

**CODE CHANGES 2021:
COUNCIL ATTENDANCE MODIFICATION
AND DIGITAL VOTING**

TO: Council
FROM: Governance Committee
July 2021

Amendment to modify the rules for remote attendance and to allow digital voting.

Additions are indicated by ***bold italics***. Deletions are made by striking through (~~like this~~).

SECTION III: MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

Article 1. Rules of Order

41. Remote Attendance
- (a) Council members shall, at the discretion of the ***President Chair***, be permitted to attend Council meetings remotely, that is, to take part in debate and vote by telephone or electronic means, provided that the conditions specified in paragraphs (c) and (d) below are met.
 - (b) The ~~Chair~~ ***President*** shall only permit remote attendance for good reasons, such as illness, personal emergency, or being out of town.
 - (c) The Executive Committee and the Speaker of Council shall maintain a reliable means for members of Council to attend meetings remotely, preferably by a video conferencing system or alternatively by speaker phone or other similar device, so long as whatever system or device is used permits all members attending, whether in person or remotely, to hear each other and participate in debate.
 - (d) The Executive Committee and the Speaker of Council shall also maintain a reliable means for members of Council who are attending meetings remotely to cast both roll call votes and secret ballot votes.
 - (e) ***If in accordance with paragraph (b) above, the President denies a request for remote attendance, the Council member so denied may appeal to the Speaker of Council.***
42. (a) In extraordinary circumstances, where it is not possible to hold a Council meeting at which Council members attend in person, the President may decide to conduct a Council meeting entirely by means of teleconference or videoconference, the logistics for which shall be arranged by the President, the Speaker, and Society staff.

- ~~(b) In such extraordinary circumstances, the President may also have Council conduct business by means of email votes, or some other form of online electronic voting, without conducting a meeting, the results of such votes to be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting of Council. However, if one third (1/3) of the voting members of Council object to an email or online vote on a particular motion, that motion shall be brought to a Council meeting.~~
- ~~43. When voting on a Resolution to appoint members of Committees, Council may do so by means of an email vote or some other form of online electronic voting. However, if one third (1/3) of the voting members of Council object to an email or online vote on such a Resolution, that Resolution shall be brought to a Council meeting.~~
- 43. At the President's discretion, Council may conduct business by means of digital votes without conducting a meeting, the results of such votes to be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting of Council. However, if any one (1) member of Council (voting or non-voting) objects to a digital vote on a particular motion, that motion shall be brought to a Council meeting.**
- 44. The President must send the request for a digital vote to all voting and non-voting members of Council and allow two (2) business days for the voting members to submit their votes digitally, with the understanding that in emergency cases a shorter time period may be allowed.**
- 45. For a digital vote to pass, a majority of those voting must vote in favour, and the number of members voting must be at least equal to quorum. In the case of a two-thirds (2/3) motion, the number voting in favour must constitute a two-thirds majority.**