

Student Bar Association Election Rules for Spring Elections 2009

I. Eligibility for Candidates and Procedure to Run for Office

- a. A candidate must be a full time student and enrolled in law school
 1. Full time students are those students who are enrolled in at least twelve (12) credit hours for the Fall semester 2009.
 2. Students seeking a joint degree qualify as full time students of the law school if they are carrying at least twelve (12) credit hours for the Fall semester 2009.
- b. Candidates must complete an application available in the Student Bar Association (SBA) office. See Appendix A.
 1. An application is considered complete when a candidate performs:
 - i. Candidates for class officer must obtain ten (10) signatures from full time students of the class they are representing;
 - ii. Candidates for SBA officer must obtain twenty-five (25) signatures from any student currently enrolled full-time;
 - iii. Candidates for American Bar Association/Law School Division (ABA/LSD) Junior Representative must obtain ten (10) signatures from the 1L class. Senior Representative candidates must obtain ten (10) signatures from any eligible voter.

AND

2. Sign a statement verifying that they have read and understood the rules governing the elections. See Appendix A.
- c. Candidates are encouraged to be properly informed of the election rules and duties of the office for which they are running. This may be done by:
 1. Attending the informational meeting on Friday, March 30th, 2007 at 12:30 in Room 100, or
 2. Reading a statement of duties for their respective office provided by SBA.
- d. ABA/LSD Representatives shall comply with any further eligibility requirements of the ABA/LSD.
 - i. The ABA/LSD Senior Representative shall serve during his or her second or third year of law school.
 - ii. The ABA/LSD Junior Representative shall serve during his or her first year of law school.
- e. Candidates running for class or SBA officer may run independently or on a coalition.
 - i. A coalition is more than one candidate running on the same ticket.
 - ii. Voters will cast separate votes for individual members of a coalition on the ballot.
- f. Any person who wishes to campaign as a write-in candidate may do so; however, if any person wishes to display campaign materials they must be eligible and complete an application before doing so. Materials must be approved by SBA.

II. General Election Information

a. Time of Elections

1. The elections for SBA officer, Senior ABA/LSD Representative and 2L & 3L class officers will be held within four (4) weeks prior to the end of the Spring semester. These shall be designated *Spring Election*.
 - i. *Spring Elections* for the 2009-2010 school year will be held on the following date and time:
 - Wednesday, April 4th, 2009, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

b. Informational Meeting

1. An informational meeting will be held on Friday, March 6th, 2009, at 12:30 p.m. in 310
2. A description of the duties of each officer will be presented and questions will be answered.

III. The Campaign

a. Timetable of *Spring Elections*

1. Election Informational Meeting. See Sec. II(b)(1) above.
2. Election Applications Available. At the SBA office immediately after informational meeting.
3. Election Applications Due. Friday, March 13, 2009 by 5:00 p.m. in the main office.
4. Campaign Begins. Monday March 23 2009 at 9am
 - i. Posters not approved by SBA will not be displayed.
5. *Spring Elections*. See Sec. II(a)(1)(i) above.
6. Campaign Ends. Wednesday, April 4th, 2007, at 4 p.m.
 - i. Posters not removed by 5:00 p.m. on the same day will be destroyed by SBA.

b. Campaign Posters

1. All posters must be approved by SBA before they are displayed.
2. Posters:
 - i. shall not mention, in any way, opposing candidates
 - ii. may contain pictures of candidates
 - iii. shall not exceed 28" x 22" in size (standard poster board size)
 - iv. shall only contain information on one side
 - v. shall only be displayed on the first floor informal commons area
 - vi. shall not be displayed on windows, glass or organization bulletin boards.
 - vii. coalitions may display a maximum of four (4) posters
 - the name of any one person may not appear on more than four (4) posters
 - viii. individual candidates may display a maximum of two (2) posters
3. No other campaign materials will be permitted

c. Campaigning is not allowed at the polling site.

IV. Voting

- a. Current SBA officers shall operate the polls.

