

# Parliamentary Guide

Adapted from *Town Meeting Time*, Johnson, Trustman and Wadsworth,  
Massachusetts Moderators Association, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (2001) and Arlington Bylaws.

Rank	Motions	Second Required	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Required	May Reconsider	May Interrupt
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## **PRIVILEGED MOTIONS**

1	Dissolve (adjourn sine die)	Yes	No	No	Majority	No	No
2	Adjourn to a fixed time	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No	No
3	Point of no quorum	No	No	No	None	No	No
4	Fix the time to (or at) which to adjourn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No
5	Questions of privilege	No	No	No	None	No	Yes

## **SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS**

6	Lay on the table	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes	No
7	The previous question	Yes	No	No	2/3	No	No
8	Limit or extend debate	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes	No
9	Postpone to a time certain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No
10	Commit or refer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No
11	Amend or substitute	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No
12	Postpone indefinitely	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes	No

## **INCIDENTAL MOTIONS**

*	Point of order	No	No	No	None	No	Yes
*	Division of a question	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	No	No
*	Separate consideration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	No	No
*	Withdraw or modify a motion	No	No	No	Majority	No	No
*	Fix the method of voting **	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No

\* Same rank as motion out of which it arises. \*\*

## **MAIN MOTIONS**

None	Main motion	Yes	Yes	Yes	Varies	Yes	No
None	Reconsider or rescind	Yes	**	No	2/3	No	No
None	Take from the table	Yes	No	No	Majority	No	No
None	Advance an article	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	No

\*\* Same Rank and debateable to the same extent as Motion being Reconsidered.