

# Vocabulary, Points, and Motions MUN Guide

# Vocabulary

#### Abstain

When debate time elapses, delegates are to vote on the resolution or an amendment. Delegates who wish to abstain are those who do not support the resolution or clause and also do not oppose it. "Any delegates wishing to abstain from voting?"

# **Adjourn**

When the debate session adjourns, it means that session time has ended. The chair announces to delegates that the committee will be adjourned, either for a break, lunch or for the day. "Delegates, the committee is adjourned for lunch. Please be back at 1:45 for us to begin debate on another resolution."

# **Agenda**

The agenda is the order in which resolutions, breaks and other events will occur in. It is the committee's schedule. "The first thing on the agenda, delegates, is roll call"

# **Amendment**

An amendment is a change (addition, removal or adjustment) to a clause or a resolution. It is submitted by delegates during debate and is debated upon in closed debate and is then voted on."The delegate submitted an amendment to strike clause six."

#### **Caucus**

During a caucus, delegates may informally discuss a topic between themselves and lobby ideas on the current issue at hand and try to think of some constructive ideas to better the issue.

#### Chair

A chair is one of those in charge of a specific They can either be a Chair/President or a Deputy Chair/ President. They are in charge of the committees functioning and the flow of debate. "The chair will set debate time for one hour."

#### **Crisis**

A crisis is a situation that occurs once during the debate where a new topic is presented and debated on without past preperation.

#### **Debate**

The Debate is where delegates exchange their delegations' opinions on an issue and try to resolve that issue by resolutions. "Delegates we are now debating the resolution on DPR Korea submitted by the delegate of Japan."

#### **Decorum**

Decorum is only called out by the chair when the house is not in order. "Decorum, delegates"

# **Delegate**

A Delegate is someone who assumes the role of a representative of a nation or an organisation in a specific committee. "I am the delegate of Japan."

# **Delegation**

A delegation is a group of delegates representing the same country or organisation. "Would the delegation of Japan please go in for their delegation photo?"

#### **Floor**

The Floor is a metaphorical area, which delegates can obtain to be able to speak on a resolution or clause. "Does the delegate yield the floor back to the chair?"

#### **Formal Debate**

Formal debate is the debate style at MUN conferences, where delegates address themselves and each other in the third person, rather than saying "me" or "I" one would say "the delegate of".

# **Gossip Box**

A gossip box is a box that delegates can place notes into anonymously. All notes are read at the end of the conference in front of the entire committee.

#### House

When debate time elapses, delegates are
When addressing ones committee, it is
addressed as "the House". "The delegate
would like to ask all delegates present in the
house what they feel about DPR Korea's stand
on Nuclear Weapons"

# **Moderated Caucus**

A Moderated Caucus is where delegates may exchange ideas in the form of a break, but with one of the chairs present to moderate the discussion.

# **Motions**

A motion is a request made by a delegate, which is requested to do something, such as moving into voting procedures or to extend debate time.

# **Notes and Note-passing**

A note is a piece of official delegation paper that delegates can send around the committee. Between delegates, they pertain to the debate and try to get each others' opinions or to get to generally talk to delegates. However, if the house gets rowdy, the house has the right to suspend notepassing.

#### **Placard**

A placard is the sign paper the delegates hold up to be recognized by the chair to speak or to make a point of information. Every delegate has their own placard with the delegation written across it.

#### **Point**

A Point is a question raised by the delegate pertaining to the resolution or to the committee. They can be raised to the chair or to delegates who have the floor.

#### Resolution

Resolutions are documents written by delegates, which aim to solve a specific situation. "Japan wrote a fruitful resolution on the issue of DPR Korea."

# **Right of Reply**

The Right of Reply is where delegates may reply to a speaker's comment. It is requested by a delegate to the chairs when a delegate has been insulted, or was mentioned on a delegate's speech and wishes to answer the delegate back on what they said about them. "The Delegate of DPR Korea stated how Japan was a Terrorist Island wishing to demolish DPR Korea. The Delegate of Japan requested the Right of Reply to explain to DPR Korea and the house that they aren't a Terrorist Island, but want stabilised international peace and cooperation."

