

# What's New in Revision 23.10

## Overview

Revision 23.10 of the *FGCCFL Student Congress Manual* adopts relevant sections of the September 23 *NCFL Student Congress Manual* where consistent with local competition. This revision also contains minor clarifications and technical corrections. Substantive changes from the previous FGCCFL manual are **highlighted** in the manual text. Changes that affect the regular order of business are summarized below; the most important ones are starred.

### \* Abstentions in Voting

§ 13(d). The PO must call for abstentions on any majority question on which a recorded vote is taken. Members are still not required to vote, and there is still no quorum rule. Abstentions are not taken on two-thirds votes or on voice votes.

### \* Adjournment & Recesses

§§ 11(a)-(b). NCFL has formalized the practice of going into recess between sessions and adjourning (*sine die*) only at the end of the last session. FGCCFL will follow. All other recesses are **out of order** except in cases of extreme need, supported by the Parliamentarian.

## Agenda Order

§ 20(c). The chamber **may** amend its agenda (calendar) by suspension of the rules at the start of each session. Once floor debate begins, modifications are out of order for the remainder of the session.

## Amendments

§§ 9(a) & 12(e). There are no questioning periods during debate on an amendment to legislation.

## Chamber Designations

§ 19(a). All chambers shall operate as Houses. (At Grand Finals, the Super Congress will be a Senate.)

## Minimum Speech Requirement

§§ 10(c) & 11(l). Legislation with an author (or substitute) present is entitled to a sponsorship speech, first negative, and one additional speaking opportunity on each side before it is voted on or set aside. The motion to limit debate **may not** be used to preclude the required speeches.

### \* One-Sided Debate

§ 6(c). Legislators are cautioned that one-sided debate is **NOT** a productive use of the chamber's time; if debate becomes one-sided and no opposition is forthcoming, the B/R should either be laid on the table (to allow opponents to develop arguments) or put to a vote. The chamber **may not** recess to provide speechwriting time.

## Questioning Periods

NCFL has adopted "direct questioning" at Nationals. FGCCFL will not adopt "direct questioning" this year, except during Super Congress at Grand Finals.