

## **Article I: Name of Organization**

- 1.1 The official name of the organization is Future Black Physicians: Community of Support UTSC Student Chapter.
- 1.2 The organization may be referred to by the acronym FBP.
- 1.3 The organization may also be referred to as solely Future Black Physicians in marketing paraphernalia that is within the confines of the University of Toronto Scarborough.

## **Article II: Purpose**

- 2.1 Future Black Physicians intends to:
  - 1) Raise awareness about the highly disproportionate amount of Black physicians in Canada.
  - 2) Provide support and opportunities for racialized students whom's goals are to work in the medical field.
  - 3) Work as a cohesive body to collaborate with campus groups within UTSC.
  - 4) Work as a cohesive body to collaborate with various stakeholders within UTSC.
  - 5) Work as a cohesive body to collaborate with various stakeholders external to UTSC in a manner that supports the tenets of clause one (1).
- 2.2 Future Black Physicians will enhance the educational, recreational, social or cultural environment of UTSC by respecting all existing diversities; by providing forum for the exchange of experiences and ideas regarding the path to medical school; by creating a space for students to both a wide range of cultural and educational activities; by raising awareness of pertinent issues currently facing medical school applicants of African ancestry; and by providing assistance to premed students who are new to UTSC.
- 2.3 Future Black Physicians fundamentally serves a non-profit function within the University of Toronto Scarborough, and will not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.
- 2.4 Future Black Physicians operates as an independent entity working within the University of Toronto Scarborough community subject to the values and policies of the University.

## **Article III: Membership**

- 3.1 Membership in Future Black Physicians is open to all students, staff, faculty and alumni of the University of Toronto Scarborough.
- 3.2 The term of membership for the Future Black Physicians will be from September 1 – August 31 each year.
- 3.3 Each member shall be afforded the following rights through membership in Future Black Physicians:
  - 3.3.1 The right to participate and vote in group elections and meetings;
  - 3.3.2 The right to communicate and to discuss and explore all ideas;
  - 3.3.3 The right to organize/engage in activities/events that are reasonable and lawful;
  - 3.3.4 The right to freedom from discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, or sexual orientation;
  - 3.3.5 The right to be free from censorship, control, or interference by the University on the basis of the organization's philosophy, beliefs, interests or opinions unless and until these lead to activities which are illegal or which infringe on the rights and freedoms already mentioned above;
  - 3.3.6 The right to distribute on campus, in a responsible way, published material provided that it is not unlawful;

3.4 Each member shall possess the following responsibilities relative to participation in Future Black Physicians:

- 3.4.1 Support the purpose of the organization;
- 3.4.2 Uphold the values of the organization;
- 3.4.3 Contribute constructively to the programs and activities offered by the organization;
- 3.4.4 Attend general meetings;
- 3.4.5 Abide by the constitution and subsequent official organizational documents;
- 3.4.6 Respect the rights of peers and fellow members;
- 3.4.7 Abide by University of Toronto policies, procedures, and guidelines;
- 3.4.8 Abide by the Laws of the Land, including but not limited to the Criminal Code of Canada.

3.5 The Future Black Physicians will collect a mandatory membership fee from each member each year. This fee will be proposed as part of the operating budget presented to general members for approval at a valid general meeting.

3.6 The Future Black Physicians values and respects the personal information of its members. The Future Black Physicians secures its member's information at all times and will not supply names or other confidential information to third-parties.

3.7 The Future Black Physicians will protect the privacy of member information and must use it only for the delivery of service and not for commercial gain.

#### **Article IV: Executive**

4.1 The executives of the organization shall include Chairperson (Or Co-chairpersons), Director of Administration, Director of Finance, Director of Events, Director of Outreach, Director of Marketing, Communications Coordinator, and the Digital Content Creator.

