



Duke University School of Law
Moot Court Board

Policy on Board Member Communication with 1Ls

The Moot Court Board wants to ensure that only accurate and consistent information is shared with the 1L class regarding the LARW Oral Advocacy Component and the Hardt Cup Tournament, (collectively, the “Hardt Cup competition”). The Board also believes that it is essential to avoid any appearance of impropriety or favoritism regarding the selection of new Board Members. Therefore, the Board has implemented the following rules regarding communication between 1Ls and current and former Board Members.

1. Communication of the following is permissible:

- a. Any information shared by the Hardt Cup Coordinators or Board Members designated by the Hardt Cup Coordinators, including in general information sessions for 1Ls regarding the Moot Court Board and the Hardt Cup competition.
- b. Information shared by Board Members regarding the Moot Court Board in general, such as requirements and benefits of membership, activities, etc.
- c. Any information shared by a Board Member in his or her capacity as an LARW teaching assistant regarding the LARW appellate brief topics or oral advocacy to the extent they are required to do so in their positions as teaching assistants.

2. Communication of the following is prohibited:

- a. Any information regarding the Hardt Cup competition rules and procedures, judging rules and procedures, scoring criteria and procedures, the contents of the bench briefs, or any other aspect of the Hardt Cup competition, which is shared by a Board Member who has not been designated by the Coordinators.
- b. Outside of their role as judges during the Hardt Cup competition, any advice, pointers, tips, or training regarding substantive or stylistic aspects of the Hardt Cup competition, given by Board Members, other than the Coordinators or those designated by the Coordinators.

The Executive Board of the Moot Court Board reserves the right to impose whatever sanctions it deems appropriate upon any Moot Court Board Member who violates either the text or the spirit of this policy. Likewise, the Hardt Cup Coordinators reserve the right to impose whatever sanctions they deem appropriate, including disqualification from the Hardt Cup Tournament and referral to the Law School’s judicial process, upon any Hardt Cup competitor who violates either the text or the spirit of this policy.