



NLS PRESIDENT'S CUP NEGOTIATION COMPETITION 2025

This competition is designed for junior lawyers and, is open to anyone meeting the eligibility criteria for joining the Nottinghamshire Junior Lawyers Division (NJLD). This includes students (including LPC, SQE and bar training course) and those still engaged in professional training in the workplace (including trainee solicitors and those doing SRA SQE solicitors and paralegal apprentices, pupil barristers, paralegals (with up to 2 years' experience) who work and/or study in Nottinghamshire.

You must fall into one of these eligible categories as at the closing date for the first round of entries. If you are unsure as to whether you are eligible to enter, please contact us at the details given below.

The competition provides the opportunity to:

- Develop your written and oral negotiation skills, which are crucial to becoming a successful legal professional.
- Test your negotiation skills in a practical scenario.
- Boost your CV & profile.
- Benefit from the feedback of senior legal professionals.
- Build your confidence in a supportive environment.
- Increase your chances of success in an interview (how better to evidence an example of when you have successfully used your negotiation skills than by saying that you won the President's Cup Negotiation Competition!)

The finalist's will each be awarded a cash prize (first prize £300, runner up £150) and certificate, with the winner being presented with the coveted President's Cup. The winner will also be invited to attend the Christmas Drinks Reception as a guest of the President.

Formal presentation of the Cup and Certificates will take place at the AGM, on Tuesday 12th May 2026.

Competition details as follows:

- The first round takes the form of a written exercise. You will prepare and submit a written document of no more than 2000 words, identifying the likely issues, the strengths, and weaknesses of each parties' case and detailing how a successful negotiation should be approached. The two highest scoring written submissions from the first round will make it through to the final.
- Submissions will be judged on identification of the relevant and likely issues; strengths and weaknesses; commentary as to the structure and tactical approach to negotiation, 'writing style' and presentation (including spelling and grammar).

- The submission will be judged anonymously by members of the Nottinghamshire Law Society's Education and Training Committee.

The deadline for the first-round entries is **5pm on Friday 7th November 2025**. The final will take place on **Monday 8th December 2025** at **6pm**, venue to be confirmed.

The final will be judged by Marie Dancer, President of Nottinghamshire Law Society, and members of the Nottinghamshire Law Society's Education and Training Committee. If you would like to enter the competition, please send your written submission together with a completed entry form to Head of Operations, Michelle Foster michelle.foster@nottslawsoc.org by 5pm on Friday 7th November 2025.

Good luck!