

# Simple Parliamentary Procedures Cheat Sheet

(Adapted from *Rosenberg's Rules of Order: Simple Parliamentary Procedures for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*)

## Meeting Basics

Establish a quorum

Call meeting to order

Move through agenda

Adjourn meeting

## Motions 101

Basic  
Motions

- Basic motion on agenda item
- Motion to amend
- Substitute motion

Meeting  
Motions

- Motion to adjourn
- Motion to recess
- Motion to fix the time to adjourn
- Motion to table

Super  
Majority  
Motions

- Motion to limit debate
- Motion to close nominations
- Motion to object to the consideration of a question
- Motion to suspend the rules

## Agenda Item Discussions

1. **Announce Agenda Item:** Chair clearly states agenda item number and subject.
2. **Reports and Recommendations:** Relevant speaker gives report and provides recommendations.
3. **Questions and Answers:** Technical questions from members are asked and addressed.
4. **Public Comment:** Chair allows public comment and input under the terms of the Board's policy for such comment.
5. **Motions and Action Items:**
  - a. **Motions Introduced:** Chair invites motion from body, and announces name of member introducing motion.
  - b. **Seconds:** If motion is seconded, Chair announces name of seconding member.
  - c. **Motions Clarified:** Seconded motion is clarified by maker of motion, Chair, or secretary/clerk.
  - d. **Amendments and Substitutions:** Other members may propose amended or substitute motions.
  - e. **Discussion and Vote:** Members discuss motion. Chair announces that vote will occur. Members vote on the last motion on the floor (a substitute motion) first, and if that does not pass, vote on the next-to-last motion, and so on.
  - f. **Ayes and Nays:** Chair takes vote by asking for "ayes," "nays," or "abstentions." Unless super majority required, simple majority determines whether motion passes.
  - g. **Results and Actions:** Chair announces result of vote and action the body has taken. Names of dissenters should be announced as well. *Example: "The motion passes by a vote of 3-2, with Smith and Jones dissenting. We have passed the motion requiring 10 days' notice for all future meetings of this governing body."*
6. **Repeat:** Begin process again with next agenda item.

A motion can be made and seconded by any member.