

Ballot Papers 2024 State Branch

State Senior Vice President & State Executive Member Elections

Nominations for the positions of State Senior Vice President and State Executive Members have been received. The Returning Officer has reviewed the nominations received and determined that there are more valid nominations than available positions for State Senior Vice President and State Executive Member (Metropolitan), therefore a ballot is to be held.

Enclosed are Ballot Papers for the positions of State Senior Vice President and State Executive Member (Metropolitan).

Names were drawn from a hat to determine the order of names on the ballots. Nominees for each position (in order as displayed on the ballots) are:

State Senior Vice President (1 position):

- Eamon Hale
- Des Callaghan

State Executive Member (Metropolitan – 1 position):

- David Menz
- Warrick McDonald
- John McNeil

Ballot Papers and Number of Votes

Ballot Papers are of a different colour for each position. The ballot papers are accompanied with each nominees' resume, photo and a statement of suitability. The Independent Returning Officer has noted that the position of State Executive Member (Country) has only one nominated candidate, Lynn Mizen. Therefore, consistent with those provisions in State Branch Rule 10.3(b), the nominated candidate will be duly elected, with the respective term commencing immediately at the conclusion of the 2024 State Annual Conference, Saturday 27 July 2024.

Each Sub-Branch is entitled to the number of votes shown in the table set out below [Rule 10.3 (e)]. The number of votes is based on the number of Sub-Branch Life & Financial Service Members recorded by the State Branch as of 30 April 2024. Sub-Branches have been provided with the corresponding number of ballot papers for the number of votes they are entitled to.

Number of Service and Life Members of the Sub-Branch	Number of votes
1 - 169	1
170- 339	2
340 – 509	3
510 - 679	4
680 - 849	5
850 – 1019	6
1020 -1189	7
1190 and above	8

Ballot Process

Completion of the Ballot Papers is to be decided at a Sub-Branch General Meeting and voted upon by those Life and Financial Service Members present at that Meeting [Rule 10.3(e)(3)]. The Ballot Papers are to be completed in accordance with the members wishes and are not to be considered in isolation by the Sub-Branch Committee on behalf of the Sub-Branch [Rule 10.3 (e)(2)].

The Sub-Branch may determine their own method of determining the order of votes at the General Meeting. It is recommended that as per normal meeting protocol, a proposer, seconder and a simple majority by show of hands be used. Debate from the floor, at the time the votes are being determined, on the merits or otherwise of each candidate is appropriate to assist members to determine how the Sub-Branch should vote.

Completing the Ballot Paper

A number is to be placed opposite each name to indicate the order of preference for each nominee on each Ballot Paper provided [Rule 10.3 (g)].

Place the figure "1" in the square opposite the name of the first nominee you desire elected. Put a "2" in the square opposite the name of your second choice and so forth until all squares are completed with a number in each square.

Each Sub-Branch is requested to complete ALL Ballot Papers provided.

The preferential method of voting is used to tally the votes, so it is important that A NUMBER is placed in each square. Any other method of recording the vote may make it invalid.

Returning the Completed Ballots

Once voting is finalised, the ballot papers are to be placed in the white envelopes provided, sealed and signed by the President and Secretary of the Sub-Branch. The white envelopes are to be placed in the larger orange envelope and mailed to the Returning Officer.

Ballot Papers are to be lodged with the Returning Officer no later than **9.00am Thursday 25 July [Rule 10.3 (h)]**.

Counting of the Ballots

At the appropriate time, the State Executive will appoint at least five Service or Life Members to be scrutineers to assist the Returning Officer in the counting of the ballot [Rule 10.4].

The votes will be counted in the following order:

- (1) State Senior Vice President;
- (2) State Executive Member (Metropolitan)

The preferential voting system will be applied in the following manner:

State Senior Vice President

- As there are only two candidates, the nominee with 50% plus one vote with a 1 against their name will be declared the winner.
- After a nominee is elected to an office, their name is to be excluded from subsequent ballots for which they have been nominated [Rule 10.3 (k)].

State Executive Member (Metropolitan)

- Nominees with a 1 against their name will be counted and tallied.
- If on first count a nominee has 50% plus one of the first preference vote, then they will be declared the winner.

- If after the first count there is not a winner, the nominee with the least number of first preference votes shall be excluded and have their votes redistributed according to the second preference.
- Redistribution shall continue in this manner until a candidate has 50% plus one of the vote.
- In the case of a tied vote, a name drawn from a hat by the Returning Officer in the presence of the scrutineers will be elected [Rule 10.3(j)].

Declaration of result

The Returning Officer will report the results of the election at the completion of the State Branch Annual Conference. Successful candidates will hold office for a term of three (3) years commencing at the close of the 2024 Annual Conference until the end of the 2027 Annual Conference.



Darren Scammell
Returning Officer
7 June 2024