



## Returning Officer's Summary Report

It was my pleasure to conduct the 2024 The Canine Association of Western Australia Election and I can report that from the commencement of the process, when nominations opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the process has run relatively smoothly, according to the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

2024 Elections was the second year utilising Vero an independent Australian company that specializes in planning, management and delivery of independent elections.

This year promotions of the Elections and processes commenced in March 2024. This included paper ballots on request. We received nearly 50 requests for a paper ballot, and of these, 12 eligible votes were received.

It is great to see the strong support for digital voting with 97% of voters using this option. Overall, the new Election system has considerably reduced costs, increased efficiencies and provided a transparent, independent process.

Of note, there were a couple of adjustments that were required before the commencement of voting on 1 August, mainly one resignation of a current Councillor, providing a new 1-year vacancy and eligibility changes of voters in July that were adjusted during the voting period.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> August, the paper ballot count occurred at Dogs West Boardroom, with the Scrutineer Robert (Bob) Southern once again in attendance. Bob observed the count and verified that the total number matched the paper ballot count reported in the Vero report.

Vero provided a 'Declaration of Results' of the process undertaken by them. The report shows:



## 2. Process Undertaken 2024 Dogs West Election

*Vero Voting offered eligible Dogs West members with three (3) voting methods. The types and use of each method in 2024 were as follows:*

- Online: 460

- Telephone: 1

- Postal: 12

Online votes are automatically collated on an independent platform which no Dogs West representative had access to view during the election period.

Telephone votes are where a member rang for support and Vero assisted them to vote online. Each member was verified by security questions by a trained support Vero official.

Postal votes were collected at Vero and at Dogs West Administration. Vero collected a secured Ballot Box from Dogs West and checked each vote for validity. Only 1 vote was found invalid as it was a duplicate to an online vote (where the member had voted online and posted a ballot slip. This vote was removed from the online system). Postal votes were entered into the online platform to combine the totals. All postal votes were then resealed in the Ballot Box and returned to Dogs West for the postal count on Friday 23 August. A Secure report generated from Vero Voting on its secure portal was generated with the full vote count for review by the Returning officer also on Friday 23, 2024.

The vote results provided by Vero were:



## 1. Vote Result

Total Eligible Voters: 2277  
Total Voted Online: 460  
Total Voted Phone: 1  
Total Voted Postal 12

**Vote Count** *(this includes all votes cast)*

**Des Kehoe (259)**  
**Neridah Sharrett (263)**  
**Sally Baxter (170)**  
**Jennifer Sayers (163)**  
**Peter Boekelman (249)**  
**Penny Kelly (292)**  
**Jeni Sach (234)**

**[Position] Elected:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Penny Kelly  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Neridah Sharrett  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Des Kehoe  
4th Place: Peter Boekelman  
Final Vote Audit: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024 10:35am AWST

Based on all information presented and observed by me as the Returning Officer, I confirm the Election results:

### Vote Results

Total Eligible Voters: 2277  
Total Voted Online: 460  
Total Voted Phone: 1  
Total Voted Postal 12

### Results and Vote Count:

#### President

Pamela Campbell  
Elected unopposed

#### Councillor (3 years)

- Penny Kelly (292)
- Neridah Sharrett (263)
- Des Kehoe (259)

#### Councillor (1 year)

- Peter Boekelman (249)

#### Deputy Councillor (1 year)

- Jeni Sach (234)
- Sally Baxter (170)
- Jennifer Sayers (163)

**Marzel Norton**  
Chief Executive Officer Dogs West - Returning Officer 2024