

Team Problem Solving Practicum Scenario

Information from your Team Demonstration:

Scenario: At the last meeting, the motion to *Host a Fall Harvest Dance* was postponed definitely to today's meeting and made a **Special Order** for 9:00 am. [Assume this is during the new business of your demonstration]

Main Motion: I move that the chapter take part in FFA's *Days of Service* program by cleaning up the community park.

Assume that the following occurred during today's meeting:

At 9:00 am, the chair announced as pending the motion "*to Host a Fall Harvest Dance.*"

MEMBER A: I object to the consideration of the question!

CHAIR: Objection to the consideration of the question has been raised. Those in favor of considering the question, please rise. [18 in favor] Be seated. Those opposed to considering the question, please rise. [11 in favor] Be seated. There are less than 2/3 opposed to considering the question, and the objection is lost. We shall consider the question. Is there any debate?

(After being recognized by the chair)

MEMBER B: Mr. President, I move to refer the motion to a committee. [Second]

CHAIR: Is there any debate? Seeing none, those in favor of referring the motion to a committee, say "aye." Those opposed to referring the motion to a committee, say "no." The ayes have it and the motion is referred to a committee.

MEMBER C: Mr. President, I move that the chapter take part in FFA's *Days of Service* program by cleaning up the community park, the school campus, and the county fairgrounds. [Second]

MEMBER D: Mr. President, I move to divide the question so as to consider separately the proposal to clean up the park, the school campus, and the county fairgrounds. [Second]

MEMBER A: Mr. President, I move to postpone the main motion indefinitely. [Second]

CHAIR: It is moved and seconded to postpone the main motion indefinitely. Those in favor, say "aye." Those opposed, say "no." The no's have it and the motion is lost.

MEMBER D: Mr. President, our community service committee chairman is not present today, so I move that we lay the main motion on the table until our next regular meeting in order to allow her to participate in the discussion on this motion.

CHAIR: It is moved and seconded to lay the main motion on the table until the next regular meeting. Those in favor, say "aye." Those opposed, say "no." The ayes have it and the motion is laid on the table until our next regular meeting.

Semi-Finals

Team Problem Solving Practicum Questions

1. **Was the Objection to the Consideration of the motion to host a fall dance in order?**

2. **Did the chair take and properly announce the vote on the objection to the consideration of the question?**

3. **What should the chair have done immediately after the assembly adopted the motion to refer to a committee?**

4. **Did the chair properly handle the motion to Postpone Indefinitely?**

5. **Did Member D use the proper procedural motion to accomplish her objective of delaying action on the motion until the community service chair can participate?**

**2016 National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE (#SuperBowlCDE)
Semi-Finals Team Problem Solving Practicum KEY**

1. Was the Objection to the Consideration of the motion to host a fall dance in order?

No. The objection must be raised before there is any debate and before the chair has stated the question on any subsidiary motion. The motion to postpone this motion and make it a special order adopted at the last meeting was a subsidiary motion, and its adoption precluded the use of an objection to the consideration of the question. (15 pts.)

“The objection can be raised only before there has been any debate or any subsidiary motion except Lay on the Table has been stated by the chair; thereafter, consideration of the main question has begun and it is too late to object.” (RONR, p. 267, ll. 27-32.)

2. Did the chair take and properly announce the vote on the objection to the consideration of the question?

Yes. An objection to the consideration of a motion requires a 2/3 vote against consideration of the question in order to be sustained. Here, there were less than 2/3 against consideration, and the chair properly stated the question and announced the vote. (5 pts.)

“A two-thirds vote against consideration is required to sustain the objection.” (RONR, p. 268, ll. 14-15.)

3. What should the chair have done immediately after the assembly adopted the motion to refer to a committee?

Proceeded to query the assembly to complete the details of the motion missing.

The chair should have proceeded to have the assembly decide the necessary details, including (i) to what committee the motion would be referred; and (ii) how the committee is to be appointed, if a special committee. (10 pts.) (RONR p. 173, l. 4 – p. 174, l. 29.)

4. Did the chair properly handle the motion to Postpone Indefinitely?

No. The motion to Divide the Question takes precedence over a motion to Postpone Indefinitely, and the motion to Postpone Indefinitely was not in order. (10 pts.)

“[The motion to Postpone Indefinitely t]akes precedence over nothing except the main question to which it is applied. It is the lowest-ranking subsidiary motion and yields to all other subsidiary motions, to all privileged motions, and to all applicable incidental motions.” (RONR, p. 126, ll. 25-19.)

5. Did Member D use the proper procedural motion to accomplish her objective of delaying action on the motion until the community service chair can participate?

No. The proper motion to delay consideration until the next meeting is the motion to postpone definitely, not lay on the table. (5 pts.)

“An essential feature of this motion is that it cannot be qualified in any way and that, so long as the question remains on the table, the decision as to when – or if – it will be taken up is left open.” (RONR, p. 212, ll. 4-7.)

Team Problem Solving Practicum Scenario

Information from your Team Demonstration:

Scenario: At the last chapter meeting, the motion to ***send the President and Vice President to the Washington Leadership Conference*** was laid on the table.

Main Motion: I move that the chapter participate in the ***Hunger Heroes Challenge*** by volunteering at the local food bank.

