



OCTOBER 2020 MOCK TRIAL NEWS

NCMTP BOARD CONFIRMS ONLINE COMPETITION FOR REGIONALS AND STATE FINALS IN 2021

The Board members of the North Carolina Mock Trial Program have analyzed the situation we are facing in North Carolina and have determined that both the NCAJ High School Mock Trial Regional and State Finals competitions will be held virtually in 2021. These decisions are designed to keep mock trial teams and families safe and give clear expectations for the full competition season. As noted in the calendar below, the regional competition will take place during the afternoon of February 5 and on Saturday, February 6 and State Finals will take place on March 5 and 6, 2021 on Zoom. Teams competing in Regionals will receive their mock trial sports bags, awards, and comment sheets in the mail and those participating in State Finals will receive their t-shirts, hats, awards and other materials immediately after March 6. Please visit ncmocktrial.org for all details.

MOCK TRIAL STATE FINALS T-SHIRT DESIGN

Are you a student or teacher with an idea for this year's **State Finals t-shirt/hat design**? Email liz@ncmocktrial.org with your recommendation of a short saying based on this year's case - or mock trial generally - for potential printing on the 2021 State Finals shirt and hat. Respondents will be **entered into a raffle for a chance to win a prize**. Past examples: Mock On; Got Mock.

THE (NEW) MOCK TRIAL COMMUNITY (NEWSLETTER)

The North Carolina Mock Trial Program will soon be unveiling a **new community newsletter** to publish student spotlights, resources, periodic team updates, and to otherwise connect the mock trial community of parents, coaches, students, and teachers. Newsletter sign up at ncmocktrial.org. **Coaches/Team Leads:** Do you know a student who has grown a lot as a leader through mock trial so far this year? Please email liz@ncmocktrial.org to nominate someone for our **Student Leader Spotlight**. You are proud of them – please help us recognize them, too!

SIGN UP FOR ONLINE PRACTICE SCRIMMAGE

If you are registered for this mock trial season, the NC Mock Trial Program will put you in touch with a team to run a **practice scrimmage** with on Zoom. If needed and requested, the NCMTP will also arrange the Zoom call link for you, too. We will put teams in touch as soon as October and through January based on schools' interest and availability. If you have not yet, sign up at <https://ncmocktrial.org/team-scrimmages/>.

2020 – 2021 MOCK TRIAL SEASON CALENDAR

Final Registration Deadline and \$275 Team Fee Due	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020
Team Member List, Code of Ethics, Release Forms Due	Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021
Last Day to Withdraw Without Penalty	Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021
Regional Competition	Fri. – Sat, Feb. 5-6, 2021
Widenhouse Award Nomination Materials Due	Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021
State Finals Competition	Fri. – Sat., March 5-6, 2021
National Championship, Evansville, IN	Thurs. – Sat., May 13-15, 2021

DECEMBER 1 SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE

Recent interest meetings have shown how mock trial in North Carolina has the capacity to grow to include many more high schools across the state. Will you help us set a stable foundation so that the North Carolina Mock Trial Program can expand each year? On December 1, we ask and hope you participate in our social media challenge: Please share this [donation page](#) on your social media feed, including a description of what the program has meant to you. Remember to tag us (@ncmocktrial) and use the hashtag #ncmocktrial. Teachers and coaches, please share this challenge with involved parents, too. [Individual contributors](#) are featured on our website.

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER THE ATTORNEY ADVISOR ROLE

We want to make the case! Below are the **main reasons WHY** we encourage you to reach out to the NC Mock Trial Program (liz@ncmocktrial.org) to be added to our list of attorneys willing to help mentor a team should a team in their local neighborhood need an attorney advisor. Why:

- Teaching high school students will sharpen your trial skills and is a rewarding way to keep the Rules of Evidence fresh in your mind.
- You will be inspired to see high school students develop a strong understanding of our justice system and hone important life skills such as critical thinking, public speaking, teamwork, and leadership abilities.
- You will join a network of hundreds of other attorneys who support mock trial as presiding judges, scoring jurors, and regional coordinators – a stellar networking opportunity.
- The NCMTP gives you all the teaching resources you would need at <https://ncmocktrial.org/resources/training-materials/>.
- Many teams are meeting virtually this year to practice social distancing.
- **You will help us bring this program into diverse communities across the state to ensure all interested students can access the valuable life lessons this program develops!**

We are looking to ensure schools in all areas of the state, especially in more rural communities, can participate in mock trial. **Will you let us know if you are willing to be added to our list of potential attorney advisors?**

NCMTP REGIONAL & SITE COORDINATORS

The below group of attorneys and paralegals generously volunteer their time to make mock trial competition run smoothly each year. Learn more about them at ncmocktrial.org/supporters.

Regional Coordinators:

Fayetteville *Rebecca Britton*
Gastonia *Holden Clark and Daniel O'Shea*
Greenville *to be announced*
Hendersonville *Mary Ann Hollocker and Beth Stang*
Hickory *Blia Vang*
High Point *Rich Manger*
Hillsborough *Drew Haywood, Robby Jessup, and Rebecca Ugolick*
Raleigh *Lindsey Granados and Christine Scheef*
Salisbury *John Basinger*
Wilmington *John H. Anderson, Jr.*

Site Coordinators:

Fayetteville *Tanja Shurling*
Gastonia *Beverly Moore and Jacqueline Thurman*
Greenville *Sandi Baughman-Egan and Nelia Willis*
Hendersonville *Melanie Miller*
Hickory *Bianca Lopez*
High Point *Grace Lay*
Hillsborough *Patti Clapper*
Raleigh *Michelle Keely*
Salisbury *Anna Hardin*
Wilmington *Catherine Holland and Rachel Royal*

NCMTP Board Members: *Rebecca Britton (President), Rich Manger (Vice President), Andrew McVey (Treasurer), Adrienne Blocker (Secretary), Helen Baddour, Bradley Bannon, Drew Haywood, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt, and David Henson (ex officio)*

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE 2020-2021 COMPETITION SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition Program Sponsor: **NC Advocates for Justice**

Program Outreach Sponsors:

Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina
ABOTA Foundation

State Finals Sponsor: **Sumwalt Anderson Law Firm**

Regional Sponsors

Fayetteville: **Britton Law**

Gastonia:	The Roberts Law Firm
Greenville:	Hardee Massey & Blodgett, LLP
Hendersonville:	The Van Winkle Law Firm
Hickory:	The Law Office of Jason E. Taylor, P.C. & Orndoff Law Firm
High Point:	High Point Bar Association
Hillsborough:	Patterson Harkavy LLP
Raleigh:	Settlement Planning Services, LLC / Tacker LeCarpentier
Salisbury:	Rowan County Bar Association
Wilmington:	Shipman & Wright, LLP