

Constitution of The International Rough Set Society

Established 4 December 2005

1 Official Name

The official name of the Society is “International Rough Set Society”. It may be abbreviated IRSS.

1.1 Official Language

The official language of the Society is English.

2 Purpose

The International Rough Set Society is a not-for-profit organization¹ dedicated to scholarship in rough sets introduced during the early 1980s by Zdzisław Pawlak [4, 5, 6]. The principal purpose of the International Rough Set Society®² is to promote the study and scholarly exchange of ideas concerned with rough set theory, foundations, methods and their extensions as well as their applications.

The principal policy of the International Rough Set Society shall be to attain these purposes through scholarly publications, workshops, international conferences, research projects, the establishment of chapters, and other such activities consistent with the objectives of the Society. The primary function of the IRSS is to act as a federation of its members to accomplish its goals, and provide services for its members. It shall also be the policy of the Society to insist upon the highest standards of scholarship and service from its members.

3 Membership

There are six (6) types of membership in the International Rough Set Society: Individual, Institutional, Corporate, Student, Active, and Honorary.

3.1 Individual Membership

An Individual Member (IM) of the International Rough Set Society is a person who has satisfied the requirements for membership. The requirements for an

¹A *not-for-profit organization* is an organization which exists for educational or charitable reasons, and from which its members or trustees do not benefit financially (see, e.g., [1]).

²A not-for-profit organization is registered if it has formally submitted a document (e.g., Constitution and Bylaws) to, and received approval for a specific activity from, the appropriate official or authority (see, e.g. [2, 3]). Registration of the *International Rough Set Society* is pending.

IM are given in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. An IRSS IM starts whenever the membership requirements are satisfied and recorded by the IRSS, and continues as long as the IM continues to satisfy the membership requirements each succeeding year.

An individual member is a voting member during an IRSS election. In addition, an IM has the following benefits: (1) recipient of all IRSS announcements, (2) eligibility to receive awards such as a Best Paper Award and Outstanding Service Award awarded annually by the IRSS, and (3) full access to all services provided by the IRSS (see Sect. 4).

3.2 Institutional Membership

Any university, college, faculty, society, institute, or foundation whose purpose is related to and compatible with the purpose of the IRSS is eligible to become an Institutional Member (IsM) of the IRSS provided it has satisfied the requirements for membership. The requirements for an IsM are given in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. An IsM is a non-voting member of the IRSS entitled to the same benefits as an Individual Member.

An IsM starts when an application to be IsM has been accepted by the IRSS Council, and continues as long as the IsM continues to satisfy IsM requirements each succeeding year.

3.3 Corporate Membership

A corporation whose purpose is related to and compatible with the purpose of the IRSS is eligible to become a Corporate Member (CM) of the IRSS provided it satisfies the requirements for corporate membership specified in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. A CM is a non-voting member of the IRSS entitled to the same benefits as an Individual Member.

A CM membership starts when an application for CM has been accepted by the IRSS, and continues as long as the CM continues to satisfy CM requirements each succeeding year.

3.4 Student Membership

Any university undergraduate or graduate student who is the author or coauthor of a conference paper or journal article on rough sets during the current calendar year is eligible to be a Student Member (SM) of the IRSS. A more detailed description of the requirements for a SM is given in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. A SM is a non-voting member of the IRSS entitled to the same benefits as an Individual Member.

A SM starts when an application for SM has been accepted by the IRSS, and continues as long as the SM continues to satisfy SM requirements each succeeding year.

3.5 Active Membership

Any person who agrees to work towards the betterment of (i.e., providing one or more services for) the IRSS during the current calendar year is eligible to be an Active Member (AM) of the IRSS. A more detailed description of the requirements for an AM is given in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. An AM is a non-voting member of the IRSS entitled to the same benefits as an Individual Member.

An AM starts when an application for AM has been accepted by the IRSS Council, and continues as long as the AM continues to satisfy AM requirements each succeeding year.

3.6 Honorary Membership

The President of the IRSS can nominate any person to be an Honorary Member (HM) of the IRSS based on outstanding research either directly or indirectly related to the foundations, extensions and applications of rough sets. An HM is, by definition, also an Individual Member of the IRSS. A more detailed description of the requirements for a HM is given in Sect. 2 of the IRSS Bylaws. Nominations for HM must be approved by the IRSS Advisory Board. An HM is a voting member of the IRSS entitled to the same benefits as an Individual Member.