4.2 The broad responsibilities of each executive position are as follows:

4.2.1 *The Chairperson(s)* [hereafter referred to as 'The Chair(s)']:

- 1. The Chair(s) are the official spokesperson of the organization and provide direction for all components of the organization in a manner consistent with the organization's constitution and policies.
- 2. The Chair(s) are responsible for the main correspondence between FBP and community organizations, filing the annual activity report and the conception and finalization of the agenda and all other subsequent events.
- 3. The Chair(s) shall act as the primary contact for the organization. They answer any queries of the Executives to the best of their ability, obtain accurate information in situations of uncertainty and act as a mediator.
- 4. The Chair(s) along with the Director of Finance will play an active role in interacting with other special interest groups and organizations within UTSC, and be responsible for securing funding from the appropriate groups within UTSC as well as external sponsors for events.
- 5. The Chair(s) are also granted signing authority over the organization's financial transactions and hold final responsibility for the upkeep of the club and all subsequent affairs under any given circumstance.

4.2.2 *The Director of Administration:*

- 1. The Director of Administration shall be responsible for maintaining communication between the executive team and the general members.

2. The Director of Administration shall also be responsible for keeping a record of all members and executives, including supervision in role assignments, ensuring tasks are completed on time.
3. The Director of Administration is also responsible for recording meeting minutes of the executives' and the club's general meetings and the club's constitution.

#### 4.2.3 *The Director of Finance:*

1. The Director of Finance shall have responsibility for the organization's funds and keep an accurate record of the financial transactions, perform financial transactions with the approval of the Chair(s), and oversee the organization's finances. The Director of Finance shares the responsibility with the Chair(s) for securing funding from the appropriate groups within UTSC as well as external sponsors for events and is granted signing authority over the organization's financial transactions.

#### 4.2.4 *The Director(s) of Events:*

1. There shall be a maximum of two Directors of Events on the Executive Committee (if necessary). Each Director shares responsibilities and is expected to fulfill all requirements equally as outlined by the constitution.
2. The Director(s) of Events are solely responsible for organizing and planning both internal and external events and shall keep executive members updated and informed. The Event Directors will play an active role in working with other groups from the wider University of Toronto community (i.e. groups from UTSC, St. George, and UTM) as well as other external organizations for the purposes of event collaboration and will aid the Marketing Director(s) in the promotional activities where needed.
3. The Event Director(s) is responsible for booking rooms or any other locations for holding events.

#### 4.2.5 *The Director of Outreach:*

1. The Director of Outreach shall keep the members informed of the activities and events of the club through promotion (alongside the Marketing Director[s] and the Director of Administration).
2. The Director of Outreach shall take full responsibility in the recruitment of members throughout the year and shall play an active role in interacting with other special interest groups and organizations within UTSC.

#### 4.2.6 *The Director(s) of Marketing:*

1. There shall be a maximum of three Director(s) of Marketing (if necessary).
2. The Director(s) of Marketing alongside the Outreach Director and the Director of Administration, shall ensure that there is necessary and appropriate promotion of all of the club's events (and seek volunteers when necessary).
3. The Marketing Director(s) shall work with the Chair(s) to run communications via social media accounts and create digital marketing tools appropriate for online use.
4. The Marketing Director(s) shall also keep the members informed of the activities and events of the organization by mass advertising (both online and print) and will arrange for the purchase or rental of the necessary media to advertise club meetings, events etc.

5. When collaborating with other groups, these individuals will play an active role in co-promotion with said groups, organizations, etc.
6. The Marketing Director(s) shall create a posting schedule for all social media communications, ensuring to regularly post content as directed by the Director of Marketing in order to grow engagement and our social media presence.
7. The Marketing Director(s) shall interact with other social media pages and respond in a timely manner to messages received on our social media platforms to build stronger connections with engagers and fellow UTSC student organizations.

