



Lewes FC Supporters Club

ELECTION POLICY 2027

Introduction

This document is drafted in accordance with the Constitution of the Lewes Football Club Supporters Club (LFCSC) that allow for members to be elected to the Committee of the LFCSC.

The purpose of the Election Policy is to ensure that the LFCSC's elections for the Committee are conducted in a democratic manner.

Elected Committee members will serve a term of two years. In the event of resignations, mid-term elections may be held if felt necessary by the remaining Committee members.

Elected positions are:

Chair (currently Barry Collins)
Vice Chair (currently Janette Guyton)
Secretary (currently Mike Wallis)
Treasurer (currently Alan Sayers)
Communications Manager (currently Barry Collins)
Membership Secretary (currently Jeff Sheldon)
Events / Fundraising Manager (currently Barry Haffenden)
Maintenance Manager (new position)

We are also creating four new committee positions that carry no specific portfolio, but who will assist the other committee members.

Once elected, the new committee will decide among itself how to fulfil the roles available. Committee members will hold a ballot for positions, if necessary.

This year, up to six new committee members will be elected. The six current officers will remain in place, unless they decide to resign, subject to an affirmative vote for each at the AGM.

Definitions

This document uses several terms which are defined in the LFCSC Constitution.

Election Management

1. The Returning Officer will be appointed from within the membership and will be an individual not standing for election to the Committee at this election and will be supported by other members designated by the Committee as appropriate. It is proposed that for the purposes of the 2027 election, Richard Irving from the Football Supporters' Association will conduct the election as the Returning Officer.

Timetable

2. The election will conclude at the LFCSC AGM.
 - 2.1 The number of vacancies will be confirmed by the Secretary or Returning Officer.
 - 2.2 The Secretary or Returning Officer will circulate a nomination form or an email calling for nominations to all members.

Nominations and Eligibility

3. Any person wishing to be a candidate for election to the Committee must be an LFCSC member on the date that nominations open.
4. The Returning Officer will verify that nominations are valid.
 - 4.1 Nominations can be made at any time from the issue of the nomination form (or nomination notification email) up until the notified close of nominations.
 - 4.2 Only candidates who are members when nominations open will be entitled to vote in the election.
 - 4.3 It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that their nomination is valid and submitted before the stated deadline. The Returning Officer or Secretary will acknowledge receipt of all nominations.
 - 4.4 Candidates must submit a statement in support of their nomination of no more than 300 words.
 - 4.5 Any statements which are deemed by the Returning Officer to not conform to the values of the LFCSC as set out in the rules will have their nomination invalidated.
 - 4.6 By submitting a nomination, candidates will be deemed to have read and accepted this Election Policy and rules adopted by the LFCSC and to have agreed to be bound by them.
 - 4.7 Any decision by the Returning Officer to not accept a nomination due to it being incomplete should be notified to the candidate as soon as possible in order that the situation may be rectified.
 - 4.8 The Returning Officer or Secretary will only confirm the number and names of nominations once the close of the nominating period has passed.

Statements and Campaigning

5. Campaigning will be restricted to the statements submitted by the candidates and hustings will not be held.
6. Candidates may advertise that they are standing for election, however, they must not do anything beyond drawing attention to their candidacy and their election statement.

7. Candidates, or any individual or group associated with that candidate, may not indulge in any form of negative campaigning with regard to other candidates standing in the elections.
8. During the election neither the Returning Officer, Secretary nor any other Committee member may provide advice to voting members as to the suitability of any candidate nor issue any voting advice to members collectively.

Voting & Result

9. Voting will be conducted amongst all those in LFCSC membership when nominations open.
10. If more than one nomination is received for the positions available, the Returning Officer will issue ballot papers or online instructions and copies of candidates' statements to members alongside details of how the vote will take place.
 - 10.1 Multiple votes from the same member will not be accepted. If multiple ballots are received from the same member then neither will be accepted.
 - 10.2 Votes may be submitted by electronic means up to the date and time stated on the ballot paper/email for those unable to attend and vote in the meeting. The count will be made at the LFCSC AGM and the result announced at the AGM and via email to eligible voting members.
 - 10.3 Members will be asked to vote for up to six candidates.
 - 10.4 The highest placed candidates in terms of total votes as equal to number of places available for election will be deemed elected.
 - 10.5 If, after all votes have been counted, two or more candidates are tied for any vacancy, lots will be drawn to determine who is elected.

11. If there are as many or fewer candidates than there are places, an affirmative vote will be held at the LFCSC AGM. In this case, each successfully nominated candidate will be put before the LFCSC AGM for the affirmative vote. Any candidate not receiving the support of more than half of those present in person and by proxy will be deemed to have not been elected.

12. As per the LFCSC constitution, all those elected shall be members of the Committee with full voting rights.

Co-options

13. The Committee shall be entitled to co-opt members to the Committee and shall ensure any such co-options are reported to the next AGM.

14. The Committee shall be entitled to fill any casual vacancy occurring during the year and shall ensure any such co-options are reported to the next AGM.