Convention Rules of Debate

Items assigned a “Five Minute Rule” shall be debated according to Robert’s Rules of Order as modified by the Convention and/or these procedures, which shall take precedence.

- The sponsor may introduce the item for a time not to exceed 30 seconds.
- Members wishing to speak may be recognized by the Supreme Prior for a period of time not to exceed one minute.
- After five minutes of debate, the question shall be considered called and a vote shall be conducted immediately.
- Amendments shall be in order and shall be debated according to the terms of this “Five Minute Rule.”
- Any of these provisions may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Convention.

Items assigned a “Fifteen Minute Rule” shall be debated according to Robert’s Rules of Order as modified by the Convention and/or these procedures, which shall take precedence.

- The sponsor or committee may introduce the item for a time not to exceed two minutes.
- Each side (pro and con) shall be given six minutes for debate. Speakers shall alternate between those speaking for and those speaking against the question. No person shall speak for more than two minutes nor shall any person speak for a second time until others seeking recognition and arguing on the same side as him have spoken.
- After all time has expired or if time has not expired and no members further desire to speak, the question shall be considered called and a vote shall be conducted immediately.
- Any amendment introduced to an item being considered (or an amendment to an amendment) shall be assigned a “Five Minute Rule.” Time consumed under the amendment shall not be counted against the time allotted to the original question.
- Any of these provisions may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Convention.
- Any time not fully consumed on an individual question shall be reserved to the Supreme Prior, who may re-assign it to any item under debate. If reassigned to an item being debated under the “Fifteen Minute Rule,” the assigned time shall be equally divided between each side.

Sigma Alpha Mu Virtual Meeting Code of Conduct (adapted from ASAE)

Sigma Alpha Mu is committed to providing a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all meeting participants and staff. All participants, including, but not limited to, attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, staff members, service providers, and all others are expected to abide by this Virtual Meeting Code of Conduct. This Policy applies to all Sigma Alpha Mu meeting-related events, including those sponsored by organizations other than Sigma Alpha Mu but held in conjunction with Sigma Alpha Mu events, on public or private platforms.

Sigma Alpha Mu has zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to sexual harassment by participants or our staff at our meetings. If you experience harassment or hear of any incidents of unacceptable behavior, Sigma Alpha Mu asks that you inform either Executive Director Andy Huston (andy@sam.org / 317.536.8951) or
Assistant Executive Director Michele Peterson (michele@sam.org / 317.536.8941) so that we can take the appropriate action.

Unacceptable Behavior is defined as:

- Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form.
- Verbal abuse of any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, staff member, service provider, or another meeting guest.
  - Examples of verbal abuse include but are not limited to verbal comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in backgrounds or in presentations, or threatening or stalking any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, staff member, service provider, or another meeting guest.
- Disruption of presentations during sessions or at other events organized by Sigma Alpha Mu throughout the virtual meeting. All participants must comply with the instructions of the moderator and any virtual event staff.
- Presentations, postings, and messages should not contain promotional materials, product announcements, or solicitation for services. Sigma Alpha Mu reserves the right to remove such messages and potentially ban sources of those solicitations.
- Participants should not copy or take screenshots of Q&A or any chat room activity that takes place in the virtual space.
- Alcohol should not be present in any official fraternity function.

Sigma Alpha Mu reserves the right to take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal from the meeting without warning or refund, in response to any incident of unacceptable behavior, and Sigma Alpha Mu reserves the right to prohibit attendance at any future meeting through its Standards Committee, virtually or in person.