

Gonzaga College S.J. Parents' Association

Guidelines for Election to Parents' Council

Membership of the Parents' Council

Each year in the school is represented on the Parents' Council by two parents or guardians. These twelve members of the Parents' Council are elected at AGM, two from each of First, Third and Fifth Years being elected for two year terms at the AGM each year. In this way, the six new members each year represent Second, Fourth and Sixth Years during the second year of their terms.

The remaining 3 members of the Parents' Council consist of one member appointed by the Board of Management from among their number and the two parents' representatives on the Board of Management who are ex officio members without voting rights.

Nomination of Candidates

Nominations are not invited in advance. Instead, members are proposed and seconded at the AGM.

It is not necessary for a parent being nominated for election to attend the AGM, provided s/he has agreed in advance to being put forward for election.

Deeming of Election of Candidates

In relation to any year or years for which no more than two candidates are proposed and seconded at the AGM, those candidates will be deemed elected to represent those years on Council.

Election of Candidates by Ballot

In the event that more than two candidates are proposed and seconded at the AGM for any one or more years, an election will take place at the AGM for those years.

Ballot Papers The Secretary of the Parents' Council will have prepared in advance enough ballot papers for the potential election of candidates for each of First, Third and Fifth Year, assuming a maximum of 180 parents in each year, as follows:

Election to Council of Two (2) Representatives for ____ Year at AGM 200_
Name of Candidate:
Name of Candidate:

Parents with boys in the year or years for which there will be an election by ballot will be asked to come forward and collect one ballot paper each for that particular year.

Scrutineers The Chairperson of the Parents' Council will appoint two members of Council as scrutineers to count the votes in relation to each year for which there will be an election by ballot.

Names of Candidates The Chairperson will then call out clearly and will also write down on a board in clear large print the names of all candidates for each year in relation to which there will be an election by ballot.

Address by Candidates Each of the candidates going up for election by ballot will be invited to address the AGM very briefly.

Completion of Ballot Papers Parents of that or those years only for which there will be an election by ballot will be asked to write down the names of the two candidates of their choice and hand up their ballot papers for counting.

Simple Majority Voting will be by secret ballot and election will be by simple majority. In other words, there will be no first or second preference votes, but rather the two candidates with the most number of votes in their favour will be elected.

Equality of Votes In the event that an even number of votes is cast for two candidates who would otherwise be the second candidate in place, a second vote will be held as between those two candidates.

Election Once all votes are counted, the Chairperson of the Parents' Council will declare elected the two candidates with the most votes in relation to each year for which an election by ballot was held.

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