

BYE-LAW 8 – Elections

1. Scope

- 1.1. This Bye-Law shall apply to all Guild elections.

2. Returning Officer

- 2.1. The Returning Officer shall be the Registrar and Secretary of the University of Birmingham.
- 2.2. The Returning Officer may delegate the management of complaints, appeals, and other appropriate business to a nominee (or nominees), as agreed between the Guild and University, and described in the Guild Election Regulations.
- 2.3. The Returning Officer shall be responsible for the good conduct and administration of the elections and shall have final interpretation of the Election Regulations. However, the nominee(s) shall be responsible for the day to day good conduct and administration of the elections. The powers and responsibilities of the Returning Officer and their nominee(s) shall be as described in the Guild Elections Regulations.

3. Notice

- 3.1. The Guild of Students shall publish notice of every election.
- 3.2. Such notices shall state:
- 3.2.1. The date(s) and times of ballot
 - 3.2.2. The earliest and latest times of receipt of nominations
 - 3.2.3. The substance of any regulations governing the election
 - 3.2.4. The type and number of vacancies

4. Nominations

- 4.1. Nominations shall be accepted by the Nominee until the close of nominations.
- 4.2. Re-open Nominations (RON) shall be a candidate in every election.

5. Voting

- 5.1. All Full Members eligible to vote, as specified in the Election Regulations, shall be allowed to vote.
- 5.2. The method of voting shall be outlined in the Election Regulations Documents.
- 5.3. Voting shall be by the Single Transferable Voting System for all multi-seat elections, and by the Alternative Transferable Voting System for all single-seat elections.
- 5.4. Polling shall be held on at least one day for no less than the advertised number of hours.

6. Provision for Secrecy of the Ballot

- 6.1. At the time of closing the ballot the voting register shall be sealed. Under no circumstances shall it come together with the ballot papers unless the validity or conduct of the election is questioned.

- 6.2. The voting register and ballot papers shall be kept for three months after the declaration of the result after which time they will be destroyed unless the validity or conduct of the elections is questioned.

7. Ties

- 7.1. In the event of a tie, the Returning Officer or his representative shall decide the issue by drawing lots, having given the candidates prior notification.

8. Election of Re-open Nominations

- 8.1. The election of Re-open Nominations shall result in nominations being re-opened as soon as possible, and a By-election being held.
- 8.2. This shall not affect the return of any candidate elected before Re-open Nominations in a multi-member election.

9. Complaints

- 9.1. Any complaints regarding the conduct of the election shall be dealt with in accordance with the Guild of Students' Elections Complaint Procedure.
- 9.2. Complaints may be received up to two hours after the close of the ballot.

10. Declaration

- 10.1. Results of the elections shall be declared by the Returning Officer or nominee when the count for each post has been successfully completed.
- 10.2. Results shall be provisional until confirmed by the Returning Officer, which will normally be not less than 5 working days after the close of the ballot.
- 10.3. Results of the elections shall be announced as soon as possible after the completion of the count.