

# BRANCH ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER

This is a simple outline of what should occur during the 3-month Branch election process. For more details and specifics you should review Article IX, Section 2 of the Bylaws for Units and the Branch Election Manual.

<p>Notice of September, October and November Meetings</p>	<p>Written notice shall be sent to all members in good-standing, postmarked at least 10 days prior to the September meeting. It shall include a listing of the date, time, location and purpose of the September, October and November meetings. Additionally, a notice shall be placed in the local newspaper for these meetings at least 10 days prior, as well as another 10 days prior to the November election.</p>
<p>September Meeting</p>	<p>Election of the Nominating Committee, to be composed of not less than 5 members or more than 15 members, no more than 2 of these individuals shall be Officers and/or member of the Executive Committee.</p>
<p>October Meeting</p>	<p>Nominating Committee presents its report, after which nominations are received from the floor, the Chair or a member of the Nominating Committee; <u><i>no officer of the Branch or any candidate for office shall chair the nominating process.</i></u> For the purpose of being certified as an eligible candidate one must have been a bona fide member of the Branch by April 1<sup>st</sup>, as well as live and/or work in the jurisdiction of the Branch. After which the Election Supervisory Committee shall be elected. <b>Please note: all questions regarding the eligibility of candidates must be resolved prior to the conclusion of the October meeting.</b></p>
<p>November Election</p>	<p>The number of eligible voters shall be determined established before voting begins. Polls shall be open for at least 4-hours, anyone in line at the time polls close must be allowed to vote. Once all voting has been completed shall the tallying of ballots start.</p>
<p>Election Controversy</p>	<p>In the event there is a election controversy, a complaint signed by 25 members in good-standing of the Branch (50 members if the Branch membership exceeds 1,000 members) must be postmarked no later than 5 days after the date of the election. The standard used for reviewing complaints; "if the allegations alleged are assumed to be true would they have affected the outcome of the election?" If, the complaint is found to be valid, it will then be forwarded to the Chairman of the Committee Membership and Units.</p>
<p>If there is a violation of the election process a complaint must be made to the National Office prior to the next meeting. After which the National Office may institute corrective action to ensure the rights of members are protected.</p>	