



Pakistan  
Bar Council

Supreme Court Building,  
(3rd Floor, Block I),  
Constitution Avenue,  
Islamabad.

Phone : 92-51-9206805, 9206922  
Fax : 92-51-9211669  
Email : info@pakistanbarcouncil.org  
Web : www.pakistanbarcouncil.org

## PAKISTAN BAR COUNCIL NOTIFICATION

No. 158/PBC/SEC/2025

September 08, 2025

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 55 of the Legal Practitioners & Bar Councils Act, 1973 (XXXV of 1973) and all other enabling provisions in this behalf, the Pakistan Bar Council is pleased to direct that the following further amendments shall be made in the Pakistan Legal Practitioners & Bar Councils Rules, 1976, namely:-

(1) **Short title and commencement:**

- (i) These Rules may be called the "Pakistan Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils (Amendment) Rules, 2025".
- (ii) They shall come into force at once.

(2) **Amendments/addition in Rule 3.**

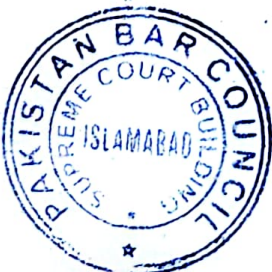
In Rule 3:-

- (a) in clause (i), the word "and", occurring at the end, shall be omitted;
- (b) in clause (a), in sub-clause (ii), for the full stop, at the end, the semi-colon and the word "and" shall be inserted thereafter the following new sub-clause shall be added, namely:-  
"(iii) includes a prospective candidate"; and
- (c) after clause (g), the following new clause shall be inserted namely:-  
(ga) "prospective candidate" means a person who canvasses with the intention to participate in any elections under this Chapter for a particular seat in a particular area and seeks support of voters in any manner.";

(3) **Amendment/addition in Rule 4:**

In Rule 4:-

- (a) in sub-rule (1), for the expression "1<sup>st</sup> day of October", the expression "the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September" shall be substituted;
- (b) after sub-rule (1), amended as aforesaid, the following new sub-rules shall be inserted, namely:-



“(1A) Where a Bar Council has carried out the process of digitation of its voters by any means, including through Q-Sahoolat, to the satisfaction of the Returning Officer, the elections may be conducted on the basis of such digitized voter list:

Provided that the digitized voter list may be updated till the announcement of election schedule.

(1B) Where a Bar Council has not prepared a digitized voter list, the elections shall be conducted on the basis of the roll of advocates maintained by the relevant Bar Council.

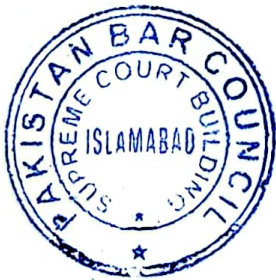
- (c) In sub-rule (2), for the expression “1<sup>st</sup> day of October”, the expression “the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September” shall be substituted; and
- (d) In sub-rule (3), for the expression “1<sup>st</sup> day of October”, the expression “the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September” shall be substituted.

(4) **Amendment in Rule 6:**

In rule 6:-

- (a) in sub-rule (1), after the word “district”, occurring for the first time, the words “who is practicing in such district continuously for five preceding years” shall be inserted; and
- (b) after sub-rule (2), the following new sub-rule shall be added, namely:-

“(3) The candidate shall file with the nomination paper certified copies of judgments of thirty decided cases independently conducted by him in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Federal Shariat Court, High Courts, Civil and Criminal Courts subordinate to High Courts and Tribunals functioning under the law-



- (a) in civil cases, copies of vakalatnama, plaint, written reply, judgment along with decree sheets, showing name of the Advocate of a party as lead Counsel;
- (b) in civil appeals or revisions, copies of vakalatnama, memo of appeal, judgment along with copy of decree sheets showing name of the Advocate of a party as lead Counsel;
- (c) in criminal cases, copies of vakalatnama, judgment of Trial Court or final judgment of the High Court, showing name of the Advocate of a party as lead Counsel;
- (d) in criminal appeals or revisions, copies of vakalatnama, memo of Appeal along with judgment of the appellate Court showing name of the Advocate of a party as lead Counsel; and



- (e) copies should be signed by respective District & Sessions Judge or by his authorized Senior Civil Judge, Criminal, Civil or Family Divisions. In case of judgments of Tribunal that should be countersigned by the Registrar of concerned Tribunal and judgments of High Court should be counter signed by the Additional Registrar of the High Court;

Explanation.-In order to establish that a case was independently conducted by the candidate, he shall furnish copy of vakalatnama, pleadings including written statement and final order or judgment showing his name as a lead counsel of a party to the proceedings.

