



PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THEME: "BUILD, BUILD, BUILD PMA! BUILDING THE FUTURE TODAY."

Member : World Medical Association (WMA)
Co-Founder : Confederation of Medical Association in Asia and Oceania (CMAAO)
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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO: 2021-02-17-045

TO	:	PMA NATIONAL OFFICERS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS PMA COMPONENT SOCIETY OFFICERS AND LOCAL COMELEC ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
FROM	:	COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
DATE	:	February 17, 2021
SUBJECT	:	ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS OF THE PMA – March 14, 2021

The COMELEC hereby announces the conduct of the PMA Election for the National Officers as follows:

1. The election will be held on March 14, 2021, Sunday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
2. Due to the strong clamor from two sectors of registered voters due to the current health condition in the country, the election will be held in two (2) modes, one by the traditional manual elections, and the on-line or e-Voting system of elections, more particularly as follows:

A. Traditional/Manual Mode of Elections

- a) Voting or polling centers will be put up by the local Comelec in all of the PMA component societies unless the component society opted to choose entirely the second mode of voting.
- b) All ballots and posters will be sent to all the component *societies'* local Comelec Chairmen by the 3rd week of February *via* LBC or any other courier available in the area.
- c) The National COMELEC will also allowed each Component Society to put up multiple polling places for more additional venues for the manual voting to decongest the number of doctors who will be voting through the manual method, provided that it will be properly coordinated to our national office secretariat.

- d) So that the manual voting will be more safe from contracting the Covid-19 virus, it is highly encouraged that there be a drive-thru method of voting (just like making orders from drive-thru fastfood services). The local Comelec, however, shall always ensure the sanctity of the ballots.


B. For the On-Line or e-Voting:

- a) For online voters, make sure that you have a cellular phone number or email address registered or on-file with the PMA. You may check your account at the PMA Website to verify your registered cellphone number or email address.
- b) ***A link for the official registration for the online or e-Voting on March 14, 2021 will be sent through the official cellular phones by SMS/text or by email (smart phone or laptop) of the online voters.*** The link will be sent to you day/s before the date of the election. For the initial validation, a **“One-Time-Password” (OTP)** will be sent to your cellular phone number or email by any other means of electronic validation.
- c) Once validated you can no longer change your cellular phone number or email address for the March 14, 2021 election. Only those who will register will be allowed to vote online.
- d) On the day of the election, steps a & b will be repeated, but this time after validation, you will be shown the candidates to vote for, either via SMS/Text or shown on the monitors of your smartphones or laptop.
 - (1) For the non-smart phones, choose your candidates by clicking the letter or number corresponding your chosen candidate or as instructed in the monitor.
 - (2) For those who use the smartphone or laptops, cast your vote by clicking your candidates shown on the monitor of your laptops, or tapping your chosen candidate on the monitor of your smartphones.
- e) After voting, again, a one-time-password (**OTP**) will be sent to you (thru phone or email) for purposes of final authentication.
- f) IT support staff will be available to assist you for any unexpected technical glitch.

3. For those registered for online voting, they can choose either to vote manually or to vote online; HOWEVER, no member shall be allowed to vote twice (e.g. voting on-line and voting manually) otherwise his or her vote will be considered INVALID without prejudice to any administrative sanction to be imposed by the Comelec.
4. If you have not registered for online voting, your only option is to go to the polling place and cast your vote manually.
5. Voters are encouraged to vote early so as to avoid congestion in the manual voting, or to avoid glitches in the online or e-Voting.
6. For the manual voting, the PMA COMELEC assures the safety of the voters during the election process for as long as the voters will observe the basics of preventing Covid-19 infection, ***which are: wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing, having no physical contacts (e.g. handshakes, hugging), avoiding crowds, observing proper handwashing and proper hygiene upon arriving home.***

See you then on March 14, 2021 and exercise your right to vote.

Yours truly,


MANUEL G. QUIAMBAO, MD
Chairman