

Regulations for the effective conduct of elections held prior to the deemed first appointed day of the first ordinary session of the 52nd Synod

Regulations made on 27 July 2020 by the Archbishop-in-Council under Rule 8.5 of the Synod Elections Ordinance 2000.

Table of Provisions

Regulation	
1	Interpretation
3	Administering the election process
4	Regulations for uncontested elections
5	Regulations for contested elections
6	Application of these regulations

χ χ χ χ χ χ

Interpretation

1. In these regulations:

Ordinance means the *Synod Elections Ordinance 2000*.

Rule means a rule in the Schedule to the Ordinance.

Schedule means the Schedule to the Ordinance.

2. Unless the context otherwise indicates, the definitions in rule 1.2 of the Ordinance apply to these regulations.

Administering the election process

3. The administration of the election process shall be conducted in accordance with Part 3 of the Schedule.

Regulations for uncontested elections

4. If, by 5.00 pm on the precis closing day, the number of persons nominated for election to an office does not exceed the number of persons to be elected –

- (a) the Returning Officer is to forthwith give notice to the President of:
 - (i) the offices for which the nominations were made, and
 - (ii) the names of the persons nominated,
- (b) as soon as practicable, the President is to declare elected to their respective offices the persons named in the notice in regulation 4(a), and
- (c) the Returning Officer is to post a copy of the notice indicating those persons who have been elected at the nominated website address.

Regulations for contested elections

5. If, by 5:00 pm on the Precis closing day, the nominees for election to an office is greater than the number of persons to be elected, a ballot is to be held in the following manner –

- (a) As soon as practicable, the Secretary is to send Synod Members a notice which specifies –
 - (i) the offices for which a ballot is to be conducted,
 - (ii) the name of each person nominated to those offices and the suburb or locality of their residence, along with their precis,
 - (iii) the names of the 2 members who signed the nomination in accordance with the Rules,
 - (iv) the date by which a link to the online ballot will be circulated (the 'ballot opening date', per regulation 5(c)), and

- (v) the date on which the ballot will close (the 'ballot closing date', per regulation 5(d)).
- (b) The notice in regulation 5(a) is to include an invitation for Synod Members to submit material to the Secretary in support of the nomination of a nominee or nominees, to be hosted on an unadvertised but publicly accessible page on the SDS website, subject to –
 - (i) the material being provided by the Synod Member in completed form within four business days of the notice of contested election being posted,
 - (ii) the provision of the written approval of every person referred to in the material (where reasonable to do so), including any nominee and their nominators, whether referred to by name or not.
- (c) On the date (the 'ballot opening date') five business days after the notice sent under regulation 5(a), the Returning Officer shall send by email to each Synod Member –
 - (a) a unique link to an online ballot allowing the Synod Member to indicate the name of the person or names of each of the persons for whom the member wishes to vote, preserving as far as reasonable the anonymity of the Synod Member, while providing only one vote per Synod Member,
 - (ii) a statement of the ballot closing date (per regulation 5(d)),
 - (iii) a link to an unadvertised but publicly accessible page on the SDS website, containing any notices made in accordance with regulation 5(b).
- (d) The ballot shall close at 5:00 pm on the date (the 'ballot closing date') five business days following the ballot opening date (per regulation 5(c)).
- (e) As soon as practicable after 5:00 pm on the ballot closing date, the Returning Officer is to send to the President a report containing:
 - (i) a statement of the total number of ballot papers which were formal and informal under rules 5.6(2) and 5.6(3) of the Schedule, and
 - (ii) a complete list of the names of the nominees and the number of votes recorded for each nominee, with the names on the list to be arranged in the order of the number of votes recorded beginning with the highest, and
 - (iii) having regard to the number of persons to be elected and the list referred to in regulation 5(e)(ii) – a statement of the name or names of the person or persons to be declared elected.
- (f) As soon as convenient after receiving the Returning Officer's report, the President is:
 - (i) to declare elected the person or persons referred to in the statement required by regulation 5(e)(iii), and
 - (ii) to cause a copy of the Returning Officer's report to be sent to each Synod Member.

Application of these regulations

6. Recourse may be made to the provisions set out in rules 5.8, 5.9, Part 6 and Part 8 of the Schedule in order to settle a question about the application of these regulations.