

# World Science Fiction Society

## Resolutions and Rulings of Continuing Effect

This list is compiled and updated annually by the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS) Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee, as required by Standing Rule 7.7(1). The committee uses a definition of “likely to continue to have effect for more than a year” as “continuing.” If a ruling of the chair was appealed and sustained or reversed, it is so noted with the ruling. Abbreviations used are as follows:

- BM** – Resolution of the WSFS Business Meeting
- CH** – Ruling of the WSFS Business Meeting Chair
- NCH** – Ruling of the NASFiC Business Meeting Chair
- RRoCE**—Resolutions and Rulings of Continuing Effect

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## 2023 WSFS Business Meeting, Chengdu, China (中国四川成都)

### 81st World Science Fiction Convention, Chengdu Worldcon

Donald E. Eastlake III, Luo Yanli (罗妍莉), Presiding Officer  
Kevin Standlee, Deputy Presiding Officer & Videographer  
Ann Marie Rudolph, Huang Yiyang (黄亦杨), Secretary  
Linda Deneroff, Assistant Secretary  
Yang Xiaoliao (杨小嫖), Timekeeper  
Yao Xue (姚雪), Zhou Bo (周博), Floor Manager

#### CH-2023-01

The Presiding Officer ruled that, with the ratification of the “Game or Interactive Work” Constitutional amendment, a “Choose Your Own Adventure” or similar written work where the plot is determined by reader input is no longer eligible in the written work categories.

#### CH-2023-02

The Presiding Officer ruled that the order of fields to be filled in by the voter on site selection ballots is not constrained by the order in which such fields are cited in the Constitution.

#### CH-2023-03

The Presiding Officer ruled that a site selection ballot would still be valid if a field to be filled in by the voter was left blank because it was meaningless for that voter, for example a “city” field for a voter that did not reside in a municipality.

#### CH-2023-04

The Presiding Officer ruled that the addition of a sunset clause to a Constitutional amendment at ratification time makes the amendment a lesser change than it would be without the sunset clause and thus does not interfere with ratification.

#### CH-2023-05

The Presiding Officer ruled that it was out of order to say another member of the assembly is speaking in bad faith.

#### CH-2023-06

The Presiding Officer admonished a member for describing as “sneakily” the use of procedures permitted under the rules.

## **2023 NASFiC Business Meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba Pemmi-Con**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Martin Payne, Secretary  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

### **NCH-2023-01**

The Chair ruled that for the purposes of determining a quorum, “members of the society present” meant those natural persons who were members of the administering NASFiC who had a membership that included the right to be present at the site and participate in WSFS affairs on the day of the meeting.

### **NCH-2023-02**

A Preliminary Business Meeting is not required at a NASFiC Business Meeting because the only business the meeting can consider is Site Selection business.

### **NCH-2023-03**

Members watching the meeting remotely cannot be considered as attending for the purposes of determining a quorum, nor could they make motions or vote; however, they could ask questions during Question Time for the newly-seated NASFiC.

## **2022 WSFS Business Meeting, Chicago, Illinois 80<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon 8**

Jared Dashoff, Presiding Officer  
Jesi Lipp, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Todd Dashoff, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Kevin Standlee, Assistant Videographer  
Martin Pyne, Floor Manager

### **CH-2022-01**

The Presiding Officer ruled that a resolution of the business meeting expressing solidarity with fans in conflict areas or war zones was not *ultra vires* as it dealt with fans. (Appealed and sustained)

### **CH-2022-02**

The Presiding Officer ruled that a resolution of the business meeting expressing an opinion on a Worldcon committee’s Guest of Honor selection was not in violation of Section 1.6 of the Constitution in that expressing an opinion or requesting a change in the selection did not constitute taking “authority and responsibility” for matters resting with the Worldcon committee. (Appealed and sustained)

**2021 WSFS Business Meeting, Washington, DC**  
**79<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, DisCon III**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Kent Bloom, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Janice Murray, Secretary  
Linda Deneroff, Assistant Secretary  
Todd Dashoff, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Kevin Standlee, Assistant Videographer  
Martin Pyne, Floor Manager

**BM-2021-01**

It is the sense of the WSFS Business Meeting that any site selection ballot that does not contain a Membership Number, Name, Signature, and Address that meets the country of origin's requirements should be counted as "No Preference."

**CH-2021-01**

The Presiding Officer ruled that a motion to amend a motion is not a speech against the motion. (Appealed and sustained.)

**2020 WSFS Business Meeting, Wellington, New Zealand**  
**78<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, CoNZealand**

Kent Bloom, Presiding Officer  
Darusha Wehm, Emergency Holographic Presiding Officer  
Cliff Dunn, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Robert McIntosh, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Kevin Standlee, Assistant Videographer  
Norman Cates and Joel Bryan, Emergency Holographic Videographers  
Janice Murphy, Steward

No Resolutions or Rulings of Continuing Effect were made at CoNZealand.

**2019 WSFS Business Meeting, Dublin, Ireland**  
**77<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Dublin 2019, An Irish Worldcon**

Jesi Lipp, Presiding Officer  
Kevin Standlee, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Donald E. Eastlake III, Parliamentarian  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Alex Acks, Timekeeper

Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Terry Neill, Anne Davenport, & Jo Van Ekeren, Sergeants at Arms  
Jared Dashoff, Logistics Liaison

**CH-2019-01**

The Presiding Officer ruled that there is nothing in the Standing Rules, Rules of Continuing Effect or Constitution that disallows handouts. There is nothing that makes them debate and, therefore, they are not subject to the rules governing debate. (Appealed and sustained.)

**2018 WSFS Business Meeting, San Jose, California  
76<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Worldcon 76**

Tim Illingworth, Presiding Officer  
Jesi Lipp, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Donald E. Eastlake III, Parliamentarian  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Paul Dormer, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Scott Sanford, Kevin Standlee, Assistant Videographers  
Terry Neill, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Janice Mars, Anne Davenport, Assistant Sergeants at Arms

**CH-2018-01**

A motion to Suspend the Rules and make a Standing Rule amendment effective immediately was ruled out of order because the effect of doing so would have been to move a deadline applicable to the current Business Meeting into the past.

