

# Club & Society Elections – Rules

## Rules and Principles for Club & Society Elections

### Principles

- The Union and current signatories share the responsibility for ensuring these elections are conducted fairly and that these principles are adhered to by their members.
- Current signatories hold responsibility for ensuring that any students who wish to run or vote in the elections hold a current valid membership to the relevant group.
- All candidates and voters should conduct themselves in a manner which shows respect to all candidates, the Union, and the wider student community.
- Signatory roles should not be treated as pre-agreed; any eligible student is able to run for election.
- Students eligible to hold signatory positions must not be discouraged or prevented from standing for election.
- If groups arrange hustings events, these should take place during the voting period, with all members receiving an invitation. Candidates should each have an opportunity to make a speech, and time given for each candidate to speak should be fair and equal.
- No individual should interfere with the fair, democratic running of the elections.

### General Rules

- Signatory elections must be conducted by the Students' Union via the official Club & Society Elections Process.
- Non-signatory positions will continue to be overseen by individual Clubs & Societies.
- Only full Union members (Surrey students) may hold signatory positions and vote in signatory elections. Non-students may still hold non-signatory positions.
- Students wishing to take on signatory positions must declare they will abide by these rules and principles throughout the election.
- Students wishing to take on signatory positions must declare they will be aged over 18 upon the committee handover date as signatories must be over 18.
- Only students who are on the Electoral Roll will be eligible to vote or run for election within the groups to which they hold a current, valid membership.
- The Electoral Roll will be a list of all students who hold current, valid memberships to Clubs & Societies by the cut-off date.
- Eligible students can run for a maximum of one signatory position per group.
- Any individual group's elections will require a minimum of one nomination and one vote per signatory position to be valid.
- Following the election, the Club/Society must have 3 signatories successfully elected.
- If anything impacts the fair and democratic running of any individual election, the election may be halted, deemed invalid, and re-run at a later date.

## Voting Rules

- The voting process used in Club & Society Elections will be STV (Single Transferrable Vote). This allows members to rank candidates in order of preference.
- There will be an option for Re-Open Nominations in every election. If Re-Open Nominations wins a position in the elections, the election for the relevant signatory position will be re-run at a later date.
- The minimum number of votes for an election for a signatory position to be valid is one.
- Students will only be eligible to vote in elections for groups to which they hold a valid, official membership by the Electoral Roll cut-off deadline.
- No individual should interfere with another students' vote in any way. This includes through behaviours such as harassment or intimidation, or through utilising another students' device or login to the Union website.

## Issues

- If any member has a complaint or concern about these rules or principles not being followed during the elections period, they should contact [hannah.jones@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:hannah.jones@surrey.ac.uk)
- If any member has any questions about running Clubs and Societies, including questions about Committee Handover, they should contact [jodie.varma@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:jodie.varma@surrey.ac.uk)
- If any member has any issues using the elections portal, they should contact [sam.hallam@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:sam.hallam@surrey.ac.uk)