ELECTIONS RULES

**Any breach of the Elections Rules could result in disciplinary action being taken against you by the Deputy Returning Officer (DRO).  The DRO reserves the right to distribute sanctions that are deemed to be fair and equivalent to any breach of the Elections Rules.**

We expect candidates to behave civilly and honestly and to ensure that they and their campaign teams support this. We ask all candidates to read the Elections Rules and sign it before campaigning starts to show you are aware that you will be held liable for your own and your supporters/team’s actions.

**General Rules**

Wolves SU aims to:

1. Conduct all elections in a fair, equal, and appropriate manner.
2. Ensure all student members, whose principal relationship at Wolves SU is not as a staff member, have the opportunity to participate fully in all aspects of the Election.
3. Conduct the elections in the spirit of cooperation and friendliness.

**Requirements**

* 1. All candidates must be eligible to stand in the elections and agree to adhere to the Elections Rules, signing and returning this before campaigning starts.
	2. All candidates must attend a Candidate Briefing session or meet with the DRO before the voting period begins.
	3. All candidates should attend Question Time event/s hosted by Wolves SU.
	4. Candidates agree to read the Candidate Handbook.

**Conduct**

* Candidates should remain respectful of all staff, students and others throughout the elections process.
* Candidates are responsible for the activities carried out by their campaign supporters/team.
* Candidates may only begin campaigning after attending the training, returned the Elections Rules, attended Candidate Training and the campaigning period has opened.
* Candidates are not allowed to run in a slate. A slate is defined as a group of candidates joining together to campaign via resources or campaign material.
* Candidates and their supporters/team may only alter, move or remove their own campaign materials.
* Candidates and their supporters/team are not allowed to use mailing lists to campaign.
* Candidates may use social media but all platforms they use to campaign must be public and accessible to other candidates.
* Candidates cannot campaign when on duty either as a member of Union or University staff, in any capacity.
* It is against the rules to campaign in IT Suites on the University campus.
* Candidates and individual supporters should not campaign in public if they have tested positive for COVID-19.
* Candidates cannot be endorsed by student staff, society committee/executives, societies, external companies or officers (including previous officers).
* Candidates and their supporters/team must not communicate or interfere with voters in any way once they’ve begun to complete their voting ballot, this includes voting on behalf of a student or allowing voters to use a personal electronic device to vote.
* Candidates are not allowed within 5 metres of a polling station; this includes public computers on campus and mobile phones.
* Candidates and their supporters/team should avoid behaviour that could be considered intimidation or harassment of an individual to vote in a particular way.
* Candidates and their supporters/team should not engage in behaviour that could be considered abusive or constitute a personal attack on a named individual.

**Budget and Promotional Material**

1. No candidate may spend more on their campaign than the budget set by the DRO. This includes using their own funds. No candidate should seek to gain advantage because they have greater funds or resources at their personal disposal.
2. Items freely and readily available to all campaigners can be used by all candidates.
3. Candidates cannot use discounts that are only available to you i.e., loyalty points, member only deals, special relationships (“mates’ rates”). This includes ‘freebies’ donated to the candidate.
4. All costs must be declared with receipts before the deadline to receive reimbursement. We will not reimburse any money to candidates who fail to hand in receipts before the deadline.
5. Items that campaigners already own can be valued using a price list available from the elections team (elections.wolvesunion@wlv.ac.uk). The DRO will value items not on this list within one working day of the request for an evaluation.
6. Wolves SU logos may not be used in candidate promotional material.
7. Candidate promotional material must be signed off by the DRO prior to circulation.
8. All candidates are responsible for ensuring they have permission to post publicity or to canvass in specified areas.

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| **I agree to abide by all the above Elections Rules and understand that any breach of the above by me or my supporters/campaign team, may result in sanctions.** |
| Signature |  |
| Name |  |
| Date |  |
| Position |  |