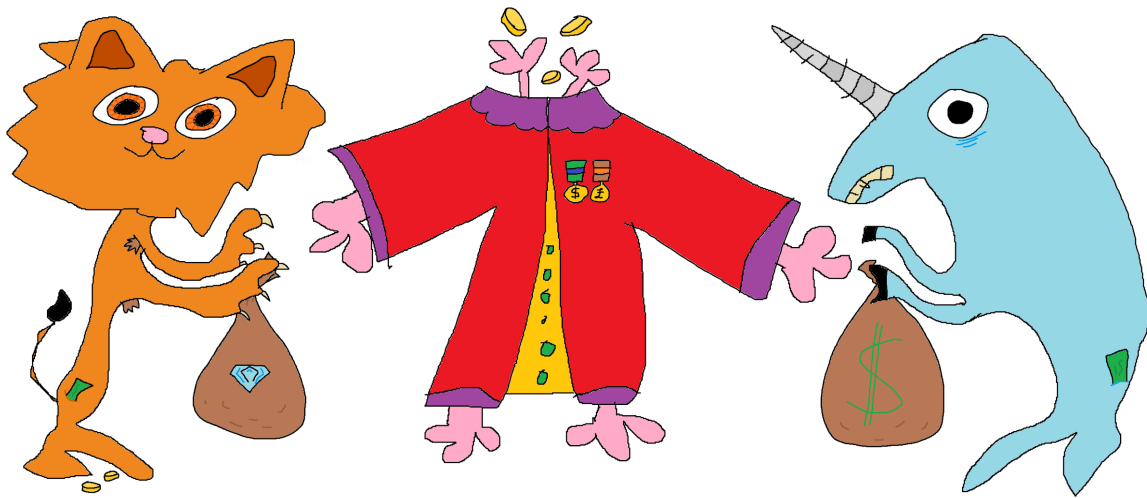


# Reddit Model House of Commons Constitution



Enacted on XX/09/2017

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References to MHoC on their own refer to the entire community and all subreddits. /r/MHoC refers only to that subreddit.

Official subreddits are: /r/MHOC, /r/MHOCMP, /r/mhoccmtvote, /r/MHOCLegislation, /r/MHOCEDM and /r/MHOCEvents, /r/MHOL, /r/MHOLVote, /r/MHOLBills and /r/MHOLAmendments, /r/MHOCPress, /r/MHOCStrangersBar, /r/MHOCMeta, /r/MHOCArchive, /r/mstormont/, /r/MStormontVote, /r/MHolyroodCommittee/, /r/MHolyroodVote/, /r/MHolyrood/, /r/Speakanship, /r/mhocmoderators, /r/MHOCTriumvirate, /r/MHOCQuad and subreddits of official parties, independent groupings and All-Party Parliamentary Groupings.

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# Article 1 - The Quadrumvirate

The Quadrumvirate is the executive decision making body of MHoC for all matters pertaining to it, that it considers necessary to be a matter for the Quadrumvirate to discuss. A full list of all official speakership positions and their jurisdictions can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

- I. The Quadrumvirate consists of the Head Moderator, the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Speaker of the House of Lords and the Speaker of the Devolved Assemblies.
  - A. In the event of a tied vote within the Quadrumvirate, the Head Moderators vote shall act as the tie breaker.
- II. The Quadrumvirate manages all bans and community related actions.
- III. No person should hold any more than one position within the Quadrumvirate at any one time.
- IV. When a member of the Quadrumvirate requires a break from their duties, a replacement should be found from the Speakership team that they originate from.
  - A. When the Head Moderator requires a break, one of the other Quadrumvirate members is to be selected to take up the position in the interim, and the same process will take place as in A1:IV for the Speaker that has taken over.
- V. All Quadrumvirate members must be full moderators on all official party subreddits, independent groupings and All-Party Parliamentary Groupings, as well as any official campaign subreddits for events such as referendums.

## Article 2 - The Head Moderator

The Head Moderator is the supreme decision maker across MHoC, who can overturn all decisions made by the Quadrumvirate, each Speakership team, and if necessary can take action within parties. They cannot be removed from office while their term lasts. The Head Moderator shares joint power with the other Quadrumvirate members over /r/MHOCPress, /r/MHOCStrangersBar, /r/MHOCMeta, /r/MHOCArchive, /r/MHOCTriumvirate and /r/MHOCQuad.

- I. The Head Moderator has overall authority over all aspects of MHoC.
- II. The Head Moderator handles all complaints and Votes of No Confidence (VoNCs) against other members of the Quadrumvirate, and holds all VoNCs and VoCs against them.
  - A. To approve a VoNC, it must meet the criteria listed in Article 7.
- III. The Head Moderator cannot be VoNCed.
- IV. The Head Moderator must be a full moderator on all official party subreddits, as well as all other associated MHoC subreddits.
- V. The Head Moderator is the sole, official representative of the MHoC Community as a whole to the Game Moderation Council, and all other meta aspects related to other model countries.
- VI. Before being appointed, the Head Moderator must pass a vote of confidence over 75%.
  - A. Only MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, approved individuals and moderators on /r/MHoC, /r/MHoL, /r/mstormont or /r/mholyrood can vote in the vote of confidence.
- VII. The Head Moderator can approve people who are not MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, or moderators on /r/MHoC, /r/MHoL, /r/mstormont or /r/mholyrood to vote in all meta elections and votes (Speakership elections, Speakership VoNCs, votes on the constitution)
  - A. To be eligible for this, the person must have been a member of the community for 6 months.
  - B. You have made 25 meaningful comments or posts in any MHoC related subreddit in the past month.
  - C. The Head Moderator can use their discretion to accept/deny someone a vote if they do not meet/or meet this criteria in exceptional circumstances.
  - D. All approved individuals are recorded for each election and if someone is denied voting rights then they must be PMed the reasons why.

