# Who Needs Transfer Votes? 

by John C. Lane

The transferring of votes on successive counts of the ballots is an essential and conspicuous aspect of STV. The repeated counting of ballots -- carried out for long hours by a small army of officials and observed by anxious candidates and their supporters -- is a mix of tedium and excitement and often a source of perplexity for the voters. How necessary is this counting process? What difference would it make if only the first-count votes were used to determine the winners of an election?

In a recent article in the British journal Representation (Winter 2000 issue, pp. 187-193) entitled "Does the Transfer of Votes Really Matter?" Professor Neal Jesse addressed two questions: First, "how often is a transfer of votes needed for a candidate to secure a seat" and, second, "how often does the transfer of votes produce a winning candidate who was not a leading candidate before the transfer?" Jesse examined election results both under STV in Ireland and under the Alternative Vote system in Australia for an answer to his two questions. This note will undertake a parallel examination for Malta where STV has been in use since 1921.

## (I) How often are vote transfers needed to determine a winner?

In Ireland, Jesse found, there were 451 instances (out of 1,856 ) where a candidate had a sufficient number of votes on the first count to be declared elected. But in 1,405 (or $75.7 \%$ ) of the cases a candidate only won his or her seat after vote transfers had occurred.

This ratio is quite similar for Malta in its 18 parliamentary elections from 1921 to 1998, as Table 1 demonstrates: Of the 873 seats at stake, 704 ( $80.6 \%$ ) required vote transfers for the winners to be determined; the remaining 169 (19.4\%) of the candidates had more than the required quota on the first count.

Table 1: Vote Transfers (Not) Required

| Year | Seats at Stake | No Transfer Votes Needed |  | Transfer Votes Needed |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | N | \% | N | \% |
| 1921 | 32 | 11 | 34.4 | 21 | 65.6 |
| 1924 | 32 | 8 | 25.0 | 24 | 75.0 |
| 1927 | 32 | 10 | 31.3 | 22 | 68.8 |
| 1932 | 32 | 6 | 18.8 | 26 | 81.3 |
| 1947 | 40 | 10 | 25.0 | 30 | 75.0 |
| 1950 | 40 | 4 | 10.0 | 36 | 90.0 |
| 1951 | 40 | 5 | 12.5 | 35 | 87.5 |
| 1953 | 40 | 3 | 7.5 | 37 | 92.5 |
| 1955 | 40 | 4 | 10.0 | 36 | 90.0 |
| 1962 | 50 | 6 | 12.0 | 44 | 88.0 |
| 1966 | 50 | 7 | 14.0 | 43 | 86.0 |
| 1971 | 55 | 9 | 16.4 | 46 | 83.6 |
| 1976 | 65 | 11 | 16.9 | 54 | 83.1 |
| 1981 | 65 | 15 | 23.1 | 50 | 76.9 |
| 1987 | 65 | 20 | 30.8 | 45 | 69.2 |
| 1992 | 65 | 14 | 21.5 | 51 | 78.5 |
| 1996 | 65 | 12 | 18.5 | 53 | 81.5 |
| 1998 | 65 | 14 | 21.5 | 51 | 78.5 |
| All | 73 | 69 | 19.4 | 4 | 80.6 |

(a) Four-seat constituencies (b) Six-seat constituencies in five of the ten districts All other, five-seat constituencies

Jesse also controlled for constituency size, finding that in Irish constituencies with three seats, 28\% of the winners did not require vote transfers; in 4-member districts the percentage fell to $21 \%$; and in 5 -member districts it was at $22 \%$. In Malta, the relationship with constituency size is similarly inconclusive: In 4member districts, $27.3 \%$ of the seats were filled without a need for transferred votes; the percentage fell to $17.8 \%$ for 5 -member districts and rose to $23.3 \%$ in the handful of 6 -member districts.

There are two aspects other than constituencies size that appear to be related to the prevalence of firstcount winners. First, as Table 1 shows, fewer candidates (in absolute numbers and percentage terms) managed to obtain the quota on the first round when there was multi-party competition, from 1950 to 1966, than in elections from 1976 to 1996 when two-party competition prevailed. The relationship, however, is not consistent.