An HM is a lifetime membership in the IRSS that starts when a nomination for HM has been approved by the IRSS AB.

4 Services

Besides acting primarily as a federation of its members, the Society also provides services for all of its members. The IRSS provides services such as (1) awards for outstanding scholarship in rough sets, (2) awards to individual IRSS members as well as to institutional and corporate IRSS members for exemplary service for the rough set community, (3) IRSS web site for notices of meetings, (4) publication of articles and book reviews in the IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal and Transactions on Rough Sets, (5) promotion of IRSS-sponsored conferences and workshops, (6) sponsorship of scholarly publications, conferences, workshops, symposia, research projects, chapters, and other such activities devoted to rough sets, (7) publication of information about cutting-edge developments, publications, and tools via the IRSS web page.

5 Organization

The organization of the IRSS consists of the following organizational units:

1. Council,
2. Executive Board (this includes the Council),

3. Steering Committee with a maximum of twelve (12) appointed members plus appointed Chair,
4. Advisory Board with a maximum of twenty (20) appointed members plus elected Chair.

6 IRSS Council

The Society is governed by the IRSS Council, whose elected members are:

1. President,
2. Vice President,
3. Secretary,
4. Treasurer.

The method of selection of candidates for the IRSS Council is explained in Sect. 9.4. The Chair of all IRSS Council meetings is either the President of the IRSS or a member of IRSS Executive Board appointed by the President of the IRSS. All members of the IRSS Executive Board shall be invited to all Council meetings, and shall be included in all Council correspondence.

6.1 President

The President of IRSS is an elected member of the IRSS. Any Individual Member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a President of the IRSS. The tenure of the President of the IRSS is limited to one term of four (4) years. The four-year term of office of an IRSS President is completed at the end of the presentation of the report on the state of the IRSS to the rough set community. A former President of the IRSS can be re-elected for a second term as President of the IRSS, but cannot be elected for any other IRSS Council position. The maximum number of terms that one person can be IRSS President is two. The specific responsibilities of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the IRSS are given in Sect. 3 of the IRSS Bylaws.

6.2 Vice President

The Vice-President of the IRSS is an elected member of the IRSS. Any Individual Member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a Vice-President of the IRSS. The tenure of the Vice-President of the IRSS is limited to four (4) years. A former Vice-President of the IRSS can be re-elected as Council Vice-President, and is eligible to be a candidate for any other office of the IRSS Council. In the event that an IRSS President resigns, the Vice-President becomes Acting President of the IRSS, calls for nominations of a new President, and initiates a special election of a new President.

6.3 Secretary

The Secretary of the IRSS is an elected member of the IRSS. Any Individual Member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a Secretary of the IRSS. The tenure of the Secretary of the IRSS is four (4) years. The Secretary of the IRSS can be re-elected as Secretary of the IRSS, and is eligible to be a candidate for any other office of the IRSS Council.

6.4 Treasurer

The Treasurer of the IRSS is an elected member of the IRSS. Any Individual Member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a Treasurer of the IRSS. The tenure of the Treasurer of the IRSS is four (4) years. The Treasurer of the IRSS can be re-elected as Treasurer of the IRSS, and is eligible to be a candidate for any other office of the IRSS Council. The maximum number of terms that one person can be IRSS Treasurer is two.

6.5 Purpose of the IRSS Council

The purpose of the IRSS Council is to manage, organize, and promote the study and scholarly exchange of ideas concerned with rough set theory, foundations, methods and their extensions as well as their applications.

6.6 Policies of the Council

The policies of the Council are carried out by the Executive Board. The Council also determines all fees for IRSS-sponsored conferences and workshops. The Council appoints such other interim committees as it finds necessary to carry out the business of the Society or to further its objectives. Each interim committee serves the IRSS in a non-voting, consultative capacity. The term limit of all interim committees created by the IRSS Council coincides with the end of the term of an IRSS Council.

7 IRSS Executive Board

The IRSS Executive Board (EB) is constituted by IRSS Council, Chair of the IRSS Steering Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the IRSS Advisory Board, Editor of the IRSS web page, Editor of the IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal, and Editors-in-Chief of the Transactions on Rough Sets (TRS). The tenure of each EB is four years.

