2018
Homecoming
King and Queen
Elections Packet

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Important Dates and Deadlines:
2018 Homecoming Queen Elections

Friday, October 5th, 2018:
Homecoming King and Queen Nomination forms due by 5:00 P.M.  
**Nominations will only be accepted online and can be found at: www.utm.edu\election.**

Monday, October 8th, 2018:  
**Mandatory Meeting for all candidates will be at 6:00 P.M. in the SGA Office. Room 245 of the University Center.**

Wednesday, October 10th, 2018:  
Campaign through speaking and engagements and use of internet may begin.  
Distribution and hanging of approved paper endorsements, posters, and flyers may begin.

Friday, October 12th, 2018:  
Candidate’s biographies are due to the Election Commissioner via e-mail by midnight (jasprepa@ut.utm.edu).

Tuesday, October 23rd, 2018:  
Introduction of King and Queen Candidates at SAC Lip Sync-7:00 P.M., North Lawn of the Elam Center.

Wednesday, October 24th, 2018:  
Homecoming King and Queen Elections – 10am – 6pm – Vote online at www.utm.edu/election.  
Top 5 vote recipients for King and Queen will be notified that they will make up the Homecoming Court.

Thursday, October 25th, 2018:  
Homecoming Queen Run-off Elections **(if needed)** – 10am – 6pm – www.utm.edu/election

Thursday, October 25th, 2018:  
Members of the Homecoming Court must email the Elections Commissioner by 5:00pm to confirm your biography and identify your escort for the Crowning ceremony.

Friday, October 26th, 2018:  
Members of the 2018 Homecoming Court will be recognized at the Pyramid Show and Pep Rally. 7:00pm – Elam Center.

Saturday, October 27th, 2018:  
Crowning of the 2018 Homecoming King and Queen, halftime of Homecoming football game.  
The game kicks off at 2pm. Homecoming Court members will meet at the home side concession stand when the game reaches 2 minutes remaining in the 2nd Quarter.

Tuesday, October 30th, 2018:  
All campaign material must be disposed of by 5:00 P.M.
Section I: Elections Qualifications

Article 1: A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must be a full-time student at this university to qualify as a 2018 Homecoming King or Queen Nominee.

Article 2: A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must have a GPA of at least 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.

Article 3: A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must be sponsored by a registered student organization. Candidates can only be sponsored by one organization. Organizations can only sponsor one candidate.

Article 4: All students seeking Homecoming King or Queen Candidacy must complete a Homecoming Queen Nomination form online by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 5th, 2018. Nomination forms may be completed through the following link http://www.utm.edu/election.

Upon completion of the nomination form, an email will be sent to your organization president to approve or deny your nomination. Nominations must be approved by the organization president to be valid.

No late forms will be allowed or accepted.

*Note: Each nominee is responsible for verifying their nomination. The Election Commissioner will reply when they receive your completed, accepted nomination form. If the nominee does not receive verification, it is the candidate’s responsibility to follow up with the Elections Commissioner.
Section II: Eligible Voters and Representation

Article 1:
All enrolled students at the University of Tennessee at Martin are eligible to vote for Homecoming King and Queen. In order to win the title of Homecoming King or Queen, a candidate must receive the majority vote. If there is a tie on Election Day, a run-off election will be held the following day between the two candidates tied candidates.

Article 2:
All eligible students are only permitted to vote once per Election Day. If a run-off election is held, all previous votes become null and all eligible students are permitted to vote again.

Article 3:
Election Polling
a. Student polling will be located:
   - 1st Floor of the University Center
   - Online from any computer at www.utm.edu/election

b. The voting location in the University Center is off limits to any campaign paraphernalia including but not limited to: posters, flyers, pins, or t-shirts.
c. The turning of campaign shirts inside out while around the booth is not permitted.

*Exception: Voters may wear a pin or t-shirt advocating a candidate while voting. This is with the understanding that the voter will vote and then leave the polling area. If the presence of a voter wearing a t-shirt or pin is deemed obsessive, the Election Officials may ask the said person to leave. If the voter refuses to leave the polling location, the candidate who he/she is affiliated with shall be reported to the Election Commissioner.
Section III: Campaign Rules

Article 1: Candidates are limited to six (6) posters per academic building (i.e. six posters in Humanities, six posters in Fine Arts, six posters in Brehm Hall, etc.). Any posters, campaigning materials, or speech slandering other candidates can result in referral to Student Court, and possible disqualification. Posters are anything larger than a standard 8.5x11 sheet of paper.
The buildings available to place campaign posters are:
- Andy Holt Humanities Building
- Joseph E. Johnson EPS Building
- Communications Building
- Gooch Hall
- Brehm Hall
- Fine Arts Building

These are the only buildings available to place posters in. If candidates place more than one name on a poster, the poster shall count as one poster for each candidate. Therefore, the Election Commissioner will allow poster sharing, but any poster with a candidate’s name or image will count as a poster towards the six poster limit. No poster shall be hung prior to Wednesday, October 10th, 2018.
*Note: Posters must be approved by the building manager where each poster is hung.

Article 2: Flyers are limited to twenty per building.
The buildings available to place campaign flyers are:
- Andy Holt Humanities Building
- Joseph E. Johnson EPS Building
- Communications Building
- Gooch Hall
- Brehm Hall
- Fine Arts Building

These are the only buildings available to place flyers in. If candidates place more than one name on a flyer, the flyer shall count as one flyer for each candidate. Therefore, flyer sharing is allowed by the Elections Commissioner, but any flyer with a candidate’s name or image will count as a flyer towards the twenty flyer limit. No flyer shall be hung or distributed prior to Wednesday, October 10th, 2018.
*Note: Flyers must be approved by the building manager where each flyer is hung.

