

MOST IMPORTANT ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER TOPICS

Abstain has no effect on vote; passage requires majority of votes, not counting abstentions. Thus if 1 vote was yes, 0 no, with 20 abstentions, the motion passes. Under Robert's it is not necessary to count or record abstentions. However, the Faculty Senate voted to record abstentions.

Seconds are not necessary if the motion is from a standing committee. However, the motion must be made by a member of the body.

Topic	Second?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote
Adjourn (takes priority)	yes	no	no	majority
Amendment	yes	yes	yes, <u>once</u>	majority
<p>Only two amendments may be considered at a time. They are voted on in reverse order, i.e. the second is voted on first. If a third is proposed the second must be disposed of to reduce the active number of amendments to two.</p> <p>Friendly amendment: not in RRoO; informally accepted if it affects only wording and not the thrust of the motion.</p>				
Appeal the Chair's decision	yes	yes	N/A	majority
Call for the Question (see Limit Debate)				2/3
Change Agenda is to suspend the rules: by order of the Chair if no objection, or requires				2/3 vote
Commit (send motion to committee)	yes	yes	yes	majority
<p>Chair voting: The Chair may vote to affect the outcome of a motion, i.e. to make or break a tie. Forcing a tie will defeat a motion since a majority is required.</p>				
<p>Debate Everyone wishing to speak is allowed to before anyone (except the proposer answering questions about the motion) speaks a second time. A time limit may be agreed to, which requires a 2/3 vote. Debate may not begin until the motion has been moved and seconded.</p>				
Divide the Question (split up a motion)	yes	no	yes	majority
Divide the Assembly (show of hands)	requested by at least one member (not debatable)			
Limit/Extend/End debate	yes	no	yes	2/3
Point of Order	Chair decides, may be appealed (see above)			

Postpone Debate	yes	yes	yes	majority
Quorum	majority= 50% + 1;			
Reconsider (must be moved by someone who voted with the prevailing side in the previous vote, held that meeting or one previous)	yes	yes ¹	no	majority

Secret ballot allowed in General Faculty meetings by UTC bylaws (Faculty Handbook , 2.2.5.1), if requested by more than 1 member, or in the Faculty Senate if requested by ¼ of those present (Section 2.3.6 under Voting.)

Substitute motion is treated as an amendment

Table motion ²	yes	no	no	majority
Take from the Table	yes	no	no	majority
Withdraw motion	if no objection			

¹. If the original motion was debatable.

² Proposer or designee may speak for two minutes on behalf of the motion to Table.