

## Evaluation Criteria

<b>Pretrial Motion (X2)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear and concise presentation of issues and appropriate use of case materials.</li> <li>• Well-developed, reasoned, and organized arguments.</li> <li>• Solid understanding of legal reasoning behind the arguments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responded well to presider's questions and maintained continuity in argument.</li> <li>• Effective rebuttal countered opponent's argument.</li> </ul>
<b>Opening Statement</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a case overview</li> <li>• Theme/Theory of the case was identified</li> <li>• Mention the key witnesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss burden of proof</li> <li>• State the relief requested</li> </ul>
<b>Direct/Re-Direct Examination</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions required straightforward answers and brought out key information for her/his side of the case.</li> <li>• Attorney effectively responded to the objections made.</li> <li>• Attorney properly introduced exhibits and, where appropriate, properly introduced evidence as a matter of record.</li> <li>• Attorney properly phrased and rephrased questions and demonstrated a clear understanding of trial procedures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney made effective objections to cross-examination questions of her/his witness when appropriate.</li> <li>• Attorney did not make unnecessary objections.</li> <li>• Throughout questioning, attorney made appropriate use of time.</li> <li>• Attorney used only those objections listed in the Summary of Evidentiary Objections.</li> </ul>
<b>Cross-Examination</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney made effective objections to direct examination (of the witness she/he cross-examined) when appropriate.</li> <li>• Attorney did not make unnecessary objections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney properly phrased and rephrased questions and demonstrated a clear understanding of trial procedures.</li> <li>• Attorney exposed contradictions in testimony and weakened the other side's case.</li> </ul>
<b>Witnesses</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Witness was believable in her/his characterizations and presented convincing testimony.</li> <li>• Witness was well prepared for answering the questions posed to her/him under direct examination and responded well to them.</li> <li>• Witness responded well to questions posed under cross-examination without unnecessarily disrupting or delaying court proceedings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Witness testified to key facts in a consistent manner and avoided irrelevant comments.</li> <li>• Witness did not disrupt the trial with unreasonable inferences.</li> </ul>
<b>Closing Arguments (x2)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney's performance contained elements of spontaneity and was not based entirely on a prepared text.</li> <li>• Attorney incorporated examples from the actual trial, while also being careful not to introduce statements and evidence that were not brought out during the trial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney made an organized and well-reasoned presentation summarizing the most important points for her/his team's side of the case.</li> <li>• Effective rebuttal countered opponent's arguments.</li> </ul>
<b>Clerk</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present and punctual for trial.</li> <li>• Performed her/his role so that there were no disruptions or delays in the presentation of the trial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted her/himself professionally without attracting any unnecessary attention.</li> <li>• Properly used verbal and visual time warnings.</li> </ul>
<b>Bailiff</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present and punctual for trial.</li> <li>• Performed her/his role so that there were no disruptions or delays in the presentation of the trial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted herself/himself professionally without attracting any unnecessary attention.</li> <li>• Knowledgeable about their role in the trial</li> <li>• <b>Followed script</b></li> </ul>
<b>Team Performance</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team members were courteous, observed general courtroom decorum, and spoke clearly and distinctly and displayed good sportsmanship to all competitors, regardless of trial results.</li> <li>• All team members were involved in the presentation of the case and actively participated in fulfilling their respective roles.</li> <li>• Witnesses performed in synchronization with attorneys in presenting their side of the case.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As much as possible, each trial attorney displayed examination and argumentation skills, and when appropriate, displayed knowledge of California Simplified Rules of Evidence in making objections Team members demonstrated cooperation and teamwork.</li> <li>• The teachers and attorney coaches displayed good sportsmanship.</li> </ul>