Second is the prominent presence of incumbents who sought re-election, as the figures in Table 2 reveal. Theirs has been a very substantial share of the seats won and it is these incumbents who account for nearly every seat that was won without resort to vote transfers.

Table 2: Incumbents as Candidates and Winners

|  | Incumbents' Percentage Share of: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | All <br> Candidacies | All Seats <br> Won | Seats Won <br> Without Transfer <br> Votes |
| $\mathbf{1 9 2 4}$ | 30.93 | 65.63 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 2 7}$ | 41.98 | 59.38 | 90.00 |
| 1932 | 44.44 | 71.88 | 83.33 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 4 7}$ | 10.48 | 25.00 | 70.00 |
| 1950 | 28.34 | 60.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 5 1}$ | 34.62 | 70.00 | 100.00 |
| 1953 | 30.23 | 70.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 5 5}$ | 33.10 | 80.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 6 2}$ | 15.23 | 46.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 6 6}$ | 25.00 | 64.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 7 1}$ | 30.65 | 81.82 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 7 6}$ | 35.84 | 73.85 | 90.91 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 8 1}$ | 38.96 | 86.15 | 93.33 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 8 7}$ | 37.19 | 75.38 | 90.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 2}$ | 42.28 | 80.00 | 85.71 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 6}$ | 35.89 | 80.00 | 100.00 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 8}$ | 36.52 | 89.23 | 100.00 |
| All | 31.96 | 71.34 | 93.04 |

## (II) Do Transfer Votes Make a Difference in Who Wins?

Leaving behind the matter of candidates who already meet or exceed the quota on the first count, there is the question of what difference the vote transfers made to the fortunes of candidates. Were the candidates' standings on the first vote count substantially affected by the subsequent vote transfers?

Following Professor Jesse's approach, we can identify in each district the number of "leading candidates," that is, the four or five or six (matching the number of seats in the district) candidates who received the highest number of votes on the first count.

Table 3: "Leading Candidates" Ultimately (Not) Gaining a Seat

|  |  | Adjusted: After Casual <br> Elections |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| District <br> Size | Total <br> Seats | Leaders <br> Winning | Leaders <br> Losing | Leaders <br> Losing <br> (in \%) | Leaders <br> Not <br> Seated | Leaders Not <br> Seated <br> (in \%) |
| 4 Seats | 128 | 112 | 16 | 12.50 | 14 | 10.94 |
| 5 Seats | 715 | 609 | 106 | 14.83 | 88 | 12.31 |
| 6 Seats | 30 | 24 | 6 | 20.00 | 6 | 20.00 |
| All | 873 | 745 | 128 | 14.66 | 108 | 12.37 |

Note: The two right-hand columns take into account the results after the "casual elections" which must be conducted when a candidate resigns one of two seats he had won in the general election.

Table 3 shows that of a total of 873 leadings candidates only 128 (14.66\%) eventually failed to win a seat after the transfer of votes was completed. As district size increases, so does the rate of failure: In 6 -seat district leading candidates were almost twice as likely to be denied a seat than in 4-seat districts (although the small number of cases of constituencies with other than 5 seats should caution against drawing a firm conclusion.) Most elections in Malta have been conducted in 5 -seat districts and in these, about fifteen percent of the candidates with the highest first-count votes were denied a seat in the legislature.

When casual elections are taken into account, we find that an even greater majority of all contests are effectively decided on the first count: Of 873 leading candidates, 765 eventually gained seats in Parliament and whereas only 108 (12.37\%) failed to do so.

Leaving aside the personal disappointment of candidates who started with high vote totals only to see themselves overtaken by others as the counts proceeded, the question arises of how consequential this was from the perspective of the political parties.

