

ALL ABOUT CONFERENCE

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Motions and Amendments



Motions to Adopt:

- ▶ There are several times over the course of business when delegates are asked to vote on motions.
 - ▶ To adopt the Consent Agenda
 - ▶ To adopt the Standing Rules
 - ▶ To adopt New Business Motions
 - ▶ To adopt Bylaw Amendments
 - ▶ To adopt Emergency New Business
 - ▶ Read all the motions and Bylaw Amendments before the meeting so you know if you want to suggest an amendment.
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Amendments:

- ▶ An amendment is a change to a proposed motion.
 - ▶ Delegates are welcome to amend any of the motions, when they feel it can be made better.
 - ▶ Pick up a form from the Center Microphone Monitor or Conference secretary; ask for help filling out the form.
 - ▶ To amend a motion, you may *insert*, *strike out*, or *insert and strike out* the words that are in the motion.
 - ▶ To change the wording a lot, you may submit a *substitute motion*.
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Amendments:

- ▶ If possible, have the amendment ready before the motion is announced.
 - ▶ During the first business meeting, when motions are introduced, known amendments are presented as well.
- ▶ Should a delegate decide during the debate or question period that an amendment is needed, they may submit one as long as the question has not been called.
 - ▶ Go to the CMM, tell the monitor you want to suggest an amendment, and fill out a form.
 - ▶ Amendments will be considered proposed when received by the Conference secretary.
- ▶ If a motion receives three amendments, it goes to the Reference Subcommittee for discussion. It will return to the floor and be presented after all the other motions have been considered, *if time allows*.

Debate Time Parameters:

- ▶ When a motion is presented, the maker has *2 minutes* to speak pro to the motion.
- ▶ The chair will then call for a con speaker who may also speak for up to *2 minutes*.
- ▶ There are *three pros and three cons* allowed for a main motion.
- ▶ *Amendments receive only two pros and two cons*, and the time allowed is only *2 minutes* per speaker.
- ▶ Once debate has ended, there are 15 minutes allowed for questions. Questions are directed to the chair.
- ▶ A motion to “Call the Question” (proceed to vote before all questions have been asked) is not in order until at least 10 minutes of questions has occurred.

Amendments:

- ▶ A bylaw may not be amended beyond the original section in the main motion, due to *scope of notice*.
 - ▶ If an amendment proposes a change to a policy *beyond the original intent*, it then takes a two-thirds vote, rather than a majority, to pass.
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