# About the Bylaws/Elections survey:

Some of the primary topics that the Elections and Bylaws committees have been looking at (as directed by the board) include:

- Advisory questions that were on the 2018 ballot about the elections calendar and the candidate forum;
- NAO (Non-profit Association of Oregon) 2018 recommendations regarding our elections and board structure;
- Bylaw changes that will clarify and improve our elections procedures.

We were directed to get member input and the survey was one method of doing that. This survey is of professional quality thanks to Wyetta Bontempo and the OCF Survey crew.

There is a good sample of Fair family responses that represent a range of ages and levels of participation. There are many ways to interpret the information. Here are three things that stand out to us:

- Fair members who have been with us the longest, know more about the elections process.
- Many Fair family participate only at the event and may not know about the year-round non-profit corporation and board elections.
- There are striking differences between the answers from respondents who completed the survey at Fair time and the respondents who filled out the online survey after the Fair.

The survey results have reinforced our recommendation for more education for Fair family about the Fair board of directors and non-profit structure during Fair time, hoping that will lead to more participation in the board election process.

From the members of the Bylaws/Elections committees



# 2019 Oregon Country Fair Bylaw/Elections Survey

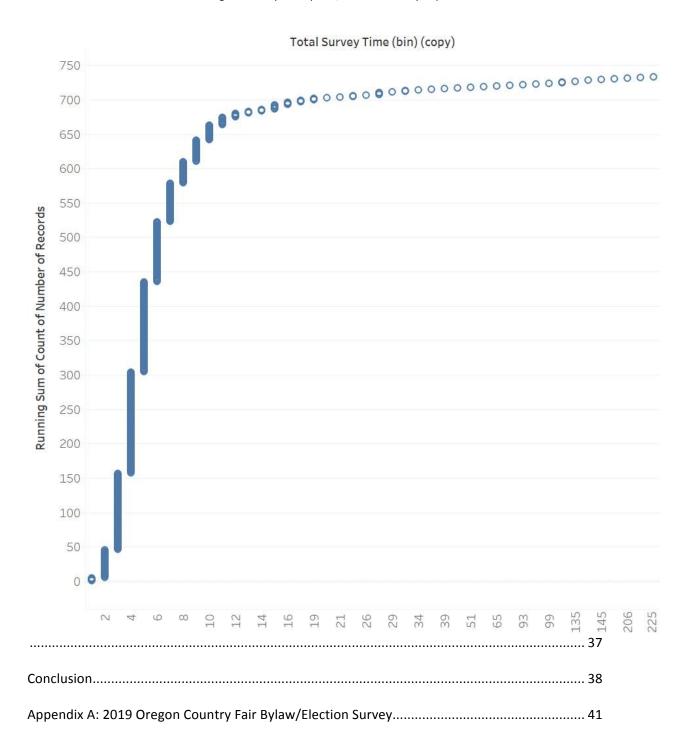
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April 22, 2020

A report submitted to the Oregon Country Fair

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## Introduction

The Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors directed the Bylaws and Election Committees to review the procedures and bylaws relating to membership and elections, to seek member input, and to provide suggestions for the Board's consideration. The Bylaws and Election Committees prepared a survey which addressed the following research questions.

- How informed and engaged are the Fair family in the process to elect the OCF Board of Directors?
- How well does the Fair family know and understand the OCF bylaws and the elections process?
- Does Fair family see value in changing the current elections process?

## Methodology

## **Survey Design**

An initial draft of the survey was developed by members of the Bylaws and Election Committees in April 2019. This draft was reviewed by the OCF survey research methodologist, Wyetta Bontempo, and feedback was provided. A few rounds of edits were made between the OCF Membership Secretary, Heidi Doscher, the Committee, and Wyetta. The content of the survey was finalized prior to the Fair and loaded into SurveyMonkey. A copy of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

#### **Data Collection**

There were two phases of data collection for the 2019 OCF Elections Survey. The surveys were administered to Fair Family face-to-face during the 2019 Oregon Country Fair and online through September 2019.

The volunteers of the survey collection team were responsible for survey administration during the 2019 Oregon Country Fair. In total, there were 22 volunteers that administered 2019 OCF Elections Survey. Over 60% of this crew (14) had at least 8 years of experience volunteering with this crew. Each of these volunteers was trained on survey administration by the Survey crew-coordinators (Kristie Krinock and Jordan Long). The training lasted approximately one hour. Following training, the volunteers practiced administering the surveys to one another.

The 2019 OCF Elections Surveys were administered by 8 different volunteers before Fair (Tuesday July 10 – Thursday July 12) and 14 different volunteers during Fair (Friday July 12 – Sunday July 14, 2019). Each volunteer worked a 6-hour shift generally between 8:30 AM and 9:30 PM. Volunteers generally worked in teams of 2-3 people. In total, 6 teams were assembled for Friday to Sunday.

The pre-Fair data collection teams administered surveys primarily at Wristbands and Main Camp. The data collections teams that administered surveys during Fair did so primarily at various campgrounds along Chickadee Lane and the Hub, behind booths, and at congested areas such as Dragon Meadow and the Main Stage meadow. The data collectors selected individuals to survey within each targeted area at random. Each volunteer was instructed to approach individuals and solicit their participation in a voluntary survey being conducted by the Oregon Country Fair. The survey collectors were trained to explain the survey's purpose and to assist only by reading the survey or marking responses dictated by respondents. Some respondents completed the survey independently while others were administered the survey verbally. Volunteers did their best to survey individuals independently as opposed to in groups. Since participation in the survey was voluntary, the sample was self-selected rather than random and certain biases may exist.

The 2019 OCF Elections Survey was also administered online through SurveyMonkey in the autumn of 2019. The target sample for this were the Fair family who had provided an email address as part of their membership registration. The OCF membership secretary, Heidi, sent an email to all of these individuals requesting that they participate in the survey and providing a link to the survey site on SurveyMonkey. In total, the invitation email

was sent on September 24, 2019 to about 9,500 email addresses. A follow up reminder was sent on November 16, 2019. In addition, an invitation and a link to the survey was posted on Page 8 of the September 2019 Edition of the Fair Family News and the home page of the <a href="https://www.oregoncoutryfair.net">www.oregoncoutryfair.net</a> site.

### **Data Entry**

Two volunteers with expertise in psychological research methods were recruited to enter the data collected during the 2019 Oregon Country Fair into SurveyMonkey. Since the volunteers had experience with research methods, they were not trained in data entry methods. A brief meeting occurred during Fair between the Survey Research Methodologist (Wyetta) and the data entry volunteers to go over nuances in the survey related to data entry. Data entry occurred roughly between August 15 and Dec 15, 2019. Given the time and resource constraints, data entry validation was not conducted.

### **Results**

## Sample Size

A total of 1,820 responses to the 2019 OCF Bylaws Surveys were collected. 1,078 were collected during the 2019 Oregon Country Fair while 742 responses were collected online during fall 2019.

