



Understanding the Nomination and Election Process

by Tony Sabino, Chairman- Nominations and Elections Committee

The Nominations and Elections Committee (Committee) is a standing committee of the Radio Club of America. The Committee is tasked with organizing and facilitating the annual election of the Club's Officers and Directors.

At the beginning of the year, the President of the Club appoints the Chairman and members of the Committee. The Club has two methods of nominating candidates to run for Office. One route is via petition, whereby a member in good standing, can be placed on the ballot by getting at least 25 Club members, also in good standing, to sign a petition asking that the candidate be placed on the ballot. These petitions must be received no later than **July 1st** of each year.

The other method is when a candidate is selected and nominated directly by the Committee. An **Officer-Director Proposal Form** is available for members to utilize to propose such a candidate to the Committee. This form is available on the Club web site and must be received by **July 1st** for it to be considered.

The Committee will review the nominations and by **September 1st** of each year release to the membership the list of candidates who will be appearing on the ballot. Candidates are encouraged to make position statements and are availed the opportunity to post same on the Club website. The ballots, along with a brief biography for each candidate, will be mailed to the membership by **October 10th** of each year.

The **poles close on November 1st** of each year. The **ballot envelopes must be signed** by the member for the ballot to be considered valid. The Committee then meets in order to conduct the ballot count. The Committee reports the results of the voting at the Club's Annual meeting in November. The ballots are held and made available for inspection and audit for a minimum period of 30 days following the Annual meeting.

The Club By-Laws provide for an orderly succession of experienced and qualified Officers to run the Club. Article III, Section 4 states: "The Executive Vice President shall succeed the President and the Vice-President shall succeed the Executive Vice President." Officers normally serve one-year terms. At the option of the Board of Directors, the President, Executive Vice-President and Vice-President shall be eligible to serve a second consecutive one-year term. The Vice-President, at the end of their terms, will become the Executive Vice-President. In order to run for Vice-President, a member must have previously served as an Officer or Director of the Club. Directors serve two-year terms and each year half of the Directors are elected.

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