It turns out that in approximately one-third of the cases (46 of the 128), the initial leaders were overtaken at the finish line by another candidate of the same political party. The change of individual political fortunes consequently did not, in these cases, affect the numerical strength of the parties in parliament. However, in the remaining 82 instances a leading candidate of one party was replaced in the winning column by a candidate of another party who had obtained fewer first-preference votes. (See Table 4, which appears as an appendix to this note, for the years and districts where this occurred.)

## Hypothetical Results

The results described above prompt the question of what would have happened if there had been no requirement to proceed with additional counts and instead the leading candidates on the first count were declared winners of the available seats.

This is, of course, a purely speculative exercise. If the rules had actually provided that the leading candidates on the first count be declared elected then parties and voters might well have altered their behavior. Political parties might have fielded a different number of candidates; the candidates might have pursued a different campaign strategy; and the voters might have been inclined to cast their vote differently. But let us assume here that only the rules, not political behavior, had changed.

When we examine these hypothetical results (detailed in Table 4) we see that 82 seats are indeed occupied by members of a different party. However, the changed sizes of parliamentary parties would have had no effect on the majority or minority status of the parties in any except two instances. Two examples of merely incremental effects: The Constitutionalist Party's hypothetical gain of three additional seats in the 1927 election would only have enhanced, but would not have created, its majority status; similarly, the PN majority in 1992 would have increased from three seats to nine.

In only a single instance, the election of 1976, would the balance of parliamentary strength have been reversed, with the MLP majority of three seats becoming a PN majority of one. A second, less extreme, case is the election of 1953 where the governing coalition (PN and MWP with a combined seat total of 21) would have obtained only 20 seats, the same as the MLP opposition.

Thus, if the leading candidates on the first count had been declared the winners without any subsequent vote transfers, the consequences for the parties' majority or minority status in Parliament and the forming of governments would almost always (in 16 of 18 elections) have been nil.

None of this, of course, constitutes a case for abandoning the wearisome vote transfer process required by STV. But the exercise suggests that STV vote transfers create results which, to a remarkable degree, a simpler process could also have achieved.

Those interested in the specific instances of unsuccessful leading candidates may consult Table 5 in Appendix B, below.

## Appendix A

In Table 4, the second column indicates the particular election district in which a leading candidate from one party was ultimately overtaken by a candidate from another party. The third and fourth columns indicate the parties involved and the "Net Changes" column summarizes the overall shift in the election. The right-most columns show the numerical strength of the parties in the actual election (with the party or parties forming the Government identified by an asterisk) and then the hypothetical distribution of seats.

Table 4: Hypothetical Changes if the Leading Candidates Had Been Awarded the Available Seats

|  |  |  |  |  | Parliamentary Seats: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | District | Gain By: | Loss By: | Net Changes |  |  |  |
| 1921 | 2nd | MLP | UPM | MLP + 1 | CON | 7 | 8 |
|  | 3 rd | CON | UPM | CON + 1 | MLP | 7 | 8 |
|  | 5th | CON | MLP | UPM - 2 | *UPM | 14 | 12 |
|  | 6th | MLP | CON |  | DNP | 4 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 | 1st | UPM | DNP | UPM + 2 | CON | 10 | 10 |
|  | 2nd | UPM | MLP | MLP - 2 | *DNP | 5 | 5 |
|  | 6th | CON | MLP |  | MLP | 7 | 5 |
|  | 8th | DNP | CON |  | *UPM | 10 | 12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1927 | 3rd | CON | MLP | CON + 3 | *CON | 15 | 18 |
|  | 4th | CON | MLP | MLP - 2 | MLP | 3 | 1 |
|  | 5th | CON | PN | PN - 1 | PN | 13 | 12 |
| 1932 | 1st | CON | PN | PN + 1 | CON | 10 | 8 |
|  | 2nd | PN | CON | MLP + 1 | MLP | 1 | 2 |
|  | 4th | MLP | PN | CON-2 | *PN | 21 | 22 |
|  | 6th |  | CON |  |  |  |  |
|  | 8th |  | CON |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1947 | 1st | MLP | DAP | MLP + 3 | *MLP | 24 | 27 |
|  | 5th | MLP | PN | GOZ + 1 | PN | 7 | 7 |
|  | 6th | MLP | DAP | DAP - 3 | JON | 2 | 1 |
|  | 7th | PN | DAP | JON - 1 | DAP | 4 | 1 |
|  | 8th | GOZO | JON |  | GOZ | 3 | 4 |


