NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS



Terms Defined

Nomination

A proposal to fill the blank in an assumed motion "that ____ be elected" to the specified position

Election

The vote taken to determine the person to serve in a specified position

Methods of Nomination



- By the chair
- From the floor
- By committee
- By ballot
- By mail
- By petition

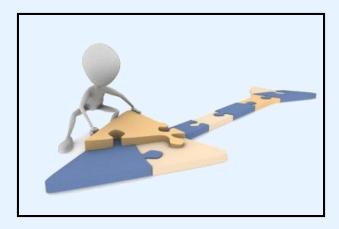
Nominations by the Chair



- Must be authorized in the bylaws or adopted by a motion
- Subject to approval by the assembly
- Usually does not include the Nominating Committee

Nominations from the Floor

- Sometimes known as open nominations
- Chair calls for nominations according to rule or custom
- Always after the Nominating Committee report
- Member does not need to be recognized
- No second is required, but a second indicates endorsement of the candidate





Nominations from the Floor (Continued)

- No member may nominate more persons than there are places to be filled
- The same person may be nominated for more than one office, even if voting will be on a single ballot
- Nominations are called for in the order of offices listed in the bylaws
- The chair says, "Nominations are now in order for the office of..."
- The chair repeats each nomination and asks for further nominations for that office

Nominations by a Committee

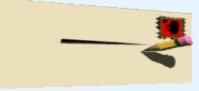
Members of committee chosen in advance by the method prescribed in the bylaws

- May nominate more than one candidate for each office, but it is not advisable to do this
- Members of the committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office themselves
- Committee members should contact each person in advance to obtain acceptance of the nomination

Nominations by Ballot

- Shows preferences without electing anyone
- Everyone receiving a vote is nominated
- Nominations from the floor are not allowed unless the assembly so orders
- This ballot should not be made the electing ballot
- Electing ballot should not be limited to the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the nominating ballot

Nominations by Mail

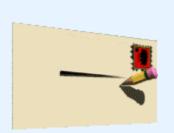


- Used when membership is widely scattered
- Nominating ballot is mailed to every legal member with instructions for completion and return
- Nominations may be either secret or on a signed ballot

Methods of Election



- By ballot
- By mail ballot
- Viva voce (by voice)
- By roll call
- By cumulative voting





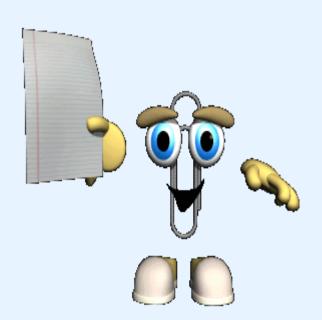
Election by Ballot

- All nominations can be completed before any balloting takes place
- Balloting for each office immediately follows the close of nominations for that office
- Should take place early in the meeting to allow time for any necessary additional balloting for any office
- Unless the bylaws prohibit, votes can be cast for any person eligible for election, even if not previously nominated



Election by Ballot (Continued)

- Names of all candidates not elected should remain on the ballot
- A ballot vote is required even when there is only one nominee for each office unless the bylaws allow a voice vote in such a case
- If fewer than the proper number receive a majority vote, or if there is a tie, additional balloting is necessary



Election by Mail Ballot

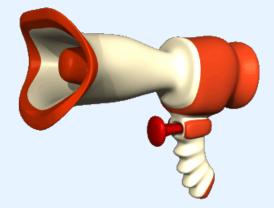
Must be authorized in the bylaws

If repeated balloting is necessary, the bylaws should authorize the election to be decided by preferential voting or a plurality vote



Election by Voice Vote (viva voce)

- Principally used in mass meetings
- Candidates are voted on in the order nominated
- The first nominee for a particular office to receive a majority vote is elected to that office



Election with a Roll Call Vote

- Member or chairman of a delegation declares his vote or the votes of the members of the delegation
- The secretary records the votes and then repeats them to ensure accuracy

Election with Cumulative Voting

- Each member is entitled to cast one vote for each position
- Votes may all be cast for one candidate or more as the voter chooses
- Not recommended since it violates a fundamental principle of parliamentary law: one person, one vote

Effective Time of Election



- Immediately if the candidate is present or has consented to the candidacy
- Takes possession of the office immediately unless the bylaws provide otherwise
- Failure to hold an installation ceremony does not affect the time for assuming office