**CH-2018-02**

A motion made at the Preliminary Business Meeting (PBM) to Suspend the Rules and Refer a constitutional amendment to a committee to report to the following year's Worldcon Business Meeting was ruled out of order because doing so would infringe upon the rights of absentees who would reasonably expect that the PBM could kill motions for the current Worldcon, but not refer them to the following Worldcon's Business Meeting. (Appealed and sustained)

**CH-2018-03**

A motion to direct the Mark Protection Committee to take an action not directly related to the protection or registration of a WSFS service mark or other intellectual property was ruled out of order.

## **2017 WSFS Business Meeting, Helsinki, Finland**

### **75<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Worldcon 75**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Donald E. Eastlake III, Parliamentarian  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Paul Dormer, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

#### **BM-2017-01**

Since the rights of Attending Members are explicitly defined (per Constitution subsection 1.5.3) in relation to those of Supporting Members, Supporting members can have no lesser rights to generally distributed publications than Attending members.

The right of Supporting Members to receive all generally distributed publications (Constitution subsection 1.5.2) must therefore be interpreted as including the same format options (e.g., physical or electronic copy) as are offered to Attending members.

“Generally distributed publications” should as a minimum be considered to include Progress Reports and the Souvenir Program Book.

All Members should be able to explicitly specify their preference for receiving printed or electronic pre-con publications (e.g., Progress Reports), in the event that these publications are offered in both formats

Supporting Members should be able to explicitly specify their preference for receiving a printed Souvenir Program Book

Worldcons may charge additional fees to Members who choose to receive printed publications, to recover the associated costs. Any such fees should be clearly set out as part of the convention’s bid filing.

#### **CH-2017-01**

A ruling by the Chair that the convention program guide (pocket program) is one of the printed publications (i.e., “generally distributed publications” in Constitution subsection 1.5.2) was overturned by the meeting.

## **2016 WSFS Business Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri**

### **74<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, MidAmeriCon II**

Jared Dashoff, Presiding Officer  
Tim Illingworth, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Donald E. Eastlake III, Parliamentarian  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Lisa Hertel, Timekeeper  
Warren Buff, Colette Fozard, Michael “MrShirt” McConnell, Sergeants at Arms

**CH-2016-01**

The Presiding Officer ruled that under the “Nominee Diversity” Hugo Award amendment, we will only tell nominees that multiple works of theirs have been named as finalists, but we won’t tell them that other works of theirs will pop up if they withdraw something.

**BM-2016-01**

The Business Meeting approved a resolution that the best way to achieve delaying ratification of a proposed amendment would be to <sup>1</sup>

- (a) pass a greater amendment to the item awaiting ratification, if appropriate, or
- (b) add a pair of sunrise and sunset clauses prior to ratification.

These would take the form:

*Provided that this amendment shall not come into effect until the close of the 20XX Business Meeting, and*

*Provided that unless this amendment is re-ratified by the 20XX Business Meeting, this amendment shall be repealed, and*

*Provided, further, that the question of re-ratification shall be automatically placed on the agenda of the 20XX Business Meeting, with any constitutional amendments awaiting ratification.*

**2015 WSFS Business Meeting, Spokane, Washington**  
**73<sup>rd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Sasquan**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Jared Dashoff, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Donald E. Eastlake III, Parliamentarian  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Jesi Pershing, Timekeeper  
Joyce Reynolds-Ward, Sergeant at Arms  
John McDonald, “Frog” Jones, Assistant Sergeants at Arms  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

**CH-2015-01**

The information required to be released regarding the Hugo Award vote tallies defined in the Constitution is a minimum, not a maximum, and the Worldcon Committee and Hugo Administration Subcommittee appointed by that committee

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<sup>1</sup> This is not current practice. When Constitutional Amendments were up for ratification at CoNZealand 2020, they were delayed by defeating ratification and then immediately repassing them.



may, at their sole discretion, release more information than is required by the Constitution. (Appealed and sustained.)

**CH-2015-02**

When the version of a Constitutional amendment pending ratification appearing in the meeting agenda differs from the version certified by the previous year's Business Meeting officers, the version certified by the previous year's officers takes precedence. (Appealed and sustained.)

**CH-2015-03**

WSFS Constitution subsection 1.5.8 (prohibiting Worldcons from selling memberships with WSFS voting rights for less than the cost of a Supporting membership) has no effect on CH-1990-01 ("there are no age limits on membership in the society"). While a Worldcon may establish discounted memberships that do not include WSFS voting rights, any person of any age holding a class of membership that includes voting rights may exercise those rights.

**CH-2015-04**

A proposal that would have referred to "the Hugo Subcommittee" was ruled out of order on the grounds that while the Constitution allows the Worldcon Committee to create a Hugo Administration Subcommittee and irrevocably delegate the authority to administer that year's Hugo Awards to that Subcommittee, the Constitution does not require the Worldcon Committee to do so, and therefore any rules relating to actions of a Hugo Administration Subcommittee must be phrased as addressing the Worldcon Committee responsible for those Hugo Awards.

## **2014 WSFS Business Meeting, London, England**

### **72<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Loncon 3**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Jill Eastlake, Timekeeper  
Jesi Pershing, Assistant Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

**BM-2014-01**

The WSFS Business Meeting of the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention recommends that the Mark Protection Committee establish a Worldcon Intellectual Property Trust ("WIPT") to act as a legal entity for holding title to WSFS's service marks, such entity to be under the control of the Mark Protection Committee.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The MPC subsequently formed Worldcon Intellectual Property (WIP), a California non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable corporation, for this purpose. The word "trust" has a specific legal meaning and cannot be used in a corporate name for this purpose.

## **2013 WSFS Business Meeting, San Antonio, Texas**

### **71<sup>st</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, LoneStarCon 3**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Seth Breibart, Timekeeper  
Theresa Renner, Sergeant at Arms  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer  
Kent Bloom, Deputy Presiding Officer

**CH-2013-01**, *Obsoleted.*

#### **CH-2013-02**

Motions to extend Hugo Award eligibility, whether for specific works or blanket extensions of classes of works, can be applied to Retrospective Hugo Awards.

#### **CH-2013-03**

Business Meeting Committee members may be of any age.

