

STANDING RULES FOR DEBATE

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING CONDUCT

The Annual Council Meeting is a time to come together in fellowship and celebration of girls! To help you understand how the meeting is conducted, here are some of the “standing rules” used to guide the Annual Council Meeting:

1. All debate must be relevant to the question immediately before the Council.
2. Only Council Voting Members may introduce motions, debate and vote.
3. No one may speak for more than two minutes at any one time or more than once on the same question.
4. Total debate time for each motion shall be limited to ten minutes.
5. All motions need to be in writing, and are handed to the Teller upon recognition by the Chair.
6. Voting Members who wish to speak must follow these steps:
 - » Go to the nearest microphone on the floor.
 - » Present your voting member card to the Teller at the microphone.
 - » State if you are speaking “for” or “against” the motion, or to “give information.” The Teller at the microphone will indicate to the Chair what your debate will be about by using cards (green card denotes “for,” red card denotes “against,” and white card denotes “information only”). The Chair will alternate as best as possible between those speaking “for” and “against” the motion on the floor.
7. Once the Chair has recognized you, state your name and Voting Member position (for example, the name of the Governing Area you represent) and proceed with the discussion.

Parliamentary procedure is used to run the business session of the meeting. To help familiarize you with what this means, please review the Parliamentary Procedure description sheet included in this folder.