

BHMC Board of Directors Election - Voting Procedures

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I Vote?

Shareholders may cast their ballots until **4pm on Friday, October 3, 2025** either electronically or by paper:

- **Email:** Returning a completed ballot to bhvclerk@bartonhillsvillage.org with the subject "BHMC Election"
- **In person:** At Walter Esch Hall, 199 Barton Shore Drive

Why are votes not cast by individuals, like in municipal elections, but rather by shareholder / households?

The BHMC is a private corporation, not a government entity. As such, voting rights are held by the Corporation's *shareholders* – which are the owners of most of the properties in the Village (Developed lots, vacant lots, and the Country Club).

How many ballots can a household cast?

Shareholders may vote on the basis of the number of shares they have. A developed lot is considered to have one share and, therefore, can vote one ballot. Therefore, *most* households can cast one ballot.

Why do some households have more, or less, votes than others?

As per our bylaws, a share issued to the owner of a developed lot has one vote. A share issued to the owner of an undeveloped lot has one-half (1/2) a vote. The owner of 2 or more parcels, whether contiguous or not, has the appropriate (1 or ½) vote for each parcel owned.¹

If I fall into one of the above categories of multiple, or "half" votes, do I need to do anything special with my ballot, or cast multiple ballots?

No, if you fall into one of these categories, you do not need to cast multiple ballots. Prior to vote tallying, all ballots are designated with the appropriate multiple of votes they count for. For example, a household with 1 and ½ votes would have their ballot count as 1 and ½ ballots – therefore, during vote counting each of the five candidates checked on that ballot would receive 1 and ½ votes. Conversely, a shareholder with only an undeveloped lot, would have their votes counted as only ½ vote each.

What if the owners of a property do not agree on who to cast their ballot for?

The household may submit two ballots and each owner shall be entitled to the appropriate fractional vote. For example, in a household with one full share, if two spouses disagree,

¹ However, a vacant parcel which can no longer be developed because a portion of a structure located on a contiguous parcel has been placed on it shall have no vote for such a parcel.

each may cast a separate ballot, and each of those ballots would then count as a ½ ballot. If we receive two ballots from the same household we will assume this is a split-ballot household and treat the ballots fractionally as described above. If, however, you are submitting a second ballot, prior to the deadline, to change and cancel-out an earlier ballot you must inform us in writing that that is the case.

What if my property is owned by a corporation, trust, partnership, estate or other legal entity?

In this instance, such corporation or legal entity shall have the same votes per share (1 vote for a developed lot, ½ for an undeveloped lot) as previously described for individual owners.

Why do I need to put my address on the Ballot? Is my Vote Private?

In order to confirm the validity of the ballots, to ensure only shareholders are voting, to ensure that the proper number of votes per share (as described above) are allocated to each ballot/household, and to maintain a proper audit trail, we require ballots to be identified by address. Neither state law, nor the Corporation's governing documents mandate privacy of the ballots, and the BHMC cannot guarantee current or future confidentiality and/or anonymity of ballots. However, the BHMC has historically limited access to individual ballots to the few volunteers and staff involved in the ballot tabulating process. Specific information regarding individual shareholders' voting behavior (which shareholders voted, who they voted for, etc) has traditionally not been made available publicly, or to other Shareholders, or even to Board Members of the BHMC, beyond the specific individuals involved in any given year's vote tallying process.

How many votes does Barton Hills Country Club Have?

As per our BHMC bylaws and articles of incorporation, Barton Hills Country Club has seven full votes (ie its ballot is counted as seven).

When filling out my ballot, do I need to spread my five votes out across five candidates, or can I cumulate multiple votes for one or more candidates?

Cumulative voting is prohibited by BHMC's Articles of Incorporation. On your ballot, you may *not*, for example, give three of your five votes to Candidate A, and two to Candidate B. Your five votes per ballot can only be used to check five separate candidates (although you *can* choose not to use all your five votes – checking, for example, just four names rather than five – thereby forfeiting one vote on that ballot).

What is the legal basis for these procedures?

These procedures are governed by the BHMC's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. You may access both through our website: <https://www.bartonhillsmc.org/>