

To: All Member National Authorities

From: Elections Panel

Subject: Elections Panel Notice No. 1 (2026) – Consultation on Election Rules: Meetings and Group Interaction

Date: 3 September 2026

Dear Members

Review of Election Rules around Meetings

The World Sailing Elections Panel is writing to all Member National Authorities to open a short, targeted consultation on a part of the Election Rules, issued as Elections Panel Notice No. 1 (2026).

The current Election Rules can be found [here](#). This consultation concerns specifically the provisions on debates and meetings (Rule 6.1), public declarations of support (Rules 10.1 and 10.2), and concealed promotion of a candidature through meetings or other events (Rule 11.1).

This review follows the recent election cycle and has been prompted by a suggestion received from Group B. It is deliberately narrow in scope: it is confined to the rules governing candidate meetings and group interaction, including the way candidates gather and engage as a group during the election process.

We see this consultation as part of the natural evolution of best practice, undertaken in the interests of the sport and, in particular, of the candidates themselves. Our aim is to ensure the rules encourage the best people to stand and that the process remains streamlined, coherent and proportionate. We also regard this as a considered build-up towards 2028, so that any refinements are settled early, communicated clearly and embedded well ahead of the next cycle.

The current Elections Panel will prepare and set the draft Rules for the next elections, after consultation with the Governance Committee. The next Elections Panel will retain the authority to alter the Rules.

The Candidate Forum

The candidate forum was a great success and an important step forward for the election process, and its value to candidates and Member National Authorities alike has been widely recognised.

At the same time, feedback identified that the verbal question element was too long and too demanding in its current form. This is precisely the kind of practical, experience-led point that a targeted review of the meetings and group interaction rules is designed to address.

How to Respond

Member National Authorities are invited to submit any comments on the rules relating to meetings and group interaction (Rules 6.1, 10.1, 10.2, and 11.1) to elections@sailing.org before **17 October 2026**. We will consider all responses received and will communicate any proposed changes to the relevant rules, in a subsequent Notice.

World Sailing Elections Panel