

III. RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS ORDERED TO BE MADE BY THE GENERAL SYNOD

Interpretations

1. In these rules

"**Acknowledgment**" means the acknowledgment of the candidate that the General Secretary will disclose whether there is any, and if so what, Information in the National Register relating to the candidate to the house of the General Synod entitled to vote or the members of the General Synod as the case may be.¹

"**Candidate**" means any person duly nominated for election to any office under rules, regulations and canons of the Synod.

"**Secretaries of Synod**" means the persons holding such office for the time being under Standing Order 7(c) of the Synod, and includes any person or persons appointed by the President to act for the said secretaries.

"**Voter**" means a member of Synod exercising a right to vote in any election by the whole Synod or by any portion thereof.²

Elections governed by these rules

2. Where it has been or shall hereafter be determined by any canon or resolution of Synod that an election of any person or persons to any office shall be made by Synod or by any house or by any portion of such Synod the election shall unless otherwise provided by such canon or resolution be conducted as hereinafter provided.

Nevertheless in the case of any election required under Standing Orders 7(c), 12, 13, 14, the Synod may by resolution determine the procedure for such election.

Time of elections

- 3.³ The Primate in the summons convening the Synod or otherwise shall specify the elections to be made in the session of the Synod so convened, and shall appoint a day not earlier than:
 - (a) the fourth day of the session for the holding of any election for the Appellate Tribunal and the panel of persons from which the members of the Special Tribunal are appointed ; and

¹ Added by Rule 4, 2010.

² Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

³ Amended by Rule 4, 2010.

- (b) the third day of the session for the holding of any other elections and shall name the place of election, and the time (not being less than four hours) within which any such election shall take place and the said election shall take place upon the day and at the place and within the time so appointed, provided that Synod may by resolution name some different time, being not less than four hours, within which any such election shall take place.

Synod may declare election emergent

- 4. Where, after the issue of the Primate's summons convening Synod, necessity for any election has arisen, or if any notice of election should have been omitted from such summons, it shall be competent for the Synod at any time during the session by resolution to declare any such election to be an "emergent" election, and the President shall thereupon appoint a time and a place for receiving nominations for such emergent election, and also a time for the holding of such election.

In all other respects such emergent election shall be conducted as far as practicable in conformity with the provisions of these rules.

- 5. (a) Any two members of Synod may nominate in writing any person or persons duly qualified for election to any office (but not exceeding the number of persons required to be elected to such office), and the consent of every person so nominated shall be endorsed thereon or if an endorsement cannot reasonably be obtained certified in writing by one of the nominators. Provided that where elections to an office are to be made by the members of any house or portion of Synod nominations as aforesaid shall be made only by members of that house or portion.

(a1)⁴ A nomination must contain:

- (i) the full name;
 - (ii) any former name;
 - (iii) the date of birth; and
 - (iv) the acknowledgment of the person so nominated or if an acknowledgment cannot be obtained the certification in writing by one of the nominators that the person has given their acknowledgment.
- (b) Every nomination shall be delivered to the secretaries of Synod or to the secretary of the house or portion as the case may be, or to such other person or persons as the President may from time to time appoint, before the hour of nine o'clock in the evening of the second day of the session unless the Synod otherwise resolves, and no nomination shall be valid unless this procedure shall have been complied with.

⁴ Added by Rule 4, 2010; amended by Rule 2, 2017; amended by Rule 2, 2022.

Names to be exhibited

6. (a)⁵ When nominations shall have closed, the Secretaries of Synod shall cause to be prepared lists of all candidates, and the offices to which they are nominated, and shall cause such lists to be exhibited conspicuously in the Synod Hall up till and during the time of election.
- (a1)⁶ In respect of all nominations:
- (i) The General Secretary shall have access to the National Register and disclose to the Secretaries whether or not there is any Information in the National Register relating to each candidate, and if so, what is the Information⁷;
 - (ii) The Secretaries shall cause the lists of all candidates to include the information received from the General Secretary.⁸
- (b) Any candidate may, by notice in writing addressed to Secretaries, withdraw consent to his or her nomination at any time prior to the exhibition of the lists as aforesaid, and thereupon that nomination shall be withdrawn and the person's name omitted from the list of candidates⁹.

Election without ballot

- 7.¹⁰ Subject to rule 16A, where the number of candidates for any office does not exceed or is less than the number of persons required to be elected, the President shall declare the candidates duly elected, and any additional number of persons still required to be elected shall be elected in the manner hereinafter provided.

Electronic balloting¹¹

- 7A. (1) The Standing Committee may determine that a ballot to which Rules 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 would otherwise apply is to be conducted using an approved electronic method.
- (2) Where a ballot is conducted using an approved electronic method, each person present and entitled to vote at the relevant session of the Synod is entitled to vote by that method.
- (3) In this rule, **approved electronic method** means a method of conducting a ballot electronically recommended by the General Secretary and approved by the Provisional Business Committee that –

⁵ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

⁶ Added by Rule 4, 2010; amended by Rule 2, 2017; amended by Rule 2, 2022.

⁷ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

⁸ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

⁹ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

¹⁰ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

¹¹ Added by Rule 2, 2022.

- (a) in all respects records and counts votes as if they had been recorded and counted under Rules 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13; and
- (b) is at least as confidential, secure, free from manipulation and corruption, accurate and reliable as a ballot conducted under Rules 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Ballot papers

8.¹² Where the number of candidates for any election exceeds the number required to be elected, the Secretaries shall cause ballot papers to be printed or otherwise prepared in the form or to the effect of the schedule hereto.

