

MAWSA Election Campaign Code of Conduct

This code relates to the election for the mawsa Executive 2011. It should be read in conjunction with schedule one of the **mawsa** Constitution. All candidates **must** adhere to the following rules

For further information contact the Returning Officer
Vicki Owen 04 801 5799 ext 62067
manager@mawsa.org.nz or at the **mawsa** office

Campaigning

1. All candidates in elections are responsible for ensuring that the details provided to **mawsa** on their nomination form are correct. Nominations open August 5 and close 5.00pm August 26.
2. Candidates will be contacted by the Returning Officer within two days of nominations closing to confirm the campaign rules and discuss any other matters they deem important.
3. Candidates may start their campaigning from the first week after semester two mid-term break (Monday 12 September) and continue through to election week.
4. Each candidate is directly responsible for any actions or material involved in their election campaign.
5. All candidates must arrange a meeting with the Returning Officer with an outline of their campaign for sign off.
6. Candidates will be invited to:
 - Submit information to Magneto Bulletin by August 30
 - Make yourself available for interview on Monday 5 September
 - Dependent on the number of candidates, participate in a candidates forum on Wednesday September 14 (Venue to be notified)
7. All campaign posters must go up on **mawsa** poster boards and must be presented to **mawsa** reception to be stamped with **mawsa** stamp and a date stamp. Campaign posters will only be permitted to be placed on notice boards or bollards within the University campus. Candidates are responsible for removing their posters from the **mawsa** poster boards after election week has concluded.
8. Candidates are permitted to campaign via Facebook pages, accepting that they adhere to the following guidelines:
 - No deprecatory comments are to be made about other candidates
 - Candidates will be responsible for moderating the content on their pages, and will immediately remove any deprecatory comments made by other users
 - Facebook Ads are prohibited

Voting week

9. All voters displaying electioneering material at or near polling booths may be asked to surrender the material to the Returning Officer or their delegate/s. Refusal to do so will invalidate their vote, and may result in the voter being disqualified if that voter is a candidate in the election.

10. No form of electioneering will be permitted within ten metres of any polling booth

Electioneering is described as and shall include (but is not limited to):

- Distribution of promotional material (e.g. posters, badges, fliers, buttons etc)
- Personal approaches to members by, or on behalf of, candidates, instructing members to vote in a certain way
- Deprecatory remarks made about other candidates in public or in any form of media.

11. Candidates eligible for voting are not to remain in polling places or the near vicinity of polling places, and must disperse immediately after they have voted.

12. There is to be no communication with voters by candidates or their representatives at polling places with reference to any aspect of the election. Any candidates (or representatives of candidates) must immediately move away from the vicinity of polling booths when requested by the Returning Officer or their delegate, at any time when the polling booth is open.

13. Actions that contravene Massey University regulations or statutes, or the **mawsa** Electoral Regulations (as outlined in schedule one of the **mawsa** Constitution) will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Returning Officer, and may result in disqualification and disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Process

Non observance of this code is grounds for disqualification as a candidate. Failure to comply with these rules may result in disciplinary action, which follows the steps below:

- First infringement = written warning
- Second infringement = final written warning
- Third infringement = written disqualification

These steps are not necessarily sequential, and do not limit the authority of the Returning Officer or their delegated authority in their ability to immediately disqualify any candidate for serious misconduct.

In the interests of the voters, candidates who receive warnings and/or are disqualified will have their names posted on official **mawsa** Notice boards and website (www.mawsa.org.nz). If an appeal against disqualification is lodged and accepted for investigation by the **mawsa** Executive while elections are on, no notice will be made to the public. The official **mawsa** notice board is located directly outside the **mawsa** Office.

Appeals

If a candidate is disqualified, they have the right to appeal their disqualification. Notice of such an appeal must be made in writing, and received by the **mawsa** Returning Officer (Level 2 Student Services Building) within 24 hours of receipt of the written notice of disqualification.

If an appeal is lodged, the appellant will pay a bond of \$50 towards administration costs associated with the appeal. The \$50 bond will only be refundable if the appeal is upheld.

The appeal panel comprised of the returning officer, the mawsa advocate and an external appointee nominated by the Executive, shall meet to consider appeals within one week of complaint being lodged.

mawsa Electoral Regulations (as outlined in schedule one of the **mawsa** Constitution) or the Massey University regulations and statutes (as outlined in Massey University Calendar), are available at the **mawsa** office or **mawsa** website – www.mawsa.org.nz

Voting opens 9am Wednesday September 21 and closes 3pm Friday September 23 2011.

All Massey Wellington students with valid student ID are allowed to vote. Voters will need to present their student ID to collect a voting form.

mawsa Elections Voting

Candidates will be informed of the manner and place of voting for the mawsa elections by September 1 2011.

I, the undersigned, agree to abide by the MAWSA Election Campaign Code of Conduct and acknowledge that breaking any of the rules can be grounds for disqualification.

Name:

Date:

Signature:

Candidate for (please circle one) **mawsa** President 2010 / **mawsa** VP 2010

Witnessed by Returning Officer

Name:

Date:

Signature