1. If a SBA officer is not able to operate the poll, the SBA president shall designate a disinterested person(s) to operate the poll.
 2. A disinterested person is a person who is not running for office in the current election.
 3. The polling site for the 2009 *Spring Elections* will be located on the first floor informal commons area.
- b. Voting will be conducted in the following manner:
1. SBA officers will obtain a list of all eligible voters from the law school registrar. An eligible voter is a full-time student enrolled at the University of Kansas School of Law who is not graduating in May or August of the election year.
 - i. *Spring Elections*
 - Current 1Ls vote for 2L class officers, SBA officers and the Senior ABA/LSD Representative.
 - Current 2Ls vote for 3L class officers, SBA officers and the Senior ABA/LSD Representative
 2. All voters will sign next to their name, obtain a ballot from the polling official, mark the ballot and place the ballot in the election box.
 - i. Ballots will be provided by the SBA at the polling site.
 - ii. Polling officials may ask for some form of identification before issuing a ballot.
- c. The Associate Dean for Administration will keep all ballots until the elections are over, counting is completed and all disputes are resolved.

V. Counting

- a. Votes will be counted after the poll closes on Wednesday, April 4th, 2009.
 1. Current SBA officers, or their disinterested designees, under the supervision of the Associate Dean for Administration, shall count the votes.
 2. There shall be no less than three (3) student counters:
 - i. The SBA president or his or her designee;
 - ii. The SBA vice-president or his or her designee; and
 - iii. The SBA secretary or his or her designee.
- b. Candidates with the plurality of votes will be declared winners.
- c. Recounts.
 1. A recount shall occur only under the following circumstances:
 - i. if the original count concludes with totals differing by five (5) or less votes for two (2) or more candidates,
 - ii. if the original count results in a tie, or
 - iv. upon request (see Sec. VI below).
- d. Ties (Run-off Elections)
 1. In the event that a tie remains after sufficient recount procedures, a run-off election will be held on Wednesday, April 18th, 2007.
 - i. On the first and second class days following the original vote, SBA will give notice to the student body that there has been a tie and that a re-vote will occur. The re-vote will follow the same procedures that were followed for the original vote.

2. In the event that a tie remains after the re-vote, and after sufficient recount procedures have been followed, a coin toss will determine the winner of the election. The SBA president or his or her designee will toss the coin. The SBA vice-president or his or her designee will “call it.”

VI. Voting Complaints

- a. If voting complaints are filed, a Complaint Review Committee (CRC) shall be established to review the matter.
 1. The CRC will consist of the following members:
 - i. An impartial SBA officer not running in the current election,
 - ii. An impartial class officer not running in the current election, and
 - ii. A Dean of the law school.
 2. Campaign complaints
 - i. Campaign complaints may include, but are not limited to, improper posters, bribes, campaigning outside time limits, campaigning at the polling site, etc.
 3. All complaints must be in writing, signed and filed with the Associate Dean for Administration.
 - i. All complaints must be made by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 4th, 2009, or at closing of the polls in the case of a run-off election.
 - ii. Any eligible voter may file a complaint.
 - iii. The CRC shall investigate all complaints.
 - The alleged violator must be given a copy of the complaint and sufficient time to respond.
 - The CRC may hold a hearing if it deems it appropriate, the formalities of which should be in proportion to the severity of the complaint.
 - iv. The CRC has full discretion to impose any sanctions it deems equitable. Sanctions may include:
 - Nothing
 - Removal of all or some posters
 - Public apology/censure
 - Forfeiture of election
 - Recall election – if this is adopted, the procedure for run-off elections (see Sec. V(d) above) must be followed. The CRC must make the decision by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday following the last day of elections whether this sanction is appropriate.

VII. Questions

- a. All questions concerning the *Spring Elections* should originally be directed to current SBA officers and ABA/LSD Senior Representative.
 1. SBA President – Tad Dunville
 2. SBA Vice-President – Josh Berry
 3. SBA Secretary – Joanna Labastida
 4. SBA Treasurer – Laci Clark
 5. ABA/LSD Senior Representative – Danielle Davey

- b. Questions not answered by current SBA officers may be directed to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.
 - 1. Wendy Rohleder Sook
- c. The SBA Office is located in Room 100 of Green Hall. The office phone number is (785)-864-5584

Appendix A
Application for Election

Name: _____

Office Sought: _____

Election Rules:

I certify that I have read and understand the rules governing the *Spring Elections* at The University of Kansas School of Law. I agree to follow the rules. I also agree to be bound by all decisions of the Complaint Review Committee. The decisions of the Committee are agreed to be final and binding.

(signature)

(date)

Petition Form

Candidate Name: _____

Office Sought: _____

Printed Name _____ **Signature** _____ **Class** _____

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