

## Article XVII: Electoral Procedures

### A. Officers of the High Council and Justicars of the High Court are elected by public ballot.

1. Incumbent Officers retain their office indefinitely, however, a soft term-limit of six years exists.
  - a. After an Officer has served for five years, any citizen or member of the High Council may call for an election. If an election is called, the electoral process begins.
  - b. The election may be called for at any time after five years of service, and need not specifically be at six year intervals.
2. Open offices will accept nominations for no less than one half year and no greater than one full year to allow potential candidates to step forth.
  - a. Potential candidates must be a citizen of Britannia, have reached the majority age of fourteen years, have no outstanding warrants for arrest, and not be currently serving a sentence for a previous crime.
  - b. Candidates must register their nomination with the Electoral Administrator by submitting a letter containing their name, city of residence and the position they are running for.
  - c. After the nomination period ends, a public debate between all eligible candidates shall be held no less than one quarter year prior to the election date; such debate must allow citizens of Britannia to ask questions pertinent to the candidates' potential service.
3. A public vote is conducted as prescribed in Section C of this Article.

### B. Councilors of the High Council are elected by public ballot.

1. In the Cities of Virtue and Vesper, Councilors will be determined based upon the electoral results of the Governor elections prescribed by The Crown. The Councilor will be appointed based upon one of the following criteria:
  - a. An elected Governor may choose to sit upon the High Council as the councilor for the city.
  - b. An elected Governor may choose to appoint a representative on his or her behalf to the Council.

- c. Incumbent Councilors retain their office until the completion of the next Governor election cycle; incumbents who are reelected remain bound by their Oaths of Office and are not required to take the Oath of Office again.
- 2. In all Britannian cities that are not officially governed by a Governor of the Crown, representation upon the High Council will be determined by one of the following criteria:
  - a. An elected Governor, Mayor, or recognized authority may choose to sit upon the High Council as the Councilor for the city, village, or town.
  - b. An elected Governor, Mayor, or recognized authority may choose to appoint a representative on his behalf to the Council.
  - c. A city, village, or town without an elected or appointed head of government must follow these guidelines in order to receive representation upon the High Council:
    - i. A member of the community from that city, village, or town must call for open election for representation upon the High Council.
    - ii. Incumbent Councilors retain their office indefinitely, however, a soft term-limit of six years exists.
      - a. After a Councilor has served for five years, any citizen from the represented community may call for an election. If an election is called, the electoral process begins.
      - b. The election may be called for at any time after five years of service, and need not specifically be at six year intervals.
    - iii. Open offices will accept nominations for no less than one half year and no greater than one full year to allow potential candidates to step forth.
      - a. Potential candidates must be a citizen of Britannia, have reached the majority age of fourteen years, have no outstanding warrants for arrest, and not be currently serving a sentence for a previous crime.
      - b. Candidates must register their nomination with the Electoral Administrator by submitting a letter containing their name, city of residence and the position they are

running for.

- c. After the nomination period ends, a public debate between all eligible candidates shall be held no less than one quarter year prior to the election date; such debate must allow citizens of Britannia to ask questions pertinent to the candidates' potential service.

- iv. A public vote is conducted as prescribed in Section C of this Article.

C. The following electoral procedures shall be used in order to ensure fair voting when not otherwise superseded by electoral procedures provided for by The Crown:

1. A finalized ballot with the names of all candidates shall be published one quarter year prior to the election.
2. A valid voter must be a citizen of Britannia, have reached the majority age of fourteen years, have no outstanding warrants for arrest, and not be a convicted criminal currently serving a sentence.
3. An Electoral Administrator shall be appointed at the time an election is called to oversee the collection and tallying of ballots.
  - a. This individual shall be the longest serving Councilor who is not participating in the election, following the line of Councilor seniority if recused; or any member of the public so appointed by simple majority vote of the High Council.
4. An official mailbox for ballot collection shall be placed in a public building that is under direct supervision of the Electoral Administrator and a two-way teleportation device shall be placed at the High Council meeting chamber leading to the voting box by the Electoral Administrator.
  - a. The mailbox for ballots shall remain in place for four days prior to the prescribed close of the election.
  - b. Any voter may request to leave an absentee ballot with the Electoral Administrator up to a half year prior to the close of the election if extenuating circumstances will prevent that voter from otherwise casting a vote.
5. Ballot collection shall be suspended five minutes prior to the scheduled start of the session of the High Council at which the results of the election are to be

announced, the Electoral Administrator shall retrieve all votes from the voting box and verify and tally all legitimate votes cast by citizens of Britannia.

- a. Votes are tallied, and the candidate with the highest number of votes cast in his favor assumes the office.
  - b. In the case of a tie, a run-off election is held between tied candidates (which continues until a clear victor, even by one vote, is elected to office).
- D. A newly elected Officer or Councilor must take an Oath of Office within one half year of the election in order to assume duty. Failure to swear the Oath of Office in the prescribed time will nullify the election, and the electoral process shall begin anew.