|  |  |  |  |  | Parliamentary Seats: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | District | Gain By: | Loss By: | Net Changes |  |  |  |
| 1950 | 2nd | PN | MWP | PN + 3 | CON | 4 | 3 |
|  | 4th | PN | MLP | DAP + 1 | MLP | 11 | 11 |
|  | 5th | MLP | MWP | MWP - 3 | *PN | 12 | 15 |
|  | 6th | DAP | MWP | CON -1 | DAP | 1 | 2 |
|  | 7th | PN | MWP |  | MWP | 11 | 8 |
|  | 8th | MWP | CON |  | GOZ | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Ind. | 1 | 1 |
| 1951 | 1st | PN | MLP | PN + 1 | CON | 4 | 1 |
|  | 4th | MWP | CON | MWP + 1 | MLP | 14 | 13 |
|  | 5th | PN | MLP | IND + 1 | *PN | 15 | 16 |
|  | 7th | MLP | CON | JON + 1 | *MWP | 7 | 8 |
|  | 8th | Ind. | PN | CON - 3 | JON | 0 | 0 |
|  | 8th | JON | CON | MLP -1 | Ind. | 0 | 1 |
| 1953 | 2nd | MWP | PN | MWP + 1 | MLP | 19 | 20 |
|  | 2nd | MWP | PN | MLP + 1 | *PN | 18 | 16 |
|  | 5th | MLP | PN | PN - 2 | MWP | 3 | 4 |
|  | 7th | PN | MWP |  |  |  |  |
| 1955 | 1st | PN | MLP | No change | *MLP | 23 | 23 |
|  | 5th | MLP | PN |  | PN | 17 | 17 |
| 1962 | 1st | PN | MLP | PN + 5 | DNP | 4 | 3 |
|  | 2nd | CWP | PN | MLP - 4 | MLP | 16 | 12 |
|  | 3 rd | PN | CWP | DNP - 1 | *PN | 25 | 30 |
|  | 5th | PN | MLP |  | PCP | 1 | 1 |
|  | 7th | PN | MLP |  | CWP | 4 | 4 |
|  | 8th | PN | MLP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 10th | PN | DNP |  |  |  |  |
| 1966 | 5th | MLP | PN | No change | MLP | 22 | 22 |
|  | 7th | PN | MLP |  | *PN | 28 | 28 |
|  | 8th | MLP | PN |  |  |  |  |
|  | 10th | PN | MLP |  |  |  |  |
| 1971 | 4th | MLP | PN | MLP + 1 | *MLP | 28 | 29 |
|  | 7th | MLP | PN | PN -1 | PN | 27 | 26 |
|  | 10th | PN | MLP |  |  |  |  |



## Appendix B

Table 5: List of Leading Candidates Who Failed to Win Election and the Candidates Who Prevailed Over Them

Note: "Q-Share" refers to the candidates' first-preference votes as a percentage of the quota.

