

Rules of Order

49th Convention of the MPFFU

1. The business session of the Convention, with the exceptions hereafter noted, shall be as follows: the Convention shall be called to order daily at 9:00am beginning on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 and will remain in session until twelve noon; it shall reconvene at 1:30pm and remain in session until 5:00pm each day of the Convention unless otherwise provided by the body. On Friday, May 7th, the Convention must adjourn no later than 12:00pm.
2. Registration will close on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 12:00pm. All delegates must personally check-in by 12:00pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010. A two-thirds vote of the delegates assembled will be required to allow seating of late arrivals after 12:00pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010.
3. The following order of business shall govern the Convention proceeding:
 - o Report of the Convention Credentials Committee
 - o Convention Rules of Order
 - o Election Rules
 - o Adoption of Minutes from the previous Convention
 - o Reports of Convention Committees as available
 - o Report of Officers/Finance Committee
 - o Reports of Special Committees
 - o Nomination and Election of Officers as provided in these rules
 - o Convention Site Presentations & Selection
 - o Unfinished Business
 - o New Business
 - o Adjournment
4. The Credentials Committee shall see that each delegate, that is entitled to be seated, has been issued an identification card that must be shown upon entering the Convention hall. On the identification card will be the name of the delegate and the city/township/community that they represent.
5. No delegate credentials shall be registered after 12:00 pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010. The Credentials Committee shall make its final report to the Convention by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2010 on the seating of delegates for the duration of the Convention.

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6. Alternates, guests and visitors, will not be permitted to occupy the convention floor in the area provided for the seating of delegates. They will be seated in a separate area. Officers of the IAFF, fraternal delegates and other guests may be permitted on the Convention floor if authorized by the MPFFU Convention Chairperson.
7. Alternates shall be permitted to replace delegates from their local at anytime during the Convention by taking **both** the alternate and delegate badge to the MPFFU office for reissue.
8. Before there can be debate on a resolution, the Convention Committee Chairman to which that resolution has been referred, shall have the right to report on the resolution and to give the reasons for the committee recommendations. Committee recommendations do not require a second.
9. The manner of reporting by committee shall be as follows:
 - a. If the Committee is in favor of the resolution as submitted, the reporting member shall state: "***On behalf of the Committee, I move to adopt the resolution.***"
 - b. If the Committee is opposed to the resolution as submitted, the reporting member shall state: "***On behalf of the Committee, I move to reject the resolution.***"
 - c. If the Committee makes amendments, revisions, modifications or other changes in the resolution as submitted, the reporting member shall state, "***On behalf of the Committee, I move to adopt the resolution as revised.***"
 - d. If the Committee offers a substitute resolution in place of the resolution or resolutions as submitted, the reporting member shall state: "***On behalf of the Committee, I move to adopt the substitute resolution.***"
 - e. If a Committee has referred to it more than one resolution dealing with the same subject matter, the Committee shall consider such resolutions jointly and may dispose of all such resolutions through the recommendation of a single resolution or a substitute resolution. In reporting to the Convention, the Committee shall inform the delegates that ***in acting on the resolution before it, the Convention will be disposing of Resolutions #____, #____, and #____ which cover the same subject matter.***

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10. The manner of reporting minority reports shall be as follows:

- a. The Committee report shall be made first and if a minority report is offered, it shall have precedence over the majority report and shall be disposed of first.
- b. A minority report of the Committee may be made by one or more members of a committee who do not agree with the majority of the committee. (Note: the majority vote of the committee shall be the Committee report.)
- c. A minority report must be in writing and must state the reasons for not agreeing with the majority. A member of the minority reads the minority views and then says: **"I move that the minority views be substituted for the Committee report."** The motion is an amendment by way of substitution.
- d. If the minority report is concurred in the Convention, the minority report is adopted.
- e. If the Convention does not concur with the minority report, the delegates shall then consider the Committee report. The Convention will then follow the voting procedures as previously outlined.

11. In order for a motion to be entertained from the floor, the mover of the motion and the person who seconds must be recognized by the presiding officer and then state his/her name and the local he/she represents as a delegate.

12. A motion to amend a motion or a motion to amend a proposed amendment to a motion shall be in order; but no motion to amend an amendment to a proposed amendment shall be permitted. (In other words, amendments of the third degree are not permitted.)

13. Whenever an amendment is offered from the floor which would substantially modify any resolution, proposed constitutional amendment, or Committee revision of the same pending before the Convention floor, the amendment shall be referred to the appropriate Committee for consideration and recommendation prior to action by the delegates, provided that immediate action by the Convention may be ordered by a majority vote.

