

# Ranked Choice Voting



And Democratic Club Endorsements

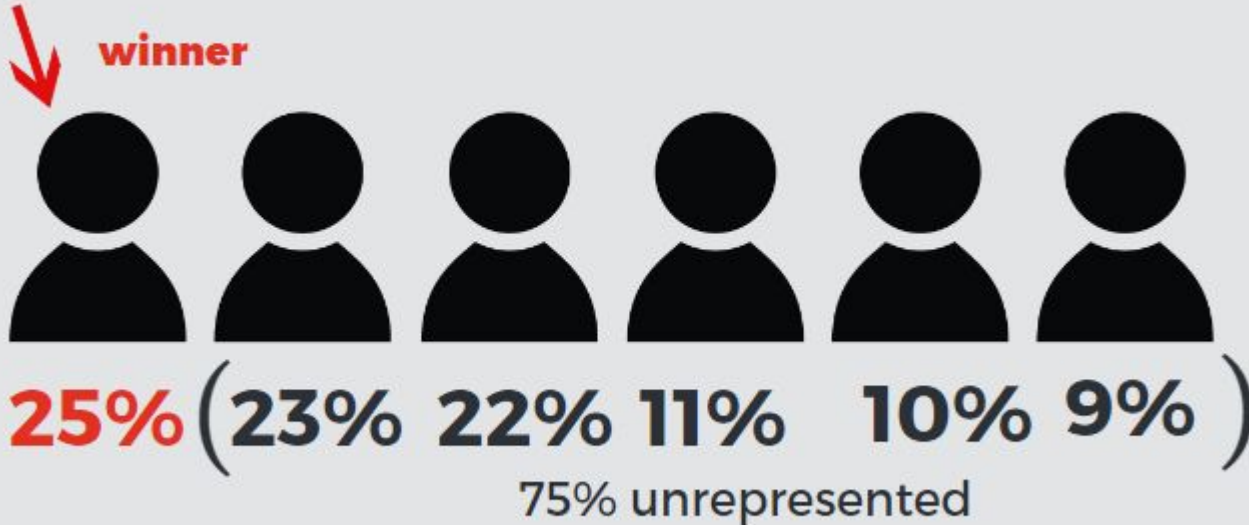
# What is “ranked choice” or “instant runoff” voting?

The terms "instant runoff voting," "single transferable vote," "preference voting," "the alternative vote," all refer to ranked choice voting.

“With ranked choice voting, voters can rank as many candidates as they want in order of choice. **Candidates do best when they attract a strong core of first-choice support while also reaching out for second and even third choices.** When used as an ‘instant runoff’ to elect a single candidate like a mayor or a governor, RCV helps elect a candidate that **better reflects the support of a majority of voters.** When used as a form of fair representation voting to elect more than one candidate like a city council, state legislature or even Congress, RCV helps to more fairly represent the full spectrum of voters.” - *FairVote.org*

# What happens under our current system?

## Example of Winner-Take-All



Even with our Top-Two system, candidates that make the run-off can still have a very small % of the total primary vote in their race.

*The winner received only 25% of the vote, leaving the remaining 75% unrepresented.*

# What are the benefits of RCV?

- Candidates are elected with a **majority vote**/support and a mandate
- **Discourages the negative campaigning**/"mud-slinging" which often depresses turnout
- **No fear of splitting the vote** = more candidates/choices for voters, which can increase voter turnout
- **Minimizes strategic voting**/no "spoiler" candidates or "wasting" your vote: you can vote your conscience, rather than for the candidate whom people say has the best chance of beating a "greater evil"
- **Fewer elections**: saves money, and decreases voter fatigue
- \*\*\*Ranking subsequent choice candidates **will not hurt the chances of your 1st choice candidate**

# Using RCV in Democratic Club Endorsements

Many clubs already do multi-round voting, this will simply do the multiple rounds on one ballot.

- Save time
- Save paper
- People who have to leave early can still participate in subsequent “rounds”

# Ballot Examples

## BOS District 4 Ballot

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice
Ken Malbrough	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lori Saldaña	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nathan Fletcher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Omar Passons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No Endorsement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\*A vote of "No Endorsement" counts against the threshold, while a vote of "Abstain" does not. These are always options.

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## Chula Vista D2 Ballot

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Steve Castaneda	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jill Galvez	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Patrick MacFarland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Max Zaker	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No Endorsement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## AD 76 Ballot

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Elizabeth Warren	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Michelle Cassel-Gomez	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tasha Boerner-Horvath	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No Endorsement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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# Long Example

**Scenario 1:** I want my club to endorse KDL, and if KDL is not chosen, then I don't want the club to endorse.

Bubble in KDL for 1st choice, and No Endorsement for 2nd choice. Done.

## U.S. Senate Ballot

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice	9th Choice	10th Choice
Dianne Feinstein	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kevin de Leon	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alison Hartson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
David Hildebrand	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Herbert Peters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Douglas Howard Pierce	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Donnie Turner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gerald Plummer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pat Harris	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No Endorsement	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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# Long Example

**Scenario 2:** My preference is David Hildebrand, but I also like KDL and would be fine with my club endorsing him because I know it's really going to be between him and DF.

I rank DH 1st, KDL 2nd, and No Endorsement 3rd.  
Done.

## U.S. Senate Ballot

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice	9th Choice	10th Choice
Dianne Feinstein	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kevin de Leon	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alison Hartson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
David Hildebrand	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Herbert Peters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Douglas Howard Pierce	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Donnie Turner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gerald Plummer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pat Harris	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No Endorsement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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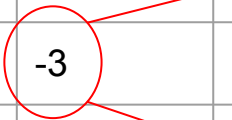


# How To Count

	<i>Round 1</i>
<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Emma	8
John	3
Maria	4
Robert	8

# How To Count

	<i>Round 1</i>			<i>Round 2</i>
<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Eliminate</u>	<u>Add To</u> <u>(2nd choice)</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Emma	8		+2	10
John	3	-3		
Maria	4		+1	5
Robert	8			8



# How To Count

	<i>Round 1</i>			<i>Round 2</i>			<i>Round 3</i>
<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Eliminate</u>	<u>Add To</u> <u>(2nd choice)</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Eliminate</u>	<u>Add To</u> <u>(2nd or 3rd choice)</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Emma	8		+2	10		+4	14
John	3	-3					
Maria	4		+1	5	-5		
Robert	8			8		+1	9

# RCV vs STAR

- FairVote.org on why RCV is preferable over STAR:  
<https://bit.ly/FairOnSTAR>
- STAR voting fails the later-no-harm test because it can help defeat a favorite candidate
  - It can help a stronger opponent reach the run-off rather than a weaker opponent
  - It can cause the favorite candidate to come in third place by total score rather than second, cutting them out of the runoff round entirely