# Article 3 - The Speaker of the House of Commons

The Speaker of the House of Commons (henceforth referred to as the Commons Speaker) is the executive decision maker for all matters pertaining to the meta and subreddits of /r/MHOC, /r/MHOCMP, /r/MHOCLegislation, /r/MHOCEDM, /r/mhoccmtvote and /r/MHOCEvents.

- I. The Commons Speaker has overall authority over the processes and functions of the Model House of Commons Chamber.
- II. The Commons Speaker has the right to select anyone in the community to serve as a Deputy Speaker in the Model House of Commons.
- III. The Commons Speaker is to run all general and by elections, unless the responsibility is handed over to another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- IV. The Commons Speaker is to manage the day to day handling of the Model House of Commons Chamber by delegating responsibilities and jobs to their Deputy Speaker(s).
- V. The Commons Speaker must be a moderator on all official subreddits related to MHoC.
  - A. It is the responsibility of parties and all other organisations to ensure that the Commons Speaker is a moderator of its subreddit.
- VI. The Commons Speaker upon election must resign from all other positions in MHoC, leave all parties they may belong to and resign from any other position on other model world subreddits, as well as remaining politically neutral during their term.
- VII. The Commons Speaker will only vote in the event of a tie, in which case it will be for the status quo.
- VIII. If the Commons Speaker requires a break, then an Acting Speaker will be chosen from the Deputy Speakers by the Speaker.
  - A. The Acting Speaker is afforded all powers held by the current Speaker.
  - B. The Acting Speaker does not have to be added as a moderator to the subreddits of parties and other organisations.
  - C. The Acting Speaker does not have to resign their current positions, but must be impartial during the period in which they sit.
    - a) If the Acting Commons Speaker holds a position in which it is necessary for them to partake in Ministers' Questions, or some other very partisan or political position other than MP, MLA, MSP or Lord, a temporary replacement for them should be found.

D. The Acting Commons Speaker may only hold the position for a period of 31 days, in which the Speaker must resume duties or a vote of confidence must be held to extend the period for another 31 days.

E. If an Acting Commons Speaker holds their position for 62 consecutive days, the Commons Speaker must resign and a new election for the position of Commons Speaker must be held.

IX. Upon their election, to be sworn into their position the Commons Speaker elect must take the Speaker's oath, which is as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall execute my speakership with wisdom and good faith, and that I shall protect, preserve, and defend the greater good of the Reddit Model House of Commons. I hereby accept the charges of the constitution, and in so doing renounce my membership of all political parties and organisations within the Reddit Model House of Commons."

## Article 4 - The Speaker of the House of Lords

The Speaker of the House of Lords (henceforth in this article referred to as the Lord Speaker) is the executive decision maker for all matters pertaining to the meta and subreddits of /r/MHOL, /r/MHOLVote, /r/MHOLBills and /r/MHOLAmendments.

- I. The Lord Speaker has overall authority over the processes and functions of the Model House of Lords Chamber.
- II. The Lord Speaker has the right to select anyone in the community to serve as a Deputy Speaker in the Model House of Lords.
- III. The Lord Speaker is to manage the day to day handling of the Model House of Lords Chamber by delegating responsibilities and jobs to their Deputy Speaker(s).
- IV. The Lord Speaker must be a moderator on all official subreddits related to MHoC.
  - A. It is the responsibility of parties and all other organisations to ensure that the Lord Speaker is a moderator of its subreddit.
- V. The Lord Speaker upon election must resign from all other positions in MHoC, leave all parties they may belong to and resign from any other position on other subreddits, as well as remaining politically neutral during their term.
- VI. The Lord Speaker does not vote, even if they are a sitting Lord, or are created one.
- VII. If the Lord Speaker requires a break, then an Acting Lord Speaker will be chosen from the Deputy Lord Speakers by the Lord Speaker.
  - A. The Acting Lord Speaker is afforded all powers held by the current Speaker.
  - B. The Acting Lord Speaker does not have to be added as a moderator to the subreddits of parties and other organisations.
  - C. The Acting Lord Speaker does not have to resign their current positions, but must be relatively impartial during the period in which they sit.
    - a) If the Acting Lord Speaker holds a position in which it is necessary for them to partake in Ministers' Questions, or some other very partisan or political position other than MP, MLA, MSP or Lord, a temporary replacement for them should be found.
  - D. The Acting Lord Speaker may only hold the position for a period of 31 days, in which the Lord Speaker must resume duties or a vote of confidence must be held to extend the period for another 31 days.
  - E. If an Acting Lord Speaker holds their position for 62 consecutive days, the Lord Speaker must resign and a new election for the position of Lord Speaker must be held.



VIII. Upon their election, to be sworn into their position the Lord Speaker elect must take the Speaker's oath, which is as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall execute my speakership with wisdom and good faith, and that I shall protect, preserve, and defend the greater good of the Reddit Model House of Lords. I hereby accept the charges of the constitution, and in so doing renounce my membership of all political parties and organisations within the Reddit Model House of Commons."

