

# SRC ELECTION CODE OF CONDUCT

The SRC Election Convenors and all Stellenbosch University (SU) Students are bound by the Student Constitution (SC). In addition to the stipulations of the SC, the SRC Election Convenors have the responsibility to put rules or codes in place to ensure that the SRC is elected by a free and fair process. The contents of the rules are within the discretion of that election's SRC Election Convenors. The rules and regulations regarding previous SRC Elections do not apply in this election.

## VALUES AND STANDARDS

This Code of Conduct aims to promote the following values and standards for the Students' Representative Council (SRC) Election:

Ensuring an Election Process which:

- is free and fair
- allows maximum accessibility to information regarding candidates and the election process
- is relevant and transparent
- allows maximum participation and engagement from the SU student body
- stimulates quality debate and dialogue with candidates
- promotes the interests of the student body
- is democratic, non-discriminatory, and inclusive.

## RIGHTS

The following rights apply to the entire Student Body, including all candidates of the SRC Election. All students have a right to:

- freedom of speech

- freedom of language
- freedom of political opinion and association
- recruit support from voters
- hold public meetings
- distribute the election and campaign materials designed and provided by the convenors
- use social media platforms to advertise their campaign
- put up the posters designed and provided by the convenors
- conduct election campaigns in all legal ways.
- cast their vote independently and in secret for a total of nine (9) candidates

## INFRINGEMENTS

All persons bound by this Code must, during the election period:

1. Avoid language or any kind of action that could lead to violence or intimidation;
2. Refrain from making, publishing or repeating any racist, sexist, homophobic, false, libellous or any other allegations of this sort that would infringe on a person's human dignity with respect to the election;
3. Refrain from actions or practices that discriminate unfairly or are aimed at humiliating someone on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, class, or religion with respect to the election;
4. Refrain from making misrepresentations about themselves in any election material;

5. Do nothing that would impede the right of anyone to gain reasonable access to voters for the sake of recruiting support;
6. Refrain from doing anything to prevent the holding of a political meeting or participation in a political meeting and refrain from seriously disrupting a political meeting;
7. Refrain from removing, damaging or destroying any candidate's campaign material;
8. Refrain from any attempt at misusing power or resorting to privileges or influence or using any form of coercion intended to persuade someone to vote for any particular candidate;
9. Refrain from offering any form of enticement or remuneration to any person for the purpose of such person's vote or non-vote in the election;
10. Refrain from voting in a way in which they know they are not entitled to vote;
11. Refrain from unlawfully removing or damaging or destroying any voting material or electoral material in any way; and
12. Comply with any instructions from the election convenor(s) and implement any just decisions of the election convenor(s).
13. Spend no money on any marketing.
14. The candidate cannot in any way campaign by using their affiliation with any political party or campaign by using any political party's name whether to their benefit or detriment of another candidate.
15. Rule 15 will also apply to any organisation which has political ties or is linked to any political party or is political in nature.

16. Rule (14), (15) also apply to any other organisation.
17. Since a candidate cannot use their own money, this includes Facebook/ Instagram sponsored pages, any sponsorship cannot be utilised.
18. A candidate can upload pictures of themselves campaigning on their campaign social media platform. This includes videos of the candidate campaigning.
19. Organisations, establishments whether political parties, churches such or similar structures can endorse a candidate but cannot campaign for them. As such structures cannot create and post posters for you.
20. No mass communication can be sent by any organisation on behalf of a candidate or endorsing the candidate.
21. The only organisations that can endorse a candidate are organisations that are registered as student societies in Stellenbosch University.
22. A candidate will be held liable for any posters or mass communication that violate this code if such means were to endorse them or to help them with their campaign unless they can prove that they had nothing to do with such violation.
23. No candidate can campaign on behalf of another candidate, e.g. vote for us, or the use of we or any other collective nouns cannot be utilised in campaigning (Basically group campaigns are not allowed as a candidate is an independent candidate).
24. Even though a candidate has the freedom to post their poster (as given by the Election Convenors) wherever they want to post

them, it is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that where they post their posters, they do not violate any rules of the place they post their posters.

25. If rule (24) is violated disciplinary actions will be taken.

26. When students vote the candidate cannot be next to them or even

stand next to them or do anything that violates the privacy of the students right to a secret vote.

### ENFORCEMENT

Any infringement of this Code of Conduct will render the perpetrator liable for an investigation by the Election Convenors and if found guilty will be disqualified.

## RULES FOR CAMPAIGNS

### POSTERS

The Election Committee (including the SRC Election Convenors) are responsible for the photography, design and distribution of all marketing posters.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Maximum usage of social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter is encouraged. Please note that there still needs to be

stringent adherence to the Electoral Code of Conduct, and it will be strictly enforced.

### OTHER

1. Candidates will be held responsible for the conduct of their respective support committees.
2. Marketing must conform to the Electoral Code of Conduct.
3. Only social media platforms may be used for additional marketing. This implies that no candidate is allowed to use mass communication (SMS, e-mail or any similar media) for marketing purposes. Such methods are in contravention of the Stellenbosch University Electronic Communications Policy paragraph 2.2.1.  
A candidate is allowed to electronically or otherwise communicate with a closed group of friends but MUST then include a statement explicitly prohibiting the resending of that message as mass communication.
4. Official marketing as SRC candidate on social media platforms will be announced by the Election Committee.