The *principal* purpose of the EB is to manage and organize the IRSS in accordance with IRSS Constitution and Bylaws. The President of the IRSS or a representative appointed by the President is the Chair of IRSS EB meetings. The EB is mainly responsible for (1) making policy decisions that influence the direction and activities of the IRSS, (2) enforcing the IRSS Constitution and IRSS Bylaws, (3) formulating proposals concerning the governance of the IRSS,

(4) representing the interests of the rough set community, (5) evaluating proposals for IRSS-sponsored conferences, workshops, symposia, publications, and special interest groups, (6) evaluating applications by Institutions and Corporations to become Institutional and Corporate members of the IRSS, respectively.

7.1 IRSS Steering Committee

The IRSS Steering Committee (SC) is constituted by a Chair and up to 12 additional members appointed by the IRSS Council. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a member or the Chair of the IRSS SC. However, no more than 33% (one third) of the SC members can reside in, and represent the same region of the world. The tenure of members of the SC is four (4) years. The members of the SC can serve one or more terms.

The purpose of the SC is *primarily* to serve as a nominating committee for each IRSS election, and to advise the IRSS Council on matters of policy as well as questions and proposals concerning the IRSS Constitution and IRSS Bylaws. The IRSS SC is chiefly responsible for (1) nominating all candidates for each of the positions in an IRSS election, (2) evaluating IRSS Council proposals for the IRSS, (3) evaluating proposed changes to the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws, (4) evaluating and making recommendations concerning proposed scheduling and venue for IRSS-sponsored conferences and workshops, and (4) making recommendations concerning IRSS fees.

7.2 Chair of the IRSS Steering Committee

The Chair of the IRSS SC is appointed by the IRSS Council. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be Chair of the IRSS SC. The SC Chair can come from any region of the world. The tenure of the SC Chair is four (4) years. At the end of an IRSS term, the SC Chair can be appointed as a member of the SC or reappointed as Chair of the SC.

The *principal responsibility of the SC Chair* is to prepare a slate of nominees for each IRSS election, issue a call for additional nominations from members of the SC, and issue a call for voting by forwarding the list of candidates to the Advisory Board (AB) Chair. It is the AB Chair that invites the IRSS AB and all individual members to vote. In the event that an IRSS President resigns, the Vice-President is unable to serve as Acting President of the IRSS, then the Chair of the IRSS SC serves as Acting President of the IRSS, calls for nominations of a new President, and initiates a special election of a new President.

7.3 IRSS Advisory Board

The IRSS Advisory Board (AB) is constituted by an elected Chair and up to twenty (20) additional members appointed by the IRSS Council. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be a member or the Chair of the IRSS AB. However, no more than 33% (one third) of the appointed AB members can reside in, and represent the same region of the world. A member

of the AB cannot also be a member of the IRSS Steering Committee. The tenure of members of the AB is four (4) years. The members of the AB can serve one or more terms.

The *primary* purpose of the AB is to vote during IRSS elections, and vote on proposals it receives from either the IRSS Council or the IRSS Steering Committee.

The following items require approval by the IRSS Advisory Board: (1) proposals for change in IRSS policies, and (2) proposals for changes to the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws. An approval by a simple majority [9] (i.e., approval by more than 50%) of the IRSS Advisory Board is required for a proposal to be accepted.

7.4 Chair of the IRSS Advisory Board

The Chair of the IRSS AB is an elected member of the AB. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be Chair of the IRSS AB. The AB Chair can come from any region of the world. The tenure of the AB Chair is four (4) years. At the end of an IRSS term, the AB Chair can either be appointed as a member of the AB by the IRSS Council or re-elected as Chair of the AB. The *principal responsibility of the AB Chair* is to act as a liaison between the organizational units of the IRSS, members of the AB, and all IRSS Individual Members during an IRSS election.

The Chair of the IRSS AB begins the voting process by forwarding the slate of nominees for each IRSS election to all members of the AB and to all Individual Members of the IRSS. The Chair of the AB also maintains a current list of all AB members and current Individual Members who are eligible to vote during an IRSS election. The results of each election are sent by the AB Chair to all members of the IRSS Council and the SC Chair.

