

Proposed changes to: Section 9.10. Conduct of Elections at Large

<p>(a) Election by Ballot. Voting shall be by written or electronic ballot, except that if only one person has been validly nominated for each elective position at large the persons so nominated shall be declared elected and no ballots shall be required.</p>	<p>(a) Election by Ballot. Voting shall be by written or electronic ballot or electronic voting, except that if only one person has been validly nominated for each an elective position at large the persons or persons so nominated shall be declared elected and no ballots voting shall be required for these positions. Delegates will have access to electronic voting onsite at General Assembly or remotely, as described in subsection (d), or by mail ballot as described in subsection (c).</p>	<p>Voting by ballot and voting electronically mean two different things. Electronic voting allows voters to use virtually any internet connected device to vote, whereas an electronic ballot is generally associated with a specific machine for in person voting. This change will give the BOT & Secretary latitude on how future elections can be held as technology evolves.</p> <p>“For these positions” was added to simplify the ballots and voting process to only those contested positions. For example in the last election voters would have only voted for the presidential candidates since none of the other positions were contested.</p>
<p>(b) Persons Entitled to Vote. Ballots shall be cast only by accredited delegates from certified member congregations and certified associate member organizations to the regular General Assembly at which the election is held and by trustees. No person shall cast more than one ballot.</p>	<p>(b) Persons Entitled to Eligible Voters. Ballots Votes shall be cast only by accredited delegates from certified member congregations and certified associate member organizations to the regular General Assembly at which the election is held and by trustees. No person shall cast more than one ballot vote.</p>	<p>Removed reference to “persons” as it’s not necessary to specify people which is an issue the principles task force will be looking into and possibly changing. Also changed ballot to vote since there are multiple ways to vote.</p>
<p>(c) Absentee Voting. Those entitled to cast ballots in an election may cast their ballots electronically or by mail. Absentee ballots shall be mailed at least forty-five days prior to the General Assembly at which the election is being held. An absentee ballot that is mailed must be received by the Secretary not less than seven calendar days before the General Assembly in order to be counted. An absentee ballot that is</p>	<p>(c) Absentee Voting Mail Ballots. Those entitled to cast ballots in an election Accredited delegates may cast their ballots as paper ballots by mail, if they request to do so. Absentee Mailed ballots can be requested through the Secretary, and shall be mailed requested at least forty-five days prior to the General Assembly at which the election is being held. An absentee paper ballot that is returned</p>	<p>This change better defines absentee voting as a mailed ballot sent well in advance of General Assembly. This is an important distinction given we now have voters participating remotely during General Assembly. They are present even though physically absent.</p>

transmitted electronically must be received by the Secretary prior to the closing of voting at the GA location. The closing date and time shall be designated in the General Assembly meeting announcement.	by mailed must be received by the Secretary not less than seven calendar days before the General Assembly in order to be counted. An absentee ballot that is transmitted electronically must be received by the Secretary prior to the closing of voting at the GA location. The closing date and time shall be designated in the General Assembly meeting announcement.	
	(d) Electronic Voting. Accredited delegates may vote electronically either onsite at General Assembly or remotely. The Secretary shall designate the electronic voting period in the General Assembly meeting announcement and may add more time if justified. Electronic voting systems must be auditable, accessible, and secure.	New section specifically to address the electronic voting period, the fact that eligible voters can vote remotely and onsite during this period, and setting some requirements of an electronic voting system.

Proposed Changes to: Section 9.11. Counting of Ballots.

(a) For the position of President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee. If there are no more than two duly nominated candidates for a position, the candidate receiving the greater number of votes is elected; provided, however, that in construing the foregoing with respect to Trustee positions, each Trustee position number shall be considered a separate elective position. If there are more than two duly nominated candidates for a position, the ballot shall be designed to permit the designation of first, second, third, etc., choice. If no candidate receives a majority of the first-choice votes cast,	(a) Singular Positions. If there are no more than two duly nominated candidates for a single position, not including the candidates for the position of Moderator and President, the candidate receiving the greater number of votes is elected.	Restructured so that all elected positions are treated equally based on number of positions to be filled and number of candidates.
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the candidate receiving the lowest first-choice vote shall be eliminated and the ballots cast for such candidate shall be redistributed in accordance with the second choice indicated thereon. This process shall be repeated until one candidate receives a majority of all votes cast or until only two candidates remain, at which time the one receiving the greater number of votes is elected.		
(b) For Other Elective Positions. If there is one elective position at large to be filled, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes is elected. If there is more than one such elective position of the same kind to be filled, the candidates respectively receiving the greatest number of votes are elected.	(b) Multiple Positions of the Same Kind. For Other Elective Positions. If there is one elective position at large to be filled, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes is elected. If there is more than one such elective position of the same kind to be filled, the candidates respectively receiving the greatest number of votes are elected.	
	(c) Moderator and President Voting. For the positions of Moderator and President, If there are more than two duly nominated candidates for a position a ranked choice vote will be held. If no candidate receives a majority of the first-choice votes cast, the candidate receiving the lowest first-choice vote shall be eliminated and the ballots cast for such candidate shall be redistributed in accordance with the second choice indicated thereon. This process shall be repeated until one candidate receives a majority of all votes cast or until only two candidates remain, at which time the one receiving the greater number of votes is elected.	New section to address preferential voting.

