

Parliamentary Procedures Training

Executive Committee
Item 7c
April 25, 2023

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Sally F. LaMacchia. Esq., PRP NAP Professional Registered Parliamentarian

- Owner of Prime Parliamentary Services and Federal Workplace Services
- A licensed attorney and Professional Registered Parliamentarian (National Association of Parliamentarians)
- Immediate past President of the California State Association of Parliamentarians (CSAP) and
- Served in the United States Active Air Force Reserves
- Member of AIP, American Institute of Parliamentarians.



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“Parliamentary Procedure enables the overall membership of an organization – expressing its general will through the assembly of its members – both to establish and empower an effective leadership as it wishes and at the same time to retain exactly the degree of direct control over its affairs that it chooses to reserve to itself.” RONR (12th ed.)

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WELCOME
Parliamentary
Procedure
Is Your Friend!

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Journal of the House of Commons (London)

- One subject at a time. 1851
- Alternation between opposite points of view when assigning the floor. 1592
- Requirement that the chair always call for the negative vote. 1604
- Decorum and avoidance of personalities in debate. 1604
- Confinement of debate to the merits of the pending question. 1610
- Division of a question. 1640

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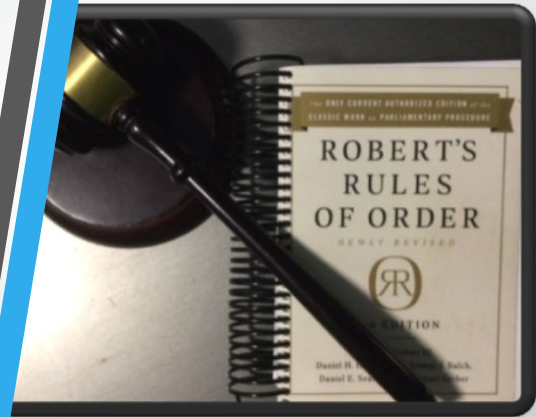
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Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised

Rules of parliamentary procedure are based on a regard for the rights of –

- the majority,
- the minority, especially a strong minority – greater than one-third
- individual member,
- absentees, and
- all of these together.



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The Special Committee on Board Meetings recommends holding a Water Conservation Celebration in July. The governing documents include this line: "The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern in all cases in which it is not in conflict with these bylaws."

Fact Pattern #1

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SCRIPT #1

CHAIR: The next item of business is new business. (Pause) The chair recognizes Member 1. (Now Member 1 has the floor.)

MEMBER 1: I move that we direct staff to organize a special event celebrating water conservation in July 2023.

MEMBER 2: Second

CHAIR: It is moved and seconded to direct staff to organize a special event celebrating water conservation in July 2024.

MEMBER 1: Do you wish to speak to your motion?

MEMBER 1: Thank you, Chair. I support this motion on the grounds that it is important to inform others on water conservation.

MEMBER 2: (Raising hand) Chair!

CHAIR: Does member two wish to speak against the motion?

MEMBER 2: Not exactly.

CHAIR: State your purpose.

MEMBER 2: I move to amend the motion by striking *July* and inserting *May*.

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SCRIPT #1, Cont'd

MEMBER 3: Second!

CHAIR: It is moved and seconded to amend the main motion by striking July and inserting May. If amended, the motion will read that we direct staff to organize a special event celebrating water conservation in May 20234

Is there any debate? (Silence)

MEMBER 4: (Raising hand.)

CHAIR: The Chair recognizes Member 4.

MEMBER 4: I move to amend the main motion by striking *Water Conservation* and inserting *Water Resiliency*.

CHAIR: The motion is out of order at this time. Once the pending motion is resolved, the member may reintroduce an amendment to the main motion.

MEMBER 5: (Hand raised)

CHAIR: The Chair recognizes Member 5.

Member 5: I move to amend the amendment by striking *May* and inserting *June*.

MEMBER 6: Second!

