



THIMUN DELEGATE PROCEDURE GUIDE

PROCEDURE GUIDE

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THIMUN LEARNING OUTCOMES

There are several fundamental differences between THIMUN and regular BMUN procedure. THIMUN's focus and flow of debate is different. Specifically, the differences are the following:

1. **THIMUN procedure is mostly focused on writing and amending resolutions.**

- BMUN Procedure: Opens with a speaker's list and you write resolutions during unmoderated caucuses.
- THIMUN Procedure: Debate begins with a completed resolution. The main goal of debate is to improve the resolution through amendments and ultimately pass it.

2. **There is more of a focus on diplomacy and teamwork.**

- BMUN Procedure: You vote against resolutions your country does not support.
- THIMUN Procedure: You help other delegates by amending resolutions and suggesting improvements rather than voting against resolutions.

ROLL CALL

- Roll call occurs during the beginning of each committee session
- You can respond with present or present and voting
 - Present: you can abstain from voting
 - Present and voting: you cannot abstain from voting

LOBBYING

- On the first day, delegates will participate in "lobbying." During this time, delegates discuss country positions and draft resolutions on the topics.
- Lobbying is similar to an unmoderated caucus. Delegates need to finish writing resolutions for both topics A and B during lobbying. Lobbying typically occupies the entirety of the first committee session, with no breaks for structured debate.
- Delegates need to submit resolutions before the end of the first session.



RESOLUTIONS

- 2 resolutions per topic is usually a good amount.
- When writing resolutions, you should form blocs with countries that have similar positions
- See resolutions page for structure and examples
- Resolutions can only have one main submitter, but it can have multiple sponsors
 - The main submitter presents and gives a speech on the resolution
 - At least 20% of the committee should be a sponsor on the resolution in order to consider it for debate

FLOW OF DEBATE

- After lobbying, debate follows in a manner similar to a perpetual speaker's list in BMUN debate. Specifically, the debate will proceed according to the following cycle:
 - **Floor is Open:** When the floor is open, the Chair should ask for a speaker on the current resolution or amendment being debated. As a delegate, you may also raise points to the chair or make motions.
 - **Speech:** If you were selected to speak, you will give a speech on the resolution or amend-

ment being debated. The default time limit is up to the discretion of the Chair and typically announced at the beginning of debate. The Chair may also amend the time limit at any time if time constraints require.

- **Points of Information:** After you have given your speech, the Chair should ask you if they are open to Points of Information. These are explained in more detail below.
- **Yield:** After taking Points of Information, or refusing to open themselves to Points of Information, you should yield the floor. Yielding is explained in more detail in the following section.

YIELDING

- Following the completion of your speech and exhaustion of all Points of Information, the Chair will ask you how you wish to yield. You can yield two ways:
 1. Yield to another delegate:
 - The Chair will then ask the delegate being yielded to whether they accept the yield. If they accept, they may then give a speech on the resolution or the amendment being debated. This can only be done once; ie, this new delegate cannot yield to another delegate.
 2. Yield to the Chair
 - You can choose to yield the floor back to the Chair, and the floor is open to all delegates again.

AMENDMENTS

- What are amendments?
 - Changes to the resolution you as a delegate can propose
 - Amendments can do one or more of the following: “strike,” “add,” or “modify”
- A “Strike” amendment proposes removing a specific operative clause, subclause, or any other subsidiary clause to the resolution.
- An “Add” amendment proposes adding an operative clause, subclause, or any other subsidiary clause to the resolution. If you are proposing the amendment, the added contents should be fully written out.
- A “Modify” amendment proposes modifying the wording of a specific section of the resolution, or

replacing it with something new entirely. In both cases, if you are the delegate proposing the amendment, the contents of the modified clause should be fully written out.

- Friendly amendments, which are approved by the main submitter and all sponsors of a resolution, and only make minor wording changes, are also allowed.
- Submitting amendments
 - Over the course of debate, you submit amendments to the dais by writing them on notes to the Chair. One member of the dais approves amendments to be debated.
 - Once an amendment has been approved by a member of the dais, they will communicate to you, such as via a note or during an unmoderated caucus.
- Amendment to the first degree
 - Change proposed to original resolution
 - Once an amendment has been approved by a dais member, the following sequence of events takes place:
 - When the floor is open, you raise your placard, and when recognized by the Chair, announce that you have submitted an amendment.
 - Chair sets a debate time on the amendment.
 - As the submitter, you make a speech and the committee enters debate on just the amendment.
 - Once debate time has elapsed, everyone votes on the amendment.
 - If the amendment to the first degree passes, the proposed changes are made to the resolution, and debate resumes on the modified resolution.
 - If the amendment to the first degree fails, the proposed changes are discarded, and debate resumes on the original resolution.
- Amendment to the second degree
 - Amendment to an amendment being debated.
 - Same process as an amendment to the first degree, but the debate time for an amendment to the second degree takes up part of the debate time for the original amendment.
 - If an amendment to the second degree passes, the changes are made to the original amendment, and the modified amendment automatically passes.
 - If an amendment to the second degree fails, no changes are made to the original amendment, and the committee moves back into debate on the original amendment.

