

# **Guide to the Oxford SU RAG Charity Ballot 2019**

## **About the ballot**

Oxford SU RAG raises tens of thousands of pounds for four chosen charities each year: two local Oxfordshire charities and two national or international charities. The charities are chosen by students in a university-wide ballot in Hilary Term. Any student can nominate a charity for the ballot.

Nominations are open for two weeks. From the nominations received, RAG create a shortlist of six local and six national or international charities. All students then vote on the shortlisted charities to elect two charities from each category. The four selected charities will share RAG's fundraising profits for the next academic year from when they are chosen.

RAG's charity ballot is run as part of Oxford SU's elections for Sabbatical Officers, Student Trustees and NUS Delegates.

## **Nominations process**

If you would like to nominate a charity for the RAG ballot, please log in to the Oxford SU website and go to [www.oxfordsu.org/elections](http://www.oxfordsu.org/elections) and click "Nominate a Charity" to access the nominations form. You can nominate one charity in each category; any further nominations made by a single individual will be disregarded.

You'll need to contact your chosen charity in advance of filling out the form.

The form will ask for basic information about your charity and the person at the charity that you have been in contact with. The form will also ask for supporting evidence to your nomination, and for information that we will use to promote your charity to voters if it is successful in getting on to the ballot.

RAG can only accept nominations from charities that are registered in England and Wales and have their own registered charity number. RAG does not accept nominations from charities that are overtly religious or party political in their aims and practice.

Once you have submitted your nomination, you'll receive a notification that we have received it. If your charity is successfully shortlisted, we'll contact both you and them to let you know.

## **Shortlisting process**

The criteria used by RAG is decided in advance by Oxford SU Student Council. Each nominated charity receives points based on the number of times they are nominated, their cost-effectiveness and their level of student involvement. Charities that have successfully won the ballot in previous years receive a points deduction.

The shortlisting panel consists of the RAG Executive Committee, the RAG Charity Liaison Officer, the VP for Charities and Community and the RAG Coordinator.

The shortlist will be published to the Oxford SU elections webpage at 5pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

## **Campaigning process**

You can campaign for a charity or multiple charities as soon as the shortlist is published. Please first read through the regulations published on the Oxford SU webpage at [www.oxfordsu.org/elections](http://www.oxfordsu.org/elections). In particular, please note that negative campaigning (campaigning against a particular charity or charities) is extremely discouraged.

## **Voting and results**

Voting opens at 08:00 on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February and closes at 18:00 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February. To vote, please go to [www.oxfordsu.org/elections](http://www.oxfordsu.org/elections). Selecting the RAG charities is the final item on the ballot, after the sabbatical, trustee and delegate positions.

The election is conducted by single transferable vote, meaning that you are encouraged to rank charities in order of preference. The votes will be counted and the results announced at our results night party, to which all students are invited.

## **Contact us**

If you have any questions about the RAG charity ballot, or any other part of the Oxford SU elections, please email [elections@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elections@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk).

If you are interested in finding out more about RAG and what we do, please visit our website, <https://www.oxfordsu.org/communities/rag/> or our facebook page, [www.facebook.com/OxfordRAG](https://www.facebook.com/OxfordRAG)