

Rules of Procedure for MIMUN

Section 1: Starting Committee

- 1.1 Committee session will begin with the director calling the names of all countries present in alphabetical order. They shall indicate their presence by saying, “present”
This is called roll call.
- 1.2 Immediately after roll call the director will open a Speakers’ List.
- 1.3 All countries wishing to speak shall raise their placards. The director will select those delegates wishing to speak. Those countries shall comprise the Speaker’s List. It shall be displayed to the committee at all times. Once a country’s delegate speaks, the country’s name will be stricken from the Speakers’ list. Countries may be added to the Speakers’ List at later times if its delegate sends a note up to the chair indicating this desire. The same country can only be on the speakers’ list once at the same time.
- 1.4 The chair will then wait for motions to set the speaking time. Any delegate wishing to set a speaking time will raise his or her placard at this time. After being called upon, he or she will state the desired speaking times. Immediately after that motion is made, it will be voted upon by the committee. Any time a delegate during committee makes a motion to set the speaking time and that motion passes, the speaking time will then be what that delegate motioned for. If a delegate wants questions, he or she will include that in the motion. A sample motion would be, “I would like delegates to be able to speak for one minute and then answer two questions about their speech.” If a majority of the committee votes yes on this, then that will be the speaking time.

Section 2: Debating in Committee

- 2.1 Debate will consist of going down the Speaker’s List and letting the delegates say what they believe the committee should do or speak about specific resolutions.
- 2.2 During debate, delegates will not speak unless the chair recognizes them. Passing notes is acceptable, but otherwise delegates should show respect for the speaker who has the floor.
- 2.3 When a delegate wants time to work with others to write a resolution, he will make a motion for a caucus, which is similar to making a motion to set the speaking time. A caucus is a period of time when the delegates can walk around and talk to each other and write resolutions while no one is speaking. When making a motion to begin a caucus, a length of time must be included. If the motion passes, the delegates will immediately begin a caucus.
- 2.4 At the end of the committee session, a delegate will make a motion to Close Debate. This motion requires a two-thirds majority. If it passes, the committee will vote on the resolutions it has written in the order in which they were presented during the day.

Section 3: Writing a Resolution

3.1 A resolution will begin with a list of sponsors. A sponsor is a person who wrote the resolution. There can be any number of sponsors. Delegates should work together to write resolutions.

3.2 A resolution consists of two parts; pre-operative clauses and operative clauses.

3.3 The pre-operative clauses will consist of facts of information that the committee thinks are necessary to remember. They are not actions. They begin with such words as remembering, cognizant of, recalling, taking note of, and so forth. Those opening words are underlined. The pre-operative clause ends with a comma. An example of pre-operative clauses would be:

Remembering that learning the rules can be boring,

Recalling that once you learn the rules Model United Nations is awesome;

The last pre-operative clause ends with a semi-colon.

3.3 After the pre-operative clauses come the operative clauses. These operative clauses are what the sponsors think the United Nations and international community should do. They begin with words like decides, deplores, requests, and so forth. These words are also underlined. These phrases end with semi-colons.

1. Decides that MIMUN will take place in Ann Arbor, Michigan;

2. Requests that the delegates wear nice clothes.

The last operative clause ends with a period.

3.4 Resolutions can be changed through amendments. An amendment is simply a change to a resolution. There are two types of amendments, friendly and unfriendly. Amendments are submitted to the chair on paper.

3.5 A friendly amendment is an amendment that is approved by all the sponsors. It automatically becomes part of the resolution in question and this change is announced by the director.

3.6 An unfriendly amendment is a change to a resolution that not all of the sponsors approve. It is voted on during voting procedure, which happens after a motion to End Debate is passed. If the vote on the amendment passes, it becomes part of the resolution.

3.7 A resolution can be submitted at any time. Once it is submitted and approved by the chair, the sponsors will be called upon to read the resolution and take questions. These questions will be only about grammar and other points of clarification, not substance. Multiple resolutions can be discussed simultaneously. Copies of resolutions will be distributed to everyone present.

Section 4: Voting

4.1 Voting procedure begins at the end of committee session after a motion to Close Debate passes.

4.2 Resolutions will be voted on in order of when they were submitted. If an unfriendly amendment has been submitted it will be voted on immediately before the resolution itself.

4.3 More than one resolution can pass if they do not conflict.

4.4 There are three ways that a delegate can vote; yes, no, and abstain. The director will first call for those voting yes to raise their placard, then those voting no to raise their placard, and finally those abstaining to do so. Placards will be counted during each of these requests.

4.5 If more delegates vote yes than no, then the resolution passes. If it is a tie, the resolution fails. Abstentions count neither towards the yes or no votes. For example if there is a vote of two in favor, one against, and fifty abstentions, the resolution passes.

4.6 No talking, moving about the room, or swaying of votes is permitted during voting procedure.

4.7 Security Council voting rules are different. Please refer to the Security Council Background Guide or contact your Director to learn about these rules.

Section 5: Sample Resolution

Sponsors: India, France, Brazil

The World Health Organization:

Aware of the controversy surrounding the status of tomatoes,

Recognizing the importance of this issue to international agriculture and the health and productivity of peoples around the world,

Desiring to alleviate the plight of confused citizens;

1. Appoints a special commission to study and evaluate the fruitiness and vegetableness of the tomato;
2. Requests that all member states contribute the following resources to the special commission:
 - a. Experts in the field,
 - b. Sample tomatoes,
 - c. Money for facilities;
3. Expresses its hope that tomatoes will help to end world hunger;
4. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.