

MidMC Parliamentary Procedure

Motion to Open the Speakers' List- A very basic motion, just something that must be done at the beginning of debate so that people can speak.

Point of Personal Privilege- This is the only point or motion you can make while someone is speaking. You make this point if you can't hear the speaker, or if you're cold, hot, or have to go to the bathroom.

Point of Parliamentary Procedure- If you have a question about parliamentary procedure, you can ask your chair by making this point.

Motion to Move to a Vote- Once a bill or resolution is on the floor and you feel that all the issues of debate have been exhausted, you can motion to move to a vote.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus- (Requires a simple majority vote.) In a moderated caucus, anyone can speak when recognized by the chair. If you'd like to speak, simply raise your placard.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus- (Requires a simple majority vote.) This will allow the entire committee to get up, walk around, and discuss the issues with whomever you want.

Amendments- In the interest of time and sanity, all amendments at Mid-MC are going to be considered unfriendly, and debated in the following way: when an amendment is submitted, the chair gets to review it and ask the sponsor to modify it, if necessary. Once the amendment is good enough to be debated, all other debate will stop. The amendment will be written on the blackboard for all to see and copy, and a speakers' list will be drawn up specifically on the amendment. To save time, we will accept no more than six speakers, (three for, three against), and then move directly into a vote. Once the amendment has been voted up or down, it will then be incorporated into the resolution or disregarded accordingly, and regular debate on the resolution will resume where it left off.

***Also, just make sure students know the different ways to yield their time, and if someone yields to questions, make sure you ask the speaker whether he/she yields to each individual question, not just questions in general.