

MD105 By-Laws



Chairman

- 1 The Chairman of the Council or in his absence the most recent past Chairman of Council available shall preside at Convention.

Circulation of Papers relevant to MD Convention business

- 2 Circulation of MD Convention Call, papers calling for details of Club Delegates, Alternates and other Lions attending MD Convention and notification of Resolutions or Nominations to be debated at MD Convention or any other documentation relating to MD Convention or the business to be conducted thereat ("*the Convention Documentation*") may be undertaken either by electronic mail or normal post at the appropriate times during the year unless a Club shall send a written request to MDHQ not to receive the Convention Documentation by electronic means in which case club(s) will continue to be provided with printed versions by the postal system.

Proposers of Resolutions/Amendments

- 3 Each resolution or amendment shall be proposed and seconded as follows:-
 - (a) By nominees on behalf of the Council;
 - (b) By nominees on behalf of a District Cabinet (or of two Districts when a resolution is sponsored by more than one District);
 - (c) Proposed by a delegate from a Club and seconded by a delegate from another Club.

Movement or Withdrawal of Resolutions/Amendments

- 4
 - (a) If no delegates are present from a Club submitting a resolution/amendment then, unless that Club advises the Resolutions Officer in writing at least ten days before the commencement of Convention of the names of an alternative proposer from another Club, other than the Club seconding the resolution/amendment, the resolution/amendment shall be withdrawn unless Convention shall otherwise decide. With this one exception no resolution/amendment shall be withdrawn without the consent of Convention.
 - (b) If a resolution be withdrawn with the consent of Convention and there is an amendment to that resolution then that amendment shall become the substantive resolution.
 - (c) All resolutions/amendments shall be moved and seconded before consideration by Convention, and not more than one resolution/amendment shall be discussed at one time.
 - (d) A delegate shall not move more than one amendment to any resolution nor shall the mover of a resolution move any amendment to such resolution.



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Emergency Resolutions/Amendments

- 5 The Chairman shall have discretion to submit an emergency resolution/amendment for consideration at Convention provided:
- Where appropriate, the resolution/amendment was received by him in writing before the commencement of the opening session of Convention and
 - In his opinion the resolution/amendment could not reasonably have been submitted to the Resolutions Officer on or before the closing dates published for their receipt by him, and
 - Convention consents by a majority of registered delegates present to the resolution/amendment being so considered.

Voting

- 6 The voting on any resolution/amendment on general business shall be by a show of Delegate Cards of those present and voting and the Chairman shall declare the result or order a count. If the Chairman's declaration is challenged by twenty or more delegates the votes shall be counted.

Elections

- 7 Any elections of candidates for office, or for the selection of persons or clubs for positions or duties, shall be by secret ballot and the election, or selection, shall be carried out by the method commonly called the Single Transferable Vote or Preferential Voting or the Alternative Vote.

Casting Vote

- 8 In the event of a tie following a show of hands or secret ballot the Chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

Motion to Proceed to Next Business

- 9 Any delegate, provided he has not already spoken on the matter under discussion, may move at any time that Convention proceed to the next business, and if this resolution be seconded and carried the Chairman shall put the matter to Convention. If the matter under discussion is a resolution (or is an amendment which has become a substantive resolution under paragraph 3(b) above), and a motion to proceed to next business is carried, the Chairman shall give the proposer of the resolution the right to reply before putting the matter to a vote.

Questions and Points of Order

- 10 Any delegate may at any time ask a question or raise a point of order through the Chair but must confine the question or point of order to the subject before Convention.



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Quorum

11 A minimum of one hundred and fifty (150) delegates in attendance at Convention shall constitute a quorum. If such a quorum is found not to be present during any session of Convention during which matters requiring a vote by registered delegate remain to be dealt with, the Chairperson shall immediately declare that Convention Stands Adjourned – until a time and place to be determined by the Council of Governors.

Multiple District Convention Standing Orders

Chairman

- 1 The Chairman shall have discretion in selecting speakers; in deciding on the number of speakers to any resolution/amendment; and in terminating discussion whenever he considers it appropriate.
- 2 The Chairman being entirely neutral shall not be a delegate of his Club and if at any time he wishes to express a personal opinion on a matter under discussion he shall vacate the chair for this purpose.
- 3 Resolutions to be taken as read.

Speakers

- 4 On the Chairman standing any speaker shall yield to the chair and immediately resume his seat.
- 5 (a) Any delegate wishing to speak on any resolution/amendment or other matter of business must use a microphone, announce his name and Club, and address the Chair.
(b) The Multiple District Constitution, Nominations and Resolutions Officer shall be exempted from announcing his name and Club when addressing Convention in the direct course of his duties with the proviso that he shall announce his name and Club on the first such occasion.
(c) If a member of the Council wishes to speak on any resolution/ amendment or any other matter of business he shall state whether he is representing the views of Council or otherwise.

Delegate to speak once only

- 6 (a) Subject only to the provision of By-Law 9 a delegate shall not speak more than once to the same resolution/amendment without the consent of Convention.
(b) Only the Chairman, or the mover of a resolution exercising his right of reply, shall speak more than once on any resolution.

Time limits for speeches

- 7 (a) The proposer of a resolution/amendment will be permitted a maximum of three minutes to put his case, and after doing so shall formally move the resolution/amendment. Normally the seconder will second the resolution without being called to the rostrum and may exercise the right to speak in the debate by '*catching the eye of the Chairman*'. At the conclusion of the debate and before a vote is taken the proposer of a resolution shall have the right of reply for the purpose of answering questions or clarifying points raised. He will not be permitted to introduce fresh arguments and shall not be allowed more than two minutes for this purpose.



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- (b) The mover of an amendment shall not be entitled to the right of reply except when an original resolution has been displaced by an amendment which has become a substantive resolution in accordance with By-Law
- (c) when the right of reply ensues to the mover of the amendment.
- 8 (a) With the exception of the time limits stated in Standing Order 6 (a) every speaker in general debate will be limited to two minutes and must direct his speech strictly to the report/resolution/amendment under discussion.
- (b) The times specified for speakers shall be exceeded only with the approval of Convention.

Application to District Conventions

- 9 These Standing Orders shall apply to any District Convention where any matters covered in these Standing Orders are not dealt with satisfactorily in the relevant District Constitution, By-Laws or Standing Orders.

Suspension of Standing Orders

- 10 Any one or more of these Standing Orders may be suspended by resolution of Convention in relation to a specific item of business properly before Convention provided that at least two-thirds of the delegates present and voting shall vote for the resolution.

