

2023–24 MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

(All mock trials will be held in courthouses unless otherwise indicated.)

- Teacher and attorney coach orientation Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023
- Latest drop out date to avoid penalty Monday, Nov. 13, 2023
- Preliminary rounds begin Week of Jan. 15, 2024
(No trials will be scheduled on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, Jan. 15.)
- Snow make up trials (1st week) Week of Feb. 5, 2024
- Snow make up trials (2nd week) Week of Feb. 12, 2024
- Winter break Week of Feb. 19, 2024
- Tiebreaker week Week of Feb. 26, 2024
- Regionals and Sweet Sixteen trials* Week of March 4, 2024
- Elite 8 trials and Final 4 trials* Week of March 11, 2024
- State championship Friday, March 22, 2024

*All dates are subject to change based upon issues that might arise out of courtroom space availability, number of teams participating, weather, etc. Please check website for updates on actual dates of trials for your team.

IMPORTANT DATE REQUESTS

Although Mock Trial Central makes every effort to accommodate scheduling requests, **we are asking this year that you please limit your days and/or dates to a minimum number.** As noted above, all mock trials will be held in courthouses which will decrease the flexibility of date options. Rule 12.5 states:

“Accommodations in the Mock Trial schedule will be considered for academic testing and/or religious reasons if the request is submitted before the deadline date provided on the registration form. Other requests for accommodations will be considered only for extraordinary circumstances. Please make sure that your team is available to commit to the entire Mock Trial competition.”

Note that trials may be scheduled on dates coinciding with the MCAS testing. Mock Trial Central does its best to avoid conflicts, but we have a limited number of dates to work with during the season.

If there are any important dates when your team will be unavailable to compete due to MCAS testing or other school-related conflicts, **list them below or send the list via email no later than Monday, Nov. 13, to mocktrial@massbar.org.** *Please review the above tournament schedule with your principal so you are in agreement with the time your team will need off to participate.*

Did you remember to:

- Have the registration form signed by the teacher coach and principal?
- Make your check payable to Massachusetts Bar Institute?
- Provide accounts payable information (if applicable)?
- Enclose the orientation sign-up sheet, mark the date in your calendar and mail all forms to the MBA no later than **Friday, Oct. 13.**

Mail forms and checks to:

Mock Trial Program, Massachusetts Bar Institute, 20 West St., Boston, MA 02111-1204

Once Mock Trial Central has processed your school’s registration form, a confirmation email will be sent to you.



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MOCK TRIAL COACH'S ORIENTATION SIGN-UP FORM

Note: Orientation is MANDATORY and is for teacher and attorney coaches ONLY.

The coach's orientation, attended by the Massachusetts Bar Association Mock Trial Committee members, is an opportunity for teachers and attorneys to receive a brief overview of this year's case, hear an explanation of the applicable law, and ask questions about team composition, judging, etc.

This year, the Mock Trial Coach's Orientation will be held virtually via Zoom on **Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023 at 4 p.m.** The Zoom link and your team's log-in and password will be sent to you via email one week prior to the orientation.

NOTE: THE ORIENTATION WILL BE RECORDED AND STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND.

I will attend the **Coach's Orientation via Zoom on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023 at 4 p.m.**
You will receive the case materials via email an hour prior to the program.

Attendee name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____



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2024 HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT PHOTO AND VIDEO RELEASE FORM

This signed photograph and video release form signifies that the Massachusetts Bar Association, Massachusetts Bar Institute and Mock Trial Program have been given permission to use any photographs and/or videos taken during the Statewide Competition, including the Mock Trial Finals and the National Competition, for educational and/or promotional materials and publications, both in print and online. All photographs and/or videos used will be portrayed in a positive manner.

Each team member and coach (attorney and teacher) must complete and sign the form in advance of the first scheduled trial in January. **Teacher/attorney coaches are required to hold on to all signed photo and release forms, and will provide said forms when requested to do so by Mock Trial Central.** Teacher coaches will attest to following through with this process at the time of completing the registration form for the upcoming tournament.

Team members under the age of 18 must also have the form signed by a parent or guardian.

I give permission for photographs and videos taken during the 2024 Mock Trial Competition, including the Mock Trial Finals and the National Competition, to be used for educational and/or promotional purposes. By signing this form, I understand that I am waiving any rights of compensation or ownership to any photographs and/or videos.

DATE: _____

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

STUDENT'S DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

FOR STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18:

DATE: _____

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____

REMINDER:

All teacher/attorney coaches are required to hold on to all signed photo and video release forms, and will provide them to Mock Trial Central when requested.