

DRAFT PROPOSED Standing Rules for the PAT Representative Assembly

- I. The President of the Association or the President's designee shall preside at the meetings of the Representative Assembly (RA).
- II. Parliamentary questions raised on the floor must be directed to the presiding officer. The presiding officer rules on all procedural questions. Delegates wishing to appeal the ruling of the chair may do so. The decision will then be made by a majority of the delegates.
- III. When requested, the Nominations and Elections Committee and/or Membership Committee, shall report the number of voting delegates present and assure there is quorum.
- IV. **Making Motions at the RA**
 - A. All amendments to PAT Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Resolutions as well as proposed New Business Items shall be submitted on a Motion form, including the following:
 - A clear statement of the proposed change or action
 - A 175-word or less statement of rationale
 - The name of the maker of the motion and a way to contact
 - B. Old Business will begin prior to 6:00 pm to ensure a quorum and ample time for debate.
- V. **Bylaws: Bylaws are the rules by which the organization governs and regulates itself.**
 - A. Submitting a proposed Bylaws amendment:
 - A delegate to the RA may submit proposed Bylaw amendments in writing, to the President, with a minimum one weeks notice for consideration of the Executive Board. The Executive Board will consider the amendment in relation to other guiding documents, and decide whether and when to refer to RA. Per PAT Bylaws 8.1.4.k, Such actions may be reviewed by the next Representative Assembly upon request of fifteen (15) representatives.
 - Amendments to proposed amendments may be made from the floor only if they do not go beyond the scope of the amendment as it was submitted.
 - B. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required to adopt any proposed Bylaw amendment (per PAT Bylaws Article 14 Section 2)
- VI. **Resolutions: Resolutions are statements of belief that commit the Association to support a philosophy or long-term goal.**
 - A. All resolutions must be brought before the RA.
 - B. Submitting a Resolution to the RA:

- An RA delegate may submit a Resolution for the consideration of the Association by submitting it in writing to the President. The President will refer the Resolution to the appropriate committee to recommend a position to the Executive Board.
 - After presenting to a committee, the maker may move the adoption of the Resolution at the RA. They must read the rationale statement and providing the full text of the resolution.
 - The positions and a short rationale of those positions, of any committees and the Executive Board, will be presented in writing at the meeting in which the resolution is initially presented.
 - Delegates shall take the resolution back to their worksites for further discussion and to get input from PAT members.
 - At the following RA, the delegates may vote on whether to adopt the Resolution.
- C. In accordance with PAT Bylaws Article 9 Section 4, Resolutions necessitating immediate action by the Representative Assembly may be presented directly to the floor of the Representative Assembly for debate and action by:
- Suspension of the rules by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the representatives present, and
 - Passage by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those representatives.

VII. New Business: New Business Items are actions in line with PAT's adopted values and that the Association can implement within a year's time.

- A. The language of an NBI should be clear and focused. It should include the action, the timeline, and specify who will be responsible for completing it.
- B. An NBI must not conflict with PAT's guiding documents (Bylaws, Policies, Resolutions).
- C. Submitting a New Business Item to the RA:
- Any RA Delegate may submit a New Business Item to the RA. Per PAT Bylaws, Article 9 Section 5, NBIs may be submitted directly to the RA for debate and action.
 - NBIs should be submitted in writing to the chair prior to presenting.

VIII. Rules for floor debate:

- A. In accordance with the Bylaws, Article 9 Section 6, "Any member of the Association who is not an elected representative may attend Representative Assembly and may participate in debate. That member may not make motions, call for specific action to be taken through parliamentary procedure, or vote."
- B. In accordance with the Bylaws, Article 9 Section 6, "Other individuals invited by the president may attend Representative Assembly Meetings. Those individuals may not take part in the business of the Association.

- C. A delegate wishing to speak shall not proceed until they are recognized by the chair, give their name, pronouns, and the name of their school/program, and are directed to proceed.
 - D. Each speaker shall be limited to 2 minutes for discussion on any topic and may not speak again until all others who wish to speak on the same motion have been heard.
 - E. The Chair will appoint a timekeeper to keep debate at an orderly pace.
 - F. A delegate who has been granted the privilege of the floor may not yield any part of his/her time to another delegate.
 - G. At the end of a 15-minute debate on any subject, an automatic vote to close debate will take place. $\frac{2}{3}$ vote is required to close debate.
 - H. Amendments to motions shall be presented in writing to the Secretary prior to or simultaneously with presentation of the amendment.
 - I. In accordance with the Bylaws (Article 9, Section 2) PAT Executive Board Directors shall be members of the RA with voting rights.
 - J. On any motion, debate shall alternate between “for” and “against” as follows: In the event no speaker wishes to be recognized in opposition to the first speaker, debate shall be closed, except as follows.
 - If after the maker of the motion has been allowed to speak in favor of the motion, no speaker wishes to speak in opposition to the motion, one additional speaker in favor will be allowed.
 - After this, if there are still no speakers wishing to speak in opposition, debate will be closed.
 - If, however, after two delegates speak in favor, there is a speaker in opposition, debate will then continue, alternating between “for” and “against”.
 - K. Questions will be taken first..
- IX. The rules governing the Assembly which are not stated explicitly above shall be the rules contained in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.
- X. The RA may amend these standing rules without notice, with a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote. The RA may propose a change at one RA, and have it considered at the following RA, and require a majority vote to amend.