



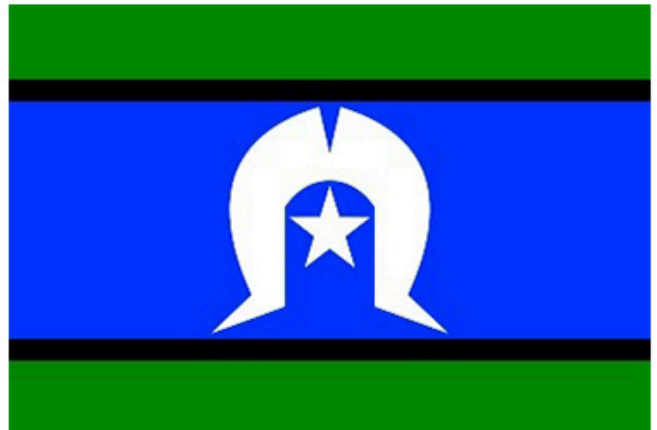
Western Sydney
LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

COMPETITIONS

GUIDE

SPRING
2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our University stands, and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture, and honour their enduring contribution to the legal traditions and justice systems of this country.

Thank You to Our Supporters

This guide and the competitions program would not be possible without the generous support of the Western Sydney University School of Law. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Dean, Professor Catherine Renshaw, for her ongoing encouragement and commitment to enhancing student learning and advocacy opportunities. We also thank all faculty members and staff who have contributed their time and expertise.

We also acknowledge the dedication of the Western Sydney Law Students' Association, whose leadership and passion continue to drive student initiatives and foster a vibrant legal community.



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INTRODUCTION TO THE GUIDE

Professor Catherine Renshaw, Dean of Law



It is my great pleasure to introduce this Competitions Guide, which will be an invaluable resource to support your journey into one of the most enriching and formative aspects of legal education: mooting.

Mooting is far more than a competition—it is a practical, transformative experience that builds the very foundations of excellent legal practice. Mooting requires you to engage in deep legal analysis, synthesise complex principles and precedents, and apply them persuasively to novel problems.

This process sharpens your ability to think critically, argue logically, and communicate clearly - skills that lie at the heart of every great lawyer's practice. Mooting also teaches you how to work in teams and collaborate effectively with your colleagues. This is exactly what employers value. In preparing for and participating in moots, you will learn how to construct compelling submissions and respond to judicial questioning under pressure. These experiences mirror the realities of legal work, where precision of thought and clarity of expression are essential.

Mooting also fosters confidence and resilience - traits that will serve you well throughout your legal career. Whether you are advocating in court, advising clients, or drafting complex documents, the discipline and habits of mind developed through mooting will remain invaluable.

I commend the Western Sydney Law Students' Association for producing this booklet, and I encourage all students - regardless of career aspirations - to take advantage of the opportunities mooting provides. It is through challenges like these that we refine our understanding of the law and prepare ourselves to use it with skill, integrity, and purpose.

I look forward to seeing many of you grow through the mooting experience and carry its lessons into your future contributions to the legal profession.

PRESIDENT (COMPETITIONS) WELCOME

It is with great excitement and immense pride that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of the *Western Sydney Law Students' Association (WSLSA) Competitions Guide*. This guide marks a significant milestone in Western Sydney University Law School community; for the first time, we have brought together all the competitions, programs, and opportunities available to students at every stage of their studies. From internal competitions designed to help you build confidence and foundational skills, to prestigious national moots, this guide reflects our commitment to creating a vibrant, accessible, and well-supported competitions culture on campus.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of competing in several national and international mooting competitions. These experiences were, without a doubt, some of the most formative of my time at law school. They sharpened my legal reasoning, taught me the discipline of structured argumentation, and helped me develop the confidence to advocate under pressure; all skills that I will carry into my legal career. But as enriching as these experiences were, they also revealed a clear gap within our university: unlike other law schools, we lacked a central structure to support students in accessing, preparing for, and excelling in legal competitions. The opportunities were there but they were fragmented, often inaccessible, and lacked continuity.

This is why we have created the *WSLSA Competitions Subcommittee*. This new team within the WSLSA was founded with a clear mission: to bridge that gap. To build a centralised, student-led body that coordinates competitions, nurtures new talent, and ensures that every student, whether in their first semester or their final year, has a clear, supported pathway into advocacy.

