

Rules of Order

Speaking on the floor of Convention:

- Members of Convention (delegates and clergy) and others given privilege of seat and voice may speak at a microphone.
- Speakers should wait at a microphone to be recognized by the chair. Then give their name, congregation name, and congregation location/city.
- There is a two-minute time limit when speaking to resolutions or issues.
- Time will be indicated by chair of Dispatch of Business; ***please honor time limits.***
- Each person may speak only once to any one resolution or amendment.
- The presenter of a resolution may speak a second time.
- To call for the question during a debate, a member of convention must go to a microphone and be recognized by the chair.
- Alternates not certified as replacement delegates DO NOT have seat or voice – separate seating areas are provided for alternates; alternates may NOT speak at a microphone or sit at the congregation table.

Submitting amendments and/or new resolutions:

- All resolutions or amendments made from the floor must have a written copy provided to the Secretary of Convention immediately upon leaving the microphone.
- Canon 4, section 7, requires that, any new Resolutions (resolutions not submitted by the 45-day deadline) be submitted in writing (hard copy and digitally to the Resolutions Committee no later than six (6) hours after the convening of Convention; the deadline for 2019 will be 9 pm on Friday, November 8 (although the Resolutions Committee would appreciate any new resolutions be submitted prior to the recess at 6:30 pm on Friday).

Licensed Clergy

Clergy licensed in this Diocese who have charge of a congregation are given seat, voice and vote through Canon VII, section 3. Clergy licensed in this Diocese, but canonically resident elsewhere, and others given seat and voice through the Committee on Privilege, have seat and voice only, not vote.

Parliamentary Procedures

An introduction to Parliamentary Procedures may be found in document A.9.

Voting & Elections

Votes at the Convention will be taken using the Quick Tally Interactive Systems, a hand-held electronic keypad response system. Instructions will be provided prior to the first use at the beginning of the convention, as well as prior to the first ballot. A **keypad** will be provided to each voting member of the Convention at registration. Keypads are numbered and assigned and may not be shared or passed on to other members. Members will sign for the keypad and keypads will be collected before adjournment on Saturday. Keypads that are lost or not returned will incur a replacement charge.

- Election of **Officers** and **Diocesan Council** members requires a majority vote in both orders (lay and clergy) combined. [*Article IX*]
- Election to the **Standing Committee** requires a concurrent majority vote of the clergy and lay orders voting separately. [*Article X*]

- If a fourth ballot is required it will be made up of the two persons receiving the higher number of votes on the third ballot in the order from which one is to be elected, and only members of that order shall vote on the fourth ballot.
- **General Convention deputation** elections require a concurrent majority vote of the clergy and lay orders voting separately. [*Article XII*]
 - Deputies are elected first and alternate deputies are elected in a separate ballot from among the candidates who were not elected as deputies.
 - Alternate deputies are ranked in the order of the total number of votes they receive.
 - In each ballot, voters cast no more votes than the number of deputies who remain to be elected. In the single ballot for alternate deputies, voters cast no more votes than the number of alternate deputies to be elected.
 - The first four candidates in each order to receive a concurrent majority in each order voting separately shall be elected as deputies.
 - If during the first two ballots four deputies have not been elected in either order, a third ballot shall be cast to fill the remaining positions from among the candidates in that order. In such a ballot, the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes in both orders combined shall fill the remaining deputy position(s). A majority vote is not required to elect. In case of a tie, another ballot shall be taken to resolve the tie.
 - On the first ballot from which a Deputy is elected, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in both orders combined shall serve as chair of the diocesan deputation.
- **Resolutions:** In all matters which shall come before the Convention the clergy and lay members shall deliberate in one body and vote as individuals; each delegate present shall be entitled to only one vote; and unless otherwise provided, a majority of the voters shall be decisive. On the call of any five members, the two orders shall vote separately, and a concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision. [*Article IX*]
- **Admission of New Parish:** A Parish may be admitted into union with Convention on motion, by a majority of votes in both orders combined. [*Article XV*]
- Amendments to the **Constitution** must be adopted at two successive annual meetings of Convention by a majority vote of the two orders voting separately. [*Article XXI*] **Canons** may be amended, repealed or new ones enacted at a single convention by a majority of votes of the two orders voting separately. [*Canon 28*]