

Chart #1: The Ranking Motions

Characteristics:		In order when another has the floor	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Vote required for adoption	Can be reconsidered
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS:							
13.	Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	Yes
12.	Adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No
11.	Recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
10.	Question of Privilege	Yes	No	No	No	—	No
9.	Call for Orders of the Day	Yes	No	No	No	—	No
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS:							
8.	Lay on the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No
7.	Previous Question (“Call the Question”)	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes
6.	Limit or Extend Limits of Debate	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	Yes
5.	Postpone Definitely	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
4.	Refer (or Commit)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes ¹
3.	Amend	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes	Maj	Yes
2.	Postpone Indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Maj	Yes ³
1.	MAIN MOTION	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes

¹ Cannot be reconsidered if the committee has already begun its work.

² No if the motion being amended is not debatable—such as a motion to limit debate.

³ Only an affirmative vote on this motion may be reconsidered.

Chart #2: Some Common Additional Motions

Characteristics:	In order when another has the floor	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Vote required for adoption	Can be reconsidered
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS:						
Appeal a Ruling of the Chair	Yes	Yes	Yes ⁴	No	Maj	Yes
Close Nominations or Polls	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	No
Consider by Paragraph (or Consider “Seriatim”)	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
Divide the Question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
Division of the Assembly	Yes	No	No	No	—	No
Object to Consideration ⁵	Yes	No	No	No	2/3	Yes ⁶
Request for Information or Parliamentary Inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	—	No
Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	—	No
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
MOTIONS THAT BRING A QUESTION AGAIN BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY:						
Reconsider	No	Yes	Yes ⁷	No	Maj	No
Rescind or Amend Something Previously Adopted	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 ⁸	Yes
Take from the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No

⁴ If the motion upon which the ruling was made is debatable.

⁵ Can only be made before any debate has begun.

⁶ Only a vote sustaining the objection can be reconsidered.

⁷ If the motion being reconsidered is debatable.

⁸ Majority vote with previous notice or a majority of the entire membership.