

So you're about to...

Run BBG Elections



**A Mountain Region 65th Term N'siah Release
Compiled with love by Rachel Caryn Baer**

Table of Contents

What to bring to Elections.....	2
Opening Elections.....	3-4
Explaining Elections.....	5
BBG Voting Oath.....	6
For Caucused Candidates.....	7
For Nominated Candidates.....	8
For Slide Overs.....	9
For Unopposed Candidates.....	10
Questions, Platform, & Speeches.....	11-13
Voting.....	14-15
Closing Up.....	16

What to bring to Elections

Use this list as an easy checklist to use right before you leave so you don't forget anything important!



Gavel



Ballots (You must make these ahead of time!)



Your Red Book



Your BBG Pins



A list of all caucused candidates



Timer



This packet (or notes of your own)



Pens or pencils



Copies of the BBG Voting Oath (on page 6)



Hat/bowl/bag to put ballots in

How to Open Elections

Opening Ceremonies

Run opening ceremonies just like you would any other business meeting.

Roll Call

Have the Katvanit perform roll call (if she's absent, it's the Mazkirah's duty) noting who can and cannot vote. Guests and non-paid members cannot vote.

After everyone has been accounted for, have the Katvanit present the numbers to you. For example, she will say,

Katvanit: "My sister N'siah, there are 28 present and 24 voting."

To find the majority, which a candidate needs to win, you need half of the voting number plus one. In this example, the majority would be 13 ($24/2=12$, $12+1=13$)

****REMEMBER** if someone leaves the room during elections, they forfeit their vote and the majority must be recalculated.**

Move into Elections

N'siah: "Is there a motion off the floor to dispense with all business at hand and move directly into the election of (chapter)'s _____ term board?"

....

N'siah: "Is there a second?"

...

N'siah: "Is there a call?"

...

N'siah: "Is there any dissent? Dissent? Dissent? Hearing none and seeing none, we will now move into Elections."

Explaining Elections

What to Cover

In every chapter, there are girls that don't know what elections are all about or even how they are run. So you should always take a few short minutes to explain.

Try to cover...



The order of elections (descending)



The effort that caucused girls put into this



That people who are nominated get one minute to state QUALIFICATIONS ONLY



What slide overs mean and how they work



How important it is to not talk and be respectful



The rule about showing emotions

BBG Voting Oath

Every B'nai B'rith Girl in your elections ceremony must take the BBG Voting Oath written below. Have them say it in call and response form, it is written below.

The Oath

I am a B'nai B'rith Girl and I will make a decision today based on the ideals I believe in and what I believe will best represent those of (Chapter Name).

I am a B'nai B'rith Girl and I will vote for the girl who inspires, motivates, and encourages others to be leaders.

I am a B'nai B'rith Girl and I will vote for the girl who offers to help before it is asked.

I am a B'nai B'rith Girl and I will vote for a girl who attends programs and supports this chapter.

I am a B'nai B'rith Girl and I will vote for a candidate based on her experience, qualifications, goals, & dreams; NOT ON OUR FRIENDSHIP.

For I am a B'nai B'rith Girl!!!

Caucused Candidates

Ask For a Motion

N'siah: "Is there a motion off the floor to move into the election of N'siah? Second? Call? Dissent? Seeing none, hearing none, we will now move into the election of N'siah."

Recognize

N'siah: "All those caucused for the high and honorable position of N'siah, please rise (rap gavel), rise (rap gavel), rise (rap gavel), and remain standing."

N'siah: "I recognize in alphabetical order (insert names)."

N'siah: "(Name), if elected will you serve?" *rap gavel* X3

If yes- "If elected, (name) will serve."

If no- "(name) will not serve."

Moving Forward

Depending on your chapter's policy and what position you're on, go to page 8 for nominated candidates, page 9 for sliding candidates or page 10 for questions, platforms, & speeches.

Nominated Candidates

Ask the Chapter

N'siah: "Are there any nominations off the floor for (position)."

Accept nominations and write them down

N'siah: "Are there any more nominations, nominations, nominations?" Seeing none nominations are now closed.

Recognize

N'siah: "I recognize (nominated candidates in alphabetical order)."

N'siah: "(Name), please rise. If elected will you serve?" *rap gavel* X3

**If yes- "If elected, (name) will serve."
If no- "(name) will not serve."**

Moving Forward

Depending on your chapter's policy and what position you're on, go to page 9 for sliding candidates or page 10 for questions, platforms, & speeches.

Sliding Candidates

Ask Candidates

Ask the losing candidates from previous elections if they would like to slide to the position currently being elected. Write down those that say yes.

Recognize

N'siah: "I recognize (sliding candidates in descending order. i.e. candidates who lost for N'siah, then S'ganit, etc.)."

N'siah: "(Name), please rise. If elected will you serve?" *rap gavel* X3

**If yes- "If elected, (name) will serve."
If no- "(name) will not serve."**

Moving Forward

Now that you have recognized all types of candidates, go to page 10 for questions, platforms, & speeches.

