

Rules of Order

RULES OF ORDER FOR CONVENTION

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5 I. On the first day of the Convention, the Holy Eucharist shall be celebrated.

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7 II. At the time appointed, the delegates shall assemble for the organization of the Convention
8 and the transaction of business. The Presiding Officer shall call the Convention to order and
9 ascertain if there is a quorum present, and upon it appearing that there is a quorum present as
10 required by Article VI of the Constitution, the Convention shall elect a Secretary and shall then
11 proceed with the transaction of the business of Convention as set out in the Canons and these
12 Rules of Order.

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14 III. Convention shall elect officers as provided in the Constitution and Canons.

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16 IV. The Bishop shall appoint all Committees unless otherwise provided by Constitution or
17 Canon.

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19 V. The Presiding Officer of Convention shall be determined in accordance with Article IV of
20 the Constitution of the Diocese.

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22 VI. The order of business proposed by the Presiding Officer and adopted by the Convention
23 shall be the regular order of business, subject to change by the Presiding Officer as provided in
24 Rule XXI or by majority vote of the Convention.

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26 VII. After the Presiding Officer has taken the chair, no member shall continue standing, except
27 to address the chair.

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29 VIII. Speakers shall address the chair, and shall confine themselves to the point in debate.

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31 (1) No motion shall be considered unless seconded, and if required, reduced to writing. All
32 resolutions, except resolutions presented in conjunction with Department, Committee and Com-
33 mission reports that are given on the second legislative day, memorials and resolutions of appre-
34 ciation, shall be introduced on the first legislative day of the Annual Convention and voted on
35 the second legislative day. Those resolutions presented in conjunction with Department, Com-
36 mittee and Commission reports that are given on the second legislative day shall be voted on by
37 the Convention on the second legislative day. All resolutions regardless of type shall be made
38 in writing.

1 (2) Any delegate may submit a resolution on or before December 31 prior to the Annual Con-
2 vention by submitting it in writing to the Secretary of Convention. Resolutions received by
3 December 31 will be published prior to the Annual Convention.

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5 (3) Resolutions submitted after December 31 must be signed by ten delegates from three differ-
6 ent parishes, and submitted to the Secretary of Convention no later than 10:00 AM on the first
7 legislative day of Convention for introduction.

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9 IX. When the Presiding Officer is putting any question to a vote, the members shall continue in
10 their seats, and shall not hold any private conversation.

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12 X. When a question is under consideration, no other motion shall be in order, except a motion
13 to lay on the table, to postpone to a certain time, to postpone indefinitely, to commit, to amend,
14 or to divide; and motions for any of these purpose shall have precedence in the order herein
15 named. The motions to lay on the table and to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be
16 decided without debate; and of these the motion to adjourn shall take precedence.

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18 XI. If the question under debate contains several distinct propositions, the same shall be divided
19 at the request of any member, and a vote taken separately, except that a motion to strike out and
20 insert shall be inadvisable.

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22 XII. All motions to amend shall be made in writing and, after being read to the Convention,
23 shall be immediately submitted to the Secretary of Convention. All motions to amend shall be
24 considered in the order in which they are made.

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26 XIII. When a proposed motion to amend is under consideration, a substitute to the whole matter
27 may be received. Any motion to substitute shall be made in writing and, after being read to the
28 Convention, shall be immediately submitted to the Secretary of the Convention.

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30 XIV. A motion to reconsider any vote shall not be in order, except on the same day on which
31 the vote is taken. Provided, always that a vote or question may be reconsidered at any time by
32 the consent of two-thirds of the Convention, provided further, that no motion to reconsider shall
33 be made on the last day of the Convention, except on a vote or question taken on that day.

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35 XV. The reports of all committees shall be in writing and shall be received without motion for
36 acceptance, unless recommitted. All reports recommending or requiring any action or expres-
37 sion of opinion by the Convention shall be accompanied by a corresponding resolution.

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39 XVI. The Presiding Officer shall decide all questions of order without debate, but any member
40 may appeal the decision. On such appeal no member shall speak more than once without leave.

1 XVII. No member shall be absent from the session of the Convention without leave of the Pre-
2 siding Officer. When the Convention is about to rise, every member shall keep his or her seat
3 until the Presiding Officer leaves the chair.

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5 XVIII. On motion duly put and carried, the Convention may resolve itself into a Committee of
6 the Whole, with or without closed doors, for the purpose of discussing such subjects as may be
7 approved by the Convention.

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9 XIX. The Presiding Officer may select and announce subjects for discussion: Provided, that if
10 the motion to go into a Committee of the Whole has specified the subject to be discussed, that
11 subject shall be disposed of.

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13 XX. The rules of order or any one of them may be suspended by a majority vote of the Conven-
14 tion whenever the Presiding Officer decides that an urgent matter should come before that Con-
15 vention for prompt action.

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17 XXI. The Presiding Officer may in his or her discretion, to expedite the business of the Con-
18 vention, transpose the regular order of business.

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20 XXII. Where a question arises which is not controlled by any of the existing rules of order, the
21 Diocesan Convention shall follow the rules of the General Church pertaining to said question,
22 and if it has no rules applicable thereto, then the Diocesan Convention shall be governed by the
23 current edition of Roberts Rules of Order.

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