- 125 14. When a delegate desires to speak on a debatable motion, he/she shall
126 proceed to the nearest microphone and, after being recognized by the
127 Chair, he/she shall identify themselves by name and the local he/she
128 represents. There shall be no appeal to the Chair's decision on granting
129 recognition in assigning the floor for debate on a motion.
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- 132 15. If a delegate wishes to rise to a point of order, or ask a question relating to
133 pending business, he/she will rise in his/her place and seek to attract the
134 attention of the presiding officer. After being recognized, the delegate will
135 proceed to the nearest microphone, state his/her name, the organization
136 he/she represents, and raise the point of order or ask the question.
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- 139 16. A motion to stop debate shall not be in order until three (3) delegates
140 desiring to speak have spoken for, and three (3) delegates desiring to
141 speak have spoken against the pending motion. **This motion can only be**
142 **adopted by a two-thirds vote.**
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- 145 17. **A delegate shall have the right to speak twice (2) on the same**
146 **question on the same day for no longer than three (3) minutes. He/she**
147 **cannot make a second speech on the same question so long as any**
148 **member who has not spoken on that question desires the floor.**
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- 150 18. No delegate shall interrupt another during his/her remarks, except for a
151 point of order and only then if the point is urgent. He/she shall specifically
152 state the point and the presiding officer shall decide the same without
153 debate. Once a point of order has been decided, the same point cannot be
154 made again during the Convention.
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- 156 19. If a delegate is called to order while speaking, he/she shall take a seat until
157 the question of order is decided. If decided to be in order, he/she may
158 proceed, following recognition by the Chair.
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- 160 20. The President shall appoint Sergeant-at-Arms to maintain order and to
161 perform such other duties as the Chair may assign.
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- 163 21. The regular order of business may be suspended at any time by a two-
164 thirds vote at any session of the Convention.

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22. Manner of Voting:

- a. The manner of voting shall first be by a **show of hands**; (except that any motion that requires a two-thirds vote shall be taken by a standing vote.)
- b. If the Chair is in doubt or upon request of a delegate after a vote by a show of hands, the Chair shall call for a **standing vote**.
- c. If the Chair is still in doubt, a standing vote shall be re-taken, with delegates **counted individually** by the Sergeant-at-Arms.
- d. A motion for a **roll call vote** shall be ordered if supported by 30% of the delegates present and voting. During a roll call vote, each local union shall be entitled to the number of votes set forth in the Secretary-Treasurer's list. The roll call shall proceed numerically by local union number and in accordance with the list of delegates entitled to be seated in the most current record of the Credentials Committee. The total votes to which a local union is entitled may be cast by block by the Chairman of the delegation or the votes may be cast separately by delegates when one or more delegates request that the delegation be polled. When a roll call is ordered, no recess shall take place until the results have been announced.

23. Nominations and election of all officers of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union shall be conducted pursuant to the rules prescribed by the Elections Committee and under its direction. Nominations of President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Trustee shall be the first order of business on the afternoon of Wednesday, May 5, 2010. If there is opposition for either the MPFFU President and/or the MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer position, each of the candidates will be permitted to address the Convention beginning at 2pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010 for fifteen (15) minutes with respect to their qualifications. Speaking order will be decided by lot. Candidates for the office of Secretary-Treasurer will speak first.

24. Committees shall not meet when the Convention is in session except with the permission of the MPFFU President.

25. A majority must be present in committee meetings to constitute a quorum.

26. Any question of parliamentary procedure not covered by these Rules of Order shall be decided by Roberts Rules of Order (latest available edition) unless otherwise provided for in the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws.

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27. Each officer and delegate shall conduct himself with dignity and decorum and in such a manner that the business of the Convention may proceed efficiently and orderly, and so that the rights of others shall be respected. The minority shall have the right to be heard and the majority on any matter shall prevail.

28. The Chairman of any MPFFU Standing Committee who is not a delegate of his/her local will be allowed to speak, with the permission of the MPFFU President, on any resolution or issue that is germane to his/her standing committee.

29. Any resolution not acted upon by the delegates by 12:00pm on Friday, May 7, 2010 shall be forwarded to the MPFFU Executive Board for action at the next Executive Board Meeting.

30. IAFF 8th District Vice President Paul Hufnagel shall serve as the official Convention Chairperson for this convention but he shall not have any voting privileges.

Submitted by: Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Executive Board

Presented by: Terrence H. Chesney, MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer

Convention Action: