

Elections Regulations 2024/25

1. Interpretation

- 1.1 These Regulations are written with the intent of ensuring free and fair elections at the Students' Association, University of Birmingham Dubai.
- 1.2 The Returning Officer of the Students' Association shall have the final say over the interpretation of these Regulations.
- 1.3 These Election Regulations shall apply to all Students' Association elections.
- 1.4 In addition to these Regulations, all other Students' Association governing documents, University Legislation, and all Laws of the Land shall apply.

2. Notice and Nominations

- 2.1 All nominees must be fully registered students of the University of Birmingham Dubai. Full Members may not stand for two positions on the same committee.
- 2.2 Nominees may not stand for two positions in the election process for the same position.
- 2.3 In Student Association Elections, it is expected that only members who are Postgraduate Students may stand for the position reserved for Postgraduates.
- 2.4 Student can nominate and stand for one role in Student Association Elections.
- 2.5 Re-open Nominations (R.O.N.) shall be a candidate in every election. R.O.N. shall not be depicted in any Association promotional material as a person or character.

** Spring Election 2025 – upon Student Forum Approval to be introduced*

3. Supporters

- 3.1 The Returning Officer or Nominee shall have the absolute discretion in determining a supporter of a candidate.
- 3.2 All supporters must be fully registered students of the University of Birmingham Dubai.
- 3.3 Student Groups are not permitted to endorse candidates in Student Association Elections.
- 3.4 No candidate shall seek support from a body external to the Students' Association or the University of Birmingham.
- 3.5 Slates are permitted in single seat elections.
- 3.6 Candidates may be held responsible for fellow slate members and campaigners.
- 3.7 Slates are not permitted in multi-member elections.

If you have any queries, please email elections@guild.bham.ac.uk or dubaistudentassociation@contacts.bham.ac.uk

4. Publicity

- 4.1 All candidates in all elections should submit a statement outlining why they are standing for election, their election wishes, pledges and any other relevant information. These should be submitted by close of nominations for that election.
- 4.2 Candidates must adhere to DIAC and University regulations when displaying election publicity
- 4.3 Candidates can only cover, move or alter their own publicity.
- 4.4 Candidates shall be responsible for removing all of their own publicity.

5. Budget

- 5.1 A budget may be provided by the Students' Association to every candidate. The budget amount for individual elections shall be clearly stated in candidate training.
- 5.2 Candidates cannot spend more than the budget given to them by the Students' Associations.
- 5.3 Candidates are required to have completed spending their budget and submitted receipts for all personal expenditure claims 1 day prior to the close of voting.
- 5.4 The Students' Association shall make all candidate campaign budgets available for public scrutiny.

6. Campaigning

- 6.1 No candidate or supporter shall attempt to influence voters whilst they are voting.
- 6.2 Candidates must adhere to the Student Association Elections Non-Discrimination Pledge throughout the Elections period.

7. Voting

- 7.1 Where possible, voting shall be online (e-voting).
- 7.2 Where e-voting is not possible, paper ballot shall be conducted in accordance with the Students' Association Paper Ballot Procedure.

8. Results

- 8.1 All results shall remain provisional until the Returning Officer is satisfied with the conduct of the election and following the closure of any complaints.

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9 Enforcement of Regulations

9.1 The Returning Officer

9.1.1 The Returning Officer shall be the Registrar and Secretary of the UoB

9.1.2 The Returning Officer may delegate the management of complaints, appeals, and other appropriate business to a Nominee (or Nominees).

9.1.3 For the purpose of all Student Association elections during 2024/25, the following Returning Officer structure shall be in place:

- Complaints about a candidate having possibly broken these regulations shall be determined and decided by a member of the Student Experience and Wellbeing Team, University of Birmingham Dubai Provost, or Returning Officer.
- Appeals against those decisions shall be determined and decided by the University of Birmingham Dubai Provost or nominee, as Nominee for the Returning Officer;
- Appeals against those decisions which, in the reasonable opinion of the University of Birmingham Dubai Provost, relate to material issues affecting whether or not the election was free and fair shall be referred for determination by the Registrar and Secretary as appropriate.

9.1.4 In the event that the University of Birmingham Provost declares a conflict of interest, their responsibility would be delegated to Returning Officer and/or Deputy Director

9.1.5 The Returning Officer shall be responsible for the good conduct and administration of the elections and shall have final interpretation of the Election Regulations. Student Experience and Wellbeing Manager will lead day to day activity and administration of election.

9.1.6 The Returning Officer (or their Nominee) may instigate investigations into breaches of Election Regulations without the need for a complaint to be submitted, where there is reasonable cause to believe a breach has been committed.

9.2 All complaints about a candidate having possibly broken these regulations shall be subject to the Students' Association's Election Complaints Procedure.

9.3 If a candidate is found to have broken these regulations, as deemed by the Returning Officer or Nominee, the candidate may be removed from the election.

9.4 Candidates in breach of these regulations may also be subject to University discipline procedures, and/or legal proceedings.

9.5 Candidates shall be held responsible for their own actions in elections and the actions of their supporters, which are proven to the reasonable belief of the Nominee or Returning Officer as appropriate.

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