#### Age

Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the age of participants by year. Although the most popular response to the questions about age was 40-49 years, there was not much difference in the percentage of respondents in the 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60-69 responses. Only 20% of respondents were under the age of 29 and over the age of 70.

It should be noted that it is illegal to survey individuals under the age of 18 without parental permission. This practice simply must stop. If an individual is under the age of 18, survey administration must cease.

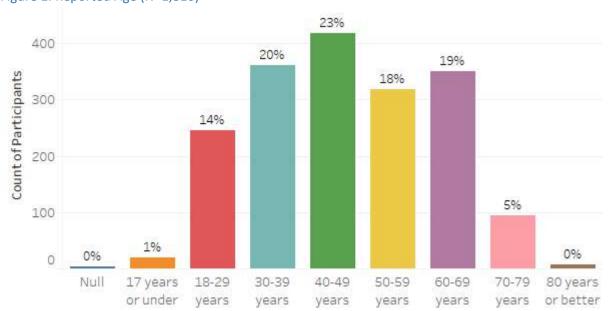
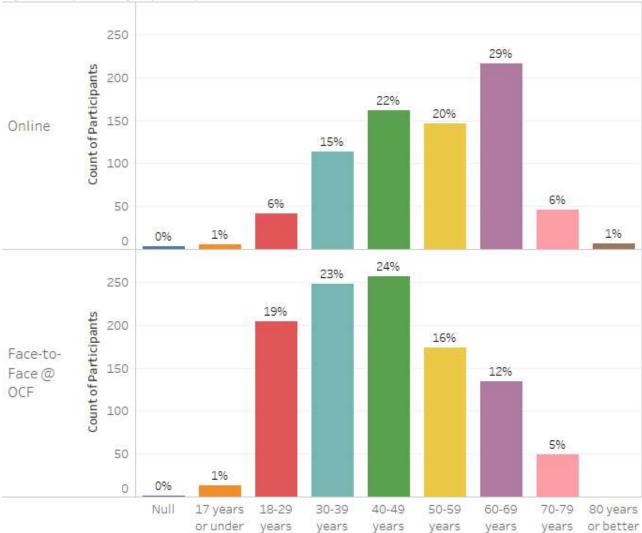


Figure 1. Reported Age (N=1,816)

Figure 2 provides a breakdown of the age of participants comparing online and OCF survey respondents. Over half of the online survey respondents were over 50. This stood in contrast to the face-to-face survey respondents when two thirds of respondents were between 18 and 49.



## **Role at Oregon Country Fair (Wristband Type)**

Figure 3 shows the responses of the participants to the survey question about how they got their wristband for Fair. Although some participants play multiple roles at Fair, the type of wristband they receive is a useful indicator of the primary role they play for Fair. The majority (55%) of the survey participants indicated that they work on a crew. Almost 20% of the respondents were affiliated with a booth while another 9% were Fair Elders.

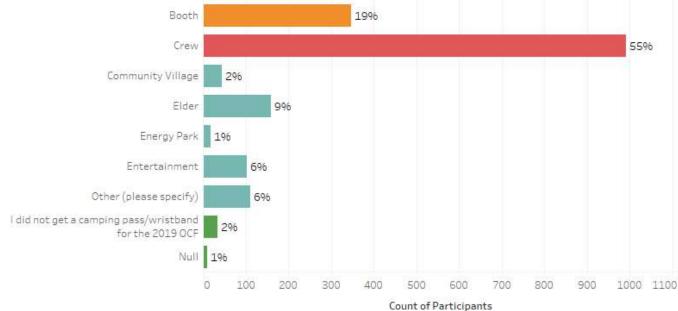


Figure 3. Responses to the question "How did you get your camping pass/wristband for Fair"? (N=1,810)

# Years Participating in the Oregon Country Fair as 'Fair Family'

Figure 4 displays the responses to the questions "How many years have you received a camping pass/wristband to the Oregon Country Fair?" Almost 30% percent were new Fair Family (1-5 years) while another third of respondents had been receiving a wristband for over 21 years.

Figure 4. Responses to the question "How many years have you received a camping pass/wristband to the Oregon Country Fair?" (N=1,799)

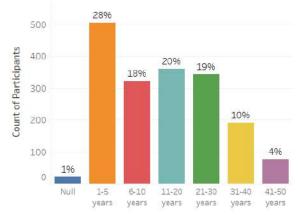
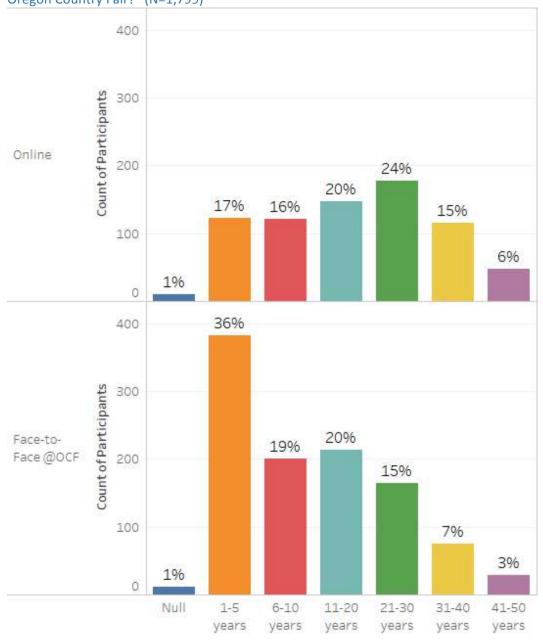


Figure 5 shows years with wristband between participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Over 36% percent of face-to-face respondents were new Fair Family. Those responding online were most likely (24%) to have 21-30 years' experience getting OCF wristbands.

Figure 5. Responses to the question "How many years have you received a camping pass/wristband to the Oregon Country Fair?" (N=1,799)



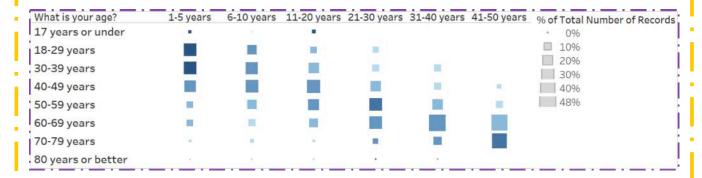
# Beautiful Data Visualizations Are Not Always Useful

In the spirit of expressing the values of OCF within this report, we're sharing some data visualization "art". Data visualizations do not need to tell you something useful to be interesting!

Here is a "viz" which we refer to as a "categorical scatterplot" which expresses the quantitative association between categorical variables. In this case, the categorical scatterplot expresses the relationship between age and years receiving a wristband. The size of the box within each cell tells us the percentage of survey respondents in each age group for how long they have been receiving wristbands (vertical comparisons) and the shade of blue tells us the percentage of respondents in each experience group for age group (horizontal comparisons).