7.5 Vice Chair of the IRSS Advisory Board

The Vice Chair of the IRSS AB is an elected member of the AB. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be Vice Chair of the IRSS AB. The AB Vice Chair can come from any region of the world. The tenure of the AB Vice Chair is four (4) years. At the end of an IRSS term, the AB Vice Chair can either be appointed as a member of the AB by the IRSS Council or re-elected as Vice Chair of the AB. The *principal responsibility of the AB Vice Chair* is to be Acting Chair of the AB in the absence of the Chair of the AB, and assist the AB Chair during an IRSS election.

7.6 IRSS Web Page Editor

The IRSS Web Page Editor is an elected member of the Executive Board. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be Web Page Editor. The Web Page Editor is *primarily* responsible for reviewing submitted announcements, editing and maintaining the IRSS web page. The IRSS Web

Page posts IRSS Council reports, announcements concerning IRSS-sponsored events, and other announcements of interest to the IRSS community.

The IRSS Web Page Editor is elected, and serves as Editor for 4 years. The Web Page Editor can be re-elected one or more times.

7.7 IRSS Rough Set Methods Online Journal Editor

The IRSS Rough Set Methods (RSM) Online Journal replaces the original IRSS Bulletin. The RSM Editor is an elected member of the Executive Board. Any individual member of the IRSS (see Sect. 3.1) is eligible to be RSM Editor. The IRSS RSM is organized as an on-line journal that publishes refereed articles and reviews of publications in rough sets and works related to research in rough sets. The Editor of the RSM appoints an Editorial Board of up to 12 members. No more than 33% of the RSM Editorial Board can come from one region.

The IRSS RSM Editor is *primarily* responsible for assigning reviewers for submitted articles, making final decisions about the publication of submitted articles, editing and publishing the RSM. The IRSS RSM Editor is elected, and serves as Editor for 4 years. The RSM Editor can be re-elected one or more times.

7.8 Editors-in-Chief of the Transactions on Rough Sets

The Editors-in-Chief of the Transactions on Rough Sets (TRS) are members of the IRSS Executive Board. The relation between the IRSS Council and the TRS is consultative, not administrative. The IRSS Council is a source of advice but not control in TRS administration (e.g., selection of its Editors and members of its Editorial Board is carried out by the Editors-in-Chief of the TRS).

The TRS Editors-in-Chief (1) provide information about research trends and interests in the rough set community in an IRSS Business Meeting report during official events of the IRSS³, (2) provide information as well as suggestions for the IRSS web page, and (3) provide suggestions for the IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal.

8 Chapters

Groups of individual members may form chapters belonging to an Institutional Member of the IRSS. These chapters may be formed on a territorial basis or as special-interest groups or as a combination of both. Chapters may either adopt the IRSS Constitution and By-Laws or design their own. A chapter must be approved by an Institutional Member of the IRSS and by the IRSS Council before the chapter is officially established. Thus chapters belong to an Institutional Member and hence indirectly belong to IRSS. Chapters can also have indirect representation in the IRSS.

³See Sect. 11 of the IRSS Constitution

9 Elections

Each IRSS election begins with a call for nominations followed by an election of candidates for IRSS offices.

9.1 First Constitution and Bylaws of the IRSS

An Interim Steering Committee (ISC) and an Interim Advisory Board (IAB) were approved during the IRSS Business Meeting at the 10th International Conference on Rough Sets, Fuzzy Sets, Data Mining, and Granular Computing (RSFDGrC 2005), University of Regina, SK, Canada, 2 September 2005. A draft of the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws was posted by the ISC Chair. A call for suggestions was sent to all ISC and IAB members. This call is a request for suggestions concerning the draft of the first Constitution and Bylaws of the IRSS. A maximum of 60 days was given after posting the draft of the Constitution and Bylaws of the IRSS on the IRSS web site for suggestions to be received. Based on the suggestions received, a final draft of the Constitution and Bylaws of the IRSS has been prepared, and then forwarded by the ISC Chair (aka Coordinator) to the IAB for approval. A simple majority⁴ (i.e., a vote in favor by more than 50% of the IAB) is required for the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws to be approved by the IAB.