#### **BM-2013-01**

In administering Constitution Section 6.5 (Run-off), a ballot should be counted if it has a vote for either the tentative winner or the run-off candidate or for both.

#### **BM-2013-02**

The WSFS Business Meeting of the 71st World Science Fiction Convention endorses the activities of the Worldcon Heritage Organization, a non-profit corporation, in its purposes of acquiring, maintaining, storing, and displaying items of interest to the World Science Fiction Society as being for the benefit of WSFS as a whole, and encourages Worldcon committees with surplus to donate some of that surplus to the Worldcon Heritage Organization.

## **2012 WSFS Business Meeting, Chicago, Illinois**

### **70<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon 7**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Tim Miller, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

No Resolutions or Rulings of Continuing Effect were made at Chicon 7.

## **2011 WSFS Business Meeting, Reno, Nevada**

### **69<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Renovation**

Kent Bloom, Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Warren Buff, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

#### **BM-2011-01**

The Mark Protection Committee may not adopt membership eligibility requirements for itself or any of its subcommittees that are more stringent than those imposed by the WSFS Constitution.

#### **CH-2011-01**

The Chair ruled a resolution imposing a restriction upon the Mark Protection Committee and ordering the Mark Protection Committee to rescind a resolution regarding the committee's subcommittees was out of order on the grounds that "a single BM does not have the authority to countermand the MPC's complete authority under the WSFS Constitution to determine and select its officers and agents." This ruling was appealed and overturned, and the resolution (BM-2011-01) was adopted.

## **2010 WSFS Business Meeting, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia**

### **68<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, AussieCon 4**

Kent Bloom, Presiding Officer  
Don A. Timm, Secretary  
Robert MacIntosh, Timekeeper

**CH-2010-01**, *Obsoleted.*

#### **CH-2010-02**

If a person is a member of multiple Worldcons whose members are simultaneously eligible to nominate for the current Hugo Awards, that person may cast only one set of nominations regardless of how many memberships that person holds.

## **2009 WSFS Business Meeting, Montreal, Quebec**

### **67<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Anticipation**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Tim Illingworth, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Linda Deneroff, Secretary  
Jared Dashoff, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Official Videographer

**CH-2009-01**

In response to the question, “How broadly does WSFS define ‘works originally published outside the U.S.?’,” the Chair replied that this is left to the Hugo Administrators.

**CH-2009-02**

While an Objection to Consideration was pending, a member asked the Chair a technical question about the effect of a proposal. The Chair declined to answer the technical question because an OTC must be resolved without debate or discussion of any sort on the underlying proposal.

**CH-2009-03, *Obsoleted.*****CH-2009-04**

A constitutional amendment was proposed that would have postponed the effective date of the amendment until three years following its ratification but would also require the business meeting three years hence re-ratify the amendment. This was ruled to be in order as it was adding a special provision to the amendment, consistent with other amendments that have special delayed-action provisions or requirements for a subsequent Business Meeting to revisit the proposal. The chair further ruled that if the subsequent Business Meeting wanted to make changes to an amendment with such a “Sword of Damocles” provision, only changes that narrowed the original proposal’s scope would be permissible.

**CH-2009-05**

A constitutional amendment was adopted that included a provision that it would automatically “sunset” unless re-ratified in a specific future year. The Chair ruled that re-ratification of the amendment would not be automatically on the agenda of that future Business Meeting, although any member could make such a motion.

**BM-2009-01**

WSFS convention committees (Worldcons and NASFiCs) are encouraged to be more proactive in marketing their conventions, including having a prominent and positive presence at Dragon\*Con, Comic-Con International, and other major events of a similar nature such as the Chicago and New York Comic Cons; and for non-North American Worldcons, similar events where there is potential to attract new book readers to Worldcon.

WSFS convention committees are encouraged to market their conventions to younger book readers who may not be aware of the existence of their conventions by organizing book giveaways and other targeted marketing within their local area.

**BM-2009-02**

The Business Meeting recommends that future WSFS conventions sell discounted memberships to younger persons.

## **2008 WSFS Business Meeting, Denver, Colorado**

### **66<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Denvention 3**

Donald E Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Kevin Standlee, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Jared Dashoff, Timekeeper  
Lisa Hayes, Videographer

#### **CH-2008-01**

Recordings of the Business Meeting taken in accordance with Standing Rule 1.6 may be freely distributed without restriction.

#### **CH-2008-02**

A motion to Stop Recording (Standing Rule 5.10 [originally 5.9]) applies only to the individual meeting at which it passes. The motion lapses at the end of that meeting and the next meeting (usually held the following day) starts in open session with recording permitted.

**CH-2008-03, CH-2008-04, *Obsoleted.***

#### **BM-2008-01**

WSFS grants permission to the Worldcon Runners' Guide Editorial Committee to make non-exclusive use of the existing committee materials in its ongoing work.

## **2007 WSFS Business Meeting, Yokohama, Japan**

### **65<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Nippon2007**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Donald E Eastlake III, Deputy Presiding Officer/Timekeeper  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Lisa Hayes, William J Keaton, & John P. Maizels, Tech Support

#### **CH-2007-01**

When committees present financial reports, members may ask questions related to those financial reports; however, committees are not obliged to answer such questions.

#### **CH-2007-02**

If a Worldcon has a reportable surplus and transfers that surplus to another committee within the same corporate entity, the committee receiving the transfer must continue to report on this surplus as part of the committee's Constitution Section 2.9 (Financial Reports) obligation.

#### **BM-2007-01**

The Business Meeting instructed the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee to remind all seated Worldcon committees at regular intervals of the existence of the Long List Committee and of a standard list of past Worldcons and Hugo Awards, and that

Worldcon committees are encouraged to obtain these lists from the Long List Committee for use in their publications.

## **2006 WSFS Business Meeting, Anaheim, California**

### **64<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, L.A.con IV**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Donald E Eastlake III, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Deb Geisler, Timekeeper  
Bill Parker, William Keaton, Tech Support  
Glenn Glazer, Sandra Childress, Microphone Runners

#### **CH-2006-01**

Short videos published on internet sites such as youtube.com are valid means of “presenting” or publishing a work as defined in the WSFS Constitution.