This data visualization suggests that:

- Within each age group, it is most likely that respondents have spent most of their adult lives getting wristbands.
- The older you are, the longer you have likely been receiving a wristband



Conclusion: This is a beautiful way to display the one of the relationships on this survey.

# **OCF Annual Membership Meeting Knowledge**

Figure 6 displays respondents' knowledge that the main purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting in October is to elect members of the OCF Board of Directors. The vast majority (71%) of respondents were aware of the purpose of the Annual Membership meeting.

Figure 6. Responses to the question "Prior to taking this survey, did you know that the main purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting in October is to elect members of the OCF Board of Directors?" (N=1,812)

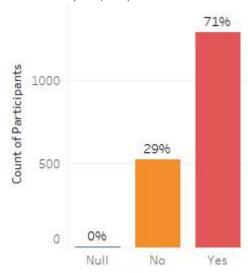


Figure 7 compares awareness of the purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting between participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Online survey respondents were almost entirely (88%) aware of the purpose of the Meeting. Only 55% surveyed at Fair knew the purpose of the Meeting.

Figure 7. Responses to the question "Prior to taking this survey, did you know that the main purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting in October is to elect members of the OCF Board of Directors?" (N=1,812)

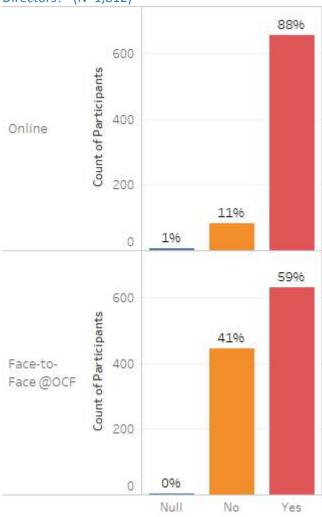


Figure 8 compares awareness of the purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting by wristband type. OCF crew were most aware of the purpose of the meetings with 77% of respondents indicating knowing the purpose of the Meeting.

Figure 8. Responses to the question "Prior to taking this survey, did you know that the main purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting in October is to elect members of the OCF Board of Directors?" (N=1,768)

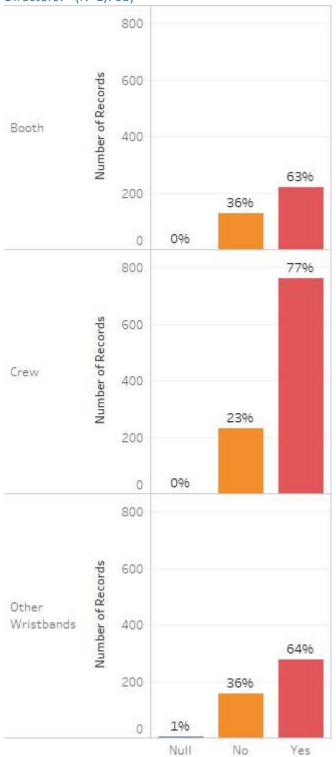
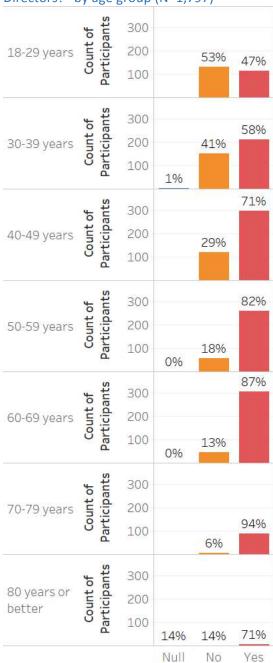


Figure 9 compares awareness of the purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting by age. It should come as no surprise that the younger population was less likely to vote than the older population.

Figure 9. Responses to the question "Prior to taking this survey, did you know that the main purpose of the Oregon Country Fair Annual Membership Meeting in October is to elect members of the OCF Board of Directors?" by age group (N=1,797)



# **OCF Election Participation**

Figure 10 shows whether respondents voted for the OCF Board of Directors in the past 3 years. Exactly half of the respondents voted while the other half did not vote.

Figure 10. Responses to the question: "Have you voted in the OCF Board of Directors' election at least once in the last 3 years?" (N=1,797)

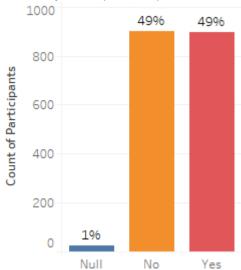


Figure 11 compares responses to voting behavior for participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. The majority (76%) of online survey respondents voted in the previous 3 years. Only 31% of the respondents surveyed face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair voted.

Figure 11. Responses to the question: "Have you voted in the OCF Board of Directors' election at least once in the last 3 years?" (N=1,797)

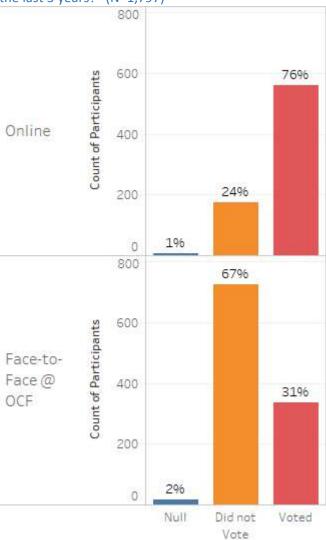
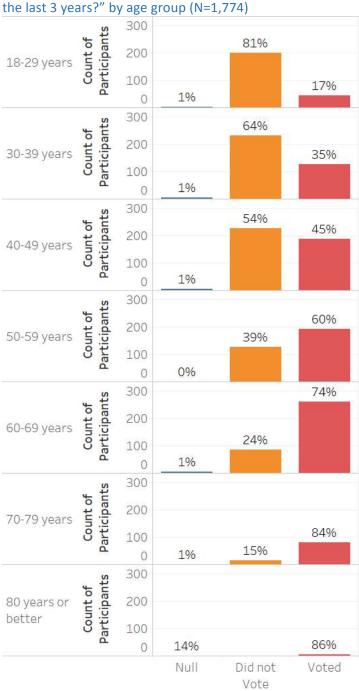


Figure 12 shows whether respondents voted for the OCF Board of Directors in the past 3 years by age. The younger population was less likely to know the purpose of the OCF Annual Meeting.

Figure 12. Responses to the question: "Have you voted in the OCF Board of Directors' election at least once in



# **OCF Election Eligibility**

Figure 13 shows whether respondents were aware that they must vote every 3 years to stay eligible to vote. Most (54%) respondents were not aware that you must vote to stay on the voter eligibility list.

