competitor may complete their comment. When the competitor has finished their comment, the competitor shall ask the bailiff to stop the time, and at that point the competitor will have up to 15 minutes (with the bailiff timing) to get their video working again. Each team may have two (2) technological difficulty “pauses”, but will only receive the one 15-minute cure period. If the internet video connection goes out a second time, teams receive what is left of the previous 15-minute period to cure (*i.e.* a single pool of time). If the video fails a third time, or if the team is unable to cure within 15 minutes, then the team must continue the oral argument over the phone they used to call in. Judges will be instructed not to reduce points for technology failures. Competitors will receive training on how to operate Zoom prior to the start of the competition. During a technological difficulty, a competitor may communicate with a teammate or coach only for the purpose of resolving the difficulty. No communication on any aspect of the competition round is allowed.

SECTION 16 – VIRTUAL COMPETITION – Amended Provision

RULE 16.3 – Technology

e) Technological Difficulties

1. Competitors will connect to the Zoom room with their computer and will use their phone for audio. Each competitor must keep their video on for the duration of the round. However, each competitor not arguing must keep their audio on mute. In the case that the video fails or freezes, the competitor may complete their comment. When the competitor has finished their comment, the competitor shall ask the bailiff to stop the time, and at that point the competitor will have up to 8 minutes (with the bailiff timing) to get their video working again. Each team may have two (2) technological difficulty “pauses”, but will only receive the one 8-minute cure period. If the internet video connection goes out a second time, teams receive what is left of the previous 8-minute period to cure (*i.e.* a single pool of time). If the video fails a third time, or if the team is unable to cure within 8 minutes, then the team must continue the oral argument over the phone they used

to call in. Judges will be instructed not to reduce points for technology failures. Competitors will receive training on how to operate Zoom prior to the start of the competition. During a technological difficulty, a competitor may communicate with a teammate or coach only for the purpose of resolving the difficulty. No communication on any aspect of the competition round is allowed.