

**Student Group Committee Election Rules**

* All SU affiliated student groups must organise committee elections each year to elect their new committees for the following academic year in order to adhere to the SU democratic process.
* All candidates must conduct themselves in a ‘free and fair’ manner that reflects the values and policies of the Students’ Union. Please see the Member [Code of Conduct](https://www.thesu.org.uk/pageassets/about/policies/The-SU-Code-of-Conduct.pdf).
* Even if a student wants to remain in their committee position the group must still run an election to give other a chance to nominate themselves.
* All elections must take place through the SU website.
* All elections must take place between 1st February and 12th March 2021.
* No group should have voting open between 22nd-25th February so it doesn’t clash with the SU President election voting period.
* All group Presidents (or equivalent) have access to set up their group’s election online (if you need another committee member to have access then please speak to your coordinator).
* All group elections to be overseen and counted by their designated SU coordinator.
* Only fully paid standard (current student) members of the group can nominate themselves for committee positions for that group.
* Elections should be open to allow any fully paid standard member to be able to nominate themselves (if specialist knowledge/experience/qualifications are needed for a role then please speak to your coordinator).
* Only fully paid standard members of the group can vote in the group’s elections.
* We advise all nomination and voting periods to be open for at least 5 days each to give all members a chance to nominate themselves and vote if they wish.
* All elections must be set up with Re-Open Nominations as an option.
* In the event of a tie coordinators will discuss sharing of committee positions with the group President (or equivalent). Where sharing is not appropriate we will discuss alternatives.
* Any complaints should be made within 24 hours of the voting closing and should be directed to your relevant coordinator in the first instance who will then escalate it to the Deputy Returning Officer where relevant. The Deputy Returning Officer for the student group elections is the Student Opportunities Lead.

**Coordinator contact details for all election queries:**

**Sports Coordinator – Ceri Harvey** **ceri.harvey@thesu.org.uk**

**Societies Coordinator – Rosie Lea** **rosie.lea@thesu.org.uk**

**Campaigning Guidance**

Due to the Covid situation all campaigning should take place online this year. Candidates must not use any group email distribution lists or the group website/social media pages to aid with their individual campaigning. All election communication through the group pages must be fair for all candidates.

Candidates and members of their campaign team must allow voters the opportunity to cast their vote in private, and under no circumstances must votes be cast on a voter’s behalf.

The SU staff should remain impartial at all times. This includes (but is not limited to), not sending out communications on behalf of individual candidates, not wearing any candidate campaign merchandise and not verbally endorsing individual candidates.