



DECISION

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009
s.189—Arrangement for conduct of an election

United Firefighters' Union of Australia
(E2024/171)

MR STEENSON

SYDNEY, 29 OCTOBER 2024

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 2 October 2024 the Tasmania Branch of the United Firefighters' Union of Australia lodged with the Fair Work Commission prescribed information for an election to fill the following offices, due to insufficient nominations received in a previous election (**E2023/194**):

President	(1)
Trustee	(2)

[2] The scheduled election E2023/194 was declared on 4 April 2024 and the abovenamed offices (for which no nominations were received at that time) have remained vacant in the six (6) months since that time. Given the importance of these offices, it could be expected that prescribed information would be lodged sooner.

[3] The prescribed information, when lodged by the Branch, stated that “Pursuant to UFUA rule 71(3), as less than one quarter of the term of office has expired, the positions must be filled through an election rather than appointment”. While this is correct in relation to casual vacancies that may arise, it is misconceived in relation to offices where insufficient nominations were received – as these must always be filled via an election.

[4] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed offices is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the Australian Electoral Commission.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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PRESCRIBED INFORMATION FOR ELECTIONS in accordance with Section 189 *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and Regulation 138 *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulations 2009*

I, Leigh Hills, being the Branch Secretary of the United Firefighters Union of Australia Tasmania Branch make the following statement:

1. I am authorised to sign this statement containing prescribed information for the United Firefighters Union of Australia Tasmania Branch.
2. The following information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 (the RO Act).
3. The elections that are required are set out in the table in Annexure A.
4. Insufficient nominations were received in an earlier election(s) and the declaration/s of results is/are attached.
5. No rule alterations are pending that will impact the election.
6. This statement is lodged for an election with no set date for nominations to open. This will be determined by the Returning Officer.
7. If the number of elected positions is provided for Schedule 6, clause 2 of the United Firefighters Union of Australia Rules.

Signed:

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Leigh Hills.

Dated: *27 September 2024*

Annexure A

- Elections that are required

Branch	Name of Office	Number required	Voting System Direct voting system; Collegiate electoral system	Reason for Election Scheduled; Casual vacancy; New office created; Insufficient nominations	Electorate
UFUA Tasmania Branch	President	1	Direct Voting System	Insufficient nominations	<p>Elections for the Branch Committee of Management have a single electorate of all members of the Branch.</p> <p>Pursuant to UFUA rule 71(3), as less than one quarter of the term of office has expired, the positions must be filled through an election rather than appointment.</p> <p>‘all members of a Branch who are financial members at the time of the close of the roll of voters shall be entitled to vote in the election of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary where required, and Trustees of the Branch’ – Rule 70.(3)(a)</p>
UFUA Tasmania Branch	Trustee	2	Direct Voting System	Insufficient nominations	<p>Elections for the Branch Committee of Management have a single electorate of all members of the Branch.</p> <p>Pursuant to UFUA rule 71(3), as less than one quarter of the term of office has expired, the positions must be filled through an election rather than appointment.</p> <p>‘all members of a Branch who are financial members at the time of the close of the roll of voters shall be entitled to vote in the election of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary where required, and Trustees of the Branch’ – Rule 70.(3)(a)</p>

- Important dates:

	Direct Voting System	Collegiate Electoral System
Nominations OPEN	Not prescribed by rules, to be determined by the Returning Officer. Preference is for this election to be held quickly, which is dependent on the resources of the AEC and Returning Officer.	NA
Nominations CLOSE	Not prescribed by rules, to be determined by the Returning Officer. The preference would be for nominations to close 8 or 16 days after nominations open as this reflects the 8 day roster cycle on which the majority of members work.	NA
Roll of Voters cut off date	‘The roll of voters for any election to be conducted pursuant to this rule is to be closed seven days before the day on which nominations are opened in relation to elections by a direct voting system for all offices in the Union’ - Rule 27. Not prescribed by rules, to be determined by the Returning Officer based on the date set for the opening of nominations.	NA