Convention Standing Rules

WSLC Constitutional Convention

July 19–21, 2022

# General

1. An attendee must wear a face mask while present in the meeting hall, including while speaking at a microphone. The mask must cover the nose and mouth.
2. Attendees should be seated before the scheduled starting time for the meeting and before the ending time of each recess.
3. Guests will be seated at the rear of the meeting hall.
4. Only delegates, other members of the convention body, alternates, and Washington State Labor Council staff may be present in the meeting hall during the consideration of any motion for an endorsement.
5. No campaign literature may be distributed without prior approval of the president or the secretary-treasurer. No unauthorized campaign display is permitted in or adjacent to the convention meeting site. A campaign display must be authorized by the president or secretary-treasurer. Campaign literature may be distributed only if it has a union bug.
6. All announcements must be submitted to the chair or the secretary-treasurer in writing.

# Motions and Debate

1. Those who wish to speak in favor of the pending motion will use a microphone labeled “For”. Those who wish to speak against the pending motion will use a microphone labeled “Against”. Those who wish to make a motion, make a request for information, or make a parliamentary inquiry will use an unlabeled microphone.
2. The chair will rotate among the microphones.
3. If there is no one waiting to use any microphone, a motion, request for information, or parliamentary inquiry can be made at any microphone.
4. The same microphone can be used by the maker of the motion for the first speech in debate on the motion. After this, the chair should recognize a delegate at an “Against” microphone.
5. When recognized by the chair, a delegate will first state the delegate’s name, status (delegate, WSLC office held, or WSLC past office held), union, and local number.
6. Each speech in debate is limited to two minutes.
7. A point of order may be raised at an unlabeled microphone. Alternatively, a delegate may rise, say “Point of order!” in a loud voice, and then approach any microphone; the chair will then recognize the delegate for the purpose of stating the point of order.
8. A delegate who has raised a point of order will be seated until the chair has ruled on the point of order.
9. The previous question (to close debate) may not be moved until at least two speakers in favor and at least two speakers opposed have had the opportunity to speak.
10. When recognized for a request for information, the delegate will be permitted one question and one follow-up question, and then must yield the floor.

# Voting

1. Each delegate will receive a voting card when registering at the registration desk. Lost voting cards will not be replaced.
2. Each vote will initially be taken by raising the voting card while remaining seated unless a different voting method has been ordered by the assembly.
3. If a rising vote is taken, the chair will give alternate instructions for those who have difficulty standing.

# Roll-Call Votes

1. Once any votes have been cast during a roll-call vote, the convention may not recess or adjourn until the result of the vote is announced.

# Resolutions

1. A convention committee may amend a resolution, put a resolution into proper form, eliminate duplication when similar resolutions are introduced, and ensure that all resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in a logical sequence.
2. A convention committee may choose to withhold a resolution from the convention by a three-fourths vote. The convention may order the committee to report a withheld resolution by a majority vote.

# Election Board

1. Nominations for members of the election board will be made from the floor.
2. Nominations for members of the election board are not debatable. Nominating speeches are not permitted.
3. A nominee must consent to serve on the election board before the nominee’s name will be included on the ballot. Upon consenting to serve, a nominee becomes a candidate.
4. Candidates for the election board will not be given the opportunity to address the delegates.
5. The polls will be open from 12:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday. If another ballot is necessary, the chair will announce the polling times.

# Amendment of Governing Documents

1. The constitution and bylaws committee is authorized to correct section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the convention in connection with the amendment of the constitution or the COPE bylaws.

# Minutes

1. A special committee will be appointed for the purpose of approving the minutes of the convention.