**MULS Competitor Selection Policy**

**Purpose**

This policy sets out the process and procedure for the selection of competitors in external and internal competition where selection of an individual or team is required.

This policy operates in addition to and alongside MULS competition rules and guidelines.

This policy is designed to encourage diversity in MULS Competitions and foster the growth of MULS Competitors in their Competitions careers as well as the enhancement of MULS’ perception in the wider law student community.

**Part 1: Intervarsity Competition Selection**

**Process:**

**1.** Applicants for external competitions will be selected by the Director (Competitions), alongside the External Competitions Executive Officer.

**1.1** Where deemed preferable and sufficient by the Director (Competitions) the selection process may be deferred to or undertaken with the assistance of relevant academic members, past competitiors and/or legal practitioners.

**2.**  In the circumstance that there are more than ten applicants for any external competition, a Selection Panel will be formed.

**2.1** The Selection Panel will be composed at the discretion of the Director (Competitions) and must be composed of no less than three MULS Directors or Executive Officers with some background in Competitions.

**3.** A member of the panel cannot be an applicant for the competition they are selecting for.

**4.** Members of the Selection Panel, the Vice President (Competitions), the President and the Intervarsity Competitions Director will approach the selection process with an impartial mind.

**4.1** If any member involved in the selection process indicates or is suspected to hold a lack impartiality for any reason or conflict of interest, it is the Director (Competitions) responsibility and discretion to remove this member from the panel and replace them.

**5.** Applications will be anonymised when practical to do so.

**Method of Selection:**

**6**. Any decision of competitor selection is final and not appealable.

**Selection Criteria:**

**7.** The Selectors will give primary consideration to the following criteria:

**a)** Prior experience in the relevant competition, whether internal or external;

**b)** Prior experience in any MULS competition, whether internal or external; and

**c)** Availability during the preparation period for the competition.

**8.** The Selectors will give secondary consideration to the following criteria:

 **a)** Academic results, where relevant to the topic of the competition;

**b)** Contribution to the MULS competitions portfolio, including judging, coaching and any other relevant contribution;

**c)** The quality and substance of the written application;

**d)** Any other relevant legal research, writing or oral skills; and

**e)** the likelihood of the applicant representing MULS to the best of their ability.

**9.** When weighing up the factors included in sections 7 & 8 the Selectors must also consider the following:

1. In order to ensure equality of access to external competitions, where the applicant has competed previously in the same competition, this will weigh as a significant factor against selection for that same competition again; and
2. Where a junior competitor has demonstrated great talent and commitment in the relevant competition, their lack of experience should not weigh unfavourably against their selection.

**10.** Having regard to this criteria, the Selectors, with impartial minds, are able to use their discretion when making a decision in situations where the selection criteria may be limiting.