

**RULES OF CONVENTION**

1. The Chairperson or, in his/her absence or at his/her request, the Vice-Chairperson, shall take the Chair at the time specified at all regular and special Conventions. In the absence of either the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, the Chair shall make the interim appointment, subject to Convention approval. In the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, the President or his appointee shall appoint a pro-tem Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson subject to Convention approval. (January 1988)
2. When a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice-Chair, an election shall be held immediately at the present Convention or, if vacated between Conventions, as the first order of business at the next TWU Convention. (March 2003)
- \*3. When recognized by the Chair, the delegate shall identify themselves and when speaking shall confine their remarks to the question at issue. (March 2003)
- \*4. No question of a sectarian nature shall be discussed.
- \*5. Speeches shall be limited to three (3) minutes except in moving a motion, when the member shall be allowed five (5) minutes. When making a report, there shall be no time limit. (January 1993)
- \*6. A member shall not speak more than once on a subject until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so. If the mover of the motion has not exercised their right to speak, the Chair may recognize them at any time. (March 2003)
- \*7. A member shall not interrupt another except to call a point of order or urgent point of privilege.
- \*8. If a member be called to order, they shall at the request of the Chair take their seat until the question of order has been decided. (March 2003)
- \*9. Should a member persist in unparliamentary conduct, the Chair will be compelled to name them and submit their conduct to the judgement of the Convention. In such case, the member whose conduct is in question should explain and then withdraw, and the Convention will determine what course to pursue in the matter. (March 2003)
- \*10. If the report of a Committee is adopted, it becomes the decision of the Convention. If defeated, it may be referred back to the Committee for reconsideration.
- \*11. Unless otherwise specified, any decision taken by the Convention shall take effect immediately upon adjournment of the Convention.
- \*12. When a motion to reconsider is approved by a 66-2/3% majority the motion may be reconsidered immediately. (March 2003)



13. Committees may combine resolutions or prepare a composite to cover the intent of the question at issue. Reports of Committees are not subject to amendment, but a motion to refer back to the Committee with guidance for reconsideration shall be in order.
14. A motion to refer back is not debatable except as to advisability to refer and, when properly seconded, the question shall be immediately put to the Convention.
15. When a question is put, the Chair, after announcing the question, shall ask: "Are you ready for the question?" If no delegate wishes to speak, the question shall be put. (March 2003)
16. Questions may be decided by a show of hands, or a standing vote on the basis of one vote per delegate.
17. Any delegate may appeal the decision of the Chair. When a challenge to the Chair is made, the Chair at the time shall step aside, and the Vice-Chair shall take the Chair. The question shall then be put thus: "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?" The question shall not be debatable except that the Chair and challenger may make an explanation for their actions. (March 2003)
18. Emergency Resolutions shall be dealt with as the last order of business before Good of the Order and adjournment.

Emergency Resolutions shall be presented in writing to the Chair prior to being placed on the floor.

Emergency Resolutions shall be defined as resolutions dealing with issues that had not arisen by the deadlines set for Convention and shall be of such a pressing nature as to require a decision at the present Convention.  
(January 1996)

19. Good of the Order shall only include non-contentious issues, announcements or notice of Emergency Resolutions. Any resolution to be considered under Good of the Order shall be submitted in writing to the Chair prior to being placed on the floor. (January 1996)
20. In case of a tie vote, the Chair shall cast the deciding vote. (March 2003)
21. When the previous question is moved, no discussion or amendment of either motion is permitted. If the majority vote that "the question be now put", the original motion has to be put without debate. If the motion to put the question is defeated, discussion shall continue on the original motion. (January 1996)
22. When voting on Committee Reports, delegates shall vote on the body of the report separately. The delegates shall then vote on any recommendations contained in or attached to the Report. Voting shall be on the Committees' recommendations of either concurrence or non-concurrence.

If a Committee recommendation of non-concurrence is defeated, a motion to refer back to the Committee with direction is in order. (June 1990)



23. All elections shall be by majority vote. When an insufficient number of candidates poll a majority vote on the first ballot, the candidate(s) polling the least number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot. This process shall continue for all succeeding ballots. The number of candidates dropped shall be at the discretion of the Chair, subject to appeal from the floor and this number shall be announced prior to each round of balloting being taken.
24. When the doors are locked for an election, they shall remain locked until that ballot in progress has been completed. The Chair in consultation with Credential **Chair** shall issue suitable warning to all delegates, prior to locking of the doors for the purpose of that election. (March 2003)
25. A motion to suspend the regular Rules of Convention or to suspend regular business shall require a sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66-2/3%) vote of Convention.
- \*26. Any situation not governed by the preceding shall be governed by Bourinot's Rules of Order. (January 1996)

**\*NOTE:** Any changes contemplated to those marked (\*) Convention Rules of Order, will require a Constitutional change. (March 2003)