As adopted by the Governing Body on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

# ELECTION RULES OF

## **STUDENT BAR COUNCIL**

Govt. Mizoram Law College Reg. No. MSR 714 of 23.03.2016



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## **ELECTION RULES**

Rules regarding conduct of election of the Office Bearers of the Student Bar Council, Govt. Mizoram Law College made under Article XXI of the Constitution of the Council.

#### RULE 1

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

- a. The General Secretary of the Council shall publish the electoral roll for the election of the Council within the first week of March every year, from the register of membership of the Council.
- b. Any grievances regarding the electoral roll shall be submitted to the General Secretary.
- c. A final electoral roll shall be published before the end of March every year.
- d. To be admitted inside a polling area, one shall have his name marked in the electoral roll and, show an identity proof issued by the College, to the election officials.

#### RULE 2 APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICIALS

a. The Governing Body shall appoint the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officer to conduct the Election of the Student Bar Council. To be appointed, one should be a teaching faculty of Govt. Mizoram Law College. b. The Returning Officer, in consultation with the Patron, may appoint a polling officer/s to ensure the smooth functioning of the election.

## RULE 3

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

- a. The Returning Officer shall issue a notification regarding the election of Office Bearers at least two-weeks before the date of election i.e. the first Friday of every April.
- b. Such notification shall include a period for filing of nomination, date of scrutiny, date of withdrawal, and date of voting, counting of votes and declaration of results.

#### **RULE 4**

## ELIGIBILITY

- a. To contest for the posts of Office Bearers, one must be a bona fide student of Govt. Mizoram Law College, and qualifies the provisions under Article X of the Constitution. "RESTRICTION ON HOLDING OFFICE"
- b. No person who is an under-discharged insolvent or who has been convicted of any offence under the law shall be entitled to be a member of the Governing Body.
- c. No person who has been actively involving in any political party or any other student bodies shall become the Office Bearer of the Student Bar Council.

d. The phrase 'person who has been actively involving' shall be defined as those who are publicly active working members or part of the executive body of the said organisations at any level. Mere membership of any organisation shall not bar one from contesting the election of the Council. A prescribed Undertaking to this effect shall be submitted by the candidate.

#### **RULE 5**

## FILING OF NOMINATION

Any person who is qualified to be a candidate under Rule 4 may offer himself as a candidate and file his own nomination duly countersigned by a proposer and a seconder, who are bona fide student of Govt. Mizoram Law College, in a prescribed Form and deliver it in person to the Returning Officer within the appointed date.

#### **RULE 6**

## **CAMPAIGNING PROTOCOL**

- a. Campaign strategies may include door-to-door canvassing, virtual meetings, and social media outreach.
- b. The Returning Officer shall orchestrate a collective campaign platform within the College or, in exceptional circumstances, through virtual mode.

#### RULE 7 PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF ELECTION

- a. Members of the Council shall elect the President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary i/c Games & Sports, and Magazine Editor.
- b. Proxy voting shall be strictly prohibited.
- c. Elections shall exclusively employ secret balloting; alternative methods shall be deemed void.
- d. The positions of President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer, and Secretary i/c Games & Sports shall be designated for the members of the Council who have been studying fourth semester of LL.B in the College.
- e. Any bona fide student as per Rule 4 can file a nomination for the positions of Financial Secretary and Magazine Editor.
- f. Elected office bearers shall have the authority to appoint Assistant General Secretary, Assistant Secretary i/c Games & Sports, and Assistant Magazine Editor. The list of appointed Office Bearers shall be submitted to the Patron within seven days from the declaration of result.

#### **RULE 8**

## **COUNTING OF VOTES**

a. The Election Officials shall count the ballots on the day of the election itself.

b. Equality of votes: If, after the counting of the votes is completed, an equality of votes is found to exist between any candidates and the addition of one vote will lead to any of those candidates being declared elected, the Returning Officer shall forthwith decide between those candidates by lot, and proceed as if the candidate on whom the lot falls had received the additional vote.

#### RULE 9

## **DECLARATION OF RESULT**

- a. The Returning Officer shall prepare the election result and publish the same immediately after the counting is concluded.
- b. The Returning Officer shall send the result to the Patron of the Council for notification.

