

Proposed By-laws Amendment on Voting Methods

Article X: Miscellaneous (to be added between existing Sections 2 and 3)

COMMENTARY:

The purpose of this amendment is to make clear that ranked voting methods are permissible for any order of business, including at the Assembly or at Board meetings. According to the Board's interpretation, such methods are already permissible as "Special Rules" when authorized by the Board (See **Article X, Section 3: "Special Rules:** The Board of Directors shall have the power to make, modify and rescind Special Rules from time to time consistent with these Bylaws."). Additional clarification in the Bylaws would clarify this option and thus increase efficiency.

This amendment is proposed for inclusion in **Article X: Miscellaneous** to make clear that it applies to all decision-making in the AEU, whether at the Assembly or in committees, by the Board, etc. The language is intentionally vague about *who* makes the decision about whether to use ranked voting because that decision would be made by whoever is normally responsible. In the case of procedures for the Assembly, the AEU Board would be making the decision (See the current **Article X, Section 3**, below), but in the case of the work of a committee or other body, the group would use its usual decision making processes.

Alternatively, this could also be added as **Section 12** under **Article II: Assembly**, if it were only to pertain to decisions made by the Assembly.

This document contains one (1) non-substantive revision to the proposal suggested during the Delegate discussion sessions. This revision removes the reference to the "relevant experts in ranked-choice voting systems" on the basis that it is superfluous.

CURRENTLY:

Section 2: Parliamentary Procedure:

The rules contained in the current revised edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order that may be adopted.

Section 3: Special Rules:

The Board of Directors shall have the power to make, modify and rescind Special Rules from time to time consistent with these Bylaws.

PROPOSED ADDITION (changes in red):

Section 2: Parliamentary Procedure:

The rules contained in the current revised edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order that may be adopted.

Section 3: Voting Methods:

Ranked voting methods may be used whenever votes are taken on any matter of business. When ranked voting methods are used, the percentage of affirmative votes required for a measure to pass remains the same. Any ranked voting method used must be one that preserves the intent of accurately capturing the preferences of the voters. ~~and be recommended by relevant experts in ranked voting systems.~~

Section 4: Special Rules:

The Board of Directors shall have the power to make, modify and rescind Special Rules from time to time consistent with these Bylaws.