



Running AGMs and Elections with Confidence

Breakout: Rescue the AGM and Protect the Election

Imagine your AGM is taking place six weeks from now. What is the single most important thing you would start working on today?

Activity: In your breakout group, select one of two scenarios to address: an AGM rescue challenge or an election pressure test. You have 15 minutes to work through the discussion questions and come back to plenary to feedback.

Scenario 1: AGM Rescue Challenge

Scenario: Your association has 250 members. The AGM is in six weeks. Only 15 members attended last AGM. The Chair and Secretary positions are becoming vacant. There has been little engagement over the past year.

Task: Agree one action to improve attendance, one action to encourage nominations, and one risk to manage.

Discussion questions

- What information should members receive immediately?
- How would you encourage attendance?
- What should be included on the agenda?
- How would you make the AGM valuable and engaging?
- How would you encourage nominations?
- What is the biggest risk if nothing changes?

Scenario 2: Election Pressure Test

Scenario: Three days before the AGM, members are questioning who can vote. One candidate says they were given insufficient notice. Another member wants nominations from the floor. Several members are requesting online voting.

Task: Protect one principle and identify one change for next year.

Discussion questions

- What risks does this create?
- Which election principles are threatened?
- How would you respond in a fair and transparent way?
- What should have been communicated earlier?
- What would you change in the constitution, charter or election guidance for next year?