

DUBERSTEIN COMPETITION

Oral Argument Evaluation

Counsel _____ Team No. _____ Judge's Name _____

Round _____
(Prelim I, II, III, Octo- I, Octo- II, Quarter, Semi)

Circle One: Petitioner Respondent

1) Introduction, Conclusion, Time Allocation (10) _____ (out of 10)

- Followed procedure: rose; stated name and side; said "May it please the court"
- Offered recitation of the facts (petitioner only)
- Used rebuttal time properly
- Clear, effective introduction
- Clear, effective conclusion

2) Courtroom Presentation (20) _____ (out of 20)

- Speaking manner (volume; pace; inflection)
- Eye contact
- Deference (use of "Your Honor" and "this Court")
- Maintained control of the argument
- Composure (poised under pressure)

3) Response to Questions (20) _____ (out of 20)

- Answered questions sufficiently
- Exhibited familiarity with the subject matter of the question
- Turned the question to his/her advantage
- Acknowledged weaknesses when appropriate

4) Transition between Questions and Argument (10) _____ (out of 10)

- Transitioned smoothly
- Returned to argument without pause
- Argued without depending on questions

5) Legal Reasoning (20) _____ (out of 20)

- Cited the best authorities in support of argument
- Emphasized strong theoretical and/or policy arguments
- Clearly understood relevant case law
- Analyzed and synthesized applicable case law
- Conveyed legal argument coherently and efficiently

6) Application of the Law to Facts (10) _____ (out of 10)

- Drew comparisons or distinguished case law
- Effectively applied arguments and authorities to the facts of the case
- Cited relevant facts from the record
- Did not misstate or distort law or facts

7) Persuasiveness (10) _____ (out of 10)

- Used strengths effectively
- Anticipated opposing arguments
- Minimized weakness without making misrepresentations
- Conviction, passion

TOTAL (no fractions) _____ (out of 100)

Please Note: For uniformity in oral argument judging, your scores should fall within the following ranges:

Excellent: 90-100 Very Good: 80-89 Good: 70-79 Poor: 50-69

Total score must be at least 50