

Burgmann Resident's Association

Electoral Regulations

PART 1 – GENERAL

- 1.1 The Electoral Regulations shall apply to all elections of BRA office bearers or whip positions, as well as any new positions created under the authority of section 18 of the Constitution of the Association ('the Constitution').
- 1.2 A returning officer shall be elected at Part A of the Annual General Meeting to conduct and regulate all elections under section 19(1)(b)(vi) of the constitution.

Elections of the House Committee shall be held at times compliant with section 14(1)(d) of the Constitution.
- 1.3 These Regulations will have the same force as the Constitution, and will be reviewed, interpreted and amended by the Returning Officer.
- 1.4 In the case of a casual vacancy of the current President the current Vice-Presidents must fulfil the duties of the President as set out in this document.

PART 2 - NOMINATIONS

- 2.1 The Returning Officer shall call for nominations by posting on Burgmann Announcements and the BRA noticeboard.
 - 2.1.1 Nominations shall remain open for a minimum period of seven days for House Committee elections and a minimum of three days for Whip Elections.
 - 2.1.2 The call for nominations shall state
 - (a) The position to be elected;
 - (b) the eligibility criteria (if any) for members wishing to stand;
 - (c) details of how nominations should be lodged; and
 - (d) the time and date of the close of nominations.

- 2.2 In the event that no nominations are received at the closing time, the Returning Officer shall post a notice to that effect on Burgmann Announcements and state that nominations will remain open for a further twenty-four hours.
- 2.3 No nominations shall be received after the nomination period has closed. However, nominations are able to be withdrawn after this period.
- 2.4 Nominations shall be made to the Returning Officer in writing.
- 2.4.1 Throughout these regulations, 'in writing' includes via written note, Facebook message or Email.
- 2.5 The nomination of each candidate shall be moved by any Ordinary Member of the Association, including the actual candidate, and seconded by another Member.
- 2.5.1 If the nomination is moved by someone other than the candidate, the nomination must be accepted by the candidate before the close of nominations.
- 2.5.2 A seconder may not be a candidate in an election for which they intend to second a candidate or second more than one candidate in any election.
- 2.6 The Returning Officer shall confirm that the nomination has been received, in writing, before the close of the nomination.
- 2.7 The Returning Officer shall post a list of the candidates on Burgmann Announcements within twenty-four hours of the close of nominations.

PART 3 - CAMPAIGN

- 3.1 The Returning Officer may exercise discretion to remove any campaign material which they deem offensive. Such discretion shall only be exercised after consultation with the candidate whose material is offensive.
- 3.2 Any campaign material displayed in or facing towards the Dining Hall, or the Kitchen Servery area, shall be removed by the Returning Officer.

- 3.3 No candidate shall use the Burgmann Wallposts or Burgmann Announcements Facebook pages for the purposes of campaigning.
- 3.4 Any dispute about the appropriateness of any campaign material shall be decided by the Returning Officer, who's decision shall be final.
- 3.5 The Returning Officer may exercise discretion to deem any behaviour by a candidate inappropriate and instruct them to cease such behaviour.

PART 4 - POLLING

- 4.1 The voting system for elections shall be the ANU APOLLO system which must be used for all elections unless it is determined by the Returning Officer to be impractical in any given election, in which the Returning Officer must implement a suitable alternative.
- 4.2 All Ordinary Members of the Association shall be entitled to vote.
- 4.3 The casting of a ballot shall not be compulsory.
- 4.4 The election should be conducted in the following manner:
 - 4.4.1 When electing 1 member to fill 1 position, Optional Instant-runoff is to be used, unless it is determined by the Returning Officer to be impractical in any given election, in which case the Returning Officer must implement a suitable alternative.
 - 4.4.2 When electing more than 1 member to fill a number of positions in an Optional Single Transferable Vote Proportional Representation system is to be used, unless it is determined by the Returning Officer to be impractical in any given election, in which case the Returning Officer must implement a suitable alternative.
- 4.5 A ballot shall remain valid notwithstanding the fact that the voter has failed to express a preference for every candidate.
- 4.6 Polls shall be open for 3 days.

PART 5 - COUNTING

- 5.1 Any Ordinary Member of the Association may apply to the Returning Officer for a re-vote.
- 5.2 The Returning Officer may decide that a re-vote is necessary, given any misconduct by a candidate or other breach of these Regulations. Such a decision by the Returning Officer is final.
- 5.3 The Returning Officer will report all results to the President of the Association, who, upon receiving them, will confirm the results.
- 5.4 In the event of a tie, the Returning Officer shall run a 'runoff' election, with the tied candidates as the only candidates on the ballot.
- 5.5 If during the counting process two or more candidates have the same total of primary votes, the Returning Officer must determine a randomized way of excluding the candidates. This may only be done in the counting process is in the first half of the total counting rounds.
- 5.6 If during the counting process two or more candidates have the same total of primary votes in the second half of counting rounds, a revote must occur.

PART 6 – ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

- 6.1 The Returning Officer will confirm the results as per section 5.5. The Returning Officer will then notify the following members of the association of the results:
 - 6.1.1 In the case of all elections the successful candidate/candidates must be informed first and then accept the position prior to informing the unsuccessful candidates.
 - 6.1.2 For the election of the House Committee, the Returning Officer will inform the current House Committee of the results. The House Committee will then notify the respective successful and unsuccessful candidates of the result.
 - 6.1.3 For the election of Whips the Returning Officer will inform the current Sports, Arts and Village representative of the results, they will then notify the respective successful candidates of the result, the Returning Officer will then inform the unsuccessful candidates.

6.1.4 For the election of all other positions the Returning Officer will inform both the successful and unsuccessful positions, unless otherwise determined by the Returning Officer.

- 6.2 Ordinary Members of the Association shall be informed of election results by public announcement.

PART 7 – CASUAL VACANCIES

- 7.1 A Casual Vacancy for any position must be filled by an election in the same manner as the position was initially contested.
- 7.2 The current executive may appoint a member into a position on an interim basis until elections can be held.
- 7.3 If Casual Vacancy occurs within 28 days of the regular election time of that position, the position may remain vacant until the election date.

PART 8 – DUTIES OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

- 8.1 The Returning Officer must not:
- 8.1.1 Be a nominator, seconder or nominee in an election for which they are the Returning Officer.
 - 8.1.2 Cast a ballot in an election for which they are Returning Officer.
 - 8.1.3 Disseminate electoral results, with the exception of the names of those elected, to any person with the exception of the current BRA President.
- 8.2 Any dispute regarding the conduct of the election is to be decided by the Returning Officer, whose decision, subject to the Electoral Regulations and the Constitution is final.

- 8.3 Any situation within the scope of an election that arises outside of the Regulations set out in this document or the Constitution is at the discretion of the Returning Officer.
- 8.4 Any ruling made under sections 5.3, 8.2 or 8.3 must have the consent of the current BRA President.