

## **NEKAAL Election Procedures**

Officers are elected annually, to serve a one-year term beginning and ending in December of each year, by vote of the general membership. Elected officers are as follows:

President

Vice-President

Secretary

At –Large board members

NOTE: Treasurer and Board Chair are not elected by the general membership. They are selected from board members by the rest of the board during the first meeting of the new board in December

### **Nominations**

Nominations are sought from the general memberships in the fall (preferably in September). Nominations are sent to the secretary, who then contacts each nominee to ask if they would be willing to serve if elected. The names of those who agree to be put up for election are put on a ballot which is provided to members by the November General Meeting.

### **Voting**

All regular members in good standing are allowed to vote. In the case of family memberships, all participating family members receive a vote. Completed ballots (paper or electronic) are to be received by the secretary through the call for votes at the December meeting. After all ballots are received, the secretary and one other board member tally the votes. Results of the voting are announced after the tabulations are completed.

All club officers are automatically elected to the board. Additional seats on the board are filled but the nominees receiving the largest number of votes for the board, up to a total of 9 board members. Should a tie occur for the final seat, it is up to the discretion of the president whether to seat a ninth board member.

### **The December Meeting**

During the December meeting, the final meeting of the board for the current meeting is held. Following the announcement of the new board, a meeting of the new board is held, during which time a Board Chair and Treasurer are selected.

## NEKAAL Award Procedures

NEKAAL presents 2 awards each year:

\* The Astronomer of The Year award is given to the person(s) who has made the greatest contribution to astronomy in general or NEKAAL in particular.

\* The Rising Star award goes to the person(s) who has made the greatest progress in their knowledge or practice of astronomy. This is usually someone who is relatively new to the field, but can also be someone who's been at it for awhile.

### Nominating Process

The procedure for nominating a recipient for either award is the same.

Nominations are sought from the general membership. Any member can nominate any member, including themselves. A letter is written to the president, stating who is being nominated, and the justification for the nomination. Nominations should be received by the end of the last regularly scheduled General Meeting in November.

After nominations are received, they are reviewed by the president, who decides the award recipient. The president is then responsible for having a plaque made for each award, which includes the date and name of the recipient. The award is presented at the annual Year-end Meeting/ Party in December.

Presenting these awards is not mandatory. If a suitable candidate is not found in any given year, an award is not presented