

Irish Wolfhound Club of America, Inc.



Election Supervisor's Duties

Tellers are chosen at the beginning of the General Meeting. Prior to the general meeting an election supervisor (s) is named by the President. If circumstances warrant, two supervisors may be appointed (one for Board elections and one for Specialty Judge and poll/issues votes). The Secretary then turns over to the supervisor(s) the sealed container with all ballots which have been received from the Active Members. The Treasurer also delivers an alphabetical listing of Active Members marked so as to identify those in good standing.

The supervisor(s) instructs the tellers as to their duties and stands by to answer questions and resolve problems. After the tellers remove the inner envelopes from the outer envelopes, the supervisor(s) thoroughly shuffles the inner envelopes so that none can be identified with any of the envelopes bearing a member's name. After the supervisor(s) has shuffled the ballots, they are placed in containers: one for Board ballots, one for Specialty Judges ballots and, if pertinent, one for poll or issues ballots. The supervisor(s) is responsible for the container or containers pertaining to their functions, and will take such measures as are necessary to ensure that they remain in public view until they and the tellers assemble for the tallying.

If the tellers discover any questionable ballot in which the voter's intent cannot be clearly interpreted or appears to be invalid, they will present the ballot in question to the supervisor for his decision. If a ballot is declared invalid by the supervisor, he will write in ink on the ballot the word "Invalid." Invalid ballots will be kept apart from the valid ballots but will be counted in the overall total number of ballots cast.

The object is to count as many ballots possible as valid, to insure that the voice of the membership is heard. The "approval method" is described as a voting procedure in which voters can vote for as many or as few candidates as they wish for the positions. The candidate with the most votes wins. Approval voting is simple to understand and use, and results in far fewer invalid ballots.

Valid Ballots

1. The voter marked all of the candidates, even if the number of candidates exceeds the number of positions available. This is permissible.
2. The voter marked none of the candidates. This is permissible.
3. The voter corrects a mismarking. If the voter's intention is clear, the ballot is valid.

Invalid Ballots

1. A ballot submitted by a member whose dues are not paid for the current year is invalid.
2. Write-in candidates are invalid. (*IWCA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4: No person may be a candidate who has not been nominated in accordance with these Bylaws.*)
3. A ballot in which the voter's intention cannot be clearly determined is invalid.

Once the counting is completed, the tellers will report their findings to the supervisor by completing a tally sheet and signing it (must be signed by three tellers). The supervisor(s) will then write and sign a memorandum certifying the eligibility of the voters and disclosing the results of the election. The memorandum will be delivered to the President as soon as practicable. After the president has announced the results to the membership, a copy of the memorandum is given to the secretary for inclusion in the official minutes of the General Membership meeting. The supervisor will retain control of the alphabetical membership list, ballots, and one copy of the tally sheets and official memorandum for a period of one year. At any time after the elections and for a period of one year after the election, any Active member shall have the right to examine the documents retained by the supervisor. Such examination shall be in the presence of either the supervisor or of someone designated by him.

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