#### **CH-2006-02**

The motion for the Previous Question is in order after debate time expires, on the grounds that it has an effect beyond that of ending debate (it shuts off the making of lower-ranking subsidiary motions), and that the intent of Standing Rule 5.6 [originally 5.5] is to avoid wasting debate time, not to prohibit a motion that shuts off subsidiary motions.

#### **CH-2006-03**

A provision of a constitutional amendment that allows for the amendment’s repeal in a single year under limited circumstances is in order. Adding such a provision to a constitutional amendment at the ratification stage is in order and does not constitute an increase in the amendment’s scope.

#### **CH-2006-04**

A resolution taking a stance on the decision to “demote” Pluto from the list of “true planets” was ruled to be in order. A point of order that the motion was *ultra vires* was referred to the assembly by the Chair and ruled not well taken by a vote of the meeting.

#### **BM-2006-01**

The Business Meeting requests that future Worldcon Committees encourage persons casting Hugo Award nominating ballots for Best Professional Artist be more proactive in citing current work by the nominated artists by doing the following:

1. Include sufficient space on the Hugo Nominating Ballot for Best Professional Artist for a nominator to submit at least one reference to a work by each nominated artist. Failure to provide such references shall not invalidate a nomination.

2. When the Worldcon Committee notifies nominees of their nomination, request that each artist provide references to three (3) or more pieces of artwork that the nominated artist believes best represents his or her work first published that year, along with permission to cite those works on the convention's web site and/or final Award ballot. Failure to provide such references or permission shall not invalidate a nomination.
3. Make references to such pieces cited in item (2) above available on the convention's web site and/or on the final Award ballot. Failure to provide such references shall not invalidate the final Award ballot.

## **2005 WSFS Business Meeting, Glasgow, Scotland**

### **63<sup>rd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Interaction**

Tim Illingworth, Presiding Officer  
Donald E Eastlake III, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Gary Feldbaum, Timekeeper

#### **CH-2005-01**

Standing Rules that are associated with Constitutional Amendments do not come into effect until the associated Constitutional Amendments are ratified.

#### **CH-2005-02**

When a Constitutional Amendment is up for ratification it is in order to replace that amendment by a resolution of the Business Meeting, and such substitution automatically defeats the ratification of the Constitutional Amendment.

#### **BM-2005-01**

The Business Meeting requests that Hugo Administrators publicize the list of works published by Best Editor nominees. The Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee is directed to remind each year's Hugo Administrator of this request in a timely manner.

## **2004 WSFS Business Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts**

### **62<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Noreascon 4**

Donald E Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Tim Illingworth, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Alexis Layton, Timekeeper  
Spencer J Love, Lisa Hayes, Tech Support

#### **CH-2004-01, *Obsoleted.***

## **2003 WSFS Business Meeting, Toronto, Ontario**

### **61<sup>st</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Torcon 3**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Donald E Eastlake III, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Clint Budd, Timekeeper  
William J Keaton, Glenn Glazer, Tech Support

#### **CH-2003-01**

The Chair ruled that the Business Meeting does not have direct jurisdiction over the *Astounding Award* ~~Campbell Award~~.<sup>3</sup>

#### **CH-2003-02, *Obsoleted.***

#### **CH-2003-03**

The Chair ruled that a motion to refer a report to the 1939 Worldcon Business Meeting was frivolous and dilatory as creating indefinite time loops is a bad idea.

## **2002 WSFS Business Meeting, San José, California**

### **60<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, ConJose**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Kent Bloom, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Patrick McMurray (Standing in for Cheryl Morgan), Secretary  
Seth Breidbart, Timekeeper  
Paul Kraus, Tim Szczesuil, William J Keaton, Tech Support

#### **BM-2002-01**

Future Worldcon financial reports submitted after that Worldcon is over should only contain reportable balances, not income unattributable to that Worldcon such as interest or other activities.

#### **CH-2002-01**

The Chair ruled that a Preliminary Business Meeting can pass a resolution expressing an opinion as to the future legality of a foreshadowed motion that cannot be legally introduced at the Preliminary Business Meeting. (Appealed and sustained.) The Chair further ruled that such a resolution would not be legally binding upon the Chair.

#### **CH-2002-02**

The Chair ruled that a blanket eligibility extension applies to dramatic presentations as well as written works. The word “published” as used in the Hugo Awards definitions should be interpreted in its technical sense under copyright law.

#### **CH-2002-03, *Obsoleted.***

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<sup>3</sup> The John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer has been renamed the *Astounding Award* for Best New Writer.



**CH-2002-04**

The Chair ruled that amendments to the Constitution become part of the Constitution at the moment of ratification, although they generally do not take effect until later; therefore, they are subject to amendment as any other part of the Constitution.

**2001 WSFS Business Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
59<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, The Millenium Philcon**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Chairman  
Kevin Standlee, Parliamentarian & Deputy Presiding Officer  
Bridget Boyle, Timekeeper  
'Zanne Labonville, Emergency Holographic Timekeeper  
Cheryl Morgan, Secretary

**BM-2001-01**

*Resolved*, The NP&FSC is directed to remind each future Worldcon, early and often, that the WSFS Business Meeting believes that membership badges should be readable, with members' names printed in no less than 24-point type.

**BM-2001-02**

*Resolved*, to establish a committee to study the history of Worldcons and to produce a standard list of Worldcon and Hugo Award historical information, with Bruce Pelz as chair, and the chair authorized to appoint additional members.<sup>4</sup>

**CH-2001-01**

The Chair ruled that the Business Meeting could create standing committees *of the Business Meeting* by standing rule but could create standing committees of WSFS only by constitutional amendment.

**CH-2001-02**

The Chair ruled that it is right and proper for the Business Meeting to ask to know how excess funds remaining after a Worldcon are disbursed. It is not sufficient for the Worldcon to simply report that the funds have been transferred to another body for disbursement.

**CH-2001-03**

The Chairman ruled that the Standing Rules can only cover the conduct of the Business Meeting and may not be used to impose requirements upon Worldcons.

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<sup>4</sup> This led to the establishment of the Long List Committee.

