

Decorum Committee Report

We, your committee on Decorum, recommend the following:

- 1) In all cases not specified in this report, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the business of this Conference. **The Chairman shall appoint a parliamentarian.**
- 2) The hours of business are printed in the Conference Agenda. They may be amended by the Conference in Session.
- 3) The bar of the conference shall be the platform and appropriate areas as declared by the Chair.
- 4) Obtaining the floor:
 - a) All persons wishing to obtain the floor must address the presiding officer as "Mr. Chairman."
 - b) The Chairman shall recognize all duly elected delegates and conference members when they have sought in the proper manner to obtain the floor.
 - c) If two or more persons address the Chairman, the first to be heard shall be recognized and allowed to speak.
 - d) The Chairman shall appoint a timekeeper. The use of an electronic device may be substituted for a timekeeper.
 - e) No member or delegate shall speak for more than three minutes at one time. Those that have not spoken on the pending question shall be given preference to those speakers on the opposite side of a question in as much as possible.
 - f) The Chairman shall not engage in debate unless he surrenders the Chair. After the pending question or specific motion has been settled, the Chairman may again take the Chair. This shall in no way prevent the Chairman from asking or answering questions for clarification.
 - g) All speakers must be courteous in language and deportment, avoiding all adverse or unkind personal references.
 - h) All cell phone calls should be avoided on the floor of the Conference and are restricted within the bar. With regard to cell phones, and other electronic devices, members shall exhibit courtesy in all business sessions. Platform personnel may be required to make and receive calls/text during a business session for the conduct of business of the General Conference.
- 5) Resolutions from the floor:
 - a) Resolutions presented to this Conference shall be presented to the appropriate committee. If the committee has adjourned, 20 eligible sponsoring members or delegates of the Conference must sign the resolution.
 - b) All debatable motions must be seconded before consideration. Privileged motions shall take precedence over other motions.

- 6) The Chairman shall appoint a Teller Committee consisting of four tellers and one teller chairman before voting begins.
- 7) ~~For the sake of time,~~ Only the changes in committee reports will be read **with the exception of the Bylaw Committee Report**. ~~Each page of~~ The reports will be reviewed, changes noted, and the report passed as amended.
- 8) Voting:
 - a) No proxy or absentee voting shall be allowed.
 - b) Voting on resolutions and motions shall be by voice.
 - c) When a decision on a voice vote is in doubt, the Chairman or any member or delegate of the Conference may call for a division of the House by a standing and counting vote. The tellers shall do the count.
 - d) All voting for elections shall be by ballot. (See Nominations and Elections.)
- 9) Nominations and Elections:
 - a) The Chairman shall call for a moment of silent prayer before nominations begin.
 - b) The Chairman shall not entertain a motion to close the nomination.
 - c) All persons nominated should be from the approved list for those eligible to serve on the Conference Executive Council. The list has been made in advance via email and is located in Conference Agenda.
 - d) All nominations shall be by voice and elections shall be by ballot.
 - e) When only one office is being voted on and there is not an election on the first ballot, only the three receiving the highest number of votes shall be considered on the second ballot, then the two receiving the highest number of votes on the second ballot will be considered.
 - f) When voting for executive council members, the four receiving the highest number of votes from a majority of the ballots cast will be elected to the Conference Executive Council. If all four are not elected on the first ballot, those elected will be removed from the list and the others will be placed before the conference to vote again. Should no one gain a majority vote, the two lowest in vote tally will be dropped and the names of the remaining nominees shall be placed before the conference for another vote.
 - g) The official tabulation of all ballots shall be by the Teller Committee.

Signed: Chairman Phil Smitherman, Bishop, Tim Lamb, David Hammond, Trey Jones, Phil Smitherman, Jeff Thomas, Brian Williams, Rick Womack