

PARLIAMENTARY POINTERS AND STANDING RULES

PRINCIPLES

Principles of parliamentary law are:

Courtesy

Justice to individuals and to the group

Handling one thing at a time

Respecting the right of the minority to be heard

Respecting the right of the majority to establish its will and make the decision

WHO MAY SPEAK

Anyone present who is recognized by the Moderator, with the consent of the body (delegate, alternate, youth, visitor).

WHO MAY VOTE

Delegates; alternate delegates when the delegate is not present.

COMMON CONSENT

Matters of a routine and non-controversial nature may be disposed of by common consent. If there is objection, however, the chair will await a formal motion and submit the question to debate and vote.

MAKING MOTIONS

Delegates shall be required to state their names and the church or group they represent when they are recognized, and to provide written copies of main motions, amendments and instructions to a committee before the same are submitted to vote. Except when rising to a point of order or to second a motion, delegates may be requested to take a place at a microphone.

Substitute resolutions must follow the format for resolutions set forth in Policy 505.

CLOSING DEBATE

To close debate the proper motion is "I move the previous question" or "I move to close debate." The mover must gain recognition and the motion must be seconded. The motion requires a two-thirds vote for adoption. It will not suffice merely to call "question" if there are still delegates who wish to speak.

DEBATE

No person shall speak to the same issue more than twice except to answer questions addressed to him/her from the floor. Except for debate on resolutions, a maximum of 5 minutes is allotted to the first speech by any speaker and 2 minutes to the second speech. An extension of the time limits shall require a two-thirds vote, without debate, unless granted by common consent.