Full-Choice Ballots

Only a small group can crowd around a tally board. Big groups use paper ballots, often computer tallied.

**Old-fashioned ballots** oversimplify most issues. They let you mark only one option “yes”, leaving all others “no”. This can create false dichotomies, limited choices that polarize voters and increase conflict.

**Full-choice ballots** reduce those negative results. They let you rank a 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd etc. Ranks reveal the labels, “us versus them” or left versus right, hide moderate points of view.

**VOTE HERE** Fill only one “O” on each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Best</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
<th>6th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John McCain</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barack Obama</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillary Clinton</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Anderson</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ross Perot</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Nader</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Bloomberg</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write In: O O O O O O

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**Movable Votes**

Get your hands on **4 great voting rules.**
See fair-share tallies organize voters.
Vote fast on budgets, reps and projects.

![A tally board has](image)

- A card for each voter,
- A column for each option,
- A finish line for the favorites.

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**... and Set Budgets**

Each funding level is like another project. It needs enough cards to fill it up.

The column for “$3 OJ” starts at the bottom. Its finish line is at the tally board’s $3 level. The column for “$5 OJ” is blocked off up to $3. Its finish line is at $5; so it needs only $2 in cards. A supporter must put a card in the lower level first.

One at a time, the weak ones lose and the money moves – to help favorites still in the running.

5. Should we let a member fund private items?
6. Should people who pay more taxes or dues get more power to spend public money?
7. Should voters see grants by a rep? (or voter?)
8. Did your second choice hurt your first choice?
9. Who could use Fair-share Spending?

Each funding level of an agency is like a project. But an agency starts with about 80% of its old budget. So a voter cannot give it nothing and “take a free ride.”

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**Answers**

**IRV:** True, True, True. **CV:** 3/4 + 3 votes.

**Spending:** no, no, yes (no), many. **Pairwise:** mid, yes.
Instant Runoff Voting Elects One Winner

- A **finish line** marks the height of half the cards + 1. That is how many votes a candidate needs to win.
- **Eliminate** the weakest candidate if no one wins. Draw names from a hat to break ties.
- **Move** your card if your candidate loses.
- **Repeat** until one candidate gets the finish line!

This **chart** shows four columns on a tally board. The rule **dropped Anna**, so voter **JJ moved**. Then **Bianca lost**, so **BB and GG moved**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Anna</th>
<th></th>
<th>Bianca</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eliminated 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Eliminated 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J</td>
<td>J</td>
<td></td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pairwise Tally Centers a Policy**

- Flag C stands at our **center**, by the median voter. Three flags surround C, about 5' from it.
- We ask, "Are you closer to flag A than flag B? If so, please raise 1 hand." Then A against C, etc. We put each total in the **Pairwise table** below.
- The winner must top every rival, 1-against-1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>against</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>for A</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for C</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for D</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A pole stands at our center, by the median voters. It holds a short **Red** ribbon and a long **Blue** one.
- If the **Red** ribbon gets to you, the **Red** policy gets your vote with its narrow appeal.
- But if the **Red** cannot touch you, the **wide appeal** of the **Blue** policy gets your vote. Which one wins?

**Instant Runoff Voting continued**

By organizing voters, Instant Runoffs avoid: 
Spoilers and the lesser-of-two-evils choice; 
Costly runoffs and winners-without-mandates.

**IRV elects leaders** in San Francisco, Burlington... It elects students at Duke, Rice, Reed, MIT, UCLA...

1. A card that moves is no bigger than any other: T, F
2. Your 2<sup>nd</sup> choice vote can't hurt your 1<sup>st</sup> choice: T, F
3. Only one candidate can reach 50% + 1 vote: T, F

**ELECTING 3 REPS BY CHOICE VOTING (CV)**

- The **finish line** is set at 1/4 of the cards + one. Give no cards to a candidate who has finished.
- **Eliminate** the weakest candidates one at a time.
- **Move** your cards until three candidates win!

**CV** is **used in** Australian and Irish elections, at Princeton, Harvard, Berkeley, Oxford Cambridge, in some labor unions and in the Church of England.

 CV gives each group their **fair share** of seats. It elects more **women** and political **minority** reps. Voters get more **choices**; so more **turnout** to vote. It makes more **effective votes** that elect reps.

4. What total fraction must three CV reps win?

**Movable Money Votes Buy Public Goods**

- Let's say we each put in $1 to buy some items. You get two 25¢ voting cards and a 50¢ card.
- We say an item needs modest support from 8 of us to prove it is a **public good** worth public money. So the **finish line** marks the height of 8 cards.

- You may put only one of your cards in a column. So you can't dump all your cards on a private item.
  - Tip: Give your **double card** to your favorite. This way 4 eager voters can fund a low-cost item.

- A costly item must fill several columns. A column here holds $2, so a $4 item must fill two columns.

- When an item wins, the banker hides its cards. We **drop** an item if it costs more than all the cards left. Then one at a time, we drop the least popular item, with the lowest level of cards in its columns.

- **Move** your card from a loser to your next choice.
  - Tip: You may save a threatened favorite by briefly **withholding** your cards from lower-choice items.

We **stop** when all items still on the table are paid. Only a few items can win, but all voters can win!