

Grower Representative Member Voting process - 2017 Q&As



Voting process

Which areas have received more nominations than positions vacant and now proceed to a voting process?

We have received more nominations than positions available including in the Burdekin (Kalamia, Invicta, Pioneer and Inkerman), Northern (South Johnstone) and Southern (Bingera and Millaquin) regions. This means we are now required to conduct elections in these regions. In other regions, we have received the same number of nominations equal to the number of positions available.

Who can vote?

To vote for a grower representative for your mill area, you must be a sugar cane grower who supplies sugar cane under contract to a mill in your mill area.

When do votes have to be submitted by?

Signed voting papers must be lodged with QSL by no later than 5pm QLD time on Friday 18 August 2017.

What if I live in one mill area but supply sugar cane under contract to a mill in a different mill area?

You must vote for a representative for the mill area in which the mill that you have a cane supply agreement is situated. For example, if you have a contract to supply sugar cane to a mill in the Southern Region, then you can only vote for the grower representative nominees for the Southern Region (Bingera and Millaquin mill area).

If I own more than one farm, how many votes do I get?

You have one vote only. Every sugar cane grower who supplies sugar cane under contract to a mill in your area has only one vote. It does not matter how many farms you own.

If both my husband/wife and I own a farm, do we each get a vote?

Yes, you each get a vote. One vote per grower.

I have several ABNs, do I get a vote for each?

No, you only get one vote.

If I have more than one cane supply agreement, do I get more than one vote?

No, you only get one vote.

If I am a nominee in a voting area, can I vote for myself?

Yes, you may vote for any one of the nominees that are up for election in your mill area.

Do I need to be a member of an industry organisation such as CANEGROWERS or ACFA to vote?

No, you do not need to be a member or affiliate of an industry organisation to vote.

How are votes counted?

The votes will be reviewed and counted in the presence of an independent scrutineer.

When will the QSL Grower Representative Members be appointed?

Once the elections have closed (5pm QLD time, Friday 18 August 2017) and the votes have been counted, an announcement will be made in late August declaring all QSL Grower Representative Members. QSL is working towards having all Members appointed prior to the QSL Annual General Meeting due to be held on 24 October 2017.



General

What is the role of the QSL Grower Representative Member?

QSL Grower Representative Members are the voice of cane growers from across the state. Grower Representative Members represent the growers located in their local mill area. They are called upon to vote on key matters of importance at QSL general meetings, including the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In addition, Grower Representative Members are a vital communication link between QSL and growers throughout Queensland. They are in a position to provide direct feedback to QSL on behalf of growers in their region, and also share QSL updates and information with these growers.

How many QSL Grower Representative Member positions are there?

There are a total of 23 QSL Grower Representative Members, which also includes a representative from CANEGROWERS QLD and the Australian Cane Farmers Association (ACFA).

Region	Mill Area	Grower Member positions (23)
Southern	Bingera and Millaquin	2
Central	Farleigh, Marian and Racecourse	3
Burdekin	Kalamia, Invicta, Pioneer and Inkerman	4
Herbert River	Victoria and Macknade	2
Northern	South Johnstone	1
One position at each of the following mill areas; Rocky Point, Maryborough, Isis, Plane Creek, Proserpine, Tully, Mulgrave, Mossman and Tableland (9).		
Note: CANEGROWERS QLD and ACFA each occupy one Grower Member position (2).		

How long is the Grower Representative Member term?

QSL Grower Representative Members hold their position for three years. To date, QSL has held a total of four Grower Member elections; 2005, 2008, 2011 and 2014.

What if the successful nominee can't see out their term?

While we prefer that Grower Members see out the full term, from time to time it is necessary for a Grower Representative Member to resign from the position due to exceptional circumstances. If this happens, the Chairman of QSL, after consulting with CANEGROWERS QLD and ACFA, may appoint a grower from the relevant mill area to fill a casual vacancy until the next election is due to take place.

Is there any remuneration involved with this position?

There is no remuneration paid for this role however, reasonable travel expenses will be covered.

Do Grower Representative Members have input into the day-to-day running of QSL?

No, Grower Representative Members do not have input into the day-to-day running of QSL, however we do welcome feedback. QSL is owned by the industry and has a membership which is structured to have equal representation between growers and millers. Therefore, Grower Representative Members have voting rights at the AGM and other special general meetings as they are called.