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| **Accurate**  🞼  **Democracy**    ***4* Decision Tools in Graphics & Games**  Cvr43wide.png  **for Schools, Clubs, Towns & More** |
| “[This is *the* site for learning about democracy](#Endorsements).”  [—Zoe Weil,](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSHEV96dluY) author of [*Most Good, Least Harm*,](http://www.amazon.com/Most-Good-Leat-Harm-Meaningful/dp/1582702063)  president of [the Institute for Humane Education.](http://humaneeducation.org/)  “[...a huge contribution to the democracy cause](#Endorsements).”  —John M. Richardson Jr., former Chairman of the National Endowment for Democracy.  “[Congratulations on a brilliant piece of work.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_W._Fuller)”  —[Robert W. Fuller former President of Oberlin College, author of *Somebodies and Nobodies*, and *All Rise*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_W._Fuller).  The primer, games and pictures let you  [**Read**](#I_Voting_Primer)**,** [**Touch**](#II_Workshop) **and** [**See**](#III_Simulations_STV) **How**  The best voting rules are [fast](#Agenda1Ballot), [easy](#IRV) and [fair](#FairRepPR).  They help groups from [classrooms](#Electing_a_Council) to [countries](#NewZealand).  The results are well centered and widely popular.  They strengthenthe votes supporting  $ $  $  $ $  [one chairperson or policy](#Condorcet) and  **1**  fair shares [of seats](#Electing_a_Council) or [$pending.](#FairShareSpending)  **to Use and Enjoy**  **Share** this illustrated eBook with friends. **Grow** support in your school, club or town.  **Enjoy** better [politics](#IndexMerits), [relations](#Relationships) and [policies](#Stats).  by Robert Loring |
| The goal of Instant Runoff Voting is this:  A majority winner, from a single election.  Voting is easy. **Rank your favorite** as first choice, **and backup choices**: second, third, etc. as you like.\* Your civic duty to vote is done.  Now your vote counts for your top-ranked candidate.  If no candidate gets a majority, the one with the fewest    votes loses. So we eliminate that one from the tally.    Your vote stays with your favorite if she advances.   If she has lost, then your vote counts for your backup.   This repeats until one candidate gets a **majority**.  Why Support Instant Runoff Voting, IRV  **Backups give you more power and freedom** to express opinions with less risk of wasting a vote*.*  **No hurting your first choice** by ranking a backup, that does not count unless your first choice has lost.  **No worry about vote** **splitting** in a faction as votes for its loser(s) can count for each supporter's backup.  **A majority winner** from one election, so no winner with a weak mandate and **no costly runoff** election.  **High voter turnout** also creates **a strong mandate** The turnout for an election [runoff often goes down. 2](#RefLeader)  **More civility** [and](#RefLeader) consensus3 arise as candidates  ask a rival’s fans for their [backup votes. 4](#RefLeader), 6  [\*Pages 33](#Agenda1Ballot) and [46 show ballots](#BallotScan). 14 |
| Summary and Index of Benefits  Ranked Choice Voting has proven to pages  **Make voting easy** more often [effectiv](#End_Matter)e. [**14**,](#IRV) 57 Give you power to rank a backup [choice; so 33](#Agenda1Ballot), 46 Reduce your risk of [wastingyour vote; so 12](#WastedVotes), 16 Vote worry free for your true first choice. [14](#IRV) [**Boost mandates**](#Mandate) **as** [**more voters count.**](#End_Matter)  [**11**](#Mandate), [57](#End_Matter)  [**Reduce** **attack ads** that scare, anger and polarize. 14](#IRV) **Weaken** [**gerrymanders**](#GerrymanderBribes) [and spoilers](#IRV). [14](#IRV), 16, [32](#GerrymanderBribes)  **Give** **fair shares** of reps to the [rival groups; so **18**](#FairRepPR) Give diverse candidates [real chances to win; so 20](#Germany) Give voters real choices [and effective votes; so 17](#Electing_a_Council) **V**[**oter turnout is stronger.