



Australian Association for Unmanned Systems

Annual General Meeting Board and Executive Election Process

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The Australian Association of Unmanned Systems (AAUS) Constitution / rules of Association do not specifically prescribe a voting process for AAUS Board elections.

Historically, AAUS members have been required to vote for a fixed number of Board nominees (equal to the number of Board vacancies) from the pool of all nominees. Those Board nominees with the highest number of votes fill the required vacancies. The system, while simple, does not give Members the opportunity to preference candidates.

Further clarity is required on how AAUS Corporate member voting is managed needs to be provided. The process for election of Board Executive positions also needs to be formalised.

The objective of this policy and procedure is to ensure an election and voting process that is transparent, fair, and ensures strategic stability.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy and procedure is to provide clarity on the process for AAUS Board and Executive Member elections.

Scope

This policy and procedure document supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, the AAUS Constitution. It prescribes the voting process for AAUS Board Members and the AAUS Board Executive positions as defined in the AAUS Constitution.

GENERAL BOARD VOTING PROCESS

AAUS adopts a preferential voting system for AAUS General Board Positions.

Rationale

A proportional representation system allows voters to express a preference for candidates and is simple to administer.

Execution

Voting members are to number, in order of preference (rank), all nominating candidates.



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A voter would assign a '1' to the candidate of their highest preference, a '2' to the candidate of second preference, and so on until all nominating candidates have been assigned a preference.

A voter must assign a preference to **all** nominating candidates for the vote to be valid.

For more information on this system view: <https://youtu.be/whYFjkCZH18>

All Board Elections are to be overseen by the AAUS Executive Director under the oversight of at least one independent AAUS member (not a standing Board member or Board nominee).

Corporate Member Voting Process

Like a simple shareholder voting scheme, AAUS Corporate Members can cast votes on behalf of all their designated memberships. The effective vote is equivalent to n individual members casting the exact same vote, where n is the number of designated memberships the corporate member is entitled to. n is determined by the corporate membership level of the organisation held at the time of the AGM.

A Corporate Member can only 1) cast a vote on behalf of all its designated memberships, or 2) allow its designated members to cast their own votes, but not both. It is the responsibility of the nominated contact for a Corporate Member to manage how they intend to vote for their designated members. Where there is a conflict, the nominated contact for the Corporate Member will have precedence.

BOARD EXECUTIVE ELECTION AND VOTING PROCESS

Nominees to Board Executive positions come from the elected Board.

Board members are to nominate to Executive positions, with voting to follow a simple majority of the remaining non-nominating Board members.

In the event of a tie, the Executive have the deciding vote (excluding Executive nominees).

AUTHORISATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Authorisation

This policy and procedure document was developed by the AAUS Governance Working Group and reviewed and authorised by the AAUS Board. Future revisions to this policy and procedure document are subject to Board approval.

Distribution

The policy and procedure document was published to the AAUS website (members' only area) on the 5/11/2020.