

~ NOTES ~



AERIE POLICIES

**THE  
BALLOTING  
PROCEDURE**

*Compiled by the Past Presidents of Aerie 2726*

**W.P.:** Worthy Conductor [*salutation sign*], prepare the ballot box.

*[The Worthy Conductor shall get the ballot box from its allotted location and then make certain that the ballot box has all its balls in the selection side of the box. Once this is done, he shall thereupon present the ballot box to the Worthy President for inspection, and then shall take it to the Worthy Vice-President for inspection. Both the Worthy President and the Worthy Vice-President shall check that all balls are on the selection side of the ballot box.]*

**W.P.:** Worthy Vice-President [*salutation sign*], how do you find the ballot box?

**W.V-P.:** Worthy President, I find the ballot box clear.

**W.P.:** I too find the ballot box clear. I now declare balloting open on these several applicants. Remember Brothers—white ball elects, black ball rejects.

*[The Worthy Conductor shall then present the ballot box to the following officers, in the order of Worthy President, Junior Past Worthy President, Worthy Vice-President, Worthy Chaplain, and thereafter place it upon the Altar. Each officer rises, gives the salutation sign to the Worthy President and once the salutation sign is returned, he votes.]*

**W.P.:** Those Brothers wishing to vote may now do so.

*[To ballot, members advance to the Altar, give the Worthy President the salutation sign, and once it is returned they vote then return to their seats. While the balloting is taking place, the Worthy Conductor shall stand two paces from the Altar on the audience side of the room, permitting members to ballot in such a way that no member sees the ballot cast by another member. For each ballot cast beyond the initial four, the Worthy Conductor shall announce the count verbally.]*

**W.P.:** Have all those voted who wish to do so? [*He waits for confirmation from the members present*]

If so, I then declare balloting closed and Worthy Conductor, you may take the ballot box to the Worthy Vice-President for his inspection.

*[The Worthy Conductor presents the ballot box to the Worthy Vice-President for inspection and after such inspection then presents the ballot box to the Worthy President for his inspection. Both shall check the result side of the ballot box at this time. Should the number of ballots cast differ from the number that the Worthy Conductor last announced, and this difference is confirmed verbally with the Worthy Conductor, the Worthy President shall declare the ballot spoiled and begin the balloting procedure again from the beginning]*

*If the inspection confirms the accuracy of the ballot count announced by the Worthy Conductor, the next step of the procedure will occur.*

**[Robert's Rules of Order require that all votes by ballot result in a majority decision. If more than half those voting have used white balls, then the result is favorable; if more than half used black balls then the result is unfavorable.]**

**W.P.:** Worthy Vice-President [*salutation sign*], how do you find the ballot?

**W.V-P.:** Worthy President, I find the ballot favorable/unfavorable to the candidate(s).

**W.P.:** I too find the ballot favorable/unfavorable to the candidate(s).

*Should the ballot be unfavorable, and the candidates having been voted upon collectively, the Aerie shall proceed to vote again, but upon each candidate separately.*

*Should any candidate then be rejected, the Worthy President, if in his judgment the interests of the Order so demand, may immediately award a second ballot to such applicant, before any other business shall intervene.*

*Should the ballot be favorable to the candidate(s), the Worthy Conductor places the ballot box on the Altar.]*

**W.P.:** Those wishing to inspect the ballot may now do so.

*Members shall advance to the Altar and inspect the ballot in the same manner in which they would have voted, giving the salutation sign and then returning to their seats.*

**W.P.:** Have all inspected the ballot who wished to do so? Then, Worthy Conductor, you may destroy the ballot. I now declare this/these applicant(s) duly elected/rejected and eligible/ineligible for the Ceremony of Initiation.

*[The Worthy Conductor returns all balls to the selection side of the ballot box, places it in its allotted location and then returns to his seat.]*