The Election Rules of the Student Assembly

Reviewed and Adopted by the Elections Committee on
October 28, 2026

ARTICLE I: ELECTION GUIDELINES

Preamble.

Elections are the foundation upon which representative governance rests. These rules are designed to protect the rights of all candidates, as well as all members of the University community, and to ensure that the election process takes place in an open and fair arena. To this end, the Committee's independence is a reflection of the Student Assembly's commitment to free and fair elections. Candidates must respect the rights and privileges of all members of the Cornell community and follow all election guidelines outlined in this document.

§ 100. Definitions.

The following words throughout the Election Rules are defined as such:

(1) "Candidate" means any person who the Elections Committee has verified is a candidate by the publication of the candidate's name on the Candidate List, as described in these Election Rules;

(2) "Classroom" means any space in which a professor, teaching assistant, or any other instructor holds prescribed class time. "Classroom" includes in-person, hybrid, and online courses;

(3) "Constituency" means a particular group of voters, the specific meaning of which shall be context dependent, but shall refer to one of the following:

(a) The whole population of full-time, undergraduate students;

(b) A subset of the undergraduate student population enrolled in any of the following schools or colleges: the College of Arts & Sciences; the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences; the College of Arts, Architecture, and Planning; the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management; the Nolan School of Hotel Administration; the School of Industrial and Labor Relations; the Brooks School of Public Policy; the College of Human Ecology; or the College of Engineering;

(c) A subset of the undergraduate student population the members of which each began his or her undergraduate course of study at a university or school other than Cornell University (to be known as the "transfer student population"); or

(d) A subset of the undergraduate student population the members of which each is in his or her first year of enrollment at Cornell University, except for those students who are members of the transfer student population (to be known as the "freshman student population");

(4) "Cyber Bullying" means the act of bullying in any online space. These election rules follow the same definition of bullying as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and applicable university policies or governmental laws;

(5) "Individual or self-promoting publicity" means any outreach events, office hours, postings, or public facing events, whether in-person or virtual, in which interaction with, or promotion of, the candidate is a substantial reason for the act;

(6) "Group Chat" means any closed platform not otherwise defined as "Social Media" for sharing information text and images; examples include, but are not limited to: iMessage, WhatsApp, Slack, GroupMe, SnapChat (messaging functions only), Instagram (messaging functions only), and SMS services;

(7) "Listserv" is software which allows a sender to send one email to a list, which then transparently sends it on to list subscribers;

(8) "Personally attack" means an abusive, offensive, critical remark about a person, often without supporting evidence;

(9) "Objector" means an individual or group of individuals who have filed a general objection or specification of a specific objection;

(10) "Organization" means any registered student organization at Cornell University;

(11) "Respondent Candidate" means the candidate against whom an objection has been filed;

(12) "Social Media" means any online service that allows users to share, create, or post content for social-networking purposes. Social media services include, but are not limited to: Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Reddit, MySpace, Pinterest, YouTube, and CampusGroups;

(a) Email, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal, and text messaging are not social media.

(13) "University Assembly office" means an office of the University Assembly elected by and from the whole population of undergraduate students;

(14) "Voter" means an individual who is eligible to vote in an election for a particular office;

§ 101. Voter Eligibility.

A. To be a voter in an election for any Student Assembly or University Assembly office elected by the whole of the undergraduate student population, an individual must:

(1) Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-granting unit of the Ithaca campus of the University; and,

B. To be a voter in an election for any Student Assembly office elected by any constituency, other than that of the whole of the undergraduate student population, an individual must:

(1) Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-granting unit of the Ithaca campus of the University; and,

(2) Be a member of the constituency for which the seat is designated.

§ 102. Candidate Eligibility and Requirements.

A. To be a candidate for Student Assembly or University Assembly office, an individual, at the time of the registration specified in the election calendar, must:

(1) Be a voter for the office to which the candidate is seeking election;

(2) Plan to remain seated so for the full term to which they are seeking election;

(3) Submit a completed candidate registration form and petition for candidacy;

(4) Have not, during the one term preceding the term to which the candidate is seeking election:

(a) Resigned for a reason other than a health leave of absence from the Student Assembly or University Assembly;

(5) Have not, during the two terms preceding the term to which the candidate is seeking election:

(a) Been removed from the Student Assembly or University Assembly;

§ 103. Candidate Registration.

A. Registration Form.

(1) Each candidate shall submit as part of the registration form with the following information:

(a) First and Last Name;

(b) Preferred pronouns;

(c) Net-ID;

(d) College or school of enrollment;

(e) Major, if declared;

(f) Year of expected graduation;

(g) Photograph;

(h) Phone number; and

(i) A declaration stating that the candidate has reviewed the Election Rules and is eligible to stand for election;

B. Statement of Candidacy.

(1) Each candidate may submit a statement of candidacy, which may be no more than 1,250 characters including spaces, as part of the candidate registration form in plain text.

(2) Statements will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections Committee.

(3) Statements may not include names of any political coalitions.

(4) Statements not conforming to the requirements set forth in this section, shall not be posted.

C. Candidate Photographs.

(1) Each candidate photo will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections Committee.

(2) Candidates shall submit a photograph of themselves that conforms to the specifications noted in the online candidate registration form, or have their photograph taken by a staff member in the Office of the Assemblies.

§ 104. Petition for Candidacy.

A. All candidates shall submit a Petition for Candidacy containing the following:

(1) For school representative: candidates will collect at minimum 30 signatures from undergraduate students enrolled in the school they wish to represent;

(2) For at-large representative: candidates will collect at minimum 50 signatures from any member of the undergraduate student body;

(3) For President: candidates will collect at minimum 70 signatures from any member of the undergraduate student body;

B. The signatures shall be compiled electronically by the candidates and completed by a date set by the Elections Director. Failure to do so will result in disqualification or other action decided by the Elections Director.

C. Should all potential candidates for a specific position fail to meet the petitioning requirement, all candidates who have fulfilled 75% of the requirement will be permitted to run. Should any one candidate successfully complete the whole requirement, this does not apply.

D. To account for communication asymmetries which prevented the Cornell University student body from being notified of the elections calendar until 5 days before the registration and petitioning deadline, the petitioning requirement for all candidates will be reduced by 50% for the FALL 2026 ELECTIONS CYCLE ONLY. Due to the uniqueness of this elections cycle, the Elections Committee commits to the following items:

(1) Immediate removal of clause 104(D) in its entirety at the conclusion of the Fall 2026 Elections Cycle, before the publication of the Spring Election Rules;

(2) Publishing the number of petitions received by each candidate on informational materials distributed by the Elections Director and Elections Committee to recognize candidates that met the original petition requirement;

§ 105. Candidate Requirements.

A. Candidate Forum.

(1) Should one be held, all candidates are encouraged to participate in the Candidates' Forums held by the Elections Committee during the Campaign & Voting Period.

B. Mandatory Campaign Meetings.

(1) The Director of Elections shall have the power to call and schedule mandatory meetings.

(2) Candidates who cannot attend a meeting must make a genuine effort to reschedule with the Elections Director. Should the candidate fail to do this, the candidate may face disqualification from the Director.

(3) Campaign advisors associated with specific candidates may be in attendance as long as those individuals identify themselves to the Elections Director.

§ 106. Early Campaigning Prohibition.

A. Outside of the Campaign & Voting Period, no candidate or any supporter acting on his or her behalf may:

(1) Distribute online campaign materials to the public;

(2) Distribute campaign materials in-person to the public;

(3) Canvass voters;

(4) Make official speeches or statements to student organizations related to a candidate; or

(5) Promote a candidate through email, social media, or other digital media.

B. The Elections Committee may file an objection against or disqualify a candidate if a violation is found to compromise the fairness of the election;

C. Candidates are permitted to make non-public arrangements before campaigning, including but not limited to creating draft social media accounts, purchasing and storing campaign materials, and communicating with student organizations about submitting an endorsement application.

