

1 **The Election Rules of the Student Assembly**

2
3 *Adopted by the Student Assembly on*
4 *February 29, 2024*

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6 **ARTICLE I: ELECTION GUIDELINES**

7
8 **Preamble.**

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10 Elections are the foundation upon which representative governance rests. These rules are
11 designed to protect the rights of all candidates, as well as all members of the University
12 community, and to ensure that the election process takes place in an open and fair arena.
13 Candidates must respect the rights and privileges of all members of the Cornell community
14 and follow all election guidelines outlined in this document. Election rules are subject to
15 the approval of voting members of the Student Assembly each semester.

16
17 **§ 100. Definitions.**

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

- 19
20 (1) “Candidate” means any person who the Elections Committee has verified is a
21 candidate by the publication of the candidate’s name on the Candidate List, as
22 described in these Election Rules;
23
24 (2) “Classroom” means any space in which a professor, teaching assistant, or any
25 other instructor holds prescribed class time. “Classroom” includes in-person,
26 hybrid, and online courses;
27
28 (3) “Constituency” means a particular group of voters, the specific meaning of
29 which shall be context dependent, but shall refer to one of the following:
30
31 (a) The whole population of full-time, undergraduate students;
32
33 (b) A subset of the undergraduate student population enrolled in any of
34 the following schools or colleges: the College of Arts & Sciences; the
35 College of Agricultural & Life Sciences; the College of Arts,
36 Architecture, and Planning; the Dyson School of Applied Economics
37 and Management; the Nolan School of Hotel Administration; the
38 School of Industrial and Labor Relations; the Brooks School of Public
39 Policy; the College of Human Ecology; or the College of Engineering;
40
41 (c) A subset of the undergraduate student population the members of
42 which each began his or her undergraduate course of study at a
43 university or school other than Cornell University (to be known as the
44 “transfer student population”); or
45
46 (d) A subset of the undergraduate student population the members of
47 which each is in his or her first year of enrollment at Cornell
48 University, except for those students who are members of the transfer

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- 49 student population (to be known as the “freshman student
50 population”);
51
- 52 (4) “Cyber Bullying” means is the act of bullying in any online space. These
53 election rules follow the same definition of bullying as outlined in the Student
54 Code of Conduct and applicable university policies or governmental laws;
55
- 56 (5) “Individual or self-promoting publicity” means any outreach events, office
57 hours, postings, or public facing events, whether in-person or virtual, in which
58 interaction with, or promotion of, the candidate is a substantial reason for the
59 act;
60
- 61 (6) “Group Chat” means any closed platform not otherwise defined as “Social
62 Media” for sharing information text and images; examples include, but are not
63 limited to: iMessage, WhatsApp, Slack, GroupMe, SnapChat (messaging
64 functions only), Instagram (messaging functions only), and SMS services;
65
- 66 (7) “Objector” means an individual or group of individuals who have filed a
67 general objection or specification of a specific objection;
68
- 69 (8) “Organization” means any registered student organization at Cornell
70 University;
71
- 72 (9) “Respondent Candidate” means the candidate against whom an objection has
73 been filed;
74
- 75 (10) “Social Media” means any online service that allows users to share, create,
76 or post content for social-networking purposes. Social media services include,
77 but are not limited to: Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, LinkedIn, Twitter,
78 Facebook, Tumblr, Reddit, MySpace, Pinterest, YouTube, and
79 CampusGroups;
80
- 81 (a) Email, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal, and text messaging are not social
82 media.
83
- 84 (11) “University Assembly office” means an office of the University Assembly
85 elected by and from the whole population of undergraduate students;
86
- 87 (12) “Voter” means an individual who is eligible to vote in an election for a
88 particular office;

89 § 101. Voter Eligibility.

- 90 A. To be a voter in an election for any Student Assembly or University Assembly office
91 elected by the whole of the undergraduate student population, an individual must:
92
- 93 (1) Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-
94 granting unit of the Ithaca campus of the University; and,
95

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

99

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

102

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

104 § 102. Candidate Eligibility and Requirements.

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

107

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

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

111

112 (3) Submit a completed candidate registration form and any associated materials
113 required in that form;

114

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

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

120

121 (b) Been removed from the Student Assembly or University Assembly;

122

123 § 103. Candidate Registration.

124 A. Registration Form.

125

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

128

129 (a) First and Last Name;

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131 (b) Preferred pronouns;

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133 (c) Net-ID;

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135 (d) College or school of enrollment;

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137 (e) Major, if declared;

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139 (f) Year of expected graduation;

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141 (g) Photograph;

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143 (h) Phone number; and

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

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148 B. Statement of Candidacy.

