

High School Mock Trial Journalist Contest Rules/Requirements:

- All participants must register to participate. This is a separate registration than team sign up.
- All participants must complete a permission slip authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Journalists Contest submission for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
- Courtroom journalist competition will take place at the state tournament only. Journalists are allowed to attend their regional tournament to practice, however, article submissions will not be accepted or rewarded unless completed at the State level.
- Student participants are not required to have a team associated with their school competing.
- All contestants must write their articles based on their assigned team's Round 2 trial.
- Round 2:
 - o Introduce yourself to the scorers, say your name and identify yourself as the courtroom journalist.
 - o You may sit in the jury box away from scorers if available. You must wear your nametag.
 - o Once you are seated, you may not have any contact with anyone in the courtroom. (parents, teachers, or fellow students). You must draft your article completely independently.
- After Round 2, all contestants must type their articles. Typed submissions must be a 12 point Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins, double-spaced, and a page limit of two pages. Any articles over two pages will not be read.
- Submitted articles should be in the voice of a reporter covering a trial. Use of dictionaries and thesauruses will be permitted.
- Label your article with your name and team code only.
- Articles must be emailed to the State Coordinator by the deadline set in advance of the tournament.
- Contestants may refer to the Colorado Mock Trial case materials, the Journalism Reporters Handbook, and the Judging criteria during the contest.

Article Specifications

- Submitted articles should be in the voice of a reporter covering the Round 2 trial.

- Each courtroom journalist shall place their name and team code on the top left corner of the page. If not with a team, courtroom journalists will be provided with a code to use.
- The article must be in 12-point, Times New Roman font with one-inch margins.
- The article must be double spaced.

Awards for the Journalism Contest will be presented at the Award Ceremony at the State Tournament.