9.2 First Steering Committee and Advisory Board of the IRSS

After the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws have been approved, the ISC becomes the Steering Committee (SC) for the first term of the reorganized IRSS. The ISC Coordinator becomes the Chair of the new SC. The IAB becomes the first Advisory Board (AB) for the first term of the reorganized IRSS. The number of members of the first AB will be the same as the IAB. At the end of the first term of the IRSS Council, the size of the AB will be reduced to 20 appointed members.

9.3 First Election of Reorganized IRSS

After the IRSS Constitution and Bylaws have been approved, the first IRSS election of the Council and other members of the Executive Board will be carried out by the SC and AB. A preliminary list of nominees for all candidates for IRSS offices will be prepared by the Chair of the Steering Committee. The SC Chair then asks members of the IRSS SC if there are additional nominations. Then the SC Chair asks the AB to vote for the IRSS candidates. A simple majority vote in favor of a candidate is required for an IRSS candidate to be elected by

⁴A simple majority is the most common requirement in voting for a measure to pass, especially in deliberative bodies and small organizations. It means that, of those who cast a vote for or against a proposition or candidate, more than half of the votes in favor of the measure is necessary for election [9]

the AB. The results of the first election of the reorganized IRSS will be posted on the IRSS web page.

9.4 Region Rotation Rule

The Region Rotation Rule requires that all members of each new IRSS Council reside in and represent the same region of the world. Other members of the IRSS Executive Board can come from any region of the world. The IRSS Council rotates across the regions of the world so that no region of world is represented by an IRSS Council more than once during a complete region rotation. This rule conforms to what has been happened in the past. Historically, the Presidency of the IRSS has rotated across three regions of the world (North America, Europe (this includes member countries of the European Union), and Asia (this includes Australasia)). Any changes in the composition of regions and the addition of new regions in the rotation of the IRSS Council would be proposed by the IRSS Council, and approved by the IRSS Advisory Board. There is one exception to this rule: if no candidate from a chosen region is available for an IRSS Council position, then the SC Chair nominates an Individual Member in the next region in the rotation.

9.5 Candidates

Candidates for the IRSS Council must be individual members of the International Rough Set Society (IRSS). Six months before the end of its term, each IRSS Council initiates a call for nominations. All IRSS Council candidates, Chair and Vice Chair of the IRSS AB, Editor of the IRSS web page, Editor of the IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal are nominated by the IRSS Steering Committee, and elected by the AB and eligible Individual Members of the IRSS.

To become a candidate for an IRSS office, a nominee must (1) accept a nomination, and (2) prepare a Vision Statement. A detailed description of this Vision Statement is available on the IRSS web page.

9.6 Ballot

The IRSS Council decides the form of the ballot.

9.7 Term Limits

Term limits for IRSS Council members are given for the President in Sect. 6.1, Vice-President in Sect. 6.2, Treasurer in Sect. 6.4, and Secretary in Sect. 6.3. Term limits for the Chair and members of the IRSS Steering Committee are specified in Sect. 7.1. Term limits for the Chair and members of the IRSS Advisory Board are specified in Sect. 7.3. With the exception of the first term of the reorganized IRSS, each term of office starts at the beginning of the business

meeting held during the International Rough Sets and Current Trends in Computing (RSCTC) Conference following an IRSS election and ends at the end of the business meeting of an RSCTC Conference four years later. In the case of the first term of the reorganized IRSS, the first term starts with the completion of the first IRSS election, and ends at the end of the business meeting of the RSCTC Conference four years later.

10 Official Publications of the IRSS

The official publications of the IRSS are the Transactions on Rough Sets (TRS)⁵ journal published by Springer and the IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal. With the approval of the IRSS Council, the list of official publications of the IRSS can be changed to accommodate changing circumstances and needs.

11 Official Events of the IRSS

The official events sponsored by the IRSS are the International Conference on Rough Sets and Current Trends Computing (RSCTC) and the International Workshop (Conference) on Rough Sets, Fuzzy Sets, Data Mining, and Granular Computing (RSFDGrC)⁶. A distinction is made between an official event and other IRSS-sponsored conferences and workshops. This distinction is based on the need for annual Business Meetings to provide a forum for reports by the IRSS Council on such things as the results of IRSS elections and proposals for new IRSS-sponsored events, research initiatives and publications, and to introduce newly elected IRSS officers. With the approval of the IRSS Council, the list of official events of the IRSS can be changed to accommodate changing circumstances and needs.