Unopposed Candidates

Is there a Motion?

N'siah: Is there a motion off the floor to elect (name) as (position) on a standing white roll-call ballot? Second? Call? Dissent?

SOMEONE SHOULD DISSENT!!

Member: "I dissent! I would like to see her platform and hear her speech first!"

Go to page 10 and treat them like a caucused candidate. After that is over and the dissent has been withdrawn, the candidate can be accepted on a standing white roll-call ballot as let by the Katvanit.

Q&A, Speeches, & Platforms

Finding Questions

Send all the candidates out of the room with an advisor.

Ask the chapter for questions to ask each candidate relating to the position and how its responsibilities are going to be carried out.

How you ask the questions depends on chapter tradition. There are two options: you write them down and read all of them or the girls who came up with the question come up and read theirs.

****REMEMBER** No matter what option you use, each question must be given to every candidate with the same wording and in the same order.**

Bring 'em in

Call in the candidates in the same order they were recognized:

- 1. Caucused- alphabetical**
- 2. Nominated- alphabetical**
- 3. Slide Overs- descending**

Calling candidates to the floor shoo bop-do-wa-do-wada, bop bop! (Name), (name), we want more, shoo bop-do-wa-do-wada, bop bop!

Platforms

Have the candidate pass out their platform. Make sure those who are voting have them before those who are not.

N'siah: "You have 2 minutes to explain your platform. I will rap the gavel once when you have 1 minute left, twice when there are 30 seconds left, and 3 times when you are done. I will start the timer when you begin."

Questions

N'siah: "We will now be moving into questions. You will have as much time as you want to think, but only 1 minute to answer. I will rap the gavel once when you have 30 seconds and twice when you are done. The timer will start when you do."

Each chapter does questions differently according to chapter tradition, but follow your tradition and move onto "Speeches" when you're finished.

Caucused Speech

N'siah: "You will have __ minutes to read your speech. I will rap the gavel once when you have one minute left, twice when there are 30 seconds, and 3 times when you're done. The timer starts when you do."

Nominated Speech

N'siah: "You will have one minute to state qualifications and qualifications ONLY. That means no adjectives! If you say something that isn't a qualification, you will be interrupted and stopped. The timer starts when you do."

Slide-Over Speech

N'siah: "You will have one minute to state your goals and ideas for this position in addition to why you think you are the best candidate. I will rap the gavel once when you have 30 seconds left and twice when you're finished. The timer starts when you do."

Rinse & Repeat

Once a candidate has finished their speech, WITHOUT EMOTION, start calling the next candidate to the floor and repeat the process starting on page 11. After there are no more candidates, WITHOUT EMOTION, call in all candidates and move onto page 13.

Let's Start Voting!

Casting Ballots

N'siah: "We will now vote on (choose picture). Your choices are (name candidates) or abstain. A-B-S-T-A-I-N. If you abstain it's as if you weren't even here. It also lowers the majority so it takes fewer votes for a candidate to win. For your vote to count, you must correctly spell your choice and vote on the correct picture.

****ENSURE ABSOLUTE SILENCE UNTIL YOU LEAVE THE ROOM****

Collect ballots in descending order (start with yourself, S'ganit, then Morah, etc.). Leave the gavel with the S'ganit and leave the room with an advisor to count votes.

Counting Ballots

Remember the majority you calculated at the start of elections and double check that no one has forfeited their vote by leaving.

Before looking at who voted for who, make sure you have the correct number of ballots and that they are all on the same square.

Open the ballots and place them in piles by candidate.

Count the abstains first because that will change the majority. Calculate what 50% + 1 of the vote will now be.

If a majority is not reached, go to into a run off election. If there are more than 2 candidates and a majority is not achieved, the run off will be between every candidate besides the one that got the least amount of votes. If there are only 2, the options stay the same.

If a majority is reached, go to “Announcing”

Announcing

Remind everyone that no emotion should ever be shown.

Members should ask questions like, “Is there a N’siah in the house?” “Is she Jewish?” “Is she beautiful inside and out?” etc. These questions should apply to all the candidates.

N’siah: “Our new (position) is _____.”

Back to the Top!

Return to page 7 and repeat this process until you have finished electing your new Chapter board!

Closing Ceremonies

Is there a Motion?

N'siah: "Is there a motion off the floor to move out of elections and into closing ceremonies? Second? Call? Dissent? Seeing none we will now move into closing ceremonies."

Go through with closing ceremonies as usual.

CONGRATS ON A FANTASTIC TERM AND RUNNING FLAWLESS ELECTIONS!!! YOU ARE A ROCKSTAR N'SIAH!!

Submitted with undying love for Kiviat BBG, Mountain Region #47, proper branding, new beginnings, and the International Order of the B'nai B'rith Girls, I forever remain

**Rachel "Sweetie Pie" Baer
65th Mountain Region N'siah**