

## **Factsheet:**

### **Running for a SSAGO Executive Committee Position**

*Last updated: January 2021*

#### **Introduction**

This factsheet briefly explains how to run for a position on the National Executive Committee of SSAGO at an AGM.

#### **What do the Exec do?**

The National SSAGO Executive (usually just shortened to Exec) is made up of 5 SSAGO members who are elected at the AGM and then spend 12 months running national SSAGO. It is very similar to how clubs work with their committees but the Exec can be from all over the country and are responsible for all aspects of SSAGO from communicating with Girlguiding and The Scouts, organising support events, ensuring membership fees are paid, supporting clubs and members through disputes or disagreements, and overseeing the national events and all our financing. The Exec can be identified by their pink merchandise and are there to make SSAGO the best it can be for all its members.

#### **Can I run for Exec?**

Running for Exec is a fantastic thing to do and if you are a full member you can probably run for a position. The only people who aren't eligible to run are associate members, anyone who has already served 3 terms on the Exec and anyone who is on a committee for a national event.

#### **What positions are there?**

The Exec is made up of; Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer and Publicity Officer. For more information on each position see the 'Executive Role Descriptions' Policy Document.

If you want to know more about a position, do get in contact with the current Exec, they are the best port of call for any advice! They can be contacted on their email addresses listed below, or can all be found on Facebook and are happy to be messaged.

Chair - [chair@ssago.org](mailto:chair@ssago.org)

Secretary - [secretary@ssago.org](mailto:secretary@ssago.org)

Treasurer - [treasurer@ssago.org](mailto:treasurer@ssago.org)

Membership - [membership@ssago.org](mailto:membership@ssago.org)

Publicity - [publicity@ssago.org](mailto:publicity@ssago.org)

### **How do I run for Exec?**

In order to run for the National Exec, you need to apply at [vote.ssago.org](http://vote.ssago.org). You will need to write a manifesto explaining why you think you would be good for the role and what you want to achieve in your 12-month term. Remember this manifesto is what a lot of SSAGO will use to decide on their votes so make your words count!

You will also need to find someone to propose you (your proposer) and someone to second you. These both need to be current student members who are from different clubs from both you and each other. Your proposer will need to write a paragraph explaining why they think you are a good candidate, and also needs to be willing to give a quick speech at the AGM.

### **Can I campaign?**

No. Electioneering (or campaigning) is banned within SSAGO. All the manifestos will be fairly and evenly displayed before the elections, candidates must not publicise their own bid.

### **How does the election process work?**

It is usual that the Returning Officer or a substitute for that person attends the AGM to run the election process. As a candidate you will be invited to the floor and usually given a few minutes to justify why you would like the position you are running for. The meeting will be opened for questions, these can be both sensible and silly so be prepared.

Once questioning is over the election process will take place either by show of hands or by secret ballot (you may be asked to leave the room). Unless there are any major concerns you will be informed before the end of AGM as to whether or not you have been successful in running for your chosen position.

### **Running from the floor**

Occasionally there will be a position that has had no candidates run for it before the AGM. If this is the case it is usually opened to the floor at the AGM for candidates. Those wishing to run in this process need to be Student Members of SSAGO and have someone prepared to nominate and second them (these don't need to be gathered beforehand but knowing people in SSAGO is a good idea!). It is usual that if people run from the floor they get a chance to explain why they would like the position. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions.

If you are considering running for a position on the SSAGO Executive Committee it is always best to plan ahead and put a manifesto together. No one is ever sure, until the announcement of nominations, who is running and therefore relying on no one running to be able to run from the floor is not a good idea.