### Rules and Regulations

The rules and procedures detailed below shall be followed for the Students' Gymkhana General Elections, 2015-16-

#### Code of Conduct

000

- Candidates must strictly adhere to the time limits of campaigning. Canvassing support before and after the notified time is detrimental to their candidature.
- The code of conduct for the Elections is to prevent any activity which hampers the conduction of any activity which is against the spirit of free and fair elections. The EC can take necessary action for the violation of this spirit for actions taken by the candidates before the filing of nominations.
- All candidates shall be prohibited from indulging or abetting all activities which are considered to be "corrupt practices" and offences, such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, canvassing and/or use of propaganda within 100 meters of polling stations and transport and conveyance of voters to and from the polling station.
- Candidates as well as general body members are advised to abstain from any proscribed activity in the halls, especially consumption of alcohol, when the electoral process in underway.
- The manifesto finally approved by the Chief Election Officer (CEO) should be strictly adhered to while campaigning. Deviations are not allowed in the posters or during verbal canvassing. Anti-campaigning in any form is strictly prohibited.

- Candidates must not be found in any sort of discussion with any other candidate during the electoral process.
- No public gathering should be called/organized during the electoral process. Written permission from the CEO should be obtained for any exception to the rule.
- A candidate should not be seen outside his/her hostel premises during the time when campaigning is not permitted (as per schedule of the election) except for academic involvements, with permission form the CEO.
- All Gymkhana/Hall activities will remain suspended during the electoral process. For any exception to this rule explicit permission from the CEO must be obtained.
- Cloth banners, etc. are not allowed.
- No banner/poster should be found at the entrance of any hostel.
- Candidates are not allowed to do canvassing in public places like the Mess, Hall Canteens, Reading Rooms, Hall CC, TV Rooms, etc.
- No person who is not a student of IIT Kanpur shall be allowed to take part in the election in any capacity.
- No candidate shall indulge in, nor shall abate any activity, which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different castes and communities, religious or linguistic, or between any group(s) of students.
- There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Places of worship, within or without the campus shall not be used for election propaganda.
- No candidate shall be permitted to carry out processions, or public meetings, or in any way canvass or distribute propaganda outside the campus.

#### Nomination Procedure

- Senator Candidates will be nominated by submitting the duly filled nominations to the CEO along with a nomination fees of Rs.100/- and a security deposit of Rs.200/-. Executive Candidates will be nominated by submitting the duly filled nominations to the CEO along with a nomination fees of Rs.500/- and a security deposit of Rs.1000/-.
- Every senator candidate for the post of senator will have to be proposed by one registered student and seconded by two registered students on the nomination form. Executive candidates will have to be proposed by two registered student and seconded by five registered students on the nomination form.
- Only a person belonging to the corresponding electorate can propose or second the candidate.
- Eligibility for applying for the posts is provided in Appendix VI of the Students' Gymkhana Constitution available atgoo.gl/qRCliL
- A student cannot propose or second more than one candidate.
- A candidate cannot propose or second himself or any other candidate contesting the elections for any post.
- No member of the Election Council (EC) can propose or second any candidate.
- No member of the EC can contest elections for any post.

• The EC will scrutinize the nominations and announce the list of candidates. Withdrawals, if any, could then be made by the candidates by writing a letter to the CEO. The CEO will then announce the final list of candidates.

### Campaigning/Voting Guidelines

- The EC may avail the services of as many student volunteers as required.
- The EC will specify the modes of campaigning, which must be strictly adhered to (Appendix 1A).
- A list of voters will be available with the CEO.
- Envelope voting will be permitted according to the timings announced by the CEO.
- Voters who are present on the campus on the date of voting can cast their votes at the polling station during the prescribed hours. Instructions to the voters, if any, will be pasted at the polling station.
- Excepting the voters, no one without a valid pass from the EC shall enter the polling booths. Once voters have voted, they are not allowed to be present within 10 meters around the polling booth.
- After the polling, the ballot will be placed in locked containers in the custody of the CEO.
- Votes will be counted by the members of the EC. The CEO will invite the candidate representatives as observers. The DOSA and a few other faculty members may be invited to supervise the counting. The CEO will then declare the results after the counting is over.

- For the purpose of declaration of the result, the decision of the CEO on the validity or invalidity of the vote shall be final.
- All the complaints should be given as soon as possible, in writing to CEO. No complaints regarding the campaigning will be entertained after eight hours of the end of campaigning. No complaints related to the polling will be entertained twenty-four hours after the completion of polling. Decision to the complaints will be taken by the CEO.
- In case a candidate contesting for a Senator receives less than 130 points, his/her security deposit will be forfeited.
- The EC will take a decision in case of any dispute connected with the elections. The decisions can rules would result in very strict Redressal Committee (GRC) action. The EC may also under extreme circumstances, force harsher measures like disqualification from contesting the elections with forfeiture of security deposit, etc. Candidates are advised to take the election in the right spirit and refrain from activities, which vitiate the atmosphere of the election process. Any form of campaigning other than mentioned above is not permitted.
- Results will be declared in accordance with the Constitutional provisions. The CEO is accountable to the senate in this regard.

