

# NE elections 2026 – electioneering guidance for candidates

## Introduction

Please find below guidance for candidates seeking election to CAMRA's National Executive in 2026, which all candidates are expected to follow as part of their campaign for the NE.

The nomination process is now open and will close at **15:00 hours on Friday 13 February 2026**. The process of election will be posted on the CAMRA website with all relevant information and election papers. As in previous years, candidates must be supported by having 10 members support their nomination. There is guidance produced, and candidates must not seek to influence voting prior to the ballot voting process opening. Members of staff must NOT be approached to nominate candidates. The 10 members supporting each candidate on the nomination form will be contacted directly to confirm support for candidates once nominations have closed.

The Ballot will open for voting for candidates in the week commencing 9 March 2026 and will close at 23:59 hours on Wednesday 15 April 2026.

Members attending the Members' Weekend, AGM and Conference will also be able to vote in person, or amend their proxy vote should they wish to do so. All members will be given the opportunity to vote directly for their preferred candidate(s), either by post or electronically.

The results of the election will be announced after 18:00 hours on Saturday 18 April 2026 online and during Members' Weekend in St Albans.

## CAMRA's Election Process – The Election Oversight Working Group

Candidates should be aware that the Election Oversight Working Group (EOWG) established by the National Executive will monitor the process, working through the Company Secretary.

The EOWG comprises six independent members: three current members of the NE (with one chairing), the Chairman of Regions and Branches Committee, the Chief Executive and Company Secretary.

Prospective candidates have the opportunity prior to submitting their candidacy, to have a confidential discussion with the EOWG Chairman about the role and/or any concerns they may have about being part of the National Executive or standing for election.

Please contact [sarah.crawford@camra.org.uk](mailto:sarah.crawford@camra.org.uk). Candidates may also ask any questions in confidence from the Company Secretary and express any concerns, which will be considered by the EOWG.

## CAMRA's communications to promote the Election

All candidates should download the following from the CAMRA website [here](#):

- National Executive nomination form declaration
- Electioneering guidance for candidates (this document)
- National Executive member role description
- Questions and answers re nomination for the National Executive
- Code of Good Governance summary
- Code of Conduct for Members of National Executive



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When submitting their nomination, candidates should provide a husting statement answering the following four questions in not more than **500 words in total for ALL questions with a minimum of 60 words per question**:

- (i) What experience do you have of volunteering within CAMRA and how do you consider these experiences will be useful if you are elected?
- (ii) What relevant skills and experiences do you have from life that will enhance the National Executive and what would you expect to contribute?
- (iii) If elected, what vision do you have for the next four years as you influence the organisation as a member of the National Executive?
- (iv) What other statement would you like to make to support your candidacy?

The responses for all candidates will be made available on the Members' Weekend, AGM and Conference page on the website and published on Discourse. When sending their husting responses, candidates should also include a portrait photograph. This should be a recent photograph and a good representation of you. It should preferably be against a plain backdrop or with little in the background, with no other people in it.

This should be e-mailed to the Company Secretary, [anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk](mailto:anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk). The deadline for receipt for both husting statements and photographs is **Friday 13 February 2026 at 3.00.pm**.

Candidates will be invited to produce a two-minute video; this can be completed in two ways. Candidates can produce the video on their own or request a Teams video with a senior member of staff. This will be included on the website and Discourse. The video guidance and support will be given to all candidates in February after close of nominations.

We will email all members for whom we have an email address, to draw their attention to the candidates' hustings statements and invite them to vote. We will also publish a reminder to vote in productions of Beer/What's Brewing.

If you, as a candidate, are happy for your email address to be included in Beer/What's Brewing and on-line in order that members can make contact with you directly, please confirm this by email to [anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk](mailto:anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk) and copy in Tom Stainer, [tom.stainer@camra.org.uk](mailto:tom.stainer@camra.org.uk)

## Electioneering Guidance

Candidates' hustings statements will be produced on Discourse. During the course of the election period, candidates may wish to engage with CAMRA members beyond the formal hustings process set out, i.e. through Discourse. There is **no** expectation or requirement for candidates to do so, but if they choose, they are asked to keep to the guidance contained within this document.

Breach of this guidance may result in your candidacy being declared null and void and your application removed from the election process.

This document should also be read alongside the [Code of Conduct](#).

In addition, all candidates must abide by the [Volunteers' Charter](#).

On no account should any election campaigning commence until the candidates have been formally announced by the Company Secretary and advised that they may do so. Failure to adhere to this will result in your candidacy being declared null and void.



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## Examples of what activity is permitted during the election period:

- **Discourse** – you may wish to engage with members on Discourse, which is the Campaign’s official forum. If you would like help in registering to use Discourse, then please contact the press team – [press@camra.org.uk](mailto:press@camra.org.uk).
- **Social media** – Please feel free to use your own social media accounts or other personal web presence.
- **Email** – Please feel free to email personal contacts and reply to any member who contacts you. Please note you should not contact members whose email address has been gathered carrying out CAMRA activities.

## Examples of what activity is not permitted during the election period

- Using a privileged position as an admin, moderator, editor or similar of any official CAMRA social media account or website (including but not limited to branch or regional channels) to post positive or negative comments about any candidate or your own candidacy. This rule applies not only to candidates but all CAMRA members.
- Use of mailing lists (email or postal) gathered for the purpose of communicating CAMRA business to electioneer.
- Formal rallying events at CAMRA meetings are not permitted as all other candidates may not be available.
- Making defamatory comments about other candidates.
- Be seen to intimidate other candidates through your own comments made on social media, Discourse etc.

## Contacts

If you have any questions or you are not sure whether your planned electioneering activity will be within the guidance set out above, please contact CAMRA’s Company Secretary, Anita Newland-Smith ([anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk](mailto:anita.newlandsmith@camra.org.uk))

**Anita Newland-Smith**

Company Secretary – 21.11.2025

