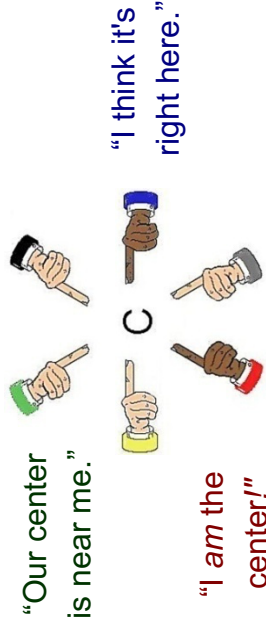


Condorcet Tally

A winner of a plurality election gets no votes from the losing side and does not need to please those voters. But here each option will need support from all sides, as each voter will rank it above or below all its rivals. Thus every voter will be “obtainable” and valuable.

This winner is well **balanced** and widely popular. Voters on the **center** and **right** give it a majority over any **left-wing** policy. At the same time, voters on the **left and center** like it more than any **right-wing** policy. **All sides** like it more than a narrowly-centrist policy.^{2, 3}



Everyone could help locate our center.

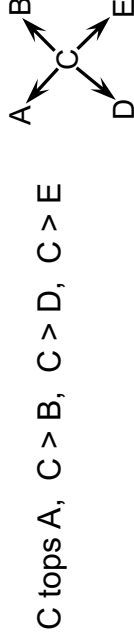
A Chair with Balanced Support

CT can elect a chairperson or a few reps to serve as **central swing voters** between the factions on a council. To win, a candidate needs to earn wide-spread support. This gives her strong incentives to help the council balance its process and policies.

How Does It Work?

To win, a policy must top each rival, **one-against-one**.

A good **analogy** is a round-robin tournament: A player has one contest with each and every rival. If she wins all her tests, she wins the tournament. Each voting test sorts all the ballots into two piles. If you rank option K over L, your ballot goes to K. The option that gets the most ballots wins this test. If one wins all its tests* it wins the Condorcet Tally.



Why Use Condorcet?

- * **Choice ballots:** Rank all the options on one ballot.
- * **Simplify** the old rules of order and **speed up** voting.
- * **Reduce agenda effects**, from errors and **gridlock**, to “free-rider” and “wrecking” amendments. page 33
- * **No split-vote** worries as duplicates don't help or hurt each other. A majority can rank all of their favorites over the other options. Ballots from all voters help decide which of the majority's favorites wins.

- * **A balanced policy** tends to be **stable**, decisive. p. 31
- Yet a balanced process can calm some fears about reviewing and **changing** a good policy to improve it. Both build respect for democracy.

* **Instant Runoff** can break a tie, eg. if K > L, L > M, and M > K. IRV is the subject of another chapter.

A Less Rigged Agenda Now!

Some meetings concoct a policy by a series of yes-no choices, with or without rules of order, agendas or votes. An early proposal might have to beat each later one. An early decision might preclude some later proposals. So “**stacking the agenda**” can help or hurt proposals.

Other meetings discuss the rival options all at once. But often some members express **no backup choices**. So similar options split supporters and hurt each other. Then a minority pushing 1 option can appear to be the strongest group. Even sadder, a member with a well-balanced option but few eager supporters might drop it.

Too often, a committee chooses all the parts in a bill. Other members can say only yes or no to that **bundle**.

Rigged votes often build bad policy and animosity. To reduce these risks, let the voters rank more options.¹

A Ranked Choice Ballot



Rank **Option**

- 3 Continue Discussion
- 2 Original Bill, the main motion
- 1 Bill with Amendment 1 (a free rider?)
- 8 Bill with Amend. 2 (a wrecking amend.?)
- 7 Bill with Amendments 1 and 2
- 4 Postpone for 7 days
- 5 Refer the Bill to a Committee
- 6 No Change (a vote for gridlock exposed?)

An “Incidental Motion” does not wait for the ballot, e.g. a personal complaint or request.