

Proposed Bylaw 18

18. Director/Vice Director Elections

a) Official Communications

- i) All election related communications between candidates and the ARRL shall be conducted through the ARRL Secretary.

b) Nomination Process

- i) In the July and August issues of QST, the Secretary shall solicit nominations for the office of Director/Vice Director in each division in which the term of the incumbent is to expire on the subsequent January 1, in a notice that shall include the name of the incumbent.
- ii) On any date between the first business day of July and noon Eastern Time on the second Friday of August of any election year, any Full member of such division may request official nominating petition forms. To constitute a valid nomination, the original copy of such an official nominating petition form as provided by the Secretary must name a Full member of the division as a candidate for Director/Vice Director; must be signed by ten or more Full members of the division; must be accompanied by a statement signed by the candidate attesting to his or her eligibility, willingness to run, and willingness to assume the office if elected; and must be filed with the Secretary no later than noon Eastern Time on the third Friday of August of that year.
- iii) The submission may be made by facsimile or electronic transmission of images, provided that upon request by the Secretary the original documents are received by the Secretary within seven days of the request. The Secretary shall, within one business day, acknowledge the receipt of nominations to the candidate and shall forward the nominations to the Ethics and Elections Committee (E&E). E&E will validate the nomination, signatures, and candidate statement, and determine candidate eligibility. The deadline for determining eligibility and notification of the candidate by the Secretary is noon Eastern Time on the 4th Friday of August.
- iv) Each candidate may submit a 300-word statement for inclusion with the ballot. The submission of this statement shall be filed with the Secretary no later than noon Eastern Time on the 7th day after the 4th Friday in August. With this statement, the candidate may submit his or her paper photograph with dimensions not larger than 3 inches high and 2 inches wide to likewise be included with the ballot. Alternatively, an equivalent electronic photograph in .jpg format at a minimum of 200 dpi may be submitted.

c) Candidate Eligibility Requirements

- i) Along with requirements specified in ARRL Articles of Association Article 12, candidates must maintain their permanent residency (as referenced in Article 7 of the ARRL Articles of Association) in the division for which they are running for election. Permanent residency is defined as living full-time within the division. Ownership of property or part time residency within a division does not satisfy this eligibility requirement. ARRL membership records and other sources will be considered in verification of permanent residence.

d) Campaigning

- i) The campaign period is defined as the period from July 1st until the day ballot submission is due in the election.
- ii) To facilitate campaigning, address labels, mailing lists, or other membership data are furnished upon request, to any candidate whose eligibility has been certified. All requests shall be made in writing on a form to be provided by the Secretary. The form will require a signed statement that the list is being used only for the purpose of campaigning. Lists are furnished at the cost of production.
- iii) All statements made by the candidate during the campaign period must be, in all material respects, truthful and not misleading. The standard of truth applies to all campaign material by a candidate. Campaign statements may include opinions (stated as such). However, an expressed opinion based on false or misleading statements shall be deemed to be untrue. The E&E Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and determining whether statements are false or misleading.
- iv) A candidate may not make any comments, directly or indirectly, referring to their opponent(s) in any campaign communication, oral or written. Candidates participating in a debate may mutually agree to waive this provision for the duration of the debate.
- v) Because outside influences can create misleading bias and unfair advantage, ARRL intends that election campaigning and fundraising take place entirely within the division holding an election. Candidates may not solicit or accept financial support of any kind from outside of their division by any means. This includes using services such as GoFundMe or by using an intermediary. Except if acting as a member of E&E, no ARRL board member may become involved in an election that is outside of their own division. This includes providing financial support, providing testimonials, campaigning for candidates, and actively engaging and supporting potential candidates. Board members may provide information to candidates, if asked by a candidate, only if that information is shared with all candidates and vetted in advance by E&E. E&E is responsible for overseeing all communications related to division elections.
- vi) Candidates may communicate with division members by mail, electronic distribution, posting to personal websites and webpages (specifically not portrayed as official ARRL websites or webpages), email, hand-delivery or by any other means of distribution. Candidates may not use communications vehicles that carry campaigning or other election related comments outside of their division during the election period other than personal websites or webpages. An electronic or physical copy of all campaign material shall be sent to the ARRL Secretary.
- vii) It may not be appropriate for candidates to conduct on-the-air campaigning. ARRL does not sanction such on-the-air activity. Because incumbent Directors/Vice Directors are in a policy-making role in a corporation, it is better if their campaign activities are conducted in some fashion other than via Amateur Radio. Articles by or about, or photos of, an incumbent Director/Vice Director, or a candidate, will not be knowingly published in an issue of QST, On The Air, QEX, or NCJ during the campaign period. No candidate or person on behalf of a candidate shall distribute campaign literature on official ARRL stationery, except that ARRL member or club stationery may be used. "Campaign literature" is defined as any item in support of a specific candidate.

- viii) The E&E Committee may decide after working to resolve an issue with a candidate that disqualification is the only recourse. The intent is to ensure that there is equity in the fairness of the election in question. A candidate who has been disqualified has up to 7 days to file a request for review of the disqualification as provided in these Bylaws.
- ix) To protect the sanctity of the election process and assure that members are not provided with biased and/or inaccurate information, candidates may not make public statements about complaints made to or received from the Secretary during the election period. The candidate may, however, request through the Secretary that E&E release such information to all members of the Division.