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SCRIPT #1, Cont'd

- CHAIR:** The chair suggests creating a blank by striking out *May*, so the main motion will be *that we direct staff to organize a water event in ___blank___ 2024*. If there is no objection, a blank will be created. [Pause]
Hearing no objection, a blank is created.
- There are three suggestions so far to fill the blank: *July, May, and June*. Are there any further suggestions? [Pause]
- Hearing none, is there any debate? [Silence]
- The question is on filling the blank in the motion to amend. Suggestions will be voted on in the order proposed, the first suggestion to obtain a majority vote is adopted, and no further votes to fill the blank will be taken.
- Are you ready for the question? [Silence]
- Those in favor of filling the blank with *July*, say "aye". [Resounding] [Pause]
- The Chair hears majority support for *July* [Pause]
- The blank will be filled with *July*, and the question is now on the main motion as follows: *that we direct staff to organize a Water Conservation event in July 2023*. Is there any debate?
- MEMBER 4:** (Raising hand.)
- CHAIR:** The Chair recognizes Member 4.
- MEMBER 4:** I move to amend the main motion by striking *Conservation* and inserting *Resiliency*. [Second!]

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SCRIPT #1, Cont'd

- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded to amend the main motion by striking *Conservation* and inserting *Resiliency*. If adopted the motion would read *that we direct staff to organize a Water Resiliency event in July 2023*. Member 4, would you like to speak to your motion?
- Member 4:** Thank you Chair. I am in favor of the amendment. Water conservation is a familiar phrase, water resiliency will spark more interest.
- Member 5:** (Raising hand.) Chair.
- CHAIR:** The chair recognizes Member 5.
- MEMBER 5:** Thank you. I rise to speak against the motion to amend. I think we should rely on the more familiar phrasing "water conservation". Conservation and resiliency are related topics, and both can be covered, but the more familiar wording will attract more attendees.
- CHAIR:** Is there further comment in favor of the motion? [Silence] Is there any further debate? [Silence] All right. The question is on amending the main motion by striking *Conservation* and inserting *Resiliency* Those in favor say "aye". [Pause] Those opposed, say "no". [Pause] The "ayes" have it, the amendment passes.
- The question now is on the main motion as amended, *that we direct staff to organize a "Water Resiliency event" in July 2023*. Is there further debate?"

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SCRIPT #1, Cont'd

MEMBER 5: (Raising hand.)

CHAIR: The chair recognizes Member 5.

MEMBER 5: I move to refer the pending motion to a special committee of 3 members to be appointed by the chair to prepare a resolution that embodies this motion. With approval of the assembly, the resolution will be formally presented to the Board for their consideration." (Second!)

CHAIR: It is moved and seconded to refer the pending motion to a special committee of 3 members to be appointed by the chair to prepare a resolution that embodies this motion. With approval of the assembly, the resolution will be formally presented to the Board for their consideration and signatures if approved. Member 5, do you wish to speak to your motion?

MEMBER 5: Thank you no Chair. I think the motion to refer speaks for itself.

CHAIR: Very good. Is there further debate? [Silence]
Are you ready for the question? [Silence]

All those in favor of referring the pending motion to a special committee of 3 members to be appointed by the chair to prepare a resolution for approval by the Board, say "aye". [Pause]

All those opposed say "no". [Pause] The "ayes" have it, the motion is adopted, and the matter will be referred to a committee to prepare a resolution. The committee will report at our next regular meeting.

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~~~~~ The End ~~~~~

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The Social Media Committee will discuss a proposal to recommend that the Board solicit bids from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage. For committee meetings, "The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern in all cases in which it does not conflict with our rules."

Fact Pattern #2

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## SCRIPT #2

- CHAIR:** The next item of business is new business. The chair recognizes Member S.
- Member S:** I move that the Social Media Committee recommend that the Board solicit bids from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.
- MEMBER T:** Second!
- MEMBER W:** (Hand raised.)
- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded that the Social Media Committee recommend that the Board solicit bids from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage. Does Member S wish to speak to their motion?
- (Member S speaks to the motion.)*
- MEMBER W:** (Hand raised.)
- CHAIR:** The Chair recognizes Member W.
- MEMBER W:** I move to amend the motion by striking "solicit bids" and inserting "seek volunteers".
- MEMBER T:** Second!

