

# Maintainer role

What is the maintainer role and what are its tasks and responsibilities?

*... and what repo configs should be enforced?*

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# Agenda

- What is missing in the current maintainers' role description?
- GitHub access rules
- What roles do we have in Eiffel Community GitHub organization?
- Maintainer role in other Open Source communities
- Clarified maintainer tasks and responsibilities

# Current maintainer role description

“Maintainers are active contributors and participants in the projects they are maintainers of”

“Maintainers have the rights to accept pull requests”

“Individuals can be maintainers to multiple Eiffel Community Open Source Projects”

*(parts of [current role description](#) for maintainers)*

# What is missing?

Our current maintainer's role description is not clear enough when it comes to:

- Majority decisions/approvals
- Number of maintainers per repository
- Code owners vs. maintainers of a repository

We should have a common role description for all maintainers in the whole community

# GitHub access roles

## GitHub Organization

### Owner

Has full administrative access to the entire organization

Eiffel TC are owners of the organization

### Member

Can see every member and non-secret team in the organization, and can create new repositories

Anyone can be a member – no restrictions

### Outside Collaborators

An outside collaborator is a person who isn't explicitly a member of the Eiffel Community, but who has Read, Write, or Admin permissions to one or more repositories in your organization

# GitHub repo roles

**Note!** GitHub organization owners (Eiffel TC) are always Admin in all repositories in the organizations

Available GitHub repo roles / permission levels →□

- **Read:** Recommended for non-code contributors who want to view or discuss your project
- **Triage:** Recommended for contributors who need to proactively manage issues and pull requests without write access
- **Write:** Recommended for contributors who actively push to your project
- **Maintain:** Recommended for project managers who need to manage the repository without access to sensitive or destructive actions
- **Admin:** Recommended for people who need full access to the project, including sensitive and destructive actions like managing security or deleting a repository

**Write, Maintain or Admin** is needed to *merge* a pull request

**Maintain or Admin** is needed to:

- Configure the repo, w.r.t. description, topics, wikis, etc
- Configure how PRs can be merged

**Admin** is needed to:

- Manage access to the repository
- Define code owners

## Question

*Is “Write” enough for maintainers, or should they have “Maintain”?*

# Code Owners

## [Code Owners description](#)

- Defined by Admin or Owner, and updated through CODEOWNERS file in repo
- Code owners are automatically requested for review
- Code owners can be defined per branch, and for a subset of the code in the repository

## Eiffel Community Code Owners

- Same as the maintainers
- Valid for all code in the repository, and for all branches
- New repos created from eiffel-repository-template will have a template CODEOWNERS file
- The CODEOWNERS file contains a single line referencing the maintainers team, for example:

\* @eiffel-community/eiffel-community-maintainers

**Note!** This is not enforced in all Eiffel Community repositories yet

# What roles do we have in Eiffel Community GitHub organization?

## Eiffel Community Project Roles – Contributors and Maintainers

Both Contributors and Maintainers are obliged to follow our [Code of Conduct](#), and [maintainers are responsible](#) for following that up

*Maintainers are active contributors and participants in the projects they are maintainers of. Maintainers have the rights to accept pull requests.*

*Maintainers are eligible to vote on Technical Committee elections. They can be nominated as members to the Technical Committee during Technical Committee elections.*

*Maintainers have right to nominate contributors to become maintainers and vote on the maintainer promotions for the projects they are maintainers of.*

*Individuals can be maintainers to multiple Eiffel Community Open Source Projects.*



# What roles do we have in Eiffel Community GitHub organization?

Maintainers are part of a [team in the Eiffel Community](#)

Maintainers have [Write access](#) to their repository

Maintainers are also part of a [dedicated mail list](#), primarily used to report breaches to the Code of Conduct

**Note!** This is not enforced in all Eiffel Community repositories yet

# Clarified maintainer tasks and responsibilities

## Apply branch protection on each Eiffel Community repository

- ☒ **Require pull request reviews before merging**  
When enabled, all commits must be made to a non-protected branch and submitted via a pull request with the required number of approving reviews and no changes requested before it can be merged into a branch that matches this rule.  

Required approving reviews: 2 ▼
- ☒ **Dismiss stale pull request approvals when new commits are pushed**  
New reviewable commits pushed to a matching branch will dismiss pull request review approvals.
- ☒ **Require review from Code Owners**  
Require an approved review in pull requests including files with a designated code owner.
- ☐ **Restrict who can dismiss pull request reviews**  
Specify people or teams allowed to dismiss pull request reviews.

At least 50% of  
the number of  
Code Owners

PROPOSAL

# Current issues and PRs about this

- Issue: [Add CODEOWNERS file to identify maintainers ...](#)
- PR: [Change how to become a maintainer](#)

... to be updated, reviewed, merged and enforced

Questions?

