

Basic Principles of Parliamentary Procedure

1. Parliamentary procedure exists to facilitate the transaction of business and to promote cooperation and harmony.
2. All members have equal rights, privileges, and obligations.
 - The majority has the right to decide.
 - The minority has rights which must be protected.
3. A quorum must be present for the group to act.
4. Full and free discussion of every motion considered is a basic right.
5. Only one question at a time can be considered at any given time.
6. Members have the right to know at all times what the immediately pending question is, and to have it restated before a vote is taken.
7. No member can speak until recognized by the chair.
8. No one can speak a second time on the same question as long as another wants to speak a first time.
9. The chair should be strictly impartial.

Handling a motion.

Three steps by which a motion is brought before the group

1. A member makes a motion.
2. Another member seconds the motion.
3. The chair states the question on the motion.

Three steps in the consideration of a motion

1. The members debate the motion (unless no member claims the floor for that purpose).
2. The chair puts the question to a vote.
 - A. The chair restates the question.
 - B. The chair takes the vote:
 - "All in favor of the motion, say aye."
 - "Those opposed, say no."
3. The chair announces the result of a vote. A complete announcement should include:
 - A. Report on the voting itself, stating which side prevailed (and giving the count if a count prevailed).
 - B. Declaration that the motion is adopted or lost.
 - C. Statement indicating the effect of the vote or ordering its execution.
 - D. Where applicable, announcement of the next item of business or stating the question of the next motion that consequently comes up for a vote

Source:

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<http://www.csufresno.edu/comm/cagle-p3.htm>