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded to amend the main motion by striking "solicit bids" and inserting "seek volunteers", so that if adopted, the main motion would be **that the Social Media Committee recommend that the Board seek volunteers from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.**
- The question is on the motion to amend. After the amendment is resolved the main motion will be considered. Does Member W wish to speak to their motion to amend?
- (Member W speaks in support of the motion to amend.)*
- MEMBER A:** (Hand raised.)
- CHAIR:** The question is on the motion to amend. The chair recognizes Member A.
- MEMBER A:** I rise to speak in favor of the motion. Making a public service announcement around thoughtful water usage is a great opportunity. Even a contest. Southern California Influencers could submit an audition video. The best 3 would win modest prizes and be asked for a second video. The Finalist would receive a prize or recognition of some kind in addition to the exposure that 12 months of PSA's would provide. I support the amendment because I think the main motion can be achieved through volunteers.
- CHAIR:** Does any member wish to speak in opposition to the amendment?
- MEMBER Z:** (Hand raised.)
- CHAIR:** Member Z?

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

- MEMBER Z:** I am not in favor of the amendment. I think you get what you pay for. If we do this, it should be done by a paid professional.
- MEMBER A:** (Hand raised.)
- CHAIR:** Does any member who has not spoken wish to speak? The chair recognizes Member B.
- MEMBER B:** I support the amendment to seek volunteers. I believe that many people are concerned about water supply and usage and want to help. There might be influencers already out there who are focused on water use and conservation who would love the opportunity to produce some PSAs.
- CHAIR:** Thank you. The chair recognizes Member Q.
- MEMBER Q:** Let's vote, so we can defeat the main motion! *! call the question!*
- MEMBER T:** *Second!*
- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded to cease debate on the pending amendment and go to an immediate vote. Unless any member objects, we will go to an immediate vote on the pending amendment. Once resolved, the chair will state the question and open debate on the main motion.

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

*(Pause)* Hearing and seeing no objection, the question is the motion to amend the main motion by striking "solicit bids" and inserting "seek volunteers". If the amendment is adopted, the main motion will be that the Social Media Committee recommend that the Board seek volunteers from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.

If an objection is made by any member, the Chair must conduct a vote on the motion for Previous Question – that is, the motion to stop debate and go to an immediate vote. The motion is not debatable and not amendable. It must be adopted by a 2/3 vote.

- CHAIR:** *(Calls for the vote on the amendment.)* Those in favor of the amendment, say "aye". *(Pause)* Those opposed, say "no". *(Pause)* The "ayes" have it, the amendment is adopted.
- CHAIR:** The question is now on the motion to **recommend that the Board seek volunteers from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.** As maker of the original main motion, the chair calls on Member S. Member S, do you wish to speak to the motion?
- MEMBER S:** *Member S speaks in favor of the motion as amended.*
- CHAIR:** Does any member wish to speak against the motion?
- MEMBER B:** *(After being assigned the floor.)* I rise in opposition to the motion. I think it is too much to take on with too little information. There are a lot of details to consider even before a bid should be received.

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

- MEMBER D:** *(After obtaining the floor.)* I move to postpone the main motion to allow closer study by this Committee, and presentation of a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board.
- MEMBER T:** Second!
- MEMBER A:** *(After recognition from the Chair.)* I support the motion to postpone for further study of the proposal and would add the study should include promoting this as a contest among social media influencers, the main prize being publicity and exposure through this series of PSAs.
- MEMBER T:** Second!
- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded to postpone the main motion for further study to include a possible contest among social media influencers and to present a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board. Is there any debate on the motion to postpone? *(Silence)* Are you ready for the question? *(Silence)*
- CHAIR:** The question is on the motion to postpone the main motion for further study to include a possible contest among social media influencers and to present a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board. The main motion is to **recommend that the Board seek volunteers from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.** As maker of the original main motion, the chair calls on Member S. Member S, do you wish to speak to the motion?
- MEMBER S:** *Member S speaks in favor of the motion as amended.*