#### 4.2.7 *Communications Coordinator*

1. The Communications Coordinator shall support the marketing department in executing and monitoring communication strategies by overseeing the dispersal of relevant communications via email and newsletter channels, as instructed by the Director of Marketing.
2. The Communications Coordinator shall generate standard and unique marketing ideas that are relevant to members of the FBP community on a consistent basis for production and dispersal by the marketing team.
3. The Communications Coordinator shall create public relations and marketing materials such as press releases, blog posts, blurbs, and newsletters for dispersal by the marketing team.

#### 4.2.9 *Digital Content Creator*

1. There shall be a maximum of two Digital Content Creator(s) (if necessary).
2. The Digital Content Creator shall create engaging digital content for all social media platforms; not limited to YouTube videos, TikTok videos, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn as instructed by the Director of Marketing.
3. The Digital Content Creator shall supervise the obtaining of BTS (behind the scenes) footage and bloopers from team meetings and events to grow engagement with the FBP community.

**4.2.10** In addition to these individual responsibilities, all executive members are responsible for:

- 1) The consistent support of the FBP agenda
- 2) The contribution of ideas
- 3) The positive representation of the club and all subsequent affairs.

4.2.11 All executive members shall preside at a minimum of **100%** of Future Black Physicians Executive Meetings and a minimum of **60%** of Future Black Physicians General Meetings or events.

4.3 Only student members of the organization may hold executive positions.

4.4 The executive positions collectively will form a committee that acts as the primary steward of the organization.

4.5 This committee is collectively responsible for the day-to-day decision making of the organization including but not limited to monitoring finances, event planning and execution, member services, and advocating on behalf of members to Administration and student government.

4.6 This committee cannot make amendments to the constitution without the approval of the general membership at a valid General Meeting.

4.7 The term of each executive will last from May 1 following their election to April 30 of the following year.

4.8 Any executive of the organization may resign, provided that such resignation is made in writing and delivered to the Chair(s). Unless any such resignation is, by its terms, effective on a later date, it shall be effective on delivery to the Chair(s), and no ratification by the organization shall be required to make the resignation official.

4.9 Any vacancy of executives shall be filled by the Chair(s) or designate of the organization until such a time where a by-election is held, a permanent appointment occurs, or a hiring process is conducted.

4.10 If the Chair(s) resigns, notice of such resignation must be submitted in writing and delivered to the executive committee at a valid executive meeting. Unless any such resignation is, by its terms, effective on a later date, it shall be effective on delivery to the executive committee, and no ratification by the organization shall be required to make the resignation official.

4.11 Any vacancy of the Chair(s) shall be filled by another executive committee member appointed by a simple and clear majority of the executive committee until such a time where a by-election is held, a permanent appointment occurs, or a hiring process is conducted.

#### **Article V: Removal of Members and Executives**

5.1 The process for removing a member or executive may be initiated when a committee of no less than three (3) non-executive general members and two (2) executives appointed by the general membership to investigate a complaint determines that:

5.1.1 A member or executive has engaged in unlawful actions or activities;

5.1.2 A member or executive has violated the constitution;

5.1.3 A member or executive has violated University of Toronto policies, procedures, or guidelines;

5.1.4 A member or executive has violated the rights of a fellow member;

5.1.5 A member or executive has not fulfilled their organizational responsibilities;

5.1.6 Other criteria deemed to be appropriate by the Executive Committee in consultation with and approved by a majority of the general membership.

5.2 The process for removing a member or executive may also be initiated when:

5.2.1 A petition calling for a vote and bearing the signatures of a majority of the general membership is submitted to any member of the executive.

5.2.2 A motion for a removal vote is put forward by any member of the executive and passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the executives. The individual facing potential removal vote is entitled to vote on the motion if they are an executive or be given an opportunity to explain themselves if they are a non-executive general member.

5.3 The removal of members and executives will be facilitated by a three tier procedure which operates as follows:

5.3.1 First Tier:

The executive or member will be warned both verbally and in writing that their behaviour constitutes grounds for removal from the organization and that it should cease effective immediately.

5.3.2 Second Tier:

Initiated because the member or executive has violated section 5.1 after receiving a First Tier warning relative to a particular action or behaviour.