POINTS

- During committee, you may raise “Points” whenever you have a question
- Different Points that can be raised:
 1. Point of information to the speaker (POI)
 - After a delegate has given a speech, you may ask them questions on the contents of the speech. How strictly the scope of POIs is restricted to the contents of the speech is up to the discretion of the Chair.
 - POIs are only taken if you are open to POIs. If you have just given a speech, the Chair will ask you if you are open to POIs. You are free to answer however you like, including by refusing all POIs, or restricting the quantity or scope of the POIs such as to a single POI, or only POIs about a certain topic. The typical answer is “Any and all.”
 - Once you have opened yourself up to POIs, the Chair should ask for POIs from the committee.
 - Only one question can be asked at a time, but delegates may ask the Chair for permission for a single follow up question.
 - No direct conversation between delegates is allowed. Instead, questions should be directed to the Chair, as if the Chair is relaying the POI to the speaker.
 - Ex. (addressing the Chair): “How does the delegate respond to the fact that their country is one of the biggest sources of pollution in the fast fashion industry?”
 2. Point of information to the Chair
 - A question directed to the Chair
 - May be raised whenever nobody is speaking
 - Ex. “How much time do we have left for this amendment?”
 3. Point of order
 - Can be raised if you believe the Chair has made a mistake in the rules of procedure
 - Ex. “Chair, you said that we will now be moving into voting procedure. Shouldn’t we address the amendments first?”
 4. Point of parliamentary enquiry
 - A question about rules of procedure
 - May be raised whenever nobody is speaking
 - Ex. “Will we be able to lobby during committee session 2?”
 5. Point of personal privilege
 - Question regarding your personal needs
 - The only time a speaker may be interrupted is when raising a point of personal privilege related to audibility.
 - Ex. “Can the delegate of [country] speak louder?”

MOTIONS

- Motions are actions you can propose that require support from the rest of the committee and the Chair's approval.
- Motions are typically raised when the floor is open.
- Motions typically move debate along. You typically need motions to move into another section of committee, for example, moving from debate to voting procedure.
 - Most motions raised require vocal support from at least one other delegate; this is known as a "second."
 - You can veto motions verbally by raising an objection.
 - Most motions are also ultimately up to the Chair's discretion, by either ruling a motion dilatory or overruling an objection.
- After a motion has been raised, in most cases, the Chair proceeds as follows:
 - After you make the motion, the Chair asks for any seconds from the house. The motion may fail if there are no seconds.
 - After taking note of any seconds, the Chair asks for any objections from the house. If there are objections, the motion fails, even if there were seconds. The Chair may overrule objections if they so choose.
 - If there were no objections, and the motion received at least one second, then the motion passes.
 - If the Chair wishes to rule a motion dilatory, then they should do so before asking for seconds.
- Most common motions:
 1. Motion to open/close debate - opens/closes committee discussion
 - Needs a second
 - Can be objected
 - Occurs before lobbying (Opening debate is part of QCIPR).
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
 2. Motion to move directly into voting procedure - allows the committee to end debate time on a resolution or amendment early and move directly into voting.
 - Needs second
 - Can be objected
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
 3. Motion to extend debate time by _ minutes - Extends debate time on the current amendment or resolution

- Needs second
 - Can be objected
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
4. Motion for an __ minute unmoderated caucus - unmoderated caucuses are time where you suspend regular committee procedure and talk freely amongst other delegates about resolutions, amendments, etc
- Needs second
 - Can be objected
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
- Other motions:
 1. Motion to table a resolution - temporarily shelves the resolution; the resolution can be debated on again only after all other resolutions on the agenda have been debated
 - Chair recognizes two speakers for and two speakers against the motion. If you raised the motion, you are one of the speakers for. Each speaker gets 30 seconds.
 - Goes to a vote, and requires a simple majority (50% + 1) to pass.
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
 2. Motion to reconsider a resolution - calls for a re-debate of resolution that has already been debated and voted on
 - Only valid if all other resolutions have been debated and voted upon
 - Goes to a vote, and requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass.
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
 3. Motion to withdraw a resolution - this motion can be raised at any time before voting by the main submitter and sponsors of the resolution
 - Only valid if the resolution's main submitter and sponsors or in unanimous agreement
 4. Motion to divide the house - if there are a large number of abstentions (larger than for or against), you can call for a roll call vote where abstentions are no longer permitted
 - Needs second
 - Objections are not permitted
 - Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion
 5. Motion to appeal the decision of the Chair - this motion overrules the decision of the Chair, and only pertains to the most recent decision the Chair has made
 - Requires you to give a 30-second speech if you raised the motion
 - Goes to a vote, and requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass
 - The Chair is powerless in this motion

VOTING PROCEDURE

- The doors to the committee room are secured to prevent people from entering and exiting during the vote.
- Based on whether you answered present or present in voting at the beginning of committee, you have certain voting options:
 1. For
 2. Against
 3. Abstain (only if country answered present)
- The Chair should ask for all delegates voting for, then all delegates voting against, and then all delegates abstaining. They should count the number of delegates voting each time, and announce the result at the end.
- After announcing the results, you may raise a Motion to Divide the House.

FUNDING

- In the interest of debate, THIMUN committees will assume that funding for anything proposed in a resolution is unlimited
- You are permitted to discuss the source of funding but are asked to refrain from discussing specific amounts

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