§ 107. Restrictions for Current Student Assembly Members.

A. Current Student Assembly members seeking reelection must refrain from hosting constituency outreach events implicitly meant as a source of campaigning during the Campaign & Voting Period.

§ 108. Compliance with University Policies and Student Code of Conduct.

A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all applicable policies and provisions of the Student Code of Conduct and the Expressive Activity Policy. Please see both for more comprehensive regulations.

B. A violation of any University policy is a violation of these rules and therefore grounds for an objection if it compromises the fairness of the election. It is the candidate's responsibility to read the referenced documents and be familiar with the rules and regulations established within them. The Director of Elections may also refer any reported violations to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS) or any other appropriate office, which may impose disciplinary remedies and penalties according to its own rules and procedures.

§ 109. Campaigning.

A. During the Campaign & Voting Period, candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may, among other methods, promote their campaign by:

(1) Distributing printed materials;

(2) Canvassing voters;

(3) Hanging posters;

(4) Posting content to social media;

(5) Addressing student organizations;

(6) Sending messages through digital and social media, including through group chats;

(7) Publishing opinion editorials.

B. At any time, candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not, among other prohibitions, promote their campaign by:

(1) Sending messages related to a campaign through a Cornell administered listserv;

(2) Sending messages through Campus Mail for campaigning purposes.

(3) Sending any message that violates Cornell University IT policies.

§ 110. Campaign Finance.

A. Candidates or supporters acting on their behalf must submit all receipts or proof of fair market value with the signed expense report to the Office of the Assemblies by the deadline specified in the election calendar. Candidates who do not submit receipts or proof of fair market value shall be presumed to have spent $0.00 on their campaign.

B. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed for out-of-pocket expenses and fair market value of donations of materials, professional services, or money the amount subject to reimbursement under this section.

(1) Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally if documentation of its dollar value is not provided.

(2) If there is a supporting receipt for goods used in a candidate's campaign, then the value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt as long as the transaction was conducted at arm's length.

(3) For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no official receipt is provided, candidates must seek the most plausible assessment of the fair market value of the good. Professional services will be defined as any work for which the given individual/donor is typically compensated. Volunteer time donated by full-time students, who are not professionals (have received payment for service) in the area of their volunteer effort, will not be considered professional services.

(4) Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other websites must also be accounted for at fair market value.

C. Candidates will be eligible for reimbursements to cover out-of-pocket expenses from the campaigning period that can be used towards the following expenses: website expenses (web hosting, domain names, and online advertising) or any other

promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of these election rules.

(1) Each candidate shall be eligible for reimbursements up to $40.00;

(2) The Director of Elections shall publish a list of the amount eligible for reimbursement prior to the Campaign & Voting Period.

D. Candidates may use any platforms at their disposal, granted they are free. If these platforms require purchasing, candidates are required to report this in their expense report forms.

E. If the Director of Elections or any member of the student body suspects that a candidate has violated campaign spending rules, they may file a formal objection accompanied by relevant evidence. Upon receiving such an objection, the Director of Elections may require the candidate submit all receipts by a reasonable deadline. Failure to comply with this request may lead to disqualification during the objections review process.

§ 111. Endorsements.

A. All registered student organizations receiving funds from the Student Assembly (including the Student Activity Fee) must follow the election rules for endorsing candidates. In order to publicly endorse a candidate, an organization must:

(1) Establish a fair process where candidates interested in applying for the organization's endorsement may apply;

(2) Submit to the Director of Elections a brief copy of the organization's process with relevant deadlines for endorsing candidates and instructions to be shared by the Director of Elections with all candidates as to how candidates will be endorsed;

B. The Director of Elections may require that an endorsing organization alter some of their application rules and deadlines before accepting applicants;

C. Endorsing organizations are allowed to submit endorsement applications during the registration period before the campaign period. Should the organization create a fair process approved by the Elections Director, the Director is permitted to allow an organization to make an endorsement before the start of the campaign period.

