

Delta Sigma Pi - Grand Chapter Congress

Standing Rules 2023 Grand Chapter Congress

Standing Rules—The standing rules for the 2023 Grand Chapter Congress must be approved by the delegates in attendance thereof.

A. Meetings, Quorum, Delegates and Credentials

1. The Grand Chapter Congress *session* consists of a series of *meetings*, with each meeting on separate times and/or separate days. For admission to the convention floor and delegate seating area, each delegate and alternate is required to wear the badge and identification ribbon issued from the “credentials” registration desk.
2. The presence of a quorum will be established by a credentials report at the beginning of each meeting of Congress. An updated credentials report will be provided each day.
3. Each delegate must receive their electronic voting device (if applicable) from the designated area prior to taking their seat on the floor. Voting devices will be available approximately fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of each meeting.
4. A credentialed alternate may substitute for the official delegate from their chapter. However, the alternate may not be seated and recognized until the Credentials Chair is notified, in writing on such form as they may specify, of the substitution. Once seated, the alternate will have all duties and privileges of the delegate until the Credentials Chair is notified of another change (if any).

B. Amendments

1. No secondary amendments are allowable except those which, in the opinion of the Chair, create or fill a blank.
2. Any motion to delay consideration or consider again will not be in order if applied to any amendment.
3. No amendment is allowable until a written copy is presented to the Congress Secretary in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.
4. Any proposals affecting the Initiation Ritual will, upon passage, also automatically amend the Honorary Initiation Ritual.

C. Debate

1. No speech in debate may exceed two minutes. Time not consumed is lost and may not be carried over to future speeches or otherwise reserved in any manner.
2. One delegate representing a body listed in the proposed legislation amendment as submitting a Bylaw or Ritual Proposal will have a maximum of two minutes to introduce such proposal. In the case where there are multiple submitting bodies of a proposal, a single delegate will be recognized to speak on behalf of all bodies. If the proposing body is not the Board of Directors, a representative of the Board may present information about Board discussion and/or recommended vote to the delegates. The Board presentation will not exceed two minutes.
3. A delegate or Grand Officer (Board of Directors and Regional Vice Presidents) may yield the floor to someone other than a delegate or Grand Officer for purposes of debate. The yielding will be considered as if the delegate had obtained the floor for purposes of recognition and time consumed in debate. At the conclusion of the speech of the person to whom the floor was yielded, the delegate may automatically reclaim the floor to speak for any remaining time. Time not consumed is lost and may not be carried over to future speeches or otherwise reserved in any manner.
4. No debate on any main motion or amendment may begin until a written copy is presented to the Congress Secretary in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

D. Voting

1. The method of voting will be at the discretion of the Chair which may include voice vote, placard vote or electronic device. When a vote is taken by electronic device, voting will be conducted using the designated voting platform. The Chair will announce how long the vote will remain open. The results will be announced once the vote is closed.
2. In accordance with Regulations Governing the Ritual, a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the delegates assembled is required to approve any proposed changes to the Ritual.
3. In accordance with the Policy and Procedures Manual, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of delegates assembled is required to approve any proposed Resolution.
4. A one-third (1/3) vote of the delegates assembled is required to cause a roll call vote on any main motion considered under Bylaw or Ritual amendments. A roll call vote will not be in order on any other question or under any other circumstances.
5. No member may cast a vote for more than one chapter on any issue.

E. Transitional Rules

1. All Resolutions and amendments to the Bylaws, if passed, will become effective immediately upon the adjournment of the Grand Chapter Congress at which they were enacted, unless otherwise indicated in the motion.
2. All proposals to the Ritual, if passed, will become effective upon publication and distribution of the revisions by the Central Office staff, unless otherwise indicated in the motion.

F. Testimonials

1. Testimonials may be submitted to the Congress Secretary in writing via dsp.org/testimonials.
2. Those testimonials submitted by the deadline specified by the Chair and deemed appropriate by the Rules and Resolutions Committee will be included in the *Official Congress Proceedings*. Any additional submissions may be allowed at the discretion of the Chair.

G. Appeal of Charter Revocation

1. This rule prescribes the procedure for conducting a hearing on an appeal of charter revocation under the Bylaws.
2. Each delegate will be provided a copy of the chapter's letter or other written notification appealing the charter revocation. Any other documentation regarding the circumstances of the revocation action is open to inspection by any delegate upon request.
3. The hearing will be held in closed session (delegates, Grand Officers, and staff only).
4. The order of business for the appeal hearing is:
 - a. The Chancellor presides over the hearing, announces the appeal, the bylaw authority therefore, the procedures contained in this rule and any other introductory comments.
 - b. The Grand President, or their designee, makes a presentation not to exceed ten (10) minutes on behalf of the Board of Directors stating the reasons and circumstances for the revocation action including the reading (or summary if provided to delegates in advance) of the specific charges and specifications.
 - c. The appellant chapter then may make a presentation not to exceed ten (10) minutes explaining the reasons for the Appeal.
 - d. The delegates may then present questions to the Grand President, or a designee, or the appellant chapter for a period not to exceed ten (10) minutes. Each question will not exceed one minute and answers will not exceed two minutes.
 - e. By majority vote, the delegates may extend the questioning by one additional ten (10) minute period.
 - f. All members of the appellant chapter will then be excused from the hearing.
 - g. Without motion, the Chancellor will present the question to be voted upon. Debate on the question will not exceed ten (10) minutes with one additional 10 (ten) minute period allowable by majority delegate vote. No subsidiary motion, other than the Previous Question, is in order. Each speaker will not exceed one minute.
 - h. A secret ballot will be taken on the question.
 - i. The ballots will be counted in the presence of the Chancellor, Parliamentarian, Credentials Chair, one delegate selected by the appellant chapter and one delegate selected at random. The results will be announced first to the delegates and then to the appellant chapter. The motion to reconsider will not be in order.
 - j. Should the appellant chapter fail to appoint a representative or should the representative fail to appear for the hearing, such failure will be announced to the Congress and the hearing will continue according to this Rule.
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