

AVICC CONFERENCE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING RESOLUTIONS

GENERAL RULES

1. Sessions will begin and end promptly at the scheduled hours.
2. Delegates will use the floor microphones when speaking.
3. All elected officials of members attending the Annual Meeting of the Association shall be delegates entitled to participate in debates and to vote on any matter before the Meeting. [Bylaws s. 23] Other delegates shall not be entitled to the privilege of the floor unless authorized by the Meeting. Guest speakers may be permitted at the direction of the Executive.
4. At all business sessions of the Meeting, fifty-one delegates shall constitute a quorum. [Bylaws s. 16 (3)]

VOTING RULES

5. Only elected officials of members are entitled to vote. [Bylaws s. 23]
6. Voting on ordinary resolutions normally shall be by a show of hands (holding the voting card) and the Chair's decision as to whether a motion is won or lost is final unless, immediately upon the decision of the Chair being declared, ten or more voting delegates then present, by standing, demand a standing vote, whereupon the Chair shall again put the same question to the Meeting to be decided by a count of those standing in favour of and against the motion. In the event that the result of the standing vote is questioned by twenty-five or more voting delegates then present, or at any time in the discretion of the Chair, the Chair shall order that the matter before the Meeting be determined by ballot, and the result of such ballot shall be final.
7. Where voting is by ballot, scrutineers shall be appointed by the Chair to distribute the ballot, collect the same, and to count and report the vote.
8. In all cases, where the votes of delegates then present, including the vote of the Chair, are equal for and against a question, the question shall be negatived, and it shall be the duty of the Chair to so declare.
9. No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed [Bylaws s. 22(3)].
10. When voting by show of hands all delegates shall hold their voting card. In the case of a ballot, the voting card must be presented and initialed by the scrutineers before a ballot is issued.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

11. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Association, its Executive and Committees, so far as they may be applicable without coming into conflict with the Constitution or rules adopted by the Association. [Bylaws s.67]
12. The Presiding Officer shall enforce order and strict observance of the Constitution and Rules and Procedures. Subject to an appeal to the meeting sustained by a majority vote of delegates present, the Presiding Officer shall have the right to decide all questions of order and the Officer's rulings in this regard shall be final.
13. A delegate wishing to move, second or speak to a motion shall arise and address the Chair and shall wait until he or she is recognized before speaking. Delegates must announce their name, local government office and membership or other qualifications each time they rise to speak.
14. Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of three minutes; including the introducer of a motion.
15. No delegate may speak more than once on any one question unless and until all other delegates desiring to speak have been heard.
16. Any amendment and any motion to withdraw any resolution from consideration of the meeting or to refer the same to the Resolutions Committee, or to any other committee, and any motion affecting the resolution must be moved and seconded from the Meeting Floor.
17. Should discussion continue on any resolution for an undue length of time without reasonable agreement being reached, the resolution may be cleared from the floor by a favourable vote to refer the resolution to the Resolutions Committee for further consideration and report.

(Note: Because the time factor does not allow the Resolutions Committee to properly reconsider resolutions, a motion to refer to the Committee will only be accepted in the event adjournment is imminent and there are regular resolutions which have not been dealt with.)

HANDLING OF RESOLUTIONS STEP-BY-STEP RULES

PRECEDENCE OF RESOLUTIONS

18. Resolutions shall be dealt with in numerical order. However, two or more similar resolutions, addressing the same subject matter may be dealt with by a single resolution. [i.e. Resolution #14 covers resolution #15 and #16 then only resolution #14 will be considered by the Meeting.]

PROCEDURES FOR RESOLUTIONS PRINTED IN THE RESOLUTIONS BOOK

19. The Chair will cause the title and the "enactment" clause of the resolution to be read.
20. The resolution will after reading be properly before the Meeting and will not require a mover or a seconder.
21. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the views of the Resolutions Committee together with any suggestions and reasons therefore.
22. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from the sponsoring member to introduce the resolution.
23. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.
24. The Chair will then call for discussion from the floor.
25. If there are not speakers opposed to the motion the Chair may call the question. Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure" (steps 11 to 17) Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of three minutes. Voting on the resolution shall proceed in accordance with the "Voting Rules" (steps 5 to 10).
Voting is on the resolution, **NOT** on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.

PROCEDURES FOR LATE RESOLUTIONS

26. Resolutions submitted following the expiry of the regular deadline shall be considered "Late Resolutions" and shall comply with all other submission requirements, except that a copy of the resolution shall be provided to the AVICC by the Wednesday noon preceding the date of the Annual Meeting.
27. Late Resolutions shall be available for discussion after resolutions printed in the resolutions book have been considered but not before the time printed in the Meeting Program for consideration of Late Resolutions. Late Resolutions shall be dealt with only if the Meeting so decides.
28. Late resolutions are deemed to be appropriate for discussion only if the topic is such that it has arisen since or was not known prior to the regular deadline date for submission of resolutions.
29. Late Resolutions admitted for plenary discussion shall be dealt with in the order presented in the Late Resolutions Report.
30. In the event that a late resolution is recommended to be admitted for discussion, the sponsor shall produce sufficient copies for distribution to the Convention.
31. The Chair will cause the title and "enactment" clause of the Late Resolution to be read by a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee.

32. The Late Resolution will after reading be properly before the Meeting and the procedures for handling resolutions will apply (Steps 20 to 25).

FOR RESOLUTIONS NOT PRINTED IN THE RESOLUTIONS BOOK

33. Any delegate may, during a Meeting, put forward any motion which, if duly seconded, shall be dealt with as follows: The Chair shall put the question - "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for discussion?" - and such question shall require a three-quarters majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Meeting [Bylaws s. 21 (6)].

At the discretion of the Chair any such motion shall be submitted in writing and copies may be required to be provided to all delegates present before consideration thereof.

34. Notwithstanding the foregoing the Executive may submit any matters not requiring Special Resolution to any Meeting for consideration or action at any time.

FOR SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

35. All resolutions originating at a Meeting workshop or seminar that is not held as a regular plenary session shall be referred to the Executive unless handled pursuant to Steps 33 or 34.
36. **AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS:** Any amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws may only be made pursuant to Special Resolution duly adopted by the Association. [Bylaws s. 70].
37. **SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS:** Notice of Special Resolutions intended to be submitted for consideration shall be given in writing to the Secretary not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the date fixed for the Annual meeting, and shall be included in the printed material sent to members by the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Meeting [Bylaws s. 21]. A favourable majority vote of the delegates then present shall be necessary to adopt a Special Resolution. [Bylaws s. 65].