

Office of the Electoral Officer – Saurashtra Cricket Association

Conduct of Elections to the posts of Office Bearers and Apex Council members of Saurashtra Cricket Association

The rules of election procedure which cover (i) election to the posts of Office Bearers of Saurashtra Cricket Association and (ii) election of Apex (Governing) Council members (11 members).

Eligibility and procedure to file nomination papers:

- A Candidate can contest only for one post.
- **A Candidate must personally come to the office of Saurashtra Cricket Association and file his/her nomination papers.** A Candidate must fill up the prescribed nomination form duly signed by him/her and his/her signature attested by Notary/Oath Commissioner.
- A Candidate's nomination must be signed by a Witness and a Proposer. Both should be full member of Saurashtra Cricket Association.
- A Candidate can file nomination for Election if he/she is
 - a) Citizen of India;
 - b) Not attained the age of 70 years;
 - c) Have not been declared to be insolvent or of unsound mind;
 - d) Is not a Minister or Government Servant, does not hold a public office;
 - e) Does not hold any office or post in a sports or athletic association or federation apart from cricket;
 - f) Has not been charged by a Court of Law for having committed any criminal offence i.e. no court of law has passed any order framing charges against him/her
 - g) Has not been office bearer of SCA for a cumulative period of 9 years,
 - h) has not functioned as an office bearer in SCA and/or BCCI for a continuous period of 6 years to undergo a cooling off period of 3 years

Filing of Nomination cum Affidavit Form :17th to 19th September 2019 between 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot.

Scrutiny of nomination form and preparation of list of duly contesting candidates

- On date of scrutiny, the Electoral Officer shall scrutinise all nomination papers in presence of the candidates and announce the decision in respect of each nomination and then proceed to prepare and announce a list of validly nominated candidates for each of the posts of office bearers and Apex (Governing) Council members.

Scrutiny of Nomination forms by Electoral Officer shall be on **20th September 2019 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** in presence of Candidates.

- A validly nominated candidate will be allowed to withdraw from the contest till the time allowed for such withdrawal by filing withdrawal application in prescribed form in person before the Electoral Officer

Nomination after scrutiny can be **withdrawn on 20th September 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** in person before the Electoral Officer.

- The Electoral Officer shall, after taking into account withdrawal of nomination if any, of such validly nominated candidates from the Election, announce the list of contesting candidates of each post.

Voting and declaration of results

- The Electoral Officer shall cause arrangements to be made for voting by full members of Saurashtra Cricket Association on Election Day for all the posts for which more than one nomination has been received and will call the full members of Saurashtra Cricket Association to vote to exercise their voting right in respect of each of the contested posts.
- Voting of Saurashtra Cricket Association's election is held on 26th September 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot-Jamnagar Highway, Opp GETCO, Rajkot 360110.
- **Casting of votes will be in process method of the Ballot. Full members of Saurashtra Cricket Association only can vote. For voting, Full member shall require to produce Saurashtra Cricket Association's Membership id Card for verification.**
- At the closure of the time for the poll, i.e. 3:00 p.m. on 26th September 2019, the Electoral Officer shall cause the counting of the ballot papers and announce the results in respect of each of the contested posts.
- After announcement of results, the Electoral Officer shall announce the completion of the poll process.

Dispute and Objections

In case of any dispute or objection arising at any stage of the election process from the declaration or publication of electoral roll of qualified members to the declaration of results including but not limited to objection to candidacy, disqualification, eligibility to vote or the admission or rejection of a vote in the election to the Apex Council of Saurashtra Cricket Association, the Electoral Officer shall decide the same and such a decision shall be final and conclusive.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTION OF
SAURASHTRA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Instructions of the Electoral Officer appointed to conduct SCA elections

In order to ensure free and fair polls, as envisaged in SCA Rules and Regulations (“Constitution”), candidates are expected to file the nomination papers along with an affidavit/ declaration covering provisions mentioned therein. Nominations received without the affidavit/declaration will be rejected at the time of scrutiny.