|  |  | Elected Despite a Lower Share of First-Preference Votes |  |  | Not Elected, Yet Had a Higher Share of First-Preference Votes |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | District | Name | Party | Q-Share | Name | Party | Q-Share |
| 1921 | 2 | Said, Emmanuele | UPM | 33.13 | Galea, Lewis | LP | 39.38 |
| 1921 | 3 | Buttigieg, Filippo Nicolo | UPM | 52.72 | Agius, Arcangelo | CON | 59.01 |
| 1921 | 5 | Busuttil, Vincenzo | LP | 59.97 | Mizzi, Lewis F. | CON | 60.84 |
| 1921 | 6 | Salomone, Walter | CON | 4.23 | Tua, Giacinto | LP | 30.07 |
| 1924 | 1 | Mallia, Carlo | DNP | 39.68 | Adami, Giovanni | UPM | 42.63 |
| 1924 | 2 | Farrugia, Vincenzo | LP | 41.02 | Mizzi, Bertu | UPM | 45.80 |
| 1924 | 6 | Zammit Hammet, Salvatore | LP | 36.61 | Bugeja, John | CON | 59.02 |
| 1924 | 8 | Micallef, Giuseppi | CON | 6.43 | Azzopardi, Giuseppi | DNP | 23.01 |
| 1927 | 3 | Sacco, Enrico | LP | 51.62 | Muscat, Joseph | CON | 61.31 |
| 1927 | 4 | Dundon, Michael | LP | 36.08 | Strickland, Gerald | CON | 63.82 |
| 1927 | 5 | Cachia Zammit, Alfredo | PN | 36.52 | Mifsud, Armand | CON | 61.14 |
| 1932 | 1 | Hyzler, Joseph | PN | 67.12 | Gera de Petri, Alfred | CON | 79.03 |
| 1932 | 2 | Galea, R. V. | CON | 58.66 | Azzopardi, Alfredo | PN | 60.22 |
| 1932 | 4 | Hamilton, Robert E. | CON | 51.66 | Boffa, Pawlu | LP | 62.29 |
| 1932 | 6 | Bugeja, John | CON | 59.79 | Zammit Hammet, Salvatore | PN | 79.85 |
| 1932 | 8 | Strickland, Roger | CON | 60.53 | Ruggier, Ruggiero | PN | 62.04 |
| 1947 | 1 | Hyzler, Joseph | DAP | 34.45 | Bencini, Robert | MLP | 65.83 |
| 1947 | 2 | Laiviera, Nestu | MLP | 50.29 | Raimondo, John | MLP | 55.85 |
| 1947 | 3 | Cole, Johnny | MLP | 40.72 | Dalli, Ganni | MLP | 52.67 |
| 1947 | 5 | Frendo Azzopardi, John | PN | 33.51 | Puglisevich, Giuseppi | MLP | 45.73 |
| 1947 | 6 | Hyzler, Albert V. | DAP | 46.50 | Schembri Adami, Godfrey | MLP | 57.50 |
| 1947 | 7 | Apap Bologna, Filippo | DAP | 33.69 | Zammit, Giuseppe | MLP | 48.35 |
| 1947 | 7 | Scicluna, Peter Paul | MLP | 41.14 | Vella, Francis E. | PN | 41.36 |
| 1947 | 8 | Camilleri, Francesco | JON | 1.71 | Cauchi, Guzeppi | GOZ | 70.66 |


