

Parliamentary Strategy

To Help Adopt Motion

1. Propose well-conceived motion in good language
2. Second the motion
3. Speak for motion
4. Vote for motion
5. Vote against any motion to *Postpone Indefinitely*
6. *Amend* to perfect or improve motion
7. Vote against any motion to *Refer* to act on now*
8. Vote against any motion to *Postpone* to act on now*
9. Vote against *Previous Question* to allow debate*
10. Move to *Recess* if need more votes*
11. If adopted, vote against their motion to *Reconsider*
12. If defeated, move to *Reconsider*
13. Vote against any motion to *Adjourn**
14. At subsequent meeting, vote against any motion to *Rescind*
15. **Only votes win. Get your votes to the meeting**

To Help Defeat Motion

1. Propose in hastily written or ill-conceived language
2. Do not second the motion
3. Speak against motion
4. Vote against motion
5. Move to *Postpone Indefinitely* to “kill” motion
6. *Amend* to encumber or complicate motion
7. Move to *Refer* to committee to delay action*
8. Move to *Postpone* to delay action*
9. Move *Previous Question* before debate complete*
10. Move to *Recess* if need more votes*
11. If adopted, move to *Reconsider*
12. If defeated, vote against their motion to *Reconsider*
13. Move to *Adjourn* to delay action*
14. At subsequent meeting, move to *Rescind*
15. **Only votes win. Get your votes to the meeting**

* Your position on these motions may vary depending on whether or not you have the most votes. For example, if you wish to adopt the motion and things are going well, you will be against efforts to delay the motion (i.e., *Postpone*, *Refer*, *Recess*, etc.). However, if things are not going well, you will support efforts to delay in hopes of obtaining more support.

This chart is a variation on suggestions in *Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary Law*, p. 28.