<p>Rule G-9.11.1. Tie Vote-Elected Committee Position. If a tie vote occurs in filling an elected committee position when only one person is to be elected, or occurs in filling a slate when the slate cannot be completed without resolving the tie, then as soon as possible before the final adjournment of the General Assembly involved, additional ballots shall be cast by those present and entitled to vote, except that initially the Moderator shall not vote. The additional ballots shall contain only the names of the candidates who are tied. These ballots shall be counted along with a recounting of the ballots cast for the tied candidates by absentee ballots, and the result of the foregoing procedures shall determine the election, unless there is still a tie, in which case the Moderator shall then cast a ballot to resolve it.</p>	<p>Rule G-9.11.1. Tie Vote-Elected Committee Position. If a tie vote occurs in filling an elected committee position when only one person is to be elected and when ranked voting is not being used, or occurs in filling a slate when the slate cannot be completed without resolving the tie, then a candidate or candidates shall be eliminated by random draw to determine the winner. then as soon as possible before the final adjournment of the General Assembly involved, additional ballots votes shall be cast by those present and entitled to vote, except that initially the Moderator shall not vote. The additional ballots shall contain only the names of the candidates who are tied. These ballots shall be counted along with recounting of the ballots cast for the tied candidates by absentee ballots, and The result of the foregoing procedures shall determine the election, unless there is still a tie, in which case the Moderator shall then cast a ballot to resolve it.</p>	<p>Changed to cover all elected positions and to allow offsite delegates to vote regardless of location and specifically calls for a run-off election between the tied candidates.</p>
<p>Rule G-9.11.2. Tie Vote-Moderator. If the tie involves the election of a Moderator, the proceedings to resolve the tie shall be presided over by the Secretary of the Association who, in all matters involving the resolutions of the tie, shall have the rights and duties of the Moderator.</p>	<p>Rule G-9.11.2. Tie Vote-Moderator. If the tie involves the election of a Moderator, the proceedings to resolve the tie shall be presided over by the Secretary of the Association who, in all matters involving the resolutions of the tie, shall have the rights and duties of the Moderator.</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Rule G-9.11.3. Tie Vote-President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee. If, in the election of a President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or</p>	<p>Rule G-9.11.3. Tie Vote-Ranked Voting-President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee. If, in the election of a President,</p>	<p>Changed to incorporate another way of breaking ties in a preferential vote which takes into account all preference votes for each candidate.</p>