** 61](#Stats)  [**Elect women** two or three times more often; so **20**](#Germany) Accurate majorities win–[also due to more: choices, 17](#Electing_a_Council) turnout, effective votes and [equal votes per rep; so 21](#EqualReps) **Policies match** **public opinion better**. [21](#EqualReps), 60  Related Legislative Rules can  New  [**Elect a central chair** whose](#Chairperson) swing vote pulls [**31**](#Chairperson), 56 reps from many factions [to **moderate policies**.](#EnsembleCouncil) 8, [54](#Compare3Councils)  **Give** [**Fair Share Voting** for projects, savings... **24**](#FairShareVoting) Let v[oters see each rep’s FSV **spending**.](#FairShareMerits)  27  [**Reduce** **agenda effects** and scams](#Agenda1Ballot). [27,](#FairShareMerits) 30, [**33**](#Agenda1Ballot), [36](#Consensus), [54](#Compare3Councils) **Streamline group decision making.** 27, 33, 36  **AccurateDemocracy.com/AcDem.pdf**  FREE by Robert Loring [VotingSite@gmail.com](mailto:VotingSite@gmail.com) |

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| How You Can Try a Voting Tool  It's easy to **test**-drive a decision tool in a survey. Or a council can form a committee of the whole to discuss, vote, tally and report results to enact by their old rules.  Many groups **adopt** a book of parliamentary rules; then they amend it with “special rules of order” to make their decisions more popular, [stable and](#RefClasses2INGOs) quick.1  A_oldsteam A_mercedes  Steering Analogy  When choosing a voting rule, a new Mercedes **costs** little more than an old jalopy. That cost is a bargain when the votes steer important budgets or policies.  Does your car have an 1890 steering tiller or a **new**, power steering wheel? Does your town have an 1890 voting rule or a new, [centrally balanced rule?](#Agenda1Ballot) *e.g.* [p. 33](#Agenda1Ballot)     Many groups offer **apps to tally your votes**.       <https://AccurateDemocracy.com/z_tools.htm>  38 |

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| 🟋 [Back Matte](#Contents)r  Voting Reform Is Cost Effective  **Issue campaigns** teach voters and reps for years. This eases one problem, but rarely fixes the source.  **Election campaigns** cost a lot all at once. The biggest faction can skew all policies for a few years.  **Reform campaigns** cost no more than elections. RCV strengthens reps and policies for many years.  Issue  Election  Reform  2020 2022 2024 2026  Campaign  **costs in green**, results in yellow.  Tyrants manipulate weak democracies.  Strengthen Votes, Mandates and Policies  RCV expands the base of power, the numbers of effective votes and voters supporting: Pages  **1.** [a **CEO** or](#IRV) a [**Chair** from a plurality to a majorit](#Chairperson)y 14, 31  **2.** [a **Council** from a plurality to over three quarters](#FairRepPR) 17  **3.** [the **Budgets** from a few power blocs to all voters](#FairShareSpending) 24  **4.** [a **Policy** from a one-sided to an over-all majority.](#Condorcet) 30  Votes for real choices tally up real democratic power. It needs big mandates to govern new nondemocratic powers in big money, media, marketing and more. Mandates aid actions to achieve popular goals,  building up the democracy and its leaders. 57 |
| Voting Reforms Aid Other Reforms  **Ballot access** rules make it hard for small parties  to get on the ballot, because big parties fear “spoilers.” To calm that fear, let voters rank their backup choices.  **Ranked Choice Voting, RCV**, opens up elections.  **A news firm** may serve us better if the subscribers steer more parts of it than investors or advertisers do. There’s a low-cost method for any membership group: **Fair Share Voting** can reward the best news bloggers.  **Public campaign funding** lets reps and rivals give less time to their sponsors, more time to their voters. One plan gives each voter $50 of [vouchers to](#RefSims) donate.1 Such nameless gifts or **FSV** can cut corrupt paybacks. Big sponsors aim gifts to buy the few swing-seat races. [**RCV** and **Fair**](#RefSims) **Representation** [make that](#RefLast) harder.2  So big biz and billionaires may buy fewer seats.  *“It’s very hard to see us fixing the* ***climate*** *until we fix our democracy.”* [*—Dr. James*](#RefClasses2INGOs) *Hansen3*  **Good schools,** taxes and [voting may go](#RefLast) together.4 Schools build our group skills and political know how.  **Sabbatical terms** make the current rep run against a former rep returning from rest, reflection, and [research.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_research) Then the candidates include two with records in the job*!* **RCV** does not split up a group with similar candidates.  [**Citizens’**](#RefLast) **assemblies**5 and their referendums can get more choices and control by using **Condorcet Tallies**. The laws on voting rules, reps’ pay, sponsors, etc. need referendums as all reps have conflicts of interest. 58 |