D. The above rule only permits organizations to select their endorsees before the start of the campaign period. Publication of endorsements can only be made once the campaign period begins.

E. The Elections Committee may recommend that the Student Assembly impose fines on or revoke allocated funds from organization failing to comply with these rules;

F. If a member of the Elections Committee sits on the Executive Board or governing body of an organization, that committee member must excuse themselves from deliberations on those candidates for which they may have a conflict;

G. All registered students, except candidates, may individually endorse candidates once Campaign & Voting Period begins.

§ 112. Campaign Ethics.

A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf during any portion or period of an election may not:

(1) Harass, threaten, or coerce others;

(2) Provide anything of material value to a member of the Cornell community to further themselves in the election or to promote their candidacy;

(3) Compel any person to endorse their candidacy, assist their campaign, or act as supporter as an explicit or implicit condition for initiation to, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in a group or organization;

(4) Publicly engage in any speech or actions that are discriminatory on the basis of race, sex, gender identity, religion, color, national origin, creed, or ethnicity, including, but not limited to Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism;

(5) Personally attack, name-call, or engage in libel or slander towards any candidate or their supporters;

§ 113. General Rules.

A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:

(1) Include any other candidate's name, a common ticket name, or a shared slogan, or symbol on any promotional materials, any form of electronic communication, or media;

(2) Share or pool campaign finances with any other candidates or supporters acting on their behalf;

(3) Distribute any promotional materials, send any electronic communication, or utilize any other form of electronic media on behalf of any other candidate except if the candidate does so for another candidate in the President and/or Executive Vice President races;

B. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not be construed to penalize any candidate, or supporter acting on their behalf for:

(1) Communicating with any other candidate;

(2) Appearing at the same event or public place with any other candidate;

(3) Sharing supporters with any other any other candidate;

(4) Sharing endorsements by any organization with any other candidate; or

(5) Coordinating campaign activities with any organization.

C. Each candidate, except for each candidate for the office of President or Executive Vice President, may distribute promotional material, send electronic communications, campaign on behalf of, and speak for any candidate for the office of President or Executive Vice President.

§ 114. Plagiarism.

A. Candidates may not disseminate written statements, promotional materials, or electronic communications that are plagiarized or substantially copied from any such items created or distributed by any current or former candidate.

B. A candidate may reuse their old election materials or utilize other candidates' formats with their expressed permission.

C. Materials distributed by the Director of Elections, Elections Committee, and the Office of the Assemblies may be used as templates by candidates.

§ 115. The Elections Committee.

A. The Director of Elections shall serve as chair and a designated representative of the Office of the Assemblies shall serve as a non-voting, *ex-officio* member of the Elections Committee.

B. The Director of Elections shall publish a list of Assembly seats to be filled, in accordance with the Student Assembly Charter.

C. During an Objection Review Meeting, the interpretation of the Elections Rules shall lie with the sitting Elections Committee.

D. Elections Committee members are expected to abide by the highest standards of personal conduct and integrity. Students are mandated to excuse themselves from serving on the Elections Committee if they plan to take part in a campaign. Therefore, members should not be involved in the campaigning process. Elections Committee members may not deliberate on candidates that have an endorsement from an organization they are presently on the Executive Board of.

E. The Elections Committee should be prepared to meet immediately following the objection submission deadline to rule on all pertinent objections. The Elections Committee shall use *Robert's Rules of Order* to consider objections, in addition to the election rules. In the event of conflict, these election rules supersede *Robert's Rules of Order*. The Elections Committee has no power to overrule the election rules under any circumstances. The Elections Committee, understanding all of this , may adopt internal Standing Rules to guide their meetings as long as they are in line with the election rules.

F. The Director of Elections may publish to the undergraduate student body during and following the Campaign & Voting Period information on turnout and voting participation.

G. The Director of Elections shall have in a confidential setting access to all information necessary to effectuate voter turnout.

H. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the election when there are no remaining unresolved matters.

§ 116. Independence of the Elections Committee.