This Competitions Guide is the Subcommittee's first major project, and I am so proud of what we have achieved. The guide introduces a wide array of competitions and also includes competition calendars, registration information, and guidance on how to get involved, no matter your level of experience. This guide is just the beginning. Our vision is to build a lasting culture of advocacy, one where competitions are not only a select experience for a few, but a shared opportunity for all. We want every student to feel empowered to give it a go, to learn by doing, to make mistakes and grow from them, and to discover the thrill and discipline of legal advocacy.

A particular highlight of this year is the launch of the WSU Junior Criminal Law Moot Competition, featured in this guide. It is the first competition of its kind at our university, specifically designed for early-year students who are just beginning to engage with criminal law and oral advocacy. It reflects exactly what we hope to build going forward; competitions that are accessible, skill-building, and relevant, with room for every student to grow and learn.

To all our students: I encourage you to explore what this guide has to offer. Whether you're unsure where to start or already passionate about advocacy, there is something here for you.

And to the many hands behind this project, our dedicated Competitions Subcommittee, the School of Law, and the wider WSLSA team: thank you for your incredible work in bringing this vision to life.

We are so excited to see what you will achieve in and beyond the courtroom.

Taiba Ebrahimi

President (Competitions)

Western Sydney Law Students' Association

MEET THE TEAM



TAIBA EBRAHIMI

President (Competitions)

Hi, I am Taiba, the 2025 President for WLSA's Competitions Subcommittee. I am a final year Bachelor of Laws (Honours) student. With experience competing in national and international moots, I am passionate about building a supportive and accessible competitions culture at our university. My goal is to ensure every student has the opportunity and resources to develop their advocacy skills, no matter their year or experience level.



ELISSA ELMIR

Vice President

Hi, I'm Elissa and I'm the Vice President Competitions Subcommittee. I'm in my final year of Law and have represented WSU in both national and international mooting competitions. Those experiences have given me a real appreciation for the value of advocacy and practical legal skills. This year I'm focused on creating more opportunities for students to get involved in mooting, negotiations and other competitions while doing my best to build a strong and supportive community that encourages everyone to give it a go.



ELLEN TEECE

Secretary

Hi, my name is Ellen and I'm your Competitions Secretary for 2025! I'm a fourth year studying Law and Arts (majoring in History and Political Thought). I have been granted the amazing opportunity to represent our University at the international level - and I hope to, alongside Taiba and Elissa, expand these opportunities to the student body. This year I hope to assist in building a strong and flourishing mooting culture here at Western!

COMPETITIONS CALENDAR

**WSLSA X HWL EBSWORTH LAWYERS
NEGOTIATIONS COMPETITION**
28 AUGUST 2025

**WSLSA X ASHURST CLIENT INTERVIEW SKILLS
COMPETITION**
WEEK STARTING 01 SEPTEMBER 2025

WSU JUNIOR CRIMINAL LAW MOOT
22-28 SEPTEMBER 2025

MICHAEL KIRBY CUP (INTERVARSITY)
22-25 SEPTEMBER

**SIR HARRY GIBBS CONSTITUTIONAL LAW MOOT
(INTERVARSITY)**
10-13 OCTOBER 2025

SIR JAMES MARTIN MOOT (WSU X USYD)
02 DECEMBER 2025

Please note this calendar is a guide of the competitions in consideration for the spring semester and the dates or the competitions are subject to change.

WSLSA X HWL EBSWORTH NEGOTIATIONS COMPETITION

Key Dates

Problem question released

04 August 2025

Written Submissions due

14 August 2025

Final Oral Rounds

28 August 2025

Eligibility

This competition is open to all law students of Western Sydney University who want to test their knowledge of commercial law.

What to expect

This is a great way to apply your legal knowledge and research skills, as well as to put your interpersonal skills to the test! No matter if you sign up with friends or are assigned a group – you will get a chance to work together and compete against your peers in a friendly environment. This practical experience will bolster your transition into the workforce and allow you to try putting your lectures into practice! Commercial law is a broad and essential area of law that is growing every year – this competition will allow you to test out the area for yourself, if you're up for the challenge!

