



ORAL ARGUMENT SCORE SHEET

Team Number _____

Round (circle one): **Preliminaries** **Quarter-Finals** **Semi-Finals** **Finals**

Any additional observations, comments, or suggestions for improvement as to either advocate should go on a separate sheet of paper – provided. You are welcomed and encouraged to share those comments with the advocates after you have completed the scoring for each team.

Grading Guidelines (for total score – to be rendered individually as to each Advocate)

108-120 (**Superior**) 95-107 (**Above Average**) 82-94 (**Average**) 69-81 (**Fair**) Below 68 (**Poor**)

ADVOCATES' LAST NAMES _____

Court Demeanor

- Attire and professional bearing
- Language, deference to Court
- Compliance with courtroom etiquette
- Body language, hand gestures, eye contact

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

Knowledge of Record

- Familiarity with names, events sequence, dates
- Familiarity with procedural case history
- Familiarity with court's reasoning

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

Organization and Reasoning

- Outline of argument
- Logical consistency of argument
- Awareness of strengths and weaknesses of case

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

Persuasiveness

- Presenting argument with little use of notes
- Use of rebuttal (for Petitioners only)
- Enthusiasm, zealousness, proper intonation

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

Legal Analysis

- Use of legal authority
- Use of policy arguments
- Understanding of legal issues

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

Responsiveness to Questions

- Use of direct, responsive answers
- Ability to dispose of collateral issues tactfully
- Ability to return to argument after questions
- Control of discussion, without interrupting judges
- Ability to perceive and discuss issues important to the Court
- Flexibility in presenting points in response to questions

(Maximum 20 Points) ----- _____

TOTAL (out of 120 points): _____

Judge Name: _____

Signature: _____