

Dear Students,

During a college reunion, I gave one booklet to each residence, hoping its ideas would grow in their conversations. Two years later, students petitioned for a referendum and the following year 62% voted for Ranked Choice Voting to elect their Student Senate. That may have been a coincidence, of course, but I think the booklets probably helped.

The online edition may help the co-ops, senate, SFC, faculty, trustees or town adopt more tools for a more Accurate Democracy. — R. Loring



Voting Games

Funding and Policies Match
Voters' Spread and Center



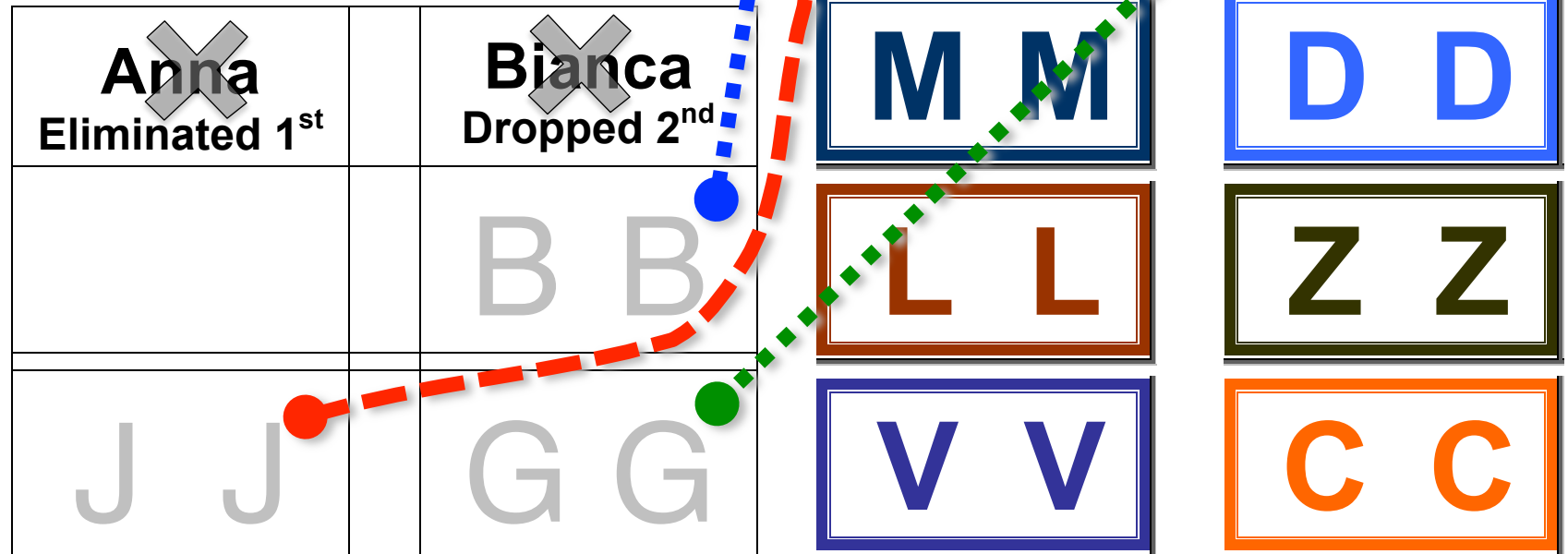
for Schools, Clubs, Towns and More

1. Ranked Choice Voting to Elect One

Tabletop tallies make **Ranked Choice Voting** lively. A **tally board** has: a card for each voter, a column for each option, a finish line for the favorites.

- The **finish line** is the height of half the cards, plus one. That is how many votes a candidate needs to win.
- If no one wins, we **eliminate** the weakest candidate. We draw names from a hat to break ties.
- **If your favorite loses, you can move your card.** You can give it to your next backup choice.
- We **repeat** this to eliminate all but one, the winner!

This **chart** shows four columns on a tally board. The rule **eliminated** Anna, so **voter JJ** moved his card. Then Bianca lost, so **BB** and **GG** moved their cards. They were free to choose different backups.¹



JJ ranks Anna 1, Celia 2.

GG ranks Bianca 1, Diana 2.

This winner had no surplus.

The last loser held 4 votes.

How many votes were wasted on a surplus or a loser?
M, L & V rank Celia #1. D, Z & C rank Diana #1.

“This is *the* site for learning about democracy.”
 — Zoe Weil, author of *Most Good, Least Harm*,
 president of the Institute for Humane Education.

“...a huge contribution to the democracy cause.”
 — John M. Richardson Jr., former chairman of
 the National Endowment for Democracy.

“Congratulations on a brilliant piece of work.”
 Robert Fuller, former president of Oberlin College,
 author of *Somebodies and Nobodies* and *All Rise*.

Tools for democracy impact our levels of
 liberty, social trust, health and happiness.

The best types of voting are fast, easy and fair.
 They help groups from classrooms to countries.

They raise the rewards for consensus builders.
 They reduce polarizing fear and gridlock.

One easy tool compares the votes on all the
options for a policy. Other tools give out
fair shares of seats or \$pending.



These are more pages from the free eBook.

1. Ranked Choice Voting can elect 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-rank candidate.

If no candidate gets a majority, the one with 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 Ranked Choice Voting, RCV

- **Backups give you more power and freedom** to express opinions with less risk of wasting your 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
- **More civility** and consensus³ arise as candidates ask a rival's fans for their backup votes.⁴

Free



Summary and Index of Benefits

| Ranked Choice Voting has proven to | Page* |
|--|------------|
| 1, 2, 3, 4. Make voting easy , more effective | 14, 57 |
| Give you power to rank a backup choice; so | 33, 46 |
| Reduce your risk of wasting your vote; so | 12, 16 |
| Vote worry free for your true first choice. | 14 |
| Boost mandates as more voters count. | 11-17, 57 |
| 1, 2. Reduce attack ads that scare, anger, polarize. ... | 14 |
| Weaken gerrymanders and spoilers. | 14, 16, 32 |
| 2. Give fair shares of reps to the rival groups; so | 18 |
| Diverse candidates have real chances to win; so | 20 |
| Voters have real choices and effective votes; so | 17 |
| Voter turnout is stronger. | 61 |
| 2. Elect women twice as often as plurality does; so ... | 20 |
| Accurate majorities win, also due to more choices ... | 17 |
| turnout, effective votes, equal votes per rep; so | 21 |
| Policies match public opinion better. | 21, 60 |

Even then, old decision tools push policy pendulums..... 4

✨ ✨ **An RCV Toolbox can do more** 🌸 ❤️

| | |
|--|----------------|
| 4. Elect a few central reps to be swing votes; so..... | 31 |
| Gather in other reps to moderate policies . .. | 8, 54 |
| 3. Use Fair Share Voting for projects, savings, etc.... | 24 |
| Let all voters see each rep's spending | 27 |
| 3, 4. Reduce agenda effects and scams. | 27, 30, 33, 36 |
| Streamline group decision-making. | 27, 33, 36 |

* AccurateDemocracy.com/eBook.pdf