## **2000 WSFS Business Meeting, Chicago, Illinois**

### **58<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon 2000.**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Chairman  
Kevin Standlee, Parliamentarian & Deputy Presiding Officer  
'Zanne Labonville, Timekeeper  
Robert Sacks (standing in for Patrick McMurray), Secretary  
Cheryl Morgan, Emergency Holographic Secretary

#### **BM-2000-01**

*Resolved*, that the proper formatting of the WSFS Constitution is as follows:

1. The WSFS Constitution is divided into a number of Articles, which are numbered in Arabic numerals, thus: 1, 2, 3, 4, . . . .
2. Each Article is divided into a number of Sections, which are numbered with their Article and Section number in Legal format in Arabic numerals, thus: 1.1, 1.2, . . . . Each Section has a title relevant to its contents.
3. Each Section may be divided into subsections, which are numbered with their Article, Section and subsection number in Legal format in Arabic numerals, thus: 1.5.1, 1.5.2, . . . . Subsections do not have titles.
4. Enumerated lists of items are numbered with their sequence number in Arabic numerals enclosed in parentheses, thus: (1), (2), . . . .
5. Constitution Sections should be arranged in approximately chronological order within articles, as should subsections within Sections, and items within lists.

#### **BM-2000-02**

*Resolved*, to encourage Worldcons who tape their sessions to make copies available to the Worldcon history exhibit.

#### **CH-2000-01**

The Chairman ruled that the definition of a "signature" (as per the Hugo voting rules) was a matter for individual Hugo Award committees.

## **1999 WSFS Business Meeting, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia**

### **57<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Aussiecon Three**

Jack Herman, Chairman  
'Zanne Labonville, Timekeeper  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary

No Resolutions or Rulings of Continuing Effect were made at Aussiecon III.

**1998 WSFS Business Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland**  
**56<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, BucConeer**

Tim Illingworth, Chairman  
Don Eastlake, Deputy Presiding Officer  
Kevin Standlee (standing in for Kathy Westhead), Timekeeper  
Patrick McMurray, Secretary  
Robbie Bourget, Master-at-Arms

**CH-1998-01**

The Chairman ruled that it was in order to nominate sitting [appointed] members of the Mark Protection Committee for election to the Mark Protection Committee.

**1997 WSFS Business Meeting, San Antonio, Texas**  
**55<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, LoneStarCon 2**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
Kevin Standlee, Secretary  
'Zanne Labonville, Timekeeper

**CH-1997-01**

The Chair ruled that the Business Meeting could create “recognized publications” (as contemplated in the motion being debated) by resolution.

**1996 WSFS Business Meeting, Anaheim, California**  
**54<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, L.A.con III**

Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Kevin Standlee, Parliamentarian and Deputy Presiding Officer  
'Zanne Labonville, Timekeeper.

No Resolutions or Rulings of continuing Effect were made at L.A.Con III.

**1995 WSFS Business Meeting, Glasgow, Scotland**  
**53<sup>rd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Intersection**

Kevin Standlee, Presiding Officer  
Tim Illingworth, Deputy Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Gary Feldbaum, Timekeeper

**BM-1995-01**

It is the sense of WSFS that it is inappropriate for a Worldcon Committee to gather additional demographic data on the site-selection and/or the Hugo Award ballots

beyond that which is required by the WSFS Constitution, or useful for the efficient administration of the balloting.

**CH-1995-01**

Balloting is necessary, unless the rules are suspended, even if the number of Mark Protection Committee nominees is the same as the number of seats to fill, since write-ins are allowed.

**CH-1995-02**

It is out of order, unless the rules are suspended, to change an existing working group to a committee.<sup>5</sup>

**CH-1995-03**

It is out of order to amend a motion so as to simply undo an amendment previously adopted at the same session; however, the motion to Reconsider may be available.

**CH-1995-04**

In response to an inquiry as to the meaning of “published in advance” in rules related to the Business Meeting published in advance by the Worldcon Committee, the Chair ruled that such rules would have to be printed with the official documents, and not included by reference, although a reference could be made to an existing parliamentary manual.

**CH-1995-05**

The Chair ruled that the Standing Rules do bind the Worldcon Committee.

**CH-1995-06**

Persons casting site-selection ballots by mail may change their vote as long as practical until the tallying begins.<sup>6</sup>

**1994 WSFS Business Meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
52<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, ConAdian**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Kevin Standlee, Parliamentarian  
Rick Katze, Timekeeper

**BM-1994-01**

**WSFS Electronic Archives**

*Resolved*, the Committee on Motions of Continuing Effect is hereby requested to maintain a list of sites that volunteer to keep public electronic archives of WSFS-related material. Worldcons are requested to transmit to such sites a copy of the

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<sup>5</sup> At the 1994 Business Meeting a resolution was passed creating a “working group” to consider the Standing Rules and report back a consistent version in 1995. The 1995 minutes sometimes refer to this entity as a “working group” and sometimes as a “committee”.

<sup>6</sup> It was pointed out at the 1996 Business Meeting that CH-1995-6 meant it was appropriate to allow a change, not that it was required.

current WSFS Constitution, Standing Rules, Business Passed On, and Business Meeting Minutes whenever new versions are available for distribution. The Committee on Motions of Continuing Effect is also requested to transmit to those same sites a copy of its report on such motions and any other reports deemed appropriate for general distribution. Materials made available electronically are not to contain personal information such as mail address or phone number without the express consent of the individual whose information is to be contained therein.<sup>7</sup>

**BM-1994-02**

*Resolved*, that WSFS strongly encourages prospective Hugo categories to be tested before being submitted to the WSFS Business Meeting.

**1993 WSFS Business Meeting, San Francisco, California**  
**51<sup>st</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, ConFrancisco**

John Lorentz, Presiding Officer  
David Levine, Secretary  
Kevin Standlee, Parliamentarian  
Rick Katze / Jeff Canfield, Timekeepers

**CH-1993-01**, *Obsoleted*.

**CH-1993-02**

A motion to take the vote on an Objection to Consideration by written ballot was ruled to be in order.

**CH-1993-03**

A motion which referred to the place of residence of a named individual was ruled to be in order.

**CH-1993-04**, *Obsoleted*.

**CH-1993-05**

The Chair ruled that a Constitutional provision beginning with the word “Provided” and affecting only one year would automatically disappear from the Constitution after that year.

