

## INTERNAL ELECTIONS POLICY

### AUTHORITY

A Policy of YouX (historically the Adelaide University Union)  
enacted Pursuant to Clause 21 of the AUU Constitution

### POLICY

1. Objectives
  - 1.1. To regulate the process of internal Board elections.
  - 1.2. To ensure that the integrity of the secret ballot is preserved.
  - 1.3. To ensure that internal elections are conducted freely and fairly, with the absence of coercion and intimidation.
2. Definitions
  - 2.1. The definitions in Clause 3 of the AUU Constitution apply to this policy unless specified otherwise below.
  - 2.2. 'Board Director' means any Board Director of YouX, or any Board Elect of YouX
  - 2.3. 'expelled' means ceasing to be a Board director pursuant to Clause 9.5 of the Constitution.
  - 2.4. 'internal Board election' means any election conducted for the positions of President, Vice President, any Committee Chair, or for voting members of the Executive.
  - 2.5. 'Returning Officer' means the Returning Officer appointed by the Board to carry out an internal Board election.
  - 2.6. 'Same type of pen' means a pen of the same colour, shade, brand and model of all other pens used in a given election.
3. Interpretation

Interpretation of this policy is within the jurisdiction of the Board and not that of the President.
4. Conduct of Internal Elections
  - 4.1. The following procedure shall be followed, subject to Clause 4.2, when holding an internal Board election:

- 4.1.1. The Returning Officer shall cause for ballot papers to be created containing the names of all candidates in a given election with a box next to each name.
    - 4.1.2. A vote is only valid where a number 1 is placed in the box next to the candidate of first preference, followed by any subsequent number to indicate the candidate(s) of lesser preference in accordance with the rules of the Hare-Clarke Optional Preferential system. For the avoidance of doubt, any other marking within the box (eg a tick, cross etc) does not constitute a valid note.
    - 4.1.3. The Returning Officer shall declare a vote invalid where the ballot paper contains any marking other than what is required by Clause 4.1.2, but only where the Returning Officer is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the marking was done with the intention of identifying a Board Director's vote.
    - 4.1.4. All votes shall be cast using the same type of pen. Any ballot which is not cast using the same type of pen shall be invalid.
    - 4.1.5. The Returning Officer shall ensure that every Board Director voting is given the same type of pen. The election must not proceed until each Board Director has the same type of pen.
  - 4.2. At the commencement of the election process the Board or Board Elect may, at their discretion, resolve to waive any part of Clause 4 to facilitate a vote by another mechanism of their choosing for Board Directors who are attending virtually.
5. Candidate Speeches
- 5.1 The Returning Officer shall permit candidates within internal Board elections to speak in favour of their candidacy prior to the opening of voting for a duration of up to two minutes each.
  - 5.2 Candidates may waive their right to speak.
6. Enforcement of this Policy
- 6.1. Any intentional contravention of this Policy shall be deemed misconduct, and any Board Director who intentionally contravenes this Policy may be subject to a penalty and liable to be expelled pursuant to Clause 9.5 of the Constitution.
  - 6.2. Where the Returning Officer does not comply with Clause 4 the election shall be invalid and held again, but only where the non-compliance was significant such that the result would have been materially different if Clause 4 was complied with.

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## Version Control Table

Version	Author	Date	Changes
V1.0	Executive Officer		Enacted
V2.0	Executive Officer	20/11/2017	Amend Title, Section 3, create Section 2, create Clause 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 4.1.4, delete Clause
V3.0	YouX Board	26/11/2023	Amend Title, Clauses 1.1, 1.3, 2.2, 2.3, 4, 4.1, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.2, 5, 5.1, 5.2. Add Clause 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 6, 6.1, 6.2. Remove Clause 4.3