Appointment of scrutineers

9. Where any ballot for any election becomes necessary, the President shall appoint two or more scrutineers for each election whose duty shall be to count the votes recorded at any such ballot, and to report in writing the result to the President as hereinafter provided.

Rules for voting

10. (a) The voter shall mark a cross opposite the name of each candidate appearing on the ballot paper for whom he desires to vote.
- (b) Each voter shall vote for not more than the number of candidates required to be elected.

Invalid ballot papers

11. The Scrutineers shall reject as informal ballot papers:
- (a) not initialled by the Secretaries or their deputies, or
 - (b) recording votes for a greater number of candidates than the number required to be elected; or
 - (c) not marked in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

Method of taking ballot

12.¹³ On the day and at the place appointed for the holding of any election, every member of Synod present at the session of the Synod, and being entitled to vote at any particular election, may on personal application to the Secretaries or their deputies receive a ballot paper for such election, and the Secretaries or their deputies shall before issuing any such ballot paper, initial the same, and shall keep a record of every person to whom any such ballot paper has been issued, and every such person

¹² Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

¹³ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

shall thereupon be deemed to have voted, and shall not be entitled to receive any other ballot paper in respect of any such election unless and until the ballot paper already issued to that voter shall have been returned to the Secretaries or their deputies, in a spoilt condition in which case the Secretaries or their deputies shall destroy the ballot paper first issued to such person, and shall thereupon deliver to that voter a fresh ballot paper in its stead.

Recording votes

- 13.¹⁴ Every voter having received any ballot paper as aforesaid shall mark a vote on such ballot paper in the manner hereinbefore provided without leaving the room set apart for the election and shall forthwith deposit the same in a ballot-box provided for the purpose by the Secretaries, and shall thereupon retire from the said room.

Scrutineers' report

14. At the close of any ballot the scrutineers shall proceed to count the votes recorded for each candidate, and shall with the least possible delay, report the result of such ballot to the President, in the manner hereinafter provided.

List to be prepared

15. In reporting the result of any ballot the scrutineers shall, in all cases, prepare and certify a list containing the names of the candidates and the number of votes recorded for every candidate.

Equality of votes

- 16.¹⁵ Where at any election two or more candidates have received an equal number of votes the scrutineers shall report the result to the President, who shall thereupon give a casting vote.

Confirmation of certain elections

- 16A.¹⁶ (a) In this rule, "identified candidate" means a candidate in relation to whom Information in the National Register has been included pursuant to rule 6(a1)(ii) in the list of candidates.
- (b) If in any election the number of candidates who are not identified candidates is less than the number of positions to be filled, the President may not declare an identified candidate to be elected under rule 7, and the election of any identified candidate shall not be complete, until the election of each such identified candidate has been confirmed by a majority of voters in a secret ballot conducted for the purpose.

¹⁴ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

¹⁵ Amended by Rule 1, 2014.

¹⁶ Added by Rule 1, 2014.

Announcement of result

17.¹⁷ As soon as practicable after receipt of the report of the result of any ballot, the President shall announce the names of the elected candidates to the Synod, and shall thereupon cause to be delivered to the Secretaries such report, together with the list hereinbefore mentioned and the Secretaries shall file and keep such list in the records of the Synod. The list referred to in Rule 15 shall be displayed in the Synod meeting room during the remainder of the session of the Synod and published with the Proceedings of Synod.

Custody and disposal of ballot papers

18. (a) After every election, the Scrutineers shall deliver to the Secretaries all ballot papers used at any election (including all those ballot papers which have been rejected), and the Secretaries shall as soon as practicable place in separate sealed packets all such ballot papers, and shall safely keep the same in their custody until required by "**The Committee of Elections and Qualifications**", or until they are destroyed as hereinafter provided.
- (b) If the ballot papers be not applied for or required by "**The Committee of Elections and Qualifications**" within fourteen days following the day of the holding of any election, the Secretaries shall then forthwith cause all packets containing all used and rejected ballot papers to be destroyed by fire, without the said packets being unsealed.

Continuance in office until election of successors

19. Where any election directed by any canon or resolution of the Synod to be held has not been so held the persons who at the time being are holding such office shall continue to hold the same until their successors shall have been appointed.

Certain vacancies to be filled by the Standing Committee

20.¹⁸ Where the number of persons declared by the President duly elected to any office under rule 7 hereof is less than the number required for such office or where the election of any person is reported under the next succeeding rule as invalid any vacancy or vacancies remaining shall be filled by the Standing Committee at its first meeting following the session of Synod at which such declaration of election or report of validity of election was made. Where there are more nominations than vacancies for an election to be filled by the Standing Committee, then the names of all candidates and the number of votes recorded for each candidate shall be reported to the next session of the Synod in the Standing Committee Report.

¹⁷ Amended by Rule 5, 2010.

¹⁸ Amended by Rule 5, 2010.

Validity of elections

21. All matters affecting the validity of any election held or of any vote taken under these rules shall be referred to "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications" appointed under Standing Order No. 7. The committee shall report thereon to Synod if it is in session and if not to the Standing Committee.

Provided that no question as to the validity of any election or of any vote taken shall be raised unless so raised within seven days of the holding of such election or of the declaration of the result thereof.

SCHEDULE¹⁹

Election for

..... Bishops to be elected.

..... Clerks in Holy Orders to be elected.

..... Laity to be elected.

Instructions to voters

The voter:

- (a) is to mark a cross against the name of each candidate for whom he or she desires to vote, and
- (b) Must vote for not more than the number of candidates required to be elected.

List of candidates

Mark cross here	Names printed in alphabetical order of Surname
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