| 1950 | 2 | Boffa, Anglu | MWP | 29.71 | Paris, Antonio | PN | 33.04 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1950 | 4 | Abela, Joseph F. | MLP | 32.15 | Saliba, Philip | PN | 42.85 |
| 1950 | 5 | Galea, R.V. | CON | 42.01 | Scerri, Vincent | CON | 44.64 |
| 1950 | 5 | Colombo, Arthur F. | MWP | 28.83 | Ellul Mercer, J. | MLP | 42.43 |
| 1950 | 6 | Schembri, Joseph | MWP | 36.31 | Hyzler, Bertu | DAP | 61.54 |
| 1950 | 7 | Grech, Pawlu | MWP | 40.94 | Sammut, Gius. | PN | 52.24 |
| 1950 | 8 | De Trafford Strickland, C. | CON | 27.65 | Cefai, Giuseppi | MWP | 54.79 |
| 1951 | 1 | Attard Bezzina, Fanny | MLP | 30.84 | Pace, Paolo | PN | 42.01 |
| 1951 | 2 | Cassar Galea, Joseph F. | PN | 31.03 | Paris, Antonio | PN | 46.94 |
| 1951 | 4 | Strickland, Mabel | CON | 44.97 | Cole, Johnny | MWP | 51.58 |
| 1951 | 5 | Bonaci, Cikku | MLP | 27.64 | Rizzo, Oscar | PN | 46.96 |
| 1951 | 7 | Attard Montalto, Giuseppe | CON | 33.64 | Pulis, Mike | MLP | 43.07 |
| 1951 | 8 | De Trafford Strickland, C. | CON | 39.95 | Zammit Haber, Giovanni | Ind | 57.89 |
| 1951 | 8 | Cauchi, Amabile | PN | 47.95 | Jones, Henry | JON | 49.30 |
| 1953 | 2 | Paris, Antonio | PN | 35.87 | Piscopo, Daniel | MLP | 51.03 |
| 1953 | 2 | Caruana, Carmelo | PN | 28.49 | Boffa, Anglu | MWP | 36.98 |
| 1953 | 5 | Borg Olivier, Gaetano | PN | 45.82 | Decesare, Maurice | MLP | 54.65 |
| 1953 | 7 | Flores, Joseph | MLP | 39.85 | Vella, Ganni | MLP | 42.31 |
| 1953 | 7 | Bezzina Wettinger, F. | MWP | 25.01 | Schembri, Carmelo | PN | 58.12 |
| 1953 | 8 | Debrincat, Lorenzo | MLP | 30.96 | Cefai, Guzeppi | MLP | 41.26 |
| 1955 | 1 | Bonaci, Cikku | MLP | 26.72 | Pace, Paolo | PN | 53.53 |
| 1955 | 3 | Borg, George | MLP | 73.03 | Attard Bezzina, Emanuel | MLP | 76.95 |
| 1955 | 5 | Felice, Giovanni | PN | 52.17 | Bonaci, Cikku | MLP | 67.55 |
| 1955 | 6 | Caruana Demajo, Tom | PN | 59.83 | Schembri Adami, Godfrey | PN | 64.31 |
| 1955 | 7 | Flores, Joseph | MLP | 37.51 | Vella, Ganni | MLP | 54.55 |
| 1955 | 8 | Mizzi, Marcell | MLP | 33.57 | Zammit Haber, John Elia | MLP | 46.19 |
| 1962 | 1 | Holland, Patrick | MLP | 15.82 | Pace, Poalo | PN | 39.24 |
| 1962 | 2 | Catania, Espedito | PN | 26.14 | Saliba, Joseph | CWP | 43.64 |
| 1962 | 3 | Camilleri, Emilio | CWP | 34.84 | Caruana, Carmelo | PN | 44.45 |
| 1962 | 5 | Muscat, Filippo | MLP | 37.47 | Pisani, Nazareno | PN | 72.90 |
| 1962 | 6 | Pulis, Mike | MLP | 43.92 | Agius, Calcidon | MLP | 46.04 |
| 1962 | 6 | Agius, Emanuele | PN | 43.63 | Fenech, Albert J. | PN | 51.38 |
| 1962 | 7 | Holland, Patrick | MLP | 34.61 | Tabone, Vincent | PN | 37.40 |
| 1962 | 8 | Hyzler, Albert Victor | MLP | 30.95 | Schembri Adami, Godfrey | PN | 54.60 |
| 1962 | 9 | Abela, Salvatore | PN | 40.62 | Borg Olivier, Giorgio | PN | 51.38 |
| 1962 | 10 | Attard, Coronato | DNP | 32.44 | Cauchi, Amabile | PN | 41.09 |


