

## Committee Elections Regulations 2026

Each year, we ask all our affiliated groups to run elections to elect a new committee for the upcoming academic year. The new committee members will come into their posts on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2026.

Elections are held online via the Union website and facilitated by a member of the Cambridge Campus Team. In the exceptional circumstances that your club or society cannot run an online election, a member of the Cambridge Campus Team will facilitate an election in person where all members must be present.

### 1. Our Approach

- 1.1 We will elect students to roles in a free and fair manner.
- 1.2 We are here to give all students a fair opportunity to succeed in the election.
- 1.3 While we monitor the progress of the election regularly, we cannot provide details regarding nominations or voting statistics to students, staff, or committee members.

### 2. Candidate Conduct

Candidates:

- 2.1 Must act in the interest of a fair election.
- 2.2 Are responsible for their campaign and the conduct of any campaigners that help them.
- 2.3 Should take reasonable steps to ensure that their campaigners' actions always comply with the regulations and must be able to demonstrate this in the event of a complaint against them.
- 2.4 Abide by ARU Students' Union policies and byelaws.
- 2.5 Only use resources and tools accessible to all (in the case that they are a currently elected committee member).
- 2.6 Not produce defamatory campaign materials, or directly refer to other candidates in campaign material.
- 2.7 Only alter, move, or remove their own campaign materials.
- 2.8 Allow voters to cast their ballot freely, and must not communicate with voters in any way once they have begun to complete their ballot.
- 2.9 Not start campaigning for the role in which they are running for until the voting period has started.

### 3. Committee Conduct

- 3.1 Committees must not actively promote single candidates when multiple candidates are running for a position.
- 3.2 If the club/society wishes to promote candidates, they may only do so once voting has started.
  - 3.2.1 Either all candidates must be promoted on social media, or no candidates may be promoted.

- 3.2.2** If promoting candidates, committees must post all candidates running for the same position, at the same time.
- 3.3** Committee members must abide by ARU Students' Union policies on behaviour and conduct at all times.
- 3.4** Committee members must only use the messaging/ mailing function of the Admin Tools panel to promote all candidates at the same time.

### Extra information for candidates

- Candidates may only take up a maximum of three (3) positions in an academic year.
- Candidates can only run for one (1) role per club or society.
- Candidates may only hold one (1) President role in the academic year.
- 'Re-Open Nominations' (RON) shall be a candidate in all elections. Should 'Re-Open Nominations' win an election where one person is to be elected to the position, a by-election shall be held.
- If a candidate is successful in being elected to more than one President role, then they must relinquish roles until they only hold one President position.
- If a candidate is successful in being elected to more than three committee roles, then they must relinquish roles until they hold three positions or less.
- Should a committee role become available due to a candidate standing down, becoming disqualified or for any other means, the role will be offered to the second-place candidate.
  - In the instance that there is not a second-place candidate, or the second-place candidate does no longer wish to be elected, then the role will be made available through by-election.
- Associate Members may not vote or run in the Committee Elections.
- Only students with full standard membership to their respective club/society may nominate or vote in the Committee Elections.

### Complaints

If during the election you wish to lodge a complaint, please submit your complaint using this form: <https://wkf.ms/4taw6KN>

Complaints will be reviewed by the Deputy Returning Officer, and in consultation with the Returning Officer as appropriate, shall make a ruling within 2 working days of the receipt of the complaint. They may give the individual the right of reply before making a ruling.

Any candidate or campaign which has a sanction applied following an upheld complaint may ask the Returning Officer to review the decision. Further information on appeals will be shared with all relevant candidates by the Deputy Returning Officer when required.