

Voting – Activity Sheet 2

NAME _____

DATE: _____

Strategic Voting

Suppose that you are one of the ten sports editors whose votes together determine the rankings of state high school football teams. A variation of the Borda count is used in which each voter ranks his or her top ten teams out of the many teams in the division. Points are awarded as follows:

- 10 points for each first-place vote
- 9 points for each second-place vote
- ⋮
- 1 point for each tenth-place vote

1. You suspect that the nine other sports editors will rank Big City High School first and your high school's team second. Show a ranking for each of the sports writers that will enable your team to earn the most number of points? Explain.

2. Candidate A, B, and C are running for office. The preferences of the voting community are given in the following chart:

PERCENT				
RANKING	38%	28%	24%	10%
FIRST CHOICE	A	B	C	A
SECOND CHOICE	B	A	B	C
THIRD CHOICE	C	C	A	B

- a. Who will win the election if the plurality method is used?
- b. By still using the plurality method, does a strategy exist that the voters in the 24 percent column could use to get more to their liking? How did you decide?
- c. Who will win the election if the Hare system is used?
Which column of voters would be most disappointed in the result?
Devise an alternative ranking that they could submit to get a result more to their liking when the Hare system is used?