

Marblehead High School Mock Trial

- Jack Krivit

Despite the lack of attention the club has been getting, the Marblehead High School Mock Trial team has gone undefeated, securing three consecutive victories against formidable opponents hailing from high schools in HamiltonWenham, Danvers and Lynnfield. Buoyed by the leadership of captains Susie Mace and Olivia Indelicato, the ten team members have been preparing since early November, meeting six days a week to practice - the same frequency as organized sports teams at Marblehead High School.

When the season began, the ten members received the details of a fictional case provided to them for the purpose of the competition: a world-renowned cardiologist was being accused of medical malpractice. Parts were assigned for each team member to serve both on the plaintiff side and defense, with some members assuming additional roles. Students were provided affidavits, each witness's story, and spent considerable time drawing out their own ideas about how legal arguments should be pursued. Additional coaching has been provided by local attorneys Terence Reilly and Michael Greenberg, who have assisted the team with their professional analysis of the student work.

“We practice a lot and get super in depth,” says senior captain Mace, “but the hard work shows come trial time. The questions, as well as our opening statements and closing arguments, are constantly changing the more we do run-throughs of the trial and discover applicable objections and case law. We prepare for every possibility for months until we are finally trial ready and polished. This year's case has been a tough one, with a lot of medical jargon and twists and turns that don't make it a cut and dry guilty or not guilty case.”

Henry Jalbert, the team's only freshman, is excited to be part of the group. “I’m very grateful for everyone supporting me. We have a great team and I’ve learned a lot throughout the season.”

The Marblehead High School Mock Trial team moves on to the semifinals in Worcester this Sunday, March 6, where they will compete against 31 other high school teams vying for the Massachusetts State Mock Trial Championship.



From left to right:

Front row: Nash Guyre, Susie Mace, Paris Tully, Olivia Indelicato, Sophia Vener

Back row: Ameer Ragheb, Charlie Bushman, Jake Abrams, Jack Krivit, Henry Jalbert, Jacob Keller