

Election Board Siri Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara Gravesend Kent.

Guru Nanak Marg, Saddington Street, Gravesend Kent DA12 1AG
Contact us at: election2017@gurunanakdarbar.org

Date: 16th September 2017

ELECTION LOGOS – HOW THEY WERE ALLOCATED

Some members of 'Sangat' and one of the Election Candidates have asked for clarification on how the election logos were chosen and allocated to the two candidates. This note sets out the Election Board's explanation of the process.

The Election Board are unanimously of the view that the process followed has been impartial, transparent and fair to both candidates. Allegations from one candidate of bias, lack of transparency and unfairness are both unfounded and unjustified. No evidence has been provided.

Process followed:

1. In August the Election Board received a written request from candidate, Ajaib Singh Cheema, to allocate the 'Sher' logo for his use in the Gurdwara election. The Election Board deferred any decision pending discussions on policy and process.
2. The Election Board considered the matter and decided that two new logos should be used in the 2017 election. The two logos were a Horse and a Hawk.
3. The Election Board invited both candidates and their two representatives to a meeting at the Gurdwara on Sunday 10th September at 7.00pm. The process for allocating the logos and the two logos chosen was explained to the candidates and their representatives.
4. Identical sized images of the logos had already been placed in two identical and unmarked sealed envelopes which had been placed in a larger brown envelope.
5. The sealed envelopes were placed on the table and the current President, Davinder Singh Bains, was given first choice of an envelope. His representative took an envelope and opened it to reveal a Horse logo.
6. The other candidate, Ajaib Singh Cheema, then took the remaining envelope and opened it to reveal a Hawk logo.
7. Both candidates were informed that these two logos would appear on the ballot papers.
8. On 14th September the Election Board received an email from one candidate raising a number of objections and complaints.

The Election Board strongly refutes any suggestion of bias, lack of transparency or failure to follow its own Code of Conduct. Those present at the meeting witnessed the process and did not raise any objections at the time.

The Election Board gave very careful consideration to the allegations and complaints and responded within 48 hours. The complaint was not upheld.

The two logos to be used by the candidates are as follows:



Davinder Singh Bains



Ajaib Singh Cheema

These logos will appear on the ballot paper to be used in this election

Election Board

Election Board: Baljit Singh Hayre, Tarsem Singh Mahil, Balbir Singh Sangha, Mohinder Singh Upple, Kulvinder Kaur Virk