

Ranked Choice Voting

What is it?

(Jurij Toplak) “Ranked voting describes certain voting systems in which voters rank outcomes in a hierarchy on the ordinal scale (ordinal voting systems). In some areas ranked-choice voting is called preferential voting, but in other places this term has various other meanings.”

Sports uses this system to get the most accurate vote

Take a look at NL MVP Voting in 2017. Two players split the 1st place vote evenly, but being able to say who the second place vote is made it clear which way the voters were leaning.

Many systems, same theory

Let's say there's 3 candidates on the ballot, Trump, Clinton, and Johnson. Like in many elections, you might vote for, let's say Clinton, because you're a #NeverTrump guy. But then, to really stack the deck against Trump, you can put Gary Johnson in 2nd place. This would give Clinton 3 points, Johnson 2 points, and then, by leaving the 3rd option blank, Trump would get 0 points.

Seeing how close the election was last time in the numbers and judging by how split Trump supporters and Clinton supporters were, it's quite likely Johnson would have won the election.

This can GREATLY help unify a split country by finding candidates that best represent a compromise between the two parties.

Still can be rigged against Libertarians

In Maine's system, they tally the first place votes first and then drop the last place person if nobody broke 50% (which, obviously, greatly benefits the largest two parties). Still, Maine at least progressed a little bit in this way and the process was considered a success.

Sources

USA Today

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/11/16/ranked-choice-voting-maine-protest-candidates-election-2018-column/2023574002/>

Jurij Toplak

Toplak, Jurij (2017). "Preferential Voting: Definition and Classification". *Lex Localis – Journal of Local Self-Government*. 15: 737–61.

Baseball reference

https://www.baseball-reference.com/awards/awards_2017.shtml