

Scottish Director (SCOTD) Elections

Notice Period

Suitable notice should be given by a retiring SCOTD, preferably at least four months or two SCOTB Meetings prior to retirement.—Notice should be placed in What's Brewing and the relevant SCOTB web page to encourage possible candidates.

Administrator

An Administrator should be appointed by SCOTB. This person should be impartial and independent and not a candidate, e.g. SCOTB Secretary, Deputy SCOTD, outgoing or former SCOTD, etc.

Notification of Election and who has the right to vote

The Administrator will need to contact all the branches and sub-branches (from this point referred to simply as 'branches') within SCOTB by letter or email informing them of the vacancy and calling for candidates. A Job Description should be circulated at this time.

All branches wholly or partially within SCOTB will be entitled to one vote. This can be a proxy vote, in which case the Chairman of that branch will inform the Administrator of their intention.

Nominations

Interested parties will ideally reside in a branch within SCOTB, however the National Executive can allow a candidate who lives outside SCOTB to be nominated and stand. Interested parties should then send their nomination (an indication that they are willing to stand with the signature of a proposer and seconder who are CAMRA members from different branches within SCOTB) to the Administrator along with a short biography about themselves and why they feel they should have the position of SCOTD.

Branch Considerations

The Administrator should compile and forward a list of candidates and their biographies to all branches for consideration, along with a ballot paper. The date for close of nominations should be a minimum of 5 weeks before the election date, to allow branches time to discuss the candidates in a branch meeting.

If there is a single candidate, the branches should decide if they are happy to endorse this person for an initial period of one year. If the same candidate is nominated the following year, then their term will be of three years.

Where there are two or more candidates, branches should decide on the rank order of the candidates and if any would not be endorsed by them.

There should be the opportunity for a virtual Question and Answer session with the candidate(s). Branches should inform members that this will take place a month in advance of the election.

Each branch will be entitled to one vote at the meeting. This will normally be exercised by the Branch Chair or they should inform the Administrator in advance of the meeting if they are appointing a representative to vote on their behalf.

For those wishing to exercise a proxy vote there will be a deadline of 1 week before the SCOTB Meeting where the election is to be held. The vote should be either signed by the Branch Chair and one other Committee Member or, if by email, it should be forwarded by the Branch Chair and one other Committee Member. Note branches choosing to exercise a proxy vote will not have the opportunity to hear the candidates' addresses or ask questions.

Election

At the SCOTB meeting where the election is being held, there should be an opportunity for the candidates to make a short address (maximum 5 minutes) to members present. There should be the opportunity for questions to the candidates. The other candidates will be asked to leave the meeting during these addresses.

A discussion on the candidate(s) can take place with feedback about such things as attendance at local branch meetings/AGMs and Branches Committee meetings and performance where one of the candidates is the existing SCOTD. This should also be done without the candidates being present.

Branch Chairs or their representatives should then complete and hand in their ballot papers.

Result

The elected candidate requires at least 50% of the votes cast. If no candidate has 50%, the candidate with the least first place votes is eliminated. The second-place votes on the ballot papers for this eliminated candidate are then reassigned, until one candidate has at least 50%.

In the event of a dead heat after the above takes place, then the Administrator will have the casting vote.

The term of office will be three years, except where there was a single candidate or a new SCOTD is elected when the restriction detailed under Branch Considerations above shall apply.

Details of the newly elected Regional Director should be sent to the Chairman of Regions and Branches Committee and the NE Mentor for the Region as soon as possible.

Likewise, in the event of no candidate being elected, the Administrator should notify the Chairman of Regions and Branches Committee and the NE Mentor for the Region as soon as possible.

Final Stages

The election result will be reported to Regions and Branches Committee, with whose agreement the newly nominated Regional Director may be accepted or rejected. The Chairman of Regions and Branches Committee will then make that recommendation to the National Executive, who may choose to accept or reject the recommendation. The nominee will be informed by the Chairman of Regions and Branches Committee of the decision. In the event of rejection by the National Executive, the nominee will also be informed of the reasons behind the decision by the National Chairman.