

Proposal 3 - Amend By-Laws Article 14 (Absolute majority)

Rationale:

If there are more candidates than two it is very likely that the candidate with the highest votes does not get the absolute majority (i.e. at least 50% + 1 vote) of the cast votes.

This means that the person in question has actually a majority of members AGAINST them – which is not a good start and can undermine the authority of the officer.

A run-off election with the two candidates who had most votes in the first round secures that the officer will be elected by an absolute majority.

This is the case in most western democracies and should be also done in TICA.

Since we vote electronically it is also no problem timewise – the new Officer will be elected before December 31. And we also want to stress that a Run-Off is nothing new to TICA, we have this in our rules since inception (114.4).

PROs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Members have a greater chance of picking a candidate that reflects the preference of the majority of the voting membership.	CONs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Run-off elections may be more frequent and add cost to the balloting process.
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Amend Bylaws Article 14:

Article Fourteen – Election of Officers

114.1 Time of Election. Election of officers shall take place in October every third year by ballot of the membership.

114.1.1 Beginning in 2005, the President and Vice-President shall be elected every 3 years in the same years that Breed Committees are elected.

~~114.1.2 The President and Vice-President elected in 2001 shall serve an additional year in order to make the transition in election years.~~

114.2 Announcement of Candidates. Any member who has been a member in good standing for 2 consecutive years immediately preceding **the election month and is also eligible to vote** shall be eligible to seek office and shall declare their candidacy in writing to the Executive Office not more than 4 months nor less than 2 months before the election month with the filing fee established by the Board of Directors. If no member in the region ~~or no member in the Breed/Breed Group Section~~ has been a member for the 2 years immediately preceding the election **month**, the 2-year membership requirement shall not apply. This shall entitle the candidate to be listed as a candidate for the office sought in every issue of the newsletter including the newsletter prior to the ballot being mailed to the membership. Each candidate shall be entitled to publish a summary of their experience, credentials and platform in accordance with Standing Rules.

114.3 Election.

114.3.1 The election ballot shall contain a list of candidates. The ballot for election of President, Vice President and Regional Directors shall also contain lines for write-in votes. The provisions of Article Thirteen shall apply to election of officers.

~~114.3.2 The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. In the case of a tie, a run-off election shall be held.~~ **The person who receives an absolute majority (over 50%) of the valid votes cast shall be elected. If no-one reaches this threshold, a run-off election between the two people with the highest number of votes shall be held.**

114.3.3 No person may hold more than one elected position on the Board of Directors at one time.

114.3.3.1 A Regional Director who is elected President or Vice-President must resign as Regional Director effective on the date of assuming the office of President or Vice-President.

114.3.3.2 Appointment of a new Regional Director shall be in accordance with 15.3.2 of these By-Laws.

114.4 Run-Off Elections. If a run-off election is required, a run-off ballot shall be ~~mailed~~ **sent** to each member eligible to vote. The provisions of Article Thirteen shall apply to run-off elections.

114.4.1. The person who receives an absolute majority (over 50%) of the valid votes cast shall be elected.

114.4.2. If there is a tie then the person who received the greatest number of votes in the initial ballot shall be elected.

114.5 Elected officers shall take office January of the ensuing year.

114.6 Responsibilities of Members. Each member shall be responsible to ensure that their ballot is properly authenticated and forwarded as set forth in 113.3.5 above. No member shall attempt to invalidate or otherwise tamper with the TICA election process in any manner whatsoever.