# Bylaws of
# The International Rough Set Society*

## 1 Introduction

Bylaws of the International Rough Set Society (IRSS) are read in conjunction with IRSS Constitution. IRSS Bylaws set forth requirements, regulations and rules that provide a basis for governing IRSS. The method to amend IRSS Bylaws is given in Sect. 7 of IRSS Constitution.

IRSS Bylaws are organized as follows. Requirements for being IRSS Members are given in Sect. 2. Requirements and responsibilities of Executive Board (EB), Steering Committee (SC), and Advisory Board (AB) are given in Sect. 3, 4, and 5, respectively. Details concerning IRSS elections are given in Sect. 6. Details concerning applications for IRSS sponsored events and conducting IRSS meetings are given in Sect. 7. Details concerning PhD School are given in Sect. 7.

## 2 Membership Requirements

Requirements for being Regular, Student, Honorary, Senior and Fellow Member of IRSS (see Sect. 3 of IRSS Constitution) are set forth in this section.

### 2.1 Regular Membership Requirements

Regular Member is a person who (1) registered at least once as a regular participant of IRSS sponsored event or requested membership in the on-line system and (2) renews Regular Membership in on-line registration system available at IRSS Homepage before each of elections.

### 2.2 Student Membership Requirements

Student Member is a person who (1) registered at least once as a student participant of IRSS sponsored event or requested membership in the on-line system, (2) renews Student Membership in on-line registration system available at IRSS Homepage before each of elections, and (3) provides a proof of full-time undergraduate or graduate student status to Secretary before each of elections.

### 2.3 Honorary Membership Requirement

Honorary Member is a person who received and accepted nomination from President. Honorary Membership is a lifetime Membership. It does not need renewal prior to each of elections.

### 2.4 Fellow Membership

An IRSS member satisfying the following requirements may apply for IRSS fellowship

1. 10 years of IRSS membership, or published a rough set research paper over 10 years ago;
2. Great achievement on rough set research and contribution for the development of IRSS;
3. Nominated by 3 IRSS fellows or senior members;

In order to be honored the fellowship, a simple majority (i.e., a vote in favor by more than 50% of all IRSS Fellow Committee members) is required for a candidate for an IRSS fellow to be elected.

The IRSS Fellow Committee include all IRSS fellows, present/past IRSS Presidents, IRSS AB Chairs and IRSS SC Chairs. The IRSS President serves as the Chair of the fellow committee.

The number of IRSS Fellows should be less than 3% of IRSS members

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## 2.5 Senior Membership
An IRSS member satisfying the following requirements may apply for IRSS senior membership
1. 5 years of IRSS membership, or published a rough set research paper over 5 years ago;
2. Good achievement on rough set research and contribution for the development of IRSS;
3. Nominated by 3 IRSS members;

In order to be honored the senior membership, a simple majority (i.e., a vote in favor by more than 50% of all IRSS EB, AB and SC members) is required for a candidate for an IRSS senior member to be elected. IRSS President chairs the election.

The number of IRSS Senior Member should be less than 10% of IRSS members.

## 2.6 Resignation from Membership
IRSS Member may resign from Membership by sending an appropriate email to Secretary.

# 3 EB Officers
Requirements and responsibilities of President, Vice President, Secretary and Editor (see Sect. 4.1 of IRSS Constitution) are set forth in this section.

## 3.1 President – Responsibilities and Requirements
President is an appointed EB Officer. Any Regular or Honorary Member who did not serve 2 times as President is eligible to be President. Principal responsibilities of President are (1) acting on behalf of IRSS as a whole, (2) chairing IRSS meetings or appointing a Regular Member to chair in case of President's absence, (3) nominating Honorary Members after discussion with Advisory Board, (4) appointing interim SC and AB Chairs after discussion with Advisory Board, and (5) presenting biannual report at IJCRS conference (see Sect. 6.1 of IRSS Constitution) that completes Executive Board's term.

## 3.2 Vice President – Responsibilities and Requirements
Vice President is an elected EB Officer. Any Regular or Honorary Member who did not serve 2 times as President is eligible to be Vice President. Principal responsibilities of Vice President are
(1) assisting President in preparing reports, (2) receiving proposals for IRSS sponsored events,
(3) searching for organizers of next IJCRS conferences (see Sect. 6.1 of IRSS Constitution) if there are no satisfactory proposals received, (4) assisting Editor in gathering contents about IRSS sponsored events, and (5) managing IRSS election process.

## 3.3 Secretary – Responsibilities and Requirements
Secretary is an elected EB Officer. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be Secretary. Principal responsibilities of Secretary are (1) recording and archiving minutes of IRSS meetings,
(2) recording and maintaining information about Members of IRSS, (3) distributing calls related to IRSS sponsored events, (4) corresponding with IRSS Members concerning the status of their Membership, and (5) collecting reports from organizers of IRSS sponsored events. Secretary makes arrangements for taking minutes of all Executive Board meetings, as well as minutes for IRSS meetings held at IRSS sponsored events.

## 3.4 Editor – Responsibilities and Requirements
Editor is an appointed EB Officer. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be Editor. Principal responsibilities of Editor are (1) graphical and technical maintenance of IRSS Electronic Bulletin and IRSS Homepage, (2) technical support for IRSS on-line registration and voting systems, as well as e-mail database, (3) publishing in IRSS Electronic Bulletin and at IRSS Homepage reports prepared by Executive Board and any other materials recommended by Executive Board, and (4) technical assistance for Vice President during IRSS election.

### 3.5 Region Rotation Rule

Offices of President and Vice President rotate across 3 major regions of the world, which are (1) Europe Middle East and Africa (EMEA), (2) Asia, Australia and Oceania (Australasia), and (3) North America and South America (Americas), so that no region of the world is represented by offices of President and Vice President more than once during a complete region rotation. President and Vice President should always reside in different regions of the world.

### 3.6 Resignation of EB Officer

In the event that an EB Officer resigns, a corresponding interim EB Officer is appointed by Steering Committee. An interim EB Officer needs to satisfy requirements described in Sect. 3.1-3.5. An interim EB Officer serves as an EB Officer until forthcoming elections.

## 4 SC Chair and SC Members

Requirements and responsibilities of Steering Committee Chair (abbreviated as SC Chair; see Sect. 4.2 of IRSS Constitution) and Members (SC Members) are set forth in this section.

### 4.1 SC Chair – Responsibilities and Requirements

SC Chair is an elected SC Member. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be SC Chair. Principal responsibilities of SC Chair are (1) appointing other SC Members, (2) maintaining their list and e-mail addresses, and (3) acting as a liaison between Steering Committee and Executive Board.

### 4.2 SC Members – Responsibilities and Requirements

The remaining SC Members are appointed. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be SC Member. Responsibilities of SC Members are set forth in Sect. 4.2 of IRSS Constitution.

### 4.3 Region Proportion Rule

No more than 40% of SC Members can reside in the same out of 3 regions of the world: (1) Europe Middle East and Africa (EMEA), (2) Asia, Australia and Oceania (Australasia), and (3) North America and South America (Americas).

### 4.4 Resignation of SC Chair or SC Member

In the event that SC Chair resigns, an interim SC Chair is appointed by President. Interim SC Chair serves as SC Chair until forthcoming elections.

In the event that an SC Member resigns, SC Chair may appoint an interim SC Member. Interim SC Member needs to satisfy requirements described in Sect. 4.3. Interim SC Member serves as SC Member until forthcoming elections.

## 5 AB Chair and AB Members

Requirements and responsibilities of Advisory Board Chair (abbreviated as AB Chair; see Sect. 4.3 of IRSS Constitution) and Members (AB Members) are set forth in this section.

### 5.1 AB Chair – Responsibilities and Requirements

AB Chair is an elected AB Member. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be AB Chair. Principal responsibilities of AB Chair are (1) appointing other AB Members, (2) maintaining their list and e-mail addresses, and (3) acting as a liaison between Advisory Board and Executive Board.

### 5.2 AB Members – Responsibilities and Requirements

The remaining AB Members are appointed. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be AB Member. Responsibilities of AB Members are set forth in Sect. 4.3 of IRSS Constitution.

### 5.3 Appointment Guidelines

It is recommended that Editors-in-Chief of major scientific journals related to rough sets are appointed as AB Members.5

## 5.4 Resignation of AB Chair or AB Member

In the event that AB Chair resigns, an interim AB Chair is appointed by President. Interim AB Chair serves as AB Chair until forthcoming elections.

In the event that an AB Member resigns, AB Chair may appoint an interim AB Member. Interim AB Member serves as AB Member until forthcoming elections.

## 6 SCC Chair and SSC Members

Requirements and responsibilities of PhD School Steering Committee Chair (abbreviated as SSC Chair; see Sect. 4.4 of IRSS Constitution) and Members (SSC Members) are set forth in this section.

## 6.1 SSC Chair – Responsibilities and Requirements

SSC Chair is an elected SSC Member. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be SSC Chair. Principal responsibilities of SC Chair are (1) appointing other SSC Members, (2) maintaining their list and e-mail addresses, and (3) acting as a liaison between PhD School Steering Committee and Executive Board.

