

Educational Trust Kashmir

Council of Patrons / Election Authority

ELECTION – 2026

Guidelines for Scrutiny & Interaction of Candidates

Date: 1st October 2026

4th October 2026 has been fixed for the scrutiny of nomination forms and interaction with the candidates contesting the Election–2026 for the posts of President, General Secretary and Chief Organiser of the Educational Trust Kashmir.

The following guidelines shall govern the proceedings:

1. Scrutiny of Nomination Forms

The Election Committee shall scrutinise the nomination forms of all candidates in accordance with the Constitution, applicable Rules and the decisions/orders of the Council of Patrons. This process shall be completed by 2.00 pm on 4th October 2026.

The Committee shall verify: eligibility of the candidate; age and membership requirements; validity of the nomination; proposer/seconder requirements; completeness of the prescribed form and accompanying documents; and compliance with all other prescribed conditions.

Scrutiny shall be confined to matters relevant to the validity and eligibility of the candidature.

The Committee shall keep a note of any deficiency or objection noticed during scrutiny.

The Committee shall prepare a memo about such examination and shall send it to the Council of Patrons along with its recommendations.

2. Interaction with Candidates

Interaction session will start at 2.30 pm on 4th October 2026 at ETK Head Office, Srinagar.

Every candidate whose candidature is under consideration shall be given an opportunity of interaction with the COP. The interaction shall be conducted in a fair, uniform and dignified manner, giving

substantially the same opportunity to all candidates.

The purpose of the interaction shall be to ascertain the candidate's: understanding of the objects and functioning of ETK; vision for the future development of the Trust; understanding of the responsibilities attached to the post; views regarding strengthening of the Trust's educational institutions.

Every candidate shall: maintain decorum and dignity throughout the proceedings; refrain from making personal allegations or derogatory remarks against any other candidate, member or office-bearer; confine the interaction to matters relevant to ETK and the office for which he is contesting; provide truthful and complete information when specifically asked about eligibility or other matters relevant to the candidature; and respect the authority and directions.

3. Consideration & disposal of the Objections

If any objection is raised against the candidature of any candidate, and the objection is found to be of a trivial nature, the same may be disposed of by the Council of Patrons in the meeting itself.

However, where an objection or complaint contains allegations requiring a response from the concerned candidate, a copy thereof shall be furnished to the concerned candidate, calling upon him to submit a reply within such reasonable time as may be specified by the COP.

If the concerned candidate fails to submit his reply within the time so specified, it shall be presumed that the candidate has nothing to state in defence, and the COP may proceed to consider and decide the objection or complaint on the basis of the material available on record.

Where a reply is submitted within the prescribed time, a copy thereof shall be furnished to the candidate who has made the objection or complaint, for information.

The objection or complaint shall thereafter be considered and decided by the COP within a reasonable time, having regard to the nature and circumstances of the case. The COP shall make a written and speaking order accepting or rejecting the objections.

Any representation made by a Life Member who is not himself a candidate in the election shall be considered and examined by the Council of Patrons and shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Rules, and the established past practice, as may be applicable.

Due and reasonable opportunity shall be afforded to every candidate against whom any complaint, allegation or objection has been made or raised, particularly in cases falling within the scope of Rule 6 of

the Educational Trust Kashmir (Election to Central Executive Council) Additional Rules, 2026. The concerned candidate shall be furnished with a copy of the complaint, allegation or objection, and shall be given reasonable opportunity to submit his response before the matter is considered and decided by the Council of Patrons.

No anonymous complaint, message, email, or representation, nor any complaint, allegation, or view expressed or published on social media, shall be entertained or taken cognizance of by the Council of Patrons unless a hard copy thereof, duly signed by the person making the same, is delivered to the office of the Educational Trust Kashmir.

The COP shall maintain a proper record of the scrutiny and interaction, including: attendance of candidates; objections/deficiencies noticed during scrutiny; clarifications furnished by candidates; material decisions taken by the Patrons; and such other matters as may be considered necessary.

The final determination regarding acceptance, rejection or confirmation of any candidature shall be made by the Election Committee in accordance with the directions/decision of the Council of Patrons.

The entire process shall be conducted in a manner that upholds the principles of fairness, transparency, equality, dignity and institutional interest.

No candidate shall use any social media platform or other public forum for posting, publishing, circulating or disseminating any comment, statement or material criticising, questioning or otherwise seeking to influence or undermine the Election Committee or COP, the election process, or the proceedings relating to scrutiny or interaction of candidates.

Any such conduct shall be treated as an act of indiscipline and may attract action against the concerned candidate.

Discipline is of paramount importance in any organisation, particularly in an institution such as the Educational Trust Kashmir, which is founded upon certain established values, traditions and principles of institutional dignity.

Any conduct which amounts to disrespect for the values and traditions of the Trust, publicly criticises or denigrates its office-bearers or the Council of Patrons, or involves the use of derogatory, indecent, insulting or otherwise unbecoming language shall be regarded as an act of indiscipline.

No act of indiscipline, particularly on the part of a person who has submitted his candidature for election to an office in the Trust, can be condoned. A candidate seeking to occupy a responsible position in the Trust is expected to maintain a high standard of decorum, restraint and respect for the institution and its authorities.

It has come to the notice that certain persons who have submitted their candidature have been using social media platforms to make comments or statements concerning the Trust, its office-bearers, Patrons, or the election process which are inconsistent with the standards of conduct expected of a prospective office-bearer.

All candidates are, therefore, advised to exercise restraint and to desist from making or circulating through social media or any other public forum any derogatory, indecent, disparaging or otherwise objectionable remarks concerning the Trust, its office-bearers, the Council of Patrons, or the election process.

Any such conduct, if established, may be treated as an act of indiscipline and may invite appropriate disciplinary action including cancellation of the candidature at any stage.

**Council of Patrons
Educational Trust Kashmir**

1st October 2026