

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS STANDARD CODE OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

BASIC RULES GOVERNING MOTIONS								
Order of Precedence¹	Can Interrupt?	Requires a Second?	Debatable	Amendable?	Vote Required?	Applies to what other motions?	Can have what other motions applied to it?	Renewable?
Privileged Motions 1. Adjourn 2. Recess 3. Question of privilege	No No Yes	Yes Yes No	Yes ² Yes ² No	Yes ² Yes ² No	Majority Majority None	None None None	Amend, close debate, limit debate Amend, close debate, limit debate None	Yes Yes ⁶ Yes
Subsidiary Motions 4. Table 5. Close debate 6. Limit or Extend debate 7. Postpone to a certain time 8. Refer to committee 9. Amend	No No No No No No	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	No No Yes ² Yes ² Yes ² Yes ³	No No Yes ² Yes ² Yes ² Yes	2/3 2/3 2/3 Majority Majority Majority	Main motion Debatable motions Debatable motions Main motion Main motion Rewordable motions	None None Amend, close debate Amend, close debate, limit debate Amend, close debate, limit debate Amend, close debate, limit debate	No Yes Yes ⁶ Yes ⁶ Yes ⁶ No ⁶
Main Motions 10. a. The main motion b. Specific main motions Amend a previous action Adopt in-lieu-of Ratify Recall from committee Reconsider Rescind	No No No No No Yes ⁴ No	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes ² Yes ² Yes	Yes Yes Yes Yes No No No	Majority Majority Same Vote Same Vote Majority Majority Same Vote	None None Adopted main motion Adopted main motion Referred main motion Vote on main motion Adopted main motion	Subsidiary Subsidiary Subsidiary Subsidiary Close debate, limit debate Close debate, limit debate Subsidiary, except amend	No No No No No No No
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS								
No order of precedence	Can Interrupt?	Requires a Second?	Debatable	Amendable?	Vote Required?	Applies to what other motions?	Can have what other motions applied to it?	Renewable?
Motions Appeal Suspend the rules Consider informally	Yes No No	Yes Yes Yes	Yes No No	No No No	Majority ⁷ 2/3 Majority	Ruling of chair Procedural rules Main Motion or subject	Close debate, limit debate None None	No Yes Yes
Requests Point of order Inquiries Withdraw a motion Division of question Division of assembly	Yes Yes Yes No Yes	No No No No No	No No No No No	No No No No No	None None None ⁸ None ⁸ None ⁸	Procedural error All motions All motions Main motion Indecisive vote	None None None None None	No No No No No

¹ Motions are in order only if no motion higher on the list is pending. Thus, if a motion to close debate is pending, a motion to amend would be out of order; but a motion to recess would be in order, since it outranks the pending motion.

² Restricted.

³ Is not debatable when applied to an undebatable motion.

⁴ A member may interrupt the proceedings but not a speaker.

⁵ Withdraw may be applied to all motions.

⁶ Renewable at the discretion of the presiding officer.

⁷ A tie or majority vote sustains the ruling of the presiding officer; a majority vote in the negative reverses the ruling.

⁸ If decided by the assembly, by motion, requires a majority vote to adopt.