



## Voting Procedures at General Meetings

### Amendments:

Date	Action
16 Oct 2024	Amended
18 Sep 2025	Amended

### 1. General.

- a. Only Members are entitled to vote.
  - i. In accordance with the Companies Act 2006, Articles of Association of the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust incorporated on 4th June 2003, as amended by special resolution dated 23 November 2022. Clause 1.3.3; *is a Nuffield Scholar or an Honorary Nuffield Scholar or a member of the Trustee Board or the Selection Committee, in all cases who pays at least the Qualifying Donation to the Charity.*
  - ii. Membership for scholars yet to present, or due to present at the 2024 Conference is funded via their scholarship e.g. a 2024 or 2025 Nuffield Farming scholar is a Member funded by their scholarship.
- b. The normal method of NFST Voting at General Meetings will be by a 'show of hands' of those entitled to vote;
- c. Decision making by this method will be restricted to 'single option'/'yes – no' choices;
- d. Whenever practical business requiring a decision by vote will be sequenced into a number of 'yes – no' choices to allow voting by 'show of hands';
- e. When the Chair considers that there is unanimous approval of a resolution he/she may seek any dissension before announcing a decision by acclamation;
- f. When a 'multiple choice' vote is unavoidable (for example, on occasion when there are more than two members standing for an election for more than one vacancy on the Trust Board) then an e-vote or paper vote will be held.

### 2. Voting by 'Show of Hands':

- a. The Chair will state the resolution and seek a 'Proposer' and 'Seconder' whose names will be recorded;
- b. The Chair will then invite members to 'raise their hands' to, in turn:
  - i. Support the resolution, then;
  - ii. Oppose the resolution;
- c. 'Raised Hands' will be counted by the Director (or other nominated Trustee Board Member) and also by 'Teller(s)' (who will normally be NFST Members at large). Numbers of votes counted will be agreed before moving onto the next 'show of hands';
- d. Decisions will be made by simple majority with the Chair of the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust AGM, having a second or casting vote in the case of an equity of votes.
- e. The Chair will announce the decision of the meeting and record the numbers of votes 'for' and 'against' the resolution.

3. Holding an e-Vote: e-voting was introduced at the 2024 AGM to elect Members to serve as Trustees of the Trust, enabling over 160 members to vote.
  - a. Members will be sent the e-voting link with the formal calling notice for the AGM.
  - b. The e-voting link will include;
    - i. Statement of the resolution requiring a vote;
    - ii. List of those standing for election with their application and 2 min video;
    - iii. Clear indication of the number of votes a Member is entitled to record (for 2025 this will be three (3));
    - iv. Clearly defined 'boxes' for recording the vote(s);
    - v. Space for recording the name of the Member and their email address – to enable checking of the entitlement to vote.
  - c. Survey Monkey, the e-voting platform, automatically records the date and time of the vote.
  
4. Procedure for Election of Trustees. At each Annual General Meeting new trustees will be elected as follows:
  - a. The recommendations of the Trustee Board are formally announced. This could be nominations for chair or vice-chair and co-opted Trustees;
  - b. The new Returning Scholar Trustee elected by the year group is formally adopted by the Membership;
  - c. The new Non-Scholar External Advisor(s) recommended by the Trustee Board are formally adopted by the Membership;
  - d. An election of new Nuffield Scholar Trustees is held from all applicants:
    - i. The proposer and seconder of each applicant will be announced;
    - ii. When the number of applicants is less than or equal to the number of vacancies on the Trustee Board each applicant will be voted for by a show of hands;
    - iii. When the number of applicants is more than the number of vacancies on the Trustee Board an e-vote, of paid-up Members will be held using an e-voting link, with application and 2 min video, sent to Members in advance;
    - iv. The e voting will be open from **1200 on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025 until 1200 on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025**. Any votes received outside these dates and times will be void.
    - v. Those candidates that have been elected by the e-vote will be announced for Members to endorse at the AGM on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, which starts at 5.30pm in Room 4 at P&J Live.