# Article 5 - The Speaker of the Devolved Assemblies

The Speaker of the Devolved Assemblies (henceforth referred to as the Devolved Speaker) is the executive decision maker for all matters pertaining to the meta and subreddits of /r/mstormont/, /r/MStormontVote, /r/MHolyroodCommittee/, /r/MHolyroodVote/ and /r/MHolyrood/.

- I. The Devolved Speaker has overall authority of the processes and functions of the Model Devolved Assemblies.
- II. The Devolved Speaker has the right to select anyone in the community to serve as a Deputy Presiding Officer / Deputy Speaker / Deputy Chairpersons (henceforth all referred to as Deputies) in the Model Devolved Assemblies.
- III. The Devolved Speaker will run all assembly and by-elections for all Model Devolved Assemblies, unless responsibility is handed to another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- IV. The Devolved Speaker is to manage the day to day handling of the Model Devolved Assemblies Chambers by delegating responsibilities and jobs to their Deputies.
- V. The Devolved Speaker must be a moderator on all official subreddits related to MHoC.
  - A. It is the responsibility of parties and all other organisations to ensure that the Devolved Speaker is a moderator of its subreddit.
- VI. The Devolved Speaker upon election must resign from all other positions in MHoC, leave all parties they may belong to and resign from any other position on other model world subreddits, as well as remaining politically neutral during their term.
- VII. The Devolved Speaker will only vote in the event of a tie, in which case it will be for the status quo.
- VIII. If the Devolved Speaker requires a break, then an Acting Devolved Speaker will be chosen from the Deputies by the Speaker.
  - A. The Acting Devolved Speaker is afforded all powers held by the current Speaker.
  - B. The Acting Devolved Speaker does not have to be added as a moderator to the subreddits of parties and other organisations.
  - C. The Acting Devolved Speaker does not have to resign their current positions, but must be impartial during the period in which they sit.
    - a) If the Acting Devolved Speaker holds a position in which it is necessary for them to partake in Ministers' Questions, or some other very partisan or political position other than MP, MLA, MSP or Lord, a temporary replacement for them should be found.

- D. The Acting Devolved Speaker may only hold the position for a period of 31 days, in which the Devolved Speaker must resume duties or a vote of confidence must be held to extend the period for another 31 days.
  - E. If an Acting Devolved Speaker holds their position for 62 consecutive days, the Devolved Speaker must resign and a new election for the position of Devolved Speaker must be held.
- IX. Upon their election, to be sworn into their position the Devolved Speaker elect must take the Speaker's oath, which is as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall execute my speakership with wisdom and good faith, and that I shall protect, preserve, and defend the greater good of the Reddit Model Devolved Assemblies. I hereby accept the charges of the constitution, and in so doing renounce my membership of all political parties and organisations within the Reddit Model House of Commons."

# Article 6 - Deputies and Advisors

## *Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers and Advisers of the House of Commons, Lords and the Devolved Assemblies*

Deputy Speakers handle the basic day to day running of the entire community, from posting bills and motions to counting votes and giving advice to the Quadrumvirate members they serve under. Advisers serve no administrative purpose other than to give advice in an official capacity to the Speakers.

- I. An individual (not team) vote of confidence must be held in each of the Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers chosen by an elected Speaker.
- II. The powers held by Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers are subject to delegation by the Speaker, however they cannot be final executive decisions, or related to bans without prior approval of the Speaker.
- III. Upon the election of a new Speaker, all current Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers are removed officially, however continue on an interim basis whilst the Speaker chooses their new deputies.
  - A. New Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers shall not be formally introduced until they have passed a vote of confidence over 66%.
- IV. When acting using their powers, Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers are charged with being as impartial as the Speaker is.
  - A. Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers do not always have to be impartial, and do not have to resign their other positions when they are chosen.
- V. Actions taken by Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers can be overridden by the Speaker at any time.
- VI. Acting Deputy Speakers/Acting Deputy Presiding Officers may be introduced by the Speaker at any time.
  - A. If it is intended for the Acting Deputy Speaker/Acting Deputy Presiding Officer to remain in service for any longer than 4 weeks, a vote of confidence will be required.
  - B. Acting Deputy Speakers/Acting Deputy Presiding Officers are afforded the same powers as Deputy Speakers/Deputy Presiding Officers.
- VII. Advisers may be removed by the Quadrumvirate at any time and for any reason.
  - A. Advisers cannot be given any official powers.
  - B. Advisers do not need a vote of confidence.

# Article 7 - VoNCs and VoCs

## Section 1

VoNCs against either the Commons, Lord or Devolved Speakers are required to meet a list of criteria before being approved by the Head Moderator. VoNCs are not a political tool to be used when people are simply dissatisfied or annoyed with the Speaker, there must be secure, valid reasons for it, to be judged by the Head Moderator.

- I. The VoNC must be presented with a comprehensive list of reasons why those that have signed the document are presenting the VoNC.
- II. The VoNC must have the signatures of 33% of the total number of any mixture of MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, moderators of /r/MHoC, /r/mstormont, /r/mholyrood or /r/MHoL and individuals approved by the Head Moderator at the time it is presented.
  - A. If a member holds one or more of the positions in A7:S1:II then they can only cast 1 vote.
  - B. If a member holds one or more of the positions in A7:S1:II then all of their seats are counted as 1 towards the total.
- III. There cannot have been a VoNC in that same Speaker in the last 4 months.
- IV. If the Head Moderator does not think that the requirements for a VoNC listed in A7:S1 have been met, the VoNC will not be allowed.
- V. A VoNC will only pass if the result to remove the Speaker is 67% of all votes.

