



RIVER VALLEY
MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2019
DELEGATE RULES OF PROCEDURE



GENERAL RULES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The conference will be conducted in English. Delegates are expected to speak and write in English at all times during committee sessions.
2. The dress code for the conference is Western Business Attire. School uniforms and blazers are discouraged.
3. The use of electronic devices for research purposes is permitted in committee sessions. However, the use of communication applications e.g. WhatsApp and other social media platforms are strictly forbidden during committee sessions. The Dais reserve the right to suspend the use of electronic devices should this policy be violated.
4. Delegates are expected to treat all teachers, Secretariat members, Conference Staff, Dais and Delegates with respect. Errant delegates would be strictly dealt with.
5. The dais reserve the right to accept or decline any motion they view to be non-beneficial to debate by their discretion. The Dais also reserve the right to alter the Rules of Procedure in order to facilitate debate during committee sessions.
6. Delegates are expected to refer to themselves in third person during committee sessions.
7. Delegates must have a 70% attendance rate to be eligible for a Certificate of Participation and any awards.
8. Delegates who would be leaving early/arriving late or missing any committee sessions must inform their respective committee Dais through email at least one day before, with a valid reason.



DEBATE PROCEDURE

1. ROLL CALL

- a. Roll call takes place at the beginning of the committee session.
- b. Delegates are to raise their placards and state “Present” or “Present and Voting” when their Delegation is called by the dais.
- c. Observer states are only allowed to announce that they are “Present” during roll call as they do not have voting rights on substantive matters.
- d. Delegations which announce that they are “Present” will not be allowed to vote on substantive matters.
- e. Delegates who have arrived late must send a note paper to their chairs to indicate their attendance and voting status.

2. OPENING SPEECHES

- a. Delegations will be recognised in alphabetical order.
- b. Delegates are given 90 seconds to deliver their opening speeches.
- c. An opening speech should contain the Delegation’s stance and proposed solutions.
- d. During Opening Speeches, note passing will not be in order.



3. GENERAL DEBATE

- a. After opening speeches, the committee will move into the General Speaker's List (GSL).
- b. Note passing is in order during General Debate.
- c. When the Dais call for speakers, Delegates who wish to be added to the GSL can raise their placards. Alternatively, they can send a note paper to the Dais to request to be added to the GSL.
- d. Delegates have 90 seconds of speaking time. They are free to raise any issues in their speeches. At the end of their speech, Delegates are required to yield their time. (refer to Section 4)
- e. Committee can temporarily move out of General Debate and proceed into other forms of debate such as Moderated and Unmoderated Caucuses. (refer to Section 5)

4. YIELDING

- a. Yielding is in necessary for speeches during General Debate. There are 3 forms of yielding.
- b. Yielding back to the Dais: Delegates pass the time back to the Dais and return back to their seats.
- c. Yielding to Points of Information: Delegates open themselves up to any questions from the floor about the content of their speech. Depending on the amount of time left, the Dais can decide whether to entertain such a yield, and if so, the number of questions that will be entertained.
- d. Yielding to another Delegate: Delegates pass their remaining time to another Delegate, who can choose to accept, or reject the yield. However, secondary yielding is not in order; thus, the Delegate who accepted the yield can only yield his time back to the Dais at the end of his speech.



5. CAUCUSES

- a. The maximum time for any Moderated or UnModerated Caucus is 20 minutes.
- b. An UnModerated Caucus refers to an informal debate where Delegates can freely move about to engage other Delegates in discussions. A topic is not required for Unmoderated Caucuses.
 - i. The Delegate who motions for the UnModerated Caucus will be given 90 seconds to summarise the discussion during the UnModerated Caucus. The Delegate does not have to yield his time at the end of his speech.
- c. A Moderated Caucus refers to formal debate on a specific sub-topic pertaining to the issue. The total and individual speaking time is set by the Delegate who motions for this Moderated Caucus.
 - i. The Delegate who motions for the Moderated Caucus will be given the option to speak first or last on the Caucus.
 - ii. When the Dais call for speakers, Delegates who wish to speak on the Moderated Caucus can raise their placards.
 - iii. Delegates do not have to yield their time at the end of their speech.



6. PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

- a. Procedural Motions require a simple majority (>50%) to pass. Abstentions are not in order during Procedural Voting.
- b. The motions will be entertained and voted upon from the most to least disruptive.
- c. Motion to Suspend Debate: ends debate at the last committee session of the conference.
- d. The motions would be entertained and voted upon from the most to least disruptive, in the following order:
 - i. Motion to Suspend Debate: closes debate at the last committee session of the conference
 - ii. Motion to Adjourn Debate: puts debate on hold for purposes of lunch breaks or to end off the last committee session of the day.
 - iii. Motion for Unmoderated Caucus (refer to Section 5b)
 - iv. Motion for Moderated Caucus (refer to Section 5c)
 - v. Motion to Introduce Draft Resolution (refer to Section 8)
 - vi. Motion to Introduce Unfriendly Amendment (refer to Section 9)
 - vii. Motion to move into Direct Voting Procedure (refer to Section 10)



7. POINTS

- a. Right to Reply: This point can be raised by Delegates when they feel personally offended by another Delegate. This includes: personal attacks that insult a Delegate or his country. Delegates may only raise a Right to Reply after the Delegate at the podium has completed his speech to avoid any disruption.
- b. Point of Personal Privilege: This point can be raised by Delegates regarding their personal welfare. Points of Personal Privilege encompasses issues pertaining to audibility or requests to use the washroom.
 - i. To raise a point of personal privilege, Delegates may either raise their placards, or send a note paper to the chairs. For RVMUN, the latter is preferred to minimise disruptions during debate with exceptions of audibility issues.
- c. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: This point can be raised to clarify anything related to protocol or committee proceedings.
- d. Point of Order: This point can be raised to point out any protocol errors committed by the Dais.



8. RESOLUTION

- a. After substantial debate on the issue, Delegates can craft resolutions to propose various solutions to the issue.
- b. Delegates are strictly not allowed to refer to or circulate any Draft Resolutions which have not been introduced in the committee.
- c. All solutions included in the Draft Resolution must be discussed in committee. Any forms of plagiarism or pre-writing would be strictly dealt with.
- d. There must be 1 main submitter and 3 co-submitters for each Draft Resolution, with 20% of the committee as signatories before the Draft Resolution can be submitted to the Dais.
- e. To submit a Draft Resolution, Delegates may email a copy of the Draft Resolution to Dais or submit it via a thumbdrive.
- f. Delegates can Motion to Introduce the Draft Resolution after the Dais have read and informed the Delegate that it can be introduced.
- g. Upon the introduction of a Draft Resolution, the main submitter would be invited to read out the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution. Thereafter, the committee would be given a stipulated reading time by the discretion of the Dais. The main submitter would then have 90 seconds to speak for the Draft Resolution.
- h. The committee would then move into closed debate on the Draft Resolution, with 2 speakers for, and 2 speakers against the Draft Resolution. Yielding is not in order during closed debate.
- i. Thereafter, the committee moves back into Open Debate on the Draft Resolution.



9. AMENDMENTS

- a. Amendments allows the committee to make changes to the Draft Resolution such as adding, deleting or edit any clauses in the Draft Resolution. To submit an amendment, Delegates can send a note paper or email the Dais.
- b. Friendly Amendments are Amendments which have been approved by all main and co-submitters. All main and co-submitters are required to sign the Amendment in order for it to be recognised as a Friendly Amendment. Upon submission to the Dais, the Friendly Amendment would be announced to the committee.
- c. Unfriendly Amendments are Amendments which have not been approved by the submitters. Delegates can submit Unfriendly Amendments to the Dais and after approval, they can Motion to Introduce the Unfriendly Amendment. The Introduction of the Unfriendly Amendment follows the protocol of the Introduction of the Draft Resolution. (refer to Section 8)
- d. However, if more than 50% of the clauses in the Draft Resolution has been amended, the Draft Resolution is automatically tabled.



10. VOTING ON RESOLUTION AND UNFRIENDLY AMENDMENTS

- a. To vote on Draft Resolutions or Unfriendly Amendments, the main submitter must raise a Motion to move into Direct Voting Procedure on the Draft Resolution/ Amendment. After the motion passes, the committee will move into Direct Voting Procedures.
- b. During Direct Voting Procedures on the Draft Resolution/ Unfriendly Amendment, note-passing will be suspended and Delegates would not be allowed to leave the committee venue.
- c. To pass the Draft Resolution/ Unfriendly Amendment, a substantive majority ($>2/3$ of the committee) is required. Delegates can choose to vote for, against, or abstain from voting. Observer States will not have voting rights during Direct Voting Procedure, and by default, abstains.
- d. Only one Draft Resolution can be passed per topic. Should the Draft Resolution pass, the committee moves into the second topic. However, if the Draft Resolution fails, the committee moves back into General Debate on the topic.
- e. During Direct Voting Procedures, the Motion to Divide the House and the Motion to Divide the Question may be raised.
 - i. Motion to Divide the House: This motion can be raised before or after Direct Voting Procedures. When this motion has been passed, all Delegates with voting rights will not be allowed to abstain and must vote either for or against. This motion can be raised after the Draft Resolution fails by a close margin.
 - ii. Motion to Divide the Question: This motion is raised when the committee is unable to come to an agreement on certain clauses. When this motion has been passed, all Delegates will vote substantively on the Draft Resolution clause by clause. Abstentions are in order when Dividing the Question. If more than 50% of the clauses in the Draft Resolution fails, the Draft Resolution automatically fails.