



Robert's Rules of Order Motions Chart Modified for WSFS

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* and the WSFS Business Meeting Standing Rules

Main Motions. These motions are listed in order of precedence. A motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.							
§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§21	Close meeting	I move to adjourn (sine die) ¹	No	Yes	Only if nothing pending	No	Majority
§20	Take a break	I move to recess [for X minutes, until YY:YY, etc.]	No	Yes	Only if nothing pending	Yes	Majority
§19	Register complaint about rights	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17	Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§16	Close debate	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15	Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3 ²
§14	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13	Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12	Modify wording of motion	I move to amend the motion by ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§11	Postpone the motion indefinitely ³	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes ⁴	No	2/3
§10	Bring business before assembly (a main motion) ⁵	I move that [or "to"] ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

¹ Each day's session ends by adjourning. At the end of the final meeting, the meeting adjourns sine die (without date). Any proposals not resolved before the final adjournment die.

² At the Preliminary Business Meeting, initial debate times are set by majority vote starting with the times suggested by the Chair. If other suggestions are made, the meeting votes on these by the method of filling blanks in descending order.

³ Only in order at the Preliminary Business Meeting. Motions that have been postponed indefinitely are not automatically rescheduled for the following year's meeting; however, anyone can reintroduce them next year. This motion neither prevents nor requires consideration of the proposal at a future year's meeting.

⁴ Two (2) minutes of debate time for each side.

§ indicates the section from Robert's Rules.

Incidental Motions. No order of precedence. These motions arise incidentally and are decided immediately.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§23	Enforce rules	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24	Object to the Chair's decision	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority ⁶
§25	Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26	Avoid main motion altogether ⁷	I object to the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	3/4
§27	Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§33	Question about correct procedure	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Request for information ⁸	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly.

No order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else is pending.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§34	Take matter from table	I move to take from the table ...	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§37	Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider ...	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority

⁵ The WSFS Standing rules require that non-privileged new main motions (constitutional amendments, standing rule amendments, and resolutions) must be submitted at least 14 days before the first Preliminary Business Meeting. New main motions may be introduced when no business is pending if the Chair agrees, or if the rules are suspended to allow it.

⁶ A majority against the Chair's ruling is needed to overturn. A tie vote sustains the ruling.

⁷ Only in order before any action on a piece of business or before the Chair announces a subsidiary motion, such as setting debate time.

⁸ Can only be used to ask a question. You cannot use a "point of information" to make a statement to the assembly – that is debate.