

# 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 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 advertised cut-off date at which point the Electoral Roll will be closed.
- 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 which removes free democratic choice from a voting student. This includes through behaviours such as voter 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)