#### **Roll Call**

The Roll Call is done at the start of the day and after breaks. It's like the register at school, where the chairs (instead of teachers) check for which delegates are present and if debate may begin.

#### Second

To second a motion, means that the delegate agrees with it. Usually after a motion is presented, delegates who strongly agree call out "Seconded!" and delegates that disagree call out "Objection!"

# **Signatories**

A signatory is a delegate who has signed onto the resolution. They are therefore a co-submitter and at the minimum want the resolution to be debated (that means that they might not support the resolution, but want it to be debated).

# **Un-moderated Caucus**

An Un-Moderated Caucus is like a Moderated Caucus, except chairs do not moderate what is being discussed.

#### **Yield**

Yielding is where a delegate gives the floor to either another delegate or gives the floor back to the chair. "Is it in order for the delegate to yield the floor to the delegate of Japan?"

# **Points**

# **Point of Personal Privilege**

This point refers to the comfort and wellbeing of a delegate. When it is a point of personal privilege due to audibility, it may then only interrupt the speaker It cannot refer to the content of a speaker's statement. It is not a point that is debatable and doesn't require any other delegate to second it. "Point of Personal Privilege! Could the Air Conditioning be turned on, as it is a bit warm in here?"

#### Point of Order

A Point of Order is called if a delegate doesn't agree to a decision/ruling made by the chair It isn't debatable and it can't interrupt the speaker. It can refer to a current decision made by the chair or to a general procedural matter. "Point of Order!" Is it in order for delegates to yield the floor more than once, as the floor was just yielded to Japan?"

# Point of Information to the Speaker

Remember, when you ask your Point of Information, remain standing as a mark of respect It is a question directed to the delegate who has the floor about their delegation's views or about the speech. It is a question to the speaker, not a comment. If you want to get some information on the topic across to the house, you can do so by formulating it as a question, such as "Is the delegate aware that..." or "Does the delegate agree that..." Do not ask another question to the delegate unless the chair has allowed you to request of follow up as there is no direct dialogue between delegates.

# Point of Information to the Chair

This Point of Information is directed to the chair. It can refer to anything that doesn't pertain to the Rules of Procedure or to Personal Privileges. A Point of Information to the chair can be a question or clarification on the issue being debated "Point of Information to the chair! Could the chair explain when the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed?" It can refer to scheduling and the committee's agenda. "Point of Information to the chair! What time is lunch?"

#### **Point of Clarification**

This Point can be used when something is unclear to the delegates. It can be used after a delegate finishes a statement. Delegates may not interrupt the speaking delegate to call this motion. "Point of clarification. Could the delegate specify which treaty bans the use of nuclear weapons?"

# **Motions**

# Motion to open general speakers list

This motion allows for delegates to start adding themselves to the countries who will be reading their opening speeches.

# **Motion to clap**

This motion allows delegates to clap for other delegates. The chair might not entertain this motion, but might rather entertain a motion to snap.

### Motion to move out of formal debate

Allows delegates to abandon the formal procedure of MUN and talk. This motion might be requested and entertained by the chair.

#### **Motion for unmoderated caucus**

Motions for unmoderated caucuses are usually called for at the end of the session to discuss, draft, and get signatories for a resolution. Unmoderated caucuses are lobbying time, use it wisely to work with other delegates. An amount of time and reason must be specified after calling for this motion. "Motion for unmoderated caucus to discuss resolutions. 30 minutes"

#### **Motion for moderated caucus**

A moderated caucus is a series of speeches presented by delegates and moderated by the chair. A specific amount of speakers and time per speaker must be specified directly after calling for the motion. "Motion for moderated caucus. 10 minutes, 30 seconds per speaker."

# Motion to extend debate time

This motion extends the debate time. A specific amount of time or number of delegates must be indicated. This motion must be seconded by another delegate. The chairs decision is final, and there is no debating it when it comes to this motion.

Please note that if multiple delegates second your motion, its more likely to be entertained by the chair.