**Grower Representative Member Elections**

**Q&As**

**What is the role of the QSL Grower Representative Member?**

QSL Grower Representative Members are the voice of cane growers from across the state. Grower Members represent the growers located in their local mill area. They are called upon to vote on key matters of importance at QSL general meetings, including the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

In addition, Grower Members are a vital communication link between QSL and growers throughout Queensland. Grower Members are in a position to provide direct feedback to QSL on behalf of growers in their region. As QSL keeps Grower Members updated on its activities, Grower Members also have a key role in sharing this information with growers in their region.

**How many QSL Grower Member positions are there?**

There are a total of 23 QSL Grower Representative Members, which also includes a representative from CANEGROWERS QLD and the Australian Cane Farmers Association (ACFA).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Mill Area</th>
<th>Grower Member positions (23)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
<td>Bingera and Millaquin</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Farleigh, Marian and Racecourse</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burdekin</td>
<td>Kalamia, Invicta, Pioneer and Inkerman</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbert River</td>
<td>Victoria and Macknade</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>South Johnstone</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>One position at each of the following mill areas; Rocky Point, Maryborough, Isis, Plane Creek, Proserpine, Tully, Mulgrave, Mossman and Tableland (9).</td>
<td>Note: CANEGROWERS QLD and ACFA each occupy one Grower Member position (2).</td>
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**How long is the Grower Member term?**

QSL Grower Members hold their position for three years. To-date, QSL has held a total of three Grower Member elections; 2005, 2008 and 2011.

**What if I am appointed and can’t see out this term?**

While we prefer that Grower Members see the full-term out, from time to time it is necessary for a Grower Member to resign from the position due to exceptional circumstances. If this happens, the Chairman of QSL, after consulting with CANEGROWERS QLD and ACFA, may appoint a grower from the relevant mill area to fill a casual vacancy until the next election is due to take place.

**Is there any remuneration involved with this position?**

There is no remuneration paid for this role however, reasonable travel expenses will be covered.

**What sort of time commitment is involved?**

Grower Members are expected to attend the QSL AGM and other special meetings as they are called, however they may send a proxy on their behalf if they are unable to attend. QSL is also endeavouring to hold at least two Grower Member workshops each year, with one to be held at the beginning of the year (before harvesting commences) and one around the time of the QSL AGM. Again, if a Grower Member is unable to attend, they may send a proxy. Other time commitments depend on how much Grower Members want to achieve from their role (see below).

**How do Grower Members make the most of their role?**

As the voice of growers, QSL wants to hear from Grower Members. To make the most of their role, Grower Members are encouraged to:

- Keep connected to their local QSL Industry Relationship Manager and provide feedback to the QSL team.
Keep informed by reading the weekly updates, news stories and other information that is sent. The QSL website is also a great source of information.

Attend sessions that QSL holds in their area and bi-annual workshops hosted for Members.

Share their understanding of QSL and the value it provides to the industry with others.

What benefits are there from being a Grower Member?

QSL Grower Members are the voice of cane growers from across the state. QSL is the marketing company for Queensland growers, so if you want your say to count, become a Grower Member.

Do Grower Members have input into the day-to-day running of QSL?

No, Grower Members do not have input into the day-to-day running of QSL, however we do welcome feedback. QSL is owned by the industry and has a membership, which is structured to have equal representation between growers and millers. Therefore, Grower Members have voting rights at the AGM and other special meetings as they are called.

How do I put my hand up to become a QSL Grower Member?

To nominate as a grower representative for a mill area, you must be a sugar cane grower who supplies sugar cane under contract to a mill in your relevant mill area. Simply fill out the nomination form available on QSL’s website (www.qsl.com.au).

If I have previously been a QSL Grower Representative Member, can I nominate again?

Yes, there are no restrictions to the number of terms you can nominate and/or serve for.

Do I need to be a member of an industry organisation such as CANEGROWERS or ACFA to nominate?

No, you do not need to be a member or affiliate of an industry organisation to nominate.

What if I live in one mill area but supply sugar cane under contract to a mill in a different mill area?

You must nominate yourself, or a representative, for the mill area in which the mill that you have a cane supply agreement, is situated. For example, if you have a contract to supply sugar cane to the Isis Mill, then you can only nominate as a grower representative for the Isis mill area.

When do nominations have to be submitted by?

Completed nomination forms must be received by QSL by no later than 5pm on Friday 9 May 2014.

What happens if you receive more nominations than there are positions in a mill area?

If QSL receives more nominations than the designated number of Grower Members referable to a particular mill area, a vote will take place. That mill area will be notified that a vote is to take place, and voting papers will be made available. If we receive the same number of nominations as positions available in a particular mill area, than those nominated will be appointed to the position without any need for voting.

How are nominations and votes counted?

The nominations and votes will be reviewed and counted in the presence of an independent scrutineer.

When will Grower Members be appointed?

QSL is working towards having all Members appointed prior to the QSL Annual General Meeting due to be held on 20 October 2014.