The Chair(s) will be responsible for contacting the executive or member and facilitating training or suggesting best practices on how to correct the issues of concern.

The Chair(s) must address all complaints in writing by formulating an action plan and timeline to correct any issues involving executives or members within fourteen (14) calendar days.

The executive or member accused of violating section 5.1 will be given fourteen (14) calendar days from receiving the Chair(s)'s written response to demonstrate progress or correction of behaviour.

#### 5.3.3 Third Tier:

Initiated because the member or executive has violated section 5.1 after receiving Second Tier warning relative to a particular action or behaviour.

The removal vote must take place at a valid General Meeting of the membership. A representative supporting the motion for removal and the executive or member facing removal (or an individual they designate), may speak for up to five minutes each. The removal of an executive or member requires a 2/3 majority vote of all of the members present at a valid general meeting (including executives). The executive or member facing removal is entitled to vote on the motion.

### **Article VI: Finances**

6.1 The funds of the organization shall be expended pursuant to the operating budget approved by the general membership at a valid General Meeting.

6.2 Notwithstanding section 6.1, the executive committee may not approve any unbudgeted expenditure of the organization's funds above \$100.00 without the approval of the general members at a valid General Meeting.

6.3 All budgets shall be prepared by the Director of Finance in accordance with the organization's priorities as determined by the executive committee in consultation with general members at a valid General Meeting.

6.4 The Director of Finance shall present a proposed operating budget for the next fiscal year to the general membership for its consideration at the final General Meeting.

6.5 The operating budget shall be the major budget for the fiscal year and provide for all expenditures of the organization for the subsequent year.

6.6 The operating budget shall be approved by a majority vote of the general members present and voting at a valid General Meeting.

6.7 The banking business of the organization, or any part thereof, shall be transacted with such bank, trust company or other firm or body corporate as the Executive may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time and all such banking business, or any part thereof, shall be transacted on the organization's behalf by one or more Officers or other persons as the Executive may designate, direct or authorize from time to time and to the extent thereby provided.

6.8 The Chair(s), the Director of Finance, and only in special circumstances the Director(s) of Events or the Director of Administration shall be the sole signing authorities of banking instruments for the organization.

6.9 Future Black Physicians will ensure that proper and accurate financial records are maintained and passed on to incoming executives following each year's elections.

6.10 Future Black Physicians will accept full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors, plans, or executes.

### **Article VII: General Meetings**

7.1 The purpose of General Meetings is to provide a forum for executives to overview the activities of the organization and solicit feedback from members, to engage in policy-making,

to propose amendments to the constitution, and to report on the financial status of the organization.

7.2 General Meetings will be facilitated by a Session Leader selected by the general membership from the executive committee. The Session Leader shall be responsible for:

7.2.1 Formulating and distributing an agenda for each meeting no later than two (2) days before the meeting;

7.2.2 Ensuring appropriate conduct and leading the meeting in an efficient, reasonable manner;

7.2.3 Moderating the discussion at meetings according to the agenda;

7.2.4 Suspending members from participating in meetings for constitutional or procedural violations.

7.3 The procedure at meetings of members shall be governed in accordance with the process outlined in Appendix A.

7.4 There shall be a minimum of one (1) General Meeting held each month. The date of each subsequent general meeting will be confirmed at the preceding general meeting and will be reiterated to members via email a minimum of two (2) calendar days prior to the meeting.

7.5 General Meetings may be called to order by the Chair(s), through a petition signed by three (3) executive members, or by a petition signed by five (5) non-executive general members.

7.6 General Meetings are open to registered members of the organization only. Quorum will first be established by the presence of a simple and clear majority of the executives.

7.7 For quorum to remain valid, the number of non-executive general members present at a General Meeting must exceed the number of executives present at all times.

