

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

From the Honorary Secretary to the Board of Election

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GUIDELINES FOR THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

Each year the Board of Election for the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists is salutarily reminded that there is a large number of collectors worldwide who are making an active and significant contribution to the furtherance of philately.

Many proposals are put forward either by RDPs or by appropriate Societies as potential Signatories of the Roll but this is a rare honour and from the many only a few will be chosen. The task of selection is not easy. The Board Members (four from the UK and four from other countries) have together an extensive knowledge of collectors and it is safe to say that all the candidates proposed will be probably known personally to at least one Member of the Board.

The proposal form has been designed to accommodate sufficient pertinent information and in fairness to the candidate it is important that the form is properly completed. Well prepared forms help the Board, and the following is offered for guidance.

It is the responsibility of the proposer to decide what information is included on the proposal form. However, it is not acceptable for a multi-page curriculum vitae prepared by the candidate merely to be attached to the form. If a candidate is President of a National or International Society or Federation, the date of election to that office and the total years with the organisation should suffice. The years and months marking the stepping-stones to high office as for example Chairman or Vice President often add little to the qualification. Similarly the detailed listing of Large Gold Medals gained for the same collection is often irrelevant particularly if the collection has been awarded a Grand Prix. The Board do not require copies of books published by the candidate or photocopies of articles written for philatelic journals.

The importance or otherwise of the above should be assessed by the proposer when completing the form. There should be no supplementary documents and only a single extra sheet of information will be accepted. The candidate should stand or fall by the qualifications presented by his proposer and not by the size of a dossier.

Election is by qualification and not by ballot. Informal contact in support of the candidate directed to RDP Signatories, Members of the Board or to the Honorary Secretary may well be regarded as 'lobbying' or 'canvassing' and is likely to be counterproductive. A candidate should remain silent, and only the original nominator or other qualified nominator, or nominating body should add updates.

All correspondence on behalf of the candidate from other than the original proposer should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary.

An invitation to sign the Roll is a rare honour and since its inception in 1921 only some 372 philatelists from 40 different countries¹ have become signatories. Selection is difficult and Membership of the Board of Election is no sinecure. Those Members who do not live in UK travel very long distances at their own expense to participate in the election of new RDPs and as a courtesy to them the proposer should help them in their deliberations and clearly indicate the basis on which, in their opinion, the candidate meets the necessary qualifications set out in the guidelines.

¹ Correct as at 7th September 2015

Nomination of Candidates

Nominations must be made on the special form obtainable from the Honorary Secretary to the Board of Election. Once nominated a Candidate will remain on the list for four years, during which time their nomination will be considered at the annual meetings of the Board. After four years nominations will lapse but may be renewed for **one** further period of four years by the submission of an **updated nomination** form. The Honorary Secretary will publicise as widely as possible the time, place and procedure for the receipt of nominations on an annual basis.

Organisations/Persons who may submit nominations

Nominations may be submitted by:-

1. The Association of British Philatelic Societies
2. Other National Philatelic Federations who are current members of FIP
3. The National Philatelic Society
4. The Royal Philatelic Society London
5. Overseas Royal Philatelic Societies
6. Specialist Societies and County/Regional Federations in the UK
7. Signatories of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, with the exception of the Board of Election, members of which are precluded from making nominations.

Criteria for Nominees

The Nominee:

1. Must be a philatelist
2. Must be distinguished by having contributed outstanding service to philately, either by study and research made available to others, and/or in some public or other capacity

The Services:

The Services to be considered by the Board shall be (inter alia)

1. Published philatelic research or other significant works
2. The formation of notable collections which have been exhibited or displayed for the benefit of philately
3. Journalistic activities and/or the reading of papers
4. Organisational or promotional work, at a high level, in connection with Philatelic Exhibitions, Congresses or Societies

Nominations:

Those nominating should note that an invitation to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists is a singular honour and for nominations to be successful candidates need to be of commensurate distinction.

Information under the four sections should be provided on the special form to enable the merits of each nomination to be fully considered by the Board. All nominations must have the prior consent of the nominee.

The closing date for the receipt of proposal forms by the Honorary Secretary of the Board of Election is 31st December for consideration for election early in the following year. Forms received after this date will be held on file and dealt with as part of the intake for the year after that.

No correspondence or discussion will be entered into concerning any proceedings of the Board of Election.

NOMINATION FORM

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Please affix
photograph of
nominee or attach
digital photograph to
email when sending
scanned form

Title	
Name of Nominee (in full).	
Address	
Address	
City	
Postcode/ZIP	
Country of Residence	
Telephone number(s)	
Fax Number	
Mobile Number	
Email Address	
Nationality	
Date of Birth	
I agree to my name being forwarded to the Board of Election for consideration	
Signature of Nominee	
Person nominating, or Organisation nominating	
Address	
Address	
City	
Postcode	
Country of Residence	
Telephone number(s)	
Fax Number	
Mobile Number	
Email Address	
Date and Signature	

Research achievements and Published Work - list *major* published works only, indicating personal contributions to research where appropriate. *Major* editorial and other journalistic work may also be included.

Notable collections formed, exhibited or displayed for the benefit of philately.

International awards achieved - give exhibit title or subject, level of exhibition(s) and highest medal/award gained.

Organisational or promotional work, at a high level, in connection with Philatelic Exhibitions, Congresses or Societies. Internationally recognised high honours should be included.

Please continue *on no more than one* blank sheet of paper if necessary, using the headings shown above.