A period has been designed as the “Campaign Period” to enable prospective candidates to seek support of members of SCA in their favour on the voting day. The campaign period may be used for candidates for campaigning. However, during the Campaign Period, candidates will not use unfair means including bribery, or appeal to or use of religious symbols, nor distribute gifts, or various kinds such as liquor, to induce members for support. They will strictly adhere to the prescribed campaign practices annexed to these instructions.

- Candidates will not use vehicles to bring members to the voting venue on the date of polling.
- Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
- Pamphlets and posters if circulated should not appeal to religious, caste, or communal sentiments to entice for votes. If pamphlets/posters are put up, they should not violate of the local law in force.
- No pamphlets posters/ banners are allowed to be used/ put up, in or around the venue of the voting.
- Candidates will maintain peace and calm in the voting venue during the polling period in order to maintain the law and order.
- Campaign office/ platform will not be opened in and around the venue of voting.
- All candidates are expected to cooperate with the Electoral officer for smooth conduct of voting during the entire process.

As stipulated in Rule 32 of the SCA Rules and regulations, “In case of any dispute or objection as to candidacy, disqualification, eligibility to vote or admission or rejection of vote, the Electoral Officer shall decide the same and such decision shall be final and conclusive.”

(As approved by the Electoral Officer)

Campaign Practices

Clause 1:

- (i) Electoral campaigns shall be carried out by the candidates in a fair and reputable manner and, more generally, in a spirit of respect for fundamental ethical principles.
- (ii) Candidates shall conduct all campaigns with dignity and moderation and with due respect to other candidates, Saurashtra Cricket Association and its Members. A Candidate may produce no spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another candidate or cause his/her prejudice. Criticism of other candidates, when made, shall be confined to their policies and programmes, past record and work. Criticism based on unverified allegations or distortion shall be avoided. There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes.
- (iii) Each Candidate may present to the electoral college his/her plans and views for the post, in the form of a written document, whatever the means used to distribute it.
- (iv) Candidates shall avoid excessive expenditure in campaigning, recognizing that it could become a factor of inequality amongst the candidates.
- (v) The promotion of a candidate shall exclude any form of publicity, including the use of new media or social networks. No public meeting or gathering of any kind may be organized in the framework of promoting a candidature. No use, free of charge or in return for payment, of the services of a journalist or the media may be made in order to place a Candidate at an advantage or a disadvantage.
- (vi) All candidates shall avoid scrupulously all activities that are “corrupt practices”, such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters, etc.
- (vii) Candidates may in no case and under no pretext give presents, offer donations or gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature, directly or indirectly, to voting members or their representatives.
- (viii) The incumbent SCA Office Bearers shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that they have used their official position for the purposes of their or others election campaign and in particular shall not (a) use official transport including, vehicles, machinery and personnel for furtherance of their campaign; (b) issue any advertisement at the cost of the SCA or its Members in the newspapers and other media or misuse the SCA’s official media channels during the election; (c) sanction grants/payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced; and (d) enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed,

whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct or indirect benefit of any of the SCA's Members or its partners.

Clause 2: Neutrality and Independence

- (i) As the voting is secret, voting members are prohibited individually or collectively, from announcing publicly in any form whatsoever their intention to vote or not vote for a candidate.
- (ii) Incumbent SCA Office Bearers shall refrain from making any public declaration and may in no way support a candidate.
- (iii) Candidates may not accept mandatory instructions from any public or private, natural or legal person. No direct or indirect assistance, be it financial, material or in kind, be it direct or indirect, may be given to candidates by any third party. Candidates may not enter into any form of undertaking with any natural or legal person likely to affect the neutrality and the freedom of decision or action of their future post.
- (iv) The SCA executive team and administration shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times. No support or service in relation to a Candidature may be requested from nor be given by any member of the SCA's administration or staff.

For Saurashtra Cricket Association
Varesh Sinha
Electoral Officer