Bill FA-01-25

Vote: 22 Y; 0 A; 0 N

Rules Committee on: 09/08/25 Passed in Senate: 09/09/25



The University of Alabama at Birmingham Student Senate 2025-2026

A Bill to Amend the USGA Code of Laws

Date Introduced: 09-09-25 Date Voted Upon:

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The purpose of this amendment is to approve the addition of multiple amendments to the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Undergraduate Student Government Association Code of Laws. These amendments to the Code of Laws do not conflict with any previous amendments to the USGA Code of Laws or USGA Constitution.

The following will be added to the USGA Code of Laws under the section number and heading provided.

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§ 304.0 Action on Legislative Proceedings

- § 304.1 Upon the passage of any legislation by the USGA Senate, the Executive Vice President and
 President shall have fourteen (14) days to pursue action on the Senate's referral.
- § 304.2 Failure to pursue action on legislation will result in the filing of a written complaint to the Student
 Court by the Senate.
- § 304.3 In the event of *force majeure*, this deadline may be extended by a further fourteen (14) days or a period deemed appropriate by the Student Court.
- 15 § 304.4 The invocation of *force majeure* must be approved by the Student Court per existing precedent.
- § 304.5 Any further expansion of *force majeure* must be approved by the Student Court and provided to the Senate.

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The following sections of the USGA Code of Laws shall be amended in the following manner.

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- § 601.2 The Election Timetable shall be distributed by the Election Coordinator and Election Manager
 Chair by the end of the January immediately preceding the election.
- § 602.1 There shall be an Election Commission consisting of an Election Coordinator, Election
- 24 ManagerChair, and four Election Commissioners assistants, and two alternates.

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- § 602.3 The Election ManagerChair, assistantsCommissioners, and alternates shall be appointed by the 25
- 26 President.
- § 602.4 The Manager Chair and Commissioners assistants may not be active candidates or assist any 27
- 28 active
- § 604.1 Shall organize and coordinate mandatory candidate meetings. The Election Manager Chair is the 29
- presiding officer for candidate meetings. 30
- § 605.1 The Spring General Election timetable shall be determined by the Election Coordinator and the 31
- Election manager Chair to be released in the January immediately preceding the election. 32
- § 606.13 Any candidate with proof that any provision of these regulations has been violated by another 33
- candidate may file a written complaint with the Elections ManagerChair. The complaint shall include the 34
- regulations violated, the date and time of the alleged violation, and the name(s) of such person(s) who can 35
- 36 substantiate the allegations.
- § 606.14 In the event that a complaint is filed before the close of the polls, the Elections Commission 37
- shall convene in a timely manner and review the complaint. During the meeting, the Elections 38
- Commission has the option of questioning all parties involved before rendering a decision. The Elections 39
- Commission will determine the penalty or penalties. The Elections Commission will, in a written form, 40
- render their decision. Each member of the Elections Commission, including the Elections ManagerChair, 41
- shall have one (1) vote. If the decision has been to disqualify a candidate, the remaining candidate (if only 42
- one) will be declared the winner. If two or more candidates remain, one must have a clear majority (as 43
- defined in USGA Constitution, Article VI) to be declared the winner. Otherwise, a run-off is held. 44
- § 606.16 In the event that any member(s) of the Elections Commission is/are involved in the election 45
- infraction in any way, as a candidate, or has special interest in the event in question, they shall not serve 46
- on the Elections Commission in terms of hearing and ruling on the cases in which they are involved. They 47
- shall be replaced by one of the alternates. If the Election Chairs Manager is incapable of serving for this 48
- special session, the USGA President must appoint an acting Election Chairs Manager from the remaining 49
- Commissioners in order for the case to proceed. The acting Elections Manager Chair shall be governed by 50
- 51 the same aforementioned guidelines.
- § 606.17 If disqualified, the candidate has twenty-four (24) hours to file a written request for appeal to the 52
- Chief Justice of the USGA Student Court. The Student Court will convene within five business days and 53
- rule upon the appeal. The Elections Manager Chair and any other Election Commissioners members will 54
- present their findings to the Student Court. During the meeting, the Student Court has the option of 55
- questioning all parties involved before rendering a decision. The candidate will be given equal time to 56
- present his/her case. Unless extenuating circumstances apply (determined by the Election Coordinator) 57
- and/or unless a Justice is involved in any election violation, all members of the Student Court must be 58
- present to hear and rule on all cases involving election infractions. Each member of the Student Court 59
- including Chief Justice has one (1) vote. Members of the Student Court cannot be replaced for these 60
- hearings and rulings. If a member of the Student Court is incapable of serving for this special session, 61
- permission must be granted from the USGA Advisor for the case to proceed. If the Chief Justice is 62
- incapable of serving for this special session, the USGA President must appoint an acting Chief Justice 63
- from the Associate Justices in order for the case to proceed. The acting Chief Justice shall be governed by
- 64
- the same aforementioned guidelines. A clear majority vote (50%+1) is needed to overturn or uphold the 65
- Election Commission's decision. 66
- § 606.18 All proceedings of the Elections Commission and Student Court, which involve the violation of 67
- an election law, must be audio-recorded by the Elections Manager Chair and Chief Justice (respectively). 68
- All audio-recordings will be retained in the Office of Student Involvement for one semester. 69

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Executive Vice President

President

Assistant Vice President for Student Experience

USGA Advisor

This signature confirms that the previous signatures and their divisions have followed the process outlined in the USGA Constitution, USGA Code of

115 116 Laws, and any processes set forth by the Executive Vice President and the Legislative Branch.