

Rule 9.0 Elections

9.1 All members of the Executive Committee shall be elected triennially and shall serve for a period of three (3) years. The national poll and the four (4) district polls shall be conducted at the same time.

9.2 Nominations for officers of the Union shall be made in the month of March of the year in which elections are held. All nominations shall be made on the official Union nomination forms and must be signed by the member being nominated and counter-signed by five (5) financial members of the Union. Nomination forms must be delivered or sent to the Secretary General and where forms are posted must bear a postmark dated on or before 12 midnight March 31st to be valid. All candidates shall be notified of the receipt of their nominations.

9.5 Any member of the Union **with the exception of a member of the Candidates Committee** may nominate for any position on the Executive Committee. The Candidates Committee shall approve the list of candidates in accordance with the criteria outlined in Rule 9.6. The Chairman of the Candidates Committee shall present a copy of **The Approved List of Candidates** to the Secretary General by April 15th in an election year. The Secretary General shall publish the list. **The Candidates Committee shall operate independently of any body within the Union save for the transmission of required information.**

9.6 The criteria for determining the eligibility of a candidate to contest an election are as follows:

- **Executive Member:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years.
- **Trustee:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years.
- **Area Vice President:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years and have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent.
- **Treasurer:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years, have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent and he/she must show **that it would be probable that he/she would manage and dispense the assets of the Union effectively...**
- **Assistant Treasurer:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years, have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent and he/she must show **that it would be probable that he/she would manage and dispense the assets of the Union effectively**

- **Secretary General:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years, have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent and training and/or experience in administration or management. Additionally he/she must demonstrate to the Candidates Committee that **it would be probable or likely** that he/she direct the operations of the Union effectively.
- **Assistant Secretary General:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years, have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent and training and/or experience in administration or management. Additionally he/she must demonstrate to the Candidates Committee that **it would be probable or likely** that he/she ~~to~~ direct the operations of the Union effectively.
- **Vice President:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years and have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent. He/she must demonstrate to the Candidates Committee that **it would be probable that he/she would lead all** activities of the Union.
- **President:** the candidate must be a member in good standing for at least three (3) years, have at least two (2) years experience as a Shop Steward or equivalent, and have leadership training and/or experience. He/she must demonstrate to the Candidates Committee that he/she has a vision for promoting the continuing development of the Union.

9.7 All candidates must submit the following **nomination papers** to the Secretary General at the time of nominations:

- A completed **nomination form**,
- **A resume**
- **A Candidate's Statement of Intent Form.**
- The Secretary General shall supply the Chairman of the **Candidates Committee** with relevant information including copies of **nomination forms, Candidate's resumes, Candidate's Statements of Intent Forms, and job descriptions** for all positions. The **Candidates Committee** shall use such information to assist it with its work. No member of the Executive Committee or any other body within the Union shall have the right interfere or attempt to influence the work or proceedings of the Candidates Committee.

9.8 The **Candidates Committee** shall have the prerogative to interview ALL candidates for any position.

9.9 In the event that the Candidates Committee cannot endorse any candidate for a position, it shall recommend to the Secretary General the names of at least three (3) members who are eligible for the position. The Secretary General shall distribute **Late Nomination Forms** to the members concerned. Late nominations must be received by the Secretary General by April 30th. The Secretary General shall amend the Approved List of Candidates to accommodate late nominations. He/she must publish **The Amended List of Candidates**.

9.10 The Candidates Committee shall endorse the names of all candidates who meet the minimum criteria for the position as outlined in 9.6 above. Only the names of the candidates endorsed by the Candidates Committee shall appear on the ballot for that position.

9.11 Any candidate whose name was not endorsed by the Candidates Committee may appeal to the Elections Commission by April 30th. The Elections Commission shall make a determination by May 15th. The decision of the Elections Commission shall be final. **The names of any candidate whose appeal was upheld by the Elections Commission shall also appear on the ballot**

9.12 The Secretary General shall further amend **The Approved List of Candidates** (when necessary) to facilitate a ruling by the Ethics Committee on an appeal from a Candidate. The Secretary General shall publish **The Final List of Candidates**.

9.13 The Executive Committee shall facilitate the work of the **Candidate's Committee**.

9.14 Elections shall be held during the second or third week of June, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and voting stations shall be established on each island in appropriate numbers. Voting stations shall be supplied with a list of financial members voting at that station, and ballots bearing the names of all duly nominated candidates.

9.15 Only financial members of the Union will be allowed to vote, and members will be required to provide proof of membership in the Union.

9.16 Newly elected officers will assume the duties of office on the evening of the last day of the Annual General Meeting.