

### **ARRL Committee of Tellers**

The ARRL By-Laws (20-a) provide for a Committee of Tellers appointed by the Ethics & Elections Committee to oversee the ballot counting for Director and Vice Director elections:

(a) Ballots, to be counted, must reach the address established for their return no later than noon Eastern Time on the third Friday of November of the election year. The Ethics and Elections Committee shall appoint a committee of three tellers including at least one Director and shall arrange to have a certified public accountant present to certify the results of the balloting. No outer envelopes marked as containing ballots shall be opened until the meeting of the committee of tellers held for the purpose of counting the ballots. The committee of tellers shall meet at the headquarters office of the League as soon thereafter as possible and in the presence of each other shall open the envelopes containing ballots and shall count the vote, after eliminating the ballot of anyone disqualified from voting

A Standard Operating Procedure for the Committee of Tellers was adopted at the 1984 Annual Meeting and may be found in the Standing Orders at Standing Order No. 84-1.44:

The following Standard Operating Procedure for ballot counting in elections for Director and Vice Director is adopted:

1. Other than the Committee of Tellers, the only persons permitted to be present during ballot counting shall be:

a) Persons authorized by the League Secretary to perform clerical duties;

b) Representatives of the Public Accounting firm;

c) Persons authorized by the Committee of Tellers;

d) Candidates or their authorized representatives exercise their rights to observe pursuant to the By-Laws.

2. With regard to 1(a) above, the Secretary shall furnish a list of these assistants and their designated tasks to the Committee prior to the start of counting procedures. No other employees of the League shall be permitted to enter the rooms set aside for the counting.

3. The Committee may utilize volunteer assistance from other members of the Board who are present, either Directors or Officers, provided that no Director may participate in any fashion in the counting of ballots from their Division of residence, whether or not they are a candidate.

4. Rooms used at League HQ for the ballot counting process shall be posted with notices to unauthorized persons to keep out.

5. Ballots that are questioned as to validity shall be resolved prior to any final count. It shall be the policy of the Committee to count ballots as valid whenever the clear intent of the voter can be determined. Questioned ballots will be resolved only by members of the Committee. Neither staff nor other volunteer assistants shall offer comments regarding questioned ballots.

6. No election results shall be publicly announced to third parties prior to certification of the count by the Committee of Tellers.

7. Upon completion of the ballot counting and certification, the results shall be communicated to candidates in an expeditious manner, by telephone or electronic means.

8. This SOP shall be posted at the entrance to the ballot counting room(s).