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# Parliamentary Procedure: Guide For Elections

**Parliamentary Procedure** 

## Guide to Elections

For Voluntary Organizations

Joyce L. Stephens Professional Registered Parliamentarian



#### Synopsis

A complete guide to conducting elections using various voting methods; includes physical arrangements and traffic patterns for large organizations; cautions on contested elections. A useful resource for all organizations for conducting legal elections. Sample ballots, proxies, reports, scripts, and more.

#### **Book Information**

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When an organization has been conducting elections for many years using a procedure which has become more tradition than by the rules, challenges are waiting to happen. Challenges can range from the simple point of order to expensive lawsuits. The importance of election committees and their understanding of the rules cannot be overstressed in planning and executing proper elections. The rules come from many sources. For example, if your organization is incorporated, state statutes may dictate some of the procedure. Your articles ofincorporation, .bylaws, and standing rules will have importance in determining procedure. Although tradition has a place in all organizations, once there has been an acknowledgment that the rules have been loosely applied, it is time to either change the rules or follow them righteously. This book begins with an explanation of the rules cited above and how they may effect your elections. Following that are sections on the rules for nominations, balloting procedures, counting and reporting procedures. A short section on traffic patterns for elections was requested by managers in the continuing education courses taught by the author. This should be helpful in crowd control and voter guidance in large and small organizations. The author has included a section of examples which can be used in different circumstances. Examples of ballots will help the election committee choose a ballot appropriate for their organization. Organizations need a guide to help them plan efficient and legal elections. The author has endeavored to include as much information as possible to achieve this purpose.

Joyce L. Stephens is a Professional Registered Parliamentarian and a Professional Parliamentary Specialist. She has served as president of the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians and as national president of The Academy of Parliamentary Procedure and Law. She is a State of Florida certified provider of continuing education for association managers. She teaches workshops for the Florida Institute of Government at the University of South Florida. She is a consultant on all aspects of parliamentary law. Her books have received acclaim from the public, parliamentarians, and from libraries and retail sources. She has been serving as a professional parliamentarian for eighteen years. This book will give you the benefit of her experience.

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