7.8 All executives are expected to make brief progress reports on their activities at every General Meeting.

7.9 Minutes of all General Meetings must be recorded and maintained for reference purposes.

7.10 Members must contact the Session Leader a minimum of 48 hours before a General Meeting to inform them of new business they wish to discuss. The Session Leader will then add the discussion item to the agenda.

7.11 Each member of the organization shall be entitled to one (1) vote at a General Meeting except the Session Leader who shall only vote in the event of a tie.

7.12 Any question at a valid General Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands.

7.13 Whenever a vote by show of hands occurs, a declaration by the Session Leader that the vote upon the question has been carried, carried by a particular majority, or failed shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

7.14 In case of an equality of votes at a valid General Meeting, the Session Leader of the meeting shall have the deciding vote.

7.15 The Session Leader presiding over a meeting of members may, with the consent of the majority of members, decide to adjourn these meetings from time to time.

### **Article VIII: Executive Meetings**

8.1 The purpose of executive meetings is to provide a forum for the organization's executives to discuss and make decisions on day-to-day matters affecting the organization.

8.2 Executive meetings will be facilitated by the Chair(s) of the organization. The Chair(s) shall be responsible for:

8.2.1 Formulating and distributing an agenda for each meeting;

- 8.2.2 Ensuring appropriate conduct and leading the meeting in an efficient, reasonable manner;
- 8.2.3 Moderating the discussion at meetings according to the agenda;
- 8.3 There shall be a minimum of one (1) executive meeting held every two (2) weeks during the period September 1 to April 30. The date of each subsequent executive meeting will be confirmed at the preceding meeting and will be reiterated to executives via email a minimum of two (2) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- 8.4 The frequency of executive meetings occurring between May 1 and August 31 will be left to the discretion of the executive committee.
- 8.5 Executive meetings may be called to order by the Chair(s) or through a petition signed by three (3) executive members.
- 8.6 Executive meetings are restricted to executive members only. Quorum will be established by the presence of a simple and clear majority of the total executives for the organization.
- 8.7 Minutes of all executive meetings must be recorded and maintained for reference purposes.
- 8.8 Executives must notify the Chair(s) a minimum of six (6) hours before an executive meeting to inform them of new business they wish to discuss. The Chair(s) will then add the discussion item to the agenda.
- 8.9 Each executive member of the organization shall be entitled to one (1) vote at a valid executive meeting.
- 8.10 Any question at an executive meeting shall be decided by a show of hands.
- 8.11 Whenever a vote by show of hands occurs, a declaration by the Chair(s) that the vote has been carried, carried by a particular majority, or failed shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 8.12 In case of an equality of votes at an executive meeting, the motion will be recorded as having failed.
- 8.13 The Chair(s) may, with the consent of the majority of executives, decide to adjourn these meetings from time to time.

#### **Article IX: Emergency Meetings**

- 9.1 Emergency meetings can be called for extenuating or unforeseen circumstances that may arise from time to time.
- 9.2 These meetings must abide the respective rules outlined in sections VII and VIII depending on the nature of the meeting.
- 9.3 Notice of these meetings must be provided a minimum of 24 hours in advance through email.
- 9.4 Less notice for emergency meetings may be provided at the discretion of the Chair(s) in agreement with a minimum of five (5) general members.

#### **Article X: Elections**

- 10.1 Executive elections will be held prior to March 31 each year.
- 10.2 Candidates for executive positions shall be selected through an application process subject to meeting a set of minimum qualifications for holding a particular position. These qualifications will be established by the outgoing executive team each year prior to the commencement of the application submission period.
- 10.3 Only student members who meet the minimum qualifications to hold an executive position shall be permitted to participate in an election and hold executive positions.



10.4 All screening of candidates will be conducted by a committee comprised of majority number of non-executive general members and minority number of executives who will assess each candidate's qualifications against pre-established criteria for holding the positions.

10.5 Notification of the acceptance of applications for executive positions will be sent via email to all general members a minimum of twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the General Meeting at which the election will be held.

