



## **STATE COUNCIL RULES OF DEBATE**

The following rules of debate shall apply to all meetings of the Association.

1. Any member desiring to speak shall stand and state their name and position clearly (eg. Bill White, XYZ Branch).
2. No Member shall speak more than once to a question, except in explanation or reply.
3. A member, who formally seconds a motion or amendment without speaking to it, may do so at a subsequent stage of debate.
4. A right of reply shall be allowed only to the member who has moved a standard motion.
5. The mover of a motion shall not occupy more than ten minutes nor any other speaker more than five minutes. The meeting may, by resolution without debate, grant extension of time to any speaker.
6. When an amendment is moved to an original motion no further amendment shall be discussed until the first amendment is disposed of, but further amendments may be foreshadowed without discussion. Amendments are voted on before the motion.
7. No person may move or second more than one amendment to an original motion, but mover and seconder of a motion or amendment may speak to subsequent amendments. If no amendment is carried the original motion shall be put after the mover has replied.
8. The Chairman shall refuse to receive any amendment which is a direct negative or which does not preserve the substance of the original motion.
9. At any time during the debate any member except any person who has spoken for or against the motion may, without any notice, move "that the question now be put" and such a motion being duly seconded shall be put without debate. If carried the mover of the original motion may then reply and the question shall be put to the vote. If lost the debate shall proceed.
10. Any member may move the adjournment of the debate. If the motion be resolved in the negative, the mover shall not be allowed to speak again on the question under debate. If the motion is resolved in the affirmative the mover shall have the right of resuming the debate. No member shall move the adjournment at the end of his speech.
11. No speaker shall digress from the subject under discussion and imputations of improper motives and all personal reflections on members shall be deemed disorderly.
12. Should any matter of urgency arise, a member may move suspension of Standing Orders for a stated period of time to allow the urgent question to be discussed.
13. Whenever the Chair rises during the debate, the member then speaking shall resume his seat.
14. No member shall interrupt another while speaking except on a point of order.
15. No member shall use offensive or unbecoming words.

16. Upon a member raising a point of order the member then speaking shall sit down until it has been decided. The member rising to order shall state concisely the point of order, then the Chair, without discussion, shall give his ruling.
17. The Chair's ruling on all points of order and procedure shall be final, unless a motion is moved, seconded and carried "that the Chair's ruling be disagreed with". The mover may speak briefly in support of his motion, and the Chair explain why his ruling was given. The Chair takes the vote.
18. All matters not covered by these rules of procedure shall be determined according to the 'Guide for Meetings and Organisations' NE Renton, Volume 2 Guide For Meetings, Seventh Edition.