

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS (AIP) – STANDARD CODE OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

BASIC RULES

<i>Order of precedence¹</i>	<i>Can interrupt?</i>	<i>Requires a second?</i>	<i>Debatable</i>	<i>Amendable?</i>
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS				
1. Adjourn	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²
2. Recess	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²
3. Question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS				
4. Table	No	Yes	No	No
5. Close debate	No	Yes	No	No
6. Limit or Extend debate	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²
7. Postpone to a certain time	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²
8. Refer to committee	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²
9. Amend	No	Yes	Yes ³	Yes
MAIN MOTIONS				
10. a. The main motion	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
b. Specific main motions				
Adopt in-lieu-of	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Amend a previous action	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ratify	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recall from committee	No	Yes	Yes ²	No
Reconsider	Yes ⁴	Yes	Yes ²	No
Rescind	No	Yes	Yes	No

INCIDENTAL

<i>No order of precedence</i>	<i>Can interrupt?</i>	<i>Requires a second?</i>	<i>Debatable?</i>	<i>Amendable?</i>
MOTIONS				
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No
Consider informally	No	Yes	No	No
REQUESTS				
Point of order	Yes	No	No	No
Inquiries	Yes	No	No	No
Withdraw a motion	Yes	No	No	No
Division of question	No	No	No	No
Division of assembly	Yes	No	No	No

GOVERNING MOTIONS

<i>Vote required?</i>	<i>Applies to what other motions?</i>	<i>Can have what other motions applied to it?⁵</i>	<i>Renewable?</i>
Majority	None	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes
Majority	None	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
None	None	None	Yes
2/3	Main motion	None	No
2/3	Debatable motions	None	Yes
2/3	Debatable motions	Amend, close debate	Yes ⁶
Majority	Main motion	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
Majority	Main motion	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
Majority	Rewordable motions	Amend, close debate, limit debate	No ⁶
Majority	None	Subsidiary	No
Majority	None	Subsidiary	No
Same Vote	Adopted main motion	Subsidiary	No
Same Vote	Adopted main motion	Subsidiary	No
Majority	Referred main motion	Close debate, limit debate	No
Majority	Vote on main motion	Close debate, limit debate	No
Same Vote	Adopted main motion	Subsidiary, except amend	No

MOTIONS

<i>Vote required?</i>	<i>Applies to what other motion?</i>	<i>Can have what other motions applied to it?⁵</i>	<i>Renewable?</i>
Majority ⁷	Ruling of chair	Close debate, limit debate	No
2/3	Procedural rules	None	Yes
Majority	Main motion or subject	None	Yes
None	Procedural error	None	No
None	All motions	None	No
None ⁸	All motions	None	No
None ⁸	Main motion	None	No
None ⁸	Indecisive vote	None	No

¹ Motions are in order only if no motion higher on the list is pending. Thus if a motion to close debate is pending, a motion to amend would be out of order; but a motion to recess would be in order, since it outranks the pending motion.

² Restricted.

³ Is not debatable when applied to an undebatable motion.

⁴ A member may interrupt the proceedings but not a speaker.

⁵ Withdraw may be applied to all motions.

⁶ Renewable at the discretion of the presiding officer.

⁷ A tie or majority vote sustains the ruling of the presiding officer; a majority vote in the negative reverses the ruling.

⁸ If decided by the assembly, by motion, requires a majority vote to adopt.