

Article VII. Elections

Section 1. General Provisions

- A. There shall be three (3) types of elections in Mock Trial at the University of Iowa.
- B. These three types of elections shall be:
 - a. General Elections
 - b. Special Elections
 - c. Elections of Disciplinary Representatives
- C. The General Assembly shall be notified of any upcoming elections at least two (2) weeks in advance by announcement at a general meeting and by e-mail communication.
- D. Any member of MT@UI who is in good standing is eligible to vote for any office for which they are not running.
- E. Members who are unable to attend a meeting for an election may vote by proxy.
 - a. Proxy votes must be received by the person tabulating the votes and the person checking that count at any time in the three (3) days preceding an election.

Section 2. Election Process

- A. Elections shall be held at a formal meeting of the General Assembly.
- B. The Head Coach shall serve as chairperson of the elections.
 - a. If the Head Coach is not available to chair an election, the Executive Board shall appoint a member of MT@UI to chair that election.
 - i. A person may decline to accept such an appointment.
 - ii. A person who accepts an appointment to chair an election waives their right to run for office in that election.
 - iii. A person who accepts an appointment to chair an election waives their right to vote in that election.
 - iv. This person must be selected at least seven (7) days prior to the election.
- C. An Assistant Coach shall be appointed to tabulate the votes.
 - a. If an Assistant Coach is not available to tabulate the votes in an election, the Executive Board shall appoint a member of MT@UI to tabulate the votes in that election.
 - i. A person may decline to accept such an appointment.
 - ii. A person who accepts an appointment to tabulate the votes in an election waives their right to run for office in that election.
 - iii. A person who accepts an appointment to tabulate the votes in an election waives their right to vote in that election.
 - iv. This person must be selected at least seven (7) days prior to the election.

- D. A different Assistant Coach or the Head Coach shall be appointed to double-check the tabulation of votes.
 - a. If an Assistant Coach or Head Coach is not available to double-check the tabulation of votes in an election, the Executive Board shall appoint a member of MT@UI to check the count with the aforementioned protocol in this Article.
- E. In the event that no candidate receives a majority vote:
 - a. A second vote is cast in a run-off.
 - i. All members who are not part of the run-off shall vote.
 - b. An Assistant Coach or the election chairperson shall be assigned to break any ties that may occur from the run-off.
- F. At all times during all elections, there shall be in effect a one-person one-vote rule.
- G. Officers in all elections shall be chosen by a majority vote.
- H. Votes shall be cast by a secret ballot format.

Section 3. General Elections

- A. General Elections shall be held once annually, after the final tournament of the season but before the commencement of Finals Week.
 - a. The date shall be determined by the Executive Board.
- B. Every office shall be up for election in the General Elections.
- C. All nominations for an office shall be submitted to the chairperson of the election preceding the vote for that office.
- D. The chairperson shall inform every member of MT@UI who the nominees for each office are at least seven (7) days prior to the election.
 - a. At this time, a person may decline to accept a nomination for an office.
- E. A person may run for as many offices as that person is nominated for, until they have been elected to an office.
 - a. If a person is elected to an office, that person shall be prohibited from accepting any further nominations.
- F. A person elected for office in a General Election shall officially assume that office on the final day of the spring academic semester.
 - a. Prior to assuming office, each new officer shall meet with their office's predecessor to discuss the duties and powers of the office.

Section 4. Special Elections

- A. Special Elections shall be held any time an office of MT@UI has been vacated before the fulfillment of its term.
 - a. Special Elections shall be held as necessary by the passage of bylaws.
- B. Only those offices affected by the premature vacancy on the Executive Board shall be up

for election in Special Elections.

- a. Those offices shall be named in the bylaw mandating the Special Election.
- C. All nominations must be submitted to the chairperson of the election at least five (5) days prior to the date of the election.
- D. The chairperson shall inform every member of MT@UI who the nominees for each office are at least three (3) days prior to the election.
 - a. At this time, a person may decline to accept a nomination for an office.
- E. A person shall not accept more than one (1) nomination.
 - a. If a person has been nominated for more than one (1) office, they shall choose one (1) nomination to accept. They shall decline the others.
- F. A person elected for office in a Special Election shall officially assume that office immediately after the conclusion of that election.

Section 5. Elections of Disciplinary Representatives

- A. Article VII §2.A through §2.E does not apply to Elections of Disciplinary Representatives.
- B. An Election of Disciplinary Representatives shall be held any time a vote must be taken by the Executive Board on disciplinary procedures and there are no coaches available to assume the votes of those officers prohibited from voting.
 - a. Elections of Disciplinary Representatives shall be held as necessary by the passage of bylaws.
- C. Members of MT@UI shall be notified of an Election of Disciplinary Representatives at least seven (7) days prior to such an election.
- D. The chairperson for Elections of Disciplinary Representatives shall be the officer who convenes the General Assembly.
 - a. The chairperson shall not vote for a Disciplinary Representative.
 - b. The chairperson shall tabulate all votes.
 - c. The chairperson shall break any ties.
- E. Nominations must be submitted to the chairperson of the election at least four (4) days prior to an Election of Disciplinary Representatives.
- F. The chairperson shall inform every member of MT@UI who the nominees are at least two (2) days prior to an Election of Disciplinary Representatives.
 - a. At this time, a person may decline to accept a nomination as Disciplinary Representative.
- G. A person elected as a Disciplinary Representative shall assume that status immediately after the conclusion of that election.