

Partick Thistle Supporters Association Limited  
Election Rules Policy

**Introduction**

1. This document constitutes the Election Rules, Regulations and Procedure and is drafted in accordance with existing constitution of the Partick Thistle Supporters Association Limited. The purpose of the Election Rules Policy is to ensure that the elections for Society board members are conducted in a democratic and unbiased manner in accordance with these rules, the Board Membership Policy and Supporters Direct Best Practice Guidelines.

2. Definitions:

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| AGM        | Annual General Meeting                         |
| Jags Trust | Partick Thistle Supporters Association Limited |
| EMG        | Election Management Group                      |
| SB         | Society Board (Steering Committee)             |

**Election Control**

3. During the election period the EMG will ensure that the Election is run in accordance with the Election Rules Policy on behalf of the JagsTrust members.

4. The EMG will comprise of an odd number of members and any decisions taken will be by majority vote and recorded. They will select a Chair from amongst their members.

5. Members serving on the EMG shall be eligible to nominate candidates and vote in the Elections but will not be permitted to be candidates.

6. Polling for the election is to be organised by the EMG subject to these election rules. The results as determined by the EMG are final.

7. The EMG will include an independent member who is not a member of the JagsTrust and who may act as Chair of the EMG.

8. The election timetable is included in the Board Membership Policy.

9. Election details including the timetable and manifestos shall also be posted on the JagsTrust Website.

10. Polling results will be determined by EMG in line with the electoral systems as described in the Board Membership Policy

11. The results will be announced at the AGM by a returning officer as selected by the EMG.

12. The EMG will verify that nominations are from members and check for 'multiple nominations'. If multiple nominations are found beyond the maximum permitted then the candidate(s) that submitted their nomination form first shall be accepted. Thereafter a nomination form containing a further Candidate nomination by the same member will be rejected.

## **Eligibility & Nomination**

13. Candidates must comply with eligibility and nomination procedure as set out in the Nominations form.

14. It is the Candidate's responsibility to ensure their nominations are valid and submitted in accordance with the timetable. In the event of uncertainty, the decision of the EMG will be final.

15. In signing the form, candidates are bound by the terms and conditions of the election rules and regulations.

16. A signed letter of nomination from a member is an acceptable substitute for manuscript signature on a candidates' nomination form.

17. Specifically candidates are also self-certifying that they comply with the following two rules of the constitution:

Rule 61:

No person can be a member of the Society Board who:

- is subject to a bankruptcy order or has in place a composition with their creditors;
- is subject to a disqualification order made under the Company Directors Disqualification Act;
- has been convicted of an indictable offence (other than a spent conviction as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974);
- is or may on the basis of medical evidence be suffering from mental disorder;
- fails to abide by any rules for the conduct of elections made by the Society Board

Rule 74:

Save for the exceptions referred to below, no Society Board member is to have any material financial interest personally or as a member of a firm or company or as a director or other officer of a business trading for profit or in any other way whatsoever in any contract or other transaction with the Society. For the purposes of this rule, an interest of a person who is connected with a Society Board member shall be treated as an interest of the Society Board member. The exceptions are that the Society Board members may;

- a. buy tickets or season tickets for matches and use facilities of any club in which the Society is interested;
- b. be paid expenses including travel expenses;
- c. receive Society Board fees
- d. if they are co-opted members of the Society Board be employees of the Club;
- e. declare an interest in a particular contract or issue and;
  - (i) not be present except with the permission of the Society Board in any discussion of the contract or issue

(ii) not vote on the contract or issue (and if by inadvertence they do remain and vote, their vote is not to be counted)

### **Election Rules**

18. During the election the EMG, or SB members, cannot provide advice to voting members as to the suitability of any candidates on behalf of the JagsTrust. Any opinion, or advice provided, should be taken as provided in a personal capacity.

19. Candidates/complainants have the right of appeal to the EMG, and then through the complaints procedure detailed in JagsTrust Constitution.

20. Complaints after voting has closed shall be made in writing to the EMG not later than three working days after the close of poll.

21. All communication regarding Election Rules Policy should be addressed to the EMG, via email at (e-mail address), or by letter addressed to the EMG at the JagsTrust registered office.

22. Should any Candidates contravene the election rules the EMG shall judge whether a disqualification shall apply. Notification will be to the elected SB.

23. The elected SB will decide what action, if appropriate, may be taken should disqualification occur.

24. All Candidates shall leave their contact details with the EMG.

### **Manifestos and Campaigning**

25. The EMG shall publish a Manifesto document based on Candidates' Manifestos submitted with the Nomination form.

26. The EMG will be responsible for circulation of the manifesto document with ballot papers.

27. On a membership-wide basis, campaigning will be restricted to this publication. No further Election campaigning material will be circulated to all members by the EMG. Other than this personal campaigning is allowable and which shall be conducted taking account of the requirements for manifestos as set out in Rule 34.

28. All candidates can submit an election manifesto to the EMG by close of nominations. The candidate's name need not appear. Acronyms, pseudonyms, and slang will be at the discretion of the EMG.

29. All the candidate's manifestos are to be received in written form, typed, and proof read before issue. The number of words counted shall be decided using Microsoft Word.

30. If a candidate's manifesto has more than the permitted five hundred words, it will be truncated at 500 words and text will be inserted below stating: "The Candidate's Manifesto has exceeded the permitted five hundred words and has therefore been truncated".

31. Candidate's manifestos written in the third person shall be accepted.

32. Candidates and nominees can only put their real names on nomination

documentation. No nicknames will be accepted.

33. A candidate's manifesto shall not contain the name of any of their nominators or any other candidate.

34. Candidates must not in their manifestos: make threats, insults, derogatory, abusive, racist, sexist, or homophobic statements, or references towards other candidates.