149
150 (1) Each candidate may submit a statement of candidacy, which may be no more
151 than 1,250 characters including spaces, as part of the candidate registration
152 form in plain text.

153
154 (2) Statements will be displayed in informational materials published by the
155 Elections Committee.

156
157 (3) Statements may not include names of any political coalitions.

158
159 (4) Statements not conforming to the requirements set forth in this section, shall
160 not be posted.

161
162 C. Candidate Photographs.

163
164 (1) Each candidate photo will be displayed in informational materials published
165 by the Elections Committee.

166
167 (2) Candidates shall submit a photograph of themselves that conforms to the
168 specifications noted in the online candidate registration form, or have their
169 photograph taken by a staff member in the Office of the Assemblies.

170 **§ 104. Candidate Requirements.**

171 A. Candidate Forum.

172
173 (1) All candidates are encouraged to participate in the Candidates' Forums held
174 by the Elections Committee during the Campaign & Voting Period. Candidates
175 are also encouraged to use the forum as an opportunity specifically to discuss
176 why they are more qualified for the contested position than their opponent(s).

177
178 (2) The Elections Committee will be responsible for planning, coordinating, and
179 marketing these forums. At the forum, candidates are encouraged to discuss
180 their experience, platforms, and more. The Director of Elections shall reach
181 out to student organizations that receive funding from the Student Assembly,
182 encouraging them to use the candidate forum as an opportunity to consider
183 candidates for endorsements.

184
185 B. Tabling Requirement.

186
187 (1) The Director of Elections shall promulgate mandatory community engagement
188 requirements (including tabling) for all candidates to participate in with a
189 documented form of engagement during the Campaign & Voting Period.

190
191 C. Mandatory Campaign Meetings.

192

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193 (1) The Director of Elections shall have the power to call and schedule mandatory
194 meetings and to disqualify candidates for non-participation.

195 § 105. Early Campaigning Prohibition.

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

- 198
- 199 (1) Distribute online campaign materials to the public;
- 200
- 201 (2) Distribute campaign materials in-person to the public;
- 202
- 203 (3) Canvass voters;
- 204
- 205 (4) Make official speeches or statements to student organizations related to a
206 candidate; or
- 207
- 208 (5) Promote a candidate through email, social media, or other digital media.
- 209

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

212 § 106. Restrictions for Current Student Assembly Members.

213 A. Current Student Assembly members seeking reelection must not host constituency
214 outreach events that are meant to fulfill an outreach requirement during the Campaign
215 & Voting Period.

216 § 107. Compliance with University Policies and Student Code of Conduct.

217 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all
218 applicable policies and provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, including but not
219 limited to:

- 220
- 221 (1) Use of Cornell Name, Logo & Artwork policy;
- 222
- 223 (2) Event Registration policies;
- 224
- 225 (3) Facilities reservation policies, including Willard Straight Hall area reservation
226 policies;
- 227
- 228 (4) University Postering & Chalking policies;
- 229
- 230 (5) Residential & New Students Programs' policy for postering in residence halls;
- 231
- 232 (6) Dining hall policies, including a prohibition of distributing printed campaign
233 materials in dining halls without permission from authorized staff, and as
234 designated in the Student Code of Conduct;
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236 (a) Please note that it is against the University Postering and Chalking
237 Policy to chalk on any vertical surface, regardless of the location;

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(7) Intimidation tactics and cyber-bullying online is strictly prohibited.

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.

§ 108. Campaigning.

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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 list-serv;
- (2) Sending messages through Campus Mail for campaigning purposes.
- (3) Sending any message that violates Cornell University IT policies.

§ 109. Campaign Finance.

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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.

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- 286
287 (1) Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally
288 if documentation of its dollar value is not provided.
289
290 (2) If there is a supporting receipt for goods used in a candidate's campaign, then
291 the value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt as long as
292 the transaction was conducted at arm's length.
293
294 (3) For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no
295 official receipt is provided, candidates must seek the most plausible
296 assessment of the fair market value of the good. Professional services will be
297 defined as any work for which the given individual/donor is typically
298 compensated. Volunteer time donated by full-time students, who are not
299 professionals (have received payment for service) in the area of their volunteer
300 effort, will not be considered professional services.
301
302 (4) Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other
303 websites must also be accounted for at fair market value.
304
305 C. Candidates will be eligible for reimbursements to cover out-of-pocket expenses from
306 the campaigning period that can be used towards the following expenses: website
307 expenses (web hosting, domain names, and online advertising) or any other
308 promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of
309 these election rules.
310
311 (1) Each candidate shall be eligible for reimbursements of \$0.005 (one-half cent)
312 for each voter in the relevant constituency or \$40.00, whichever is greater;
313
314 (2) The Director of Elections shall publish a list of the amount eligible for
315 reimbursement prior to the Campaign & Voting Period.
316
317 D. Candidates may use any platforms at their disposable, granted they are free. If these
318 platforms require purchasing, candidates are required to report this in their expense
319 report forms.