Registrations

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/FbxSdPCM19>



WSLSA X ASHURST CLIENT INTERVIEW COMPETITION

Key Dates

Registrations Close

10 August 2025

Elimination Rounds

01, 03 and 04 September 2025

Semi Finals and Grand Finals

To be confirmed

Eligibility

This competition is open to all law students of Western Sydney University who want to test their real life client interview skills.

What to expect

This is a great opportunity to apply your legal knowledge and client skills to a hypothetical scenario with feedback from lawyers from global law firm, Ashurst. No matter if you sign up with friends or are assigned a group – you will get a chance to collaborate and work together to advise a client. This will enhance your transition into the workforce, allowing for you to put your legal knowledge and interpersonal skills into practice! Ashurst is a world-renowned firm practicing in various fields, this competition is a fantastic opportunity to try out practicing as a solicitor yourself with feedback from industry professionals.

Registrations

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/FbxSdPCM19>



JUNIOR CRIMINAL LAW MOOT

Key Dates

Problem question released

25 August 2025

Written Submissions due

15 September 2025

Oral Rounds

22-28 September 2025 (exact dates TBC)

Eligibility

This competition is only open to first and second year law students of Western Sydney University.

What to expect

The Junior Criminal Law Moot Competition offers early-stage law students a dynamic introduction to courtroom advocacy in the context of criminal law.

Designed to simulate realistic trial proceedings, this competition allows participants to develop essential legal skills including oral advocacy, legal research, and the application of evidentiary and procedural rules.

Mooters will argue both prosecution and defence positions on a fictional criminal case, judged by experienced mooters, practitioners or academics. The competition aims to foster confidence, critical thinking, and familiarity with criminal justice principles in a supportive environment tailored for juniors.

Registrations

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/2X9HB6U0Gj>



SIR HARRY GIBBS CONSTITUTIONAL LAW MOOT

Key Dates

Expressions of Interest Close

Sunday, 10 August 2025

Written Submissions due

Thursday, 18 September

Final Oral Rounds

Friday, 10 to Monday, 13 October

Eligibility

This competition is open to all law students of Western Sydney University who have completed LAWS2008/7057 Government and Public Law and LAWS4015/7046 Constitutional Law.

Established in 2002, the Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Law Moot is recognised as Australia's premier constitutional law mooting competition for law students. The Moot brings together the nation's best and brightest mooters to present oral and written submissions on a case, which is based on current (and sometimes controversial) issues in Australian constitutional law, before some of the nation's most eminent legal minds. Previous moot problem questions have been drafted by Justices of the High Court and Solicitors-General. For several years, the grand final has been presided over by current or former Justices of the High Court of Australia.

Expression of Interest:

https://forms.office.com/r/drPyCUfPCh_



IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Law Moot Competition rules allow registration of upto four students ONLY from each university. Due to the high level of interest, a selection process will apply, which may include internal rounds at Western Sydney University to determine the final participants.

SIR JAMES MARTIN CRIMINAL LAW MOOT

Key Dates

Expressions of Interest open

Monday, 15 August 2025

Expressions of Interest Deadline

Sunday, 31 August 2025

Competition held on

Tuesday, 02 December 2025

Eligibility

This competition is open to law students in their second year or higher who have completed LAWS2004/7048 Criminal Law. Must have also represented WSU in at least one other moot competition.

Established in 2025, The Sir James Martin Moot Competition is a prestigious new mooting competition between the Western Sydney University School of Law and University of Sydney Law School.

It will take place on 2 December 2025 in the Banco Court, presided over by the Hon. Andrew Bell, Chief Justice of New South Wales. Mooters will argue one side (either prosecution or defense) of a criminal law case. It is a great opportunity to develop expertise in criminal law and appear in front of the Chief Justice and other leaders in the profession.

Expression of Interest:

<https://forms.office.com/r/q1ERHGMdrV>



GET INVOLVED

AS A MOOTER

01.

Jump into the action by participating as a competitor! Mooting is a fantastic way to develop your legal research, writing, and oral advocacy skills in a supportive environment. Whether you're new to competitions or experienced, the Competitions Subcommittee offers a range of events tailored to your level. Sign up, prepare your arguments, and gain invaluable experience that will serve you well beyond university.

