

LSESU Clubs and Societies Elections Rules and Guidance

General Rules

- Candidates are not permitted to spend any money on their campaign.
This includes but is not limited to:
 - Paying for promotional materials
 - Offering rewards in return for votes
- If candidates are already on the existing committee and would like to re-run for a position, they are not permitted to use their position for the benefit of their campaign. For example, they cannot promote themselves or their manifesto through the group's social media, or use mailing/members lists.
- If a club or society wishes to promote their election, they can do so, but must include details about all candidates, and no preferences can be shown.
- If two candidates receive the same highest number of votes, the winner will be chosen by a coin-toss, performed by the Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer.
- Slates are allowed. Slates are when a group of candidates all run together, for multiple positions. Candidates must all submit their nominations separately, and you cannot force/pressure voters to support your slate.
All other election rules still apply.




Complaints

- Any complaints or disputes regarding the integrity of the election or candidates must be sent to the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer for the Club and Society elections is the Activities and Communities Officer - su.activitiescommunities@lse.ac.uk.
- Complaints can be submitted at any point during the election period. The deadline for any complaints is 24 hours after voting ends.



Hustings

- Hustings are meetings where any candidate who is nominated for an election gets the chance to present their manifestos, and answer any questions your members may have. They can only take place once candidates have been announced.
 - If you wish to run a hustings for your group, please follow the usual LSESU Clubs and Socs event planning process, and submit an event form at least 10 working days in advance.
 - If a group runs a hustings, all candidates must be given the opportunity to speak, and for the same amount of time.
 - You should try and arrange the hustings at a time where as many members as possible can attend.
 - If a candidate cannot attend in person, arrangements should be made for them to join digitally,
 - If a candidate cannot attend at all, they can submit a speech to be read out on their behalf.
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Clubs and Societies Elections FAQs

Why do we need to run an election?

As an affiliated group to the Students Union you are subject to the Union's Byelaws. The Core Committee need to be elected by a formal process.

To make sure that everyone has a fair opportunity to become a committee member, club and society members will vote to elect their new committee leaders every year.

Who can take part in the club or society elections?

Only full paid members of your club or society are able to nominate or vote in an election. Standard Memberships must be purchased each academic year in order to remain a member. Associate members are not permitted to stand for election or vote.

Please note: Membership sales will close before the election period begins.

When are elections held?

Typically Club and Society Elections are held in Winter Term (March), unless you're a new or postgraduate group, then they'll take place in Autumn Term (October).

Can we hold interviews/applications for positions?

Any member of your society or club is allowed to nominate themselves for an available position. Prior vetting of candidates is strictly prohibited (including interviews, a selection process, tasks to complete, personal questions etc). Any groups found to have used a recruitment process risk having their election invalidated.

What positions do we need to elect?

The core positions that all groups must elect through the SU elections are President, Treasurer and Secretary (or the equivalent such as Club Captain).

Non-core positions (such as Events Officer, Inclusions Officer and Social Secretary) can also be included in the elections at your request.

If you have a sub-committee you can elect those roles at the same time or at a different time of year, depending on when those positions are required. Please just ensure this is done democratically, and that all members have the same opportunity to nominate themselves.

We need to add some new non-core roles to our group, how can we do this?

You can add as many non-core roles as required by the group. You can either include these in the elections (by completing the opt-in form), or elect them informally, as described above.

If you have any questions about Club and Society elections, please email su.societies@lse.ac.uk or su.sport@lse.ac.uk and our team will be happy to help.

