

LMSC October Teleconference Discussion Topic:

Voting Next Steps

October 7, 2025

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Recording Secretary

Goals of IEEE SA

(from WG P&P)

1.4 Fundamental Principles of Standards Development

KEY THEME: Openness and due process

1.4.3 Consensus

The IEEE SA Standards Board will consider that consensus is established when substantial agreement has been reached by all directly and materially affected interest categories. Consensus provides that the following conditions have been met:

- a) A concerted attempt is made to involve all interested parties;
- b) Substantial agreement is reached by directly and materially affected interest categories;
- c) Substantial agreement means more than a majority but not necessarily unanimity;
- d) All views and objections have been considered;
- e) A concerted effort is made to resolve views and objections.

Problems Expressed

- “Balance of all interested parties” goal is at risk (WG P&P, sect. 6)
 - Easier participation can allow “low cost” to increase numbers
 - Don’t want to exclude those with travel restrictions
- Opportunity has risen to game the system
 - Lack of full participation
 - Lack of identity proof... in this age of AI, this isn’t out of the question
- Collaboration is easier/more natural in person
 - “Hashing it out” is harder
 - Timeliness of the discussions
 - Lack of empathy

November Workshop

Three principles emerged :

- 1) Encourage in-person attendance.
- 2) Personal attendance is better.
- 3) Remote participation adds value

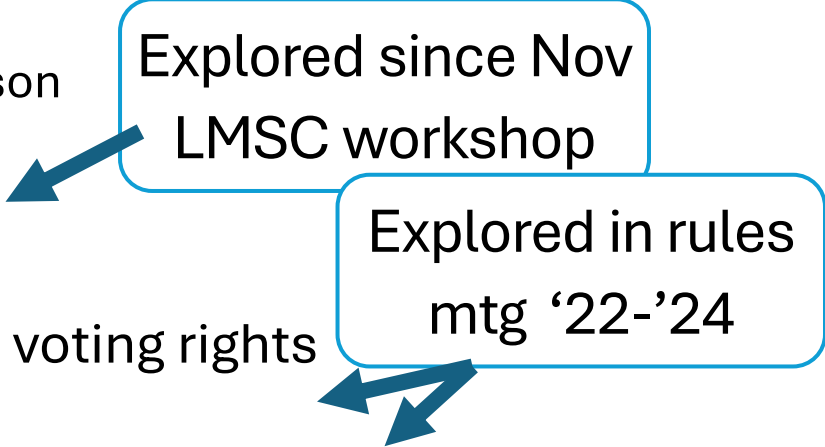
Range of Options Discussed

a) No change – hybrid meetings, voting and attaining rights

a) No change – Remote attendees pay MORE (to increase the “skin in the game”)

b) No change – In-person financial incentive for attending in person

Explored since Nov
LMSC workshop



b) *Hybrid meetings – voting in person only (count in room)*

c) Hybrid meetings – adding some in-person requirement to voting rights

Explored in rules
mtg '22-'24

d) Hybrid meetings – only grant credited attendance for in-person attendance

e) Remove hybrid – Meetings in person only

Timeline to Provide Guidance

- Oct – Direction
- November – Inform Working Groups
- January – Refine proposal
- March – Adopt rule change
- April/May – AudCom approval??
- July – New rules enforced

Option 1; WG P&P

Votes taken by only those in the room

New Text

Re-arranged or slight re-wording

7. Voting

7.1 Approval of an Action

Approval of an action requires approval by a majority (or three-quarters) vote as specified in subclauses 7.1.1 (majority) and 7.1.2 (three-quarters) and may occur in the following instances:

a) At a meeting (including teleconferences) where quorum has been established, a vote carried by majority (or three-quarters) approval of the votes cast (i.e., Approve or Do Not Approve votes, excluding abstentions) by the voting members in attendance.

b) By electronic means (including email), a vote carried by majority (or three-quarters) of the votes cast (i.e., Approve or Do Not Approve votes, excluding abstentions), provided a majority of all the voting members of the Working Group responded.

- The Chair (or presiding officer) may exercise their vote only when it could affect the outcome or when the vote is by electronic or letter ballot.

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- At a face-to-face meeting (exclusively in-person or in-person with one or more participants contributing via electronic means), by only the voting members attending in-person.
- At a teleconference/electronic-only meeting, by the voting members in attendance in-person and online.
- By electronic means (including email), a vote carried by majority (or three-quarters) of the votes cast (i.e., Approve or Do Not Approve votes, excluding abstentions), provided a majority of all the voting members of the Working Group responded.

The Chair (or presiding officer) may exercise their vote only when it could affect the outcome or when the vote is by electronic or letter ballot.