| Some Users and Endorsers  **1. RCV elects leaders** in more and more places: Maine, Minneapolis and New York City have adpoted it; plus Duke, Harvard, Princeton, Rice, Stanford, Tufts, MIT, Cal Tech, Carlton, Clark, Hendrix, Reed, Vassar, the Universities of Auburn, CA, Houston, IA, IL, MA, MN, [NC, OK, TX, VA, WA, &](#RefLeader) WY.1  **2. Multi-Winner RCV users** include Australian and Irish voters in local and national elections, the Church of England, Cambridge U., Carnegie Mellon, Clark, MIT, Oberlin, Oxford, UC Cal, UC Davis, UCLA, UCSB, UT Austin and Vassar.  [fairvote.org/rcv\_in\_private\_organizations\_and\_corporations](http://www.fairvote.org/rcv_in_private_organizations_and_corporations)  **Many groups endorse ranked choice voting.**  Organizations: Cities and colleges on [pages 15](#IrvPatterns) an[d above.](#STV) The Academy Awards (Oscars), [AAAS](https://www.amacad.org/ourcommonpurpose/), Common Cause, Sierra Club, UUA, Church of England...  Leagues of Women Voters: Arizona, California, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Vermont, and Washington.  National Newspapers: [New York Times Sunday 6/10/18](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/09/opinion/ranked-choice-voting-maine-san-francisco.html), USA Today, Washington Post 6/14/18; Recent regional editorials: Portland Press Herald, Las Cruces Sun News…  Journalists: [David Brooks 6/1/2018](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/31/opinion/voting-reform-partisanship-congress.html), Hendrik Hertzberg…  Celebrities: Jennifer Lawrence 6/5/2018, John Cleese, Dr. James Hansen, Krist Novoselic, …  US Senators: John McCain, Barak Obama, Bernie Sanders…  US Reps: Keith Ellison, John Anderson, Abner Mikva, John Porter, Jamie Raskin, and more  Parties: Democrats of CA, CO, MA, and ME; Green Party US, Libertarian Party, Republicans in Alaska, Utah, and more  <http://www.fairvote.org/ranked_choice_voting_endorsements> 62 |
| About Us  is a nonpartisan champion of electoral reforms that give voters greater choice, a stronger voice, and a democracy that works for all Americans.  It has a proven record since 1992 as a trailblazer  that advances and wins electoral reforms at the local, state, and national levels through strategic research, communications and collaboration. Today it is the driving force behind advancing ranked choice voting  and fair representation in multi-winner legislative  districts that will open up our elections to better choices, fairer representation and more civil campaigns.  About My Work  In 1990, John R. [Chamberlin and Samuel Merrill](#RefLeader) III allowed me to use the simulation research results by each of them to advance a hybrid [Condorcet-IRV rule](https://accuratedemocracy.com/l_data.htm). In the 1990s, I coded [*PoliticalSim*™](http://www.politicalsim.com) and [*SimElection*](http://simelection.com)™.  They compared 30 single- and multi-winner rules from around the world and were used in a few universities. [Pages 48‑56](#III_Simulations_STV) show graphics from the simulation games. My sim research led to [*Democracy Evolves*](https://web.archive.org/web/19991023011241/http:/members.aol.com:80/loringrbt/a_intro.htm)7 in 1997. Then I helped [FairVote](http://www.fairvote.org) as a webmaster and librarian. For 10 years, I cheered [Twin Oaks Community](http://www.ic.org/participatory-budgeting-in-an-income-sharing-community/) as they stretched the uses of [Fair Share Voting. (page 24](#FairShareVoting) [& 44)](#WSbudgets) This ebook summarizes [AccurateDemocracy.com](https://AccurateDemocracy.com)  My goals are better group-decision results [(page 61),](#Statistics) through systemic [changes (*e.g.* pages 34, 58)](#Benefits2Voters), through better [tools between people (*e.g.* p](#Relationships)ages [24, 27](#FairShareMerits) [and 35)](#Relationships).  63 |

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