



# ELECTIONS POLICY

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this Election Policy is to provide for the efficient running of the USQ Law Society Executive Council elections and to provide members and candidates with clear guidelines on the procedures and expectations.

## **Procedure**

Elections will take place in the second semester.

Elections must take place a minimum of two weeks before the start of the exam block.

The incumbent Secretary will announce the election to the Members of the Society.

Candidates will have ten business days to submit their application to the Secretary.

The Secretary will then announce eligible candidates and set an election date no less than ten business days after the announcement.

The election will be open for one day only, for a period of 24 hours.

Votes will be counted the following day by the Secretary and two other Members not running for an Executive Council position.

All email communication must be blind cc'd.

## **Candidates**

Candidate eligibility is set out in the Constitution s 22.

## **Voters**

Standard members as per the Constitution are the only members eligible to vote.

All members who vote must provide their name and student number for verification of membership.

Late or invalid votes will not be counted.

## **Campaigning**

Each candidate will submit their application for each position to the Secretary by the determined date. The application will contain:

- Name
- Student number
- Why the candidate wants the position
- Plans for the Society
- Relevant experience

Candidate statements will be emailed out to all voting members and made available on the Website.

Candidates may not post campaign related content on the USQ Law Society social media, email members or attend classes to promote their candidacy without the prior written permission of the Executive.

Candidates may promote their candidacy on their own private social media account or by natural word of mouth.

Candidate statements must not be discriminatory, offensive, exclusionary, or against the USQ Law Society Constitution, Code of Conduct or other policies.

A breach of this policy may result in a disqualification from the election at the discretion of the incumbent Executive.

### **Appeals**

Candidates may appeal the election process or result.

Candidates will be allowed only one appeal.

The appellant must submit a written application Appeals Panel.

The Appeals Panel will consist of three standard members who have not run for a position during the current election and who do not have a close personal relationship with the appellant.

The Appeals Panel will vote on the validity or failure of the appeal and will give written reasons as to the success or failure of the appeal.

If the appellant is successful, the position will revert to a vacancy and a by-election will be held.