

Rules of the Session

~ Highlights ~



Where are the Rules????

- On the BWC website
- On the Annual Conference App
- Parliamentary Procedure Rules

Rules of the Session --
almost everything you need
to know, you learned in





“It’s rude to interrupt”

- It’s also, generally, against our rules! 😊
 - “No member who has the floor may be interrupted except for
 - A point of order
 - A misrepresentation
 - A parliamentary inquiry
 - A point of information, or
 - To call attention that the time has arrived for a special order.”

Share (the microphone)!

- No member shall speak
 - A second time on the same question if another member wishes to speak
 - More than twice on the same subject under the same motion
 - Longer than three minutes



**KEEP
CALM
AND
take
turns**

Wait to be called on AND take turns

- If you want to speak, go to the microphone nearest your seat and wait to be recognized by the Bishop
 - She will call on members in different sections of the room
- The discussion will alternate between speakers for and against a motion/amendment, so be sure to identify which side of the issue you wish to speak

A few things you probably *didn't*
learn in kindergarten ~~



Consent Calendar

- Administrative and program reports included, as long as no action is required
- List of Consent Calendar items
 - Designated with “(CC)”
 - Found on the BWC Website – www.bwcumc.org/events/annual-conference/consent-calendar; and on the BWC Annual Conference App.

- Resolutions and petitions are not included on the consent calendar
- Ten members or the Conference Chancellor may lift items off the consent calendar by
 - Notifying the Conference Secretary
 - BEFORE the calendar is presented – ***noon on Thursday, June 1, 2017.***
 - Form for this is available from a Page and is posted on the Conference website and App.

When does the debate/discussion end?

- After three speakers for and three against have been heard; or if
 - There is no one else who desires to speak; or
 - Someone “moves the previous question”

Moving the Previous Question

- Means that debate ceases and a vote will be taken on the pending motion
- If secondary motions are pending, the motion to move the previous question should indicate upon which motion the vote to be taken
- Not debatable
- Requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of members present and voting

Points of Order

- Go to the nearest mic and indicate: “I rise to a point of order”
- Must refer to the specific rule you think has been violated
- Decision made by the Bishop
- Bishop’s decision can be appealed
 - By any member
 - No debate
 - Presiding Officer and Appellant each have three minutes for a statement in support of their respective positions

Robert's Rules of Order

- Our Rules of the Session govern
- If they don't cover something, then we follow Robert's Rules of Order
- There is a helpful Parliamentary Procedure Chart on the BWC website and the Annual Conference App

Annual Conference Parliamentary Procedure Chart

SECONDARY MOTIONS IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

To do this:	You say this:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
Adjourn	"I move to adjourn."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	
Call an intermission	"I move we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	
Suspend further consideration of an issue, especially in an emergency	"I move we table the motion..."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	
End debate and amendments	"I move the previous question..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	R
Limit or extend the limits of debate	"I move the debate be limited (or extended) to..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R
Postpone debate to a specific time	"I move to postpone this matter until..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R
Have the matter studied further	"I move that this matter be referred to..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R
Amend a motion, including amend by substitution	"I move to amend by..." or "I move to substitute"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R
Postpone indefinitely (kill the main motion)	"I move to postpone indefinitely"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R

MAIN MOTION (*Introduction of a petition*)

To do this:	You say this:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	R

INCIDENTAL MOTIONS (*Pertaining to the business under consideration*)

To do this:	You say this:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
Correct an error in parliamentary procedure	"I rise to a point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Rules	
Obtain advice on parliamentary procedure	"I raise a parliamentary inquiry"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Rules	
Request information	"Point of information" (must be phrased as a question)	Yes	No	No	No		
Question the ruling of the presiding officer	"I appeal the chair's decision."	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	R
Suspend the rules temporarily	"I move to suspend the rules so that..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	

BRING A MATTER BACK BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY

To do this:	You say this:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
Take up matter previously tabled	"I move we take from the table..."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	
Reconsider previous action (May only be made by a member who voted previously on the prevailing side)	"I move to reconsider the vote on..."	No	Yes	**	No	Majority	