

Constitution of The International Rough Set Society*

1 Official Name and Language

Official name of the Society is “International Rough Set Society”. It may be abbreviated IRSS. Official language of IRSS is English.

2 Purpose

IRSS is a non-profit organization (NPO) dedicated to scholarship in rough sets introduced during the early 1980s by Zdzisław Pawlak. Principal purpose of IRSS is to promote the study and exchange of ideas concerned with rough set theory, foundations, methods, as well as their extensions and applications. Principal policy of IRSS is to attain this purpose through publications, workshops, international conferences, research projects, and other such activities consistent with the objectives of the Society. Primary function of IRSS is to act as a federation of its Members to accomplish its goals. It is also the policy of IRSS to insist upon the highest standards of scholarship and service from its Members.

3 Membership

There are 3 types of Membership in IRSS: Regular, Student, and Honorary. Requirements for these 3 types of Membership are given in Sect. 2 of IRSS Bylaws. Membership starts whenever its requirements are satisfied and recorded by IRSS and continues as long as a person continues to satisfy those requirements.

Regular members can be nominated senior or fellow members according to the rules given in Sect. 2 of IRSS Bylaws.

All Members have the following benefits: (1) receiving IRSS announcements, (2) full access to IRSS Homepage, (3) eligibility to publish in IRSS Electronic Bulletin, and (4) eligibility to receive awards such as Outstanding Scholarship in Rough Sets or Exemplary Service for Rough Set Community. Regular and Honorary Members are voting Members during IRSS election.

4 Organization

Organization of IRSS consists of the following units:

1. Executive Board (EB),
2. Steering Committee (SC),
3. Advisory Board (AB).
4. PhD School Steering Committee (SSC)

4.1 Executive Board

IRSS is governed by Executive Board. Executive Board is constituted by 4 EB Officers:

1. President (appointed),
2. Vice President (elected),
3. Secretary (elected),
4. Editor (appointed).

* Established on 4 December 2005, modified on 20 April 2011, modified on 25 November 2020. This version was proposed after taking into account changes approved by the executive and advisory board and the electronic vote of this version was completed and reported on the IRSS webpage on 25/11/2020.

The methods of appointing President and Editor, as well as electing Vice President and Secretary are explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being appointed as President and Editor, as well as for being a candidate for Vice President and Secretary are given in Sect. 3 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Executive Board is 2 years. The term of Executive Board is started at January 1st of each odd year and is completed at December, 31st of the following year. Executive Board prepares biannual report on the state of rough sets and IRSS, presented at IRSS meeting held at IJCRS during the second year of Executive Board's term.

Principal purpose of Executive Board is to govern IRSS in accordance with IRSS Constitution and Bylaws. Executive Board is responsible for (1) direction and activities of IRSS, (2) exchange of ideas concerned with rough set foundations and applications, and (3) representing interests of rough set community. Other specific responsibilities of EB Officers are described in Sect. 3 of IRSS Bylaws.

4.2 Steering Committee

Steering Committee is constituted by:

1. SC Chair (elected),
2. Up to 12 SC Members (appointed).

The method of electing SC Chair and appointing SC Members is explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being a candidate for SC Chair and being appointed as SC Member are given in Sect. 4 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Steering Committee is 2 years. The term of Steering Committee coincides with the Executive Board's term.

Principal purpose of Steering Committee is to discuss and vote proposals concerning changes in IRSS Constitution and Bylaws, proposals concerning IJCRS conferences, and appointments for interim EB Officers (see Sect. 3.6 or IRSS Bylaws). Simple majority of SC Members is required to approve each of such proposals and each of such appointments. Other specific responsibilities of SC Chair and SC Members are given in Sect. 4 of IRSS Bylaws.

4.3 Advisory Board

Advisory Board is constituted by:

1. AB Chair (elected),
2. Up to 24 AB Members (appointed).

The method of electing AB Chair and appointing AB Members is explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being a candidate for AB Chair and being appointed as AB Member are given in Sect. 5 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of Advisory Board is 2 years. The term of Advisory Board coincides with the Executive Board's term.

