Preference resolution:
**all operator preferences are input
to the resolution procedure
each step may add or remove some
operator candidates
only some steps may exit**

All operator
preferences

*Outcome of
preference
resolution*

one required operator → **winner returned**

RequireTest

multiple required operators

required is also prohibited

} **constraintfailure
impasse**

else

AcceptableCollect

*all acceptable
candidates are
passed on*

ProhibitFilter

one candidate remaining → **winner returned**

no candidates remaining → **none selected
(nochange impasse)**

*all nonprohibited
candidates are
passed on*

RejectFilter

*all nonrejected
candidates are
passed on*

one operator both better
and worse than another

BetterWorseFilter

two operators better
than each other

two operators worse
than each other

} **conflict
impasse**

*pass along only
candidates that
are better; if none,
pass on those that
are not worse*

BestFilter

one candidate remaining → **winner returned**

*pass along only
candidates that are
best; if none, pass
on all candidates*

no candidates remaining → **none selected
(nochange impasse)**

WorstFilter

remaining candidates are
ALL mutually indifferent

**winner will be
chosen based on
userselect setting**

*all nonworst
candidates are
passed on*

IndifferentTest

remaining candidates are
NOT mutually indifferent

tie impasse