TO BE ADDED IN DEFINITION SECTION OR IN Ops Manual

Working Group meetings may be conducted in various formats:

- Face-to-face – exclusively in-person or in-person with one or more participants contributing via electronic means.
- Electronic – a face-to-face meeting that needed to shift to predominantly online; mostly online, with some (or none) in-person component.
- Teleconference – exclusively via electronic means.

A Working Group Chair may deem a face-to-face meeting as an electronic meeting based on low in-person registration, or other declared circumstances, up to 14 days prior to the start of the meeting.

Option 1; WG P&P • Zoom in

Votes taken by only those in the room

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Option 2; WG P&P

Attendance towards voting rights for in person attendance only. Otherwise remains the same as people are used to.

4. Membership

4.1 Attendance at Meetings

A participant shall attend at least 75% of a meeting slot's duration as stated in the approved agenda and satisfy the requirements of subclause 6.3 regarding any registration fee for the Session for that attendance to count towards gaining or maintaining voting membership.

This is called Credited Attendance in order to distinguish it from attendance that does not satisfy these criteria.

A participant that has Credited Attendance in at least 75% of the meeting slots in a Session has Session Attendance Credit for that Session.

4.2 Voting Membership

Working Group membership is by individual. All Working Group members are voting members. Participants seeking Working Group membership are responsible for fulfilling the requirements to gain and maintain membership.

Members of the Standards Committee are ex officio members of all Working Groups. Ex-officio members are allowed to vote on any Working Group motion or ballot, but are not counted towards quorum requirements or ballot return requirements if they don't vote.

Membership shall be granted, upon request, to those participants attending the first Session of a newly chartered Working Group or Technical Advisory Group. Thereafter, membership in a Working Group is established by achieving Credited Attendance in at least 75% of the meeting slots at the Sessions of the Working Group for two out of the last four Plenary Sessions; one credited recent Working Group or Task Group Interim Session may be substituted for one of the two Plenary Sessions required to establish membership. A recent Interim Session is any of the Interim Sessions after the first of the four most recent Plenary Sessions. A credited Interim Session (an Interim Session with attendance credit) is one that has been declared by the Working Group Chair.

A declaration of intent to the Chair of the Working Group may also be required in a Working Group to gain membership. Membership starts at the third Plenary Session attended by the participant.

Liaison officials are individuals designated by the Working Group Chair who provide liaisons with other Working Groups or standards bodies.

Although not a requirement for membership in the Working Group, participants are encouraged to join the IEEE, IEEE SA and the IEEE Computer Society.

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IEEE 802 LMSC Working Group Policies and Procedures, revision 25. Approved 15 July 2022

Working Group members shall participate in the consensus process in a manner consistent with their professional expert opinion as individuals, and not as organizational representatives.

Membership may be declared at the discretion of the Working Group Chair (e.g., for contributors by correspondence or other significant contributions to the Working Group). The Working Group Chair may authorize Credited Attendance for individuals while on activities approved by the Working Group Chair.

The procedure for hibernating a Working Group is described in “Hibernation of a Working Group” subclause of the IEEE 802 LMSC Policies and Procedures. Upon reactivation of a hibernated Working Group, if at least 50% of the most recent membership roster attends the Plenary Session where the Working Group is reactivated, the membership shall be comprised of that roster, and the normal rules for gaining and losing membership will apply. If less than 50% of the membership attends, the procedure for developing membership in a new Working Group shall be followed.

4.2.1 Requirements to Maintain Voting Membership

Persons who do not retain membership by Session Attendance Credit, lose membership, but this does not cause the loss of previous Session Attendance Credit.

A voting member’s obligation to respond to Working Group letter ballots (in which they are eligible to vote) is in addition to their obligation to attend Working Group Sessions.

A Letter Ballot Series is the initial ballot plus any recirculation letter ballots on that question.

A voting member that fails to return 2 of the last 3 or 2 consecutive Working Group Letter Ballot Series in which they are eligible to vote loses membership. Their previous Session Attendance Credits do not count towards regaining voting membership. Abstaining, other than for ‘lack of technical expertise’, is not considered returning a ballot.

If a Working Group letter ballot closes within 14 days prior to a Session, any changes to voting membership resulting from the ballot shall be delayed until the end of that Session.

The chair may “specially maintain” a member’s voting status that would otherwise be lost by this Working Group letter ballot response rule. Reasons for such an action may include consideration of personal hardship, medical emergency, or outstanding contributions.

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Potential Straw Polls

I support the direction of making a rules change regarding in-person attendance and voting?