#### RULE 10

## EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL CONDUCT

- a. External interference in the election affairs shall lead to annulment of nomination.
- b. Financial utilization for campaign purposes is proscribed. Reported infringements may result in revocation of nomination following assessment by the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officer.
- c. Any violation of electoral regulations during campaigning shall result in nullification of nomination.

#### RULE 11

## TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The outgoing Office Bearers shall coordinate the venue, date, and time for transferring responsibilities.
- b. The transfer of responsibilities shall align with arrangements made by the outgoing Office Bearers within the term limit of the Council.

#### RULE 12 DISPUTES REGARDING ELECTION

- a. An election petition challenging the validity of election of any returned candidate may be presented by a contesting candidate of such election on one or more grounds.
- b. An election petition shall
  - i. contain a concise statement of the material facts on which the petitioner relies;
  - ii. set forth with sufficient particulars the ground or grounds on which the validity of an election is challenged;
  - iii. be companied by a deposit of Rupees five hundred as the petition fee which is not refundable.
- c. An election petition may be submitted to the Patron of the Council within three working days from the date of publication of the election result.

d. Tribunal: In the event of appeal, the Patron shall constitute an Election Tribunal consisting of himself/herself as a Chairman, and two members to hear, examine and dispose of all election petitions under these Rules.

The Tribunal shall dispose of any election petition within 14 days from the date on which the election petition is submitted. The decision of the Tribunal shall be final and binding.

## RULE 13 APPOINTMENT IN ABSENTIA OF CANDIDATE

In the absence of candidates, the Governing Body shall appoint eligible replacements from the Council membership.

FORM – I			
(See Rule 5)			
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NOMINATION PAPER FOR STUDENT BAR COUNCIL ELECTION 20			
GOVT. MIZORAM LAW COLLEGE, AIZAWL			
(To be filled up by the Proposer)	Poll No boroby		
I, Mr./Ms of Class			
	of Class		
Roll No as a candidate for the post of			
He/She does not have any political party affiliation to the best of my knowledge.			
Deter			
Date: Sig	nature of Proposer		
(To be filled up by the Seconder)			
(To be filled up by the Seconder) I, Mr./Ms of Class	Roll No do hereby		
second the nomination of the above-named candidate.			
He/She does not have any political party affiliation to the best of my knowledge.			
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Date: Sig	nature of Proposer		
N.B: The proposer, seconder and candidate should produce their College Identity			
Card/ Library Card at the time of scrutiny of the Nomination Paper.			
(For official Use only)			
The candidature of Mr./Ms. above named for the Office is hereby			
valid/invalid due to			
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Date: Signature	e of the Returning Officer		
	5		

#### FORM – II

(See Rule 4)

#### UNDERTAKING FOR NOMINATION FOR OFFICE BEARER OF THE STUDENT BAR COUNCIL

I, Mr./Ms.\_\_\_\_\_, solemnly swear to abide by the principles and regulations set forth in the Constitution of the Student Bar Council and the Election Rules of the Student Bar Council. I understand and acknowledge the eligibility criteria stipulated therein, specifically outlined under Rule 4, pertaining to the eligibility for contesting the posts of Office Bearers.

I affirm my eligibility and commitment to the Election Rules and Constitution of the Student Bar Council. I declare-

- 1. I am a bona fide student of Govt. Mizoram Law College.
- 2. I am not an under-discharged insolvent.
- 3. I have not been convicted of any offence.
- 4. I have not actively held executive positions in political parties or student bodies.

I pledge to uphold the integrity of the Student Bar Council and its values. This Undertaking is submitted as a prerequisite for my nomination.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Signature of the Candidate

#### FORM - III

(See Rule 9)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION**

I, Returning Officer for the Election of the Student Bar Council, upon thorough examination and tallying of the votes, hereby certify that I have on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_ declared Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_\_ to have been duly elected in the election as the of the Student Bar Council.

As per Rule 9 (b), the result of the election has been officially communicated to the Patron of the Council for notification.

That as a symbol of this accomplishment, I hereby confer upon him/her this Certificate of Election.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Returning Officer

Official Seal or Stamp