

Procedure for the circumstance of equality of votes for the election of Vice President(s) and Elected Ordinary Members

According to Article 16(j) of the Constitution, the method of the election of Vice Presidents (VP) and Elected Ordinary Members (EOM) shall be on a “first past the post” basis.

In the event that there is equality of votes between candidates in respect of the last remaining vacancy or vacancies to be filled for the election of VP and EOM respectively, the Scrutineers will invite those candidates to draw lots to determine whom shall be elected to fill the vacancy or vacancies at the Annual General Meeting. These candidates are requested to be present at the counting station for conducting the drawing of lots. The Scrutineers will draw the lot on behalf of the candidate if the latter is absent at the time of drawing lots.

1. When the successful candidate has to be determined by the drawing of lots, 10 table-tennis balls each marked with a number from 1 to 10 will be put into an empty opaque bag, to be provided by the Institution.
2. The candidates concerned will take turn (in the order in which their names are listed on the ballot paper¹) to draw ONE ball from the bag. The number marked on the ball shall be noted by the Scrutineers and the ball shall be put back into the bag before the next candidate makes his draw. The candidate whose lot carries the larger number will emerge as the winner. “1” is the smallest number and “10” is the largest number. *(This method as to how lots should be drawn allows each candidate to have an equal opportunity to try his luck. A candidate may even by chance (1 in 10) draw the same lot as his opponent. In such an unlikely event, a second draw will be conducted.)*
3. Where there is only one vacancy to be filled and there are more than 2 candidates, if in the first draw, the numbers drawn by the candidates are different, then the candidate who draws the largest number will win. If, on the other hand, two or more of the candidates have drawn the same largest number and the remaining candidate(s) has/have drawn a smaller number, there must be a second draw. As the system of voting for the election is “first past the post”, only those candidates who have drawn the same larger number in the first draw will participate in the second draw.
4. Where there are three candidates having an equal number of votes and there are only two vacancies to be filled, if the three candidates have obtained respectively the largest, the larger and the smallest numbers, the two candidates who have obtained the largest and the larger numbers should be successful in getting the two vacancies, and the remaining candidate will fail. If the three candidates have obtained respectively a larger and two equal smaller numbers, the candidate who has obtained the larger number will be successful and the remaining two candidates will participate in a second draw. The same principle will apply where there are more than three candidates having an equal number of votes and there are three vacancies to be filled.
5. As soon as practicable after the result of the elections has been determined, the Scrutineers should declare the candidate on which the lot falls as elected.

¹ The order of the candidates as listed on the ballot paper is to be determined by the poll number allocated to each candidate in accordance with “Procedure for Allocation of Poll Number for Vice President/Elected Ordinary Member Election”.