



**American Legion Post #166 of
The American Legion
116 Howe Hall Road
Goose Creek, SC 29445
Telephone 843-553-5454 Office**
*2024 Election Policy and Procedures
Annual Post Election Wednesday 15 May 2024*

Post 166 By-Laws, Article 5, Election and appointment of Officers, governs the annual Post 166 election of Post 166 Officers

- The Election Committee has the responsibility to ensure the integrity of the election of Post Officers.
- The Election Committee is composed of 2 past Post Officers in good standing who are not candidates in the current election.
- The Commander nominates the 2 members of the Election Committee at the February General Membership Meeting on 21 February 2024.
- Election Committee nominees must be approved by majority vote of Post members present at the February General Membership Meeting.

Specific Rules Applicable for the Voting Process and Procedures

Here are specific rules for the conduct of the election process.

1. All candidates for elective office and appointed officers **MUST** be confirmed by the Election Committee that they hold valid Post 166 membership card and are eligible to serve.

2. The Election Committee will obtain a consolidated Post 166 membership roster to validate eligibility of member to vote.
3. The Election will follow the guidelines in **The American Legion 2023 Officer's Guide**, (pages 103 to 104)

* **Ballots** will be given to identified voting members only. The name of the candidates for each office will be printed on the ballot. **The identity of the voter must not be written or indicated in any way on the ballot since it is a secret vote.**

* The vote cast for each office must be preserved in such a manner that if the election is questioned; the votes may be verified by a recount. If printed ballots are used, the Election Committee places the voted ballots in a seal packet together with its report (signed by the Election Committee) and delivers the sealed packet to the Adjutant. This packet shall NOT be opened except by order of the Executive Board for the purpose of verifying the vote or destroying the packet.

* Elected Candidates will be determined by popular vote. The Commander announces who was elected to each of the Offices.

4. Election results will be published.
5. It shall be the sole responsibility of the 2 appointed members of the Election Committee to certify the results of the election.
6. The Election Committee is authorized to remove a candidate from the ballot if that person refuses to comply with the Election Rules or instructions of the Election Committee.
7. A complete list will be published on the Post 166 website of confirmed candidates after final nominations on Wednesday 17 April 2024.

Additional Rules for voting at the Post

1. Polls will be opened and Post members may vote any time during the 9 1/2 hour period 10:00am to 7:30pm, on the day of election (Wednesday 15 May 2024) at Post 166.

2. Neither Proxy voting nor absentee voting will be permitted. Post members **MUST** be present to Vote.
3. Ballots will be counted after the polls close at 7:30pm, Wednesday 15 May 2024. Preliminary counting of ballots may begin before 7:30pm at the discretion of the Election Committee.
4. The Election Committee may appoint other Post 166 members in good standing who are not running for Office to check membership cards, hand out Ballots, and assist in counting and recording ballots.
5. A post member in good standing support a slate or candidate—but who is candidate—may request to observe the ballot counting in the closed ballot counting area. The Election Committee shall have the sole authority to accept or deny this request. Any observers admitted to the closed ballot area shall not touch any of the ballots or equipment and will remain well clear of the ballot counters and their equipment. They shall not in any way impede the ballot counting activity.
6. A candidate can only be nominated to **ONE** elected office.
7. Upon completion of Post 166 election of officers, the candidate who ran for an elected office and was not elected will be offered/nominated to fill a position and serve on the Executive Committee.
8. Election of Executive Committee will be held following the announcement of Post Officers.
9. This process will be updated annually by the Post Commander and his Election Committee.