The current building manager list is posted on the University Relations webpage.

Article 3: Campaign materials are allowed to be placed in the residence halls. Keep all flyers, posters, etc. to a maximum of 6 in any combination. No campaign materials shall be hung or distributed in the dorms prior to Wednesday, October 10th, 2018.
*Note: All campaign material placed in the residence halls must be approved and permission must be granted by the Hall Director of the respective hall before hanging or distributing.

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Article 4:
Signs are limited to the quad. A candidate may only place 3 signs on campus. Signs are any paper, plastic, poster board, wood, banner, and etc. document with a candidate’s name, student organization, or picture. All signs must have the approval of Tim Nipp, Director of the Physical Plant, before being posted on campus. Tim Nipp can be contacted at 731-881-7601.

Sidewalk chalk is not permitted.
No sign shall be distributed prior to Wednesday, October 10th, 2018.
*Note: Stakes should not be used to place signs because of wiring and plumbing considerations.

Article 5:
Candidates are responsible for the clean-up of all campaign paraphernalia before 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 30th, 2018.

Article 6:
No campaign material is to be placed on the exterior of buildings, trees, light poles, garbage cans, glass, marble, or painted surfaces. Material can only be placed on approved bulletin boards inside the buildings.

Article 7:
The use of social media is allowed for campaigning, but slanderous attacks will be investigated and may result in punishment for the candidate. No electronic campaigning shall begin prior to the formal campaigning period.

Article 8:
All candidates must submit a brief biography of themselves to be read at the Crowning ceremony. Biographies should include the nominee’s major, extra-curricular actives, etc. Biographies should be between 0-100 words. Please submit your biography via e-mail to the Election Commissioner by midnight on Friday, October 12th, 2018.
*Note: Biographies can/may be printed in the UTM Pacer and will be as is. It is your responsibility to edit your biography and have it suitable for publication.

Article 9:
Any complaint about the election process shall be submitted typed in duplicate to the SGA Elections Commissioner.

Article 10:
Candidates are responsible for any advertisement that contains their name, image, student organization or logo. Posters, flyers, and online endorsement placed by parties other than the individual (i.e. fraternities, sororities, campus organizations, etc.) with a candidate’s name, image, etc. are subject to the limitations and restrictions previously stated in this packet.

Article 11:
No material or online endorsement shall be distributed or circulated of a negative nature. Name-calling, slander, and/or other offensive activities are prohibited. Any campaigning deemed unethical or negative by the Elections Commissioner will be addressed critically and could result in candidate disqualification.

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Article 12:
Speaking engagements and verbal campaigning are allowed in the University Center until 10:00 pm on October 23rd, 2018. At no time during the election day(s) may a candidate campaign by setting up tables in the University Center. A table may be set up outside the University Center, but must be at least 30 feet from the door. Upon October 24, 2018, this location becomes an official polling location and campaigning within the building could result in penalties. Absolutely no campaign materials may be placed or distributed in the University Center at any time during voting.

Article 13:
On election day(s) candidates and/or student organizations may not solicit votes by use of laptop or any other electronic device. This behavior will result in the referral to Student Court, and possible disqualification. It is the candidate’s responsibility to enforce the rule. If someone campaigning for the candidate is soliciting votes for a candidate without the candidate’s knowledge, it is up to the candidate to find out and stop the person from doing so.
*Example: Beth is running for Queen and sets up a table in the quad with a laptop with a link to the SGA’s website and says, “Hey! Have you voted yet? Vote for me right here.”

Article 14:
No election or campaign rule shall supersede any existing University rule, policy, or regulation, which places restrictions on general student practice or behavior. Should election and University guidelines conflict, the more restrictive rule shall take precedence.

Disclaimer:
The SGA Elections Commissioner has the right to meet and discuss any potential violation and declare new rules upon questionable Election practices.

Student Government Association’s Constitution, Article VII, Section 3, A: The Elections Commission shall bring any violators of the election rules and regulations as authorized by this Constitution and its By-Laws to the attention of the Procedures Committee at any time during or within one week after an election. The Procedures Committee shall then vote whether to bring charges against the said candidate to the Senate. The Student Court shall have final decision concerning these matters.
Section IV:
Mandatory Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all candidates on **Monday, October 8th, 2018** at 6:00pm in the SGA Office in the University Center. All homecoming king and queen candidates must attend. If a homecoming candidate cannot attend, the candidate must send someone in their place. That is, each homecoming candidate must be represented at this meeting.

The Election Commissioner will be present to go over the campaign rules, to answer any and all questions regarding the Homecoming Elections packet, and to provide information regarding events leading up to the crowning ceremony.

If you have any questions regarding the Homecoming packet or the election, please contact the Election Commissioner:

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SGA Homecoming Court Bio Template

Please include the following information in a paragraph form to read during the half-time activities at the homecoming football game:

Name: ________________________________

Organization Representing: ________________________________

Major: ________________________________

Hometown: ____________________________

Parents Names: ____________________________________________

At least three extracurricular activities:
___________________________________
___________________________________
___________________________________

Example Paragraph:

Ms. Jane Doe is representing the XYZ Sorority in 2018 SGA Homecoming Court elections. Jane is a Music major from Jackson, Tennessee. She is the daughter of Mr. John Doe and Mrs. Sally Doe. Jane is very active on campus as the President XYZ Sorority and a member of the History Club and Spanish Club.