

# Vote on AB00-10: Motion to vote on amended wording for the replacement of Article 7 of the STARFLEET Constitution

Vote started August 6, 2000

Vote ended August 7, 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 cannot take office, the incumbent Commander, STARFLEET must step down immediately at the close of their 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 as long as this does not exceed term limits listed below.

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, or has been named to serve on the EC slate of an announced candidate for 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, to be paid for by STARFLEET, who has no direct 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 submit more than one in each election. Disclosure of the Nomination results, in detail or otherwise, to any aspect of the STARFLEET Membership, shall be handled in accordance with the current Membership Handbook. 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 must also ensure that announcement is received by the Election Coordinator. 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 until the date whereupon campaigning commences below. The Election Coordinator may

authorize specific exceptions as he/she sees fit or necessary. 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. Any actual or perceived violations of campaigning before this date shall be addressed to the Election Coordinator, who shall forward this information to the STARFLEET Admiralty Board. The Admiralty Board will be the final arbiter of whether or not a transgression has occurred and, if so, shall determine whatever punishment they deem fit.

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:

The CPA hired to conduct the election must place all ballots and Election Publications 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, as defined below, 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 Admiralty Board with the advisement 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 by Region 3 (Brad Pense) and seconded by Region 5 (Chris Wallace, Region 5 Representative).

#### Report of the voting:

R01: Abstain	R06: Abstain	R12: Aye
R02: Aye	R07: Aye	R13: Aye
R03: Aye	R09: Aye	R15: abstain
R04: Aye	R10: Abstain	R17: Aye
R05: Aye	R11: Aye	

By a vote of 10:00:04 this motion passed.