ARTICLE I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Campaign Rules Document is to clearly define the rules that shall govern election campaigning and to provide the Campaign Rules Board of the Undergraduate Association Election Commission with guidelines for dealing with campaign violations, complaints, sanctions, and appeals. A copy of this document shall be included in election packets distributed to candidates.

ARTICLE II: CAMPAIGN RULES

Section 1: General Guidelines

A. Rules are meant to ensure fairness and keep order in the campaign. In general, candidates should try to maintain the “spirit of the campaign” which is an atmosphere of friendly competition.

B. All candidates are responsible for their campaigns, which includes others whom they know are campaigning for them. It is the responsibility of all candidates to know the campaign rules and to tell the rules to their campaign helpers.

C. Campaigning is defined in Article III Section 4 of the election code as “publicly promoting one’s candidacy. This includes but is not limited to postering, email, chalking, and speeches. Additional campaigning activities will be at the discretion of the Campaign Rules Board. The gathering of petition signatures shall be excluded from this definition.”

Section 2: Campaign Rules

A. No candidate may begin campaigning (as per the definition in the election code) until after his or her petition is approved by the Election Commission.

B. Candidates must follow all Association of Student Activities postering rules. These include:
   a. Postering only on ASA bulletin boards. Posters may not be placed on trees, poles, walls, lampposts, mailboxes, bridges, scaffolding, etc.
   b. Candidates shall not remove or post over other posters, except for non-MIT posters or out of date posters.

C. Candidates may not use drop posters or posters bigger than 11”x17”.

D. Email: Candidates must follow Athena Rules of Use. In addition, candidates may only send email to lists of which they are members. Blind Carbon Copy may not be used.

E. Chalk shall be used in moderation and only on the ground. Candidates may not chalk or otherwise graffiti bulletin boards, walls, windows, etc.

F. Candidates may not campaign (as per the definition in the election code) in places of voting. Therefore:
   a. All campaign materials must be removed from Athena clusters or from within sight of Athena quickstations during electronic voting days.
   b. Candidates may not campaign on the first floor of Building 10 when paper balloting is taking place. During this time, candidates may only enter Lobby 10 to vote or pass through quickly.
G. Campaign material may not be visible in the Undergraduate Association Office (W20-401).

H. If a candidate is unsure if a particular activity will violate one of these rules, he or she shall contact the Campaign Rules Board for an official interpretation.

ARTICLE III: PROCEDURE FOR COMPLAINTS
(Sections A-D are copied from Article III, Section 5 of the Election Code)

A. Complaints shall be directed to the Campaign Rules Board. The Campaign Rules Board shall send an acknowledgement of receiving such complaint within two days of the complaint to the rest of the Election Commission and all parties involved.

B. The Campaign Rules Board shall conduct and investigation to determine whether a campaign violation was committed and enforce necessary sanctions. This shall be completed in a timely manner.

C. An official statement of any Campaign Rules Board decisions shall be sent within a day of the decision.

D. Appeals of the Campaign Rules Board decision can be requested to the Judicial Board within three school days of the decision.

E. Campaign Rules and Judicial Board decisions shall be available both on the Election Commission’s web site and at the paper balloting booth.

ARTICLE IV: SANCTIONING GUIDELINES

Section I: General Guidelines

A. This article contains guidelines for sanctions based on the level of severity of the campaign violation. These are written only as a suggestion for the Campaign Rules Board; the board is in no way handicapped or restricted by these guidelines.

B. In general, the Campaign Rules Board should evaluate violations based on two main concerns: “Does the violation violate the ‘spirit of the campaign’?” and “Does the violation give the candidate who committed it an unfair advantage in the campaign?”

C. Sanctions shall be imposed in such a way that “the punishment fits the crime.” The purpose of imposing sanctions is to eliminate any unfair advantage the candidate may have gained by committing the violation.

Section 2: Three Levels of Violations

A. Level I: Minor Infraction
   a. Violations at this level do not violate the “spirit of the campaign” and give the candidate little if any unfair advantage.
   b. Examples include minor postering violations such as a poster partially covering part of another poster or accidentally placing two posters on one bulletin board.
   c. Possible sanctions include an official warning or slightly restricting the candidate’s campaigning rights.

B. Level II: Moderate Violation
   a. Violations at this level somewhat violate the “spirit of the campaign” and/or give the candidate an unfair advantage.
   b. Examples include:
      i. Campaigning before getting the petition approved.
ii. Using a drop poster.
iii. Sending a campaign email to a list of which the candidate is not a member.
iv. Chalking on walls.

c. Possible Sanctions:
   i. Partial revocation of specific campaign rights relevant to the violation—no posting in the Infinite Corridor, no more email, etc.
   ii. Not allowing the candidate to campaign for a day or more.
   iii. If the candidate has previously committed another moderate violation, or the moderate violation committed is on the severe side, the Campaign Rules Board might want to consider placing the phrase “violated election rules” next to the candidate’s name on the ballot.

C. Level III: Severe Violation
   a. Violations at this level blatantly violate the “spirit of the campaign” and give the candidate a considerable, unfair advantage.
   b. Examples include:
      i. Campaigning by the paper balloting booth in Lobby 10 on election day
      ii. Tampering with voting or ballots
      iii. Intentionally sabotaging another candidate’s campaign
   c. Possible Sanctions:
      i. Place the phrase “violated election rules” next to the candidate’s name on the ballot.
      ii. Revoke all campaigning rights.
      iii. Remove the candidate from the ballot.

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS

As specified in Article III, Section 4 of the election code, the election commission shall make revisions to this document between election cycles. Any changes must be approved by a majority vote of Council.