10.6 All application periods must commence a minimum of fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the General Meeting at which the election will be held. The application period must end a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the general meeting at which the election will be held.

10.7 Successful candidates will be permitted to give a short speech at the general meeting where the election is being held. Each speech will be followed by a short question and answer period. The length of each speech and the question/answer period will be left to the discretion of the Chair(s).

10.8 Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, and overseen by an election oversight committee separate and unique from the candidate selection committee described in section 10.4.

10.9 This committee will be comprised of two (2) non-executive general members and one (1) executive.

10.10 Successful candidates will be determined by accrual of the most number of votes tallied from amongst the general membership.

10.11 Final results of the election must be presented to the membership for ratification of the process only. The results themselves should not be brought into question; only the process through which these results were tabulated.

10.12 If an error in the process is found, the election should be re-held at the final General Meeting with a new election oversight committee.

10.13 Candidates who run for a position unopposed must receive a simple and clear majority of the total eligible votes at a valid general meeting in which an election is held to be declared the winner of that election.

## **Article XI: Amendments**

11.1 The organization may make, amend or repeal the constitution or certain sections therein.

11.2 Notice of a meeting called to consider such a resolution shall be given as follows:

11.2.1 Notice of the full text of the proposed constitutional amendment shall be given to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting called to consider the change;

11.2.2 A summary of the rationale for the proposed amendment shall be given to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting called to consider the change.

11.3 Amendments to the constitution require the approval of two-thirds of the members present at a valid General Meeting (a General Meeting that has achieved quorum).

11.4 The general membership must have the final say on amendments to the constitution.

## **Article XII: Transition**

12.1 All outgoing executives are required to transfer all organizational resources used relative to a particular role over the course of the preceding year to new executives upon leaving the position.

12.2 All outgoing executives are responsible for providing a detailed report to incoming executives that stipulates the status of ongoing projects in their portfolio and evaluations of previous projects and programs that they lead.

12.3 All outgoing and incoming executives will participate in a joint training session occurring no later than the end of May each year to assist with the transition between new executive teams.

### **Article XIII: Emergency Powers**

13.1 In the case of extenuating circumstances, the executive shall be afforded the ability to act without direction from the organization's members.

13.2 An extenuating circumstance is defined as any instance that may jeopardize the immediate functioning of the organization including but not limited to: executive vacancies, unexpected cancellations, removal from position, or lack of response from members.

13.3 Emergency powers may only be used for such a period of time as is needed to address an extenuating circumstance.

13.4 General members have the ability to remove emergency powers where appropriate through submission of a signed petition from at least 10% of the entire general membership.

### **Article XIV: Food Handling on Campus**

14.1 Future Black Physicians will conform to Provincial and Municipal Health Regulations when events which include the sale and/or service of food products are held on the University of Toronto Scarborough campus.

### **Article XV: Precedence of University Policies**

15.1 Future Black Physicians will abide by all pertinent University of Toronto policies, procedures, and guidelines. Where the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines conflict with those of Future Black Physicians, the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines will take precedent.

### **Article XVI: Legal Liability**

16.1 The University of Toronto Scarborough does not endorse the Future Black Physicians' beliefs or philosophy nor does it assume legal liability for the group's activities on or off campus.

### **Article XVII: Banking**

17.1 Future Black Physicians agrees to provide the name of the bank, the branch number and address, transit number, bank account number, and a list of all signing officers for all bank accounts opened in the organization's name to the Department of Student Life, University of Toronto Scarborough.

## **Appendix A: General Meeting Rules of Order**

### **I. Call to Order**

1. The Chair(s) may call the meeting to order only if a quorum of executives and non-executive general members is present in person. If a quorum does not exist, the

meeting is not qualified to conduct business. A general member may not appear by proxy or mail ballot.

2. The meeting must be open to all applicable general members. General members must receive notice of the meeting in accordance with, the constitution.

## II. Review of the Agenda

1. The first draft of the agenda is prepared by the Chair(s) prior to the meeting. Agenda items should ordinarily appear in the order set forth in these rules of order.

