

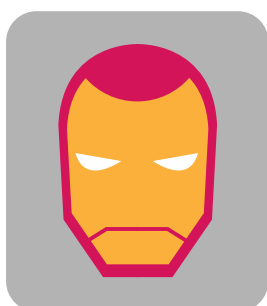
# SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTES (STV)

In our Leadership Elections, you will notice that we use something called Single Transferable Voting (STV), which is different to how you may have voted in local and general elections in this country. STV is a system of preferential voting which is designed to minimise 'wasted' votes and provide proportional representation.

To show you an example of how it works, let's imagine that the 5 Marvel characters below are standing for the position of President in our Leadership Elections:



**CAPTAIN  
AMERICA**



**IRON  
MAN**



**HULK**



**DEADPOOL**



**BLACK  
WIDOW**

*(we could have picked other characters and pretty sure this choice has already sparked debate/raised eyebrows)*







Now, you would quite like Deadpool to be your President (who wouldn't?!), so when you vote you put him down as your first preference. STV allows you to 'rate' all candidates in the order you would like them to be President, in case your first choice (in this case Deadpool) isn't elected as President, so let's say in this case that Deadpool is your number 1, Iron Man your number 2 choice, Black widow is your 3rd choice, Hulk is your 4th choice and Captain America is your 5th choice. (Again we realise this order of candidates may be controversial). In STV, who you mark as your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th (or so on choice) comes into play during each round of counting the votes.

If you only wanted Deadpool to be considered as President, you can choose to select 'No Further Preferences' after marking him as Number 1. Alternatively, if you don't think any of the list of Marvel Characters above would make a good President at BCUSU, you can choose R.O.N (in our case Ron Weasley) or to Re-Open Nominations. That way we can then persuade someone like Thor to run as President.







When the elections close, all votes are counted and the candidate who has received the least votes is eliminated. Anyone who had voted for this candidate e.g. Captain America, now has their second preference vote allocated to their second preference candidate and the process repeats until we have a 'winner', and that person is elected as President.

Sound complicated? It's just because we're not used to voting in this way in any other election. This is how it works in our Marvel-Superhero-for-President-of-BCUSU example:







Number of votes received in BCUSU Presidential election: 4,000

Candidate Name	Number of First Preference Votes
 BLACK WIDOW	<b>700</b>
 CAPTAIN AMERICA	<b>200</b>
 DEADPOOL	<b>1500</b>
 HULK	<b>1000</b>
 IRON MAN	<b>500</b>
 R.O.N (THEY OBVS WANTED THOR)	<b>100</b>







In order to be elected after the first stage, a candidate needs over half of the number of valid votes – in this case as we received 4,000 votes, any of the candidates would need 2001 votes or more. As none of the candidates received this, nobody has been elected after the first stage of results, and R.O.N has been eliminated as they got the least number of first preference votes. The votes for R.O.N are now reallocated to the second preferences

Candidate Name	R.O.N's Redistributed Votes	Total Votes So Far
 BLACK WIDOW	<b>0</b>	<b>700</b>
 CAPTAIN AMERICA	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>
 DEADPOOL	<b>0</b>	<b>1500</b>
 HULK	<b>50</b>	<b>1050</b>
 IRON MAN	<b>50</b>	<b>550</b>
 R.O.N (THEY OBVS WANTED THOR)	<b>-100</b>	<b>ELIMINATED</b>







As none of the candidates have received votes above the quota, it's now time to eliminate the next candidate with the least amount of votes, and redistribute their votes.

Candidate Name	R.O.N's Redistributed Votes	Total Votes So Far
 BLACK WIDOW	<b>25</b>	<b>725</b>
 CAPTAIN AMERICA	<b>-200</b>	<b>ELIMINATED after Round 2</b>
 DEADPOOL	<b>0</b>	<b>1500</b>
 HULK	<b>150</b>	<b>1200</b>
 IRON MAN	<b>25</b>	<b>575</b>
 R.O.N (THEY OBVS WANTED THOR)		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 1</b>

Again, as none of the candidates have received votes above the quota, it's now time to eliminate the next candidate with the least amount of votes, and redistribute their votes.

Candidate Name	R.O.N's Redistributed Votes	Total Votes So Far
 BLACK WIDOW	<b>75</b>	<b>800</b>
 CAPTAIN AMERICA		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 2</b>
 DEADPOOL	<b>100</b>	<b>1600</b>
 HULK	<b>400</b>	<b>1600</b>
 IRON MAN	<b>-575</b>	<b>ELIMINATED after Round 3</b>
 R.O.N (THEY OBVS WANTED THOR)		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 1</b>

Yet again, as none of the candidates have received votes above the quota, it's now time to eliminate the next candidate with the least amount of votes, and redistribute their votes.

Candidate Name	R.O.N's Redistributed Votes	Total Votes So Far
 BLACK WIDOW	<b>-800</b>	<b>ELIMINATED after Round 4</b>
 CAPTAIN AMERICA		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 2</b>
 DEADPOOL	<b>500</b>	<b>2100</b>
 HULK	<b>300</b>	<b>1900</b>
 IRON MAN		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 3</b>
 R.O.N (THEY OBVS WANTED THOR)		<b>ELIMINATED after Round 1</b>



**As Deadpool has now received more votes than the quota, Deadpool is elected and President of BCUSU!**