

2021 Legislative Council General Election
House Rules of Central Counting Station

1. Only activities related to the 2021 Legislative Council General Election will be permitted in the Central Counting Station (“CCS”) (including the Media Centre inside the CCS). Persons at or in the vicinity of the CCS must comply with these house rules.
2. A person at or in the vicinity of the CCS shall not behave in a disorderly manner (including shouting, yelling or creating a lot of noise; or causing nuisance, inconvenience, disturbance, interference, obstruction or danger to others, etc.) or fails to comply with a lawful order given by the Chief Returning Officer (“CRO”) or the Returning Officer (“RO”). Otherwise, he/she commits an offence and is liable to a fine of HK\$5,000 and to imprisonment for 3 months. The CRO or the RO may order the person to leave the CCS or the vicinity of the CCS, as the case may be, immediately. [Sections 68A(3), (4) and 69(2) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure) (Legislative Council) Regulation, Cap 541D]
3. If a person fails to leave the CCS when the CRO or the RO ordered to do so, the person may be removed by a police officer or by an authorized person. A person who is so removed may not enter the CCS again on that day unless the CRO or the RO who ordered his or her removal permits him or her to do so. [Section 69(3) and 69(4) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure) (Legislative Council) Regulation, Cap 541D]
4. After the commencement of the counting of votes and before the completion of the counting or re-count, a person shall not film, take photographs or make any audio or video recording, within a counting zone without the express permission of any member of the Electoral Affairs Commission, the CRO or the RO in charge of that counting zone. Otherwise, he/she commits an offence and is liable to a fine of HK\$5,000 and to imprisonment for 3 months. [Section 68A(1) and (4) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure) (Legislative Council) Regulation, Cap 541D]
5. In order to maintain order at the CCS, ensure public safety as well as the proper and smooth conduct of the counting of votes, persons seeking entry into the CCS shall undergo security check. A person shall not bring into, use or display in the CCS any article which may cause any nuisance, inconvenience, disturbance, interference, obstruction or danger to other persons (including but not limited to articles as stipulated in the Reference List of Prohibited Articles) or distribute in the CCS any promotional materials, souvenirs or give-away items without the prior permission of the CRO or the RO in charge of that counting zone. The staff of the Registration and Electoral Office (“REO”) or the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (“HKCEC”) have the authority to inspect the personal belongings of persons seeking entry to or at the CCS. If any prohibited articles are found, the relevant person will be asked to deposit such items at the cloak room, or the person must leave the CCS immediately to ensure compliance with the above rules.

6. Owing to limited space and the implementation of social distancing measures in the CCS, the CRO will display a notice outside the CCS setting out the admission capacity of the public area. Only authorized persons are allowed to enter the non-public area in the CCS (including the media area, stage and seating area for candidates and agents in the Media Centre).
7. Participants entering or present at the CCS shall not deliberately cause obstruction at points of entry or exit, stairways, aisles, emergency exits or access routes for emergency services within the CCS.
8. Found property will be handled by the REO or its authorized officers without further notice.
9. Participants should comply with all the House Rules of the HKCEC.
10. The CRO and the REO reserve the right to amend these house rules any time as they consider appropriate.
11. In view of the latest situation of COVID-19 epidemic in Hong Kong, all persons entering the CCS will have to wear masks properly and be subject to body temperature screening. Also, all persons entering the CCS, except for exempted persons, will be required to use the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application to scan the CCS QR code. Persons who are aged below 12 or aged 65 or above, and those with disabilities that render use of the app difficult, will be exempted from the requirement of using the app when they enter the CCS. However, they are required to complete a record form to register their names, the first four digits or letters of their identification documents, their contact numbers and the date and time of their visits. They are also required to present relevant identification documents for verification at the request of the staff of the REO or the HKCEC on site during registration. The staff of the REO or the HKCEC will also verify the contact numbers by making phone calls. The REO may deny entry to the CCS of any persons who refuse to comply with the above preventive measures or persons with signs of fever, or persons with respiratory symptoms or sudden loss of taste or smell.
12. No eating or drinking is allowed in the CCS unless otherwise within the specified area.