



# HULL UNIVERSITY **STUDENTS'** UNION ELECTION RULES AND REGULATIONS SPRING 2021

IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS CRISIS THESE RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, TO ENSURE THEY ARE IN LINE WITH THE MOST RECENT GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTIONS AT ALL TIMES. CANDIDATES WILL BE SENT ANY UPDATES TO ELECTIONS RULES DURING THE ELECTION PERIOD.

## SECTION 1. CAMPAIGNING

1.1 *Definition.* Campaigning is understood as any activity or action that is used to promote the candidate. Campaigning must not breach Covid regulations. Campaigning is not a legitimate reason to leave the house.

### 1.2 *Campaign Teams and Activity.*

- Candidates' campaign team members are anyone who digitally distributes publicity or campaign material or actively encourages other students to vote for a candidate.
- Candidates are responsible for the conduct of their campaign team
- Candidates are responsible for briefing their campaign team on the rules
- Campaign team members must be full members of Hull University Students' Union
- In the event of a breach by a campaign member, candidates must be able to evidence that they have taken all reasonable steps to inform them of the election rules. The campaign member who has breached the rules will be required to leave the campaign team.
- No candidate or member of a campaign team may use any society, departmental, or any other mailing list to harvest email addresses, phone numbers, or any other data for campaign purposes
- Candidates and campaign team members can use existing closed groups on social media for campaigning purposes only where a society or club committee has either agreed to endorse a candidate and this decision has been minuted, or has agreed to share posts from all candidates who request this.
- Candidates can use their personal social media accounts for campaigning



1.3 *Timing.* Candidates can start campaigning after 12 noon on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

1.4 *Liability.* Candidates are liable for their campaign and publicity. Candidates must not bring Hull University Students' Union or the University of Hull into disrepute. During the election period all HUSU and University of Hull policies must be adhered to by candidates.

1.5 *Unfair advantages prohibited.* Candidates may not use any campaign material which is unavailable to the other candidates and gives them an unfair advantage. No candidate may use any position of responsibility (e.g. society positions) to actively advertise their campaign.

1.6 *Location.* Campaigning online only is permitted. All University of Hull and Hull University Students' Union rules and policies concerning health and safety must be adhered to at all times.

1.7 *Neutrality.* All Hull University Students' Union employees (including the President team) and volunteers must remain neutral throughout the elections period whilst performing their duties. This includes student staff whilst on shift, student volunteers when acting in an official capacity and the President team. Societies, Sports Clubs and Standing Committees can endorse candidates as long as candidates are not involved in the decision-making, and that the decision to endorse is minuted by committee members.

## SECTION 2. PUBLICITY

2.1 *Definition.* Any material that is used to promote a candidate is understood as publicity.

2.2 *Budget.* All purchases related to publicity material need to be recorded and counted towards each candidate's budget. President candidates may spend up to a maximum of £90 on publicity. The budget allocated to each candidate may only be used for publicity for that candidate. Failure to record all expenses or to keep within the budget will result in disqualification of the candidate.

2.3 *Reimbursement.* All candidates are entitled to a reimbursement of their full expenses. All candidates must declare all their expenses, with accompanying receipts, by email to the Returning Officer team before 12 noon on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

2.4 *Sponsorship and third party endorsement prohibited.* No sponsorship or third party endorsements is allowed on any publicity or campaign material.



## SECTION 3. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

3.1 *Disciplinary action.* If anyone is found to be bullying, harassing or threatening another student, they will be disqualified as a candidate and will be subject to disciplinary action and may be referred to the university for further action.

3.2 *Returning Officer ruling.* If a formal complaint is made to the Returning Officer and a candidate is found to have broken these election rules, the ruling of the Returning Officer as to whether or not to disqualify that candidate is final.

The Returning Officer Team  
March 2021

## APPENDIX 1: POSITIONS ELECTED

- President of the Students' Union
- President of Education
- President of Inclusivity & Diversity
- President of Activities
- President of Sports

## APPENDIX 2. NOMINATIONS

*Eligibility.* Any student may nominate themselves for a position as long as they:

- Are a registered student at the University of Hull for the 2020/21 academic year and a full member of Hull University Students' Union.
- Are confirmed to be eligible to stand for election by HUSU in accordance with the Fit and Proper Person Policy.

## APPENDIX 3. VOTING

*Voting method.* Voting shall be conducted online. Each student who is a full member of Hull University Students' Union shall have a single transferable vote for every election.