<p>Trustee, in any particular counting of the preferential ballots, including absentee ballots, there is a tie vote among candidates having the least number of votes, then each such tied candidate shall be eliminated, and in the next counting, the ballots accumulated for said candidate shall be redistributed among the remaining candidates on the basis of the highest effective preferences marked on all the ballots that have been cast. However, if in this process, such elimination leaves only a single candidate who in that counting still does not have a majority of the counted votes, or if only two candidates remain in the contest and they are tied, then there shall be as many run-off election procedures, conducted under the provision of Rule G-9.11.1, as are necessary to result in the election of a President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee by at least a majority of the votes cast.</p>	<p>Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee, in any particular counting of the preferential ballots, including absentee ballots, there is a tie vote among candidates having the least number of votes, Should there be a tie for the fewest number of first preference votes, including absentee ballots, then among these, the candidate with the fewest number of second preference votes shall be eliminated. Should a tie persist, the procedure shall continue with third preference votes, et cetera. Should a tie still persist, the candidate with the fewest number of original first preference votes, shall be eliminated. Should a tie still persist, the procedures shall continue with original second preference votes, et cetera. Should a tie still persist, a candidate shall be eliminated by random draw. then each such tied candidate shall be eliminated, and in the next counting, the ballots accumulated for said candidate shall be redistributed among the remaining candidates on the basis of the highest effective preferences marked on all the ballots that have been cast. However, if in this process, such elimination leaves only a single candidate who in that counting still does not have a majority of the counted votes, or if only two candidates remain in the contest and they are tied, then there shall be as many run-off election procedures, conducted under the provision of Rule G-9.11.1, as are necessary to result in the election of a President, Moderator, Financial Advisor, or Trustee by at least a majority of the votes cast.</p>	
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<p>Rule G-9.13.1. Preparation and Mailing of Ballot. Unless no ballot is required according to Section 9.9(a), prior to each regular General Assembly at which an election is to be held, the Secretary shall prepare ballots upon which shall appear the names of all persons who have been nominated for office in accordance with these Bylaws. One such ballot shall be sent with each credential card issued by the Secretary.</p>	<p>Rule G-9.13.1. Election Preparation and Mailing of Ballots. Unless no ballot voting is required according to Section 9.9(a), prior to each regular General Assembly at which an election is to be held, the Secretary shall prepare the voting system and ballots upon which shall appear include the names of all persons candidates who have been nominated for office in accordance with these Bylaws and whose nomination is contested by at least one other candidate. One such ballot Voting instructions shall be sent with each credential card issued by the Secretary.</p>	<p>Changes here make it clear that only contested positions need to be included on the absentee ballots.</p> <p>Also changing the requirement to have voting instructions associated with the credential card rather than a ballot to accommodate electronic voting.</p>
<p>Rule G-9.13.2. Order of Names on Ballot. On all ballots used in elections held by the Association, the order of names shall be determined by the drawing of lots done by the Secretary and witnessed by two other persons; provided, however, that the order of names for elections to the Board of Trustees shall be by Board position number first, and then as determined above. The Secretary shall certify the results of the drawing of lots, the certificate shall be attested by the witnesses, and the certificate shall be filed in the Secretary's office. This Rule shall be printed on all official ballots or on the instructions accompanying them.</p>	<p>Rule G-9.13.2. Order of Candidate Names. on Ballot. On all ballots used In elections held by the Association, the order of names shall be determined by the drawing of lots done by the Secretary and witnessed by two other persons; provided, however, that the order of names for elections to the Board of Trustees shall be by Board position number first, and then as determined above. For electronic voting, candidates shall be listed in random order for each separate ballot. The Secretary shall certify the results of the drawing of lots, the certificate shall be attested by the witnesses, and the certificate shall be filed in the Secretary's office. This Rule shall be printed on all official ballots or on the instructions accompanying them.</p>	<p>Changes here give the secretary more latitude on how the candidates names should appear and allowing the use of technology that allows names to be randomized each time they are loaded by the software.</p>
<p>Rule G-9.13.3. Write-ins Prohibited. In any election, the use of stickers or the writing in of the</p>	<p>Rule G-9.13.3. Write-ins Prohibited. In any election, the use of stickers or the writing in of</p>	<p>Remove the mention of ballot.</p>

name of any person on a ballot shall not be permitted and no vote so attempted shall be counted.	the name of any person on a ballot shall not be permitted and no vote so attempted shall be counted.	
Rule G-9.13.4. Absentee Ballots. A mailed absentee ballot shall be counted only if accompanied by the signed and certified ballot stub of the credential card of the person casting the ballot. An electronic absentee ballot shall be counted only if the delegate has complied with established secure voting protocols.	Rule G-9.13.4. Absentee Mailed Ballots. A mailed absentee paper ballot shall be counted only if accompanied by the signed and certified ballot stub of the a valid credential card of the person casting the ballot. An electronic absentee ballot shall be counted only if the delegate has complied with established secure voting protocols.	Updated to reflect that ballots are no longer being distributed with credentials. Instead they need to include a copy of their credential document.
Rule G-9.13.5. Balloting at General Assembly. A person shall be qualified to cast a ballot at General Assembly only if that person presents to the Secretary of the Association or those employed by him or her a properly certified ballot stub plus a badge issued to that person and containing the same name as the name on the ballot stub. An electronic ballot shall be counted only if the delegate has complied with established secure voting protocols.	Rule G-9.13.5. Balloting Voting at General Assembly. A person shall be qualified to cast a ballot vote at General Assembly only if that person presents to the Secretary of the Association or those employed by him or her a properly certified ballot stub valid credential plus a badge issued to that person and containing the same name as the name on the ballot stub credential .	Updated to reflect that ballots are no longer the only way to vote and that a valid credential rather than ballot stub is needed to vote.