

Standing Rules

for OEA Delegate Assembly

As of April 2015

Section 1. Order Of Business and Debate

1.01 The order of business of the Delegate Assembly shall be the next item of business following the report of the Credentials Committee at the opening session of the assembly.

1.02 The annual meeting of the Delegate Assembly shall be conducted in accordance with provisions of the OEA Constitution and Bylaws, the Standing Rules, and special rules incorporated herewith. Cases not specifically covered otherwise shall be governed by the latest edition of "Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised."

1.03 There shall be an official parliamentarian to whom questions may be directed through the presiding officer.

1.04 Resolutions are defined as expressions of philosophy or policy governing the Association.

a. Resolutions to be printed in the Delegate Assembly agenda must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee or the OEA office by the deadline date set by the Resolutions Committee.

b. Resolutions offered after that date must be presented to the Resolutions Committee at the open hearing for resolutions. The author(s) of resolutions are responsible for providing the resolutions printed in sufficient quantities for distribution to the Assembly.

c. The Delegate Assembly, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, shall determine whether a resolution presented at the open hearing shall be placed on the floor for consideration by the Assembly.

d. Proposed amendments to the resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee prior to the end of the first general session. Forms will be available at the Resolutions or Standing Rules table.

1.05 Items of new business are defined as all matters other than resolutions.

a. Items of new business may be introduced at any session except the final session.

b. Items of new business introduced at one session shall be printed for distribution to the delegates and acted upon at the following session unless unanimous consent is given for immediate action.

c. Items of new business which require the expenditure of funds must indicate the pertinent division or divisions and the line item or items to be amended in order to maintain a balanced budget.

d. Items of new business are for one year in duration and will terminate with application or implementation.

e. Items of new business shall include rationale detailing the reason for the new business item to be considered by the assembly.

1.06 The Standing Rules Committee shall determine whether an item presented by a delegate is a resolution or an item of new business. The chairperson of the committee shall so inform the delegate presenting the item of the committee's decision.

1.07 An amendment to an item of new business must be submitted in triplicate on the official form to the chairperson of the Standing Rules Committee and must be signed by both the maker and the seconder before it may be considered. Forms are available at the table of the Standing Rules Committee.

1.08 A delegate may address the assembly after being recognized by the chairperson.

a. A delegate will be recognized to speak under the color coded cards.

b. A delegate may speak twice on any one motion or subsidiary motion. In order to speak again on the same motion or subsidiary motions, majority consent must be given. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes on the first presentation and one minute on any subsequent presentation.

c. The Standing Rules Committee shall be in charge of timing all speakers. Each speaker shall be given a one minute warning before his/her time has elapsed, and the timekeeper shall stand at the end of the allotted time.

1.09 A roll call vote by zones shall be taken if declared by the presiding officer or requested by one-third (1/3) of the delegates present. The supervision and administration of roll call votes shall be the responsibility of the Standing Rules Committee.

a. Roll call votes will be by weighted voting according to the procedure outlined in Section 2.

b. When a roll call vote is called, the auditorium doors will be closed to the admittance or egress of delegates during the vote. To be counted, delegates must remain in their seats.

Section 2. Weighted Voting

2.01 A weighted vote may be declared by the presiding officer or by a vote of a minimum of one-third (1/3) of the delegates. Without a request for weighted voting, voting is by voice or standing, if the result is so obvious that the chair has no doubt that his/her rule is unchallenged.

a. Each voting delegate upon registration at the assembly, receives a packet of computer cards. Each card bears the zone number, number of weighted votes, number of the ballot, and two options from which to choose.

b. On a roll call vote, the voting delegate will fill in the appropriate rectangle provided under the two options with the No. 2 lead pencil. After the cards are marked, they will be collected in each zone by the Zone Director or his/her designee.

c. Ballots will be processed through the computer which will calculate the weighted vote.

d. Improperly marked ballots will be declared invalid.

2.02 Credentials Committee shall designate the number of delegates for each unit and shall determine the weighted vote of each delegate.

a. The number of delegates per local unit shall be determined by the following formula:

- 1 delegate for 6-60 members
- 2 delegates for 61-120 members
- 3 delegates for 121-180 members
- 4 delegates for 181-240 members
- 5 delegates for 241-300 members
- 10 delegates for 301-600 members
- :
- 20 delegates for 1,141-1,200 members
- :
- 40 delegates for 2,341-2,400 members

b. Each delegate's weighted vote shall be determined by dividing the unit's total membership by the number of delegates. (Uneven numbers would be assigned as follows: Example: 61 member unit, two delegates, one with 30 votes and one with 31 votes.)

c. Zone Directors have a weighted vote of one (1).

d. Retired teachers/delegates will have a weight of six (6) votes each.

e. Student members will have two (2) delegates with a weight of six (6) votes each.

f. Delegates-at-large (minority) shall have a weighted vote of 10.

Section 3. Amendment or Suspension of Standing Rules

3.01 Standing Rules of the Delegate Assembly may be amended by a majority vote of the Delegate Assembly at the time the Standing Rules report is considered.

3.02 Standing Rules of the Delegate Assembly may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegate Assembly.

Section 4. Registration

4.01 Registration procedure and delegate certification at the Delegate Assembly shall be under the direction of the Credentials Committee.

Section 5. Seating Arrangements

5.01 Delegates shall be seated in a designated area. Admittance to this area shall be by official delegate badge.

5.02 Delegates shall wear their OEA delegate badges during the Delegate Assembly sessions.

5.03 Meetings of the Delegate Assembly shall be open to non-delegate members of the Association who shall be seated in a designated area insofar as seating arrangements permit.

5.04 Members of the press shall be given an appropriate badge and admitted to the area reserved for their use.

5.05 OEA staff and committee members who need access to the delegate area of the Assembly shall wear an appropriate badge or identification.

Section 6. Distribution of Materials

6.01 Proper identification as to the source and sponsorship must appear on any printed materials distributed to delegates during the convention and must first be approved by the Standing Rules Committee before distribution.

Section 7. Smoking

7.01 Lighted tobacco shall be prohibited in the Delegate Assembly Room.

7.02 Use of cell phones in the Delegate Assembly Room shall be prohibited.

Section 8. Interpretation

8.01 The Standing Rules Committee, within its advisory capacity, shall have the power to interpret the Standing Rules.

(4/14)

Criteria for Resolutions and Items of New Business

Both resolutions and items of new business deal with issues that are (a) of current importance to the teaching profession and (b) educational in nature. However, resolutions and items of new business differ in the following respects:

- * Resolutions are compound in structure, beginning with a statement of basic OEA beliefs and concluding with a recommendation of action.

- * Items of new business are simple in structure, calling for or committing OEA to a particular action or course of action on a specific issue.

- * Resolutions are ongoing in their application. They remain in effect until the policy stated therein is officially changed.

- * Items of new business are terminal in application. Once the issue dealt with therein has been resolved, the new business item no longer continues in effect.

- * Resolutions deal with policies that determine program.

- * Items of new business deal with policies that govern the operation, implementation, and administration of program.

- * Resolutions may call for the establishment of the new programs, but may not directly mandate the expenditure of funds. Resolutions that carry budget implications must be referred to the OEA Board of Directors for program development and processing through the regular budgetary channels. They become effective only when budgeted.

- * Items of new business may give direction regarding the implementation of ongoing or new programs of OEA and may directly mandate the expenditure of funds as stated in Standing Rule 1.05c.

- * Resolutions reflect the current and standing convictions and commitments of the OEA.

- * Items of new business reflect the will of the OEA Delegate Assembly on specific issues.