

INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION

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ILS POLICY POL 27

ILS VOTING POLICY

METHODS OF VOTING

- Paper-based methods.
- Machine voting.
- Postal voting.
- Electronic voting.
- Open ballot.
- Other methods.
- In person.
- Proxy voting.

Paper-based methods

The most common voting method uses paper ballots on which voters mark their preferences. This may involve marking their support for a motion listed on the ballot, or a write-in, where they write out the name or a sign of their preferred candidate if it is not listed. The ILS uses this voting system.

Machine voting

Machine voting uses voting machines, which may be manual or electronic. The ILS does not use this voting system.

Postal voting

Many associations allow postal voting, where voters are sent a ballot and return it by post. The ILS may use this voting system.

Electronic voting

Many associations allow electronic voting, where voters are sent an electronic ballot and return it electronically. The ILS uses this voting system.

Open ballot

In contrast to a secret ballot, an open ballot takes place in public and is commonly done by a show of hands. The ILS uses this voting system.

Other methods

In some countries, voting is carried out using marbles or stones, a method introduced to deal with illiteracy. A similar system used in social clubs sees voters given a white ball to indicate support and a black ball to indicate opposition. This led to the coining of the term blackballing. The ILS does not use this voting system.

In person

In person voting means that the votes are carried in person by the person present. The ILS uses this voting system.

Proxy voting

Proxy voting means that a person who is not present, give his/her vote to an eligible and present person to vote in his/her place. The ILS uses this voting system.

MAJORITY

Simple majority or absolute majority: More than half of the votes cast. This can be 501 votes if 1.000 people vote. It can be 51 votes if 100 people vote. It can be 12 votes if 23 people vote.

Example, if a group consists of 22 individuals, a majority would be 12 or more individuals, while having 11 or fewer individuals would not constitute a majority.

Example, if a group consists of 23 individuals, a majority would be 12 or more individuals, while having 11 or fewer individuals would not constitute a majority.

Simple majority is more than 50%. Using the term 50%+1 is therefore wrong. The rules must be adapted to read >50% (more than 50%).

The (absolute) majority is sometimes referred to as a "simple" majority, compared to a supermajority (a majority requirement above 50%, like a 2/3 majority), however use of this term is inconsistent as it sometimes refers to a mere plurality (as opposed to an absolute majority).

A majority, also called a simple majority or absolute majority to distinguish it from similar terms (see the "Related terms" section below), is more than half, of the total. It is a subset of a set consisting of more than half of the set's elements. "Majority" can be used to specify the voting requirement, as in a "majority vote".

TYPES OF VOTES

Yes vote

A yes vote is when a participant vote YES.

No vote

A no vote is when a participant vote NO.

Abstention

An abstention is when a participant in a vote either does not vote YES or NO.

An abstention may be used to indicate the voting individual's ambivalence about the measure, or mild disapproval that does not rise to the level of active opposition. Abstention can also be used when someone has a certain position about an issue, but since the popular sentiment supports the opposite, it might not be expedient to vote according to their conscience. A person may also abstain when they do not feel adequately informed about the issue at hand, or have not participated in relevant discussion. A member may also be required to abstain in the case of a real or perceived conflict of interest.

Abstentions do not count in tallying the vote negatively or positively; when members abstain, they are in effect attending only to contribute to a quorum.

Invalid vote

A voter casts a ballot wilfully invalid. Invalid votes do not count in tallying the vote negatively or positively.

Blank Vote or white vote

A voter returns a ballot without having casted a vote. This is considered as an abstention.

ILS POLICY

1. Abstentions, invalid votes and blank votes are not counted to determine the majorities.
2. Majorities are determined after a vote has been issued.

Old system	New system
The majority is calculated on all votes: Yes, No, Abstention, Blanc, Invalid.	The majority is calculated on the YES and the NO votes only.
Rule: The simple majority is 50 %+1. The 2/3 majority is 66,66 %+1.	Rule: The simple majority is 50 %+1. The 2/3 majority is 66,66 %+1.
Example on simple majority: 20/20 Board Members vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 vote yes• 4 vote no• 6 abstain The motion did not pass.	Example on simple majority: 20/20 Board Members vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 vote yes• 4 vote no• 6 abstain The motion does pass.
Example on 2/3 majority: 20/20 Board Members vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 vote yes• 4 vote no• 4 abstain The motion is does not pass.	Example on 2/3 majority: 20/20 Board Members vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 vote yes• 4 vote no• 4 abstain The motion does pass.

Reports

Reports presented by the President, the Secretary General, the ILS Vice-Presidents and the Commissions/Committee Chairs are received by the Board of Directors.

Recommendations

Recommendations are approved or disapproved by a vote of the Board of Directors.

Policy approved by the Board of Directors on 24/09/2022.