

THE VETERINARY COUNCIL (ELECTIONS) RULES

[S.1. 1 of 1953.]

under section 34 of Cap. 210, 1958 Laws

1. Short title

These rules may be cited as the Veterinary Council (Elections) Rules.

2. Notification of vacancy

Subject to the provisions of the First Schedule to this Act, whenever a vacancy occurs among the elected members of the Council and that vacancy is required under this Act to be filled by a fresh election, the Registrar shall-

[First Schedule.]

- (a) inform all registered veterinary surgeons then in Nigeria of the vacancy;
- (b) invite nominations to fill the vacancy; and
- (c) require that such nominations shall be received by him on or before a date fixed by the President.

3. Signing of nominations

(1) Each nomination shall bear the signature of the proposer and seconder and be countersigned by the nominee.

(2) No person other than a registered veterinary surgeon shall propose or second a nomination.

4. Election of persons nominated

If, by midnight on the date fixed for the receipt of nominations, the number of nominations received does not exceed the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated shall be deemed elected.

5. Voting papers

If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies, the Registrar shall-

- (a) issue to each registered veterinary surgeon a voting paper on which shall be recorded the number of vacancies to be filled and the names of the persons nominated to fill them; and
- (b) require that such voting paper be returned to him on or before a date fixed by the President.

6. Method of voting

Each registered veterinary surgeon shall-

- (a) record his vote by drawing a line through the name or names of the person or persons for whom he does not wish to vote but so that the number of names not so deleted shall not exceed the number of vacancies; and

- (b) sign the voting paper, enclose it in an envelope marked "Council Ballot" and return it by registered post to the Registrar.

7. Counting of votes

(1) The President shall appoint two persons (hereinafter called scrutineers), not being registered veterinary surgeons, to count the voting papers received by the Registrar.

(2) On the day following the closing date fixed for the receipt of voting papers, the scrutineers shall proceed to open the envelopes and to count the votes at the office of the registrar.

(3) The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected. If there are two vacancies to be filled, the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected.

(4) The scrutineers shall then report the result of the ballot to the Registrar.

(5) The scrutineers shall reject any voting paper which has not been completed in accordance with these Rules.

8. Safe custody of voting papers

All voting papers, whether valid or rejected, shall be retained in safe custody by the scrutineers until the Council directs their destruction.

9. Publication of results

On completion of the election, the Registrar shall inform the successful candidates of their election and shall cause the result of the election to be published in the Federal *Gazette*.

10. Power to order fresh election

(1) Any person nominated as a candidate for election who is dissatisfied with the conduct of an election may lodge a complaint in writing with the Registrar within fourteen days of the publication in the Federal *Gazette* of the result of the election.

(2) The Council shall inquire into such complaint and may, in its discretion, annul the election and order a further election to be held forthwith.