

Vote on AB00-08: Motion to replace Article 7 of the STARFLEET Constitution

Vote started July 26, 2000

Vote ended July 27, 2000

Text of resolution:

ARTICLE 7: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Term of Office

The Commander, STARFLEET (President) and the Vice-Commander, STARFLEET (Vice-President) of the organization shall take office on January 1st of each year following the Fleet general elections, which shall be held biennially. The offices of President and Vice-President shall be filled by the slate of candidates. The electorate body in these elections shall be all members in good standing of the organization. The Slate that receives the plurality of votes cast by said body will take office at the date set forth above.

In the event an election may not take place due to unforeseeable circumstances, the incumbent Commander, STARFLEET must step down immediately at the close of the 24th month of the current term of office. The Admiralty Board shall then elect from its membership an Acting Commander, STARFLEET, who shall discharge the duties of President until the next regularly scheduled STARFLEET general election may be called, with a timetable to be determined by the Admiralty Board and otherwise conforming to the general rules and regulations as a regular Commander, STARFLEET election. The Admiralty Board may choose to appoint the sitting CS as Acting CS instead of selecting someone from its membership.

No person may hold the office of President for more than two (2) elected terms, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than half the duration of a term to which another person was elected, shall be elected to the office of the President more than once.

Section 2: Election Coordinator

Unless the Chief of Communications is an announced candidate for President or Vice-President, he/she shall be responsible for coordinating all election activity for the duration of the STARFLEET electoral process, except as noted below, including but not limited to the receipt and verification of nominations under Article 7, Section 4. If the Election Coordinator should receive enough nominations to be himself or herself considered a candidate, he or she must within no more than five (5) days announce this fact. At this time the Election Coordinator must either declare irrevocably that he or she will not stand for election in this election cycle or relinquish the election process to the next eligible member of the EC in order of succession as defined in Article 3, Section 3. Should the succeeding members of the EC be ineligible to serve as Election Coordinator,

the AB shall choose a member in good standing of the organization to act as the Election Coordinator instead.

Section 3: Supervision of Election Process

The Inspector General, STARFLEET shall ensure that all election guidelines set forth by the Admiralty Board, and the STARFLEET Constitution, are adhered to, and that no improprieties take place. For the biennial general election the Inspector General will, by August 1st, hire an independent CPA who has no affiliation to STARFLEET, or any of its members, to receive and tabulate all ballots cast. In the event that a special election is required, the Inspector General will perform these duties in accordance with dates specified by the Admiralty Board.

Section 4: Nomination of Candidates

Nominations of candidates for President may be submitted to the Election Coordinator by Chapter (but not Chapter-in-Training) COs or Regional Coordinators. All nominations must be signed and dated, and no person shall nominate more than one candidate in each election. A minimum of five (5) nominations is required to qualify as a candidate for President. Once the Election Coordinator has announced a member as an eligible candidate for President, that candidate must publicly announce within ten (10) days of notification of eligibility his/her choice for Vice-President, or publicly announce a decision to not run. Candidates for President and Vice-President shall run together as a slate. In this fashion, the office of Vice-President is subject to the general election of the Fleet membership.

Section 5: Election Publications

The Official Election Publication is defined as the information resource containing the platforms and proposals of the various eligible candidates for Commander, STARFLEET. This publication may be distributed either as part of an issue of the COMMUNIQUÉ or as a standalone mailing. If sent as a standalone mailing, the Election Publication must be sent using the United States Postal Services 1st class mail specifications or the international equivalent thereof. If permissible under the guidelines of the election, the Election Publication may also include the ballots necessary to cast one's vote. Size and parameters of the Election Publication are at the discretion of the Election Coordinator, who must publish these requirements prior to the commencement of election activities on June 1st (see section 6) within the COMMUNIQUÉ and any other medium he/she deem necessary.

Section 6: Election Timetable

The timetable for the election of the position of Commander, STARFLEET shall be as follows:

Before June 1st:

No campaigning of any kind may take place by or on behalf of any prospective candidate, except as specifically authorized by the Election Coordinator. Campaigning is defined as announcements of platform, announcements of candidacy, or announcement of intent to seek candidacy. Announcements are defined as a statement or request for consideration made in person or by mail or other communications medium, to a group or substantial portion of a group, or in a public forum. Prospective candidates are encouraged to solicit advice from the Election Coordinator as to which proposed activity may or may not adhere to the guidelines set forth above.

June 1st to July 15th:

Nominations for the position of Commander, STARFLEET are accepted.

June 1st:

Campaigning may commence for the purpose of soliciting nominations.

July 15th:

The Election Coordinator must receive all nominations by this date. Any nomination received after this date will not count towards the official tally.

July 16th:

Qualified candidates are announced via the most expedient means possible. Qualified candidates must accept the nomination and announce their VCS candidate within 10 days or be disqualified.

August 1st:

Campaign literature must have been submitted to the Election Coordinator for inclusion in the official Election Publication.

September 1st:

All ballots and Election Publications must be in the mail by this date.

November 15th:

The CPA hired to conduct the election must receive all ballots by this date

November 20th:

The winning candidate is notified and incumbent Commander, STARFLEET begins a transition period, if necessary.

December/January:

Results are announced in the COMMUNIQUÉ.

January 1st:

The newly elected officials take office.

Section 7: One Eligible Candidate

If only one person shall qualify as an eligible candidate for President, a vote of confidence for that candidate shall be held by the general membership. Ballots shall be distributed according to the election schedule as defined above. Should the sole candidate fail to obtain a majority of the votes cast in the election, the candidate shall not assume office. The Admiralty Board shall then elect from its membership an Acting Commander, STARFLEET, who shall discharge the duties of President until the next regularly scheduled STARFLEET general election or until a special general election may be called, at the discretion of the Election Coordinator.

Section 8: Withdrawal from Candidacy

Should any nominee for Commander, STARFLEET accept the candidacy and then withdraw from the election, that person shall not re-enter the same election. The candidate must notify the Election Coordinator, by certified mail, of his/her withdrawal from the election.

Section 9: Office Turnover

An out-going President must make provisions to turn over all materials connected with the office of President to the incoming President on or before December 31st of the election year. If the out-going President fails or refuses to promptly turn over all such materials, the incoming President or his designee is authorized to take all appropriate actions, including but not limited to the filing of legal proceedings and the filing of a criminal complaint, which may be needed to ensure compliance with this Section.

The motion was made Region 7 (Jesse Smith) and seconded by Region 5 (Chris Wallace, Region 5 Representative).

Report of the voting:

R01: Nay	R06: No Vote Cast	R12: No Vote Cast
R02: Nay	R07: Aye	R13: No Vote Cast
R03: Nay	R09: No Vote Cast	R15: No Vote Cast
R04: No Vote Cast	R10: Nay	R17: No Vote Cast
R05: No Vote Cast	R11: No Vote Cast	

By a vote of 01:04:00:09 this motion failed.

This AB resolution was called back to the AB for discussion under AB00-09 to correct wording issues that several members of the AB found after the resolution went to a vote.