(5) **Amendment in Rule 8:**

In Rule 8, the existing provision may be numbered as sub-rule(1) thereof and thereafter the following new sub-rules shall be added, namely:-

“(2) If a candidate has been dismissed or removed from service of the Government or any public statutory corporation, or has furnished false information or suppressed any fact from the Bar Council or attracted the provisions of section 11B of the Act or violated the Code of Conduct or any reasonable objection is received against him, the Returning Officer, if satisfied as to the genuineness of the complaint or objection, may seek verification from the record of the Bar Council or the department concerned.

(3) The Returning Officer/ Advocate-General shall have the power to examine the validity or invalidity of nomination papers of candidates at its own with regard to qualifications or disqualifications under these rules.”

(6) **Amendment in Rule 10A:**

for rule 10A, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“10A. Code of Conduct.- (1) No candidate or his supporter shall canvass for votes through-

- (a) advertisement;
- (b) banners;
- (c) pla-cards;
- (d) Stickers;
- (e) panaflex;
- (f) hoardings;
- (g) calendars;
- (h) dairies;
- (i) key-chains; and
- (j) posters etc.”



(2) The candidate or his supporter may, however, solicit support through personal contact and by issuing letters and visiting cards of the maximum size of 3x5 inches on which he may also display his photograph along with necessary information.

(3) No candidate or his supporter shall use or show any kind of weapon throughout the during election process or on the day of election.

(4) No candidate or his supporter shall canvass for votes by approaching a voter, directly or indirectly, at his residence.

(5) No candidate or his supporter, directly or indirectly, give meal, lunch, dinner, breakfast and hi-tea, to voters in connection with election campaign."

(7) **Amendment in Rule 10-B:**

For rule 10-B, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"10-B. (1) The Returning Officer/ Advocate-General may take action on his own or on any complaint filed with respect to the violation of the Code of Conduct or any provisions of the Act and these rules during the whole election process or campaign by a candidate or his supporters.

(2) Where such complaint is found to be false, frivolous and vexatious, the complaint shall be dismissed forthwith while imposing cost.

(3) The Returning Officer/ Advocate-General or any law officer authorized by him, as the case may be, may adopt a summary inquiry procedure as deemed appropriate for the expeditious disposal not later than seven days of the receipt of such complaints or cases.

(4) No candidate shall be disqualified for violation of the Code of Conduct or any provisions of the Act and rules unless a show cause notice has been issued and a reasonable opportunity of hearing has been afforded to him.

(5) Any aggrieved person may file an appeal against the order of the Returning Officer/ Advocate-General or any law officer authorized by him, as the case may be, within three working days of the order before the Attorney-General who shall decide the appeal within seven working days and the decision of the Attorney-General thereon shall be final.

(6) Any violation of the code of Conduct shall be deemed to be a cause of disqualification as duly mentioned in section 5B of the Act.

(8) **Addition of Rule 10-C:**

After Rule 10-B, the following new rule shall be inserted, namely:-



"10-C. (1) For the conduct of elections in each Province and the Islamabad Capital Territory, the Returning Officer/ Advocate-General shall prescribe the manner in which complaints or cases regarding violations of the code of Conduct shall be decided.

(2) In cases of pre-poll violations, the publication of the final list of candidates shall remain subject to the final decision of the competent authority on pending complaints.



(3) All prohibitions and restrictions under rule 10A shall also be applicable on the polling day in case of polling day violations, the declaration of results shall remain subject to the final decision of the competent authority."

(9) **Insertion/addition of Rule 28A:**

After rule 28, the following new rule shall be inserted, namely:-

28A. (1) The Attorney-General or Advocate-General may, by an order in writing, delegate any of his powers and authorize the performance of any of his functions under these rules respectively to Additional Attorney-General or Additional Advocate-General, as he may deem fit and proper, subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the order, for carrying out the purposes of these rules.

(2) The Advocate-General may constitute a team of law officers to assist him in any of his functions under these rules; and

(3) The Advocate-General/Returning Officer may appoint any law officer, i.e. Additional Advocate-General or Assistant Advocate-General to assist him in respect of election in all district headquarters in compliance of the election Rules.

(10) **Amendment in Rule 175-K:**

In Rule 175-K

- (a) in clause (a), after the word "Association", occurring for the fourth time, the words "and Bar Council" shall be inserted; and
- (b) after clause (a), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(a1) "In case of transfer of place of practice of voter membership within the same District for the purpose of Rule 6 his/her period of membership of Provincial Bar Councils shall also be counted/considered as valid and in case of transfer of place of practice as voter membership from one District to another District, the period of membership of previous Bar Association shall not be counted."



  
(Ch. Tahir Nasrullah Warraich)  
Vice-Chairman

  
(Gulzar Ahmad)  
Secretary