Voting options for the RIPE NCC Board elections

Axel Pawlik

Introduction

- Voting procedure and process not amended since 1997

- Little participation - with membership growth Percentage decrease - never above 5% of members

    – Improved with holding GM next to RIPE meeting

- Voting process

    – Paper ballot, multiple rounds with majority vote (only onsite voting)

    – With many candidates very time consuming

    – No formal objective oversight on voting process (Election committee)

Current system

- ## Features

  - Multiple voting rounds

  - Paper ballots

  - Only onsite voting

  - Complex proxy system (up to 2 weeks in advance)

- ## Issues

  - For some registries impossible to vote – distance/costs

  - Little representation below 5% of members

  - Time consuming voting

Voting methodology

- ## Single voting round

  - One vote for one candidate

  - Candidate with highest number of votes wins (no majority vote)

- ## Instant Run-Off Voting

  - Votes ranks candidates in order

  - Candidate with lowest number of votes drop and these votes are re-assigned based on the order of the voters choice to another candidate

  - Single round of voting

  - Majority vote

  - Preferential votes for other candidates are possible

  http://wikipedia.org….

Voting systems

- Postal voting via paper balloting

- Remote voting using the LIR portal

- Remote voting via an online system

Postal voting via paper balloting

Pro

- Low initial cost - no IT Infrastructure investments

Con

- Postal services are unreliable throughout our region

- Time consuming processing

- Long voting process to allow votes to come in

- No verification of votes for members

Remote voting using LIR Portal

Pro

- Fairly simple organisation

- Current 8 week timeline can be maintained

- Process can be verified by external parties

- LIR portal reliable application

Con

- Members cannot verify their vote is cast correctly

- High cost to build application

- RIPE NCC in charge of whole election process

Remote voting via Online System RIES

Pro

- Fairly simple organisation

- Current 8 week timeline can be maintained

- Members can verify their vote

- Process outsourced insuring integrity of results

- Process can be verified by external parties

- Reliable system on RIPE NCC Infrastructure

Con

- High cost to build application

Comparison of voting systems

Requirements	Current System	Postal voting via paper balloting	Remote voting using the LIR Portal	Remote voting via an online system
Reliability	+	-	+	+
Accuracy	+	-	+	+
Verification of results by users	-	-	+	+
Voting secrecy	+	-	-	+
Assurance on integrity of results	+	-	-	+
Organisational effort	Medium	High	Low	Low
Investment	Low	Low	High	High
Adjustment and maintenance for each elections	High	High	Low	Low

Questions ?
Discussion