RSCTC and RSFDGrC are organized by turns every year. Papers accepted for presentation at RSCTC and RSFDGrC are published by Springer. The fees and finances associated with official events of the IRSS are explained in Sect. 13.

12 IRSS-Sponsored Conferences, Workshops, and Symposia

An IRSS-sponsored conference, workshop or symposium is an event that is strongly supported by the entire IRSS organization. The International Conference (or Workshop) on Rough Sets and Knowledge Technology (RSKT)⁷ is an example of an IRSS-sponsored event. Sponsorship for an IRSS-sponsored

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⁶RSFDGrC is an event that began as an International Workshop during the 1990s, and as an International Conference in 2003 and 2005. The Conference or Workshop format for RSFDGrC is decided by the IRSS Council.

⁷RSKT is a new initiative begun in 2005. The Conference or Workshop format for RSKT is decided by the IRSS Council.

event includes (1) announcements and descriptions of conference, workshop, and symposium sites as well as call-for-papers published on the IRSS web page, (2) distributions of calls-for-papers at conferences attended by IRSS Executive Board, SC and AB members, and (3) invitations to publish extended versions of accepted papers related to rough sets in the Transactions on Rough Sets or IRSS Rough Set Methods online journal.

All proposals for IRSS-sponsored International Conferences, Workshops, and Symposia are submitted to the IRSS President. Approval by the IRSS Council is required before a proposed IRSS-sponsored conference, workshop, or symposium can be accepted. A detailed description of an application for an IRSS-sponsored event is given in Sect. 5 of the IRSS Bylaws. The fees and finances associated with IRSS-sponsored events of the IRSS are explained in Sect. 13.

13 Fees and Finances

The registration fee for *all* registrants at official events of the IRSS⁸ will include an IRSS fee. The amount of the IRSS fee is decided by the IRSS Council in consultation with the organizers of the event. An optional, one-year, electronic subscription to the Transactions on Rough Sets is made available to all registrants at official events of the IRSS.

At the end of each official event of the IRSS, the Chair of the event sends to the IRSS Treasurer a financial report plus an International Bank Draft containing the total IRSS fees plus any TRS subscriptions paid by registrants. The financial report submitted by the Chair of the event includes the name, institution, and email address of each registered participant in electronic form.

The IRSS has no *liability*⁹ relative to any costs associated with an event. The organizers of each event are solely responsible for all costs and any debt resulting from the event.

14 Other Activities

In addition to events described in Sect. 11 and Sect. 12, the IRSS may sponsor seminars and special sessions in International Conferences. The organization of any such sponsored meeting is subject to approval by the IRSS Council.

15 Bylaws

In order to carry out the obligations as set forth in this Constitution and to conduct the business of the Society, the Council shall adopt Bylaws (i.e., laws or rules governing the internal affairs of an organization (see, e.g., [7, 8])). The

⁸See Sect. 11 of the IRSS Constitution.

⁹Absence of *liability* in this context means that the IRSS has no obligation that legally binds it to settle the debts incurred by any official event of the IRSS or by any IRSS-sponsored event.

IRSS Council shall have the authority to interpret the IRSS Bylaws. The rules for amending the Bylaws are given in Sect. 6 of the IRSS Bylaws.

16 Method of Voting

The method of voting during an IRSS general election is described in Sect. 4.2 of the IRSS Bylaws. Briefly, the preferred method is on-line voting. Paper ballots will be used only in cases where an individual member does not have access to the internet. Furthermore, a simple majority vote (a favorable vote of more than 50% of the votes cast) is required for any IRSS candidate to be elected or for any motion to pass.

17 Governance

All the matters of conflict and controversy that are not resolvable by this constitution will be settled according to the laws of the country of registration for the IRSS.

18 Amendment of the Constitution

Amendments to the IRSS Bylaws can be proposed by at least 25% of the individual members of the IRSS.

All proposed amendments to the IRSS Constitution must first be approved by all members of IRSS Executive Board. Amendments approved by the IRSS Executive Board are included in the Ballot for an IRSS election. Passage of a proposed amendment of the Constitution requires approval by a simple majority of those eligible to vote.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks are extended to all of those who have made suggestions and comments concerning the IRSS Constitution.

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