320 § 110. Endorsements.

- 321 A. All registered student organizations receiving funds from the Student Assembly
322 (including the Student Activity Fee) may endorse candidates. In order to publicly
323 endorse a candidate, an organization must:
324
325 (1) Establish a fair process where candidates interested in applying for the
326 organization's endorsement may apply;
327
328 (2) Submit to the Director of Elections a brief copy of the organization's process
329 with relevant deadlines for endorsing candidates and instructions to be shared
330 by the Director of Elections with all candidates as to how candidates will be
331 endorsed;
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333 B. The Elections Committee may recommend that the Student Assembly impose fines on
334 or revoke allocated funds from organization failing to comply with these rules;

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- 335
336 C. If a member of the Elections Committee sits on the Executive Board or governing body
337 of an organization, that organization is prohibited from endorsing candidates.
338
339 D. All registered students, except candidates, may individually endorse candidates once
340 Campaign & Voting Period begins.

341 **§ 111. Campaign Ethics.**

- 342 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf during any portion or period of an
343 election may not:
344
345 (1) Harass, threaten, or coerce others;
346
347 (2) Provide anything of material value to a member of the Cornell community to
348 further themselves in the election or to promote their candidacy;
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350 (3) Compel any person to endorse their candidacy, assist their campaign, or act as
351 supporter as an explicit or implicit condition for initiation to, admission into,
352 affiliation with, or continued membership in a group or organization;
353
354 (4) Publicly engage in any speech or actions that are discriminatory on the basis
355 of race, sex, gender identity, religion, color, national origin, creed, or ethnicity,
356 including, but not limited to Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism;
357
358 (5) Personally attack, name-call, or engage in libel or slander towards any
359 candidate or their supporters;

360 **§ 111. General Rules.**

- 362 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:
363
364 (1) Include any other candidate's name, a common ticket name, or a shared slogan,
365 or symbol on any promotional materials, any form of electronic
366 communication, or media;
367
368 (2) Share or pool campaign finances with any other candidates or supporters
369 acting on their behalf;
370
371 (3) Distribute any promotional materials, send any electronic communication, or
372 utilize any other form of electronic media on behalf of any other candidate
373 except if the candidate does so for another candidate in the President and/or
374 Executive Vice President races;
375
376 B. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not be construed to penalize any
377 candidate, or supporter acting on their behalf for:
378
379 (1) Communicating with any other candidate;
380
381 (2) Appearing at the same event or public place with any other candidate;
382

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- 383 (3) Sharing supporters with any other any other candidate;
384
385 (4) Sharing endorsements by any organization with any other candidate; or
386
387 (5) Coordinating campaign activities with any organization.
388
- 389 C. Each candidate, except for each candidate for the office of President or Executive Vice
390 President, may distribute promotional material, send electronic communications,
391 campaign on behalf of, and speak for any candidate for the office of President or
392 Executive Vice President.

393 § 113. Plagiarism.

- 394 A. Candidates may not disseminate written statements, promotional materials, or
395 electronic communications that are plagiarized or substantially copied from any such
396 items created or distributed by any current or former candidate.
397
- 398 B. Materials distributed by the Director of Elections, Elections Committee, and the Office
399 of the Assemblies may be used as templates by candidates.

400 § 114. The Elections Committee.

- 401 A. The Director of Elections shall serve as chair and a designated representative of the
402 Office of the Assemblies shall serve as a non-voting, *ex-officio* member of the
403 Elections Committee.
404
- 405 B. The Director of Elections shall publish a list of Assembly seats to be filled, in
406 accordance with Student Assembly Charter.
407
- 408 C. During an Objection Review Meeting, the interpretation of the Elections Rules shall
409 lie with the sitting Elections Committee.
410
- 411 D. Elections Committee members are expected to abide by the highest standards of
412 personal conduct and integrity. Students are mandated to excuse themselves from
413 serving on the Elections Committee if they plan to take part in a campaign. Therefore,
414 members should not be involved in the campaigning process. All conflicts should be
415 considered and resolved before the election cycle begins. Elections Committee
416 members may not sit on the Executive Board of an organization that endorses
417 candidates in a Student Assembly election. If an Elections Committee member sits on
418 the Executive Board of an organization or sat on that Executive Board at any time
419 during the same semester of a particular Student Assembly election, that organization
420 may not endorse candidates in that Student Assembly election, or that Elections
421 Committee member must resign from the Elections Committee.
422
- 423 E. The Elections Committee should be prepared to meet immediately following the
424 objection submission deadline to rule on all pertinent objections. The Elections
425 Committee shall use *Robert's Rules of Order* to consider objections, in addition to the
426 election rules. In the event of conflict, these election rules supersede *Robert's Rules of*
427 *Order*. The Elections Committee has no power to overrule the election rules under any
428 circumstances.
429