| 1966 | 3 | Caruana, Carmelo | PN | 36.68 | Borg Olivier De Puget,A. | PN | 37.99 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1966 | 5 | Borg Olivier De Puget, A. | PN | 56.08 | Hyzler, Albert V. | MLP | 59.75 |
| 1966 | 6 | Dingli, Frans | PN | 49.61 | Fenech Adami, Eddie | PN | 52.28 |
| 1966 | 7 | Baldacchino, Joseph M. | MLP | 35.39 | Refalo, Michael A. | PN | 49.23 |
| 1966 | 8 | Camilleri, Gius. Maria | PN | 29.56 | Zammit, Karmnu | MLP | 40.06 |
| 1966 | 10 | Galea, Kelinu | MLP | 28.30 | Busuttil, John | PN | 33.69 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1971 | 2 | Laiviera, Nestu | MLP | 24.90 | Azzopardi, John | MLP | 29.63 |
| 1971 | 3 | Borg Olivier De Puget, A. | PN | 43.39 | Cassar, Joseph | PN | 45.23 |
| 1971 | 4 | Caruana, Carmelo | PN | 66.60 | Attard Bezzina, Emmanuel | MLP | 77.23 |
| 1971 | 5 | Borg Olivier De Puget, A. | PN | 49.52 | Farrugia, Giuseppe | PN | 51.07 |
| 1971 | 7 | Bonello Du Puis, George | PN | 48.19 | Privitera, Salvinu | MLP | 65.04 |
| 1971 | 8 | Buttigieg, John | MLP | 27.54 | Naudi, Robert | MLP | 58.32 |
| 1971 | 8 | Camilleri, Giuseppe Maria | PN | 38.88 | Rizzo Naudi, John | PN | 47.15 |
| 1971 | 9 | Gatt, Lawrence | PN | 58.93 | Abela, Sammy | PN | 68.17 |
| 1971 | 10 | Camilleri, Angelo | MLP | 43.48 | Refalo, Carmel | PN | 55.95 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1976 | 1 | Cremona, Danny | MLP | 9.92 | De Marco, Guido | PN | 24.13 |
| 1976 | 2 | Piscopo, Daniel | MLP | 25.87 | Saliba, Joseph | MLP | 28.56 |
| 1976 | 2 | Brincat, Joseph | MLP | 8.64 | Muscat, Josie | PN | 58.39 |
| 1976 | 4 | Farrugia, Jimmy | PN | 48.28 | Cassar Galea, Joseph F. | PN | 49.73 |
| 1976 | 6 | Camilleri, Gius. Maria | PN | 51.27 | Saliba, Philip | PN | 69.82 |
| 1976 | 7 | Buttigieg, John | MLP | 42.84 | Farrugia, Herman | PN | 56.04 |
| 1976 | 11 | Abela, Sammy (Salvatore) | PN | 57.01 | Xuereb, Paul | MLP | 64.99 |
| 1976 | 12 | Chetcuti Caruana, Paul | MLP | 42.10 | Agius, Calcidon | MLP | 46.20 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1981 | 1 | Cremona, Danny | MLP | 5.13 | Delicata, Charles | PN | 13.58 |
| 1981 | 2 | Bartolo, Freddie | MLP | 9.20 | Saliba, Joseph | MLP | 10.29 |
| 1981 | 2 | Grima, Joseph (Joe) | MLP | 7.03 | Muscat, Josie (Joseph) | PN | 74.32 |
| 1981 | 8 | Fenech, Joseph | PN | 21.15 | Bonaci, Evelyn | MLP | 47.03 |
| 1981 | 9 | Falzon, Michael | PN | 50.41 | Rizzo Naudi, John | PN | 64.20 |
| 1981 | 10 | Tabone, Censu | PN | 52.50 | Vella, John | PN | 58.71 |
| 1981 | 11 | Micallef, Alfred | MLP | 35.95 | Portelli, Frank | PN | 47.71 |
| 1981 | 13 | Attard, Coronato | PN | 51.70 | Debattista, Carmel | MLP | 53.48 |


