Configuring Failover Priority for Access Points

Failover Priority for Access Points

If a controller has the maximum number of supported APs joined to it, the failover priority feature allows it to disconnect a lower priority AP, if a higher priority AP tries to join.

The default priority is 1, the lowest priority; set higher priorities on APs if you want to enable this feature.

The following are some guidelines for configuring failover priority for access points:

- You can configure your wireless network so that the backup controller embedded controller recognizes a join request from a higher-priority access point, and if necessary, disassociates a lower-priority access point as a means to provide an available port.
- Failover priority is not in effect during the regular operation of your wireless network. It takes effect only if there are more association requests after a controller an embedded controller failure than there are available backup controller slots.
- You can enable failover priority on your network and assign priorities to the individual access points.
- By default, all access points are set to priority level 1, which is the lowest priority level. Therefore, you need to assign a priority level only to those access points that warrant a higher priority.

This section contains the following subsections:

Configuring Failover Priority for Access Points (GUI)

Step 1 Choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **Global Configuration** to open the Global Configuration page.

Step 2 From the Global AP Failover Priority drop-down list, choose **Enable** to enable access point failover priority or choose **Disable** to disable this feature and turn off any access point priority assignments. The default value is Disable.

Step 3 Click **Apply** to commit your changes.

Step 4 Click **Save Configuration** to save your changes.

Step 5 Choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **All APs** to open the All APs page.

Step 6 Click the name of the access point for which you want to configure failover priority.

Step 7 Choose the **High Availability** tab. The All APs > Details for (High Availability) page appears.

Step 8 From the AP Failover Priority drop-down list, choose one of the following options to specify the priority of the access point:

- **Low**—Assigns the access point to the level 1 priority, which is the lowest priority level. This is the default value.
- **Medium**—Assigns the access point to the level 2 priority.
- **High**—Assigns the access point to the level 3 priority.
- **Critical**—Assigns the access point to the level 4 priority, which is the highest priority level.

Step 9 Click **Apply** to commit your changes.

Step 10 Click **Save Configuration** to save your changes.

Configuring Failover Priority for Access Points (CLI)

Step 1 Enable or disable access point failover priority by entering this command:

config network ap-priority {**enable** | **disable**}

Step 2 Specify the priority of an access point by entering this command:

config ap priority {**1** | **2** | **3** | **4**} *Cisco_AP*

where 1 is the lowest priority level and 4 is the highest priority level. The default value is 1.

Step 3 Enter the **save config** command to save your changes.

Viewing Failover Priority Settings (CLI)

- Confirm whether access point failover priority is enabled on your network by entering this command:

  show network summary

  Information similar to the following appears:

```
RF-Network Name............................ mrf
Web Mode................................... Enable
Secure Web Mode............................ Enable
Secure Web Mode Cipher-Option High.......... Disable
Secure Shell (ssh)......................... Enable
Telnet..................................... Enable
Ethernet Multicast Mode.................... Disable
Ethernet Broadcast Mode.................... Disable
```

```
IGMP snooping............................. Disabled
IGMP timeout.............................. 60 seconds
User Idle Timeout......................... 300 seconds
ARP Idle Timeout.......................... 300 seconds
Cisco AP Default Master................... Disable
AP Join Priority......................... Enabled

...
```

- See the failover priority for each access point by entering this command:

  show ap summary

  Information similar to the following appears:

```
Number of APs................................... 2
Global AP User Name............................. user
Global AP Dot1x User Name....................... Not Configured

AP Name  Slots  AP Model           Ethernet MAC       Location   Port Country Priority
-------  -----  ------------------ -----------------  ---------  ---- ------- -------
ap:1252  2      AIR-LAP1252AG-A-K9 00:1b:d5:13:39:74  hallway 6  1    US      1
ap:1121  1      AIR-LAP1121G-A-K9  00:1b:d5:a9:ad:08  reception  1    US      3
```

To see the summary of a specific access point, you can specify the access point name. You can also use wildcard searches when filtering for access points.