



# The Jags Foundation – Special Election Rules and Guidance 2026

Approved by the TJF Board on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## 1. Background

- 1.1 The Jags Foundation (TJF) is a democratic members organisation. The TJF Board currently consists of 7 directors:

<b>Elected Directors</b>	<b>Elected</b>	<b>Term expires</b>
Graeme Cowie	June 2025	Summer 2028
Lynsey Kane	June 2023	Summer 2026
Jamie McDonald	May 2024	Summer 2027
Caitlin Rose	May 2024	Summer 2027

<b>Co-Opted Directors</b>	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>Term expires</b>
David Brown	June 2025	Summer 2026
Sandy Fyfe	October 2025	Summer 2026
Andrew Holloway	October 2025	Summer 2026

- 1.2 Elected directors currently serve a maximum term of office of three-years (with the relevant term expiring at an AGM). Directors may also relinquish office early, or their maximum term of office may be shorter than three years, where provided by either the Articles of Association or the Election Rules.
- 1.3 Co-opted directors serve until the next Annual General Meeting, whereafter they must retire or seek election.

## 2. Special election

- 2.1 TJF's board wishes to strengthen its leadership group. Normally this would be achieved via the discretionary power to co-opt directors. However, further co-options would lead to a minority-elected leadership group. As a group, we do not believe this would be appropriate or legitimate.
- 2.2 We have therefore resolved to hold a special (in-year) election for two board positions. Those elected will join TJF's board immediately following the election and serve until the summer 2027 AGM.
- 2.3 There will still be a regular set of TJF board elections held in May/June 2026, ahead of TJF's 2026 AGM.
- 2.4 TJF's board will consult the membership, ahead of the summer 2026 AGM, about reducing the maximum term of office of elected directors from three to two years.
- 2.5 For the avoidance of doubt, co-opted board members are eligible to seek election.

### 3. The election timeline

- 3.1 The election period will commence on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 12.01am**.
- 3.2 Each member will have until **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 11.59pm** to submit their nomination to be a candidate in the election, or to withdraw their nomination.
- 3.3 All valid nominations will be announced on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026**.
- 3.4 Ballots for the election will be issued no later than **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**.
- 3.5 All ballots must be submitted no later than **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 10.00pm** to be valid and counted.
- 3.6 The results will be announced within 48 hours of the completion of the ballot on TJF's website. The successful candidates will be formally appointed thereafter.

### 4. Oversight of the election

- 4.1 The election will be administered by Graeme Cowie, Secretary of TJF (the “Returning Officer”). He will be responsible for ensuring that the relevant rules are adhered to and will rule on any disputes that may arise as to the interpretation of the rules or the conduct of the elections.
- 4.2 The ballot will be conducted using [Balotilo](#), an online voting platform. It operates using a secret ballot, with a unique link and anonymous voter key being emailed to each member.

### 5. Standing for election

- 5.1 Only members of TJF can stand for election. A nomination will be rejected if the relevant individual is not a member of TJF at the beginning of the election period (i.e. on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 12.01am**). Whether or not you are a member can be clarified by contacting the Returning Officer at [contact@thejagsfoundation.co.uk](mailto:contact@thejagsfoundation.co.uk).
- 5.2 A member is ineligible to stand for election if they are, or become, prohibited by law from becoming a director of the company. If the Returning Officer reasonably believes this applies to a member, he may reject the nomination or otherwise disqualify the individual from the elections.
- 5.3 All members will be sent an email link, shortly after the election period commences, to the nomination form, which they must complete if they wish to be a candidate. The form will include the opportunity to make a personal statement (of up to 200 words) and to provide a portrait-style photograph. These will appear on the TJF website from the close of nominations until polls close.

- 5.4 The Companies Act 2006 and the Articles regulate the conduct of TJF directors. By submitting the nomination form, a candidate acknowledges these legal obligations and agrees to abide by them if elected.
- 5.5 In February 2025, the TJF Board of Directors updated its [Social Media Policy](#), originally adopted in November 2022. The current policy governs the social media conduct of directors. By submitting the nomination form a candidate acknowledges and agrees to abide by the Social Media Policy if elected.
- 5.6 All members are reminded of the [Membership Rules](#).

## 6. The franchise and the voting system

- 6.1 All TJF members as of **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 12.01am** will be eligible to vote in the elections.
- 6.2 The electoral system used will be [Approval Voting](#). A maximum of two candidates may be endorsed on a member's ballot.
- 6.3 When the polls close, candidates will be ranked based on the number of votes received. The two candidates with the most votes will be duly elected and appointed as directors of TJF to serve until no later than the summer 2027 AGM. In the event of a tied vote, lots will be drawn to distinguish between the candidates.

## 7. Conduct in the election

- 7.1 Candidates may canvass support via social media. This should strictly be in support of their candidacy and should not include any derogatory comment about other candidates, anyone involved with TJF, or the Football Club.
- 7.2 In particular candidates must refrain from:
  - (a) defaming any candidate, the TJF Board, any TJF director(s) or any third-party;
  - (b) harassing, bullying, or unlawfully discriminating against any candidate, the TJF Board, any TJF director(s) or any third-party;
  - (c) making false or misleading statements; or
  - (d) impersonating any other candidate, TJF director(s) or third-party.
- 7.3 Reasonable criticism will, obviously, be permitted in the course of the campaign. However, the boundaries between reasonable criticism and personal abuse must be recognised and respected by all candidates.
- 7.4 If a candidate breaches the rules on election conduct, they may be disqualified from the election.