



REFERENCE GUIDE - PSAC CONVENTION RULES OF ORDER (adopted in 2025)

Footnotes

1. Motions or points are listed in order of precedence. When one item is pending, another listed above it can be introduced.
 - Corresponding rules of order are listed in brackets e.g.: [13]
 - Motions to adjourn, recess, table or postpone to a future (definite) time shall not be moved a second time until there has been an intermediate proceeding of business dealt with by the Convention [19].
2. No debate is permitted on a question of privilege. However, the member raising the question may explain their reasons and the Chair may provide reasons for its ruling.
3. An appeal is not in order unless made immediately following the decision of the Chair.
4. An appeal is not debatable. However, the challenger may give their reasons for doing so and the Chair may state reasons before putting the question.
 - Any delegate may challenge a decision of the Chair.
 - The challenge requires a seconder.
 - Immediately and without debate, except that the challenger and the Chair may respectively give their reasons for the challenge and the decision, the Chair shall put the question: "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?"
 - The Chair shall not have to accept a challenge if it is on a point of fact or law.
5. The main question is not debatable but the reasons for moving the previous question or limiting debate may be given.
6. A motion to limit debate may be only amended with respect to time and/or the number of speakers permitted.
7. This motion is not debatable. However, the mover can explain their reasons to move their motion.
8. A motion to table is in order but would have little effect on the outcome of a motion to postpone to a definite time.
9. The mover of a motion of reconsideration must have voted with the prevailing side. If the question was previously decided by a secret ballot, a vote for reconsideration of the question must be taken by secret ballot.
10. A motion to reconsider or rescind should be preceded by a notice of motion at the previous sitting or notice in the posted agenda of the meeting. The notice of motion is not debatable.
11. But subject to appeal against the ruling of the Chair.
12. Advisability of motions refers to the relevance, legality/rules compliance, not repeating a debate/discussion already held.

e.g.: "Postpone to a certain time" is designed allow limited debate only on whether postponing the matter is appropriate, not on the substance of the main motion itself.
13. Propriety in debate and conduct: Debate must be directed to the merits of the questions, not the motives or personality of members. Personal attacks are out of order. All remarks should be directed to the Chair, not to other members directly. Members must maintain proper decorum, and the Chair has a duty to maintain order.