

# RULES OF PROCEDURE, COUNCIL ON RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the council operations committee.

## Section 1 — Definitions.

**Chair.** The presiding officer at the Council on Resolutions. The chair supervises the proceedings of the council, may comment on any matter, and has all other duties as generally pertain to the position of chair. The council chair presides as the chair, except when the chair designates the vice-chair to preside. The chair and vice-chair are nonvoting members except, when presiding, either may vote to break a tie-vote. *RI Bylaws 9.110.1., 9.110.2.*

**Constitutional Documents.** Three documents – the RI constitution, the RI bylaws, and the standard Rotary club constitution. *RI Bylaw 1., point 3.*

**Defective.** A proposed resolution is defective if it:

- i. would request an action, or express an opinion, in conflict with the letter or spirit of the constitutional documents;
- ii. would request an action that involves administrative or management matters within the discretion of the board or TRF trustees;
- iii. would request an action which has already been implemented by the board or TRF trustees; or
- iv. is not within the framework of RI's program. *RI Bylaw 8.070.2.*

**Nonvoting Members.** Members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, President and President-elect, members of the Board, General Secretary, and a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation. *RI Bylaw 9.110.6.*

**Proposers.** Clubs, districts, the RI Board, and others that submit resolutions. *RI Bylaw 8.030.*

**Resolution.** Expressions of opinion of the Council, which do not amend the constitutional documents. *RI Bylaw 8.020.*

**Urgent Enactment.** Enactments, proposed by the Board, that amend the constitutional documents, which the Board determines to be of an urgent nature limited to situations that have occurred since the most recent COL. *RI Bylaws 8.050., 8.060., 8.080., 8.090., and 8.100.*

**Voting Members.** Representatives elected from each district. *RI Bylaw 9.010.*

## Section 2 — Members of the Council.

All members of the council, both voting and nonvoting, have the same privileges and responsibilities, except nonvoting members may not vote. Each voting member may cast one vote on any question, and there is no proxy voting in the council. *RI Bylaws 9.010., 9.110., 9.130.*

### Section 3 —Consideration of resolutions and urgent enactments.

The order for considering resolutions and urgent enactments is set by the Council Operations Committee, who may change it for good cause. *RI Bylaw 9.120*. Urgent enactments should be distributed to the members of the council at least four weeks before voting begins.

### Section 4 — Quorum.

Final action requires that at least half the voting members sign on to the Council on Resolutions website during the voting period. *RI Bylaw 9.130*.

### Section 5 — Comments.

Only members of the council may comment on any resolutions or urgent enactments. The process and procedures for making comments shall be as determined by the chair and communicated to members of the Council.

### Section 6 — Amendments.

Amendments are not permitted for either resolutions or urgent enactments.

### Section 7 — Voting.

The method for voting is electronic, unless the chair otherwise determines for good cause. The voting period is set by the chair, who may extend it for good cause. All votes are confidential and once a representative submits their votes, their selections are final and cannot be changed. The number of votes required to approve a resolution is a simple majority, which is at least one more vote in favor than against. The number of votes required to approve an urgent enactment is either a simple majority or a two-thirds majority, as indicated in the constitutional documents. A two-thirds majority requires at least twice as many votes in favor than against by the members present and voting. *RI Bylaw 8.110*.

### Section 8 — Withdrawal of Resolutions and Urgent Enactments.

Before the end of the voting period, the representative of the proposer, the governor of the proposer, or proposers of the resolution or urgent enactment may withdraw a resolution or urgent enactment by notifying the council secretary. If the proposers are from more than one district, their representatives must join in notifying the secretary of the withdrawal.

### Section 9 — Matters of Procedure Not Covered.

In the event of any inconsistency, ambiguity, or uncertainty under these rules, the constitutional documents of RI shall control. Matters of procedure not covered by these rules or the constitutional documents shall be decided by the chair in accord with basic fairness.