

UNW 17th Triennial Convention Information for Delegates

Delegate Series #9: PRIORITY OF PROCEDURAL MATTERS

ADJOURN:	A motion which takes precedence over all other motions, it is used to end a meeting. When moved and seconded it must be voted on immediately.
QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE:	Members may raise a question of privilege to correct inaccuracies or to explain circumstances she or he deems to bear upon her or him detrimentally, or which reflect improperly upon the union as a whole. Such questions can also concern matters which affect the ability of a delegate to perform their duties. The Chair decides whether a question involves privilege.
APPEAL:	A delegate who disagrees with a ruling of the Chair may rise to appeal the ruling. An appeal requires a seconder but cannot be debated. The mover (appellant) and the Chair may give reasons for their respective positions. In effect, an Appeal asks convention to determine whether a ruling of the Chair is to be upheld.
POINT OF ORDER:	A member can call the attention of the Chair to a departure from the Rules of Order or accepted Parliamentary procedure. Doing so does not require a seconder and must be immediately ruled upon by the Chair.
SUSPEND THE RULES:	A motion to suspend the Rules requires a seconder and normally requires unanimous consent of all delegates. Rules are suspended to accomplish a single, urgent goal and once it is done, the Rule(s) becomes operable again.
TABLE:	A motion to Table defers consideration of an item of business indefinitely. It must be seconded and is not debatable. Once tabled, a question cannot be considered unless there is a motion adopted to lift it from the table.
PREVIOUS QUESTION:	This is a non-debatable motion which is used to cut-off debate on the question (main motion) before the convention. If adopted by a majority, debate ceases and the motion is immediately voted upon. If the Previous Question is not adopted, debate continues. The Previous Question cannot be moved a second time on a motion unless there has been an intervening item of business, e.g., a motion to table.
POSTPONE:	This is similar to a motion to table except that the deferment is always for a definite time period. The postponed question is automatically placed on the agenda of the sitting at the time specified in the motion to postpone.

<p>REFER:</p>	<p>This motion is used to delegate or “commit” a question (e.g., a resolution) to a person or body for action or study. A report is expected at a subsequent sitting. A motion to refer may include instructions, must be seconded, and is debatable only with regard to advisability or propriety.</p>
<p>AMENDMENT:</p>	<p>An amendment to a motion revises or alters it. Amendments must be relevant to, and must not have the effect of contradicting or negating the main motion. (Note: Committee recommendations cannot be amended but may be referred back to the committee with instructions).</p>
<p>MAIN MOTION:</p>	<p>The main motion is the proposition before the Convention and is often referred to as “the question”. Main motions must be seconded, are always debatable, and are subject to all the procedural motions listed here.</p>
<p>RECONSIDER:</p>	<p>A meeting can reconsider a previous decision, but can only do so after there has been a notice of motion. Such notice must be given at a sitting prior to the sitting at which the motion to reconsider is to be proposed. The motion must be moved and seconded by individuals who voted on the prevailing side when the original motion was carried or defeated.</p>
<p>RESCIND:</p>	<p>A motion to rescind is used to repeal an outdated regulation, practice or custom. It also must be preceded by a notice of motion.</p>
<p>NOTICE OF MOTION:</p>	<p>To give “notice” is to advise Convention that a delegate intends to raise a specific item of business at a future sitting. Some business requires that notice be given. Giving notice does not require a seconder and is not debatable.</p>