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- 430 F. The Director of Elections may publish to the undergraduate student body during and
431 following the Campaign & Voting Period information on turnout and voting
432 participation.
433
- 434 G. The Director of Elections shall have in a confidential setting access to all information
435 necessary to effectuate voter turnout.
436
- 437 H. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the election when
438 there are no remaining unresolved matters.

439 **§ 115. Independence of the Elections Committee.**

- 440 A. Members of the Elections Committee are expected to abide by the highest standards of
441 integrity; members also enjoy independence from undue interference. Students may
442 not falsely accuse, harass, threaten or coerce any member of the Elections Committee
443 for actions taken in their official capacity.
444
- 445 B. Subject to the determination of the Elections Committee, any violation of this section
446 can result in temporary or permanent disqualification from contesting elections to the
447 Student Assembly or University Assembly.
448
- 449 C. Members of the Elections Committee cannot personally endorse any candidates.
450 However, members of the Committee may still privately vote in the elections
451 themselves.

452 **ARTICLE II: ELECTION PROCEDURES**

453 **§ 116. The Election Calendar.**

- 455 A. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft
456 the election calendar prior to the semester of the election, and will be approved by the
457 Elections Committee at a meeting in the prior semester if possible.
458
- 459 B. Consideration shall be given to any religious holidays that may fall during the election
460 period, guaranteeing that the right to free religious observance is afforded to all
461 potential candidates.

462 **§ 117. Voting and Tabulation.**

- 463 A. Each office shall be elected according to the Approval Method of voting.
464
- 465 B. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected.
466
- 467 C. Uncontested candidates will not be listed for a vote on the ballot and will be deemed
468 victorious pending the resolution of objections.
469
- 470 D. Results for races in which objections have been filed shall be posted after the Elections
471 Committee has ruled on each objection and each objection has been fully resolved.
472

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- 473 E. The Elections Committee will not have access to the results prior to and during the
474 review of objection. The Office of Assemblies will release election results after the
475 Director of Elections or the Elections Committee has validated the election results.
476
- 477 F. A printout of election results for qualifying candidates shall be posted online on the
478 relevant webpages of the election. Disqualified candidates will not have their vote
479 tallies made available.
480

481 **§ 118. Procedure for Verifying Eligibility.**

- 482 A. The Office of the Assemblies, assisted by the Elections Committee, shall review the
483 registration of each candidate to ensure compliance with §§ 101-104;
484
- 485 B. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Office of the
486 Assemblies shall issue a report to the Elections Committee (to be known as the
487 “Eligibility Report”) on the eligibility of each candidate. The Eligibility Report shall
488 be made available on the website of the Office of the Assemblies;
489
- 490 C. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Director of Elections
491 shall review the report of the Office of the Assemblies and affirm or reject the
492 eligibility of each individual having registered as a candidate.
493
- 494 D. The outcome of Director of Elections review of the Eligibility Report shall be known
495 as the “Candidate List”. It which shall include the names of each individual deemed to
496 be eligible to stand for election along with the office to which the individual is seeking
497 election, and the names of each individual deemed ineligible to stand for election along
498 with the office to which the individual sought to seek election;
499
- 500 E. No later than a time to be fixed by the Elections Calendar, the Director of Elections
501 shall publish the Candidate List to the Student Assembly. The Candidate List shall be
502 made available on the website of the Office of the Assemblies.

503 **§ 119. Election Process.**

- 504 A. Candidate Registration Period.
505
- 506 (1) During the Candidate Registration Period, each individual seeking election
507 shall register as a candidate with the Office of the Assemblies.
508
- 509 B. Election Preparation Period.
510
- 511 (1) During this period, which shall follow the conclusion of the Candidate
512 Registration period, the Office of the Assemblies shall prepare an
513 informational website containing the name, statement of candidacy and
514 photograph of each candidate, the necessary electronic ballots to carry out the
515 election, and the Eligibility Report for the Elections Committee.
516
- 517 (2) Notwithstanding the election calendar adopted for each election, this period
518 shall be no fewer than three (3) business days in length.
519

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

522
523 C. Campaign & Voting Period.