#### Renominations

0000

Renominations would be called only if the numbers of nominations submitted for a post are less than the number of corresponding vacant posts.

### **APPENDICES**

APPENDIX 1A: Rules for Campaigning

- Each candidate will be allowed to put up only one poster (largest permitted size A1 i.e., approximately 594\*841 mm) in each hall and SBRA. This may be changed later, only at the discretion of the Election Council.
- Candidates may utilize hand-made or digital posters for the purpose of canvassing, provided that such posters are procured within the expenditure limit set out herein above.
- Candidates may only utilize hand-made or digital posters at certain places in the campus, which shall be notified in advance by the Election Council.
- Candidates must take prior permission from hall authorities regarding the location of posters, banners, etc. An application clearly demarcating this will have to be submitted by the candidates to the Election Council, duly signed by the respective hall president.
- Candidates must not use gum/adhesive to stick their posters. The poster should be fixed using adhesive tapes and board pins.
- The posters must be removed completely at the end of campaigning. This deadline will be specified by the Election Council.
- The academic area is to be kept free from any kind of campaigning.
- Institute facilities (like e-mails etc.) and hall properties (like hall CC) should not be used for campaigning.
- Candidates are also advised to conform to the unwritten code of conduct that has governed Gymkhana Elections in the past. General body members can file complaints in writing with the CEO against any candidate(s) not conforming to the norms of the election process.
- Candidates can only commence their campaigning after the time given for withdrawal ends.
- Election Council must be fully informed of the means of campaigning used by a candidate. This includes any publicly distributed material e.g. manifesto, brochures, pamphlets

etc. Samples of these must be given to the CEO and consent taken before any such material can be distributed.

- Any document used for campaigning must be duly stamped by the Election council before distribution.
- All candidates are required to submit a list of campaigners (duly signed by all the campaigners) to the Election Council.
- No campaigner will be allowed to campaign for more than one candidate.
- Any attempts to hide a campaigner may be looked at very suspiciously by the Election Council.
- The use of loudspeakers, vehicles and animals for the purpose of canvassing shall be prohibited.

### APPENDIX 1D: Rules for Envelope Voting

- Envelope voting is only for the electorate who cannot vote on the scheduled day. No member of the electorate who casts envelope vote should be found present near the polling booths on the day of regular polling.
- Direct votes can be cast during the scheduled period of envelope voting. The identity cards of all the candidates who cast envelope votes will be kept by the chief election officer and will be returned only after the elections.
- If any voter is unable to cast his/her vote either during envelope voting or during regular voting, he may give his/her choice in a sealed envelope accompanied with his/her I-card and a copy of leave certificate from the appropriate authority, directed to the Chief Election Officer bearing the following in mind.
  - Voters must write their preference for Senators on a blank sheet of paper.
  - Only one individual's vote has to be put in one envelope.
  - Voters must sign across the seal of the envelope (Signature tally with those on the I-Card) in the presence of the Chief Election Officer.
  - Voters must mention the post(s) for which he has given the preference, on the top of the envelope.
  - Voter must write his name and roll number on the back of the envelope.

• Voter must hand over such votes directly to the Chief Election Officer before the deadline as announced in the schedule.

#### APPENDIX 1C: Violation of Rules

The election council may take independent decisions in case of any dispute related to the election. This decision is final and can be challenged only by filing an appeal with the Grievances Redressal Committee.

If any of the students are involved in the violation of the above rules then the following action may be taken against them in general.

- · General Body Members
- o 1st Warning: Rs.500/-
- o 2nd Warning: Rs.1000/-
- o 3rd Warning: Case forwarded to SSAC
- Candidates
- o 1st Warning: Rs.1000/-
- o 2nd Warning: Rs.2000/-
- o 3rd Warning: Cancellation of Nomination + Case forwarded to SSAC  $\,$
- · General Secretaries and Election Council Members:
- o 1st Warning: Rs.1500/-
- o 2nd Warning: Rs.2000/-
- o 3rd Warning: Case forwarded to SSAC

The reason for imposing fine will be disclosed only to the floor of the Senate, if solicited and to the Grievances Redressal Committee, if solicited. It must be noted that under special circumstances these guidelines may be changed at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer.