

Tarka Accord

# US Branch



## Tarka Accord US Branch Constitution

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## **Forward:**

This document covers the formal internal Tarka Accord law within the US Branch of Tarka Accord and the power sharing within the office. As a comprehensive list, the matters covered include:

- ❖ Use of Discord for Elections
- ❖ Director's Councillor Terms
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## **Use of Discord for Elections:**

It is mandatory that all elections within the US Branch of Tarka Accord use the social media platform Discord - specifically in Discord servers. The Discord servers that are used for any kind of elections within Tarka Accord must be freely available and on the Tarka Accord website - <https://www.tarkaaccord.info> - in which the links to the server/s in question must be operational. One year before a main election is due or when any other election is announced, the Discord server listed as being used for the election must not change and must continue to be accessible until after the election has fully ended. The use of Discord may only change if the platform becomes dangerous for users (including although not limited to reasons of politics and technology) - in which a reasonable and well researched case for such danger must be presented. If Discord is to be discontinued as the platform for elections, another easily accessible platform with a system that abides by all of the same rules must be chosen by over 50% of votes from the Membership of the US Branch

before the change is made. When the change is made, over 50% of votes from the Membership of the US Branch must agree to swapping platforms.

## **Director's Councillor Terms:**

The full term of a Director's Councillor is 3 years from the point of assuming office - excluding the byelection system. This length can only be changed by a vote of the Membership of the US Branch with a majority of voters agreeing upon the new length of time (each proposed length of time may be either: 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years, or 6 years). These votes to change the length of a term do not apply to the term in which they take place - rather, they alter the length of the next term. These votes to change the length of a term cannot happen within the 4 months before the date of Director's Councillor election is due to take place.

## **Director's Councillor Main Elections:**

Director's Councillor Main Elections act as the "general elections" of the US Branch of Tarka Accord and take place at the end of standard terms for Director's Councillors in which they are elected. Director's Councillors that come to the position in a byelection must also contest their position in main elections.

Director's Councillors keep their position in office until the moment an election concludes. When an election concludes, the winners take their place immediately.

## **Candidacy:**

Candidates for Director's Councillor positions may be posed by the Membership, US Branch administration (including the US Branch Executive) and the Tarka Accord Director's Office. There must be a free and accessible way for candidates commuting with the membership within the official social media platform/s used by Tarka Accord. Formal applications for candidacy can be submitted 10 weeks before the main election polling day takes place. The window for formal submissions ends 2 weeks before polling day.

## **The Main Election System:**

On polling day for the main election, the system used is thus:

1. Each voter is given the option to either choose a single candidate or rank any number of candidates with '1' being of highest preference as a first choice and preference descending with each next positive whole number following 1.
2. When a candidate receives  $\frac{1}{3}$  (33.3% recurring) of the vote, they succeed in becoming a Director's Councillor.
3. If a candidate receives over  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the vote, the remaining votes must be redistributed to their next choices.
4. After counting, if there remains any vacant Director's Councillor positions, the candidate with the least amount of votes is disqualified and their votes are redistributed to their next choices. This will happen until only three candidates remain (including candidates who have succeeded in becoming Director's Councillors).
5. When there are only three candidates remaining (including candidates who have succeeded in becoming Director's Councillors), all remaining candidates who have not yet succeeded in being elected to the position of Director's Councillor due to failing to receive  $\frac{1}{3}$  of votes are automatically elevated to the position of Director's Councillor.

## **Director's Councillor Byelections:**

The moment a Director's Councillor leaves office, a byelection must take place that includes all of the Membership of the US Branch of Tarka Accord to replace them. Therefore, a byelection is immediately announced. Byelections conclude 1 month (to the day, ending midnight CST/CDT) after they were announced.

## **Candidacy:**

Candidates for the position/s may be posed by the Membership, US Branch administration (including the US Branch Executive) and the Tarka Accord Director's Office. There must be a free and accessible way for candidates commuting with the membership within the official social media platform/s used by Tarka Accord. Formal applications for candidacy can be submitted 10 weeks before the byelection polling day takes place. The window for formal submissions ends 2 weeks before polling day.

## **The Byelection System:**

On polling day for the byelection, the system used is thus:

1. Each voter is given the option to either choose a single candidate or rank any number of candidates with '1' being of highest preference as a first choice and preference descending with each next positive whole number following 1.
2. When a candidate receives over 50% of the vote, they succeed in becoming the new Director's Councillor.
3. After counting, if no candidate has been successful, the candidate with the least amount of votes is disqualified and their votes are redistributed to their next choices. This will continue to happen until a candidate succeeds.

## **Director's Councillor Votes of No Confidence:**

At any time, a US Director's Councillor can be expelled by the Membership of the US Branch of Tarka Accord. Over 50% of the Membership, at any time, can unify and vote for their removal.

## **US Branch Executive:**

### **Executive Terms:**

Executive terms can last a maximum of 3 years. The term of an Executive can end in four different ways, these being the following:

- ❖ The natural conclusion of the Executive's 4 year term.
- ❖ The Executive's resignation.
- ❖ Removed in a vote of no confidence.

### **Executive Elections:**

#### ***Candidacy:***

Candidates for the position/s may be posed by the Membership, US Branch administration (including the US Branch Executive) and the Tarka Accord Director's Office. There must be a free and accessible way for candidates communicating with the membership within the official social media platform/s used by Tarka Accord. Formal applications for candidacy can be submitted 10 weeks before the election

polling day takes place. The window for formal submissions ends 2 weeks before polling day.

### ***The Executive Election System:***

On polling day for the Executive election, the system used is thus:

1. Each voter is given the option to either choose a single candidate or rank any number of candidates with '1' being of highest preference as a first choice and preference descending with each next positive whole number following 1.
2. When a candidate receives over 50% of the vote, they succeed in becoming the new US Branch Executive.
3. After counting, if no candidate has been successful, the candidate with the least amount of votes is disqualified and their votes are redistributed to their next choices. This will continue to happen until a candidate succeeds.

### **Votes of No Confidence:**

At any point, two of the three US Director's Councillors may vote to remove the US Branch Executive from office. When this occurs, a new election for the Executive begins.

### **Purpose of the Executive:**

The purpose of the US Branch Executive is to work with the Director of Tarka Accord and represent the US Branch in doing so. Every action taken by the Director that would have a direct effect on the US Branch must be done with the agreement of the US Branch Executive.

### **Public Communications:**

All actions as pertaining to Tarka Accord of the Executive of the US Branch of Tarka Accord and any other form of leader within the US Branch, including all internal elections, are to be communicated effectively to all of the Membership of Tarka Accord - not just including the US Branch Membership.

## **Constitutional Amendments:**

For a constitutional amendment to take place, the US Branch Executive and the US Branch Director's Councillors must all vote on the matter (if the Executive is simultaneously a Director's Councillor, they only have one vote rather than one vote for each position that they hold). An amendment can only pass with  $\frac{2}{3}$  (or greater) of these figures agreeing to do so. When a constitutional amendment passes through the Director's Councillors and Executive, it does not become an official part of the US Branch Constitution until the majority of the Membership of the US Branch of Tarka Accord has voted to ratify it. The Membership must be given 2 weeks of notice before polling day is held for the ratification.