**1992 WSFS Business Meeting, Orlando, Florida**  
**50<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, MagiCon**

Bruce Pelz, Presiding Officer  
Ben Yalow, Parliamentarian  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Kevin Standlee, Timekeeper

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<sup>7</sup> This responsibility was subsequently transferred to the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee after the NP&FSC was created as a standing committee of the Business Meeting.

**BM-1992-01**, *Obsoleted*.

**BM-1992-02**

The Mark Protection Committee is directed to use its judgement in selecting which marks to protect in which countries to achieve maximum protection with available resources.

**BM-1992-03**

The Mark Protection Committee is authorized to negotiate royalties for commercial use of WSFS marks.

**BM-1992-04**

It was the sense of the meeting that all (unofficial) site-selection results should be posted as soon as they are known. It was noted that future Worldcons could not be bound in this respect.

**CH-1992-01**, *Obsoleted*.

**CH-1992-02**

Ruled in connection with use of the WSFS marks that  
(1) use by Worldcon and bidding committees is not commercial use,  
(2) a blurb of “Hugo Winner” on a book’s cover would not count as commercial use but a book like *The Hugo Award Winners* would be, and  
(3) T-shirts produced for a Worldcon by an outside vendor would be commercial use.

## **1991 WSFS Business Meeting, Chicago, Illinois 49<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon V**

Ross Pavlac, Presiding Officer  
Bruce Pelz, Assistant Presiding Officer  
Yale F. Edeiken, Parliamentarian  
Theresa Renner, Staff Sergeant-at-Arms  
Richard S. Russell, Secretary  
Kevin Standlee, Timekeeper

**BM-1991-01**

*Resolved*, That the Business Meeting recommends that all future Worldcons adopt the practice of validating site-selection ballots as they are received, rather than after site-selection balloting closes.<sup>8</sup>

**CH-1991-01**

Ruled that an Objection to Consideration is still in order, after debate on the time set for a motion, if debate has not touched on the substance of the motion.

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<sup>8</sup> This was right after a particularly lengthy site selection vote that would sometimes be informally called “the Vote Count from Hell”.

**CH-1991-02**

After a tie vote which did not include the podium staff, an attempt was made to add the podium staff votes. A point of order was raised that all who wish to vote must do so at the same time (except that the chair should generally refrain from voting but may then add their single vote if it affects the outcome). This point of order was found to be well taken.

**CH-1991-03**

An objection was raised that the chair should not try to influence the vote while voting is taking place. The chair agreed.

## **1990 WSFS Business Meeting, The Hague, The Netherlands**

### **48<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, ConFiction**

Bruce Pelz, Presiding Officer  
 George Flynn, Secretary  
 Ben Yalow, Parliamentarian  
 Rick Katze, Timekeeper

**CH-1990-01**

A point of order was raised against a motion because the seconder was eleven years old. The chair ruled that the point of order was not well taken as there are no age limits on membership in the society.

## **1989 WSFS Business Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts**

### **47<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Noreascon 3**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
 Bruce Pelz, Deputy Presiding Officer  
 Kent Bloom, Secretary  
 Rick Katze, Timekeeper  
 Theresa Renner, Sergeant-at-Arms

**CH-1989-01**

The chair ruled that any amendment to the Constitution imposing additional financial reporting requirements would not apply to a Worldcon held before the requirement went into effect.

## **1988 WSFS Business Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana**

### **46<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Nolacon II**

Bruce E. Pelz, Presiding Officer  
 Elayne F. Pelz, Secretary  
 Ben Yalow, Parliamentarian

*All RRoCE from the 1988 Business Meeting have been obsoleted.*

**1987 WSFS Business Meeting, Brighton, England**  
**45<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Conspiracy '87**

Tim Stannard, Presiding Officer  
Tim Illingworth, Secretary  
Ben Yalow, Parliamentarian

**CH-1987-01**

The chair ruled that a quorum need not be present to hear reports.

**1986 WSFS Business Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia**  
**44th World Science Fiction Convention, ConFederation**

Bruce E. Pelz, Presiding Officer  
Elayne F. Pelz, Secretary  
Ben Yalow, Parliamentarian

**BM-1986-01**, *Obsoleted.*

**BM-1986-02**

All Worldcon and NASFiC Committees are encouraged to financially support the Mark Registration and Protection Committee.<sup>9</sup>

**1985 WSFS Business Meeting, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia**  
**43rd World Science Fiction Convention, Aussiecon Two**

Jack Herman, Presiding Officer  
Kent Bloom, Secretary  
Donald Eastlake, Parliamentarian

**BM-1985-01**, *Obsoleted.*

**BM-1985-02**

A Committee (to be convened by George Flynn) is requested to (i) compile and maintain a list of resolutions adopted by the Business Meeting which are still in effect, (ii) send copies of this list to each Worldcon, and (iii) make copies available to members of the Society on request.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> The name was later simplified to "Mark Protection Committee".

<sup>10</sup> As originally proposed, the Standing Committee was to perform this task. Mr. Flynn had not agreed to do this, and the task was taken on by Mr. Eastlake. This task was later transferred to a Committee on Motions of Continuing Effect and eventually the Nit Picking and Flyspecking Committee.



**CH-1985-01**

The chair directed that the Mark Registration and Protection Committee should respond to requests for lists of Hugo winners provided that the use of service marks is noted.<sup>11</sup>

**1984 WSFS Business Meeting, Anaheim, California  
42<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, L.A.con II**

Ross Pavlac, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
George Scithers, Parliamentarian  
Bob Hillis, Timekeeper

**BM-1984-01**

The Mark Registration and Protection Committee should be directed concerning pursuit of registration for particular marks only by resolution of the Business Meeting.<sup>12</sup>

**BM-1984-02**

(a) The current Worldcon Committee should be neutral between committees bidding for future Worldcons. It should not request or accept money or supplies from anyone bidding committee without making equivalent opportunity available to any competing committee(s).

(b) This resolution shall not preclude any individual member of a Worldcon Committee from offering his or her services, funds, or supplies to a bidding committee.

