MSR&PC Voter Eligibility Rules

Any person who owns or operates a soybean producing facility and shares in the profits and risk of loss from such facility during the current or preceding marketing year is eligible to vote. Each producer unit is entitled to one vote. The producer, wife, husband or an authorized representative may cast a single eligible vote. A corporation or partnership shall have ONE vote. A voter must meet Minnesota’s general election voting age requirements.

CORPORATIONS OR COOPERATIVES
Any officer of a corporation or cooperative may cast its vote.

PARTNERSHIPS, FIRMS
Only one PARTNER or JOINT PARTNER may cast the vote of a JOINT OWNERSHIP, where the commodity is produced in partnership or joint ownership. It is the responsibility of the partners to determine which partner shall vote for the partnership. If the commodity is held in two or more names jointly, or in a firm’s name, the partnership-voting rule applies.

ASSOCIATIONS
An officer of an association may cast one vote for the association.

LANDLORD AND TENANT
Both the landlord and tenant may vote if they meet the eligible voter requirements. (A person receiving cash rent for his/her land would not share in the risks of raising a commodity.)

FIDUCIARIES
Only the legal representative may cast the vote of a producer, which is an estate, trust, conservatorship, or guardianship.

If husband and wife are carrying on the farming operation jointly, either one may cast the vote but both may not vote.

MULTIPLE OPERATIONS
No person, firm, corporation, association, partnership, university or college, foundation, cooperative, landlord, tenant, or fiduciary may vote more than once even though operations may be carried on in more than one county or region.
Board members are elected to three year terms during annual commodity council elections conducted by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Interested farmers must fill out a biography and candidate certification form.

Elections for directors in districts 1, 2 & 3, 4, 5 & 6, 7 and 8 will take place in March of 2020.

The responsibilities of MSR&PC Directors include:
• Be an active Board member. This includes attending MSR&PC board meetings, committee meetings and other Council functions. It also includes being prepared for Board meetings, asking critical questions, and helping the Board come to agreement in making decisions that affect Minnesota Soybean farmers.
• Know or build your knowledge about the MSR&PC, USB and its governing Act and Order. Learn about MSR&PC and its role with USB. A Leadership Guide will be provided to all Board members to assist you with this.
• Stay informed of trends in the field of agriculture and timely issues affecting Minnesota soybean farmers.
• Abstain from activities that may appear to create a conflict of interest. Follow the MSR&PC Code of Conduct.
• Maintain confidentiality, as appropriate, of MSR&PC Board issues and organization data.

Some benefits of becoming a MSR&PC Director include:
• The chance to make an impact and assist in the future of Minnesota soybean farmers
• Input into the investment of Minnesota soybean checkoff dollars
• An opportunity to be recognized as a leader in the field of soybean agriculture.
• Ability to attend one national USB Board Meeting per year
• Opportunity to develop and enrich your strategic business management skills

For more information contact: MSR&PC Election Chair Joe Serbus at 507-828-7869 or the MN Soybean office @ 888-896-967.

Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council Directors terms expiring in 2020

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