

Topic: Library Board By-laws

1.24 Rules of Debate

Board Motion Number: **19.015**
Date of Original Board Motion Number: **October 22, 2007**
Date of Current Issue: **February 26, 2019**
Date of Next Review: **2023**
Attachments:

Signature of Board Chairperson (and Date):

Standard rules of order are essential to ensure that every Board member at Board meetings has been heard and has had an opportunity to vote on all issues. Meetings of the North Kawartha Library Board will basically be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. (See Appendices.)

1. In directing the course of debate, the Chairperson shall:
 - Preserve order and decide questions of order;
 - Designate the member who has the floor when two or more members wish to speak;
 - State all motions presented or require the Secretary to read the motion before permitting debate on the question;
 - Put the question to vote when all members wishing to speak to it have spoken once or when further debate will not serve to advance the business before the Board.
2. In addressing the Board, no member shall:
 - Speak beside the question in debate;
 - Reflect upon any prior determination of the Board, except to conclude such remarks with a motion to rescind such determination;
 - Interrupt the member who has the floor except to raise a point of order;
 - Speak more than once to the same question except upon the consideration of a report referred by a committee to the Board for a decision, in explanation of a statement when it may have been interpreted incorrectly, or with permission of the Board after all other members so desiring have spoken.
3. Any member may require the question or motion under discussion to be read at any time during the debate.
4. Every member present, when a question is put, shall vote thereon unless a member has declared a conflict of interest.

A member who refuses to vote (abstains from voting) shall be deemed to vote in the negative.