

For the 2010 2nd District Convention the Rules Committee has decided to use a method of balloting and tallying called
“Preferential Block Voting”

It is a voting method ideally suited for electing multiple representatives (filling multiple seats) from a single constituency (body of delegates).

The **effect** of Preferential Block Voting is the **same** as running an election for a single seat, seeking the person with the majority of votes for that seat, and re-running votes (after dropping the candidate with the lowest number of votes) over-and-over until someone has the majority of votes to fill the seat.

However, the process is done using a single ballot

It is a voting method with a long history of practice at many levels, from private corporations and co-ops to elections to national office in places like the United Kingdom.

It is recognized as valid and fair and described in Robert’s Rules of Order.

It meets both U.S. and Democratic Party Constitutional requirements and has been approved by the Iowa State Central Committee for elections this year.

Preferential Block Voting

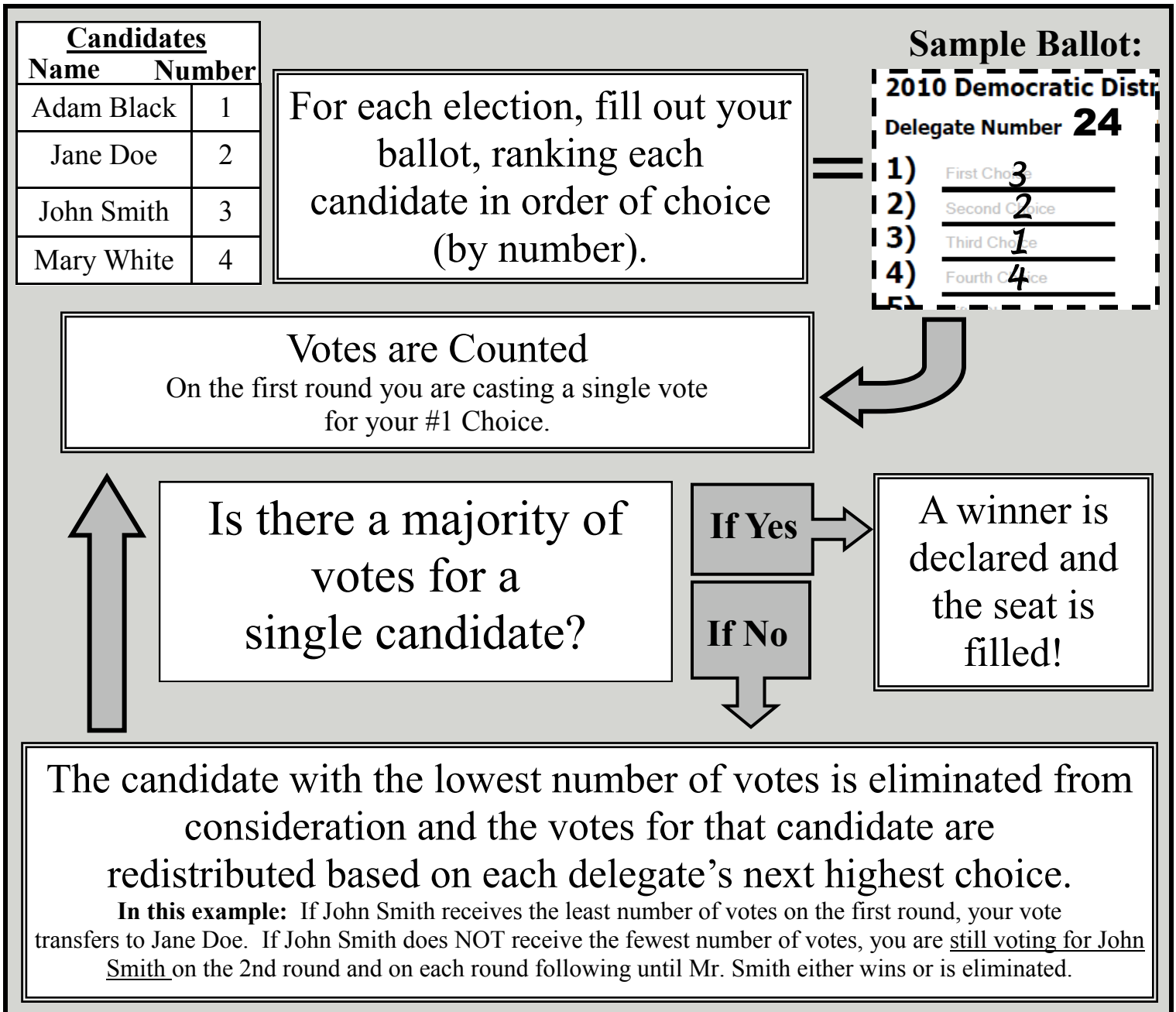
- Is a majority vote
- Preserves the philosophy of One Person/One Vote
 - Is much more efficient
- Encourages delegates to vote for the candidate they believe is the ***best choice first***, rather than the ***best choice among those whom they judge likely to win.***

The main draw-back of Preferential Block Voting is that it is a multi-step process which can be difficult to grasp the first time one is exposed to it.

However, the process itself is quite simple, and **it is important that all participants understand the voting process.**

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the chart on the other side of this page.

Preferential Block Voting Method: A Primer



NOTE: For Multiple-Seat Elections - Once a seat is filled (if there are remaining seats to be filled) the process begins again with the winning candidate removed from consideration.

If voting to fill three seats, the first ballot will fill two seats and you will be asked to complete a new ballot for the third seat after the winners are announced.

In this example: If John Smith wins Seat 1, then he is removed and your first choice for Seat 2 becomes Jane Doe. If Jane Doe is eliminated, your vote will count for Adam Black. Once the two first seats are filled, you will be asked to complete a new ballot for the third seat ranking the remaining candidates.

In this example: If John Smith wins Seat 1 and Adam Black wins Seat 2, then you would be asked to rank Jane Doe and Mary White for the last seat.