Figure 13. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that you must vote at least once every 3 years to stay on the voter eligibility list?" (N=1,803)

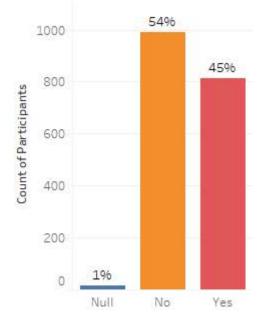
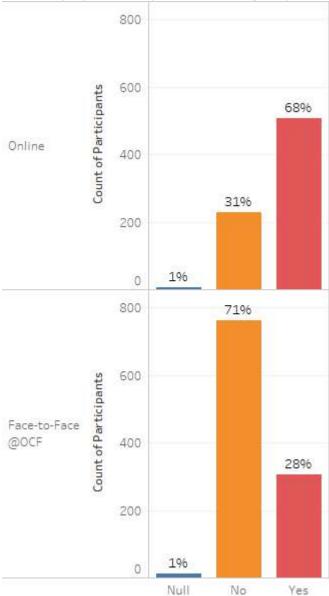


Figure 14 compares knowledge of voting eligibility between participants responding online in autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Most (68%) online respondents were aware of this voting requirement. Only 28% of those responding at fair knew about voting eligibility.

Figure 14. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that you must vote at least once every 3 years to stay on the voter eligibility list?" (N=1,803)



## 2018 OCF Board of Directors' Election Participation

Figure 15 shows respondents' level of participation in the 2018 OCF Board of Directors' Election. Over half (55%) of respondents did not attend the OCF Annual Meeting or send in an absentee ballot. A third of respondents voted via an absentee ballot.

Figure 15. Responses to the question: "How did you participate in the 2018 OCF Board of Directors' election?" N=1790

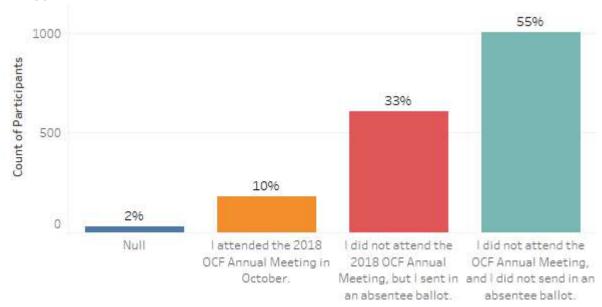
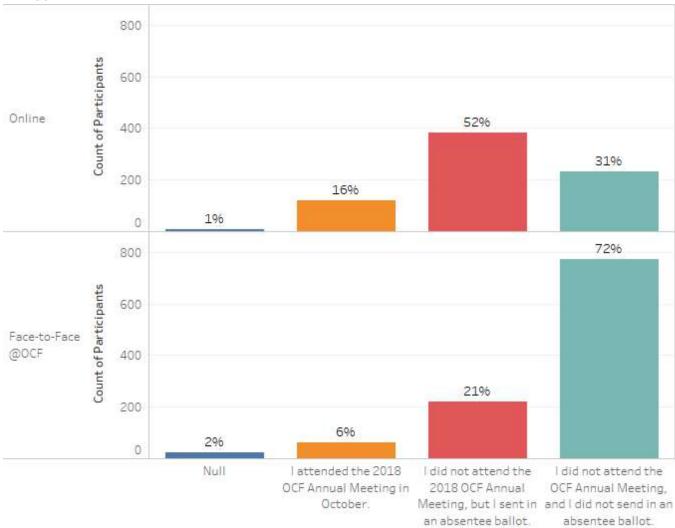


Figure 16 compares participation in the 2018 election between participants responding online in autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Most (52%) online survey respondents did not attend the OCF Annual Meeting but sent in an absentee ballot. Almost three quarters (72%) of the respondents taking the survey at the Fair did not attend the OCF Annual Meeting or send in a ballot.

Figure 16. Responses to the question: "How did you participate in the 2018 OCF Board of Directors' election?" N=1790



A total of 787 respondents indicated that they voted in the 2018 OCF Board of Directors' election. Figure 17 shows responses to the reasons for voting in the 2018 election. Respondents were able to select as many reasons as applied. Caring about the Fair (85% of those who voted) was the most common reason to have participated in the election followed by enjoying being part of the election process (59%).

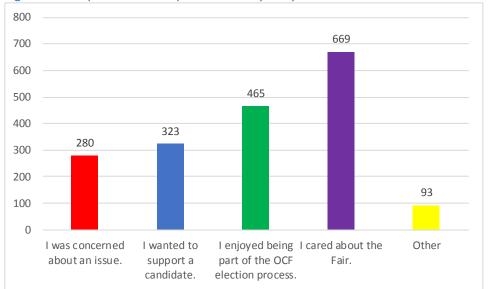


Figure 17. Responses to the question: "Why did you vote in the 2018 election for the OCF Board of Directors"?

A total of 1,003 respondents indicated that they did not participate in the 2018 election in any way. Figure 18 shows responses to the reasons for not voting in the 2018 election. The most common responses were "I did not know about the election" (25%) and "I was not signed up to vote" (24%).

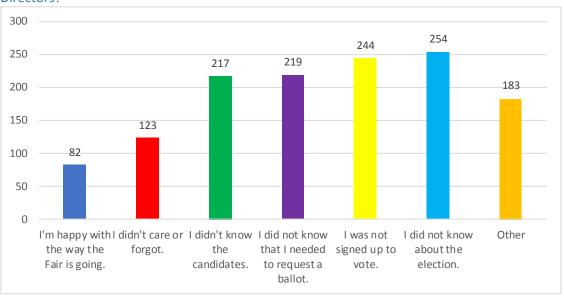


Figure 18. Responses to the question: "Why didn't you vote in the 2018 election for the OCF Board of Directors?"

## **OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum**

Figure 19 shows whether respondents were aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum. Almost half (49%) of the respondents were aware of the OCF Candidate Forum.

Figure 19. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? (The Candidate Forum is an event which features OCF Board of Directors' candidates answering specific questions. Fair family can attend the forum in person or watch it on the internet.)" N=1716

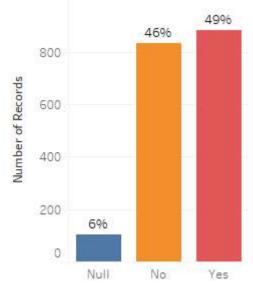


Figure 20 compares awareness about the Candidate Forum between participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. A strong majority (73%) of the of online respondents were aware of the Candidate Forum. Only 32% of those completing the survey face-to-face at the Oregon Country Fair were aware of the Candidate Forum.

