



International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

BY-LAW No. 2

Election of Officers

(approved by the Council in Singapore, on 30 October 2018)

1. GENERAL

- (a) By Officers are meant members of the Board of the ISRM.
- (b) This By-law specifies procedures for electing ISRM Officers. In doing so, it supplements Article 7.4 of the Statutes and By-law No. 1, which address voting procedures and proxies at Council meetings, and Articles 8.1 and 8.2 of the Statutes, which address composition and election of the Board.
- (c) The President and Vice-Presidents of the Society are nominated by National Groups, and elected by secret ballot of the Council.

2. PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATIONS

2.1 Eligibility

- (a) A candidate for office must be a member of the Society.
- (b) A candidate for Vice-President representing a Region shall reside in that Region. National Groups that constitute the Region shall be determined or approved by the Council.
- (c) Neither Presidents, nor Vice-Presidents shall be eligible for a second term, except that a Past-Vice-President may stand for President.

2.2 Selection of Candidates

- (a) Nominations are to be made only by National Groups of the Society.
- (b) About 12 months before the election, the Secretary-General is to advise National Groups of their opportunity to nominate candidates for office, and bring to their attention the Statutes and By-laws pertaining to such nominations.
- (c) National Groups choosing to nominate candidates may select them either by a decision of their executive body, or by a poll of members. Before making a nomination, the National Group should ascertain whether the candidate is willing to serve if elected, and to undertake the duties of ISRM officers as listed in Statute 8 and By-law No. 6.



International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

- (d) A candidate need not be a member of the National Group making the nomination. A candidate may be nominated by more than one National Group.

2.3 Submissions of Nominations

Nominations are to be in the form of letters from National Groups to the Secretary-General stating the names of nominees and the offices for which they are nominated. Letters of nomination are to be accompanied by a one page curriculum vitae for the nominees and by a statement that the nominee is aware of the duties and responsibilities of the office and is willing and able to fulfil these responsibilities if elected. They must be received by the Secretary-General at least 6 months and not more than 12 months before the Council meeting at which the election is to be held.

2.4 Screening of Nominations

- (a) The Secretary-General shall determine the validity of all nominations (para. 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 above), and acknowledge their receipt. National Groups shall be informed without delay of any deficiencies, if possible in sufficient time for these to be rectified before the deadline.
- (b) If, seven months before the ballot, a valid nomination has not been received for each office, the Secretary-General shall notify the Regional Vice-Presidents and shall secure nominations from among those National Groups eligible to make such nominations.

2.5 Circulation of Nomination Announcements

- (a) The Secretary-General shall forward valid nominations together with curricula vitae to National Groups no sooner than 5 months nor later than 4 months before the ballot. All nominations shall be forwarded at the same time, and to all National Groups. In case of any isolated publication of the nomination by the National Group or by the candidate before the Secretary-General makes the announcement, the nomination will be considered invalid.
- (b) Nominations shall also be announced by the Secretariat in the newsletter and on the website of the Society, condensing curricula vitae as necessary to give equal treatment to candidates competing for the same office.

3. ELECTION PROCEDURE

3.1 Venue and Conduct of the Elections

- (a) Voting for the President shall take place at the Council meeting two years prior to that International Congress of the Society after which the new Board shall take office.
- (b) Voting for Vice-Presidents shall take place at the Council meeting held during the International Congress of the Society.
- (c) The Secretary-General shall conduct the election and ensure that it complies with the ISRM Statutes and By-laws.



International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

3.2 Eligibility to Vote

All voting members of the Council shall be eligible to vote for the President, whereas a Regional Vice-President shall be elected only by those voting members representing the National Groups of that Region.

3.3 Voting Procedure in the case of One or Two Nominations

- (a) If just one valid nomination has been received, that candidate is to be declared elected by acclamation.
- (b) If two valid nominations have been received, a voting paper with the names of the candidates will be passed to the voting Council members who will indicate the candidate of their choice. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

3.4 Voting Procedure for Three or More Nominations

- (a) If three or more valid nominations have been received, a voting paper with the names of all nominees will be passed to each of the voting Council members, who will mark the candidates 1, 2, 3, etc. in order of preference.
- (b) The primary votes (marked with 1) shall be counted first. If one candidate receives a majority of all primary votes, that candidate shall be declared elected.
- (c) If there is no such clear majority, the candidate with the fewest primary votes shall be excluded from the election. In case 2 or more candidates are found in this situation, the one with less secondary votes (marked with 2) shall be excluded from the election. The voting papers for that candidate are to be recounted and those particular secondary votes shall be given primary vote status and distributed to the remaining candidates.
- (d) This procedure is to be repeated until one candidate has more than one-half of the total number of votes. In the case of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.

4. APPOINTMENTS WITHIN THE BOARD

The newly elected Board shall immediately meet to elect one of the Vice-Presidents as First Vice-President, and to appoint or reappoint the Secretary-General.

5. REPLACEMENTS WITHIN THE BOARD

- (a) If the President is temporarily unable to perform his duties, the Board may approve the appointment of the First Vice-President as Acting President for that period.
- (b) If the President resigns or dies, the First Vice-President shall become President until the next regular election of officers. In these circumstances, a new First Vice-President shall be elected by the Board within ninety days.
- (c) If the First Vice-President resigns or dies, the President shall appoint one of the other Vice-Presidents to act for the unexpired term of office.



International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

- (d) If a Vice-President resigns or dies, the President shall consult with the National Groups in the Region and appoint a successor for the unexpired term of office.
- (e) The Board may instruct the Secretary-General to initiate an election to replace a Regional Vice-President who has been deemed inactive with respect to the duties defined in the Statutes and By-laws for a period of six months or longer. Voting shall take place at the Council meeting held in conjunction with the next International Symposium. Nominations shall be made and votes cast at the time of the meeting in accordance with the voting procedures of By-law No.2, Article 3.