

Election Principles

Ethical Standards

PRINCIPLES OF ELECTIONS

1. Correctness of the results
 - a. Only eligible members can vote;
 - b. All votes counted are valid votes, and all valid votes are counted
2. Verifiability of results by involved parties
3. Secrecy of votes – each voter will be given an individual ID and personal password to access the voting form

BALANCE BETWEEN SECURITY AND USABILITY

Ethical considerations rules:

1. Allow voters to verify their vote before confirmation/ submission.
2. Take measures to guarantee distribution of power, to prevent insider attacks as well as the experience of elections as an elitist matter – one voter one proxy
3. Find a good balance between security and usability

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR ELECTION COMMITTEE

1. Show respect and uphold the MSQH constitution and abiding by the legal (ROS) framework, its rules and regulations;
2. **Collaborate** with members of the Election Committee, representatives of MSQH Committee to ensure peaceful, free and transparent election and a fair result and to refrain from creating any obstacles to achieve these;
3. **Be open, transparent, accurate**, neutral and professional in fulfilling the duties, including not providing any preferential treatment or wearing or displaying any partisanship e.g. logos, symbols or colours;
4. Enable members to receive **information** about other members who they are nominating and vote, and to make their choice based on this information;
5. Avoid conflict of interests, or the perception of conflict of interests, by abstaining from decision making if there is a personal or private interest in the matter
6. Ensure **secrecy** of the ballot

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS

DO

7. disclose waste, fraud, abuse and corruption to the appropriate authorities, and;
8. disclose financial information, if required by law, including salary, directorships held, honorariums paid and other sources of income.

DO NOT

9. accepting anything of value (money, offers of employment, gifts, travel, etc) in exchange for preferential treatment or access to a public official or nonpublic information;
10. discriminating against anyone because of race, color, religion, class, sex, origin/place of work, age or handicap;
11. use of facilities and position to fulfill the terms of office, not for personal or partisan benefit. This usually includes office time, personnel, facilities and equipment;
12. pressuring or intimidating other members or officials to favour a certain candidate or for them to misuse their offices or facilities

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR NOMINEES & CAMPAIGNING

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| 1. Acting with integrity | 1. “I will conduct myself in such a way that my speech and acts are honest and trustworthy, able to nurture a culture of truth and reliability” |
| 2. Being incorruptible | 2. “I will not accept any financial or other obligation to individuals or organizations which could lead me to act unethically in my duties and responsibilities” |
| 3. Acting impartially | 3. “In carrying out my duties, including making appointments, awarding contracts, grants, or recommending individuals for benefits, I will make fair choices which do not unduly or unjustly favour those with whom I have other ties” |
| 4. Being transparent | 4. “I will be transparent in my decisions and actions and will not withhold information which is in the voters interest” and, |
| 5. Being accountable | 5. “I recognize that I am accountable for my decisions and actions and will submit to whatever scrutiny is appropriate” |

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR MONITORS/OBSERVERS

1. respecting MSQH, its constitution and the framework of the election
2. obtaining valid approval before monitoring/observing the election
3. observing in a professional and neutral manner, not disrupting the electoral process or interfering with voters during registration and polling or with electoral committee and officials carrying out their duties
4. monitoring in a professional, neutral and constructive manner, intervening only when a rule or standard electoral procedures are being broken or ignored
5. disclosing the purposes and objectives of the monitoring/observation in reporting and dealings with nominees and members
6. reporting accurately without falsification or exaggeration, having covered enough of the process and electoral sites to ensure the report is representational of the actual situation; and
7. 'independent' observers remaining nonpartisan in their activities, coverage and reporting.