Principal purpose of Advisory Board is to advise Executive Board on proposals concerning changes in IRSS Constitution and Bylaws, and to advise President on nominations for Honorary Members, as well as on appointing interim SC and AB Chairs (see Sect. 4.4 of IRSS Bylaws). Other responsibilities of AB Chair and AB Members are given in Sect. 5 of IRSS Bylaws.

4.4 PhD School Steering Committee

PhD School steering committee is constituted by:

1. SSC Chair (elected),
2. The main chair of the previous school
3. Three SSC members (appointed)

The method of electing SSC Chair and appointing SSC Members is explained in Sect. 5. Requirements for being a candidate for SCC Chair and being appointed as SSC Member are given in Sect. 5 of IRSS Bylaws. The tenure of SSC is 2 years. The term of SSC coincides with the Executive Board's term.

Principal purpose of the PhD School Steering Committee is to fix the details of the school and to propagate information between one edition to the other.

5 Elections and Appointments

Vice President initiates election with a call for nominations for candidates for new Vice President, Secretary, SC Chair, AB Chair and SSC Chair. Any Regular or Honorary Member can nominate a candidate for any electable office. Simple majority of Regular and Honorary Members is required to accept each of candidates. Detailed election process is described in Sect. 6 of IRSS Bylaws. Election should be finalized, and results should be announced by October, 31st of the year preceding the start of the new term.

The methods of appointing President, Editor, SC Members, AB Members and SCC Members are as follows: (1) former Vice President is automatically appointed as President for the following term,

(2) Editor is appointed by the president after consultation with vice-president and secretary, (3) SC Members are appointed by SC Chair, (4) AB Members are appointed by AB Chair, (5) SSC Members are appointed by SSC Chair.

6 Sponsored Events

IRSS sponsorship of a conference, workshop, symposium or school includes (1) announcements and descriptions, as well as call-for-papers published at IRSS Homepage and in IRSS Electronic Bulletin and (2) distribution of call-for-papers at events attended by EB Officers, SC Members, AB Members and SSC Members.

All proposals for IRSS sponsored conferences, workshops, symposia and schools are submitted to Vice President. Approval by Executive Board is required before a proposed IRSS sponsored event can be accepted (see Sect. 6.1 for additional regulations concerning IJCRS applications). Detailed description of an application for an IRSS sponsored event is given in Sect. 7.1 of IRSS Bylaws.

IRSS meeting should be scheduled in each sponsored event's program (see Sect. 7.2 of IRSS Bylaws for details). After the event is held, its organizers send the final report to Secretary (see Sect. 7.3 of IRSS Bylaws for details).

6.1 IJCRS Conferences

IJCRS abbreviates "International Joint Conference on Rough Sets". It is the series of IRSS sponsored events organized every year. It includes the "International Conference on Rough Sets and Current Trends in Computing" (RSCTC), the previous main IRSS event.

Proposals for IJCRS should follow general guidelines for sponsored events. However, they should include a proposal for a PhD School and their additional approval by Steering Committee is required.

The place of IJCRS should follow a regional rotation rule.

7 Bylaws

In order to carry out obligations as set forth in this Constitution and to conduct the business of IRSS, Executive Board shall adopt Bylaws (i.e., laws or rules governing the internal affairs of an organization). Executive Board shall have authority to interpret IRSS Bylaws. Rules for amending IRSS Bylaws are given in Sect. 9.

8 Governance

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

9 Amendments

Amendments to IRSS Constitution and Bylaws can be proposed by Executive Board, Steering Committee, Advisory Board, or at least 25% of Regular and Honorary Members.

All proposed amendments to IRSS Constitution and Bylaws must first be accepted by Executive Board. An approval by simple majority of Steering Committee is required prior to acceptance by Executive Board. Amendments accepted by Executive Board are included in the ballot for next IRSS election. Final passage of a proposed amendment of IRSS Constitution or Bylaws requires approval by simple majority of Regular and Honorary Members.