

with the following grouping with the alternate positions identically allocated:

(a) Three handler members to represent handlers who are cooperative marketing associations of producers (referred to in this part as "cooperative handlers");

(b) Three handler members to represent handlers other than cooperative handlers (referred to in this part as "independent handlers");

(c) One handler member to represent handlers who are cooperative handlers or independent handlers, whichever of such handlers handled as first handlers more than 50 percent of the prunes handled by all handlers during the crop year preceding the year in which nominations are made;

(d) Fourteen producer members to be selected from and to represent producers who are members of cooperative marketing associations (referred to in this part as "cooperative producers") and producers other than "cooperative producers" (referred to in this part as "independent producers"); the number of the producer members for the cooperative producer group or the independent producer group, as the case may be, shall be in the same proportion, as near as practicable, to the total of 14, as the tonnage of prunes handled by the respective group of cooperative handlers or independent handlers as first handlers during the crop year preceding the year in which nominations are made is to the total tonnage of prunes handled by all handlers as first handlers.

(e) The public member and alternate shall have no financial interest in the prune industry.

[26 FR 476, Jan. 19, 1961, as amended at 46 FR 61636, Dec. 18, 1981]

§ 993.25 Term of office.

The term of office of members, and their respective alternates, shall be two years, ending on May 31 of even numbered years, and any later date which may be necessary for the selection and qualification of their respective successors.

§ 993.26 Selection.

Selection of members of the committee, and their respective alternates,

shall be made in the appropriate number specified in § 993.24, by the Secretary from nominees nominated pursuant to this part or, in the discretion of the Secretary, from other eligible persons.

§ 993.27 Eligibility.

Producer members of the Committee shall be at the time of their selection, and during their term of office, producers in the group, for which selected and if to represent a district also producers in the district for which selected, and, except for producer members representing cooperative producers, shall not be engaged in the handling of prunes either in a proprietary capacity or as a director, officer, or employee. Handler members of the Committee shall be handlers in the group they represent or directors, officers, or employees of such handlers. These eligibility requirements shall not apply to the public member and alternate member.

[46 FR 61636, Dec. 30, 1981]

§ 993.28 Nominees.

(a) For the purpose of obtaining nominations for producer members to represent independent producers, the Committee shall, with the approval of the Secretary, divide the area into districts giving, insofar as practicable, equal representation to numbers of independent producers and production of prune tonnage by such producers. The number of districts shall be equal to the number of such producer members or seven, whichever is the lesser. Candidates for nomination by independent producers from the various districts shall be obtained at meetings convened by the committee. Following such meetings, the committee shall prepare a separate ballot for each of the districts, or a joint ballot for two or more districts, containing (1) the names of the candidates for each district involved and (2) provision for write-in candidates. The ballot shall be mailed to each independent producer of record in each district. The voting procedure (including the casting of the ballot by mail addressed to the committee), and tabulation of votes shall be in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the committee, with the approval of the Secretary.