



Local Union No. 98

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

1701 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130

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NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF IBEW LOCAL 98

Pursuant to a court order dated June 10, 2022 from the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 98 will conduct new nominations and a new election of the following races under the supervision of the U.S. Department of Labor – Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS): President and five (5) Executive Board members.

The nomination and election for the remaining IBEW Local 98 officer positions (Vice President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Examining Board members) are not subject to supervision by OLMS, but OLMS will be involved in all aspects of the election mechanics to ensure that the races subject to supervision in this election occur in accordance with the court's order and Title IV of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (LMRDA).

Installation for those elected will occur at the membership meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. The term of office will be for three (3) years which will end upon installation of new officers after the June 2026 regularly scheduled election of officers.

NOMINATIONS:

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location:
Local 98 Union Hall
1719 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

ELECTION:

Date: Saturday, June 3, 2023
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location:
Local 98 Union Hall
1719 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

RUNOFF ELECTION (if necessary):

Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location:
Local 98 Union Hall
1719 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

NOMINATIONS:

Members will be asked to present a dues receipt card in order to attend the nomination meeting. If you need a dues receipt card, you may obtain one from the Local 98 Finance Office on or before 6:00 p.m. on May 9, 2023.

Eligibility of Nominators and Candidates

To be eligible to nominate candidates, a member must be in good standing. Good standing means that as of the date of nominations, the member is not 3 months or more behind in paying dues. Members who are in arrears for 3 or more, but less than 6 months, as of May 9, 2023 may regain good standing membership by paying dues (including any applicable late fees and/or reinstatement fees) on or before 6:00 p.m. on May 9, 2023 at the Local 98 Finance Office. Article XXI, Section 4 of the IBEW Constitution provides that any member indebted for 6 months' full dues shall be dropped from membership and cannot become a member in good standing again except by joining as a new member. Accordingly, such an individual is not eligible to nominate candidates.

If a member paid dues for the 1st quarter of 2023 (January, February and March), but has not paid dues for the 2nd quarter of 2023 (April, May and June), that member is eligible to make nominations since that member is not 3 months or more behind in paying dues.

Apprentices are not eligible to make nominations, hold office, or vote.

Members who have retired from the IBEW and are collecting their pension benefit from the dues-funded IBEW Pension Benefit Fund are not eligible to make nominations, hold office, or vote. If a member is no longer working in the trade and is collecting a pension from Local 98, but has not applied for his/her pension benefit from the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund, that member is eligible to make nominations, hold office, and vote provided the member is still paying the basic dues to the local union and per capita payments to the IBEW International.

Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 10 of the IBEW Constitution and Article III, Section 9(e) of the Local 98 Bylaws, no member shall be eligible for office unless he/she has been a member of Local Union 98 in continuous good standing for at least 2 years immediately prior to May 9, 2023. Continuous good standing means that during the 2 years preceding nominations, the member was never 3 months or more behind in paying dues. Article XVI, Section 10 of the IBEW Constitution further provides a member must be in good standing between the time of nomination and installation.

Article III, Section 9(b) of the Local 98 Bylaws provides, “No members shall be a candidate for more than one (1) office... If nominated for more than one office, the member shall immediately declare for which office he/she will be a candidate.” This rule does not preclude a member from serving as a local union officer and a member of the local union Examining Board, since under Article XVI, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution, Examining Board members are not operating officers of the local union.

Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 6 of the IBEW Constitution, no member shall be eligible to serve as Financial Secretary unless such member is also a participant in the Local 98 Pension Benefit Fund.

Members who are considering making nominations or becoming candidates are encouraged to check their eligibility status in advance of the nomination meeting by contacting the Local 98 Finance Office at (215) 563-8991.

The OLMS Election Supervisor will meet with all interested candidates at the Local 98 union hall immediately following the nomination meeting to discuss campaign rules, inspection of the Local 98 membership list, distribution of campaign literature, and observers. A candidate may send a representative to this meeting.

Nomination Procedures

Nominations will be made at the nomination meeting from the floor, no second to the nomination is required, and the nominated candidate need not be in attendance. Self-nominations are permitted. Members who are not in attendance can make or accept nominations in writing. To be valid, written nominations and acceptances must be received by OLMS Election Supervisor Angela Menges via email to IBEW98ElectionSupervisor@dol.gov, via text message to (202) 302-9203, via facsimile to (215) 861-4849, or via mail (i.e., regular U.S. mail, FedEx, UPS, etc.) **and** to IBEW Local 98 Election Judge Justin Bielec via email to Jbielec98@gmail.com, via text message to (215) 850-7831, or via mail c/o IBEW Local 98 (i.e., regular U.S. mail, FedEx, UPS, etc.) no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 9, 2023. The nomination should include the name of the nominee, the office to which nominated, and the name of the member making the nomination. Nomination acceptances should include the name of the member accepting the nomination and the office for which that member wishes to accept a nomination. Such nomination acceptances will be considered final – if that member is nominated during the meeting for a position other than the position for which he/she specified, the latter nomination will not be valid.

ELECTION:

The election will be conducted at the IBEW Local 98 union hall at 1719 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130 with a provision for absentee balloting. The Local 98 Bylaws provide, “The election shall be decided for the candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast for a specific office (other than Executive Board and Examining Board positions). Local Union Executive Board or Examining Board positions shall be decided for the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes for the respective positions.”