## Section 2

VoNCs against Deputy Speakers are to be handled by the respective Speaker they are serving under. VoNCs are not a political tool to be used when people are simply dissatisfied or annoyed with the Deputy Speaker, there must be secure, valid reasons for it, to be judged by the Speaker.

- I. The VoNC must be presented with a comprehensive list of reasons why those that have signed the document are presenting the VoNC.
- II. The VoNC must have the signatures of 25% of the total number of MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, moderators of /r/MHoC, /r/mstormont, /r/mholyrood or /r/MHoL and individuals approved by the Head Moderator at the time it is presented.
- III. There cannot have been a VoNC in that same Deputy Speaker in the last 4 months.
- IV. The requirements listed in A7:S2 are also true for Acting Deputy Speakers.

- V. If the Speaker does not think that the requirements for a VoNC listed in A7:S2 have been met, the VoNC will not be allowed.
- VI. A VoNC will only pass if the result to remove the Speaker is 67% of all votes.

## Section 3

Any Leader of an Opposition Party can start a VoNC in the government, including the Leader of the Opposition or a leader of an Unofficial Opposition Party. VoNCs in governments are to be handled by the Speaker of the House of Commons, unless the Speaker requests that another member of the Quadrumvirate handles it.

- I. The VoNC must be presented with a comprehensive list of reasons why the VoNC has been submitted.
- II. The Speaker can reject a VoNC if they do not deem the reasons presented valid or substantial enough for a VoNC to take place.
- III. The VoNC must have the support of all parties (support is determined by the party leaders) in Official Opposition and 50% of the MPs in the Unofficial Opposition.

## Section 4

A Vote of Confidence can be held in any Speakership member, regardless of the house they serve, if the head moderator deems it necessary.

- I. The VoC must be presented with a comprehensive list of reasons as to why it has been called.
- II. To pass a VoC the Speaker must have 67% of valid votes return in his favour
- III. If the result is in favour of the incumbent Speaker then no VoNC can be called for 4 months.
- IV. Only MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, approved individuals and moderators on /r/MHoC, /r/MHoL, /r/mstormont or /r/mholyrood can vote in a vote of confidence.

# Article 8 - Elections

## Section 1

### *General Elections*

General elections are to be held 4-6 months after the previous one, with input from the Prime Minister over the date, but ultimately decided by the Commons Speaker. The electoral regions (constituencies) of the general elections are to be decided by the Commons Speaker, and may change between elections for any reason.

- I. General elections are to be normally held by the Commons Speaker, unless the Commons Speaker requests that they be held by another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- II. Every party must submit their constituency candidates to the member of the Quadrumvirate holding the election.
  - A. The same is true for independent candidates and groupings.
- III. Due notice of at least two weeks must be given before the start of the general election.
- IV. Once the general election has been announced, no new bills or motions may be submitted to the Speakership.
  - A. The House of Commons and Lords shall enter 'washup' mode until the beginning of the general election to clear outstanding bills and motions.
  - B. The Devolved Speaker can choose to enter the Devolved Assemblies into a 'pause' mode, of no more than 2 weeks before the GE date, to allow for candidates to focus campaigning efforts on the General Election.
- V. Manifestos must be submitted to the Quadrumvirate before the election begins at a time decided by the member of the Quadrumvirate holding the election.
  - A. They must be submitted via sending a modmail with all relevant material and information to /r/MHOC.
- VI. A series of debates must be held by the Commons Speaker throughout the general election period.
- VII. The voting system to be used for the General Election will be decided by the Commons Speaker of the time, with Head Moderator approval, and also a community wide vote.
  - A. The vote shall use standard voting restrictions and must require 50% in favour to pass.
- VIII. The modifier system to be used should be consistent across all MHoC and Devolved Assemblies.

## Section 2

### *By Elections*

By elections are to occur because of an expansion of seats in the House of Commons, or the resignation of an independent Member of Parliament.

- I. By elections are to be normally held by the Commons Speaker, unless they request that they be held by another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- II. The parties whose members triggered the by-election shall not be allowed to field candidates.
- III. Parties, excluding those outlined in A8:S2:II, the government, and the opposition (if they are all fielding candidates and are not excluded as per A8:S2:II) must submit their constituency candidates to the member of the Quadrumvirate holding the election.
  - A. The same is true for independent candidates and groupings.
- IV. Due notice of at least **seven** days must be given before the start of a by election.
- V. During a by election, the House of Commons shall continue normal operation uninterrupted.
- VI. Manifestos must be submitted to the Quadrumvirate before the by election begins at a time decided by the member of the Quadrumvirate holding the election.
  - A. They must be submitted via sending a modmail with all relevant material and information to /r/MHOC.

## Section 3

### *Speakership Elections*

Speakership elections are elections that are to be carried out in the event that either the office of Commons Speaker, Lord Speaker or Devolved Speaker become vacant through any means.

- I. Speakership elections are to be carried out by either the outgoing Speaker, or another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- II. If the outgoing Speaker was removed by a VoNC, then the Head Moderator or another member of the Quadrumvirate.
- III. Only currently sitting MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, moderators of /r/MHoC, /r/mstormont, /r/mholyrood or /r/MHoL and individuals approved by the Head Moderator can vote.
  - A. Each individual that falls into any of these categories will have a single vote
- IV. Any individual can stand for election, given that they have been an active part of MHoC for over 2 months.



