

FACT SHEET 9: ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT

Election

The President is elected at the P&C Association's AGM (see fact sheet: Annual General Meeting)

Duties

The President is responsible for:

- The successful functioning of the P&C Association
- The attainment of the P&C Association's objectives
- Ensuring that the P&C Association takes part in decision-making processes in the school
- Fostering fair participation of all members and ensuring that all new members are made to feel welcome
- Supporting volunteers
- Consistent adherence to the constitution
- Acting as the P&C Association's spokesperson when public statements or actions are needed
- Setting up lines of communication with the Principal
- Being signatory on the Association's bank accounts
- Chairing meetings (see fact sheet: Chairing Meetings) but, in the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents will chair the meeting or the meeting can elect a chairperson from the members present for that meeting.

Voting

The President is entitled to the same voting rights as any member. However, a President, when in the Chair, often abstains from voting in order to preserve the impartiality of the position.

The person chairing a meeting does not have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote. In the event of a tied vote, the motion should be lost.

Sub-committees

The President is automatically a member of all P&C sub-committees. The President should be informed of all sub-committee meetings and decisions, this would occur through written report.

An experienced President gives opportunities to the Vice-Presidents to develop their skills in chairing meetings. Federation recommends that a vice-president be delegated to chair part of a meeting. The training process could also include delegating the responsibility of sub-committee leadership to vice-presidents.

The President also has important responsibilities outside of meetings and is looked to as a leader of the parent community.

The President does not make unilateral decisions and should be mindful that all public statements accurately represent the views of the association.