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

- CHAIR:** Does any member wish to speak against the motion?
- MEMBER B:** *(After being assigned the floor.)* I rise in opposition to the motion. I think it is too much to take on with too little information. There are a lot of details to consider even before a bid should be received.
- MEMBER D:** *(After obtaining the floor.)* I move to postpone the main motion to allow closer study by this Committee, and presentation of a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board.
- MEMBER T:** Second!
- MEMBER A:** *(After recognition from the Chair.)* I support the motion to postpone for further study of the proposal and would add the study should include promoting this as a contest among social media influencers, the main prize being publicity and exposure through this series of PSAs.
- MEMBER T:** Second!
- CHAIR:** It is moved and seconded to postpone the main motion for further study to include a possible contest among social media influencers and to present a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board. Is there any debate on the motion to postpone? *(Silence)* Are you ready for the question? *(Silence)*
- CHAIR:** The question is on the motion to postpone the main motion for further study to include a possible contest among social media influencers and to present a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board. The main motion is to **recommend that the Board seek volunteers from social media influencers in Southern California to present a series of short videos – one each month for 12 months - about mindful water usage.**

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## SCRIPT #2, Cont'd

**CHAIR:** Those in favor of postponing the main motion for further study to include a possible contest among social media influencers and to present a written report and recommendations at the final May meeting of the board, say "aye". *(Pause)*  
Those opposed say "no". *(Pause)*

The "ayes" have it. The matter is postponed for further study and report at the final May meeting of the board. Thank you. The next item of business is ...

**MEMBERT:** (Raised hand)

**CHAIR:** The Chair recognizes Member T.

**MEMBERT:** I move that we take a 5-minute recess.

**CHAIR:** If there is no objection, we will take a 5-minute recess. When we reconvene in 5 minutes, we will take up the next item of business. *(Pause)* Hearing no objection, we will take a 5-minute recess.

----- Five Minutes Later -----

**CHAIR:** (Rap once with the gavel, then) The Committee is reconvened and will come to order.

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----- The End -----

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Questions

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Sally F. LaMacchia, Esq., PRP

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Professional Registered  
Parliamentarian

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Prime Parliamentary Services

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## **Robert's Rules of Order Parliamentary Basics** *From the National Association of Parliamentarians*

### **Motions**

There are several *classes* of motions you may encounter in meetings, listed below. The most commonly used motions belong to the *thirteen ranking motions*.

To review the procedure for handling a motion, see [Parliamentary Basics - Presiding](#).

### **Classes of Motions**

There are several classes of motions you may encounter in meetings:

The **main motion** is the basis of all parliamentary procedure. All business to be considered by an assembly is introduced by a main motion. This type of motion may only be considered if no other business is pending.

**Subsidiary motions** are those that may be applied to another motion for the purpose of modifying it, delaying action on it, or disposing of it.

**Privileged motions** are motions that are unrelated to the current motion, but are of such urgency or importance that they are considered immediately. These motions are related to members, the organization, and meeting procedure rather than the item of business being considered.

**Incidental motions** are motions that are related to, or incidental to, the business being considered, but do not directly modify the pending motion.

Motions that bring a question again before the assembly, or **bring-back** motions, are a special type of main motion that permit the assembly to consider business that was previously disposed of.

## Thirteen ranking motions

The main motion, subsidiary motions, and privileged motions all have rank relative to one another. The table below illustrates the motions' rank and basic characteristics.

### Thirteen Ranking Motions

| <i>Name of Motion</i>                   | Is it in order when another has the floor? | Does it require a second? | Is it debatable? | Is it amendable? | What vote is required for adoption? | May it be reconsidered? |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn*       | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | Yes              | M                                   | Yes                     |
| Adjourn**                               | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | No               | M                                   | No                      |
| Recess*                                 | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | Yes              | M                                   | No                      |
| Raise a Question of Privilege           | Yes                                        | No                        | No               | No               | (1)                                 | No                      |
| Call for the Orders of the Day          | Yes                                        | No                        | No               | No               | (2)                                 | No                      |
| Lay on the Table                        | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | No               | M                                   | No                      |
| Previous Question                       | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | No               | 2/3                                 | Yes                     |
| Limit or Extend Limits of Debate        | No                                         | Yes                       | No               | Yes              | 2/3                                 | (3)                     |
| Postpone to a Certain Time (Definitely) | No                                         | Yes                       | Yes              | Yes              | M(4)                                | Yes                     |
| Commit (Refer to a Committee)           | No                                         | Yes                       | Yes              | Yes              | M                                   | (5)                     |
| Amend                                   | No                                         | Yes                       | (6)              | Yes              | M                                   | Yes                     |
| Postpone Indefinitely                   | No                                         | Yes                       | Yes              | No               | M                                   | (7)                     |
| Main Motion                             | No                                         | Yes                       | Yes              | Yes              | M                                   | Yes                     |

