



Objections and Appeals



What is an objection?

- An objection is a formal expression of observed incorrect application of the voter registration and voting procedures, at the voting station during an election.
- All objections concerning voting should be directed to the Presiding Officer.



Who can object?

- Any interested party including members of the public, independent candidates, and political parties may lodge an objection on the voters' roll with the Commission before the certification of the voters roll.
- On election day, an Agent or Candidate or a voter may object to any irregularities at the voting station.



Objections to the voters' roll

Any person may object to the Commission in relation to any segment of the voters' roll or a provisionally compiled voters' roll to:

- the exclusion of any person's name from that segment;
- the inclusion of any person's name in that segment; or
- the correction of any person's registration details in that segment.

Voters' roll objections can be lodged at any time before the official proclamation of the election.



What can you object to?

Voters, agents and candidates can object when:

- a voter is providing an incorrect address on the day of voting.
- a voter being given an incorrect number of ballot papers;
- a voter being refused a ballot paper; or
- the conduct of a voting officer, agent or any other person.

During counting, an Agent or Candidate may object to any decision made by the Counting Officer with regard to the following counting processes:

- verification procedure;
- sorting of ballot papers; or
- counting of votes or determination of results.



Objections concerning voting

At any time before a voter has been handed a ballot paper, an agent or ward candidate may object:

- to that voter being allowed to vote, or to vote at the voting station concerned;
- if the voter is refused a ballot paper; or
- to any conduct of an election officer, an agent or any other person present at a voting station.

Voting Station



Objections concerning counting of votes and determination of results

An agent or candidate may object to the Counting Officer for any irregularity concerning:

- the sorting of ballot papers;
- the counting of the votes; and
- determination of election results.



How to object?

- Let the Presiding Officer know that you want to make an objection.
- The Presiding Officer or Counting Officer will give you a relevant form to fill in duplicate.
- Submit the objection form to the Presiding Officer or Counting Officer, who makes the determination.



What happens next?

The Presiding Officer or Counting Officer must do the following:

- investigate the objection;
- record the finding on the written objection;
- inform the objector of the decision; and
- keep a record of each objection in the voting station diary.



Appeals

The objector may appeal the decision of the Presiding Officer or Counting Officer to the Electoral Commission's National Office in Centurion, in writing to objections@elections.org.za, by 21h00 within two days of an election.

Contact the Electoral Commission

www.elections.org.za | info@elections.org.za | 0800 11 8000

 WhatsApp "Hi" to 060 088 0000 for more information

     @IECSouthAfrica

SMS your ID number to 32810 to check if and where you are registered (R1.00 per SMS)

