**FAQs**

1. Why did PNER choose to use electronic voting in 2020 year and future voting?
   1. To allow all PNER members the opportunity to vote, as opposed to having to be present in person.
   2. To save time and expense. Others using electronic voting systems reported good results. We surveyed several groups to determine how they run their elections. Here are the results of that effort:
      * EDRA uses Election Runner
      * AERC uses paper ballots
      * SEDRA uses paper ballots
      * MRER uses a google form and sends the link to all members

Electronic voting was determined to be more efficient, less expensive, less labor-intensive for volunteers, and more transparent than paper ballots.

1. How did the Elections Committee go about selecting the tool for the 2020 year and future voting?

We ran a few tests with Survey Monkey, Election Runner, and Google forms and decided with the anonymity feature, and the ease of use, we would like to go with Election Runner.

1. How does electronic voting work?

The 3rd party system emails ballots to active PNER members of the current ride year, whose returned vote is completely anonymous. Those with election Administrative access will not see which members returned a vote, how many votes have accumulated for a candidate, and they cannot see for whom each member voted.

1. When are active PNER members considered eligible to vote?
   1. Voting for the upcoming PNER election is restricted to members with a valid membership of the current ride year dated on or before the time they vote, and voting is open from January 1, through January 7, of the current voting year and closes at 5pm PST.
   2. Read the bylaws [here](http://www.pner.net/bylaws) for more information on membership and voting eligibility
2. How does the election committee account for votes from single email address for several registered PNER members in a family?

Ballots are emailed to the main email address for the family. Each voter from that email address will receive 2 unique values they must enter in order to cast their vote. This enables the election to distinguish votes received from the same device as coming from valid individuals due to the unique codes assigned to each voter.

1. Although we are not using questions this election cycle, here are the guidelines for future elections.

Questions will be received from current BOD members no later than midnight on the date the Election Committee agrees upon. They will be assessed, simplified, and represent common concerns from membership. Candidates may respond, and those responses will be posted so that members have an opportunity to review them before voting.

1. Who are the Elections Administrators and what do they do?
   1. The Elections Administrators are members of the elections committee chosen by the President and approved by the BOD.
   2. The Role of the Elections Administrator is to:
      * Create the account for the election tool
      * Build & Configure – voters list, emails, general instructions, ballot &  preview
      * Schedule - update settings and messages, view the ballot; program so the election automatically opens and closes based on time/date set
      * Run the election – add new members to enable vote, view current results, update general messages, update the End date & time, trigger email reminders to voters
      * Complete – view the results, view fraud analysis, export details & results
      * Archive the election results
2. What if any votes are identified as ‘suspicious’?

The system will identify two types of ‘suspicious votes’ and flag them for follow up:

* + - More than 1 vote from a single IP address (computer, device).  These could be valid votes for family members.
    - More than 1 vote from a single PNER membership number.

1. How will any ‘suspicious votes’ be handled?
   1. For multiple votes from a single device, the elections administrators will work with the ‘membership’ person to confirm how many voters reside at that address (i.e., how many members in that family with voting privileges).
   2. All multiple votes from a single PNER membership number will be automatically discarded, and noted as ‘spoiled ballots’.