



The Well Society.

Major Votes Policy

Policy Version:	4.0	Author:	Philip Speedie
Date:	10.06.2025	Review Date:	10.06.2026

1. Purpose

- The Well Society is committed to ensuring that key decisions impacting Motherwell Football Club's ownership, governance, and long-term strategy are made in a fair, democratic, and transparent manner.
- This policy establishes the framework for major votes, ensuring that members can participate in crucial decisions that shape the future of the club.

2. Scope

- This policy applies to all eligible members of The Well Society, as defined in the Eligibility to Vote section. It governs voting on issues that significantly affect the club's structure, financial stability, governance, and identity.

3. Definition of a Major Vote

- A ballot of the membership will be progressed if it meets any of the following major vote criteria:
 - Club Ownership & Sale
 - Any potential sale of Motherwell FC (full or partial ownership change).
 - Any external investment proposal that alters fan ownership.
 - Large-Scale Financial Decisions
 - Taking on significant debt (e.g., major loans, stadium financing).
 - Selling club assets (stadium, training ground, or other major facilities).
 - Structural or Governance Changes

- o Changes to the Well Society's voting structure or membership rules.
 - o Amendments to the club's constitution or governance model.
- Strategic Sporting Decisions
 - o Joining external leagues, partnerships, or breakaway competitions.
 - o Merging with or forming a direct affiliation with another club.
- Club Identity & Branding
 - o Significant rebranding (badge/logo redesign, major kit identity shift).
 - o Changing the club's home stadium (permanent relocation).
- The Society Board retains the discretion to call a ballot of the membership on issues beyond the defined criteria, where it considers there to be a potential impact on the club's structure, financial stability, governance, or identity.

4. Eligibility to Vote

- To be eligible to participate in a major vote, a member must meet the following criteria:
 - o Be a member who has maintained their membership payments up to date over the required qualification period.
 - o Be aged 16 or over at the time when voting opens.
 - o Have held continuous membership of the Well Society throughout a qualification period of 12 months.

5. Voting Process

- Notification
 - o Members will receive formal notification of a major vote in advance.
 - o The notice will include details of the proposal, its implications, and any relevant supporting documentation.
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- Voting Period
 - o Voting shall be conducted electronically and via postal ballot to ensure accessibility for all eligible members.

- o Each eligible member shall have one vote per ballot item:
- **Vote Counting and Outcome**
 - o Votes shall be counted and verified by the Election Management Group appointed by the Society Board.
 - o For votes involving fundamental changes (e.g., club ownership or constitutional amendments), a supermajority of 75% will be required.

6. Safeguards Against Manipulation

- To maintain the integrity of major votes, the following safeguards will apply:
 - o **Cooling-off Period:** New members must wait for their qualification period before gaining voting rights.
 - o **Tiered Voting Requirements:** Key decisions will require 12-months' membership tenure and a supermajority to pass.
 - o **Transparency Measures:** Full voting outcomes, eligibility rules, and access to independent oversight will be provided for all major votes

7. Appeals and Disputes

- Any disputes regarding the eligibility of voters, the conduct of the vote, or the validity of results shall be reviewed by the Election Management Group appointed by the Society Board. The Election Management Group's decision shall be final.

8. Review and Amendments

- This policy shall be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and fairness. Amendments shall be proposed by the Society Board and subject to a major vote where necessary.

9. Compliance and Implementation

- The Well Society is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy. The Board will oversee implementation and ensure adherence to the principles outlined.