

**2025 General Election and Election of the Associate Vice-President Labour**  
CRO Decision in the matter of Aashish Kumar  
Thursday, February 13, 2025

**Summary of alleged or discerned breach**

- It was brought to the CRO's attention that the respondent had left the ACM before it was over, and was confirmed by GSA staff. Neither the CRO nor staff member present was alerted of this, and no written communication was received.

**Parties to the complaint or breach**

- Respondent: Aashish Kumar

**Summary of decision making process**

- The CRO reached out to the respondent, who responded that they had to catch a bus to go to work, and that they had reviewed the Bylaw and Policy in addition to the meeting minutes sent out by GSA staff.
- The CRO offered 4 options to members of ERC: 1) no penalty, 2) between 1-4 demerit points, 3) 5 demerit points, 4) disqualification. In their responses, 2 ERC members recommended 4 demerit points and 5 ERC members recommended between 1-4 demerit points. Members pointed to the lack of notification ahead of time, as there was opportunity to do so and receive an excused absence.

**Applicable GSA Bylaw and Policy and interpretations, other applicable policies/laws**

- I.POL.8.6 The campaign period will last at least seven (7) calendar days and will begin no earlier than the conclusion of the All-Candidates Meeting. The All-Candidates Meeting will be mandatory for all candidates and Forum will be mandatory for DEO candidates to attend. Any unexcused absence will lead to disqualification. The Forum will be moderated by the GSA Speaker, ERC Chair or a delegated member of the ERC, if the Speaker and ERC Chair are unavailable.
- I.POL.9.2 Failure by a candidate to attend the All-Candidates Meeting without adequate prior notification (defined as notice communicated electronically to the CRO at least one (1) hour in advance of the meeting) to the CRO is grounds for disqualification from the current election. If a candidate misses the All-Candidates Meeting due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances, such as a last minute emergency, any consequences may be waived at the discretion of the CRO, following consultation with the GSA Election and Referenda Committee. There is no appeal of these decisions.
- [Nomination form](#): I understand that I must attend the All-Candidates Meeting and Forum, otherwise I will receive 5 demerits with a maximum of 10 demerits that results in disqualification. The demerit system will be detailed at the All-Candidates Meeting.

**Decided upon penalties and/or remedial actions**

- The respondent is assigned 2 demerit points.

**Appeal process and time limit**

- The appeal process is outlined in I.POL.11.6.