

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 220

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT, CHAP. 2:01

RULES

MADE BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER SECTION 161 OF THE REPRESENTATION OF  
THE PEOPLE ACT, CHAP. 2:01

THE ELECTION (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2000

1. These Rules may be cited as the Election (Amendment) Rules, Citation  
2000.

2. In these Rules, “the Rules” means the Election Rules.

Interpreta-  
tion  
Chap. 2:01

3. The Rules are amended by deleting the words “registration record  
card” and “registration record cards” wherever they occur and  
substituting the words “registration record” and “registration records”  
respectively.

Change of  
expressions  
in rules

4. Rule 2 of the Rules is amended by deleting the definition of  
“imprinter”.

Rule 2  
amended

5. Rule 3 of the Rules is amended by inserting after the words  
“establish an office” the words “at a location approved by the  
Commission,”.

Rule 3  
amended

6. Rule 6 of the Rules is amended in subrule (7), by deleting the  
words “tenth day” and substituting the words “sixth day”.

Rule 6  
amended

7. Rule 9 of the Rules is amended in subrule (2), by deleting the  
words “five hundred” and “two hundred” and substituting the words  
“five thousand” and “two thousand” respectively.

Rule 9  
amended

8. Rule 14 of the Rules is amended in subrule (1), by deleting the  
word “from”.

Rule 14  
amended

9. Rule 16 of the Rules is amended in subrule (1)(b), by deleting the  
word “situation” and substituting the word “location”.

Rule 16  
amended

10. Rule 23 of the Rules is amended in subrule (4), by deleting the  
words “and printed on every special ballot paper”.

Rule 23  
amended

- Rule 26 amended
11. Rule 26(1) of the Rules is amended—  
(a) by deleting the word “rubber”;  
(b) by deleting paragraph (h); and  
(c) in paragraph (k), by inserting after the words “the key to the” the words “ballot box, the key to the”.
- Rule 32 amended
12. Rule 32 of the Rules is amended by inserting after paragraph (e), the following paragraph:  
“(f) such other persons who are authorized in writing by the Returning Officer with the approval of the Commission.”.
- Rule 33 amended
13. Rule 33(3) of the Rules is amended by inserting after the words “physically handicapped” the words “, blind or visually impaired”.
- Rule 34 revoked and substituted
14. Rule 34 of the Rules is revoked and the following rule is substituted:  
“34. The Presiding Officer, the Deputy Presiding Officer, the Poll Clerks and other polling stations officers shall arrive at their polling stations on polling day not later than two hours before the opening of the poll.”.
- Rule 35 amended
15. Rule 35 of the Rules is amended—  
(a) in subrule (1), by deleting the words “Presiding Officer” where they last occur and substituting the words “officer in charge of the ballot box”;  
(b) in subrule (1)(a), by deleting the words “and the poll clerk” and substituting the words “the Poll Clerks and any other Polling Station Officers”; and  
(c) in subrule (3), by deleting the words “on his table” and substituting the words “on the table provided for the officer in charge of the ballot box”.
- Rule 37 amended
16. Rule 37(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “to keep” and substituting the words “to manage and keep”.
- Rule 38 amended
17. Rule 38 of the Rules is amended—  
(a) in subrule (7)(b), by deleting the words “Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “unit register”;  
(b) in subrule (9), by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer” the words “or his nominee”; and  
(c) by revoking subrule (12) and substituting the following rule:  
“(12) If a person’s name does not appear on the revised list of electors, the poll clerk shall check the register for the name of that person.”.

## 18. Rule 40 of the Rules is amended—

Rule 40  
amended

(a) by revoking subrule (1) and substituting the following rule:

“(1) When a person hands his poll card and identification card, if any, to the Presiding Officer or his nominee, the Presiding Officer or his nominee shall compare—

(a) any signature on the poll card with that of the elector on his identification card; and

(b) any photograph on the identification card with the face of the person.”;

(b) by revoking subrule (2);

(c) in subrule (3)—

(i) by deleting the words “subrules (1) and (2)” and substituting the words “subrule (1)”; and

(ii) by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer” the words “or his nominee”;

(d) in subrule (4)—

(i) by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer” wherever they occur, the words “or his nominee”;

(ii) by deleting in paragraph (a), the words “of the Presiding Officer’s name” and substituting the words “of his own name”;

(iii) by deleting in paragraph (c), the words “the Presiding Officer’s name” and substituting the words “his own name”; and

(iv) by deleting in paragraph (f), the word “rubber”;

(e) in subrule (5)—

(i) by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer”, in the first place where they occur, the words “or his nominee”; and

(ii) by deleting the words “Deputy Presiding Officer” where they occur and substituting the words “officer in charge of the ballot box”;

(f) by revoking subrule (6) and substituting the following rule:

“(6) The officer in charge of the ballot box upon satisfying himself—

(a) that the ballot is the ballot that was given to the elector; and

(b) that the ballot is correctly folded,

shall then require the elector to immerse his finger in the electoral ink and when the elector so immerses his finger the officer shall, after allowing the elector to insert his ballot into the ballot box, indicate on the poll card that the elector has voted and insert the poll card in the poll card box.

