Procedures for the 2021 Contested Election for two At-Large ADA Delegates

As we prepare for the 2022 First and Second General Sessions of the North Carolina Dental Society, it is clear that we will have a contested election for one At-Large ADA Delegate position. The election procedures are outlined below according to Chapters I and V of the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Nominations

Four (4) candidates have placed their names in nomination for one (2) At-Large ADA Delegate position with a term beginning as of the 2023 NCDS Annual Session. The nominations were received in a timely manner. During the First General Session, the NCDS President will call for additional nominations from the floor. Should there be any such nominations from the floor, those nominees will be provided with a printed copy of these procedures for their review.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, nominations from the floor will be closed. At that point, the President will call for one (1) nomination speech for each candidate in alphabetical order by the candidate’s last name. The nomination speech will be given by the nominator chosen by the candidate, and the speech must be no longer than five (5) minutes in length.

Campaign Materials

The distribution and/or display of campaign materials – including but not limited to fliers, buttons, pins, stickers, or signs – is not permitted.

Ballot

In 2022, all current NCDS members will be allowed to vote using an on-line election process. Voting will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 20 and end at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 21.

There will be no paper ballots used in this election.

Voting Procedures for the 2022 Election

In 2022, all current NCDS members will be allowed to vote using an on-line election process. Voting will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 20 and end at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 21.

Paper ballots will only be used in this election for the second ballot if needed.

NCDS members in good standing in the following membership categories shall be eligible to vote: Active, Active Life, Retired, Retired Life, Graduate Student, and Provisional. In addition, the Chair of the Student Delegations from the ECU School of Dental Medicine and the UNC School of Dentistry also shall be eligible to vote.

Canvassing of Votes

At the close of voting at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday May 21, 2022, canvassing of the votes will begin.

After confirming the number of ballots cast electronically, the Tellers (NCDS Executive Director and the Liaison to the NCDS Governing Bodies will review the ballots. The resulting number of properly cast ballots shall be used as the denominator in determining whether a candidate has received a majority of the votes cast.
The Tellers will then canvass the ballots and record the vote totals for each candidate. The canvass will be conducted twice to ensure correct counts. The vote totals will be placed in a sealed envelope that will be provided to the President for reporting during the Second General Session. Following the canvass, the Executive Director and the Liaison to the NCDS Governing Bodies will secure all the ballots in the event that a recount becomes necessary.

Election Results

If on the first ballot, two candidates receive a majority – defined as 50% plus one (1) vote of all votes properly cast – the President will announce the name of the winning candidates at the Second General Session. This candidate shall be declared duly elected to fill the At-Large ADA Delegate position.

If on the first ballot, none of the candidates receives a majority, the candidates shall be presented for election as described below in the section entitled, Procedures for Second and Subsequent Ballots.

Procedures for Second and Subsequent Ballots

If a candidate is not duly elected on the first ballot, then the President shall declare the need for a second ballot to be conducted during the Second General Session. Prior to beginning the second ballot, the President shall announce the names of all candidates in alphabetical order. A paper ballot will be used, and all members present as mentioned below will be eligible to vote. NCDS members in good standing in the following membership categories shall be eligible to vote: Active, Active Life, Retired, Retired Life, Graduate Student, and Provisional. In addition, the Chair of the Student Delegations from the ECU School of Dental Medicine and the UNC School of Dentistry also shall be eligible to vote.

A temporary partition will be set up in the room designated for the Second General Session in order to provide a voting booth where any member in good standing who is privileged to vote shall be permitted to cast his/her ballot. As specified in the Bylaws (Chapter VIII, Section 6), the President shall appoint three (3) Tellers who shall be responsible for: (i) providing each member a ballot as the member is admitted one-by-one to the voting booth; (ii) keeping an accurate count of the total number of members voting; (iii) accurately canvassing the votes; and (iv) presenting the written vote totals to the President for reporting to the membership.

If after the second ballot a candidate has received a majority of the votes cast in order to be considered duly elected to the available Delegate position(s), the President shall announce the results and the election will be declared closed. If neither candidate is duly elected on the second ballot by receiving a majority of votes cast, then the election will continue to a third and subsequent ballots, as needed. Balloting will continue until the available At-Large ADA Delegate position(s) has been filled by the candidate receiving a majority of votes properly cast.