| 1987 | 1 | Grima, Joe | MLP | 6.58 | Farrugia, Herman | PN | 35.31 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1987 | 1 | Brincat, Joseph | MLP | 2.54 | Mifsud Bonnici, Antoine | PN | 15.53 |
| 1987 | 2 | Mizzi, Joe | MLP | 25.84 | Borda, Manuel | PN | 33.41 |
| 1987 | 3 | Portelli, Alfred (Freddie | MLP | 50.75 | Vella, George | MLP | 53.73 |
| 1987 | 5 | Calleja, Reno | MLP | 30.30 | Pace, Bertu | MLP | 38.89 |
| 1987 | 7 | Mangion, Charles | MLP | 13.35 | Cuschieri, Louis | PN | 24.32 |
| 1987 | 7 | Debono Grech, Joe | MLP | 4.88 | Chircop, Joseph (Joe) | PN | 15.85 |
| 1987 | 8 | Gauchi Borda, Lino | PN | 8.35 | Sant, Alfred | MLP | 16.80 |
| 1987 | 9 | Brincat, Leo | MLP | 48.84 | Falzon, Michael | PN | 52.90 |
| 1987 | 10 | Brincat, Leo | MLP | 33.06 | Vella, John | PN | 62.86 |
| 1992 | 1 | Debono Grech, Joe | MLP | 1.20 | Farrugia, Jean Pierre | PN | 7.34 |
| 1992 | 2 | Grech, Edwin Saviour | MLP | 12.78 | Borda, Manuel | PN | 64.62 |
| 1992 | 3 | Portelli, Alfred (Freddie | MLP | 40.20 | Agius Muscat, Renato | PN | 54.92 |
| 1992 | 5 | Calleja, Reno | MLP | 39.13 | Dalli, John | MLP | 39.83 |
| 1992 | 7 | Buhagiar, Charles | MLP | 31.35 | Zammit, Ninu (Anthony) | PN | 46.33 |
| 1992 | 8 | Gauci Borda, Lino (Carmel | PN | 19.31 | Sant, Carmen | MLP | 41.38 |
| 1992 | 9 | Brincat, Leo | MLP | 49.28 | Vassallo, Adrian | MLP | 50.94 |
| 1992 | 10 | Bartolo, Evarist (Varist) | MLP | 52.45 | Rizzo Naudi, John | PN | 54.14 |
| 1992 | 11 | Gatt, Lawrence | PN | 29.80 | Gatt, George | MLP | 61.10 |
| 1992 | 11 | Falzon, Michael | PN | 25.40 | Deguara, Louis | PN | 34.11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1996 | 1 | Schembri Adami, Sandro | MLP | 4.75 | Farrugia, Jean Pierre | PN | 44.27 |
| 1996 | 2 | Agius, Christopher | MLP | 31.20 | Borda, Manuel | PN | 56.04 |
| 1996 | 2 | Grech, Edwin | MLP | 14.15 | Dalli, John | PN | 46.44 |
| 1996 | 3 | Dalli, Helena | MLP | 35.90 | Galea, Mario | PN | 47.58 |
| 1996 | 4 | Chircop, Karl | MLP | 37.21 | Mifsud, Joe | MLP | 41.29 |
| 1996 | 6 | Attard Montalto, John | MLP | 55.01 | Mifsud Bonnici, Antoine | PN | 58.20 |
| 1996 | 7 | Pullicino Orlando, Jeffre | PN | 44.42 | Gulia, Gavin | MLP | 53.51 |
| 1996 | 8 | Bonnici, Josef | PN | 8.01 | Delicata, Marselle | PN | 8.97 |
| 1996 | 9 | Vella, John | PN | 44.66 | Grech, Edwin | MLP | 51.77 |
| 1996 | 11 | Bonnici, Josef | PN | 14.15 | Micallef, Alfred | MLP | 42.08 |
| 1996 | 13 | Galea Pace, Victor | PN | 36.86 | Refalo, Louis | PN | 46.92 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1998 | 1 | Herrera, Jose | MLP | 6.83 | Gatt, Austin | PN | 42.08 |
| 1998 | 2 | Law, Rita | MLP | 25.40 | Perici, Stephen | MLP | 44.19 |
| 1998 | 3 | Abela, Carmelo | MLP | 27.75 | Psaila Savona, Joseph | PN | 63.14 |
| 1998 | 7 | Attard Montalto, John | MLP | 49.04 | Pace, Albert | MLP | 53.76 |
| 1998 | 8 | Bonnici, Josef | PN | 4.90 | Fenech, Mark | PN | 8.97 |
| 1998 | 11 | Vassallo, Edwin | PN | 22.91 | Micallef, Freddie | MLP | 29.93 |

