



Parliamentary Procedure During the General Conference

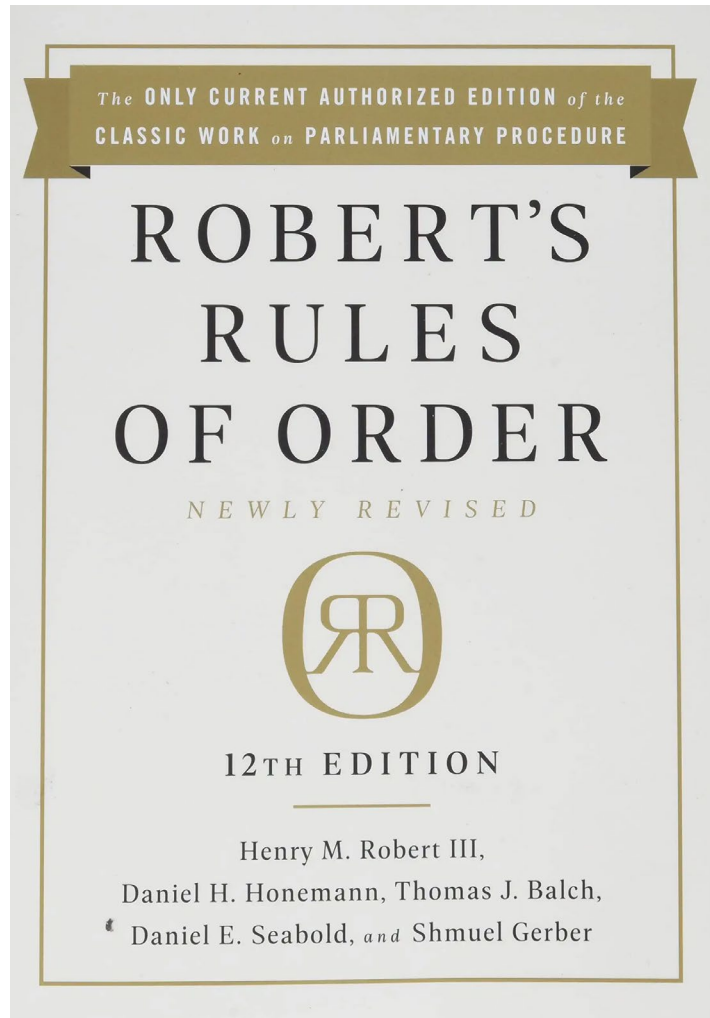
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Delegate Orientation | The United Methodist Church

Objective

- ❖ Using parliamentary procedure during the General Conference

What is parliamentary procedure?



The General Conference Rules, the Constitution, and other UMC governing documents will be the primary focus.

If something is not covered in those documents, then we will refer to Robert's Rules of Order.

Why we use parliamentary procedure?

- ❖ Parliamentary procedure protects the rights:
 - of the majority,
 - of the minority, especially a strong minority—greater than one third,
 - of individual members,
 - of members who are not in attendance, and
 - all of these together.

How do we use parliamentary procedure?

- ❖ Following specific rules outlined in the book ensures:
 - focus is on one matter at a time
 - one person is speaking at a time
 - business is decided upon through motions or resolutions
 - delegates are allowed to share ideas and provide feedback to any motions
 - delegates are provided the opportunity to vote

How do I make a motion?

After being recognized by the Bishop, use three words:

“I move to...” or

“I move that...”

If you don't know what to do?

- ❖ A member who wants to ask a question about the rules and how they apply to what is going on or to something they want to do, may make a *Parliamentary Inquiry* to the chair
 - A second is not required
 - The chair responds to the inquiry

Member states: “I rise to a Parliamentary Inquiry.” or
“Parliamentary Inquiry.”

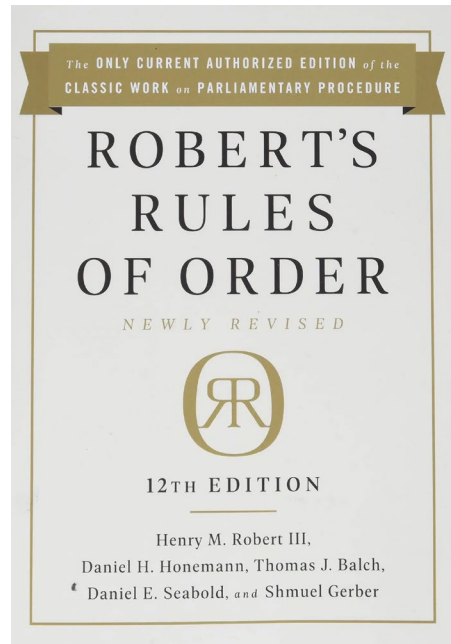
What to do if you need more information?

- ❖ A member who wants to ask a question about the topic that is pending, may make a ***Request for Information*** to the chair
 - A second is not required
 - The chair responds to the inquiry

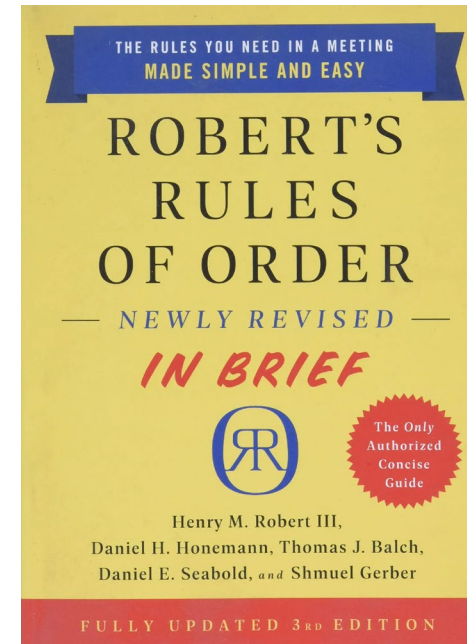
Member states: “I have a request for information.” or “Request for information.” or “A point of information, please.”

Resources

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th edition)



Robert's Rules or Order Newly Revised in Brief (3rd edition)





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