

# CLC activities 2021–2024: a personal memoir

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# What is CLC?

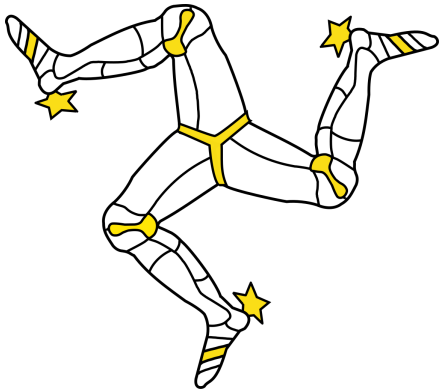
- CLC stands for Core Libraries Committee.
- Core Libraries are libraries governed by CLC.
- `let x = x in x`



## Quiz time

- CLC appoints Hackage trustees. **No.**
- CLC maintains bytestring package. **No.**
- CLC approves changes to Data.Text. **No.**
- You need CLC assent to add new GHC RTS flags. **Yes.**
- CLC can amend Haskell Package Versioning Policy. **Yes.**
- CLC owns haskeline and terminfo packages. **Yes.**
- Bug fixes in base do not need CLC assent. **Yes.**
- Changes to ghc-internal are out of scope for CLC. **No.**
- Moving implementation of base elsewhere involves CLC. **No.**
- CLC is responsible for stability of base. **No.**
- Adding class laws for Num falls under CLC purview. **Yes.**
- Documentation for Data.List must be verified by CLC. **No.**

- User-visible changes to API of base package.
- Governance of designated so called “Core” packages.
- Haskell Package Versioning Policy aka PVP.



# PVP: Haskell Package Versioning Policy

- PVP 1.0 lives at <https://pvp.haskell.org>
- PVP 1.1 is work in progress since 2019.
- PVP contains normative and non-normative sections.
- Non-normative changes (FAQ, decision tree, etc.) can be made by CLC alone.
- The definition of breaking changes and versioning schema require also Hackage admins to agree.



# Boot and core packages — 1

Package	Boot	Core 2021	Core 2024
array	+	+	+
binary	+		+
bytestring	+	+	+
Cabal	+		+
Cabal-syntax	+		+
cabal-install			+
cabal-install-solver			+
containers	+		
deepseq	+	+	+
directory	+	+	+
entropy			+
exceptions	+		
file-io	+		+
filepath	+	+	+
haskeline	+		+
hpc	+		+
mtl	+	+	+

## Boot and core packages — 2

Package	Boot	Core 2021	Core 2024
os-string	+		+
parsec	+		
pretty	+		
primitive		+	+
process	+	+	+
random		+	+
stm	+	+	+
template-haskell	+	+	+
terminfo	+		+
text	+	+	+
time	+		
transformers	+		+
unix	+	+	+
vector		+	+
Win32	+	+	+
xhtml	+		+

# CLC proposals — 1

- By summer 2021 CLC was in crisis, down to 2 active members.
- In August CLC was rebooted with a goal to provide for better engagement of committee members.
- In September a fresh batch of CLC members was elected.
- To be able to get things done,  
we got a new home for proposals at GitHub instead of mail.
- To manage community expectations,  
we developed a lightweight, but precise proposal process.
- To prevent burning out,  
we brought our remit in line with our capabilities.
- CLC proposal process is asynchronous, transparent and written communication.



## CLC proposals — 2

- Total number of CLC proposals: **249**
- Rate of proposals: **7** per month
- Approved proposals: **125**
- Declined proposals: **9**
- Median time from creation to decision: **39** days
- Average time from creation to decision: **80** days
- Median time from creation to approval: **50** days
- Average time from creation to approval: **81** days
- The fastest approval: **2** hours  
for *Use HasCallStack and error in GHC.List and .NonEmpty*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest approval: **34** hours  
for *Remove default method from Bitraversable*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> slowest approval: **375** days  
for *Exception backtrace proposal: Part 4: Rethrowing*
- The slowest approval: **395** days  
for *base changes for exception backtrace proposal*

- Total activity: **6302** comments
- Median activity per proposal: **17** comments
- Average activity per proposal: **25** comments
- Median activity per approved proposal: **21** comments
- Average activity per approved proposal: **30** comments
- The least active approved proposal: **1** comment  
for *Export List from GHC.List*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> least active approved proposal: **6** comments  
for *Make casts between words and floats real primops*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> most active: **171** comments  
for *Remove method (/=) from class Eq*
- The most active: **177** comments  
for *Add warning to Data.List.{head,tail}*

Release	Date	Count
base-4.16	28 Feb 2022	1
base-4.17	7 Aug 2022	11
base-4.18	11 Mar 2023	24
base-4.19	9 Oct 2023	25
base-4.20	14 May 2024	33
base-4.21	TBA	21

- Open proposals: **13**
- Median age for open proposals: **6** days
- Average age for open proposals: **63** days
- The newest open proposal: **1** day  
for *Formally deprecate modules informally marked unstable in #146*
- The oldest open proposal: **691** days  
for *Make NonEmpty functions less gratuitously lazy*

# How to get your proposal approved?

- Be patient.
- Be persistent.
- Be clear.
- Be precise.
- Stand on the shoulders of giants: find prior art.
- Think hard about possible breakage and its mitigation.
- Follow the ~~white-rabbit~~ proposal process.

- Bandwidth to analyse and contribute opinions for 6–8 proposals per month.
- Communication and governing-the-commons skills.
- Determination to see proposals through to their timely completion.
- We are not looking for the biggest galaxy brain in the room.
- We hope to build a broad sample of the community.



# How you can help CLC

- Be welcome to participate in CLC discussions.
- Pick up an abandoned proposal and work towards completion.
- Volunteer to write CLC blog at Haskell.org.
- Raise more new proposals.
- Like and subscribe to [github.com/haskell/core-libraries-committee](https://github.com/haskell/core-libraries-committee).



## Thanks all!