A. Members of the Elections Committee are expected to abide by the highest standards of integrity; members also enjoy independence from undue interference. Students may not falsely accuse, harass, threaten or coerce any member of the Elections Committee for actions taken in their official capacity.

B. Subject to the determination of the Elections Committee, any violation of this section can result in temporary or permanent disqualification from contesting elections to the Student Assembly or University Assembly.

C. Members of the Elections Committee cannot personally endorse any candidates. However, members of the Committee may still privately vote in the elections themselves.

D. See the Student Assembly Bylaws for information on Committee membership procedures and requirements.

ARTICLE II: ELECTION PROCEDURES

§ 117. The Election Calendar.

A. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft the election calendar at some point prior to the Campaign & Voting Period, and will be approved by the Elections Committee at a meeting whenever possible.

B. Consideration shall be given to any religious holidays that may fall during the election period, guaranteeing that the right to free religious observance is afforded to all potential candidates.

§ 118. Voting and Tabulation.

A. Each office shall be elected according to the Ranked Choice method of voting.

B. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected.

C. Uncontested candidates will not be listed for a vote on the ballot and will be deemed victorious pending the resolution of objections.

D. Results for races in which objections have been filed shall be posted after the Elections Committee has ruled on each objection and each objection has been fully resolved.

E. The Elections Committee will not have access to the results prior to and during the review of objection. The Office of Assemblies will release election results after the Director of Elections or the Elections Committee has validated the election results.

F. A printout of election results for qualifying candidates shall be posted online on the relevant webpages of the election. Disqualified candidates will not have their vote tallies made available.

§ 119. Procedure for Verifying Eligibility.

A. The Office of the Assemblies, assisted by the Elections Committee, shall review the registration of each candidate to ensure compliance with §§ 101-104;

B. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Office of the Assemblies shall issue a report to the Elections Committee (to be known as the "Eligibility Report") on the eligibility of each candidate. The Eligibility Report shall be made available on the website of the Office of the Assemblies;

C. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Director of Elections shall review the report of the Office of the Assemblies and affirm or reject the eligibility of each individual having registered as a candidate.

D. The outcome of the Director of Elections review of the Eligibility Report shall be known as the "Candidate List". It which shall include the names of each individual deemed to be eligible to stand for election along with the office to which the individual is seeking election, and the names of each individual deemed ineligible to stand for election along with the office to which the individual sought to seek election;

E. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Director of Elections shall publish the Candidate List to the Student Assembly. The Candidate List shall be made available on the website of the Office of the Assemblies.

§ 120. Election Process.

A. Candidate Registration Period.

(1) During the Candidate Registration Period, each individual seeking election shall register as a candidate with the Office of the Assemblies.

B. Election Preparation Period.

(1) During this period, which shall follow the conclusion of the Candidate Registration period, the Office of the Assemblies shall prepare an informational website containing the name, statement of candidacy and photograph of each candidate, the necessary electronic ballots to carry out the election, and the Eligibility Report for the Elections Committee.

(2) Notwithstanding the election calendar adopted for each election, this period shall be no fewer than three (3) business days in length.

(3) During this phase, the Elections Committee shall review the Eligibility Report and issue the Candidate List.

C. Campaign & Voting Period.

(1) During the Campaign & Voting Period, all candidates shall be permitted to campaign to the extent permitted by these rules and electronic voting shall be made available to all voters for the entirety of this period.

(2) At the commencement of the Campaign & Voting Period, the Office of the Assemblies shall distribute electronic ballots for voting; no ballots may be submitted later than the time at which this period concludes.

D. Objection Submission Period.

(1) During the Objection Submission Period, any party eligible to submit an objection may do so, provided all timeliness requirements are met.

E. Objection Review Period.

(1) During the Objection Review Period, the Elections Committee shall undertake all necessary steps to adjudicate objections.

F. Declaration of Results.

(1) During this period, the Office of the Assemblies shall declare the numeric results of each election and to which offices candidates have been elected.

ARTICLE III: OBJECTIONS

§ 121. Eligibility to Object.

