



Contra Costa County Rules for Courtroom Journalists

- You must be affiliated with a participating Contra Costa County Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team's school. You are considered to be a team member.
- You may only watch and report on your own team's trials during the preliminary rounds.
- When attending trials as a reporter, you must wear a "Press Badge" which will be provided. You may sit in the jury box or in an area not disruptive to the trial.
- Once seated, you may not have any contact with anyone from your school.
- You will have until 5 p.m. on the day following the trial to complete your article and deliver it to the Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOE). Articles must be hand-delivered, e-mailed, faxed or postmarked by that time in order to be considered. For Tuesday trials, the deadline is Wednesday at 5 p.m., and for Thursday trials, Friday at 5 p.m. You must write the article completely by yourself.
- Articles are limited to 500 words. Use of dictionaries, thesauruses and spell checkers are permitted.
- Contestants may refer to the Mock Trial case materials, the Journalism Contest rules, and the judging criteria during the contest.
- The Contra Costa County winner is eligible to participate in the journalism contest at state (in Riverside)
- Awards for the Journalism Contest are independent of the CCC Mock Trial competition; an individual may win a journalism award regardless of their Mock Trial team's ranking.

The CCCOE is located at 77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, California 94523
The fax number is (925) 942-3454. Send e-mails to krice@cccoe.k12.ca.us

Registration and Release

Student _____ School _____

I have read the above rules. As a condition of participation, I agree to follow these rules. I also understand that CCCOE reserves the right to exhibit selected entries for no compensation, in various formats, including but not limited to reproduction in Mock Trial materials, publication on the Internet and in the newspaper, and in public media.

Student Signature _____ Coach Signature _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Address _____