Yes

No

Abstain

If we make a rules change to encourage in person attendance, at this time, I support the direction of

In-room voting

Credited attendance being in person (2 of the last 4 plenaries)

Either

Abstain

Backup

Proposed Clarity; WG P&P

NOT PLANNING TO PURSUE AT THIS TIME... But clarity such as this could be added to the Ops Manual

New Text
Re-arranged or slight re-wording

• 6. Meetings

- Working Group meetings may be conducted either exclusively in-person or in-person with one or more participants contributing via electronic means, or exclusively via electronic means.
- Working Group meetings shall be held, as decided by the Working Group, the Chair, or by petition of 15% or more of the voting members, to conduct business, such as making assignments, receiving reports of work, progressing draft standards, resolving differences between subgroups, and considering views and objections from any source.
- All meeting notices shall be distributed or made available by notification to members at least 30 calendar days in advance of a face-to-face meeting and at least 10 calendar days in advance for an electronic (including teleconference) meeting. A meeting agenda (including participation information and known potential actions) shall be distributed or made available by notification to members at least 14 calendar days in advance of a face-to-face meeting, and at least 5 calendar days in advance for an electronic meeting.
- Meetings of subgroups may be held as decided upon by the members or Chair of the subgroup.
- While having a balance of all interested parties is not an official requirement for a Working Group, it is a desirable goal. As such, the officers of the Working Group should consider issues of balance and dominance that may arise and discuss them with the Standards Committee.
- All IEEE standards development meetings are open to anyone who has an interest and wishes to attend. However, some meetings may occur in Executive Session (see subclause 6.2).
- Participants shall be asked to state their employer and affiliation at each Working Group meeting as required by the *IEEE SA Standards Board Operations Manual* clause on “Disclosure of affiliation.”

6. Meetings

Working Group meetings may be conducted in various formats:

- Face-to-face – exclusively in-person or in-person with one or more participants contributing via electronic means.
- Electronic – a face-to-face meeting that needed to shift to predominantly online; mostly online, with some (or none) in-person component.
- Teleconference – exclusively via electronic means.

These meetings are convened to address essential business activities, such as making assignments, receiving work reports, progressing draft standards, resolving subgroup differences, and considering views and objections from any source. The decision to hold a meeting can be made by the Working Group, the Chair, or through a petition by 15% or more of the voting members. In-person attendance at face-to-face meetings is encouraged.

Meeting notices must be distributed or made available to members with sufficient advance notice.

- For face-to-face meetings, notifications must be sent at least 30 calendar days in advance. Meeting agendas, including participation details and potential actions, should be shared at least 14 calendar days in advance.
- A Working Group Chair may deem a face-to-face meeting as an electronic meeting based on low in-person registration, or other declared circumstances, up to 14 days prior to the start of the meeting.
- For teleconference/electronic meetings a minimum of 10 calendar days' notice is required. Meeting agendas, including participation details and potential actions, should be shared at least 5 calendar days in advance.

November Workshop

Three principles emerged :

- 1) Encourage in-person attendance.
- 2) Personal attendance is better.
- 3) Remote participation adds value

March, June, & July Discussion

Target out of November Workshop: Voting in room only

- a) How things work today → DVL in many groups
- b) Proposed text
- c) P&P change process
- d) Logistics for implementation
- e) Impacts to the individuals
- f) Inclusivity

Problem 1: Collaboration Difficulties

Pros of In-person Only		Pros of Hybrid Meeting
Rich debates (breaks, meals, step out, etc)		Allows participation by those with travel or financial restrictions
Opposition is visible		Wider audience can follow the standard
Chair can better “read the room”		Can “attend” multiple sessions at once
Balanced industry attendance (higher “cost” to have people attend)		
Can only attend 1 session at a time		
Form empathy for opposition		

Problem 2: Authenticity/Identity

- In hybrid space, we live on an honor code. Having someone help you, multi-tasking, and AI are all ways around it... all you have to do is click into IMAT 4 times during that time.
- If participation & contributing are synonymous in our rules, then anyone can be considered a contributor even if they don't understand the topic.
- A fake person, in theory, could gain voting rights.
- What does “*participate* for 75% of the meeting” really mean?? Be on the bridge? Actively listening in the session? Speaking up? Etc. Going into a deeper definition here is dangerous. Caution the group to look elsewhere.

Problem 3: “Balance of all interested parties” (WG P&P, sect. 6)

- Yes, hybrid has allowed a wider participation. And allows those with travel restrictions to still attend, however, has it come with a cost?
- Travel restrictions in the past meant someone else attended instead.
- The easier the barrier to attain, maintain, and use voting rights, has enabled a wider voting membership. ← a good thing, unless it’s being exploited.
- We’ve shifted the cost IF someone wanted to take advantage
- *“The standards development process shall strive to have a balance of interests, and not to be dominated by any single interest category, interest(s), or organization(s)” (WG P&P, Section 1.4.1, Due Process)* Is this balance at risk?? Look at attendance records (X% of voters are from only Y companies)