

Provided that no person shall be permitted to act as the companion of more than one elector at any polling station on the same day:

Provided further that before any person is permitted to act as the companion of an elector on any day under this rule, the person shall be required to declare that he will keep secret the vote recorded by him on behalf of the elector and that he has not already acted as the companion of any other elector at any polling station on that day.

- (2) The presiding officer shall keep a record in Form 17 of all cases under this rule.
80. **Spoilt and returned ballot papers:** (1) An elector who has inadvertently dealt with his ballot paper in such manner that it cannot be conveniently used as a ballot paper may, on returning it to the presiding officer and on satisfying him of the inadvertence, be given another ballot paper and the ballot paper so returned and the counterfoil of such ballot paper shall be marked "spoilt: Cancelled" by the presiding officer.
 - (2) If an elector after obtaining a ballot paper decides not to use it, he shall return it to the presiding officer, and the ballot paper so returned and the counterfoil of such ballot paper shall be marked as "Returned: Cancelled" by the presiding officer.
 - (3) All ballot papers cancelled under sub-rule (1) or sub-rule (2) shall be kept in a separate packet.
81. **Tendered votes:** (1) If a person representing himself to be a particular elector applies for a ballot paper after another person has already voted as such elector, he shall, on satisfactorily answering such questions relating to his identity as the presiding officer may ask, be entitled, subject to the following provisions of this rule, to mark a ballot paper (hereinafter in these rules referred to as a "tendered ballot paper") in the same manner as any other elector.
 - (2) Every such person shall before being supplied with a tendered ballot paper sign his name against the entry relating to him in a list in Form 18.
 - (3) A tendered ballot paper shall be the same as the other ballot papers used at the polling
 - except that -
 - (a) such tendered ballot paper shall be serially the last in the bundle of ballot papers issued for use at the polling station; and
 - (b) such tendered ballot paper and its counterfoil shall be endorsed on the back with the words
"Tendered ballot paper" by the presiding officer in his own hand and signed by him.
 - (4) The elector after marking a tendered ballot paper in the voting compartment and folding it, shall instead of putting it into ballot box, give it to the presiding officer, who shall place it in a cover specially kept for the purpose.
82. **Closing of poll:** (1) The presiding officer shall close the polling station at the hour fixed in that behalf and shall not thereafter admit any elector into the polling station:

Provided that all electors present at the polling station before it is closed shall be allowed to cast their votes.

 - (2) If any question arises whether an elector was present at the polling station before it was closed, it shall be decided by the presiding officer and his decision shall be final.