



## VOTING METHODS

### Usual Voting Method

The usual voting method shall be by show of hands, after the question has been put by the Chair. Unless a rule specifies otherwise, a simple majority will carry or defeat a motion, will be so announced by the Chair and recorded. The following table refers to voting methods that may be used in some particular circumstances.

Method	Forms of putting the question	When used
Show of hands	- "All in favour, raise their right hand" - "All in favour,..."	Most commonly used, especially with smaller groups
Voice	- "All in favour say Aye (Yes)" - "Opposed, say Nay (No)"	Used in medium-sized assemblies
Rising Vote	- "Those in favour of the motion will rise" - "Those opposed will rise"	When 2/3 vote is required
Roll Call	- The person's name is called - "Rise and say Aye (yes) or Nay (no)" - "To be so recorded in the minutes"	When by-law calls for it. For particularly controversial questions, when requested by carried motion.
Ballot	- Appoint 2 scrutineers - Slips of paper - Etc	Election
General Consent	- "What is the wish of the Board?" - "Do we have an agreement?"	Routine Decisions

### Types of Votes

Majority	Greater than half of all votes cast
Plurality	Most votes cast, regardless of what the majority would be
2/3 Vote	At least 2/3 of votes cast
Tie Vote	Motion is lost

### Reversal of Decisions

Subject to subsection (3), a question, once decided by the Board, shall not be reversed unless:

- a) Written notice of a proposal to reverse the decision has been given from at least one meeting to another, and
- b) A majority of the total number of Trustees of the Division votes in favour of the reversal [PSA 33(2)].

A decision of the Board may:

- a) at the same meeting at which it is made, and
- b) by unanimous consent of all members present and voting thereon, be reversed [PSA 33(3)].



### **Abstention from Voting**

Although it is the duty of every member who has an opinion on a question to express it by his/her vote he/she can abstain since he/she cannot be compelled to vote. A member who abstains may request that his/her abstention be recorded in the minutes and the Secretary-Treasurer shall record the same. A simple majority of those present and voting will carry or defeat a motion.

### **Division of the Question**

When the question under consideration contains distinct propositions, upon the request of any member, the vote upon each such distinct proposition shall be taken separately.

### **Declaration of Results**

For each and every motion, the Chair shall declare the results. For example: "The motion is carried/defeated"; "x, having received the required number of votes, is elected."

Any member may request that his/her vote be recorded, and his/her vote shall be entered upon the minutes by the Secretary-Treasurer.

By motion (majority vote) an assembly can order than how each member votes be placed on the record.

### **Giving Notice**

Notice may be given by a Trustee from one meeting to the next for the purpose of the following:

- i. Reversal of a decision previously made by the Board
- ii. Introduction of a motion
- iii. Introduction of a policy change

### **Appeals**

If any Trustee considers him/herself grieved by the decision of the Chair, it shall be his/her privilege to appeal to the Board; and the vote on such appeals shall be taken without debate, except that the mover of the appeal may explain his/her reasons for appealing, and the Chair may explain his/her reasons for the ruling.