

Rules of Order

For Conducting the Business of the Convention of the Diocese of Northern Indiana

1. The schedule and agenda of the Convention shall be determined by the Bishop as the presiding officer reflecting the requirements of Canon 2.9, and to the extent practicable shall be announced prior to the opening of the Convention.
2. The Convention shall have the right, however, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Convention present and voting to change such schedule or agenda, except those items mandated under 2.9.
3.
 - a. All nominations for office shall be completed and circulated to the Convention delegates at least twenty-one days prior to the Convention. All resolutions shall be submitted to the Diocesan Office by September 1st. *Amended 2010*
 - b. Any resolutions submitted after this date, other than courtesy resolutions, will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Convention present in order to be considered by the Convention.
4. No motion shall be considered as before the House unless it is seconded and reduced to writing.
5. All main motions and amendments thereto shall require a majority vote of those present and voting, except for the following which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote:
 - a. Suspension of the rules.
 - b. The previous question.
 - c. Changing the time limit of debate.
 - d. Reconsideration, if proposed by one of the majority, of the first decision.
6. A member may not speak more than once on any motion until all other delegates have had an opportunity to speak.
7. Speeches shall be limited to no more than three minutes in length, unless the member is speaking on behalf of a motion from a deanery, when the member may break for no more than four minutes.
8. All statements shall be delivered from the floor except for:
 - a. Reports by officers, committee chairpersons, or their representatives.
 - b. Special guests of the Convention.
9. Clergy of the Church not entitled to seats, and Candidates for Holy Orders in this Diocese shall be admitted to the sittings of the Convention, and their names entered in the Journal on their reporting themselves to the Secretary, but without the right to take part in the proceedings.
10. In case a parliamentary problem should arise, which is not covered by existing rules, the authority shall be *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.
11. The above shall be the Rules of Order of all future Conventions, unless altered or rescinded, and shall be published in the Journal of each Convention.