

## MOTIONS IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE - OR - “HOW TO ACTUALLY GET THINGS DONE”

| Action                                         | You Say This                              | Second? | Debatable?       | Amended? | Vote     | Reconsider?      |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| Adjourn meeting                                | “I move to adjourn”                       | yes     | no               | no       | majority | no               |
| Call for a recess                              | “I move we recess for...”                 | yes     | no               | yes      | majority | no               |
| Complain about room/environment                | “I rise to a question of privilege”       | no      | no               | no       | no vote  | no               |
| Suspend consideration of an issue              | “I move to table the motion”              | yes     | no               | no       | majority | no <sup>1</sup>  |
| End debates and amendments                     | “I move the previous question”            | yes     | no               | no       | 2/3      | yes <sup>2</sup> |
| Postpone discussion for a fixed period of time | “I move to postpone discussion until...”  | yes     | yes              | yes      | majority | yes              |
| Cause an issue to be studied further           | “I move to refer the matter to committee” | yes     | yes              | yes      | majority | yes <sup>3</sup> |
| Amend a motion                                 | “I move to amend the motion by...”        | yes     | yes <sup>4</sup> | yes      | majority | yes              |
| Introduce new business                         | “I move...”                               | yes     | yes              | yes      | majority | yes              |

## MOTIONS WITH NO ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

| Action                                        | You Say This                               | Second? | Debatable?       | Amended? | Vote                 | Reconsider?      |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|----------|----------------------|------------------|
| Protest breach of conduct/rules               | “I rise to a point of order”               | no      | no               | no       | no vote <sup>5</sup> | no               |
| Vote on a chair's ruling                      | “I appeal from the chair's decision”       | yes     | yes              | no       | majority             | yes              |
| Temporarily suspend the rules                 | “I move to suspend the rules so that...”   | yes     | no               | no       | 2/3                  | no               |
| Avoid discussing/voting on an improper matter | “I object to consideration of this motion” | no      | no               | no       | 2/3 <sup>6</sup>     | yes <sup>7</sup> |
| Request more information about a matter       | “Point of information”                     | no      | no               | no       | no vote              | no               |
| Reconsider an action                          | “I move to reconsider the vote on...”      | yes     | yes <sup>8</sup> | no       | majority             | no               |
| Take up a previously tabled item              | “I move to take from the table...”         | yes     | no               | no       | majority             | no               |

<sup>1</sup> The assembly cannot reconsider affirmative votes

<sup>2</sup> Unless the vote on the question has already begun

<sup>3</sup> Unless the committee has already taken up the subject

<sup>4</sup> Unless the motion being amended is not debatable

<sup>5</sup> May be submitted by the chair to the assembly for decision

<sup>6</sup> A 2/3 negative vote is needed to prevent consideration of a “main motion”

<sup>7</sup> Only if the “main motion” has not been debated yet

<sup>8</sup> Unless the original motion was not debatable