

## Voting Delegates vs. Attendees

- Voting Delegate — The voting delegate registration and fee is the same as for attendees, but these members have been authorized as voting delegates by their local PTA or council president by the required deadline. Voting delegates may attend and participate in the debate and voting in the general sessions of Convention on behalf of their local PTA or council.
- Attendees who are not authorized as voting delegates by their local PTA or council president by the deadline may attend, but not participate in, general sessions.

## What will be voted on during Convention?

- Delegates will vote on adoption of the agenda and standing rules.
- Delegates will vote on proposed amendments to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws*.
- Voting will occur during General Session 1, the business meeting of the association, on Saturday, May 22.

## Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Debate

Amendment #1 - Clarification of where officer resignations should be submitted.

Amendment #2 - Clarification of, and removing barriers for, PTA membership.

Amendment #3 - Clarification of, and removing barriers for, PTA membership dues.

Amendment #4 - Creates a new class of membership. Amendment #4 is in nine parts. All nine parts form a single proposal; a single vote will be taken on all the parts together.

## Amendments

- Motions to amend a proposed bylaw amendment or the 2021 WSPTA Convention Special Rules of Order (standing rules for the business session) are required to be pre-filed in advance by a registered voting delegate by the published deadline. Amendments will not be taken from the floor.
- Amendments will only be considered at Convention if they are reported to the assembly by the amendments committee (see below).
- Secondary amendments to a main motion will not be permitted.

## Amendment Committee

- The committee will work with amendment submitters to prepare suitable amendments that have the same effect as the proposed amendments.
- Amendments will be listed in a logical order to the Convention body without a recommendation for action from the committee.
- The committee may decide not to report an amendment to the Convention with a 2/3 vote of the committee.
- Each amendment that is not reported to the Convention body, along with the reason it was not reported, will be listed for voting delegates.
- Reasons an amendment may not be reported to the Convention body include:
  - The amendment was not received by the advertised deadline.
  - The amendment was not submitted by a registered and authorized voting delegate.
  - The amendment conflicts with the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws* or with National PTA Bylaws.

- The amendment is not consistent with PTA purposes, values, vision and mission, and does not relate to the health, safety, well-being, and education of children and youth.
- The amendment harms or negatively impacts WSPTA (including, but not limited to, legal, financial, volunteers and other resources, as well as implications to existing partnership and coalition agreements)
- Amendments to correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, style, cross-references and make other technical changes will be handled by the committee, so amendments to correct these items are not in order.

## Speech & Debate During General Sessions

### (See also Flow Diagram of Bylaws Voting Process)

- A voting delegate wishing to speak in debate on the pending motion shall send a message to “All Panelists” using the Zoom chat feature and shall indicate in the message “speak pro” to speak in favor or “speak con” to speak against the motion.
- A voting delegate who wishes to make a motion shall send the motion to “All Panelists” using the Zoom chat feature.
- Use of the chat window is restricted to requests to be added to the speakers’ list and posting the text of intended motions.
- A voting delegate who has a request for information, a parliamentary inquiry or wishes to raise a point of order or a question of privilege shall type the question or point in the Zoom Q&A feature, and then the Points of Order/Inquiries monitor will read the question aloud when called on by the chair.
- For each proposed bylaws amendment, and any motions to amend the proposed bylaws amendments, the first speaker in favor and the first speaker opposed may be designated by the attendees of the corresponding information session.
- Each speech in debate shall be limited to 90 seconds.
- Debate on the main motion to adopt each proposed bylaws amendment shall be limited to three speakers in favor and three opposed. Debate on all other debatable motions shall be limited to two speakers in favor and two opposed. Once this limit has been reached on a main motion, debate shall be closed, and the vote shall be taken on the main motion. This rule does not prohibit motions to postpone or refer to a committee.
- After the introduction of a proposed bylaws amendment, one voting delegate may speak in favor, followed by one voting delegate in opposition, followed by the consideration of amendments, followed by the remaining debate on the main motion.

## Making a Motion

- A voting delegate who wishes to make a motion shall send the motion using the Zoom chat feature.
- After recognition by the chair the voting delegate making the motion will be unmuted and will say, “I move that...” or “I move to...” (stating what you want to be done).
- Before the motion can be discussed, it must be seconded by another voting delegate by typing “second” into the Zoom chat. The purpose of the second is to be sure that someone else wants to consider your idea. If there is no second, the matter is dropped and does not come before the meeting for decision.

- Once a motion has been made and seconded, it will be restated by the chair and discussed.
- The maker of the motion will be the first person recognized to speak.
- If your motion is not relevant (germane), the chair will rule the motion out of order at the current time.
- Secondary amendments to pre-filed amendments will not be permitted.

## Points of Order/Inquiries

- A voting delegate who has a request for information, a parliamentary inquiry, or wishes to raise a point of order or a question of privilege shall type out and send the question or point of order/inquiry using the Zoom Q&A feature.
- The Points of Order/Inquiries monitor will read the question aloud when called on by the chair.
- If the question is not relevant (germane), the chair will rule the question out of order at the current time.
- Request for Information/Inquiry:
  - If a voting delegate does not understand what is happening during the meeting, they may ask a question:
    - Sometimes the issues get confusing, and you do not know which motion is being discussed.
    - You may have a question on the effect of a vote under consideration.
  - The chair will take this up before recognizing the next speaker.
  - The inquiry must be a specific question to ask for factual information or to ask a procedural question.
  - It must not be to make a point in rebuttal or to clarify a point made in debate.
  - Rhetorical questions are debate, not requests for information.
  - The chair will respond to your question or ask someone to answer, and there will be no discussion.
- Points of Order
  - If a voting delegate believes a procedural rule is being violated or ignored, they may raise a point of order.
  - Points of order will be ruled on by the chair, subject to appeal by the delegates.

## Voting

- Voting delegates are voting on behalf of their local PTA/PTSA or council.
- Deletions to an amendment are shown as a strikethrough.
- Additions to an amendment are shown in boldface and underlined.
- Voting delegates will vote using ElectionBuddy and will have received login credential prior to the Convention. A different method of voting may be used at the chair's discretion.
- Attendees who are not authorized voting delegates may not vote.
- The polls will remain open at least 30 seconds for each vote.

## General Meeting

- Each attendee will be asked to set the name field in Zoom to their full name.
- Attendees will be muted and will not be visible on screen unless given speaking rights by the chair.

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## Recording

- Attendees may not record or stream the business meeting of the convention without prior approval of the chair in writing.

## Technical Information

- Laptops and desktops are recommended for full functionality on Whova and Zoom, but attendees may join the meeting on any computer or smart device with an internet connection (via the Whova app or website).
- All attendees must mute their microphones when they are not speaking.
- Each delegate is responsible for their connection to the internet. No action will be invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a delegate's individual connection prevented them from participating in the meeting, provided that at least a quorum of delegates was connected and adequately able to participate.
- The chair may cause or direct the temporary disconnection or muting of an attendee's connection if it is causing undue interference with the meeting. The chair's decision to do so will be announced during the meeting.
- The chair may adjust the standing rules to accommodate limitations in the technology used to conduct the meeting.