

## 2026 WSPTA Annual Meeting Standing Rules

*(The debate rules and time limits in these standing rules apply to the proposed bylaw amendment and resolutions. Elections, including nominating committee elections, will be conducted in accordance with the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws and do not include pro/con debate. Voting for elections is by ballot and a plurality vote elects.)*

1. **Voting Credentials:** Only voting delegates with voting credential cards have the right to voice and vote. Lost voting credential cards will not be replaced.
2. **Speaking in Debate:** A voting delegate wishing to speak in favor (for or pro) or against (opposed or con) the pending motion must proceed to the appropriate microphone.
3. **Requesting Information:** A voting delegate wishing to make a request for information or a parliamentary inquiry must proceed to the “info” microphone.
4. **Recognition by the Chair:** When recognized by the chair, the voting delegate will give their name, and the name of the local PTA or council represented or WSPTA position held.
5. **Length of Speeches:** No voting delegate shall speak for more than 90 seconds at a time or more than twice on any pending item of business.
6. **Total Debate Time per Main Motion:** Total debate time for each main motion shall be a total of twelve (12) minutes. The total time clock will stop for all matters and replies at the “info” microphone. The total time clock may also be stopped by the chair as needed. The chair will clearly announce when the total debate clock is paused and resumed.
7. **Motions to Amend the Proposed Bylaw Amendment:** To be considered, motions to amend the proposed bylaw amendment must use the motion form and be pre-submitted by **1:30 pm on Saturday, May 16**. The motion must be found in order by the chair. Motion makers are still required to line up at the “motions” microphone when debate on the bylaws amendment they want to amend begins and wait to be recognized by the chair.
8. **Review and Consideration:** Proposed motions to amend the proposed bylaw amendment will be reviewed for conformity with established submission guidelines and may be put into proper form. Amendments to the proposed bylaws amendment will be considered in the order in which they are received.
9. **Motions to Amend Resolutions, Other Main Motions, and Motions to Make Secondary Amendments:** After the introduction of a main motion, a voting delegate wishing to propose an amendment to a resolution or main motion, or a secondary amendment, shall submit the motion in writing, on a motion form available from the microphone tables, proceed to the “motions” microphone, and wait to be recognized by the chair. When a resolution is presented for debate, only the specific words in the shaded boxes of the resolution, as shown in the *Annual Meeting Voter’s Program* are open for discussion and amendment.
10. **Debate Process without Motions:** After the introduction of a main motion, one voting delegate speaking in favor of the motion and one speaking against the motion will be given the opportunity to speak in debate before any amendments may be proposed. At the conclusion of the first speech in favor of the motion, if no voting delegate has approached the “con” microphone and there are no amendments or other motions, the vote on the main motion will be taken. If there is debate, the chair will recognize speakers at the “pro” and “con” microphones, alternating speakers when possible,

continuing until either the total debate time has expired, or no further speakers wish to speak.

11. **Debate Process with Motions to Amend:** If an amendment is proposed, the chair will recognize one voting delegate in favor of the amendment (the motion maker) and one voting delegate against the amendment before a secondary amendment may be proposed. The chair will alternate recognizing speakers at the “pro” and “con” microphones, continuing until either the total debate time has expired or no further speakers wish to speak. At the conclusion of the first speech in favor of the amendment, if no voting delegate has approached the “con” microphone and there are no secondary amendments or other motions, the vote on the amendments will be taken without further debate. If the amendment is adopted, the main motion will be considered as amended, and debate will resume on the amended main motion. If the amendment fails, debate will return to the main motion in its original form. This process will repeat for each subsequent amendment until all amendments have been processed or the total debate time for the main motion has expired. Only one secondary amendment may be considered at a time. Additional secondary amendments are not in order until the pending secondary amendment is disposed of. If time remains after all amendments have been addressed, debate on the main motion (as amended or as proposed if the amendment fails) will resume until the total debate time expires. When no further voting delegates wish to speak, or the total debate time has expired, the vote on the main motion will be taken. (See also *Flow Diagram of Debate and Voting Process*).
12. **Debate for Resolution Resolved Clauses:** Debate will proceed by resolved clauses, addressing one clause at a time in the order they are presented. For each resolved clause, if no voting delegate has approached the “con” microphone and no amendment has been proposed for that clause, the chair will move to the next resolved clause without further debate on that clause. If there is a con speaker or proposed amendment, debate and any amendments to that clause will be handled under these standing rules. After all resolved clauses have been considered, the vote on the resolution, as presented or amended, will be taken.
13. **Voting Process:** Voting delegates shall show their voting credential cards when voting. During a counted vote, no one may enter or leave the meeting room.
14. **Elections:** Elections, including any election of WSPTA nominating committee members, shall be conducted in accordance with the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws and WSPTA policy. These standing rules shall not be construed to alter the bylaws requirements for nominations, election method, vote required, election timing, or election procedures.
15. **Election Procedures During the Annual Meeting:** The debate procedures in these standing rules apply to motions pending before the body and do not apply to elections. Candidate speeches, if any, shall occur only as provided in the adopted agenda or program. Voting delegates shall follow ballot distribution, marking, collection, and submission instructions provided by the chair, Elections Oversight Committee, and/or tellers.