Ranked Choice Voting App

RCV for Colorado demonstrates Ranked Choice Voting by conducting real elections for organizations and just-for-fun elections as voter education at events. The graphic display of our app is based on best practices developed by the Center for Civic Design.

Voter education events serve to provide a lived experience of RCV which inoculates voters to misinformation.

Voting portion of the event:
Because Colorado uses paper ballots, RCV for Colorado prepares voters by also using paper ballots.

Ballot design and instructions are based on those recommended for use in Colorado by a December 2017 study conducted in Denver by Center for Civic Design.

The ballot data entry is designed for ease of use by the event volunteer - the selections in the app visually match the markings on the paper ballot.

One person does data entry while another is giving a presentation about RCV. The results are routinely ready before the end of the presentation, so that they may be given to the audience. This impresses upon the audience that RCV is not theoretical.

Shown at right top: *Ballot used at the 2018 Western Conservative Summit.*

Shown at right bottom: *Ballot data entry screenshot.*

Instructions for Ranked Choice Voting

Making selections

Rank candidates in the order of your choice.

You may rank as many or as few candidates as you wish.

Fill in the oval...

- In the 1st column for your first 1st choice.
- In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice.
- In the 3rd column for your 3rd choice, and so on.

Fill in the oval completely.

No more than 1 oval in a column.

No more than 1 oval for a candidate.

Action Hero Election

Rank up to 5 candidates. Mark no more than 1 oval in each column.	First choice 1st	Second choice 2nd	Third choice 3rd	Fourth choice 4th	Fifth choice 5th
Mathayus in The Scorpion King (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson)	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭
Dutch in Predator (Arnold Schwarzenegger)	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭
Rambo in Rambo (Sylvester Stalone)	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭
John McClane in Die Hard (Bruce Willis)	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭
Dirty Harry in Dirty Harry (Clint Eastwood)	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭	⬭

Action Hero Election

SUBMIT VOTE

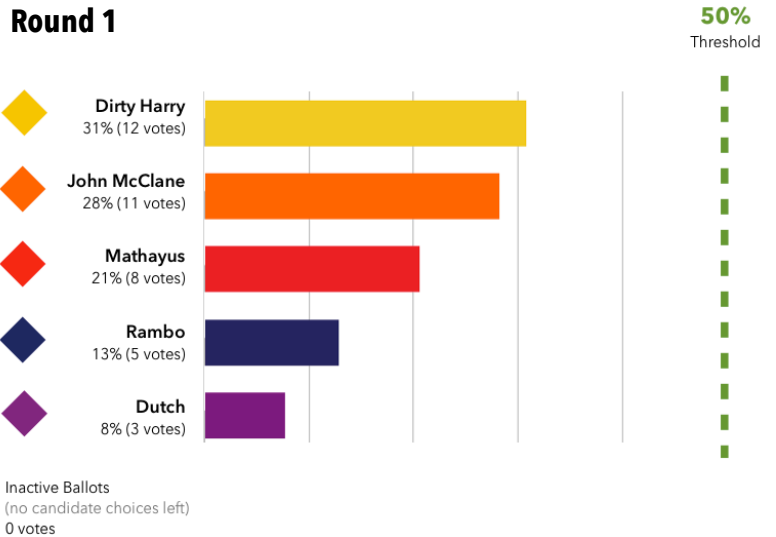|	1	2	3	4	5
Mathayus - Scorpion King	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dutch - Predator	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Rambo - Rambo	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
John McClane - Die Hard	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dirty Harry Dirty Harry	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

The tally display sorts the candidates in descending order based on first-choice votes. This makes it easier to see which candidate is being eliminated. A modification made to this display is that it indicates the voter's first-choice preference. This makes it easier for participants to see where their individual vote is in the process. When just-for-fun elections are used by restaurants and breweries, it helps the proprietor use the results as a mini-market study. They can see cross-over appeal between different flavor profiles.

Tally display portion of the event:
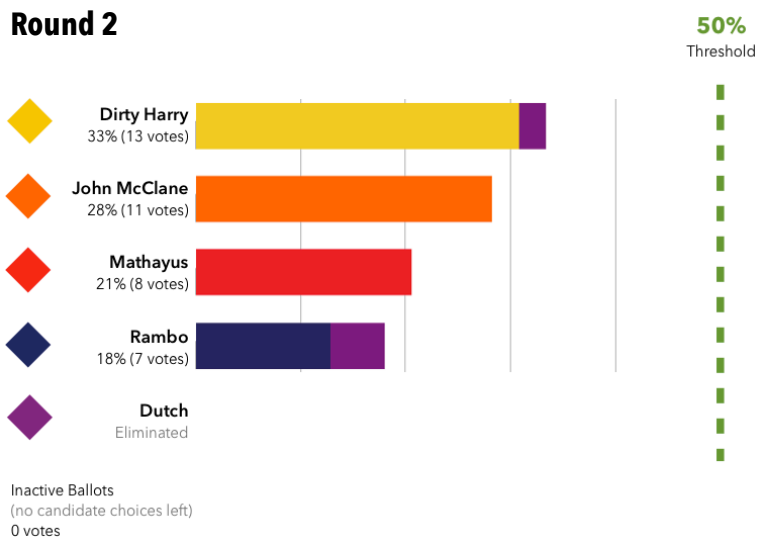The presenter narrates the display of the tally:

In Round 1, we see that Dirty Harry (Clint Eastwood) has the lead - but no candidate has a majority of 1st choices. The candidate with the fewest 1st choices is Dutch (Arnold Schwartzenegger), so he will be eliminated for Round 2.