- V. STV is to be used when there are more than two candidates for election.
- VI. During a speakership election, MHoC shall continue normal operation uninterrupted.
- VII. Manifestos must be submitted to the Quadrumvirate before the election begins at a time decided by the member of the Quadrumvirate holding the election.
  - A. They must be submitted via sending a modmail with all relevant material and information to /r/MHOC.
  - B. There must be a Question and Answer session after manifesto submissions are complete.
  - C. The vote must last at least 4 days.

# Article 9 - Government and Opposition

## Section 1

### *Forming a Government*

- I. The largest grouping of MPs in either a coalition or a single party will be invited to form a government.
  - A. Once formed, the coalition must submit a Queen's Speech, **within 1 week**, outlining their legislative agenda before any business can proceed.
  - B. The submitted Queen's Speech shall not proceed to a vote in either House.
  - C. If the largest coalition fails to submit a Queen's Speech, or the coalition falls apart, then the second largest coalition is invited to form a government.
- II. A government can consist of the total number of parties divided by 2.
  - A. Independent MPs and MPs who are members of Independent Groupings, do not count towards this total.
- III. Once formed, a government can only be removed by a Vote of no Confidence, which restarts the process for forming a government, or by one third of the MPs that are members of the government leaving it.
  - A. The newly formed government can only contain half of parties that were removed by the Vote of no Confidence.
  - B. If a government is brought down in this way, then a coalition negotiating period will open.
- IV. Governments have a **4 week grace** period where a Vote of no Confidence cannot be held.
- V. **A Vote of no Confidence may not be called within 3 weeks of the end of term.**
- VI. **For datum purposes the start of the term is determined as the date of final results being announced and coalition forming beginning.**
  - A. **If these occur at two different times, for whatever reason, the latest date is used.**
- VII. **The 4-6 month term period solely revolves around the month number.**
  - A. **Example being 14th March beginning would be 14th September ending.**

## Section 2

### *Forming The Official Opposition*

- I. The second largest other grouping of MPs in either a coalition or a single party will be invited to form The Official Opposition.
  - A. If they decline to form The Official Opposition, the next largest grouping will be invited to.

# Article 10 - Parties and Groupings

## Section 1

### *Parties*

Parties should be for the most part allowed to function independent of the Speakership, and be given freedom to function in whichever way they choose.

- I. For official party status to be conferred, ten reddit accounts that have been active on MHoC must be found that wish to join the party upon its creation.
  - A. 'Active' is to be decided by the Quadrumvirate.
  - B. The party must be somewhat original (is not too politically similar to other MHoC parties).
  - C. The party must not impede the greater good of MHoC.
- II. Once a party is created, it is free to change its name or have flairs given to it on all official MHoC subreddits.
  - A. It can also then receive national seats in general elections.
- III. If a party wishes to be disbanded, a two thirds majority (67%) vote of its members is required.
  - A. MPs belonging to the party then become independents, and can choose whether to join a party or remain an independent.
    1. If they choose to join a party, their seat then becomes property of the party, so if they resign a by election will not be held.
  - B. A party will be disbanded if its number of active members drops below ten for four weeks.
  - C. A party will be disbanded if there is no activity on its subreddit or from its members on other MHoC affiliated subreddits in four weeks.
  - D. A party will also be disbanded if any one member of the Quadrumvirate loses moderator status on the subreddit for any period longer than three days, or any more than once in a month.
- IV. If a party wishes to merge with another, then a two thirds majority (67%) vote of its members is required.
  - A. All MP seats belonging to that party are then given to the party that they have merged with, however the MPs cannot be removed from their seats.
  - B. The vote to merge must be held in both parties wishing to merge.
  - C. The vote will last a minimum of 5 days.

- V. For official Regional Party status to be conferred, six reddit accounts that have been active on MHoC must be found that wish to join the party upon its creation.
  - A. 'Active' is to be decided by the Quadrumvirate.
  - B. The party must be somewhat original (is not too politically similar to other MHoC parties).
  - C. The party must not impede the greater good of MHoC.
  - D. Regional parties can only run in a geographically similar area (ie Scotland, North of England, Wales, Northern Ireland).
  - E. Regional Parties must be specific to the region they are standing in.
  - F. Regional parties are not eligible for national seats.
  - G. MP seats elected under a regional party list belong to said regional party, not to the individual.
  - H. Once a regional party is created, it is free to change its name or have flairs given to it on all official MHoC subreddits.
  - I. For the purposes of forming a government, regional parties are considered a party and therefore count towards the party limit.
- VI. Party leadership elections are to normally be handled internally, unless the party requests that the Speakership hold the election.
- VII. Each member of the Quadrumvirate must be a full moderator on the party's subreddit.
- VIII. Each party must have a 'designated contact' that can communicate with the Quadrumvirate. This will most often be the party leader, however in cases where this position does not strictly exist, the party is free to choose who to appoint.
- IX. Parties cannot give banned members access to their subreddit, as is stated in A13:IV.

## Section 2

### Groupings

Groupings should be for the most part allowed to function independent of the Speakership, and be given freedom to function in whichever way they choose.

- I. Independent Groupings are to be formed if the criteria for a party or regional party is not met.
  - A. The grouping must be somewhat original (is not too politically similar to other MHoC parties or groupings).
  - B. The grouping must not impede the greater good of MHoC.
- II. All MPs, that are members of a grouping, are treated as Independent MPs.
- III. For a grouping to elevate to a party A1:S1 must be adhered to.

# Article 11 - MPs, Lords, MLAs and MSPs

## Section 1

### *Members of Parliament*

Members of Parliament are to be elected at general and by elections, and can vote on the /r/MHoCMP subreddit.

