Instructions to the Judge: Please score competitors based on this rubric. Your evaluation should reflect your appraisal of the student’s skills, without consideration for which side should win on the merits. You should not choose a raw score and then determine sub-scores: it is entirely possible that a person with an excellent command of the issues would not present well and vice versa. Only after you have assigned sub-scores should you total the scores.

At the end of your judging time, you should review all the scores you have assigned; in some cases you may need to slightly adjust your scores so that they reflect comparable expectations across competitors.

Few competitors should receive scores in the “outstanding” range; similarly, few should receive scores in the “far below average” range. Only those very rare competitors that are particularly excellent or particularly lacking should be scored greater than 90 or lower than 50, respectively.

### Distribution of Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&lt;50</th>
<th>50-59</th>
<th>60-69</th>
<th>70-79</th>
<th>80-89</th>
<th>90-100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Far Below Average</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>Superior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below the minimum expected level (&lt;5%)</td>
<td>Needs improvement (15%)</td>
<td>Meets expectations (35%)</td>
<td>Exceeds expectations (35%)</td>
<td>Demonstrates excellence (8%)</td>
<td>Possibly the best 1L advocate at Duke (&lt;2%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In calculating your final score, consider the following elements as guidelines:

**COMMAND OF ISSUES & ORGANIZATION (50 points)**
- Does the competitor have a full understanding of the law and facts?
- Does the competitor use that understanding to advance the argument?
- How effective is the argument irrespective of the merits?
- Does the argument have a clear outline with outstanding presentation of the points?
- Were answers to questions targeted and responsive?

**PERSUASIVENESS AND COURTROOM MANNER (50 points)**
- Does the competitor provide clear and concise answers to questions?
- Are there smooth transitions between answers and argument?
- How persuasive is the competitor?
- How confident and calm is the competitor?
- Did the competitor segue well to/from answering questions?
- Does the competitor have good eye contact and a clear delivery?
- Is the competitor respectful towards the court?

TOTAL: ____________

Competitor Name: [Auto fill]
Round: [Auto fill] Time: [auto fill]
Judge: [Auto fill] Judge Initials: _____