AS A VOLUNTEER

02.

Not ready to compete yet? Volunteering is a great way to see how competitions work and build confidence.

We especially need volunteers to act as clients in our WLSA X Ashurst Client Interview Competition, a fun, low-pressure way to experience the event from the other side.

Interested?

Please email competitions@wslsa.com.au

AS A JUDGE

03.

Help shape the next generation of advocates by volunteering as a judge. Whether you're a practitioner, academic, or advanced student, your feedback and guidance are vital to fostering students' confidence and skill development. Judging offers a rewarding opportunity to give back to the community and engage with fresh legal talent.

To volunteer as a judge for any of the competitions, please contact Ellen Teece (competitionsecretary@wslsa.com.au).

AS A MENTOR

04.

Share your knowledge and experience by becoming a mentor. Volunteer mentors support new competitors with guidance on research, advocacy techniques, and competition preparation. This role is ideal for students and professionals who want to develop leadership skills while helping others grow and succeed.

To volunteer as a mentor for our competitions, please contact Elissa Elmir (competitionvicepresident@wslsa.com.au).

PRESIDENT'S (WSLSA) CLOSING REMARKS

The Western Sydney Law Students' Association (WSLSA) has always strived to uplift and champion the student experience, both within and beyond the classroom. As the pre-eminent student-run association for law students at Western Sydney University (WSU), our mission has never been confined to academic support alone. We exist to empower students, equip them with practical legal skills, and foster a sense of belonging within a profession that can often feel out of reach. This year marks an exciting new chapter in that mission, as we proudly welcome the WSU Moot Club into the WSLSA as our official Competitions Subcommittee. This incorporation reflects a bold, forward-looking vision for our Competitions Portfolio – one that speaks to growth, collaboration, and a renewed commitment to excellence. This move isn't just structural, it's symbolic. It reflects our vision for a Competitions Portfolio that is deeply student-centred and responsive to the real needs of our community.

At the helm of this transformation are three remarkable women: Taiba, Elissa, and Ellen. Each has represented WSU at national and international levels, and together they represent the very best of what our student body has to offer. More than competitors, they are mentors, visionaries, and champions of student advocacy. Under their guidance, the Competitions Portfolio is evolving into a space that nurtures not only the skill, but also the confidence, resilience, and voice of every student who steps into the advocacy arena. Their commitment to creating a supportive, skills-based environment is already shaping a new era of mooting and competitions for our university.

I joined the WSLSA in 2023 as Treasurer, before taking on the role of Vice-President, and today I have the privilege of serving as President. I knew this association had the power to make meaningful change. I've seen first-hand the value that competitions bring, not just in honing legal skillsets, but in building a sense of purpose and pride among our students. I have also witnessed the very real gap that exists between academic learning and the practical skills required in the legal profession. For too long, students have navigated university without sufficient exposure to the real-world demands of legal practice: client communication, courtroom advocacy, and professional judgment. These are not peripheral skills, they are central to the careers many of us will step into.

This guide, the first of its kind at WSU, represents a turning point. It is more than just a handbook. It is a blueprint for how we intend to prepare, support, and launch the next generation of mooters and legal professionals. Through our revitalised Competitions Subcommittee, we aim to break down barriers to participation, provide structured support, and build a thriving culture of advocacy and excellence on campus.

The WSLSA is not just about competitions; it's about confidence, competence, and community. It's about ensuring our students are ready to step into the world with voices that are heard, skills that are sharp, and networks that empower. It's about creating a space where students are encouraged to challenge themselves, where feedback is constructive, and where success is shared. We believe in building a community where students grow together, not in isolation, but in solidarity.

To those reading this guide: we hope you find inspiration in these pages, and we encourage you to take that leap, join a competition, and be part of this exciting new chapter. Whether you're a first-year law student or in your final semester, there is a place for you here. The WSLSA will be right behind you, cheering you on, supporting your growth, and celebrating your success.

Here's to new beginnings, bigger and better things, and the bright future of WSU talent. We can't wait to see what you achieve.

Neveen Alam

2025 President

Western Sydney Law Students' Association



Western Sydney

LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**COMPETITIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE**

2025