

## **Code of Conduct for the 2019 Election of the Board of Directors of Nepal Center of North Carolina (NCNC) (November 6, 2019)**

The 2019 election commissioners for NCNC respectfully announce the following Code of Conduct that shall be applicable from the day of its publication to until the results of the election are announced. It shall be mandatory to all candidates and eligible voters to comply with the Code of Conduct. The Election Committee, at its own discretion, may modify the Code of Conduct in future, if necessary.

1. Candidates or voters shall conduct themselves in accordance with the ideals and practices outlined in the bylaws of NCNC. At no times, candidates or voters shall claim to speak for the Election Committee.
2. Candidates or voters shall not misuse any resources of NCNC for personal gains including, but not limited to, NCNC's website, email and telephone database, logos, graphics, letterhead, Facebook or Twitter or any social media accounts, for election campaign, which may be accessible to them in the conduct of their normal duties or responsibilities.
3. Candidates or voters shall not be involved in any panel fixing or campaigning based on political, ideological, cultural, religious, professional, ethnicity, gender based, or any other groups.
4. Candidates or voters shall not be involved in personal attacks toward other candidates, voters, or their close families.
5. Candidates or voters shall not intimidate, pressure, force, exert undue influence, or monetarily compensate voters or potential voters, and other candidates or potential candidates, to win their votes.
6. Candidates or voters shall not accept commissions, gifts, payments, loans, and promises of future benefits or other items of value from anyone who has or may seek some benefit from NCNC in return, other than normal gifts that are in keeping with friendship and/or family relationship.
7. Candidates or voters shall not conduct any election campaign on the day of election within and outside the venue of the election.
8. Candidates or voters shall maintain confidentiality as relates to NCNC business, financial records, and personnel or member records in the organization.
9. Candidates or voters shall not interfere or exert any undue influence on the Election Committee.
10. A candidate or voter shall have the right to file a complaint with evidence against another candidate or voter to the Election Committee if he/she believes that the other candidate or voter is in violation of the Code of Conduct. The complaint and evidence(s) may be emailed to the Election Committee at its email address [ncncelect@gmail.com](mailto:ncncelect@gmail.com) . The Election Committee shall investigate the complaint and declare its final verdict, which shall be binding to all concerned individuals.
11. The Election Committee shall not take any action on complaints about any candidate or voter published in social media, magazines, newspapers or websites. Only complaints with evidence filed with the Election Committee at its email address [ncncelect@gmail.com](mailto:ncncelect@gmail.com) shall be entertained.
12. If the Election Committee determines that a candidate or voter is in violation of the Code of Conduct, it may, according to the severity of violation as determined by the Election Committee, issue a warning to the candidate or voter, ask the candidate or voter to issue a public apology, or prohibit the candidate or voter from contesting or voting in the election.
13. If any provision in the Code of Conduct is in violation of NCNC bylaws, or federal, local or state laws, such provision shall not prevail.
14. The Election Committee requests all candidates and voters to cooperate with it for completing the election in a transparent, democratic, free, and fair manner.