(c) This resolution shall not preclude the current Worldcon Committee from accepting the services of a bidding committee or its members, nor shall it preclude a bidding committee from offering services or merchandise to members of a Worldcon.

**CH-1984-01, CH-1984-02, *Obsoleted.***

**CH-1984-03**

A motion to refer a site-selection rotation zone plan to the United Nations was ruled out of order.

**CH-1984-04, *Obsoleted.***

**1983 WSFS Business Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland  
41<sup>st</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, ConStellation**

Kent Bloom, Presiding Officer  
Mary Morman, Secretary

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<sup>11</sup> By a Constitution Amendment passed in 1990 and ratified in 1991, the committee's name was simplified to the Mark Protection Committee.

<sup>12</sup> By a Constitution Amendment passed in 1990 and ratified in 1991, the committee's name was simplified to the Mark Protection Committee.

### **CH-1983-01**

A Constitutional amendment was up for ratification which divided a Hugo category into two new categories. A motion was made to delete one of the new categories. The chair ruled that this was permissible at the ratification stage and that further ratification the following year would not be needed if the change were adopted. The ruling of the chair was appealed, and the assembly overruled the chair, deciding that such a deletion was out of order at the ratification stage in this case.

### **CH-1983-02**

A Constitutional amendment up for ratification was reworded with more neutral language but with no change in meaning. A point of order was raised that this would require it to be ratified again in changed from the following year. The chair ruled this point of order was not well taken.

## **1982 WSFS Business Meeting, Chicago, Illinois 40<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon IV**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Rick Katze, Counsel  
Leslie Turek, Timekeeper  
Paula Lieberman, Sergeant-at-Arms

### **BM-1982-01**

*Whereas* recent Worldcons have had, and future Worldcons can expect to have, significant excess funds following the close of the convention;

*And whereas* there has been considerable debate and discussion in the past about the appropriate uses for these funds;

*And whereas* there are many organizations that would be worthy recipients of such funds;

*And whereas* it is difficult to choose which of the many worthy organizations should receive said funds;

*Be it resolved that* the following organizations are considered by the World Science Fiction Society to be among those worthy to receive donations:<sup>13</sup>

- a. recognized fan charities, such as TAFF, DUFF, GUFF, TOFF and the FAAn Awards;
- b. established national fan organizations, such as the NFFF and the Fantasy Artists Network;

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<sup>13</sup> This motion as originally proposed also listed "Small, established regional conventions;" "Established local fan organizations, especially IRS code 501(c)3-recognized not-for-profit organizations;" and "Local public libraries, for improvements to their science fiction collections;". These were specifically deleted from the list of acceptable recipients by vote of the Business Meeting.

- c. PBS, NPR, and their local affiliates, for the production and/or sponsorship of science fiction programming; and
- d. future Worldcon committees.

**CH-1982-01**, *Obsoleted*.

**CH-1982-02**

The chair ruled that when the procedure of filling a blank is used to determine debate time limits at a Business Meeting, voting should start with the longest time period and proceed to shorter time periods until one obtains a majority.

**CH-1982-03**

The chair ruled that the opinions of the Business Meeting chair as to the meaning of Hugo category definitions are not binding on future Worldcons.

**CH-1982-04**

A motion was introduced that would direct future Worldcons supervising site selection to disqualify any bid that used hotels from a particular chain as the main convention hotel until certain conditions were met. The chair ruled the motion out of order on the grounds that requirements for bidding are specified in the WSFS Constitution and additional criteria cannot be imposed without amending the Constitution.

**CH-1982-05**

A motion to amend the Standing Rules to impose additional criteria for NASFIC bidders to appear on the ballot was ruled out of order by the chair on the grounds that bidding criteria are specified by the Constitution and any additional criteria can only be imposed by Constitutional amendment. (The ruling of the chair was appealed, and the chair was sustained by vote of the assembly.)

**CH-1982-06**

The chair ruled that actual personal signatures are not required on motions submitted in writing as long as the makers of the motion are identified.

**CH-1982-07**

The chair ruled that “generally available” publication means you can get it if you want it, not that there have to be copies for everyone who *might* want it.

## **1981 WSFS Business Meeting, Denver, Colorado**

### **39<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Denvention Two**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Rick Katze, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Bob Hillis, Timekeeper

**CH-1981-01**

The chair ruled that the term “publications” includes everything sent to all members, and also flyers, etc.

**1980 WSFS Business Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts  
38<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Noreascon Two**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
George Flynn, Secretary  
Mike Lalor, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Bob Hillis, Timekeeper

**NOTE-1980-01**

1980 was the first Business Meeting at which a special committee to register and protect the WSFS marks was created. This committee was continued from year to year until a constitutional amendment was adopted in 1982 and ratified in 1983 giving these duties to the Standing Committee. The composition of the Standing Committee was identical to that of the Board of Directors in a new Constitution being considered in those years (see note after BM-1978-01). A further constitutional amendment passed in 1985 and ratified in 1986 changed the name of the committee to the Mark Registration and Protection Committee. A further amendment passed in 1990 and ratified in 1991 simplified the name to the Mark Protection Committee.

**CH-1980-01**, *Obsoleted.*

**CH-1980-02**

The chair ruled that in the case of the adoption of an entire new Constitution for WSFS, general amendments would be in order at the time of ratification.

**CH-1980-03**, *Obsoleted.*

**CH-1980-04**

A motion was introduced to authorize a named individual to select and publish a series of “retrospective Hugos” for the years 1926 through 1951. A point of order was raised that, in light of the WSFS Constitution provisions prohibiting extending the *name* to any award other than that awarded by the mechanism provided in the Constitution, this would require a Constitutional amendment. The chair ruled that this point of order was well taken.

**CH-1980-05**

The chair ruled that allegations of misconduct involving a non-Hugo award administered by a Worldcon are not WSFS Business. (The ruling of the chair was appealed, and the chair was sustained by a vote of 20-1.)

**1979 WSFS Business Meeting, Brighton, England  
37<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Seacon '79**

Donald Eastlake, Presiding Officer  
Rick Katze, Secretary

**NOTE-1979-01**

The written notes of the Secretary and a tape recording of the Business Meeting were both destroyed in an apartment fire before they could be transcribed or distributed. Thus, no minutes exist for this Business Meeting. A note of actions has however been prepared based on Ben Yalow's surviving copy of the Agenda for the Main Meeting, together with his notes.

