



Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993

1993 CHAPTER 19

PART I

TRADE UNIONS ETC.

Union elections and ballots

1 Election scrutineer to check register

(1) In the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (referred to in this Act as “the 1992 Act”), in section 49 (appointment of independent scrutineer for election)—

(a) after paragraph (a) of subsection (3) (terms of appointment of scrutineer) there shall be inserted—

“(aa) to—

(i) inspect the register of names and addresses of the members of the trade union, or

(ii) examine the copy of the register as at the relevant date which is supplied to him in accordance with subsection (5A)(a),

whenever it appears to him appropriate to do so and, in particular, when the conditions specified in subsection (3A) are satisfied;”

(b) in paragraph (d) (scrutineer to retain custody of voting papers) of that subsection, after the words “purposes of the election” there shall be inserted the words “and the copy of the register supplied to him in accordance with subsection (5A)(a)” and after the words “of the papers” there shall be inserted the words “or copy”;

(c) after that subsection there shall be inserted—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

“(3A) The conditions referred to in subsection (3)(aa) are—

- (a) that a request that the scrutineer inspect the register or examine the copy is made to him during the appropriate period by a member of the trade union or candidate who suspects that the register is not, or at the relevant date was not, accurate and up-to-date, and
- (b) that the scrutineer does not consider that the suspicion of the member or candidate is ill-founded.

(3B) In subsection (3A) “the appropriate period” means the period—

- (a) beginning with the first day on which a person may become a candidate in the election or, if later, the day on which the scrutineer is appointed, and
- (b) ending with the day before the day on which the scrutineer makes his report to the trade union.

(3C) The duty of confidentiality as respects the register is incorporated in the scrutineer’s appointment.”,

(d) after subsection (5) there shall be inserted—

“(5A) The trade union shall—

- (a) supply to the scrutineer as soon as is reasonably practicable after the relevant date a copy of the register of names and addresses of its members as at that date, and
- (b) comply with any request made by the scrutineer to inspect the register.

(5B) Where the register is kept by means of a computer the duty imposed on the trade union by subsection (5A)(a) is either to supply a legible printed copy or (if the scrutineer prefers) to supply a copy of the computer data and allow the scrutineer use of the computer to read it at any time during the period when he is required to retain custody of the copy.”, and

(e) after subsection (7) there shall be inserted—

“(8) In this section “the relevant date” means—

- (a) where the trade union has rules determining who is entitled to vote in the election by reference to membership on a particular date, that date, and
- (b) otherwise, the date, or the last date, on which voting papers are distributed for the purposes of the election.”.

(2) In section 52 of the 1992 Act (scrutineer’s report on election), after subsection (2) there shall be inserted—

“(2A) The report shall also state—

- (a) whether the scrutineer—
 - (i) has inspected the register of names and addresses of the members of the trade union, or
 - (ii) has examined the copy of the register as at the relevant date which is supplied to him in accordance with section 49(5A) (a),

- (b) if he has, whether in the case of each inspection or examination he was acting on a request by a member of the trade union or candidate or at his own instance,
- (c) whether he declined to act on any such request, and
- (d) whether any inspection of the register, or any examination of the copy of the register, has revealed any matter which he considers should be drawn to the attention of the trade union in order to assist it in securing that the register is accurate and up-to-date,

but shall not state the name of any member or candidate who has requested such an inspection or examination.”