

NATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTION REGULATION POLICY

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear guidelines relating to the campaigning and publicity of candidates for Dancesport Australia National Council.

This policy's intention is to ensure a fair, equitable and unbiased outcome that is based solely on the skills, talents, attributes and beliefs of the individual.

This policy attempts to ensure that mass campaigning of groups with a vested interest or bias is minimised as much as possible.

Failure to comply with these regulations may lead to disqualification as a candidate, receiving reduced publicity or disciplinary action under Dancesport Australia rules. Any questions concerning these regulations must be referred in the first instances, to the DSA CEO.

Campaigning

1. Campaign Period

- 1.1 The campaigning period will take place after the nomination period at a date to be advertised.
- 1.2 During this time, candidates may display publicity material and canvas as outlined in these Regulations.
- 1.3 Campaigning is defined as any means of public declaration or publicising of candidacy in the current Elections.

2. General Election Publicity

- 2.1 Dancesport Australia will publish a single candidate's profile for each candidate on its website;
- 2.2 General publicity for the Election in the form of emails, social media, advertisements, are the responsibility of individual candidates.

3. Official Election Website - All Candidates

- 3.1 Candidates for all positions are requested to submit a profile and election statement for publication at www.dancesport.org.au explaining why members should vote for them.

4. Candidates' Profile / Election Statement

- 4.1 A candidate's profile:
- must be in English and must not contain more than 500 words
 - must be confined to biographical information about the candidate and a statement of the candidate's policies or beliefs
 - must be typed or printed on a single A4 page
 - must include the candidate's name in the form in which he or she has asked for it to be used on the ballot paper and details of a postal address where he or she can be contacted
 - may include other contact details such as a telephone number or email address
 - may include a photograph (passport size) of the proposed candidate's head or head and shoulders, taken not more than 6 months before the date of the nomination.
- 4.2 Dancesport Australia reserves the right to refuse a candidate's profile, in whole or in part where any statement therein is considered to be offensive, inaccurate or misleading.

5. Dancesport Australia National Membership Database

- 5.1 Due to privacy laws and member confidentiality, the Dancesport Australian National Membership Database, in part or in entirety, will not be provided to any candidate under any circumstances.
- 5.2 Any candidate, or election official, who has access to the National Database as part of fulfilling their responsibilities to Dancesport Australia are not permitted under any circumstances to use the National Database in any way that is or may be construed as being connected to the election.

PUBLICITY

6. General Details

- 6.1 Candidates may request that their statement be edited on the official website up to 7 days before the date of the election. After this time it will not be possible to amend content or format.
- 6.2 If a candidate fails to submit an online election statement by the deadline it will be assumed that they do not require an election statement to be published. Election statements may only be submitted once a valid nomination has been received and processed.
- 6.3 Publicity may be in, but is not restricted to, the following forms:
- Candidates' manifestos on the official Election website
 - Candidates' posters and flyers
 - Candidates' websites
 - Candidates' videos
 - Facebook pages and groups
 - Social networking profiles
- 6.4 Dancesport Australia reserves the right to make judgments on the use of all or any publicity material or statements.

7. **Allowances**

- 7.1 Dancesport Australia will not provide any financial assistance to any candidate for use in an election campaign.
- 7.2 Candidates are permitted to personally fund election campaign material.

8. **Candidates' Images**

- 8.1 Candidates may submit headshots to be placed alongside their Profile and Election Statement on the Dancesport Australia website.
- 8.2 Images should be JPEG format, with a maximum file size of 2Mb. Images should be a headshot of the candidate only and at a resolution of 120 pixels (width) by 150 pixels (height). If images do not meet the criteria when submitted they will not be posted.
- 8.3 Candidates requiring assistance submitting headshots should seek help from Dancesport Australia CEO.
- 8.4 If a candidate does not supply an image, it will be assumed that they do not require this service.

GENERAL PUBLICITY REGULATIONS

The following regulations must be strictly adhered to by candidates and their supporters. Breaches of these provisions, and any of the other provisions contained in this section, may lead to disciplinary action or disqualification of the candidate.

9. **General Regulations**

- 9.1 Any candidate in any doubt whatsoever concerning the individual candidate's publicity regulations should refer the matter to the Chief Executive Officer for clarification.
- 9.2 All publicity must clearly state the individual candidate's name and position. Candidates are also recommended to highlight the date of the Election on all publicity and the web address for Dancesport Australia.
- 9.3 It is recommended, that posters contain the Dancesport Australia logo available for election posters to clarify it is official Dancesport Australia documentation.
- 9.4 Candidates are permitted to use a website to publicise their campaign. This must not be held on any Dancesport Australia or Society / Organisation web space. Candidates should supply their web address online along with their election statement.
- 9.5 Dancesport Australia will provide a link to any candidate's website from the Dancesport Australia Election web pages.
- 9.6 There must be no other links to a candidate's website from any Dancesport Australia web page. Defacing, destruction or removal of other candidates' publicity is not permitted in any form.
- 9.10 Candidates are not allowed to use any web environment or email list specifically created to promote DanceSport Committees, campaigns or groups. In case of doubt, please contact the CEO who will provide clarification.

- 9.11 Candidates may not request a society / organisation to publicise their candidature in anyway. Societies and organisations who do so will be regarded as contravening these regulations and be subject to disciplinary action.
- 9.12 Unsolicited use of Dancesport Australia email accounts to promote Election candidates (spamming) will constitute a breach of these Regulations and will result in action being taken, as well as the sender being subject to Dancesport Australia discipline.
- 9.13 Candidates are responsible for their own health and safety and should be aware of the safety of others when engaging in any Election activity.

10. Election Groups

- 10.1 Candidates are not permitted to campaign in a group, on a common platform under a common name, and all publicity must support one individual's candidacy only.
- 10.2 Membership of other groups can be referred to in the Candidate's election manifesto, provided that membership of that group is open to all and was not set up for the purpose of bringing Dancesport Australia election candidates together.
- 10.2 Candidates are not permitted to use collective publicity designs and shared funding, or refer to a collective name on any publicity or in any campaigning activity.