



TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

Memo: 2025-2026 Trial Court Updates and Reminders

Please note the following updates to the judicial section documents and procedures. These changes were made in consultation with District Directors, Section Leaders, and the State Office.

Trial Court Section:

- This year's case is called "**LOCAL POLITICS, OLD ENEMIES, DEADLY EXPLOSION**"
- All questions regarding case material and procedures should be submitted via the link to our Support form on the website (Judicial Section) no later than September 30th, 2025. One document will be provided and will include all questions and our responses by October 20th, 2025.
- This is a **closed case**, only use cases/sources that are referenced within the case. Please review the Trial Court Case Material for guidance.
- **Scoring Rubrics:** Scoring will be moving back to being based on the average score of all rounds to determine team ranks. The rubric will still use the 1-10 scale and content wise rubrics are exactly the same but have been reformatted to mirror the scoring rubric in appeals and make it easier for evaluators to score at conference.
- **Team Rosters:** This year we have added a team roster requirement for District and State registration to better track team numbers, roles, and delegates. This means each student will be expected to upload a file with their fellow teammates names and team number. The order the names are in doesn't matter, so long as everyone is included. A template for these uploads is available on the website [HERE](#)
- Reminder if there are new clubs starting this year, please take a look at the Judicial Curriculum, made available due to the generous support of the Texas Bar Foundation. Advisors can access the curriculum in the resource portal of the website <https://ymcatexasyg.org/resource-portal/>
- The State Office will continue to use the digital app YAPP at State Conference (YAPP) to announce rounds and release the full Judicial rankings during or after closing ceremonies. We will invite those participants attending state to download the link after District Conferences. ** Some Districts will also use YAPP for District Conference.