

Provisional State Assembly

Standing Orders

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Chapter 1: Definitions and Roles

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Definitions

Amendments: An act to change an existing part of the constitution or stance.

Assent: Sending a bill or amendment to the Prime Minister or President of the United States of Argonath

Bill: A piece of legislation designed to effect the constitution or become law.

Clerk: A public servant designated by the assembly to record events and ideas during large-scale meetings.

Division: A formal vote taken to determine a point of business.

Majority: The side that has the most votes.

Member: An accepted player who is part of the Assembly. Shall be addressed as “Honourable Member [NAME]”.

Motion: An informal vote to determine on a certain point.

Notice: An informed note that wishes the Assembly to convene on a certain time for a certain subject

Order (When Said by the Speaker): All members to settle down.

Point of Order: An interjection regarding a certain issue in regards to another member’s point or speaker’s point.

Session: The current meeting of all available members at a certain period of time.

Speaker: A public servant designated by the assembly to moderate the assembly’s sessions. Shall be addressed as “Mr/Madam Speaker”.

Speaker pro tempore: A member who holds the deputy position by the assembly in case the speaker should be away. Shall be addressed as “Mr/Madam Speaker pro tempore”.

Roles

Member: Should attend sessions if possible, allowed to make a point of order or interjection, propose amendments and bills and put forward motions. Must have some understanding of the standing orders.

Speaker: Should attend sessions if possible, make decisions that affect the members of the assembly, suspend members from the assembly for a certain set period of time and should impartiality and not bias. Should moderate discussions. And temporarily hold the notes of sessions until such time where a Clerk is needed. Must have high understanding of the standing orders.

Chapter 2: Speaker's Powers and Responsibilities

- (2) That the role of speaker is defined by Standing Order 1.
 - a) That if the speaker is unable to attend, the appointed Speaker pro tempore will take over speaker duties.
- (3) That a speaker should control debate and prevent disruption during sessions.
 - a) If a member continues to interject and disrupt sessions they may be warned in a verbal form. However the Speaker however must make it clear or obvious to the member that a warning has been issued to the member.
 - b) If a member continues their disruption, they should be asked to remove themselves by the speaker without any questions.
 - c) If a member refuses to remove themselves from the house, they shall be named by the speaker and permission for the speaker to move an explicit motion to remove the member is granted.
- (5) From Standing Orders 3B and 3C, the member is to be suspended from the assembly for the whole session.
- (6) Should the motion not pass from Standing Order 3C, the assembly's confidence in the speaker is to be questioned and any member should move a vote of no confidence in the speaker.
 - a) If no motion is moved within a period of 2 minutes, the confidence in the Speaker is restored without question.
 - i) The incident of the Speaker failing to pass a motion of removal can be referred to in another motion of no confidence.
 - b) If the motion passed is a majority, the speaker no longer has a position within the assembly and shall remove themselves from the assembly accordingly.
- (7) Should a member fail to remove yet again, the chair is allowed to order the Serjeant at Arms to remove the gross disorderly member.
- (8) Should the speaker be unable to keep the Assembly in order, the Speaker may;
 - a) The Speaker shall order the current member standing to resume their seat and stand on his feet.
 - i) The house must come to order when the speaker stands.
 - ii) Members that persist are to sanctioned under Standing Orders 3B and 3C.
 - b) As mentioned in Standing Order 8A, if the Speaker continues this for a minimum of 3 times, the Speaker may suspend the sitting until the next set session.
- (9) The speaker is under no circumstances to make personal attacks or indirectly attack a member of the Assembly.
- (10) The speaker should have a full understanding of the standing orders.
 - a) A speaker who misinterprets the standing orders, may be a reason to move a motion of no confidence in the speaker.

Chapter 3: Business of the Assembly

(11) The Assembly shall convene on set sessions or emergency sessions to discuss issues that any member of the Assembly thinks the Assembly should address.

a) A session may begin with at least half members available.

i) Unless a set time was set by a majority of the Assembly's Members.

ii) Unless an Emergency Session must be held.

(12) The Assembly's Clerk or Speaker will introduces items on the agenda for the set session to be discussed.

a. This may be overruled should an emergency session be held or the assembly agrees to discuss a more urgent matter moved by a motion that results in a majority of the affirmative.

(12) The Assembly's Clerk or Speaker will forward these new issues to the end of the agenda document unless the matter is urgent.

(13) Any member is allowed to make a contribution to the Assembly.

(14) The Assembly must come to conclusion on a item on the agenda or push it back for further discussion.

(15) The Assembly will adjourn at the request of any member.

i) A member may raise a point of order in regards to adjourning, at this point, the house may conduct a motion to adjourn or not.

(16) The remaining items on the agenda of time of adjournment shall be moved by the Clerk or Speaker to the top of the next sitting/session.

(17) Should a member be away for a session he wishes to attend, he may make a statement and forward the statement to a member who will read the statement during the session.

