

GA Rules of Procedure 2018

Key Changes

After motion has been introduced there must be one minute before debate or questions

There must be 5 minutes of debate before amendment can be introduced

After 7 minutes of debate if there are only people speaking from either the pro or con mike then the question can be called

After 15 minutes of debate the question can be called

After 30 minutes of debate procedural time will count against pro and con discussion time

Rules of Procedure

Rule 1 - same - Order of Business

Rule 2- same - Means of Voting

Rule 3- same - Minutes

Rule 4- same - Presentation of Items

Rule 5. Amendments (1st paragraph change and everything else the same)

Except for clarifying amendments, amendments to the main motion and motions to refer, table or to call the question will not be in order until there has been at least 5 minutes of discussion, if that much is needed, on the merits of the main question as moved.

Rule 6: Time Limits

A) no person may speak for no more than two minutes.....

B) 3-0 minutes are allowed for discussion of any proposed bylaw or rule amendment, resolution or action on a report that is on or admitted to the Final Agenda. This time includes time devoted to discussion any amendments to the proposed amendment. Before debate begins 1 minute is devoted to people having time to process the motion before speaking. After 15 minutes of debate the question can be called by either the moderator or a delegate from the procedural microphone. Any motion to extend the time for debate must be made from the procedural microphone before time for debate expires. Whenever possible, discussion time will be equally divided between people who are in favor and people who have concerns with the motion through equitable recognition of speakers at microphones designed "Pro" and "Con" and off-site delegates in "Pro" and "Con".

C) A motion to call the previous question on the main motion shall not be in order, until 15 minutes of debate has occurred, if there are potential speakers at both Pro and Con microphones whether on-site or offsite, and the original or extended time for discussion has not expired. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a motion to call the previous question is in order if there has been at least 5 minutes of discussion concerning the main motion and the speakers are only at either the "pro" or "con" microphones, whether on-site or off-site.

D) Time taken at the Procedure microphone for procedural questions will not count against pro or con discussion time unless 30 minutes has expired.

Rule 7: Microphones

A) Pro and Con Microphones. Usage of the microphones designed "Pro" or "Con" and offsite "Pro" and "Con" queues is limited to statements in support of or with concerns to the motions.

B) Amendment Microphone. Usage of the microphone or off0site queue designated "Amendment" is limited to presenters of motions and members of the Board of Trustees who may use the microphone only for:

1. Making an amendment to a main motion or another amendment, provided the motion is otherwise in order.
 2. Using such additional time remaining, as outlined in Rule 6, if any, to speak in support of the amendment; and
 3. Stating the Board of Trustees' position at the outset of debate on those items on the Final Agenda on which the Board takes a position
- C) Procedure Microphone. All other matters must be brought to the Procedure microphone or off-site "Procedure queue."

Rule 8 - stays the same - Committee of the Whole

Rule 9- change to 2018-2019 budget and the right date and rule - Budget Motion

Rule 10. Correct date and time- Resolutions and Actions not on the Agenda

Rule 11. Congregational Study Action Issues - same as 2016

Rule 12. Actions of Immediate Witness - from 2016

A) same

B) same

C) same

D) same

E) same- each sponsor will have 2 minutes to speak

F) vote by ballot for up to 3 AIW added to the final agenda

G) make motion and those that receive a 2/3 vote will be admitted

H) same- not debatable and requires 2/3 vote of support

I) same

J) up to 20 minutes will be allowed for debate, if needed, on each proposed AIW admitted to the final agenda. No amendment shall be in order unless there has been at least 7 minutes of debate, if that much time is needed, on the merits of the proposed AIW. After 15 minutes of debate the question can be called unless 7 minutes of only people at either the pro or con mike has gone by and then the question can be called after the 7-minute mark.

K) same

Rule 13. Stay the same - Amending the Rules of Procedure

Rule 14. Stay the same - Precedence of the Bylaws and Rules

Rule 15. Adjournment- 2018 General Assembly and correct adjournment date and time