**1978 WSFS Business Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona  
36<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, IguanaCon II**

Bob Hillis, Presiding Officer  
Donald Eastlake, Secretary  
Jack Speer, Parliamentarian  
Mike Lalor, Timekeeper

**BM-1978-01**

A permanent body, the World Science Fiction Society, Incorporated (WSFS, Inc.) should be established, independent of any Worldcon Committee, whose members will be the members of the current and upcoming Worldcons. The Board of Directors of WSFS, Inc. should be selected by the members of the Society and by current and recent Worldcon Committees.

WSFS, Inc. should be responsible for the administering of voting for selection of the Hugos and the sites of future Worldcons. No change should be made in either Hugos or site selection as a result of the establishment of WSFS, Inc. except as necessary to administer the voting.

In cases of a Worldcon Committee becoming unable to properly manage its designated Convention, either because of internal collapse or misconduct, then, after investigations and due process, the Board of Directors should have the right to remove the name "World Science Fiction Convention" and the awarding of the Hugos, site selection and the holding of the Society's Business Meeting from the control of the guilty Committee and to award them to another responsible group.

**NOTE-1978-01**

As initially passed, this resolution also continued a WSFS Constitution Drafting Committee that had been set up even earlier. This committee existed for a number of years, being chaired by various fans at various times. Ultimately it came up with a full Draft Constitution, a large part of which were debated and perfected at a WSFS Business Meeting. Finally, at the 1983 (??1982) WSFS Business Meeting, a report of the committee was received and the committee dismissed with thanks but no further steps were taken to perfect or adopt the new Constitution. While no steps are being taken to put the above resolution into effect, nothing has ever been done to repeal or contradict it either.

**NOTE-1978-02**

At the 1988 Business Meeting a motion to repeal resolution BM-1978-1 was introduced and defeated.

**NOTE-1978-03**

The 1978 Business Meeting was the one at which the first set of permanent Standing Rules for the Governance of the WSFS Business Meeting, as provided in the Constitution, were adopted.

## **1977 WSFS Business Meeting, Miami Beach, Florida**

### **35<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, SunCon**

Bob Hillis, Presiding Officer  
Larry Smith, Secretary

#### **NOTE-1977-01**

Minutes are not available for the 1977 Business Meeting. The below items are based on notes made by Bob Hillis after consultation with Larry Smith

#### **CH-1977-01**

The Convention Chairman asserted a right to co-preside at the Business Meeting without replacing the Presiding Officer.

#### **CH-1977-02**

The chair ruled that an Objection to Consideration could not be made unless good reasons for the objection were given. The ruling of the chair was appealed, and the chair was overruled.

## **1976 WSFS Business Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri**

### **34<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, MidAmeriCon**

Bob Hillis, Presiding Officer  
Larry Smith, Secretary  
George Scithers, Parliamentarian

#### **NOTE-1976-01**

Minutes are not available for the 1976 Business Meeting. The below items are based on notes made by Bob Hillis after consultation with Larry Smith.

#### **NOTE-1976-02**

This Business Meeting adopted a set of Standing Rules, asserting its authority over its own procedures, but these were not yet provided for in the Constitution.

#### **CH-1976-01**

Immediately after calling the meeting to order, the Presiding Officer asked for and received a unanimous vote to the effect that the Constitution printed in program book was invalid and that a document distributed to the Business Meeting was the valid current Constitution with a set of pending amendments as passed in 1975 at Aussiecon. (A minor correction was later made, after researching the original language passed in 1972 at LACon I, in the wording of the separate eligibility of the English language translation of a work originally published in a language other than English.)

#### **NOTE-1976-03**

Previous practice was to incorporate all changes in the text of the Constitution with the understanding that the change was not binding on the next Worldcon unless it wished to observe this. Considerable confusion resulted. In addition, there had been attempts to adopt major changes at DisCon II in 1974 and Aussiecon in 1975 while bypassing the one-year delay. Bill Brown had ruled that changes made at DisCon II needed to be ratified but changes at Aussiecon went into effect immediately.

## **CH-1976-02**

The chair ruled that amendments could be offered to constitutional amendments pending ratification provided that the proposed change would constitute a lesser change from the existing Constitution than the original language passed the previous year.

## **1974 WSFS Business Meeting, Washington, DC 32th World Science Fiction Convention, Discon II**

Dick Eney, Presiding Officer

### **NOTE-1974-01**

The only business transacted was the adoption of a new Constitution. Key provisions were as follows:

- The Hugo categories are limited to 10, but category definitions are left to the discretion of the responsible Convention Committee.
- The Rotation Plan is stabilized by regularizing the custom of holding a noncompetitive Continental Con<sup>14</sup> in North America during years when the Worldcon goes overseas.
- A mail ballot referendum system for amending the Constitution is set up.

## **1942-1945 No Meetings**

**Due to World War II, there were no Worldcons in these three years.**

## **1941 WSFS Meeting, Denver, Colorado 3<sup>rd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Denvention I**

Olon F. Wiggins, Chair

### **NOTE-1941-01**

The first several Worldcon had quite small attendance and had a single-track program. There were no Hugo Awards, no Constitution, or other rules, and no separate Business Meeting. Approval of the site and committee for the following year was done at a meeting of the whole Society as an open program session.

## **1940 WSFS Meeting, Chicago, Illinois 2<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon I**

Mark Reinsberg, Chair

### **NOTE-1940-01**

The first several Worldcon had quite small attendance and had a single-track program. There were no Hugo Awards, no Constitution or other rules, and no separate Business Meeting. Approval of the site and committee for the following year was done at a meeting of the whole Society as an open program session.

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<sup>14</sup> The "Continental Con" was later renamed the North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC).

# 1939 WSFS Meeting, New York, New York

## 1<sup>st</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, Nycon I

Sam Moskowitz, Chair

### NOTE-1939-01

The first several Worldcon had quite small attendance and had a single-track program. There were no Hugo Awards, no Constitution, or other rules, and no separate Business Meeting. Approval of the site and committee for the following year was done at a meeting of the whole Society as an open program session.

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