524
525 (1) During the Campaign & Voting Period, all candidates shall be permitted to
526 campaign to the extent permitted by these rules and electronic voting shall be
527 made available to all voters for the entirety of this period.

528
529 (2) At the commencement of the Campaign & Voting Period, the Office of the
530 Assemblies shall distribute electronic ballots for voting; no ballots may be
531 submitted later than the time at which this period concludes.

532
533 D. Objection Submission Period.

534
535 (1) During the Objection Submission Period, any party eligible to submit an
536 objection may do so, provided all timeliness requirements are met.

537
538 E. Objection Review Period.

539
540 (1) During the Objection Review Period, the Elections Committee shall undertake
541 all necessary steps to adjudicate objections.

542
543 F. Declaration of Results.

544
545 (1) During this period, the Office of the Assemblies shall declare the numeric
546 results of each election and to which offices candidates have been elected.

547 548 **ARTICLE III: OBJECTIONS**

549 550 **§ 120. Eligibility to Object.**

551 A. A general objection may be submitted by:

552
553 (1) Any voter in same constituency as the candidate or candidates against whom
554 the objection is being filed (known as the “respondent candidate”);

555
556 (1) The Director of Elections; or

557
558 (2) The Elections Committee, when approved by majority vote.

559
560 B. A general objection may not be submitted by individual Committee members, except
561 for the Director of Elections.

562 **§ 121. Manner and Form of Objections.**

563 B. General Objection.

564
565 (1) A general objection is the first part of an objection; its purpose is to notify the
566 Elections Committee and the respondent candidate of the objector’s intention
567 to object to an alleged violation of these rules;

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(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 the 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 the 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.

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619 D. Consideration of an Objection.

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

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

624

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

627

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

629

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

632 **§ 122. Objection Deadlines.**

633 A. General Objection.

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

640

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

644

645 B. Specific Objection.

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

650

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

654

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

656 **§ 123. Notification of Election Objections.**

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

661

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

665

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

669
670 (1) If the objection is fit for consideration (to be known as a “valid objection”),
671 the Director of Elections shall notify by email the relevant objector and
672 respondent of this determination and shall transmit a copy of both the general
673 and specific objection to the respondent candidate;

674
675 (2) If the objection is not fit for consideration (to be known as an “invalid
676 objection”), the Director of Elections shall notify by email the relevant
677 objector of this determination.

678 **§ 124. Response to Objections.**

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

682
683 B. The Director of Elections, or the Elections Committee by majority vote, may choose
684 to hold a hearing at which time a designated a respondent candidate may respond in-
685 person to the allegations contained within the objection to which they are a party.

686 **§ 125. Objection Review Meeting.**

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

689
690 B. The Committee, less temporarily recused members, shall provide a time for the
691 respondent candidate to respond in person if requested by the respondent candidate or
692 a member of the Committee.

693
694 C. The Director of Elections reserves the right to recuse any member of the Committee in
695 the event of a conflict of interest. Members may either recuse themselves prior to
696 objection hearings or at the discretion of the Director of Elections.

697
698 **§ 126. Review of Objections.**

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

701
702 (1) Whether the objection asserts the occurrence of a material violation of the
703 Election Rules;

704
705 (2) Whether each alleged violation can be substantiated beyond a reasonable
706 doubt;

707
708 (a) A vote will be taken for each violation individually, and a majority of
709 the members present of the Elections Committee is required to declare
710 that a preponderance of evidence substantiates each violation; and
711

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

715

716 § 127. Penalties.

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

722

723 B. The Elections Committee may, by a majority vote of the members present, impose
724 lesser sanctions on a candidate as it sees fit

725 § 128. Written Report.

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

729

730 (1) The objection(s);

731

732 (2) The tallies of all votes taken by the Elections Committee including the
733 bifurcated voting process;

734

735 (3) The Elections Committee's decision; and

736

737 (4) The rationale for the decision.

738

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

741

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

744

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

748 § 129. Reconsideration.

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

752

753 B. To be reconsidered, the candidate seeking such reconsideration must submit a request
754 in writing via to the Office of the Assemblies and the Director of Elections within
755 twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the disqualification email from the Director of
756 Elections. The statement should address the specific findings in the written report to

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757 be reconsidered and should detail the specific points where the Elections Committee
758 failed to correctly enforce the objection procedure outlined in the Elections Rules.

759

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

763

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

768 **§ 130. Confidentiality.**

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

775

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

ARTICLE: THIS IS AN ARTICLE

§ 000. This is a Section.

A. This is a subsection.

(1) This is a paragraph.

(a) This is a subparagraph.

(i) This is a clause.