To be eligible to vote, a member must be in good standing. Good standing means that as of the date of the election, the member is not 3 months or more behind in paying dues. Members who are in arrears for 3 or more, but less than 6 months as of June 3, 2023 may regain good standing membership by paying dues (including any applicable late fees and/or reinstatement fees) no later than 3:00 p.m. on June 3, 2023 at the Local 98 Finance Office. Members will be required to pay by check, cash, or money order if paying on the day of the election. Those who are 6 months or more in arrears must apply for reinstatement to membership.

If a member paid dues for the 1st quarter of 2023 (January, February and March), but has not paid dues for the 2nd quarter of 2023 (April, May and June), that member is eligible to vote since that member is not 3 months or more behind in paying dues.

For this supervised election, photo ID (work or state issued) will be required to vote at the polls, for example: driver’s license, employer ID, PIV card, TWIC card, passport, military ID, etc.

RUNOFF ELECTION:

Any runoff election will be conducted under the supervision of the Secretary of Labor only if it involves the offices of President or the five (5) Executive Board members. In the event of a tie vote, that race will proceed to a runoff on a date to be determined at a later time, and another election notice will be sent. The same rules regarding eligibility, request of absentee ballots, and protests will apply to the runoff elections.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

When requesting an absentee ballot, members must include their full name, address on file with the union, address where the member wants the absentee ballot sent, phone number, email address, and union card number. Verbal requests for absentee ballots will not be accepted.

Requests for absentee ballots must be made in writing to OLMS Election Supervisor Angela Menges via email to IBEW98ElectionSupervisor@dol.gov, via text message to (202) 302-9203, via facsimile to (215) 861-4849, or via mail (i.e., regular U.S. mail, FedEx, UPS, etc.). Requests for absentee ballots may be made beginning Thursday, May 4, 2023 and must be received by Friday, June 2, 2023 by 5:00 p.m. Requests for absentee ballots for the runoff election, if needed and if an absentee ballot was not requested for the initial election, may be made beginning Thursday, May 25, 2023 and must be received by Friday, June 23, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.

OLMS will handle absentee ballots for a runoff election only if the runoff involves the offices of President or the five (5) Executive Board members. If a runoff election does not involve the offices of President or the five (5) Executive Board members, requests for absentee ballots must be made in writing to IBEW Local 98 Election Judge Justin Bielec via email to Jbielec98@gmail.com or via text message to (215) 850-7831.

Requesters should keep in mind the time it takes to receive a ballot via USPS in addition to the time it takes to mail the ballot back to the designated Post Office box. Absentee ballots received after 10:30 a.m. on June 3, 2023 for the election and after 10:30 a.m. on June 24, 2023 for the runoff election will not be counted.

PROTESTS:

Any member in good standing may protest the supervised election for valid cause.

OLMS is only supervising the election of the President and five (5) Executive Board members. The additional races (Vice President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Examining Board members) will be conducted without OLMS supervisory authority. As such, the authority to rule on protests regarding the conduct of the election may fall outside the scope of authority of either OLMS or the union during the supervision depending on the issue a member wishes to protest and the races this issue may have impacted.

Protesting Issues Affecting Races Not Subject to OLMS Supervision: Members wishing to protest an issue which only affected races not subject to OLMS' supervision must file a protest with the union according to the protest and appeals procedures described on page 43 of the IBEW Basic Laws & Policies. Pre-election protests must be filed with Election Judge Justin Bielec in writing via email to Jbielec98@gmail.com or via text message to (215) 850-7831 and then with the appropriate International Vice President (IVP) in writing. (No time limit stated.) The decision of the IVP is final. Post-election protests must be filed with the appropriate IVP in writing within 30 days of certification of the election results by the election judge. The decision of the IVP is final. Members wishing to file a complaint with the Department of Labor regarding these matters must first exhaust their internal protests and appeals before making a complaint to the Department of Labor pursuant to Section 402(a) of the LMRDA.

Protesting Issues Affecting Races Subject to OLMS Supervision: Members wishing to protest an issue which only affected races that are subject to OLMS' supervision must file a protest directly to the OLMS Election Supervisor in writing at any time before, during or within 10 days after the election/runoff election. Election protests must be received by OLMS Election Supervisor Angela Menges via email to IBEW98ElectionSupervisor@dol.gov, via text message to (202) 302-9203, via facsimile to (215) 861-4849, or via mail (i.e., regular U.S. mail, FedEx, UPS, etc.) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 for the initial election and no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 for the runoff election.

Protesting Issues Affecting All Races or Uncertain: Members wishing to protest an issue which could have affected races subject to OLMS' supervision and races not subject to OLMS' supervision, OR if the protestor is unsure which races were affected by the issue, they must file a protest with the union and with OLMS. Such protests must adhere to both of the timelines described above. If members need further guidance on how to file a protest, contact OLMS Election Supervisor Angela Menges.

Angela Menges, Election Supervisor
U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Labor-Management Standards
Philadelphia-Pittsburgh District Office
1835 Market Street
Mailstop OLMS/21
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2968
Cell: (202) 302-9203
Fax: (215) 861-4849
Email: IBEW98ElectionSupervisor@dol.gov

Justin Bielec
IBEW Local 98 Election Judge
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Dated: April 18, 2023