

# FLOAT CONFERENCE

## The Danger Rules

Last updated: April 17th, 2019

These rules are to be followed as the rules of governance for decision making by the Float Conference Board of Directors.

It is expected that all board members act in a reasonable and cooperative manner when participating in the governance of this organization. These rules are simply a system to help this organization function more effectively, and like most human made systems, it is possible that unintended loopholes exist. It is the general presumption of these rules that all participants are acting in the spirit of equity, and are not attempting to manipulate or “game” the system.

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Decisions made by the Board of Directors will be made either by consensus or by an Official Vote.

### **Consensus**

The majority of our decisions will be made using a method of general consensus. The President of the Board (or another appointed board member if the President is absent) will facilitate a discussion on a topic, and the decision will be made by determining what is generally agreeable to most of the board members present. Votes will not be taken, other than occasional straw polling, but decisions will be considered conclusive, allowing action to be taken to enact them. Discussion on a given point will conclude with the facilitator:

- stating the proposed decision,
- asking if anyone has anything else to say,
- asking if there is anyone present who cannot live with this decision,
- and asking if anyone would like to turn this decision into an Official Vote.

If a quorum is not present during a board meeting no decision made will be acted on for 48 hours following the posting of the minutes and call recording to allow absent board members a chance to review decisions and request changes or Official Votes.

### **Official Votes**

In addition to matters included in this organization’s Bylaws, certain decisions of considerable importance or sensitivity will be conducted using an Official Vote. Official Votes will grant each board seat a single vote. On decisions between two options each board seat will offer a “yes,” “no,” or “abstain” vote, with decisions being finalized by a majority of the voting members. On decisions with more than two options, a score voting system will be used, with each voting member ranking each option on a scale of 1-5 (or “abstain”), with 1 representing “strongly opposed” and 5 representing “strongly in favor.” The option with the highest average score will win (with an abstain vote not counting towards the average).

*[Edge cases: In the case of a winning option receiving only a single vote (not counting “abstains”), a vote on just that option will take place again. In the case of a tie, eliminated options will be removed, another discussion will be held, and a vote will take place again.]*

Topics that are up for an Official Vote will be listed as such in the agenda sent out before the board meeting.

It is the prerogative of any board member to request that any topic being discussed using consensus be instead decided with an Official Vote. If this request is made during a board meeting, the board members present will immediately vote on whether the Official Vote should be conducted during the present meeting, or delayed until a future time, with a decision made by a majority of the present voting members.

All Official Votes will have voting open for 96 hours from the time the meeting minutes and call recording are posted, or until a majority across all board seats is reached.

Board members can vote either during a board call, or using electronic means while voting remains open.

### **Amending These Rules**

The board will conduct an annual review of these rules to consider any changes that may improve the governance of this organization. Board members may also at any time request that an amendment to these rules be discussed and voted on at the next board meeting.