

Standing Orders for Conduct of Council Meetings



1. A meeting of the Council shall be held at least once every calendar year and shall comprise the assembly of the Members of Council. The meeting shall be chaired by the President, or in his absence the Vice-President. In the absence of both President and Vice-President the chair shall be one of the Executive Committee members present, elected from amongst them. In the absence of all members of the Executive Committee another Member of the Council nominated by the Members of the Council for that purpose shall take the chair.
2. All motions put to the vote shall arise directly from Agenda items notified in advance of the meeting. The Agenda for a Council Meeting shall be sent to all members of the Council at least four months in advance of the meeting. A motion for the consideration of the Council may be submitted by any Member Society to form part of the Agenda. The delegate of that Member Society must transmit the motion to the Secretary General at least six months prior to the Council Meeting.
3. Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Standing Orders or the Articles, any matter to be decided by the Council shall be decided by a simple majority vote of the Members of the Council present and voting at a quorate meeting of the Council. A quorate meeting of the Council shall have at least one-third of the delegates and deputies attending. In the event of a tied vote, except for the election of officers, on any motion put to the vote at a Council meeting the second and casting vote of the President shall determine the result.
4. Any report made to the Council shall be opened to discussion by the Members of the Council. A motion or report will be accepted following a formal motion of acceptance, proposed and seconded, and passed by a majority vote.
5. During discussion of a motion any Member of the Council may propose a procedural motion, either:
 - 5.1 "that the motion be not put"; or
 - 5.2 "that the motion be now put".A procedural motion must be put to the Council without further discussion. A procedural motion, if seconded, takes precedence over all other business. If a motion that "the motion be not put" is carried, the original motion shall be withdrawn forthwith and no further discussion shall be conducted.
6. During discussion of a motion a Member may propose an amended motion, which modifies, but does not substantively replace, the content of the original motion. If duly seconded the amended motion shall be discussed and put to the vote. If the amended motion is carried, the original motion fails and cannot be discussed further. However, if the amended motion fails the discussion of the original motion shall continue and shall be put to the vote.
7. At any time during a Council Meeting any Member of the Council who is entitled to vote may raise a point of order if he or she believes that a factual error has occurred, or that any Article or Standing Order has been transgressed. A point of order shall take absolute precedence over any matter before the Council and must be resolved to the satisfaction of the Council before proceeding with any further business. The President or, in his absence, the Vice-President shall have the final decision in the determination of a point of order.

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