

PROPOSED RULES FOR IS CONVENTION

I. The chairperson plays a crucial role in guiding the convention thru procedural hassles. The c-p should be a member of the Convention Steering Comm. (described below) The chair should have considerable discretionary power in ruling on procedural questions. The check on this power is Motion To Overrule the Chair: 1) Requires seconding by estimated 10% of the body; 2) Maker of motion gets 1 min. for the motion; 3) Chair 1 min against; 4) immed. vote. The chair's ruling may not be challenged, nor may there be a demand for a show of delegates cards (except at the chairs discretion) on those rulings involving estimation of number of 2nds where she rules the number sufficient. The chair may be challenged where she or he rules the number of 2nds insufficient for consideration of the motion.

II. Convention Steering Comm. shall be established or approved at the start of the Convention. It shall recommend to the body Chairpersons, a general agenda, and procedures for handling the substantive points on the agenda. Its recommendations shall be put before the body for approval with no discussion unless there is a minority viewpoint on the committee. In such a case limited discussion shall precede a vote. Alternate procedures may, of course, be proposed from the floor.

III. A QUORUM shall consist of 50% of the registered seated delegates (seated alternates counted toward a quorum.) A call for a quorum must come from a speaker recognized by the chair, but may be raised on a point of procedure. A call for a quorum is out of order for one hour following a previous call. Quorum is established by raising of delegate cards.

IV. Voting may be done in any of the following ways: 1) Voice vote; 2. Delegate card showing (on demand of any delegate or the chairs discretion); 3) Delegate card count (on demand of 10% of the delegates, estimated by chair); 4) Delegate roll call (on demand of 25% of the delegates, as estimated by the chair).

V. Unless otherwise specified, all motions require a simple majority (50% plus 1) of the delegated present voting aye or nay.

VI. Substantive discussion.

A. The steering comm. shall make recommendations for each session of the procedure for discussion and voting on substantive questions. The comm may recommend suspension of the rules described herein in its procedures.

B. Motions :

1. No substantive motion or amendment may be entertained unless it has FIRST been submitted to the Convention Secretary in writing.

2. All motions or amendments ruled "stylistic" by the chair shall be submitted to a styles comm established by whatever continuing body is established by the convention.

3. No substantive motion or amendment of more than one paragraph or 50 words in length shall be entertained which has not been mimeographed and distributed, unless seconded by one third of the delegates.

4. All substantive motions or amendments must have an estimated 10% of the delegates as seconds to be considered, unless placed on the agenda as part of the Steering Comm's report.

VII. Miscellaneous motions:

A. To table: requires simple majority, not debatable.

B. To commit (i.e. to a committee) or postpone (to a specific time) requires a simple majority, with limited debate at chair's discretion (e.g. 2 speakers for, 2 against). This procedure may be suspended in a proposal by the Steering Comm.

C. To reconsider: must be made by someone who voted on the prevailing side and seconded by an estimated 10% of the delegates. Limited debate. This procedure may be suspended by the Steering committee in a proposal from it.

D. Procedural (suggesting a procedure on a given point). Nondebateable except by chairs discretion. Requires simple majority.

E. To recess: non-debateable except by chairs discretion; may be ruled out of order by chair if previously made within an hour; requires simple majority.

F. To end debate and come to a vote (call or move the question); non debateable. Chair must ask for a voice vote first showing those who do not wish to end debate, and then take a normal vote. Requires simple majority.

G. To adjourn: same procedure as to recess; the meeting is not adjourned until the chair declares it is adjourned. The chair at his or her discretion may announce or inquire about the business remaining before the body.

VII. Discussion:

A. The steering comm. shall recommend the time of presentations, floor discussion and summaries.

B. Unless otherwise provided, no speaker may speak more than 3 minutes nor more than once in the same round of floor discussion.

C. Where there are more persons desiring to speak than the scheduled time for the item permits, the speakers cards shall be turned into the chair at the beginning of the round indicated the name, local group, and approximate position on the issue. The chair shall select randomly from these cards attempting to be sure all points of view are represented.

D. Where no time limit has been proposed by the Steering Comm the chair must propose one.

E. Speaking rights are limited to delegates, seated alternates, and NAC members. Special speaking rights will be given to the authors of documents, amendments, etc for the session involved. Observers, who notify the chair, will be given speaking rights at the end of each session, time permitting.

IX. Miscellaneous Points:

A. Point of personal privilege: to be used only when there is an impairment to participation ~~in~~ in the meeting such as a draft, high noise level, etc. It may NOT be used as a way of getting the floor if verbally attacked or even slandered by another speaker.

B. Point of procedure: motion to alter or add to the procedure of the body.

C. Point of order: to be used when it is felt that the body or chair has deviated from its previously established rules or procedures. May not be used to challenge the relevance of a speaker's remarks. May challenge ruling of the chair.

D. Point of information: to ASK a question of the chair. May not be used to give information or to interrogate another delegate.

E. Point of clarification: there is NO SUCH THING

All these points may be made by shouting out. Except for personal privilege, they may not interrupt someone while she or he is speaking. The chair is not required to recognize all persons who rise to various points if he or she feels that the meeting is degenerating or seriously impaired.