A. A general objection may be submitted by:

B. Any voter in same constituency as the candidate or candidates against whom the objection is being filed (known as the "respondent candidate");

(1) The Director of Elections; or

(2) The Elections Committee, when approved by majority vote.

C. A general objection may not be submitted by individual Committee members, except for the Director of Elections.

§ 122. Manner and Form of Objections.

B. General Objection.

(1) A general objection is the first part of an objection; its purpose is to notify the Elections Committee and the respondent candidate of the objector's intention to object to an alleged violation of these rules;

(2) Each general objection shall include:

(a) The full name and Net-ID (if applicable) of the objector;

(b) The candidate or candidates against whom the objection is being filed (known as the "respondent candidate");

(c) The date and place, as near as the objector may reasonably surmise, the violation took place;

(d) A brief description of the alleged violation;

(e) An attestation by the objector that all the information contained within the general objection is true and correct to the best of the objector's understanding.

C. Specific Objection.

(1) A specific objection is the second part of an objection; its purpose is to convey to the Elections Committee and the respondent candidate the specific nature and details of violations of these rules the objector believes occurred;

(2) Each specific objection shall include:

(a) A copy of the corresponding general objection;

(b) The full name and Net-ID (if applicable) of the objector;

(c) The candidate or candidates against whom the objection is being filed (known as the "respondent candidate");

(d) The date and place, as near as the objector may reasonably surmise, the violation took place;

(e) A detailed description of the alleged violation;

(f) A list of which rules the objector believes were violated;

(g) An explanation of why the alleged violation either materially compromised the integrity of the election or constituted a material advantage to the extent the respondent candidate should be disqualified; and

(h) An attestation by the objector that all the information contained within the specific objection is true and correct to the best of the objector's understanding.

(3) A specific objection may include any additional information or documentation relevant to the objection.

(4) The specific objection must be submitted at the same time as the general objection.

D. Consideration of an Objection.

(1) The Elections Committee shall consider all objections properly filed;

(2) The Elections Committee shall not consider an objection in instances where:

(a) Either the general or specific objection fails to contain all of the required information specified in this section;

(b) The objector filed only one, but not both parts of an objection; or

(c) The objector failed to file either a specific or general objection in a timely manner.

§ 123. Objection Deadlines.

A. General Objection.

(1) A general objection submitted by a voter in same constituency as the respondent candidate shall only be considered when submitted within twenty-four hours of the alleged violation becoming known to the objector or within twenty-four hours of the conclusion of the Campaign & Voting Period, whichever comes earlier;

(2) A general objection submitted by the Director of Elections or by the Elections Committee shall only be considered when submitted at any time prior to the declaration of results;

B. Specific Objection.

(1) A specific objection submitted by a voter in same constituency as the respondent candidate shall only be considered when filed within or within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the Campaign Period;

(2) A specific objection submitted by the Director of Elections or the Elections Committee shall only be considered when submitted at any time prior to the declaration of results;

C. Once submitted, an objection may not be withdrawn for any reason or by any person.

§ 124. Notification of Election Objections.

A. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Office of the Assemblies shall transmit to the Director of Elections a final copy of each general and specific objection received by the Office of the Assemblies; this provision shall not apply to objections submitted by the Director of Elections or the Elections Committee.

(1) During the Campaign & Voting Period, the Office of the Assemblies shall be permitted on a rolling basis to transmit general and specific objections to the Director of Elections.

B. Within twenty-four (24) hours of the transmission of the copies of specific objections, the Director of Elections shall determine whether each objection is fit for consideration.

(1) If the objection is fit for consideration (to be known as a "valid objection"), the Director of Elections may choose to notify by email the relevant objector and respondent of this determination and may transmit a copy of both the general and specific objection to the respondent candidate;

(2) If the objection is not fit for consideration (to be known as an "invalid objection"), the Director of Elections shall notify by email the relevant objector of this determination;

(3) It is at the discretion of the Director of Elections whether to notify a candidate of an objection against them or maintain its confidentiality until the end of the Voting Period.

