



## NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA 2020 GENERAL ELECTIONS GUIDELINES 28 NOVEMBER 2020

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### IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday, 19 October:** Last date to pay annual dues to be eligible to be nominated – 30 working days before date of election
- Tuesday, 20 October:** Nomination opens
- Tuesday, 10 November:** Nomination closes
- Thursday, 12 November:** Publication of final list of approved candidates by Electoral Subcommittee
- Saturday, 14 November:** Campaign starts
- Wednesday, 25 November:** Last date to pay annual dues to be allowed to vote at the elections.
- Friday, 27 November:** Campaign ends
- Saturday, 28 November:** Election date.

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### KEY POINTS

1. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 general elections will be conducted virtually on Zoom.
2. As a result, Rules 54(4) to 54(8) in relation to ballot paper do not apply.
3. The Zoom polling tool will be used to conduct the election by secret ballot.
4. The Zoom polling tool has been checked and confirmed to be secure and configured to allow ONLY one vote by each member participating in the zoom meeting. Therefore, the meeting registration will be approved manually to ensure that only financial members who are entitled to vote are approved to participate in the meeting, and that each person has registered only once.
5. Only financial members will participate in the AGM, and therefore, the general elections.
6. All zoom registrations for the AGM will be manually approved after they are cross-checked and vetted against the list of financial members.
7. Members are therefore, strongly advised to use the same credentials used to register their NSV membership to register for the meeting.
8. The registration confirmation email will contain a personalized link to be used to join the meeting, which can only be used once. Therefore, members should not share the link as the first person who uses it gets through and other attempts to join will fail.
9. The Zoom polling tool displays the percentage of votes immediately after a poll is closed. Therefore, winners will be declared immediately as the person with the highest percentage of votes cast. The actual counts of the votes will be downloaded as a report after the meeting for archiving.
10. It is advised that these guidelines be read carefully and in conjunction with NSV's Rules and Operational Protocols.

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## ELIGIBILITY FOR CANDIDACY – RULE 49A(1)

- (1) A member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a Committee member if the member—
  - (a) is 18 years or over; and
  - (b) is permanent resident of Australia and residing in Victoria; and
  - (c) is entitled to vote at a general meeting; and
  - (d) has been a member for at least six months prior to the date of the elections; and
  - (e) has been of full financial standing for at least 30 working days prior to the date of the elections; and
  - (f) has responded satisfactorily to all requests for information made by an audit or other investigative organ of the association, where applicable, and
  - (g) if the member has served in the (Executive) Committee in the four-year period prior to the date of elections—
    - (i) did not serve for two consecutive terms; and
    - (ii) was not removed from the committee by the operation of Rule 55(4)(a); and
    - (iii) the committee(s) the member served in was not dissolved by the operation of Rule 55(4)(b); and
    - (iv) did not resign from the committee(s) under Rule 56(1); and
    - (v) did not cease to be a member by operation of Rule 56(2).

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## COMMITTEES TO BE ELECTED

There shall be two Committees (refer Rule 44):

- the Executive Committee (EC), and
- the Representative Committee (RC).

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### A. Executive Positions

Refer to Rules 46A to 48E for the duties of the positions.

- a) President.
- b) Vice-President.
- c) Secretary.
- d) Assistant Secretary.
- e) Treasurer.
- f) Financial Secretary.
- g) Social and Welfare Secretary.
- h) Public Relations Officer.
- i) Youth Secretary.

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### B. The Election of the Executive Committee

- (1) When there is more than one nominee for a position, election shall be by secret ballot; otherwise, the single nominee shall be declared elected for the position.
- (2) **Balloting:**
  - (a) The Chair of the Electoral Subcommittee must announce the total number of attendees at the beginning of the election. Since this is a virtual meeting, and people may log-in and log-off willingly, this number may change. Therefore, the Chair of the meeting must announce the total number of people present before each ballot.

- (b) Election for each position shall be conducted separately.
- (c) If there is no nomination for Assistant Secretary, the runners-up for the position of Secretary maybe offered the Assistant Secretary position.
- (d) If there is no nomination for a position before the AGM, the Chair of the Electoral Subcommittee shall call for nomination at the meeting (refer Rule 51(2)). Any nomination in this case MUST be with the consent of the nominee, unless it is self-nomination.
- (e) All nominations at the AGM MUST still satisfy all eligibility criteria as provided in section A of this guideline.
- (f) If there is still no nomination for a vacant position, then the Executive Committee may be mandated to fill the position(s) according to Rule 57 (1)(b).
- (g) At the end of each ballot, the Chair of the Electoral Subcommittee shall display the results and declare the candidate elected.
- (h) For all balloting, a time of three (3) minutes will be allocated for voting.
- (i) If two or more candidates tie for the highest number of votes, a run-off ballot will be held among those candidates, unless mutual settlement is reached by the candidates.

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### C. The Representative Committee

- a) This shall be a seven-member committee, appointed from seven (7) constituencies. Below are the approved constituencies for the 2020 general election (see attached map for your reference).
  - i) Northern Metro
  - ii) Eastern Metro
  - iii) Western Metro
  - iv) Southern Metro
  - v) Northern Region
  - vi) Eastern Region
  - vii) Western Region
- b) Each constituency will be represented by ONLY one eligible member. Members of each constituency are encouraged consult with each other and nominate one eligible member.
- c) Nominations are encouraged from diverse demography – gender, age (youth, middle age, and senior citizens).
- d) If there is no advance nomination for the representative of any constituency, the Chair of the Electoral Subcommittee shall call for the nomination for that position on election day.
- e) Any nomination in this case MUST be accepted by the nominee (unless self-nomination), and still subject to all eligibility criteria set out under item A of this guideline.
- f) If more than one nomination is received for any constituency, secret ballot will be held on the election day and all members present will be eligible to vote in respect of the constituency with more than one nomination. Balloting will follow same process as per Executive Committee (under item ‘B-2’ above).
- g) Secret ballot will be held to elect the chairperson of the Representative Committee as described above (under item ‘B-2’).
- h) If there is still no nomination, the Executive Committee may be mandated to fill the vacant position(s) in consultation with the Representative Committee.

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### REGISTRATION FOR THE AGM AND VOTING

1. You MUST be a financial member (pay 2020/2021 annual due) to be eligible to vote.
2. You MUST pay your annual dues by Wednesday, 25 November 2020 to be able to register to attend the AGM for election.
3. Family membership means two adult (couple) members are eligible to vote. Therefore, ensure that each of the adult members on the membership registers for the AGM separately.

4. Single membership means one adult member eligible to vote.
5. A child 18yrs or above must register as an individual financial member (single membership) to be eligible to vote.
6. Remember: Register with your actual names and email details that are in the NSV register, otherwise, your registration may not be approved.

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#### ELECTORAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Contact: NSVElectoralCommittee@nigeriansocietyvic.org.au

Members: Nze Nkem Anele, Chair  
Mrs. Kudiratu Ifeajika, Secretary  
Dr. Razaq Balogun  
Mr. Kayoda Adediran  
Mr. Oluwayemi Emmanuel Sijuade  
Mrs. Bukola Obadina  
Mazi Vincent Depaul Orji