- I. Regular activity reviews will be carried out by the Speaker, if an MP has a turnout of less than 75%, in a month period then the Speaker will inform the party leader they have 7 days to replace them.
  - A. If the MP is not replaced in this period and the turnout over a month and the 7 day period is still below 75% then a by-election must be called.
  - B. Activity reviews will not be completed in the month prior to the next General Election.
- II. After a general election, all MPs are to be sworn in during the coalition forming process.
- III. MPs who need to take a break can have a proxy voter arranged for them with the Speaker.
  - A. Accepting proxy requests are at the discretion of the Speaker, the Speaker may refuse such a request.
  - B. Proxies may not vote on divisions open before the proxy was accepted by the Speaker.
- IV. Replacement MPs may only vote on items that were sent to division after they were made an MP.
  - A. Items open before this time can still be voted on by the previous MP if they are still open.
- V. Party Constituency and List MP seats always belong to the Party. As such, if the party dissolves, the MPs become Independents.
  - A. If the newly Independent MP joins another party then that seat becomes property of the party they join - as if it had always belong to them.
- VI. Independent and Independent Grouping Constituency MPs will always hold their seat regardless of if they join a party, therefore if they resign there is a by-election.
- VII. Independent List MPs hold their seat while they are an Independent. If they join a party then the seat is on loan to the party they join, if they resign while in the party then the seat can be filled internally by the party - there is no by-election.
  - A. If the MP - new or old - (while in a party) decides to leave then they take the seat with them. Therefore, if they resign while not being in a party or grouping the seat remains vacant until the next General Election.
- VIII. Overhang MP seats are awarded to make the final result proportional.

- A. The number of Overhang seats must be made clear by the Speaker before the election begins.
- IX. If an MP edits their vote, it shall default to an 'Abstain'.
- X. If an MP cannot vote on an item they shall be record as N/A.

## Section 2

### *Lords*

Lords can be Achievement, Probationary or Crossbench, and vote on the subreddit /r/MHoLVote. More information about the types of Lords can be found in the House of Lords functions guide and in the Probationary Peerages guide found [here](#).

- I. The Lord Speaker should carry out regular activity reviews to ensure that all Probationary and Crossbench Lords are active, and any of these Lords that miss more than half of the votes in a two month period shall be removed.
  - A. If this is a Probationary Lord, their peerage will be ended, and all titles removed.
  - B. If this is a Crossbench Peerage, their peerage will be ended, and all titles removed.
  - C. Exceptions can be made during a period of intense bill stress.
- II. Probationary Peerages are to be regularly awarded by the Lord Speaker.
  - A. The Lord Speaker can also remove peerages at their discretion.
- III. Crossbench Lordships are to be awarded to individuals that are seen to not be acting in the interest of any parties and are thought to be worthy of one by the Lord Speaker
  - A. Those holding Crossbench Lordships cannot join a party with their peerage. If they do join a party, their peerage will be ended.
- IV. Achievement Lordships are to be awarded by the Lord Speaker to individuals who have contributed to MHoC in an outstanding and extensive fashion.

## Section 3

### *MLAs*

MLAs are to be elected at general and by elections, and can vote on the /r/MStormontVote subreddit.

- I. A member can be an MLA and an MP; an MLA and a Lord - but no other combination.
- VI. Regular activity reviews will be carried out by the Devolved Speaker, if an MLA has a turnout of less than 75%, in a month period then the Devolved Speaker will inform the party leader they have 7 days to replace them.

- A. If the MLA is not replaced in this period and the turnout over a month and the 7 day period is still below 75% then a by-election must be called.
  - B. Activity reviews will not be completed in the month prior to the next Assembly Election.
- VII. After a general assembly election, all MLAs are to be sworn in during the coalition forming process.
- VIII. MLAs who need to take a break can have a proxy voter arranged for them with the Devolved Speaker.
  - A. Accepting proxy requests are at the discretion of the Devolved Speaker, the Devolved Speaker may refuse such a request.
  - B. Proxies may not vote on divisions open before the proxy was accepted by the Devolved Speaker.

## Section 4

### **MSPs**

MSPs are to be elected at general and by elections, and can vote on the /r/MHolyroodVote subreddit.

- II. A member can be an MSP and an MP; an MSP and a Lord - but no other combination.
- IX. Regular activity reviews will be carried out by the Devolved Speaker, if an MSP has a turnout of less than 75%, in a month period then the Devolved Speaker will inform the party leader they have 7 days to replace them.
  - A. If the MSP is not replaced in this period and the turnout over a month and the 7 day period is still below 75% then a by-election must be called.
  - B. Activity reviews will not be completed in the month prior to the next Assembly Election.
- X. After a general assembly election, all MSPs are to be sworn in during the coalition forming process.
- XI. MSPs who need to take a break can have a proxy voter arranged for them with the Devolved Speaker.
  - A. Accepting proxy requests are at the discretion of the Devolved Speaker, the Devolved Speaker may refuse such a request.
  - B. Proxies may not vote on divisions open before the proxy was accepted by the Devolved Speaker.

# Article 12 - Legislation, Honours and Societies

## *Functions: Bills and Motions - Legislation*

Bills and motions can be submitted and read in either the House of Commons or House of Lords. To find the processes of bills and motions being read in both the House of Commons and House of Lords, and where to submit legislation to, [please see the sidebar of /r/MHOC](#).

