

Frequently Asked Questions Relating to Licensing Trust Elections

Licensing Trusts - General

Q1	<i>What is a Licensing Trust?</i>	A	Licensing Trusts exist to sell alcohol responsibly through premises in the trust area and decide how surplus profits are returned to the community. In 2021 the Ashburton Licensing Trust reconstituted as a community trust and is now known as the Braided Rivers Community Trust .
Q2	<i>How many Licensing Trusts are there in New Zealand?</i>	A	18.
Q3	<i>How long have we had Licensing Trusts?</i>	A	The first Licensing Trust was established in 1944 (Invercargill).
Q4	<i>What do Licensing Trusts do?</i>	A	Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the functions of a Licensing Trust are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a) To sell and supply alcohol• b) Establish and operate premises for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the sale and supply of alcohol; and• the provision of accommodation for travellers; and• the sale and supply of food and refreshments; and• c) Carry on any other business that, in the trust's opinion, can be conveniently carried on in conjunction with the functions set out in paragraphs (a) and (b).
Q5	<i>How many members are there on a Licensing Trust?</i>	A	The Braided Rivers Community Trust has 6 elected members.
Q6	<i>Are any members appointed?</i>	A	The Governor-General may appoint as many members of a licensing trust as are required if at any election no members are elected or fewer members are elected as required.

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However, where an extraordinary vacancy is created, this must be filled via an election (unless 12 months or less than triennial election day).

Q7 *How is the President of the Trust decided?*

A The President of the Trust is elected at the first meeting of the trust after the election. The President must be elected from the members of the Trust.

Q8 *When do current elected board members relinquish their positions?*

A Elected members take up office the day after the official result has been declared by public notice.

Q9 *How long is the term of an elected Licensing Trust member?*

A 3 years. Elections are held every three years at the same time as the council elections.

Q10 *How long is the term of an appointed Licensing Trust member?*

A Up to 3 years but they may be appointed for a shorter time.

Q11 *What do Licensing Trust members do?*

A They are responsible for the governance of the Licensing Trust.

Q12 *Who runs these elections?*

A The Electoral Officer of the territorial authority in whose district the Licensing Trust is situated is responsible for running the election.

Anthony Morton is the Electoral Officer for the Braided Rivers Community Trust elections.

P +64 3 377 3530 | **F** +64 3 377 1474 | **M** 021 326 021

E amorton@electionz.com | **W** www.electionz.com

Q13 *Who pays for the Licensing Trust Election?*

A The Licensing Trust pays for its share of the election costs. Because the Licensing Trust election is run together with the Council election(s), many of the costs are shared between the parties on an agreed basis.

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Q14 *When are the elections this year?*

A They are the same day as the council elections. Voting documents will be posted out between 16-21 September 2022 and they must be back with the Electoral Officer by noon on 8 October 2022 when the election closes.

Licensing Trusts - Candidates

Q15 *How much are Licensing Trust members paid?*

A This varies according to size and an assessed complexity of the Trust.

If you are elected as a Trustee of the Braided Rivers Community Trust, you are entitled to a present fee of \$900 less Withholding Tax every month. The Chair, who is elected by the Trustees, receives a present honorarium of \$25,000.

Q16 *Who is eligible to stand for a Licensing Trust?*

A Only **residential** electors of a trust district qualify as candidates at an election of a Trust if they are registered as a New Zealand parliamentary elector and provide proof they are a New Zealand citizen.

A person cannot stand if he or she has (directly or by virtue of his or her relationship with another person) such an involvement or appearance of involvement with the alcohol industry that he or she could not perform the duties of a member of a licensing trust without actual bias or the appearance of bias.

Q17 *Do you have to be resident in the Licensing Trust area (or ward if applicable) to stand for that Trust?*

A Yes you do and the people who nominate you.

Q18 *How many Trusts can I stand for?*

A Only one.

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Q19 *When do nominations open?* **A** They open on Friday 15 July 2022 and close at noon Friday 12 August 2022.

Q20 *How much can I spend on my campaign?* **A** There is a campaign expenditure limit based on how many people live in the Trust's district.
The expenditure limit for Braided Rivers Community Trust candidates is \$20,000 (incl GST).

Licensing Trusts - Voting

Q21 *Is there any information available to all electors about the people who are standing?* **A** Candidates are entitled to complete a 150 word (maximum) profile statement about themselves. This statement will be published in a booklet with information about all candidates and sent out with voting documents. It may also be available on the Territorial Authority's website.

Q22 *Who is eligible to be an elector?* **A** Registered New Zealand Parliamentary electors may vote for members of the Trust in the district in which they live.

Q23 *I have more than one property in different Licensing Trust areas. Can I vote for a member in each of those Licensing Trusts?* **A** No, you can only vote for the Trust where you are resident and on the parliamentary electoral roll.

Q24 *What method of voting is used?* **A** Licensing Trust elections are mainly conducted using the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system.
The Braided Rivers Community Trust election will be conducted using the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system.

Q25 *How much time would I need to spend on Licensing Trust work if I was elected?* **A** It does vary depending on the Trust.
Meetings of the Braided Rivers Community Trust are presently held on a monthly basis, normally on the third Thursday with

a commencement time of 4:30pm. There may be need, from time to time, to address issues outside this timeframe.

If elected as a trustee of BRCT you will also automatically (unless you decline to do so) become involved with the Lion Foundation's Regional Grants Committee (RGC). The RGC ensures that all profits derived from the proceeds of the Lion Foundation gaming machines operated in the Mid Canterbury area are made to the various organisations, clubs, events etc in accordance with the Lion Foundation 2008 Trust Deed and TGC policy, but always subject to Government policy as specified in the Gambling Act 2003. No fees are paid to members for their contributions to RGC activities.

Q26 *Do I need any special skills to be a Trust member?*

A

No, not necessarily. All trusts need a mix of skills, backgrounds and experience. This includes people with governance and financial experience, but also community-oriented people who are passionate about this area.

In 2021 the Trustees adopted a professional development policy which makes provision for elected trustees to undertake relevant training and continually upskill.
