

# Rules for the Permissible Motions

## STANDARD DESCRIPTIVE CHARACTERISTICS

(See current edition of Robert’s Rule of Order, Newly Revised)

Motion Names, Class <sup>1</sup> And Purposes	Interrupt Speaker?	Second Needed?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote Needed?
<i>CLASS: Privileged Motions (Deals with special matters of immediate or overriding importance to the business of the assembly)</i>					
Recess (Provides a brief break)	No	Yes	No	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Majority
Raise a Question of Privilege (Asks an urgent question regarding rights and privileges of the assembly.)	Yes	No	No	No	No vote Chair rules
<i>CLASS: Subsidiary Motions (Aids the assembly in handling or disposing of a main motion)</i>					
Previous Question (Closes debate and goes directly to a vote and prevents the making of subsidiary motions listed on this table.)	No	Yes	No	No	Two-thirds
Postpone Definitely (Puts off further consideration of the main motion to a later time, not beyond the next regularly scheduled meeting if within a quarterly interval.)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority (Two-thirds if made a Special Order)
Commit or Refer (Refers the motion to a committee)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend (Proposes to change a motion)	No	Yes	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Majority
Postpone Indefinitely (Rejects or kills the main motion)	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
<i>CLASS: Main Motions (Introduces new business to the assembly)</i>					
Main Motion (Introduce new business to the assembly)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

Motion Names, Class <sup>1</sup> And Purposes	Interrupt Speaker?	Second Needed?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote Needed?
<i>CLASS: Incidental Motions (Related to the pending business and must be decided immediately)</i>					
Parliamentary Inquiry (Allows a member to ask a question related to parliamentary law or the rules of the organization.)	Yes	No	No	No	No vote Chair answers
Division of the Assembly [Requires a standing (rising) vote]	Yes	No	No	No	No vote Demand
Point of Order (Requests that the rules be enforced)	Yes	No	No	No	No vote Chair usually rules <sup>4</sup>

1. *Motions that bring a question again before the assembly are not required for this event.*
2. *Amendable with respect to the length of the recess.*
3. *Debatable if applied to a debatable motion.*
4. *Assembly decides by a majority vote if the chair does not want to make a ruling.*

# Deductions for Parliamentary Procedure Errors

The table below shows the recommended deductions that judges will use for parliamentary procedure errors. If a parliamentary procedure error is made and a point of order is called at the time of the infraction and promptly ruled on by the chair correctly, points should not be deducted. "Members" are the team members other than the chair.

Parliamentary Procedure Errors	Severity Of Point Deduction	Point Deduction
<b>Violations Related To Using A Motion Improperly</b>		
Postpone Indefinitely (when qualified. e.g., a time is given)	****	
Parliamentary Inquiry (when used to ask another member a question)	***	
Raise a Question of Privilege (when used to ask a question of another member or ask a question related to parliamentary procedure)	***	
<b>Violations Related To The Chair</b>		
Improper use of the gavel	*	
Referring to him/herself in the first person (e.g., "I")	*	
Failing to announce results of vote	*	
Not obtaining a second before stating or putting the motion	**	
Not calling for a negative vote	**	
Failing to call for debate on a debatable motion	**	
Ignoring a member requesting the floor	**	
Taking a hand vote after a Division of the Assembly has been called	**	
Taking a voice vote on a motion that requires a two-thirds vote	**	
Failing to take a vote on a motion	***	
Taking an incorrect vote (e.g., majority when two-thirds required or vice versa)	***	
Stating a personal opinion	****	
Not giving preference in recognition to maker of motion if he/she has not debated	**	
Not giving preference in recognition to member who has not debated	**	
Not alternating debate between those opposed and those in favor of a motion (if known)	*	
Neglecting to notify members to be seated after taking a standing (rising) vote	*	
Arbitrarily stopping debate	**	
Not completing all steps in the announcement of the vote.	**	
<b>Violations Related To Amendments</b>		

Parliamentary Procedure Errors	Severity Of Point Deduction	Point Deduction
Adding words to middle (instead of end) of motions	*	
Striking words that result in incomplete wording for main motion	*	
Inserting “not” to make the motion a negatively worded motion	*	
Making an amendment that is not germane	**	
Amending a non-amendable motion	****	
Making a third-degree (tertiary) amendment	****	
<b>Violations Related To Motions</b>		
Chair not restating the motion as it was moved by a member	*	
Member incorrectly stating a motion (e.g., “I motion that,” using incorrect postpone, etc.)	*	
Chair restating motion before it receives a second	**	
Taking up a motion out of the order of precedence	****	
Member makes an assigned motion in the wrong class (e.g., the assigned privileged motion to recess is made when no question is pending. It is therefore classified as an incidental main motion.)	****	
Member calling out “Question” from his/her seat to stop debate	***	
Member not including special committee size and method of appointing members when making the motion to Commit or Refer	***	
<b>Violations Related To Debate By Members</b>		
Not getting recognized before debating (discussing) a motion	*	
Not addressing debate through the chair	*	
Addressing other members by name	*	
Debating more than two times on a single motion	**	
Debating against a motion they moved	**	
Debating a non-debatable motion	****	
Debate not germane	***	
Debating a motion after it is adopted (e.g., debating an amendment after it is adopted while the main motion it is applied to is immediately pending)	***	

Note: star ranking system\* = least amount of deduction to \*\*\*\* = greatest amount of deduction