

Under the Students' Union constitution the Returning Officer may at his discretion make such regulations as may be appropriate to govern the canvassing or other activities of candidates, or their agents, in seeking election.

Nominations:

- Nomination forms must be returned to the Students' Union Office no later than 5.00 pm, 14th October 2016 (no exceptions). It is advisable to hand in the form in plenty of time so that its validity can be checked.
- The nomination form must be signed by 40 current valid registered CIT students (Union members) – At least **TWO** of which must be **members of the Union Council** (i.e. current Union Officers or Class Reps).
- Please refer to nomination form rules for further details available at www.citsu.ie or from the SU Office.
- Candidates can withdraw their nomination paper at any time up until 11.00 am, Monday 17th October 2016 by calling to the Students' Union Office.
- All candidates (or a representative) must be present at the SU office at the close of nominations.

Canvassing:

- Canvassing will commence after close of nominations, 5.00 pm, Friday 14th October 2016. All canvassing prior to this date is strictly prohibited. For the purposes of this section erection of posters or other electoral type material seeking nomination will be interpreted as canvassing.
- All candidates and their representatives are expected to treat all other candidates as well as the other members of the college community with dignity and respect and abide by basic rules of fair play.
- Candidates need to at all times be conscious of both their own health and safety and the health and safety of others throughout the campaign. In this regard the posting of literature on fire door windows and the hanging of any material from the ceiling in the main corridor are strictly forbidden as they present an unnecessary risk. Candidates will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity of any other specific health and safety dos and don'ts.
- Posters may only be erected using blue/white tac.
- Electioneering stickers may not be placed on Institute property.

- All canvassing must be confined to the college grounds.
- The use of text messaging, email, media sharing sites and social networking sites is permissible but the rules of **fair play must be adhered to or this right will be revoked**. Candidates or their agents who do take up the option to canvass online must provide details of any relevant social media sites they are using for this purpose. This should be done by emailing the Returning Officer and/or the deputy Returning Officer including in the body of the email links to the relevant sites.
- Use of the Students' Union logo is not permitted on electioneering materials.
- All electioneering material must be removed at close of the polling station.
- All Social Media campaigning accounts must be removed within one week after the election has taken place.

Allocations:

- 250 Photocopies per candidate
- One TV Screen (west atrium) slide per candidate - a photo, name, position and 'slogan' must be submitted to the SU – the slide will be produced by the SU Publications Manager using a standard template.

Discipline

A range of disciplinary procedures shall apply for breaches of any of the above regulations. These can vary depending on the seriousness of the offence, from at a basic level for an innocent mistake a verbal warning, up to for a serious offence being banned from this and future CITSU elections. At all times any disciplinary action will be chosen to match the offence and disciplinary measures will only be carried out once the alleged offender has been given an opportunity to explain their actions. If this explanation proves insufficient and in the view of the Returning Officer an offence has occurred then s/he will apply an appropriate disciplinary action. The Returning Officer's decision on such matters is final.

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