- I. Legislation can be submitted by anyone regardless of whether they are an MP, Lord, MLA, MSP or non-parliamentarian.
- II. Legislation can be submitted on behalf of governments, oppositions, parties, individuals and groupings.
- III. The Speaker of a House can refuse to have a bill read if it is deemed inappropriate or non-serious.
- IV. It is preferable that bills are presented with costings, however this is not always possible and they can be submitted without.
- V. Legislation passed on MHoC may be repealed after 8 weeks of it being passed.
- VI. Legislation must initially be submitted with an opening speech.
- VII. Second and third readings of legislation must be provided with changelogs from the previous reading; otherwise the Speaker can refuse them space on the timetable.
- VIII. Only the Government may submit a budget.
  - A. The Budget bypasses all other items in the queue on all of its readings.
- IX. All Legislation has a 2 week cessation period attached to it. If the author, or submitter, fails to submit an edited version for another reading, or request it be sent off to vote, within this period then it is automatically withdrawn and cannot be resubmitted in the same term.
- X. Minor spelling and grammar corrections can be made to a bill without it requiring another reading.

## *Honours and Societies*

The more in depth guide to honours and societies can be found [here](#).

- I. All Honours are to be awarded by the Prime Minister (with the exception of The Royal Victorian Order, which can only be awarded by a Quadrumvirate Member).
  - A. Honours can be awarded at the end of a parliamentary term, when the Prime Minister resigns, or in 'special circumstances', to be determined by the Quadrumvirate.



1. The Prime Minister must have been in the position for one month to be eligible to award Honours.
- II. Any member of MHoC may propose the establishment of a Royal Society.
  - A. The Royal Society must be approved by the House of Commons.
  - B. After being approved by the House of Commons, it must gain meta approval to begin.
  - C. Royal Societies can be disbanded by the Quadrumvirate if they feel there is a valid reason for doing so.

## Article 13 - Bans and Rules

### Section 1

#### *Subreddit Rules and Bans*

- I. Any reddit account can be banned from MHoC subreddits for any reason and for any length of time. Reasons for these bans may include:
  - a) Violating the sacred code of reddiquette.
  - b) Election fraud (breaking rules of any elections, as outlined in Article 8).
  - c) Using multiple accounts on MHoC, or accessing another member's account, or any other method of 'duping'.
  - d) They are engaging in, or threatening to, 'doxx' someone through any means, or are otherwise interfering with their real life in a way that causes that person discomfort.
  - e) They are engaging in any activity that the Quadrumvirate finds damaging to MHoC or other people in any way.
- II. All bans on all official MHoC subreddits are handled by the Quadrumvirate.
- III. Members should be civil to one another at all times.
- IV. Members banned from the MHoC community are banned from being given access to any official subreddit, official party subreddit, independent groupings and All-Party Parliamentary Grouping subreddits.
- V. Members banned from the MHoC community are banned from being given access to any official discord server, official party discord server, independent groupings and All-Party Parliamentary Grouping discord servers.
  - A. For short bans of less than a month the Quadrumvirate may choose to limit the ban to merely all official subreddits and official discord servers.

- VI. Members should not use unparliamentary language (any word considered unparliamentary in the real House of Commons or Lords, or any word that a member of the Speakership finds unparliamentary) in the House of Commons, Lords, Stormont or Holyrood.
  - A. If they do so, and refuse to retract it, then they can be banished from the House for a short period of time.
- VII. The Quadrumvirate should, where possible, announce bans on /r/MHoCMeta with a brief, sensitive, explanation of the reasons for the bans and the lengths.
- VIII. The length of bans, for the various offences, is to be decided by the Quadrumvirate at the time.

## Section 2

### *Discord Rules and Bans*

The Discord Rules are to be enforced by Discord Moderators and any other member of the Speakership.

- I. Discord Moderators are to be chosen by the Head Moderator.
- II. The Discord Rules are as follows:
  - A. No discrimination of any kind will be tolerated.
    - i. This includes the use of any slurs.
  - B. No doxxing.
  - C. No nsfw content.
  - D. Personal attacks at a specific individual are prohibited, this includes any and all behaviour that can be considered as either harassment or bullying.
  - E. No spamming
- III. Enforcement of the rules will follow these guidelines:
  - A. Any attempts to circumvent, bend or otherwise 'play' with any of these rules will be treated as the member breaking the rule in question.
  - B. The rules may be modified or additional rules added at any time at the discretion of the Quadrumvirate.
  - C. The speakership have discretion in enforcing the rules.
  - D. If a member breaks one of these rules they are to be immediately issued with the appropriate strike.
  - E. If an offence is serious enough it can be immediately made into a 2nd or 3rd strike at the discretion of the speakership.
  - F. Doxxing is an immediate 3rd strike.
  - G. Punishments for major offences (e.g doxxing, discriminatory behaviour and targeted attacks on other members) will be enforced by the speakership, even if the offences are committed on a server other than the main server.

IV. The numerous strikes result in the following bans:

Strike Level	Punishment	Probationary period
First Strike	24 hours (1 day)	2 weeks
Second Strike	168 hours (7 days)	2 months
Third Strike	672 hours (28 days) - Permanent	4 months

V. The following conditions apply to any Discord Bans and Strikes handed out:

- A. After the punishment has expired, a probationary period begins whereby if there are no further punishments issued within that period, the member's strike level decreases by 1. Each probationary period that passes without a punishment being issued reduces the strike level by 1 until the member is no longer on any strike.
- B. Three 1st strike offences over a 2 month period will automatically become a 2nd strike.
- C. Three 2nd strike offences over a 6 month period will automatically become a 3rd strike.
- D. Three 3rd strike offences over a 1 year period will result in expulsion from the main server.
- E. The length of a 3rd strike ban can only be set by the Quadrumvirate.
- F. All discord bans shall be a ban from the entirety of the main server, not just the main chat.
- G. The Quadrumvirate reserves the right to extend any discord ban to reddit if they believe the offence to be serious enough.
- H. All bans may be appealed, once, by modmailing /r/MHOC, in your message include any and all information that may be relevant to your appeal.
- I. All appeals will be overseen by the Quadrumvirate and their decision on the appeal will be final.