§ 125. Response to Objections.

A. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, each respondent candidate may file a written response to an objection to the allegations contained within the objection to which they are a party.

B. The Director of Elections, or the Elections Committee by majority vote, may choose to hold a hearing at which time a designated respondent candidate may respond in person to the allegations contained within the objection to which they are a party.

§ 126. Objection Review Meeting.

A. The Elections Committee shall schedule a meeting to review valid objections in Executive Session.

B. The Committee, less temporarily recused members, shall provide a time for the respondent candidate to respond in person if requested by the respondent candidate or a member of the Committee.

C. The Director of Elections reserves the right to recuse any member of the Committee in the event of a conflict of interest. Members may either recuse themselves prior to objection hearings or at the discretion of the Director of Elections.

D. This meeting may be held virtually, in-person, or hybrid.

§ 127. Review of Objections.

A. For each valid objection, the Elections Committee shall determine as applicable in the following order:

(1) Whether the objection asserts the occurrence of a material violation of the Election Rules;

(2) Whether each alleged violation can be substantiated using a preponderance of the evidence;

(a) A vote will be taken for each violation individually, and a majority of the members present of the Elections Committee is required to declare that a preponderance of evidence substantiates each violation; and

(3) Which, if any, substantiated violations or combination thereof materially compromised the integrity of the election or constituted a material advantage to the extent the respondent candidate should be disqualified.

B. Roll Call Voting will be utilized for all votes by the Elections Committee. The Director of Elections shall vote last.

§ 128. Penalties.

A. If the Elections Committee finds that either a single substantiated violation or that a combination of substantiated violations, beyond a reasonable doubt, require the disqualification of a candidate, the Elections Committee only may disqualify a candidate with at least two-thirds of the members present of the Elections Committee voting in the affirmative to disqualify.

§ 129. Written Report.

A. For each rule violation, the Director of Elections or a member of the Elections Committee as delegated by the Director shall draft a written report thoroughly detailing:

(1) The objection(s);

(2) The Elections Committee's decision; and

(3) The rationale for the decision.

B. The report is to be kept confidential and only released to the respondent candidate and the objector.

C. A copy, with all names other than the respondent candidate redacted, is kept in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall.

D. For each objection, the Elections Committee shall report to the objector and the respondent candidate all evidence received and found, any violations substantiated, and any decisions to disqualify the respondent candidate.

§ 130. Reconsideration.

A. If the Elections Committee determines a candidate should be disqualified, the respondent candidate may request reconsideration within twenty-four hours of receiving the written report.

B. To be reconsidered, the candidate seeking such reconsideration must submit a request in writing via to the Office of the Assemblies and the Director of Elections within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the disqualification email from the Director of Elections. The statement should address the specific findings in the written report to be reconsidered and should detail the specific points where the Elections Committee failed to correctly enforce the objection procedure outlined in the Elections Rules.

C. Failure to submit all necessary documentation within twenty-four (24) hours will restrict the seeking for reconsideration and the Elections Committee's decision will be final.

D. The Election Committee shall convene in response to such a request. The Committee, after evaluating each request for reconsideration, shall determine by a simple majority vote if the decision to disqualify should be overturned. Email voting may be used by the Elections Committee.

§ 131. Confidentiality.

A. Members of the Elections Committee and parties to an objection may not share the contents of objections, evidence, or decisions submitted to or received from the Elections Committee, except when explicitly permitted by these rules or by the Director of Elections. When publicly releasing confidential information, the Director of Elections must redact the names of all individuals who are not the candidate respondent.

B. The Director of Elections is permitted to reveal only relevant information about an objection if it is in service of an investigation. However, there is virtually no instance in which this would imbue the Director of Elections the power to divulge the objector's name to the respondent.

C. A review of objections may take place in coordination with the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, by any member of the Cornell community. Objections may not be photocopied, screen-shared, photographed, digitally recorded or removed from the Office of Assemblies.

D. The Director of Elections may not review or be granted access to election results until all objections have been adjudicated and all Committee business concluded.