Assume the following set of facts applied to the chapter meeting held today:

- Due to an unexpected weather event which caused school to be canceled for three days last week, the chapter meeting is now being held at the same time as the meetings for the National Honor Society, the Student Council, and the rehearsal for the homecoming football game ceremonies.
- Many chapter members are absent from today's meeting due to these conflicting obligations. The members that did attend the meeting are enough to constitute a quorum, but only by two members. Nearly half the members are absent from today's meeting.
- The resulting situation is unexpected. Neither the President nor the Vice President are at the meeting, yet the chapter is scheduled to take up a motion related to their attendance at the Washington Leadership Conference.
- Three separate cliques exist within the chapter members who are present for the meeting, and each is determined to advocate for its "pet" service project. The chapter was supposed to decide that question at today's meeting.
- Member A, the chapter treasurer, is presiding over the meeting. She is a skilled presiding officer but does not want to make any key rulings in the absence of both the president and the vice president.

You will need to craft answers to the parliamentary questions that have arisen because of these unique circumstances. Please act as a parliamentarian, and give only the correct parliamentary answer to each question.

Semi-Finals

Team Problem Solving Practicum Questions

1. **If the chapter needs to delay action on the motion to send the President and the Vice President to the Washington Leadership Conference until the next regular meeting, what procedural steps are required to properly facilitate the delay?**

2. **If a member moved to postpone the motion that the chapter participate in the Hunger Heroes Challenge by volunteering at the local food bank until the next regular meeting and make it a special order for 3:45 pm, what vote would be required to adopt the motion to postpone?**

3. **Assume that a member raised a point of order alleging that the motion that the chapter participate in the Hunger Heroes Challenge by volunteering at the local food bank is outside the scope of the organization's object as defined by the bylaws. If the chair submits the point of order to the judgement of the assembly, what vote is required to sustain the point of order?**

4. **If the assembly sustains the point of order in Question 3 above, may the assembly proceed to consider the motion? Why or why not?**

5. **Assume the assembly adopts a motion to strike "volunteering at the local food bank" from the main motion and create a blank. Members offer the following suggestions: (i) hosting an agricultural awareness day at the local elementary school, (ii) partnering with the local Farm Bureau to offer agricultural literacy programs at the county fair, and (iii) creating a website profiling local agricultural production operations near the chapter. If the chair first takes a vote on filling the blank with suggestion (i) and it receives a majority vote of 45 in favor and 22 opposed, how does the chair proceed with the remaining suggestions?**

2016 National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE (#SuperBowlCDE) Finals Team Problem Solving Practicum KEY

1. **If the chapter needs to delay action on the motion to send the President and the Vice President to the Washington Leadership Conference until the next regular meeting, what procedural steps are required to properly facilitate the delay?**

The assembly must take the motion from the table and then adopt a motion to postpone it until the next regular meeting. (12 pts.)

“[A] question laid on the table remains there until taken from the table or until the close of the next regular session; if not taken up by that time, the question dies.” (RONR, p. 214, ll. 21-23.)

“When a question is taken from the table, everything is in the same condition, so far as possible, as it was when laid on the table. . . .” (RONR, p. 213, ll. 17-19.)

2. **If a member moved to postpone the motion that the chapter participate in the Hunger Heroes Challenge by volunteering at the local food bank until the next regular meeting and make it a special order for 3:45 pm, what vote would be required to adopt the motion to postpone?**

A motion to postpone and make a special order requires a 2/3 vote for adoption. (4 pts.)

“If [the motion to postpone definitely] makes a question a special order, however, the motion to Postpone then requires a two-thirds vote,” (RONR, p. 182, ll. 20-22.)

3. **Assume that a member raised a point of order alleging that the motion that the chapter participate in the Hunger Heroes Challenge by volunteering at the local food bank is outside the scope of the organization’s object as defined by the bylaws. If the chair submits the point of order to the judgement of the assembly, what vote is required to sustain the point of order?**

A majority vote is required. (6 pts.)

See discussion on RONR, p. 254, l. 18 – p. 255, l. 22 (and accompanying footnote).

4. **If the assembly sustains the point of order in Question 3 above, may the assembly proceed to consider the motion? Why or why not?**

Yes, but a 2/3 vote is required to consider a motion outside the scope of the organization’s object as defined by the bylaws. (12 pts.)

“A main motion that proposes action outside the scope of the organization’s object as defined in the bylaws or corporate charter is out of order unless the assembly by a two-thirds vote authorizes its introduction.” (RONR, p. 113, ll. 10-13.)

5. **Assume the assembly adopts a motion to strike “volunteering at the local food bank” from the main motion and create a blank. Members offer the following suggestions: (i) hosting an agricultural awareness day at the local elementary school, (ii) partnering with the local Farm Bureau to offer agricultural literacy programs at the county fair, and (iii) creating a website profiling local agricultural production operations near the chapter. If the chair first takes a vote on filling the blank with suggestion (i) and it receives a majority vote of 45 in favor and 22 opposed, how does the chair proceed with the remaining suggestions?**

The remaining suggestions are ignored. The first suggestion to receive a majority vote fills the blank. (11 pts.)

“If more [choices] are suggested than required, the chair takes a vote on each in the order of its proposal until enough to fill the blank have received a majority vote. The [choices] remaining in the list as proposed are ignored, since the assembly has decided which [choice] shall fill the blank.” (RONR, p. 165, ll. 4-9.)