



Community of Christ

GREATER PACIFIC NORTHWEST USA MISSION CENTER

Parliamentary Guide

- A **main motion** must be moved, seconded, and stated by the Chair before it can be discussed.
- If you approve the motion **as it is**, vote for it.
- If you disapprove the motion **entirely**, vote against it.
- If you approve the **idea** of the motion, but want to change it in some manner, move to **amend it** by adding, deleting, or striking out a word, phrase, or section with a proposed substitute for it.
- If you want competent advice to help you to make your decision, move to **refer the motion** to an appropriate person or committee with instructions to **report back**.
- If you feel that they can handle it better than the assembly, move to **refer the motion** to a committee with **power to act**.
- If you think that the assembly should not act on the motion, move that it **lay on the table**.
- If you want time to think the motion over, move that consideration be **deferred** to a certain time.
- If you think that further discussion is unnecessary, move the previous question with **"I call for the question."** A two-thirds vote is required to end debate, while the motion itself is undebatable.
- If you think that the assembly should give further consideration to a motion referred to a committee, move that the motion be **recalled**.
- If you think that the assembly should give further consideration to a matter already voted on, move that it be **reconsidered**. (Only persons who voted on the prevailing side of the decision can do this).
- If you think that a matter introduced is not germane to the matter at hand, a **question of order** may be raised.
- Nominations are not seconded, **only motions are seconded**.

Legislative, Administrative and Judicial Functions

"No legislative body (i.e. Mission Center Conference) can rightfully take to itself administrative or judicial functions, such as initiating calls to priesthood (clearly an administrative function) or trying a church member accused of transgression (a judicial function)." Rules and Resolutions, Herald House, 1980, p. 14.

Refraining From Attacking a Member's Motives

"When a question is pending, a member can condemn the nature of likely consequences of the proposed measure in strong terms, but he/she must avoid personalities, and under no circumstances can he/she attack or question the motives of another member..." Robert's Rules of Order (Revised), Scott, Foreman & Co., 1970, p. 331.