## 6.2 SSC Members – Responsibilities and Requirements

The chair of the previous School is a member, the remaining three SSC Members are appointed. Any Regular or Honorary Member is eligible to be SSC Member. Responsibilities of SC Members are set forth in Sect. 4.4 of IRSS Constitution.

## 6.3 Region Proportion Rule

There should be at least one member for each of the 3 regions of the world: (1) Europe Middle East and Africa (EMEA), (2) Asia, Australia and Oceania (Australasia), and (3) North America and South America (Americas).

## 6.4 Resignation of SSC Chair or SSC Member

In the event that SSC Chair resigns, an interim SSC Chair is appointed by President. Interim SSC Chair serves as SSC Chair until forthcoming elections.

In the event that an SSC Member resigns, SSC Chair may appoint an interim SSC Member. Interim SSC Member needs to satisfy requirements described in Sect. 6.3. Interim SSC Member serves as SSC Member until forthcoming elections.

## 7 Elections

Vice President initiates a call for nominations (see Sect. 5 of IRSS Constitution) in June of each even year and possibly announce it at IJCRS conference (see Sect. 6.1 of IRSS Constitution). To become a candidate, a nominee must accept nomination. A candidate for Vice President needs to prepare Vision Statement. Further steps are as follows:

1. Vice President prepares a slate of nominees and collects additional nominations from SC and AB Chairs. Nominations must satisfy requirements stated in Sect. 3, 4, and 5.
2. After nominations for electable offices have been completed, Vice President invites Regular and Honorary Members to vote and posts vote results at IRSS Homepage.
3. Step 2 is repeated until simple majority of Regular and Honorary Members elects all electable offices. Voting via on-line voting system is required.

## 8 Sponsored Events

IRSS shall follow guidelines below for all events that are proposed to be sponsored events.

## 8.1 Applications for Sponsored Events

An application for an IRSS sponsored event should contain the following statement:

*I (or we) agree to abide by the appropriate IRSS guidelines described in Sect. 6 of IRSS Constitution and Sect. 7 of IRSS Bylaws concerning all aspects of the proposed event, and to*

*conduct the event in a way as close to the proposed form and substance as possible. In particular, I (or we) agree to include the IRSS meeting described in Sect. 6 of IRSS Constitution and Sect. 7 of IRSS Bylaws in the event's program.*

Each application should be submitted with the following heading:

Submitted to: Vice President, IRSS Submitted by: Regular or Honorary Member Submitted on: Date Signature(s): Organizing Committee Chair (financial responsibility) Subject: Application for IRSS Sponsored Event – Title of Event IRSS sponsored event application should also contain:

1.      Name, title, position, and mailing address of contact person submitting the application.
2.      Proposed location, dates, title, and expected attendance.
3.      Proposed scopes and language(s) besides English.
4.      Estimated registration fee schedule in local currency (with the equivalent in Euros or US dollars at the date of application).
5.      Proposed publication procedure with indication of formats, editors, and publishers.
6.      Estimated budget.
7.      Proposed chairpersons (names, titles, positions, mailing addresses).
8.      National or international co-sponsors (if applicable).
9.      General additional information or special requests.
10.     In case of IJCRS application, information about the organization of the PhD School (see Section 7.4)

## 8.2      Conducting IRSS Meetings held at Sponsored Events

Robert's rules of order prevail at IRSS meetings held at sponsored events. IRSS meetings are chaired by President.

IRSS meetings should include presentation of upcoming IRSS sponsored events. IRSS meeting at IJCRS should additionally include (1) biannual report prepared by President, (2) announcement of location and organization structure of next IJCRS.

## 8.3      Reports

The organizers of every sponsored event shall submit a written or e-mail report to Secretary not later than 3 months after the event. The report should include:

(a)      Breakdown of attendance by country,
(b)      List of all the registered participants,
(c)      Statistics of paper selection process,
(d)      Brief summary of the program,
(e)      Event budget (if not confidential),
(f)      Comments on problems, format, etc.

An adapted version of this report (without budget data) will appear at IRSS Homepage.

## 8.4      PhD School

A PhD School is organized every two years before IJCRS. It should be co-located with IJCRS or just close with good connections between the two venues.[†] The SSC can propose to organize further schools, for instance to take into account the geographical imbalanced number of students working on rough sets. Each further school should be approved by the Executive Board

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[†] This implies that there will be automatically a geographical rotation rule, spanned over six years, with the following schedule for the first three schools: 2022 in Asia, 2024 in Europe, 2026 in America.