2. The agenda belongs to all general members. The agenda may be modified only by a majority vote. This power should only be used when necessary as proper functioning of meetings and the organization requires advance planning.

3. At this point in the agenda, general members may add or delete items from the agenda and may change the order of presentation.

4. When possible, changes to the agenda should be done by acquiescence of all general members. Formal voting on the agenda is only necessary where it appears to the Chair(s) that there is a disagreement.

## III. Approval of Previous Minutes

1. The minutes need not be read aloud but they should be entered into the organization's official minute ledger upon approval by the general membership.

2. The minutes are prepared by either the secretary or some other individual appointed by the general membership to act as recording secretary. Any general member may suggest changes to the minutes before the general membership adopts them. The suggested changes should be set forth in the minutes for the record, and then the general membership should adopt or reject such changes.

3. Minutes should state precisely each motion considered by the general membership, and identify the general members voting in favor, against, or abstaining, and whether the motion was carried. Minutes need not reflect the comments made except in those instances when the member desires to make his/her comments recorded.

4. When possible, changes to the minutes and adoption of the minutes should be done by acquiescence of all general members. Formal voting on the minutes is only necessary where it appears to the Chair(s) that there is a disagreement.

## IV. Executive Reports

1. Executives may report their findings or recommendations to the general membership at this point of the agenda.

2. The full report should be presented and then general members, in turn, may ask questions or comment. It is not appropriate to make motions or discuss items of business during this portion of the meeting.

3. This time should also be used for any presentations to be made to the general membership.

## V. Open Forum

1. It is the custom and practice of most organizations to allow general members an open forum to ask questions and speak about their concerns to an executive after a report has been provided.

2. Strict time limitations should be imposed by the Chair(s) and these limitations must be enforced. Each general member should address the Chair(s) regarding an issue and must speak courteously and to the point.

#### VI. Old and New Business

1. All items that were tabled during previous meetings must be revisited during the business portion of the agenda occurring after executive reports.
2. The general membership may vote to postpone consideration of any old business or it may remove any item from consideration.
3. Except in the case of emergency business, all new items of business are heard only after all of the old items have been addressed by the general membership.
4. All business must be conducted in the form of motions or resolutions adopted by a vote of the general membership.

#### VII. Motions and Deliberations

1. When an item of business is to be discussed, the Chair(s) announces the item to be discussed and opens the floor to discussion.
2. No general member may speak until recognized by the Chair(s). No general member may interrupt the speaker who has the floor.
3. The Chair(s) may impose reasonable time limitations. All time limitations must be uniformly imposed upon all of the general members. The speaker shall be given a one-minute warning before time runs out. By vote of a majority of the general membership, time limits may be extended.
4. The Chair(s) is to recognize each general member in turn. Discussion shall be limited to the item of business at hand, and the Chair(s) shall have the authority to take the floor from a speaker who does not limit discussion to the item of business at hand.
5. No general member may speak to an issue for a second time until all other general members have had the opportunity to speak to it for the first time. Likewise, no general member may speak to an issue for a third time until all other general members have had the opportunity to speak to it for a second time.
6. When it appears to the Chair(s) that all general members have had the opportunity to fully discuss the matter at hand, the Chair(s) should announce that the item of business is ready for a vote.

#### VIII. Voting

1. There are 3 basic motions for each item of business:  
A motion to adopt a specific action by the board.  
A motion to postpone the item to another meeting (including fact-finding assignments to a person or committee).  
A motion to remove an item from consideration
2. The general membership is limited to discussing one item of business at a time, but there are no limits to the number of motions that may be considered as to how to dispose of that item of business.
3. After the general membership has had the opportunity to discuss each motion presented for consideration, the Chair(s) will call each motion presented to a vote.
4. The fact that a motion has been adopted or failed does not prevent the item of business from being added to the agenda in the future and all motions may be reconsidered at any time by the general membership.