

6. ELECTION CODE

Section 1. Annual schedule.

- **At least 60 days before election:** Board appoints a three- or five-person Election Committee.
- **At least 45 days before election:** Nominations open and election notice is published.
- **At least 30 days before election:** Nominations close unless extended equally for all offices.
- **14 days before election:** Secretary and Election Committee certify the eligible voter list.
- **At least 10 days before voting opens:** Candidate statements and voting instructions are distributed.
- **Voting period:** At least five consecutive days, including electronic voting and an in-person opportunity.
- **Within 48 hours after close:** Election Committee publishes certified totals.
- **Within 5 days after certification:** Deadline for written election challenge.

Section 2. Election Committee independence.

Election Committee members may not be candidates, campaign managers, household members of candidates, or persons publicly endorsing a candidate during the election. At least two committee members must participate in ballot reconciliation and certification.

Section 3. Voter eligibility.

A voter must be a Resident Voting Member or designated representative of a Business Voting Member whose membership became effective at least thirty days before the vote. The voter list shall show names and membership class but shall not publicly disclose private contact information.

Section 4. Voting methods.

Every election shall offer secure electronic voting and at least one in-person voting opportunity. The Election Committee may offer mail or accessible absentee ballots. All methods must use the same eligibility rules, deadlines, and ballot content. Proxy voting is prohibited.

Section 5. Secret ballot.

Ballot choices shall remain secret. Systems may record whether a member voted to prevent duplicate voting but shall not reveal how the member voted.

Section 6. Campaign fairness.

- The organization shall give candidates substantially equal access to official communication channels.
- Organizational funds, mailing lists, logos, and accounts may not be used to favor a candidate.
- Candidate statements are subject to equal word limits and neutral formatting.
- No officer may alter membership eligibility, voting methods, or deadlines after nominations open except for an emergency applied equally to all.

Section 7. Counting and reconciliation.

The Election Committee shall reconcile the number of accepted ballots, rejected ballots, duplicate attempts, and challenged ballots. The certification shall state vote totals for each candidate, total ballots cast, and any material irregularity without identifying voters' choices.

Section 8. Challenges.

A challenge must identify a specific rule violation and facts that could have affected the result. The Election Committee shall preserve records and issue a written recommendation. A disinterested review panel or the membership shall decide the challenge. The remedy must be proportionate and may include correction, recount, extension, or a new election.