PRIVILEGED

SUBSIDIARY

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR)*

\*A main motion if made when no business pending

\*\*Check RONR for specific rules

- (1) Chair grants
- (2) No vote; demand
- (3) Yes, the unexecuted part may be reconsidered
- (4) 2/3 vote required if made a special order
- (5) Yes, if the committee has not started work
- (6) Yes, if applied to a debatable motion
- (7) Only an affirmative vote may be reconsidered

## **Discussion and Debate**

Discussion, or *debate* in parliamentary terms, is how an assembly decides whether a proposed course of action should be followed. Disagreement is healthy, and helps the organization make the best decision *if* discussion is approached fairly and consistently:

- Before speaking in debate, members obtain the floor as described in Parliamentary Basics - Presiding.
- The person who makes a motion may speak on it first, if he expresses the desire to do so.
- All remarks are addressed to the chair, not to other members.
- Debate is confined to the merits of the motion currently under consideration.
- Debate can only be closed by order of the assembly (2/3 vote), or by the chair if no one seeks the floor for further debate.

## **Presiding**

Two essential components of effectively presiding over a meeting are preparing and following an agenda, and handling motions fairly and consistently.

## **Sample Meeting Agenda**

(Excerpted from the NAP publication, *The Chair's Guide: Order of Business*)

- Call to Order
- Opening Ceremonies (optional)
- Roll Call (if customary)
- Reading and Approval of Minutes
- Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
- Reports of Special Committees (announced only if such committees are prepared or instructed to report)
- Special Orders (announced only if there are special orders)
- Unfinished Business and General Orders
- New Business
- Announcements
- Program (if a program or a speaker is planned for the meeting)
- Adjourn

# Procedure for Handling a Main Motion

## Obtaining and Assigning the Floor

1. A member rises when no one else has the floor and addresses the chair:  
"Mr./Madam President, " "Mr./Madam Chairman," or by other proper title. (In a large assembly, the member gives his name and identification.)

The member remains standing and awaits recognition by the chair.

2. The chair recognizes the member by announcing his name or title, or, in a small assembly, by nodding to him.

## How the Motion is Brought Before the Assembly

1. The member makes the motion: "I move that (or 'to')... " and resumes his seat.
2. Another member, without rising, seconds the motion: "I second the motion," or "I second it" or even just "second."
3. The chair states the motion: "It is moved and seconded that .... Are you ready for the question?"

## Consideration of the Motion

1. Members debate the motion. (See [Parliamentary Basics - Discussion](#)).

2. The chair puts the motion to a vote.

The chair asks: "Are you ready for the question?" If no one rises to claim the floor, the chair proceeds to take the vote.

The chair says: "The question is on the adoption of the motion that...As many as are in favor, say 'Aye". (Pause for response.) Those opposed, say 'No'. (Pause for response.)

3. The chair announces the result of the vote.

"The ayes have it, the motion is adopted, and .... (indicating the effect of the vote)," or

"The noes have it, and the motion is lost."

## **BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MOTIONS**

**From: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Robert's Rules*  
*The Guerrilla's Guide to Robert's Rules***