Figure 20. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? (The Candidate Forum is an event which features OCF Board of Directors' candidates answering specific questions. Fair family can attend the forum in person or watch it on the internet.)" N=1716

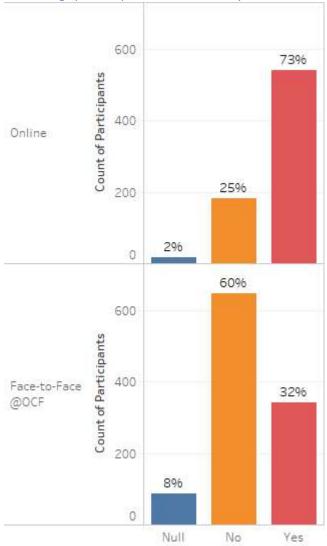


Figure 21 compares awareness about the Candidate Forum by respondents' wristband type. Fewer than a third (32%) of the respondents from booths were aware of the Candidate Forum. Over half (54%) of OCF crew respondents were aware of the Candidate Forum.

Figure 21. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? (The Candidate Forum is an event which features OCF Board of Directors' candidates answering specific questions. Fair family can attend the forum in person or watch it on the internet.)" N=1716

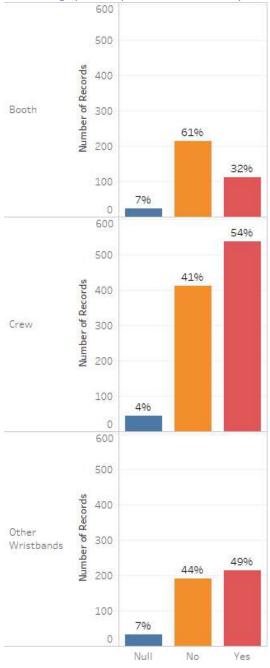


Figure 22 compares awareness of the Candidate Forum between those who had voted in the prior 3 years and those who had not. Most (80%) respondents who voted in the previous 3 years were aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum.

Figure 22. Responses to the question: "Prior to taking this survey, were you aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? (The Candidate Forum is an event which features OCF Board of Directors' candidates answering specific questions. Fair family can attend the forum in person or watch it on the internet.)" N=1716

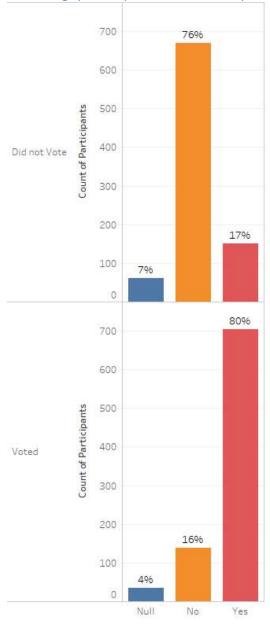


Figure 23 displays participation in the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum. Most respondents (61%) had not attended or watched the Candidate forum. Respondents were more likely to have watched the Candidate Forum online (15%) than in person (12%).

Figure 23. Responses to the question: "Have you ever attended or watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? N=1608

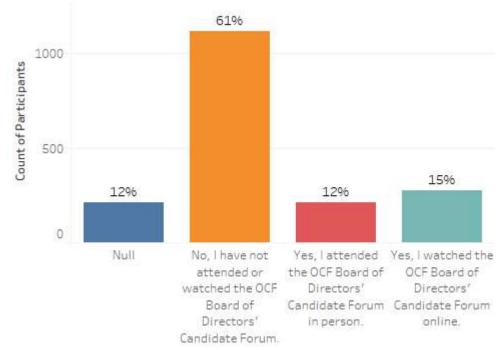


Figure 24 compares participation in the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum between participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Although most participants in each group had not attended or watched the Candidate Forum, 46% of online respondents either attended or watched the Candidate Forum. Only 14% of survey respondents surveyed face-to-face during the Fair indicated having attended or watched the Candidate Forum.

Figure 24. Responses to the question: "Have you ever attended or watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? N=1608

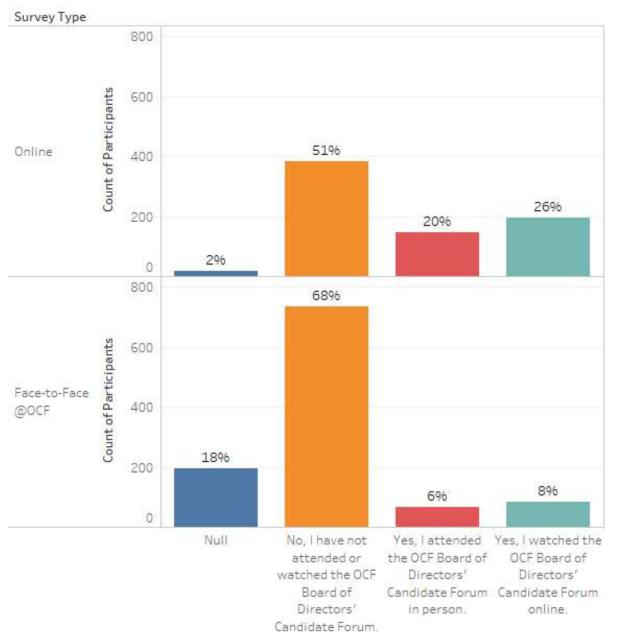


Figure 25 displays participation in the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum for each wristband type. Almost one third (32%) of OCF Crew participated in the Candidate Forum. Only 5% of the respondents from booths attended the Candidate Forum in person and 69% did not attend at all.

Figure 25. Responses to the question: "Have you ever attended or watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? N=1608

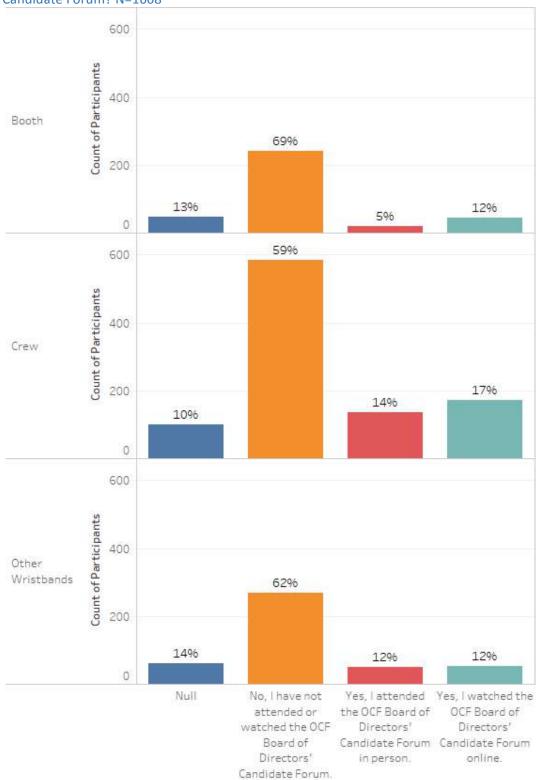


Figure 26 shows respondents' willingness to attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate forum if it was held after hours at Fair. Over 250 (16%) participants did not respond to this question. Less than half of respondents said that they would attend the Candidate Forum after hours at Fair.

Figure 26. Responses to the question: "Would you attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum if it was held after public hours during the Fair? (It has been in September.)" N=1530

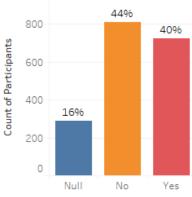


Figure 27 compares willingness to attend the Candidate Forum after hours at Fair between participants responding online in the autumn and participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair. Almost half (47%) of the online respondents were willing to attend an after-hour Candidate Forum at Fair. Over one third (35%) of participants responding face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair were willing to attend, while 25% did not respond to this question.

Figure 27. Responses to the question: "Would you attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum if it was held after public hours during the Fair? (It has been in September.)" N=1530



Figure 28 compares willingness to attend the Candidate Forum after hours at Fair across wristband type. The group of OCF Crew respondents was most likely (44%) to be willing to attend an after-hour Candidate Forum at Fair.

Figure 28. Responses to the question: "Would you attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum if it was held after public hours during the Fair? (It has been in September.)" N=1530

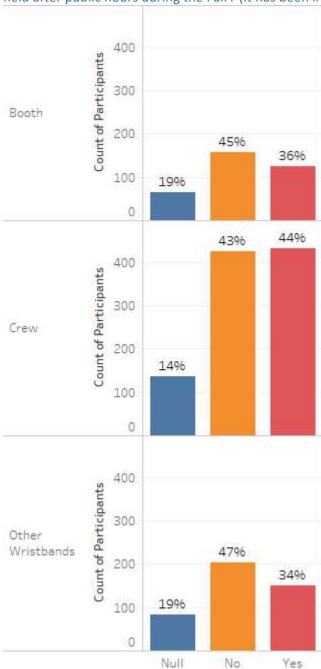
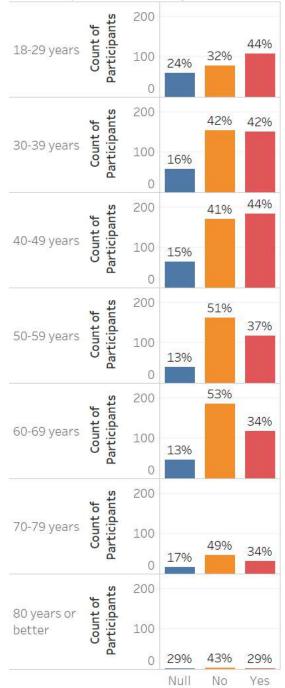


Figure 29 compares willingness to attend the Candidate Forum after hours at Fair across the age groups. Younger participants were more likely to indicate that they would attend an after-hour Candidate Forum at Fair.

Figure 29. Responses to the question: "Would you attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum if it was held after public hours during the Fair? (It has been in September.)" by Age Group N=1530



## **OCF Annual Meeting Signature Requirements**

Figure 30 shows responses to the number of required petition signatures required to get an advisory question on the OCF Annual Meeting agenda. Just over 14% (227) of the respondents did not answer this question. Respondents were most likely (27%) to indicate that 100-199 petition signatures should be the required while 20% indicated that 50-99 should be required.

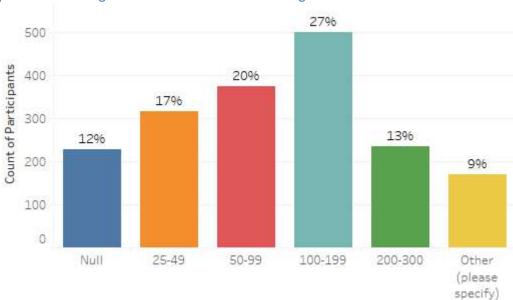


Figure 30. Responses to the question: "How many petition signatures should be required to get an advisory question on the agenda for the OCF Annual Meeting?" N=1593

Figure 31 shows respondents to the number of required petition signatures required to initiate the board member recall process. Just over 16% (252) of the respondents did not answer this question. Respondents were most likely (27%) to indicate that 100-199 petition signatures should be the required while 24% indicated that 200-300 should be required.

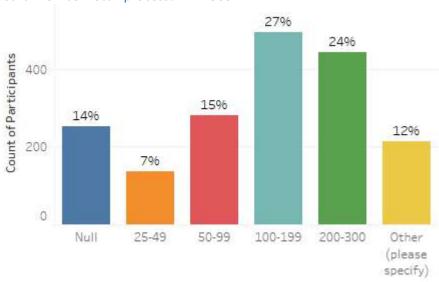


Figure 31. Responses to the question: "How many signatures should be required on a petition to initiate the board member recall process?" N=1568

## **OCF Bylaws Changes**

Figure 32 shows respondents support of changing the OCF bylaws so that the Board of Directors has 12 members each serving a staggered 3-year term. Less than half (43%) of the respondents supported changing the OCF bylaws. Only 7% of the respondents did NOT support this change in the bylaws while one third (33%) had no opinion.

Figure 32. Responses to the question: "What do you think of changing the OCF bylaws so that the Board of Directors has 12 members, each of which serves a staggered 3-year term?" N=1627

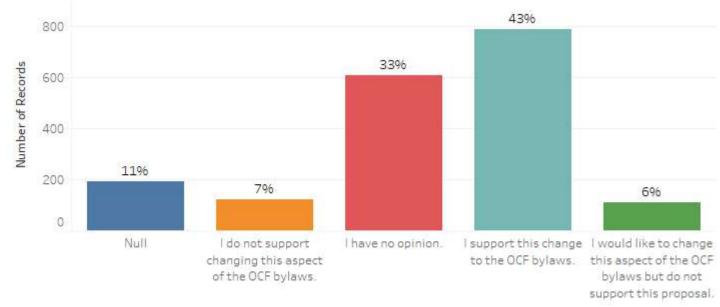
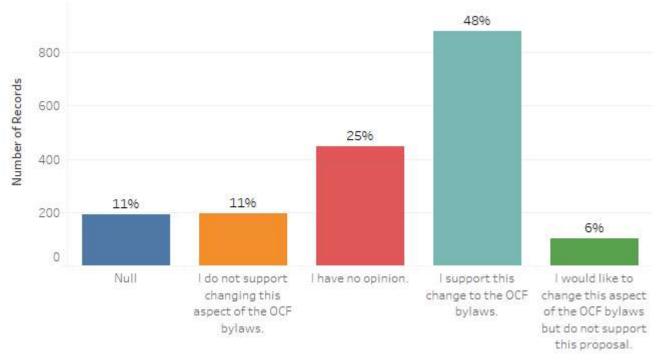


Figure 33 shows respondents support of changing the OCF bylaws to require board members to step down for at least one year after serving 6 consecutive years. Nearly half (48%) of the respondents supported changing the OCF bylaws to require board members term limits. Only 11% of the respondents did not support this change in the bylaws.

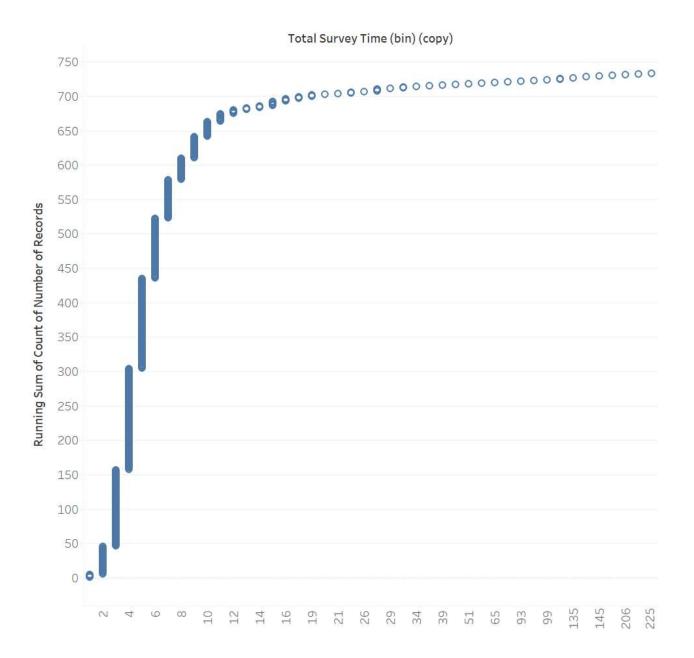
Figure 33. Responses to the question: "Do you support a bylaw change that would require board members to step down for at least one year after serving 6 consecutive years? (After 6 years, take 1 year off before running again.)" N=1627



## Amount of time spent on the survey

Given that the OCF Survey Crew has primarily conducted face-to-face surveys of participants, estimating the amount of time required of each survey has been challenging. Since the OCF Elections survey was also administered online, administration time data from this administration were available. A cumulative distribution of total administration time is seen in Figure 34. The median of time was 5 minutes. Note that a small number of outliers were removed and many of the responses over 30 minutes may not be an accurate reflection of time. It is very likely that some of these respondents may have stepped away from their device for a while before completing the survey.

Figure 34. Total Survey Administration Time (in minutes) for online survey respondents (N=733)



## Conclusion

The 2019 Oregon Country Fair Elections Survey functioned as both an investigative research project and a poll of the Fair family.

The complete survey and the individual questions contained more words that many of the other surveys administered by the OCF Survey Crew. As a result, on average, the survey took participants more time to complete. Nonetheless, about 60% completed the online version of the survey in 5 minutes or less.

Based on the three demographic questions asked (age, years participating as Fair family, role at Fair), the sample of respondents to the 2019 Oregon Country Fair Elections Survey seems to be representative of the Oregon Country Fair family. The largest subpopulations were Crew members, 40-49 year-olds, and respondents that have been Fair Family for 1-5 years. When these demographic variables are crossed, the largest subpopulation were 18-29 year-old crew members with 1-5 years of experience as Fair Family (4.67% of the population). The sample had a sizeable population of booth participants and was balanced in age between 18 and 69 and balanced in years participating as Fair family from 1 to 30 years.

Despite the overall sense of that the sample was representative, there were some sampling issues. Over one third (36%) of the sample of participants providing responses face-to-face during the Oregon Country Fair had participated as Fair Family for less than 5 years and stands out as 80% larger than any of the categories. It is likely that these individuals were oversampled. The OCF Survey Crew should be advised to make attempts to balance this demographic more effectively in the future.

It is important to note that the most popular age of online respondents was 60-69 years of age. Historically, online respondents have been younger rather than older. This may suggest that the online administration oversampled older participants, most likely because these members of the Fair Family had more time on their hands to complete the survey (<a href="https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/busiest-age-in-life-is-29-as-more-social-media-eats-into-time-says-survey-a6841606.html">https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/busiest-age-in-life-is-29-as-more-social-media-eats-into-time-says-survey-a6841606.html</a>).

Many of the results speak directly to issues that the OCF Elections Committee have been deliberating about and require little interpretation. These include:

- The vast majority of respondents (71%) were aware of the purpose of the OCF Annual Meeting.
- A small majority of respondents (54%) were NOT aware that they need to vote at least once every three
  years to remain active.
- About half (49%) of the respondents voted in the OCF Board of Directors' election at least once in the past 3 years. The other half did not.
- Over half (55%) of the respondents did NOT attend the most recent OCF Annual Meeting and did not vote in the most recent OCF Board of Directors' election.
- Almost half of the respondents (49%) were aware of the OCF Board of Directors Candidate Forum.
- The majority of respondents (61%) have never watched or attended the OCF Board of Directors Candidate Forum.
- Only 40% of respondents indicated that they would attend the OCF Board of Directors Candidate Forum if it were held after public hours during Fair. Over 44% indicated that they would NOT attend.
- About ¼ of the respondents (27%) would like to see 100-199 signatures required for petitions to get an advisory question on the agenda. The second most popular response was 50-99 (20%)
- Similar to the prior conclusion, about ¼ of the respondents (27%) would like to see 100-199 signatures required to initiate a board member recall process. The second most popular response was 200-300 (24%).

• Over 40% supported the proposed changes to the OCF Bylaws (Having a 12-member BoD with 3-year staggered terms and a required 1-year hiatus for BoD members after serving for 6 consecutive years). At least 10% fewer respondents had no opinion while 11% or less opposed the bylaw changes.

In considering the quality of the inferences made based on the overall results of this poll, it is important to note that there were marked differences in the responses for the OCF subpopulations of interest, and, as discussed earlier, there were some issues with the representativeness of the sample. For some of the questions, the responses of

- Online respondents in autumn were markedly different than face-to-face at OCF respondents
- Crew respondents were markedly different than Booth respondents
- Voting respondents were different than non-voting respondents

The differences between online and face-to-face respondents may be due to the effects of self-selection. In other words, face-to-face respondents were far more likely to respond to the survey crew members requests to complete the survey than the email solicitation provided to online respondents.

In this situation where there is good evidence to suggest a self-selection bias, there are three options for interpreting the analyses:

- Assume the bias is small and use all of the data
- Assume the bias is large and only use the data collected face-to-face during OCF
- Assume the bias exists and account for it by calculating the weighted average of the results of the two subpopulations.

There are not currently enough resources available to undertake these additional analyses. Therefore, we recommend that readers assume that some bias exists and interpret true population parameters to be somewhere in between the responses provided by online and face-to-face respondents.

The differences between crew and booth respondents seem to be representative of the characteristics, behavior and opinions of each group. In other words, personal experience and general judgment matched the conclusions suggested by the data. For example, OCF crew members, as a subpopulation tend to be more aware of election activities than booth members.

It is very important to note that the other subpopulations such as entertainers, elders, and community village participants were small. Data were not available indicating the number of wristbands provided by role. Therefore, it was impossible to determine if the sample was representative of the population Fair family. We recommend that OCF provide these data to the authors. By doing so, the authors would have the ability to assist readers in interpreting the representativeness of the survey sample and modify survey administration sampling strategies.