Chapter 4: Debate, Order and Disorder

(18) Each Member will respect each other and remain silent during a member's speech.

a) Unruly members will be handled according to Standing Order 3.

b) An unruly assembly will be handled according to Standing Orders 8 through to 9.

(19) Each Member shall respect the Speaker and other Public Servants in the Assembly.

a) Members who fail to do so may be handled according to Standing Order 3.

(20) The Speaker has the power to make rulings which apply throughout the assembly.

a) Failure to adhere and comply with these rulings may be handled according to Standing Order 3.

(21) Members may make points of order, to inform other members in relevant matters.

a) Members shall not abuse points of order, the Speaker or Chair may take action against the Members and handle with accordance of Standing Order 3.

(22) Members will resume their seats when asked to by the chair, should they refuse, they will be handled according to Standing Order 3.

Chapter 5: Motions and Voting

(23) Members and Speakers shall have the right to move motions and vote in regards to any of the relevant matters.

- a) The Assembly's Position on Certain Subjects/Topics. (Standing Order 14)
- b) Motions of Censure. (Standing Order 26)
- c) Motions of No Confidence; (Standing Order 27)
 - i) In the Speaker,
 - ii) In any member.
- d) Suspending Members from the Assembly. (Standing Order 28)
- e) To adjourn the Assembly. (Standing Order 29)
- f) To suspend most of the sessional and standing orders. (Standing Order 30)

(24) Motions shall be started by a member moving the motion, then the speaker putting the question: "The question is to agree to the motion put forward by the member, all those up in the opinion say Aye (waiting for Ayes), contrary No's (waiting for No's)".

- a) The Speaker will then make his decision by saying "I think the [Ayes/No's] have it".
- b) Should the other side resist, they shall say "We think the [Ayes/No's] have it".
- c) The Speaker will call a division (refer to Standing Order 1) and say "A division is required, [(OPTIONAL), Clerk] ring the bells for [TIME HERE]."
- i) The time specified shall not exceed 10 minutes.
- d) The division will be conducted with the Ayes sitting left of the chair and the No's on the right.
- e) A count of all members shall be taken on each side and reported to the Speaker.
- f) The side with the majority shall be announced by the Speaker and that side's decision shall be applied to the motion.

(25) That debate will be dissolved during motions and no disruptions are to be heard during the division/motions.

- i) Those who desist will be handled by the speaker in accordance with Standing Order 3.

(26) Motions of Censure are motions taken by the Assembly to publicly disapprove of a certain issue/person or organisation.

- a) Motions of Censure require a suspension of most of the sessional and standing orders.
 - i) Or an absolute majority of the assembly in which all members will stand if they wish to proceed or grant "Leave" with the motion of Censure.
- b) Motions of Censure have no structural impact on anything but may have a large social impact.

(27) Motions of No Confidence are motions taken by the Assembly to remove someone from a certain position.

- a) Motions of No Confidence require suspension of most of the sessional and standing orders.
 - i) Or an absolute majority of the assembly in which all members will stand if they wish to proceed or grant "Leave" with the motion of No Confidence.
- b)

(28) Motions of Suspension of Members from the Assembly are motions that are taken by the assembly to order another member to leave the Assembly for a stated time specified by the Speaker.

- i) These may be moved by only the Speaker.
- ii) Members will remove themselves accordingly or possibly be forced out by a Law Enforcement Officer.

(29) Motions to Adjourn the Assembly are motions taken by the assembly to adjourn to the next session and move all remaining items on the agenda to the next session.

i) May be moved by any member.

(30) Motions to Suspend most of the Sessional and Standing Orders are motions taken by the assembly to allow members to move other motions which they have requested to move, in which "Leave" was not granted.

(31) Motions shall not be abused by members.

a) The chair or speaker shall make rulings whether a certain motion is disorderly, if so can cancel the motion and furthermore handle the member according to Standing Order 3C.

Chapter 6. Bills

(32) The Assembly may move “Bills” or acts of Legislation or Amendments to existing Legislation.

a) The Assembly shall at least have 2 points of contribution towards it. (Standing Order 13).

(33) The Assembly must first hear the entire bill and have access to an online version of the Bill. This is referred to the First Reading

(34) The Assembly will then move to a motion in accordance with Standing Order 13. This referred to the Second Reading.

a) If one “No” is heard, the Assembly must order a Division, handled accordingly by the Speaker by saying “The Question that the Bill be passed by this Assembly”.

b) The Assembly shall then conduct otherwise normal Division.

c) The result of the Division is then applied to the Bill

i) If in the affirmative, the Bill will then be forwarded to Assent. (Standing Order 35)

Chapter 7: Assent

(35) The bill will then be forwarded to the President of the United States of Argonath or Vice President/Prime Minister of the United States of Argonath or appointed Official to approving laws.