

Duke University School of Law Moot Court Board

Policy on Hardt Cup Competitor Collaboration & Preparation

The Moot Court Board wants to ensure that all first year students are provided a fair chance to prepare for and to succeed in the Hardt Cup competition. Therefore the Board has implemented the following rules regarding collaboration, communication, and preparation between and amongst Hardt Cup competitors and others.

1. Before and during *only* Round One of the Hardt Cup competition, competitors *may*:
 - a. Assemble to discuss, prepare, and practice the subject matter of Round One, their oral arguments, and oral advocacy.
 - b. *Except where prohibited by the Moot Court Board's Policy on Moot Court Board Member Communication with 1Ls*, which generally prohibits communication between first year students and former and current members of the Moot Court Board concerning the Hardt Cup competition, *discuss* the subject matter of Round One, their oral argument, and oral advocacy with non-competitors, including upperclass students.
2. After the completion of Round One of the Hardt Cup competition and throughout the completion of Round Two, competitors *may not*:
 - a. Discuss oral advocacy, the subject matter of Round Two, their Round Two oral arguments, or prepare or practice their oral arguments for with either competitors or anyone else.
3. After the completion of Round Two of the Hardt Cup competition and throughout the completion of the Hardt Cup Finals, as long as they remain in the competition, competitors *may not*:
 - a. Discuss oral advocacy or the subject matter of Round Three or the Finals, nor prepare or practice their oral arguments with other competitors or anyone else.

The Hardt Cup Coordinators reserve the right to impose upon any Hardt Cup competitor who violates either the word or the spirit of this policy whatever sanctions it deems appropriate, including disqualification from the competition and referral to the Law School's judicial process.