Turning to the results from an investigative research project, there were several findings:

- Younger members of Fair family were less likely to know about, have an opinion about, or participate in election activities.
- OCF Crew members were more likely to know about, have an opinion about, or participate in elections activities than booth participants.
- Fair family members participated in the Board of Directors' elections because they cared about the Fair or the election process far more than they cared about an issue or wanted to support a candidate.

- Fair family did NOT participate in the elections because of a lack of awareness about the election, the election process (did not request a ballot or sign up to vote), or the candidates. It appears that there is still a great deal of work to be done in this area.
- A little more than ¼ (27%) of the respondents participated in or watched the candidate forum. For some organizations, this is a very high level of participation. For OCF, this may be a disappointing level. Regardless, there is still a great deal of work to be done in this area.
- Overall, there was not sufficient support for holding the Candidate Forum at Fair after public hours. However, younger Fair family members preferred having the Candidate Forum at Fair after public hours.
- The OCF Bylaws changes were generally supported.
- The respondents generally favored that 100-199 signatures be required for advisory questions and to initiate the Board of Directors membership recall process.

# Appendix A: 2019 Oregon Country Fair Bylaws/Election Survey

The Oregon Country Fair Bylaws and Election Committees have been directed by the OCF Board of Directors to review the procedures and bylaws relating to membership and elections, to seek member input, and to provide suggestions for the Board's consideration. The Bylaws and Election Committees have prepared this survey to learn:

• How informed and engaged are the Fair family in the process to elect the OCF Board of Directors?

•	How well does the Fair family know and unders Does Fair family see value in changing the curre	•	ss?			
	ould greatly appreciate it if you would complete kimately 10 minutes to complete. Your response		l.			
1.	What is your age?  A. 17 years or under  B. 18-29 years  C. 30-39 years  D. 40-49 years  E. 50-59 years  F. 60-69 years	5. Prior to taking this survey, did you know main purpose of the Oregon Country Fai Membership Meeting in October is to el of the OCF Board of Directors?  A. Yes  B. No	ir Annual lect membe			
2.	<ul><li>G. 70-79 years</li><li>H. 80 years or better</li><li>For the 2019 Oregon Country Fair, how did you get</li></ul>	<ul> <li>6. Have you voted in the OCF Board of Dire election at least once in the last 3 years?</li> <li>A. Yes</li> <li>B. No</li> </ul>				
	your camping pass/wristband to the Fair?  A. Booth B. Crew C. Entertainment D. Community Village E. Energy Park F. Elder	<ul><li>7. Prior to taking this survey, were you away must vote at least once every 3 years to voter eligibility list?</li><li>A. Yes</li><li>B. No</li></ul>				
	<ul><li>G. Other, please specify</li><li>H. I did not get a camping pass/wristband for the 2019.</li></ul>	<ol> <li>How did you participate in the 2018 OCF Directors' election?</li> <li>A. I attended the 2018 OCF Annua October. (Go to #9, skip #10)</li> </ol>				
	{Follow up for Booth, Crew and Entertainment, } Please provide Booth Number/Name, Crew Name or Entertainment Stage?  How many years have you received a camping	Meeting, but I sent in an absen (Go to #9, skip #10) C. I did not attend the OCF Annua	I did not attend the OCF Annual Meeting, and I did not send in an absentee ballot. (			
4.	pass/wristband to the Oregon Country Fair? (estimate is ok)  A. 1-5 years B. 6-10 years C. 11-20 years D. 21-30 years E. 31-40 years F. 41-50 years	9. Why did you vote in the 2018 election for Board of Directors? (Mark ALL that apply A. I enjoyed being part of the OCF process.  B. I cared about the Fair.  C. I wanted to support a candidate D. I was concerned about an issue E. I had other reasons. (Please exp	y.) election e.			

- Why didn't you vote in the 2018 election for the OCF Board of Directors? (Mark <u>ALL</u> that apply.)
  - A. I didn't care or forgot.
  - B. I didn't know the candidates.
  - C. I'm happy with the way the Fair is going.
  - D. I did not know about the election.
  - E. I was not signed up to vote.
  - F. I did not know that I needed to request a ballot.
  - G. I had other reasons. (Please explain.)

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- 11. Prior to taking this survey, were you aware of the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum? (The Candidate Forum is an event which features OCF Board of Directors' candidates answering specific questions. Fair family can attend the forum in person or watch it on the internet.)
  - A. Yes
  - B. No

- 12. Have you ever attended or watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum?
  - A. Yes, I attended the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum in person.
  - B. Yes, I watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum online.
  - C. No, I have not attended or watched the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum.
- 13. Would you attend the OCF Board of Directors' Candidate Forum if it was held after public hours during the Fair? (It has been in September.)
  - A. Yes
  - B. No

The Oregon Country Fair Bylaws dictate that members may place an advisory question on the agenda for the Annual Membership Meeting with a petition from 25 or more verified members of the Fair. The advisory question is then included on the ballot for voters at the election. The Fair family has grown since this bylaw was written. The number of voters in 1990 was 198. In 2000, there were 553 voters at the Annual Meeting; 2010 had 686 voters, and in 2018, there were 1579 voters. The Bylaws and Election Committees plan to recommend separate petition instructions in the bylaws for the recall of a Board member.

- 14. How many petition signatures should be required to get an advisory question on the agenda for the OCF Annual Meeting?
  - A. 25 49
  - B. 50 99
  - C. 100 199
  - D. 200 300
  - E. other

- 15. How many signatures should be required on a petition to initiate the board member recall process?
  - A. 25 49
  - B. 50 99
  - C. 100 199
  - D. 200 300
  - E. other \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Miller, consultant from the Nonprofit Association of Oregon (NAO), made several suggestions that would affect OCF Board of Directors' elections and OCF Bylaws. One suggestion was to change the number of Directors (aka Board members) to 12 and remove all of the alternates. She suggested that Board member terms would be 3 years, and 4 Directors would be elected each year. She also suggested that OCF adopt term limits for Board members. (Currently, there are 10 Board members and 2 alternates; each year 5 members and 1 alternate are elected.)

- 16. What do you think of changing the OCF bylaws so that the Board of Directors has 12 members each of which serves a staggered 3-year term?
  - A. I support this change to the OCF bylaws.
  - B. I would like to change this aspect of the OCF bylaws but do not support this proposal.
  - C. I do not support changing this aspect of the OCF bylaws.
  - D. I have no opinion.
  - 17. Do you support a bylaw change that would require board members to step down for at least one year

- after serving 6 consecutive years? (After 6 years, take 1 year off before running again.)
- A. I support this change to the OCF bylaws.
- I would like to change this aspect of the OCF bylaws but do not support this proposal.
- C. I do not support changing this aspect of the OCF bylaws.
- **D.** I have no opinion.