

INDIAN IMMUNOLOGY SOCIETY: ELECTION RULES

Excerpts from the Society's Constitution (Section "Election") as displayed at the Society's web site:

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6. Election of the Executive Committee:

- a) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected from the members of the Society by the General Body and they shall hold office for a period of two years.
- b) Nominations for the vacancies on the Executive Committee shall be invited by the suitable notice from amongst the members of the society on the prescribed form of nomination which shall contain full name and address of the candidate and his signature as and by way of his consent, and shall be supported by two members One as proposer and the other as seconder. This nomination form duly filled in should be returned to the secretary of the society so as to reach him/her on or before the declared date.
- c) When the number of the valid nominations is the same as the number of seats or less, the persons so nominated shall be declared by the Chairman of the general meeting to have been elected.
- d) When the number of valid nomination is less than the number of seats the remaining seats shall be filled in at the general meeting by calling nominations and persons getting higher number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of tie, selection shall be by lots.
- e) When the number of valid nominations exceeds the number of seats voting papers containing name of candidates duly nominated, in alphabetical order shall be sent to all members of the society who shall indicate by putting a cross against the name of the candidate whom they wish to vote for and return the voting paper to the secretary so as to reach him/her at least two days before the date of General Meeting. In the event of tie, selection will be by lots.

7. Scrutineers:

- a) The committee shall appoint three scrutineers who shall be members of the society but shall not be candidates for election. After scrutinizing the voting papers they shall submit their report of scrutiny to the Chairman of the General Meeting and the Chairman shall declare the result at the General meeting.
 - b) The candidates who have obtained the highest number of votes shall be declared to have been duly elected.
 - c) In case of equality of votes recorded for any seat of the Committee, the selection shall be made by lots.
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As apparent from the above excerpt, there are no great details about individual posts of office bearers etc. The Rules for Election which have come in practice by convention over the years are given below, along with certain amendments which were approved by the GBM of the society.

Rules for Election in Practice 2014

The General Body will appoint an Election Officer for conducting the Election of Office bearers of the Society.

The following positions will be open for election, every two years:

President	One
Vice President	Four (as amended by GBM held in Varanasi, 10-11- 2012)
Secretary	One
Joint Secretary	One
Treasurer	One
EC members	Eight (as amended by GBM held in Varanasi, 10-11-2012)

1. The election will be announced by the Election Officer by intimating every member of the Society in writing. For doing this the Election Officer will have to be provided with

the list having complete mailing addresses of all the members of the Society. The Election Officer will also be given sufficient money for writing letters and posting them under “certificate of posting” including money for Secretarial help.

2. Sufficient time (to be decided by the Election Officer) will have to be given for the letters announcing the election to reach every member.
We do not send letters to members living abroad.
Then sufficient time will have to be given for sending the nomination. For this a nomination form has to be prepared.
3. Only life members can nominate a candidate who will also be a life member. Each candidate’s nomination has to be seconded by another life member. The candidate for President and Secretary’s position should have attended at least three out of the last five annual meetings of the society. For other posts no such conditions apply.
4. Individuals who have served two terms in a particular executive post are Not eligible for a third term in the same post.
5. Every nomination form must provide complete contact details and signatures of the proposer and the seconder as well as those of the candidate being nominated including his or her signatures accepting the nomination. The complete contact details should include complete street address of the workplace/home, including Phone no./ fax no. as well as current E-mail address.
6. The candidates being nominated for the post of President and Secretary will also indicate the years in they have attended the Annual meeting of the Indian Immunology Society during the preceding five years.
7. The same candidate can be nominated for the same post by different proposers and seconders but one proposer cannot nominate two persons for the same post.
8. One can propose different persons for different posts. One candidate can be nominated for different positions but finally he or she will have to accept only one position.
9. The nomination form can be Xeroxed and used. But an envelope with the address of the Election Officer bearing a postal stamp of Rs.5 for the return post will have to be sent to the members while asking for nomination.
10. While giving about two weeks for the intimation of nomination to reach the members and two weeks for filling the nomination form, sufficient time also should be given for the duly filled-in nomination form to reach the Election Officer.
11. The Election Officer will scrutinize all the nominations received by the predetermined deadline.
12. If there is a need for election, then a ballot paper will be prepared with the names of candidates contesting against each post; each such ballot paper will bear a serial number and be authenticated by signature of the Election Officer. Such authenticated ballot papers will be sent along with an envelope each bearing a postal stamp of Rs 5 and the address of the Election Officer.

