



Code of conduct

for National Executive
Committee and
Presidential Team
elections

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Code of conduct for National Executive Committee and Presidential Team elections

1. This Code of Conduct is designed to ensure fairness and equality of opportunity between one candidate and another.
2. Each candidate will be given a copy of the Code and will be required to give a written undertaking that they will abide by the terms of the Code.
3. Prospective candidates seeking nomination may make a statement which, including biographical details, must not exceed five hundred words in the case of elections for voting members of the National Executive Committee and for election of the Presidential Team. Statements must be submitted to the General Secretary by the deadline notified.
4. The statements of all prospective candidates, where available, shall be placed on the Prospect website prior to the closing date for nominations to enable Branches to consider who, if any, they may wish to nominate. Prospective candidates may also ask Branches directly for nominations.
5. Failure to provide a statement does not preclude a prospective candidate from being nominated.

Nomination Procedure

6. Branches will submit formal nominations by the deadline notified.

Candidates' Statements

7. Each candidate will be invited to provide a photograph taken within the 12 months preceding the date of nomination, and may make a statement which, including biographical details, must not exceed five hundred words in the case of elections for voting members of the National Executive Committee and for election of the Presidential Team. The statement and recent photograph must be received by the closing date and time for the receipt of nominations.
8. The statements of all candidates shall be issued to all members eligible to vote in the election.

Election Campaigns

9. No funds of the amalgamated union or other resources shall be used by any candidate or by a candidate's supporters in the promotion of their nomination/candidacy, other than required for the official circulation of the authorised candidate's election statement. Similarly, no amalgamated union funds or other resources shall be used by any candidate or any candidate's supporters in denigrating any other candidate. Any civil or criminal liability in respect of publishing or copying an election address which has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements rests solely with the candidate concerned.
10. Candidates shall not spend any of their own funds, nor shall they or their supporters use any funds, or official resources, in an election campaign. This shall include

spending on travel, subsistence, entertainment, stationery, postage, telephone, or use of faxes or e-mail, with the object of promoting any nomination/candidacy.

11. Candidates should not attend Branch or work-place meetings for the purpose of canvassing for nominations or votes, but this shall not prevent them carrying out their normal responsibilities as representatives of members.
12. Branches may advise their members of the names of those candidates in an election who have been nominated by that branch. Branches may also advise members to participate in a ballot (to “use their vote”); but branches must not make any other comment on any other aspects of candidates, whether nominated by them or not.

Breaches of the Code

13. Any member may complain of a breach of the Code.
14. Such complaints will be investigated by the Appeal Committee, appointed by Conference to deal with appeals against disciplinary action taken by the National Executive Committee.
15. Any complaint that there has been a violation of this Code must be submitted within seven days of the declaration of the result of the election and the Appeal Committee will arrange to complete the process of considering the complaint within three weeks from the date of receiving the complaint.
16. If the Appeal Committee upholds the complaint that the candidate by their own act or by the acts of any other person has caused a violation of the Code, the candidate may be debarred from the election and/or their election may be declared null and void.
17. The decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final.