

Convention Standing Rules

Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO Special COPE Convention

February 1, 2024

General

1. Attendees should be seated before the scheduled starting time for the meeting and before the ending time of each recess.
2. Guests will be seated at the rear of the meeting hall.
3. No literature may be distributed without prior approval of the president or the secretary-treasurer. All literature must be distributed by a sergeant-at-arms and only if it includes a union bug.
4. All announcements must be submitted to the chair or the secretary-treasurer in writing.

Motions and Debate

5. 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".
6. A motion, request for information, or parliamentary inquiry can be made at any microphone.
7. As much as possible, the chair will alternate between delegates speaking in favor and against and will rotate among the microphones.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Each speech in debate is limited to two minutes.
11. A point of order may be raised at any 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.
12. A delegate who has raised a point of order will be seated until the chair has ruled on the point of order.
13. 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.
14. 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

15. Each delegate will receive a voting card when registering at the registration desk. Lost voting cards will not be replaced.
16. 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.
17. If a rising vote is taken, the chair will give alternate instructions for those who have difficulty standing.

Roll-Call Votes

18. 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.