Shown at right: Round 1 screenshot.

Round 1

50%
Threshold

Dirty Harry
31% (12 votes)

John McClane
28% (11 votes)

Mathayus
21% (8 votes)

Rambo
13% (5 votes)

Dutch
8% (3 votes)

Inactive Ballots
(no candidate choices left)
0 votes

In Round 2, we see that ballots cast for Dutch were transferred to those voter's 2nd choices - Rambo and Dirty Harry. Now the candidate with the fewest ballots is Rambo (Sylvester Stalone), who will be eliminated for Round 3. (Sorry, Rambo.)

Shown at right: Round 2 screenshot.

Round 2

50%
Threshold

Dirty Harry
33% (13 votes)

John McClane
28% (11 votes)

Mathayus
21% (8 votes)

Rambo
18% (7 votes)

Dutch
Eliminated

Inactive Ballots
(no candidate choices left)
0 votes

In Round 3, the Rambo ballots go to their next choice - Dirty Harry and John McClane. Mathayus didn't appeal to the Rambo voters, so he lost his chance to catch up. Now the candidate with the fewest ballots is Mathayus, who will be eliminated for Round 4.

Shown at right: Round 3 screenshot.

Round 3

50%
Threshold
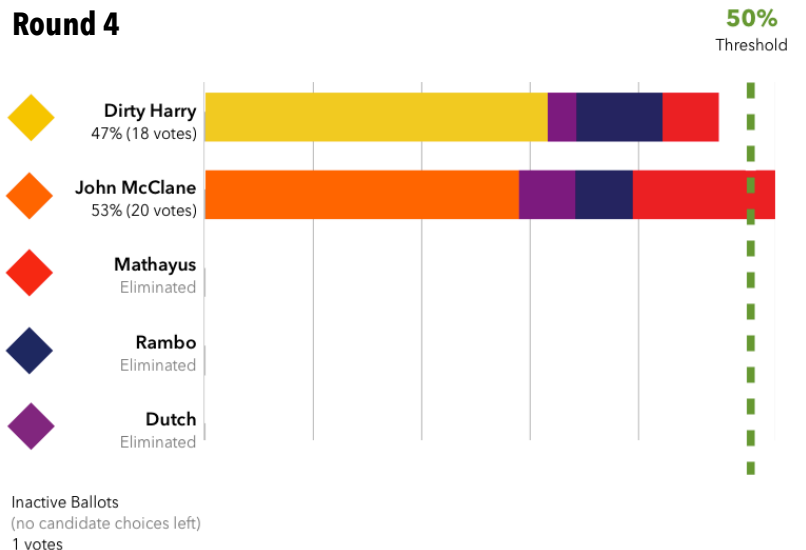
Dirty Harry
41% (16 votes)

John McClane
36% (14 votes)

Mathayus
23% (9 votes)

Rambo
Eliminated

Dutch
Eliminated

Inactive Ballots
(no candidate choices left)
0 votes
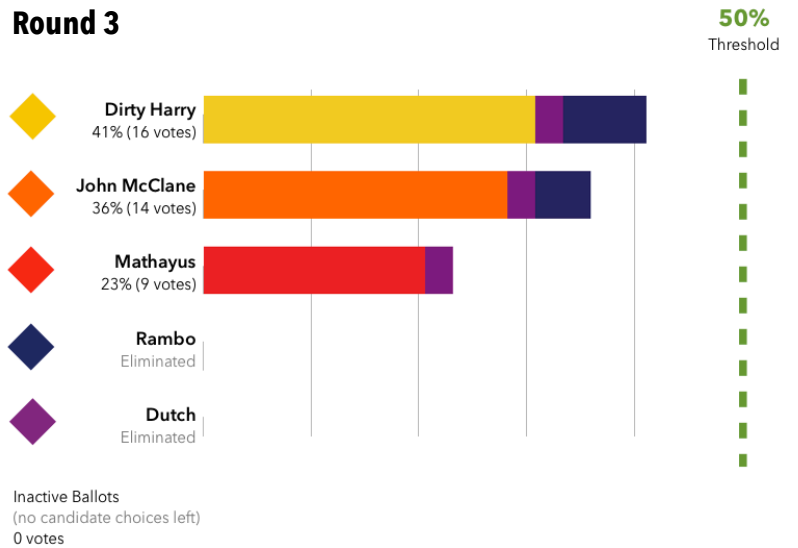
In Round 4, John McClane of Die Hard takes it with the support of the Mathayus fans! There is a consensus that if the group wants to watch a movie - John McClane is the Action Hero most in demand. Congratulations!

Shown at right: Round 4 screenshot.

Round 4

50%
Threshold

Dirty Harry
47% (18 votes)

John McClane
53% (20 votes)

Mathayus
Eliminated

Rambo
Eliminated

Dutch
Eliminated

Inactive Ballots
(no candidate choices left)
1 votes

Of note: The display also track ballots that are no longer active because their last voted preference was eliminated. In the live demonstration, we do not bring this up unless someone broaches the topic.