| <b>MOTION</b>                                           | <b>PURPOSE</b>                                | <b>INTERRUPT<br/>SPEAKER?</b> | <b>SECOND<br/>NEEDED?</b> | <b>DEBATABLE?</b> | <b>AMENDABLE?</b> | <b>VOTE<br/>NEEDED</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Fix the time to which to adjourn                     | Sets the time for a continued meeting         | No                            | Yes                       | No <sup>1</sup>   | Yes               | Majority               |
| 2. Adjourn                                              | Closes the meeting                            | No                            | Yes                       | No                | No                | Majority               |
| 3. Recess                                               | Establishes a brief break                     | No                            | Yes                       | No <sup>2</sup>   | Yes               | Majority               |
| 4. Raise a Question of Privilege                        | Asks urgent question regarding to rights      | Yes                           | No                        | No                | No                | Ruled by chair         |
| 5. Call for orders of the day                           | Requires that the meeting follow the agenda   | Yes                           | No                        | No                | No                | One member             |
| 6. Lay on the table                                     | Puts the motion aside for later consideration | No                            | Yes                       | No                | No                | Majority               |
| 7. Previous question                                    | Ends debate and moves directly to the vote    | No                            | Yes                       | No                | No                | Two thirds             |
| 8. Limit or extend limits nr debate                     | Changes the debate limits                     | No                            | Yes                       | No                | Yes               | Two thirds             |
| 9. Postpone to a certain time                           | Puts off the motion to a specific time        | No                            | Yes                       | Yes               | Yes               | Majority <sup>3</sup>  |
| 10. Commit or refer                                     | Refers the motion to a committee              | No                            | Yes                       | Yes               | Yes               | Majority               |
| 11. Amend an amendment<br>(secondary amendment)         | Proposes a change to an amendment             | No                            | Yes                       | Yes <sup>4</sup>  | No                | Majority               |
| 12. Amend a motion or resolution<br>(primary amendment) | Proposes a change to a main motion            | No                            | Yes                       | Yes <sup>4</sup>  | Yes               | Majority               |
| 13. Postpone indefinitely                               | Kills the motion                              | No                            | Yes                       | Yes               | No                | Majority               |
| 14. Main motion                                         | Brings business before the assembly           | No                            | Yes                       | Yes               | Yes               | Majority               |

1. Is debatable when another meeting is scheduled for the same or next day, or if the motion is made while no question is pending
2. Unless no question is pending
3. Majority, unless it makes question a special order
4. If the motion it is being applied to is debatable

**Motions above are in the Order of Precedence of Motions.**

## BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MOTIONS

**From: *The Complete Idiot's  
Guide to Robert's Rules· The  
Guerrilla's Guide to Robert's Rules***

| MOTION                                           | PURPOSE                                                                       | INTERRUPT<br>SPEAKER? | SECOND<br>NEEDED?    | DEBATABLE?            | AMENDABLE? | VOTE<br>NEEDED           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Point of order                                   | Requests that the rules be followed                                           | Yes                   | No                   | No                    | No         | Ruled by chair           |
| Appeal from the decision of the chair            | Challenges a ruling of the chair                                              | Yes                   | Yes                  | Depends <sup>4</sup>  | No         | Majority <sup>5</sup>    |
| Suspend the rules                                | Allows the group to violate the rules<br>(not bylaws)                         | No                    | Yes                  | No                    | No         | Two thirds               |
| Objection to consideration                       | Keeps the motion from being considered                                        | Yes <sup>6</sup>      | No                   | No                    | No         | Two thirds <sup>7</sup>  |
| Division of the question                         | Separates consideration of the motion                                         | No                    | Yes                  | No                    | Yes        | Majority                 |
| Division of the assembly                         | Requires a standing vote                                                      | Yes                   | No                   | No                    | No         | One member               |
| Parliamentary inquiry or point<br>of information | Allows a member to ask a question<br>about business at hand                   | Yes                   | No                   | No                    | No         | Responded to<br>by chair |
| Withdraw a motion<br>(after stated by chair)     | Removes a motion from<br>consideration                                        | Yes                   | Depends <sup>8</sup> | No                    | No         | Majority                 |
| Take from the table                              | Resumes considering a motion that was<br>laid on the table                    | No                    | Yes                  | No                    | No         | Majority                 |
| Reconsider                                       | Considers a motion again                                                      | Yes <sup>9</sup>      | Yes                  | Depends <sup>10</sup> | No         | Majority                 |
| Rescind or amend something previously<br>adopted | Repeals a previously adopted motion or<br>amends it after it has been adopted | No                    | Yes                  | Yes                   | Yes        | Depends <sup>11</sup>    |

5. Majority in negative required to reverse chair's decision
6. When another member has been assigned the floor, until debate has begun, or a subsidiary motion has been stated by the chair
7. Two thirds against consideration sustains objection
8. Yes, if motion is made by person requesting permission; no, if made by another member
9. When another has been assigned the floor, but not after he has begun to speak
10. Only if motion to be reconsidered is debatable
11. a) a majority with notice; b) two thirds; or c) majority of entire membership