13. The person who is casting his or her vote cannot sign the ballot paper.
14. Except for the EC members where EIGHT persons will have to be elected from the list, only one person for each of the other posts being contested has to be voted for. In other words, except for the posts of EC Members, one can vote for only one person each for the respective posts. For the post of EC Members, one can vote for maximum of EIGHT persons from the list of contesting candidates. If some candidates are elected unopposed their names and posts for which they have been elected will have to be sent along with the ballot paper as a matter of information. Again sufficient time will have to be given for completing this process.
15. The ballot papers will have to be dated when they are received at the Election Office, and counted as soon as possible. The Election Officer may take help from three members of the Society who are not candidates in this process. The result can be tabulated and kept confidential till the next Annual meeting.

The General Body will appoint an Election Officer for conducting the Election of Office bearers of the Society.

The following positions are open for election.

President	One
Vice President	One (Four, as amended in 2012, at the Varanasi GBM)
Secretary	One
Joint Secretary	One
Treasurer	One
EC members	Six (Eight (as amended in 2012, at the Varanasi GBM)

First, the election will be announced by the Election Officer by intimating every member of the Society in writing. For doing this the Election Officer will have to be provided with the list having complete mailing addresses of all the members of the Society. The Election Officer will also be given sufficient money for writing letters and posting them under "certificate of posting" including money for Secretarial help.

Sufficient time (to be decided by the Election Officer) will have to be given for the letters announcing the election to reach every member (usually 2 weeks). **We do not send letters to members living abroad.**

Then sufficient time (at least Two weeks) will have to be given for sending the nomination. For this a nomination form has to be prepared.

Only members can nominate a candidate who also will be a member. Each candidate's nomination has to be seconded by another member. The candidate for President and Secretary's position should have attended three out of the last five annual meetings of the society.

For other posts no such conditions apply.

Therefore every nomination form must provide complete contact details and signatures of the proposer and the seconder as well as those of the candidate being nominated including his or her signatures accepting the nomination. The complete contact details should include complete street address of the workplace/home, including Phone no./ fax no. as well as current E-mail address.

The candidates being nominated for the post of President and Secretary will also indicate the years in they have attended the Annual meeting of the Indian Immunology Society during the preceding five years.

The same candidate can be nominated for the same post by different proposers and seconders but one proposer cannot nominate two persons for the same post.

One can propose different persons for different posts. One candidate can be nominated for different positions but finally he or she will have to accept only one position.

The nomination form can be Xeroxed and used. But an envelope with the address of the Election Officer bearing a postal stamp of Rs.5 for the return post will have to be sent to the members while asking for nomination.

While giving about two weeks for the intimation of nomination to reach the members and two weeks for filling the nomination form, sufficient time also should be given for the duly filled-in nomination form to reach the Election Officer. For example, if letters from the Election Officer are sent out on 3rd March then a date like 14th April (till 5:00PM) may be determined as the suitable deadline for the nominations to reach the Election Officer.

The Election Officer will scrutinize all the nominations received by the predetermined deadline.

If there is a need for election, then a ballot paper will be prepared with the names of candidates contesting against each post; each such ballot paper will bear a serial number and be authenticated by signature of the Election Officer. Such authenticated ballot papers will be sent along with an envelope each bearing a postal stamp of Rs 5 and the address of the Election Officer.

The person who is casting his or her vote cannot sign the ballot paper.

Except for the EC members where six (eight) persons will have to be elected from the list, only one person for each of the other posts being contested has to be voted for. In other words, except for the posts of EC Members, one can vote for only one person each for the respective posts. For the post of EC Members, one can vote for maximum of EIGHT persons from the list of contesting candidates. If some candidates are elected unopposed their names and posts for which they have been elected will have to be sent along with the ballot paper as a matter of information. Again sufficient time (10 days+ one week+ 10 days) will have to be given for completing this process.

But since it will take at least one week for the letter to reach every part of India a minimum of 10 days for the blank ballot papers to reach the members + about seven days for members to mark their choice on the ballot paper + another 10 days for the ballots to return to the Election Office (~4 weeks) .

The ballot papers will have to be dated when they are received at the Election Office, and counted as soon as possible. The Election Officer may take help from three members of the Society who are not candidates in this process. The result can be tabulated and kept confidential till the next Annual meeting.