

ACTIVITY	National Candidates List – Determining first 3-digit number
PROCEDURE	For determining the first 3-digit number for the Supervisor to allocate to candidates
APPLIES	For preparing the National Candidates List
LAW	Electoral Act 2014, section 36(1)(c)

Section 36 of the Electoral Act 2014 sets out the process for the Supervisor to prepare the National Candidates List. The Supervisor must determine the order candidates appear on the List by means of a “barrel ball draw”. The balls are numbered consecutively, with 3-digit numbers. The Commission is required to determine the first 3-digit number.

The National Candidates List must be prepared within 7 days of the close of nominations. The List will include the 3-digit number allocated to each candidate, which is then used on the ballot paper. The Commission must determine the first number before the National Candidates List can be prepared.

1. The Commission’s procedure for determining the first 3-digit number is also by means of a barrel ball draw, which is conducted in the presence of invited stakeholders and media. Police may also be present.
2. Balls numbered 0 to 9 are placed in the barrel, and a person draws a ball from the barrel under blindfold.
3. Once the digit on the ball is confirmed, the digit is displayed and the ball is returned to the barrel for drawing the next digit.
4. To avoid using 3-digit numbers allocated at the previous election:
 - The Commission first determines the hundred series that the numbers will commence from – that is, the Commission determines the first of the 3 digits.
 - The remaining 2 digits are determined by ball draw.
 - If some numbers in that hundred series were used at the previous election, the balls with the corresponding digits are removed from the barrel for the draw of the second digit.
5. Out of respect for religious considerations, the Commission has issued the Supervisor a Directive to not allocate the number 666 to any candidate.

Further Information: Contact the Electoral Commission