However, the officer shall not require an elector to immerse his finger in the electoral ink if he is satisfied—

- (a) that the elector is suffering from some injury to all his fingers which is of such a nature as to render it undesirable for him to immerse any of his fingers in the electoral ink; or
  - (b) that there is on the fingers of the elector any substance which in the opinion of the officer is likely to prevent the adhesion of the electoral ink.”;
- (g) in subrule (7), by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer” the words “or his nominee”;
- (h) in subrule (8)—
- (a) by deleting the words “Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “the officer in charge of the ballot box”; and
  - (b) by deleting the words “bring this refusal to the attention of” and substituting the words “refer the case to”;
- (i) in subrule (9)—
- (i) by deleting the words “subrules (1) and (2)” and substituting the words “subrule (1)”;
  - (ii) by deleting the words “Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “officer nominated”; and
  - (iii) by deleting all the words occurring after the words “rule 41,”, and substituting the following:
    - “he shall refer the case to the Presiding Officer and pass on the poll card and identification card to him for a decision and if the Presiding Officer is not satisfied as in subrule (3), he shall indicate the same to the person and make a note to that effect on the poll card and shall retain the identification card of such person.”;
- (j) in subrule (14), by deleting the words “Deputy Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “Presiding Officer or his nominee”; and

(k) in subrule (15), by deleting the words “Deputy Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “officer in charge of the ballot box”.

19. Rules 42, 43 and 44 of the Rules are amended by inserting after the words “Presiding Officer” wherever they occur, the words “or his nominee”. Rule 42, 43 and 44 amended

20. Rule 46(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting— Rule 46 amended  
(a) the word “rubber”; and  
(b) the words “or Deputy Presiding Officer” and substituting the words “or his nominee”.

21. Rule 48(6) of the Rules is amended by deleting the word “compartment” and substituting the word “booth”. Rule 48 amended

22. Rule 50(5) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “as may be required” and substituting the words “in the form set out as Form 54 in the Prescribed Forms Rules”. Rule 50 amended

23. Rule 54(2) of the Rules is amended by inserting after paragraph (a) the following: Rule 54 amended  
“(aa) the names of all officers including the police officer and polling agents at the polling station;”.

24. Rule 58(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “paper issued” and substituting the words “paper issued excluding the total number of destroyed and spoiled ballots”. Rule 58 amended

25. Rule 59 of the Rules is amended— Rule 59 amended  
(a) by inserting after paragraph (b) the following new paragraph:  
“(ba) a member of the Prison Service;” and  
(b) in paragraph (l), by inserting after the word “operations” the words “or any other person or member of any other organisation as the Commission sees fit”.

26. Rule 63(8) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “and without fee”. Rule 63 amended

27. Rule 64 of the Rules is revoked and the following is substituted: Rule 64 revoked and substituted  
“64. The Registration Officer on receipt of the list of special electors from the Returning Officer shall remove the registration records of such electors from the register and shall

place them in alphabetical order according to surnames in a binder; and the records shall be the register of special electors for such electoral district.”.

Rule 73  
amended

28. Rule 73 of the Rules is amended by—
- (a) deleting the words “counting agent”; and
  - (b) inserting after the words “election agent”, the words “special polling agent”.

Rule 75  
amended

29. Rule 75 of the Rules is amended by inserting after the words “under rule 73 shall be”, the words “fixed by the Commission and”.

Rule 78  
amended

30. Rule 78 of the Rules is amended—
- (a) by re-numbering rule 78 as subrule (2); and
  - (b) by inserting before subrule (2) the following subrule:
    - “78. (1) All polling stations established under rule 73(1) shall be closed on polling day.”.

Rule 82  
amended

31. Rule 82 of the Rules is amended in paragraph (e) by deleting the word “rubber”.

Rule 84  
amended

32. Rule 84(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting all the words beginning with the words “after that hour” and substituting the words “but after that hour, electors within the polling station shall be allowed to cast their votes, and thereafter, no further ballots shall be inserted into the ballot box.”.

Rule 87  
amended

33. Rule 87 of the Rules is amended by inserting after the words “3.00 p.m. on” the words “the day before”.

Rule 88  
amended

34. Rule 88 of the Rules is amended by inserting after the words “6.00 p.m.” the words “on polling day”.

Rule 91  
amended

35. Rule 91 of the Rules is amended—
- (a) in subrule (1) by—
    - (i) deleting the words “Returning Officer” and substituting the words “Presiding Officer”; and
    - (ii) deleting the words “rule 90(4) and (5)” and substituting the words “rule 90(5)”.

Rule 97  
amended

36. Rule 97 of the Rules is amended by revoking subrule (10) and substituting the following:
- “(10) The Presiding Officer, the Deputy Presiding Officer and the Poll Clerks shall affix the Commission’s seals and the

Presiding Officer shall invite such candidates or their agents as are present to do likewise.”.

37. Rule 99 of the Rules is revoked and the following substituted: Rule 99  
revoked and  
substituted  
“99. The Commissioner of Police shall be requested by the Commission to provide the necessary officers for duty in order to ensure the safety of the special ballot boxes at all times.”.

38. Rule 101 of the Rules is amended by deleting the word “amount” Rule 101  
amended  
and substituting the word “number”.

39. Rule 106 of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “one Rule 106  
amended  
hundred” substituting the words “five hundred”.

40. Rule 108 of the Rules is amended— Rule 108  
amended

(a) in subrule (1)—

(i) in paragraph (c), by deleting the words “and by special ballots”; and

(ii) in paragraph (d), by inserting after the words “a packet containing rejected ballots” the words “a packet containing destroyed ballots”; and

(b) in subrule (5)(b), by inserting after subparagraph (iii) the following:

“ (iv) a Tobago House of Assembly election, to the Minister and the Chief Administrator of the Tobago House of Assembly; and”.

41. Rule 112 of the Rules is amended by deleting the words “twenty Rule 112  
amended  
dollars” and substituting the words “one hundred dollars”.

Made this 22nd day of September, 2000.

M. LOOK LOY  
Acting *Secretary to Cabinet*