VI. All Discord Bans must be accurately recorded, with proof, in the private Speakership Discord Spreadsheet.

VII. All punishment will result in a full ban from the entire server/s.

# Article 14 - The Constitution

## *The Constitution*

The complete constitution should be wholly voted on by all MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, moderators on /r/MHoC, /r/mstormont, /r/mholyrood or /r/MHoL and individuals approved by the Head Moderator before being implemented.

- I. Only the Head Moderator may make changes to the constitution without a vote, or may ignore it completely in cases where it is necessary.
- II. The constitution is the supreme document that rules over MHoC. It cannot be changed or overruled by ingame legislation, and any meta vote on an issue that would require a change to the constitution must be noted as such.
- III. Minor changes such as grammatical and spelling are permitted without a vote.
- IV. Any individual can suggest a change to the constitution at any time.
  - A. Unless there is a reason for the Head Moderator to veto a vote on the change, it can be debated on /r/MHoCMeta.
  - B. For a change in the constitution to be permitted, it needs to receive the support of half of all people that vote.
    1. Only MPs, MLAs, MSPs, Lords, moderators on /r/MHoC, /r/mstormont, /r/mholyrood or /r/MHoL and individuals approved by the Head Moderator can vote.

# Article 15 - Miscellaneous

## Section 1

### *The Archivists*

The Archivists are responsible for building and creating an accessible history of MHoC. Each member will have specific focus points and are free to raise ideas for what to archive and how to archive.

- I. Archivists are to be appointed by the Head Moderator at the time, or by /u/Timanfya.
- II. Archivists can be given necessary permissions to enter private unused subreddits - such as now defunct parties - for the sole purposes of building an archive.
- III. All Archivist work should, eventually, be posted to /r/MHOCArchive.
- IV. The Head Moderator has responsibility for archiving their 'era' of when they were in the position should they choose to do so.
- V. Sensitive information, such as personally identifiable information, and other information which the original author specifically requests they do not want to be made public, should not be made public.

## Section 2

### *Discord Chat Canonicity*

Discord is a vital part of the community and for that reason it is reasonable to expect some places where what you say could be used against you.

- I. Messages within #the\_red\_lion on the main discord server are always canon.
- II. Messages within #main on the main discord server are never canon.
- III. Messages within social servers - such as the MHOC Games Server - are never canon.
- IV. Messages within general chat rooms - that is, chat rooms with no dedicated purpose in terms of MHOC - on discord servers are not canon.
- V. Messages within chat rooms focusing on a specific purpose - for instance, a chat room discussing the Budget, or for departmental discussions - are considered canon.
- VI. Private Messages are considered non-canon, except in the context of a policy discussion or a journalist's interview/questioning.
- VII. Quadrumvirate discretion is to be used if the purpose of a server is not entirely clear.

## Section 3

### Events

- I. All events which occur in real life shall be treated as canon unless the Quadrumvirate state otherwise.
  - A. If a member is planning to do something, relating to a real life event, then they must contact a member of the Quadrumvirate, awaiting a go-ahead, before proceeding.
- II. Moderator fabricated events can be entirely fictitious or relate to ongoing in the house - such as the passage of a bill or a statement by the Government.
- III. An events team should be created, overseen by the Head Moderator, which will primarily be responsible for the creation of events.
  - A. Events should have a clear plan consisting of a background, timeline, plans for progression based on actions and a definitive ending.
  - B. The Head Moderator will have final say on whether or not an event can go ahead.

## Section 4

### MHoC Time

- I. Budgets should be written with a projection of 5 years (1 sixth month term).
- II. Budgets should be written using the previous budget figures for population, growth and inflation.
  - A. If this information is not available then the current year bases should be used.
- III. Upon starting a new term the game time is reset to the current year.
  - A. The Budget sets its datum from this point.
- IV. All other references of time should work from the ratio of 5 years real time: 6 months game time.
- V. Clauses in legislation that state 'Coming into effect x months after Royal Assent' are assumed to refer to real time.

## Section 5

### Press Alternative Accounts

Allowing members of the sim to operate under different aliases and accounts in /r/mhocpress and their own press subreddits is a fundamental part of the game. To ensure it remains fair the Head Moderator must be aware of who is operating these accounts.

- I. Anyone who creates an alternative account for press purposes, involving leaking, polling, spreading rumours, hit pieces etc must inform the head moderator of their normal MHoC account where it will be recorded.
  - A. If this is not done then all posts shall be removed.
  - B. If the information is not supplied within 2 days of request then the user will be banned until the request is abided by.
- II. All Press alternate accounts are still bound by the same rules as everyone else and may not try to gain access to another party subreddit or discord.

*Notes by the Authors:*

*The inner workings of Holyrood and Stormont should be specifically clarified in this document once the Devolved Speaker has been elected and conducted any changes they wish to undertake.*

*The election system used in the next election should also be included when the time comes.*

*Procedures for working referendums must also be included after they've been firmly established for the upcoming EU Single Market Referendum.*