



## Central Council – Election for President

According to The Rule of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia, Part 3, Article 9 & 13, (2014)

### Electors:

- Regional Presidents, Vice Presidents, appointed Officers, President
- Candidates, if they are electors, can vote for themselves
- As a preference, all eligible voters should be in attendance.

### Candidates:

- Should be Roman Catholic - see The Rule Part 1 Article 6.5
- Must have completed nominations in advertised period
- Nominations to be signed by a nominator (Vincentian Conference member) plus candidate
- Any Conference Member can nominate
- Candidates should be interviewed by the State Council President
- State Council will reserve the right to decline a nomination
- An interview with the outgoing President is essential
- The outgoing President is not eligible for re-election.

### Voting:

- The State Council President or nominee will preside over the election
- Candidate(s) must be prepared to promote their Vincentian manifesto
- Ballots are distributed by the scrutineer
- Ballots are counted by the scrutineer and one independent (e.g. Spiritual Adviser)
- In the first ballot, you may place a tick or #1 in the box beside the chosen candidate
- A candidate needs a clear majority to be elected
- In the event of a tied election, a 2nd round vote should be taken of the two tied nominees
- If a stalemate arises, then the State Council President will appoint a President from the nominees that have an equal number of votes
- Proxy voting is not allowed however members are permitted to participate in the meeting by the use of technology
- The vote of a person attending by electronic means needs to be secret such as an email or text message directly to the returning officer at the time the vote is taken, further verified by a personal phone call to the returning officer
- Postal votes are permitted in exceptional circumstances after consultation with the State Council President
- The term of the President of a Central Council is four (4) years
- Vice Presidents and Officer Bearers stand down at the time of the election
- New Vice Presidents and Officer Bearers are appointed by the incoming President, with Council approval.

**Notes:**

- If there is only one candidate, a formal election process is still required
- A sole candidate must achieve a majority of the eligible votes
- If no-one is elected, the State Council will appoint an acting President or hold another election.