

Election of Elected Trustees

This Bye-Law is made by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Articles 14 and 27.1 of the Articles of the Association.

This Bye-Law shall govern the election of Elected Trustees from the Fellows when vacancies arise under the Articles of Association.

The Chief Executive shall act as Returning Officer and may appoint an agent to assist with the conduct of the election.

Nomination

Where one or more vacancy for the position of Elected Trustee arises the Board of Trustees shall agree a nominations period ('Nominations Period') during which nomination forms can be obtained from and submitted to the Returning Officer.

The Returning Officer shall send a Nominations Period Notice to all Fellows and members confirming the dates of the Nomination Period, attaching this Bye-Law and a nomination form. The Nominations Period Notice must be sent at least 7 working days before the Nominations Period begins.

A Fellow who wishes to stand as a candidate shall self-nominate and be seconded by another Fellow. The nomination form, which will contain declarations as to eligibility to stand, must be accompanied by a supporting statement of not more than 500 words. The nominations form must be received by the Returning Officer by email or post within the Nomination Period.

Following the close of the Nominations Period, the Returning Officer shall determine the eligibility of any nominated Fellow to stand as a candidate in accordance with the requirements of Article 26.2 and 30 (grounds for disqualification as Trustee) and whether the requirements of this Bye-Law have been satisfied.

Election

An election shall take place only if there are more candidates than there are vacancies.

Where there is less than or an equal number of candidates to vacancies those candidates shall be appointed to those vacancies. In these circumstances the Returning Officer shall contact all Fellows informing them of the Fellows that have been appointed to those vacancies.

If an election needs to take place, the Board of Trustees shall agree an election period ('Election Period') during which the Fellows can vote. In these circumstances, the Returning Officer shall send a Notice of Election Period to all Fellows confirming the dates of the Election Period, instructions on how they can vote during the Election Period and provide copies of all candidates' supporting statements and photos, an election form and a proxy consent form.

The Election Period shall begin no earlier than 7 working days after the Notice of Election Period was circulated.

A candidate's election statement and any other election material distributed or published, must not contain any information of a derogatory nature about any other candidate in the election.

The election shall be conducted according to the method of single transferable vote as defined by the Electoral Reform Society in its publication by Newland & Britton "How to Conduct an Election by the Single Transferable Vote" (1997 Third Edition).

A Fellow may act as a proxy for another Fellow and vote on his or her behalf if the completed election form is accompanied by a proxy consent form from that Fellow.

Result of Election

If it appears to the Returning Officer that an election has been conducted substantially in compliance with this Bye-Law and the single transferable vote, and the Returning Officer is satisfied that the result of any non-compliance did not affect the return of any candidate at the election, then the Returning Officer shall announce the result as soon as practicable following the count.

The Returning Officer shall publish the detailed results of the election on the Royal Society website following their announcement.

A candidate for election may challenge the process by writing to the Returning Officer within one week of the declaration of the result. Any challenge shall be considered by the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. Any decision of the Board of Trustees shall be final.

Communication

Communications from the Returning Officer to the Fellows under this Bye-Law shall be sent by email unless a Fellow has not supplied an email address. If a Fellow has not supplied an email address the Returning Officer shall send communications under this Bye-Law by post.

All Fellows may communicate with the Returning Officer under this Bye-Law by email or post.

Any communication by post shall be deemed to be received two working days after proof of posting and any electronic communication received after 5pm GMT shall be taken to have been received on the next working day, and for these purposes "working day" means any day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or other public holiday.

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