

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

STANDING ORDERS

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3 **1. Emblem.** The AIP official emblem shall be an insigne consisting of a wreath with a gavel
4 superimposed, the head of the gavel to be in a raised position and placed at the left side of the wreath.
5 The capital letters AIP shall be at the top of the wreath in a circle segment, as set forth below.
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11 **2. Trademarks.** The words American Institute of Parliamentarians and the Wreath and Gavel design are
12 trademarks of the American Institute of Parliamentarians.
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14 **3. Use of Emblem and Trademarks.**

15 **3.1** Chapters may use the AIP trademarks on stationery, membership cards, and other official
16 documents.

17 **3.2** Use of the AIP trademarks in association with a publication shall be governed by rules adopted
18 by the AIP Board of Directors (herein referred to as board).

19 **3.3** Individual members, with current dues paid, are authorized to wear the AIP emblem.

20 **3.4** Use of the emblem shall be consistent with identification as a member and shall not imply
21 endorsement or representation of AIP.

22 **3.5** Any dispute, regarding suitability of a use, shall be resolved by the board. Decisions of the board
23 shall be final.
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25 **4. Colors.** The AIP official colors shall be white for truth, blue for tradition, and gold for integrity. The
26 official colors of AIP shall be Pantone Matching System (PMS) blue #294 and gold #124.
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28 **5. AIP Published Material.** All authors of works published by AIP shall sign an agreement in a form
29 approved by the board of directors. In AIP publications, no person shall be identified by more than one
30 non-parliamentary title. The title shall be at the discretion of the individual.

31 **5.1** Material that is created, compiled, or edited at the sole direction of AIP shall remain the
32 property of AIP, including copyright, royalties, and other rights relating to publication.

33 **5.2** Articles written for AIP publication may be reproduced by AIP in other formats with full
34 attribution and without further permission from the author.

35 **5.3** Workshop materials created for AIP events shall remain the property of the presenter.
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37 **6. Sales at AIP events.** The board may permit individuals to promote or sell parliamentary materials at
38 AIP functions, and may grant the same privilege of promotion or sale to commercial organizations
39 involved in AIP projects or the production of parliamentary materials.
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- 41 **7. Parliamentary Law Emphasis Month.** April shall be Parliamentary Law Emphasis Month and this
42 month shall be recognized as an annual activity of AIP.
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- 44 **8. Membership.**
- 45 **8.1 Benefits.** Each member shall receive a digital subscription or have online access to the
46 *Parliamentary Journal* and *The Communicator*. Members shall also have online access to the AIP
47 Directory.ⁱ
- 48 **8.2 Publication of Personal Information.**
- 49 **8.2.1** Members shall indicate on the membership renewal form if personal information shall not
50 be published in the AIP Directory.
- 51 **8.2.2** AIP activities which list individual names shall include only AIP parliamentary credentials.
52 The AIP Membership Directory shall list only AIP credentials.
- 53 **8.3 Commercial Use of Personal Information.** It shall be grounds for expulsion for a member in any
54 category to make commercial use of the personal information listed in the AIP Directory.
- 55 **8.4 Donor Recognition.** Members who have donated \$25.00 or more in supplemental fees above
56 their dues in any category of membership shall be designated as such in the *AIP Communicator*.
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- 58 **9. Meetings of the Membership.**
- 59 **9.1 Location of Meetings.** The board shall determine the site of the annual session based on bids
60 submitted from chapters or its own investigation. The board shall make a reasonable effort to rotate
61 the annual session throughout the geographical area of the United States and Canada.
- 62 **9.2 Annual Session Coordinator.** The annual session coordinator shall be appointed by the
63 president with the approval of the board.
- 64 **9.3 Responsibilities of the Annual Session Coordinator.** The coordinator shall be responsible for the
65 overall planning of the annual session. The coordinator shall:
- 66 **9.3.1** submit a proposed budget to the budget and finance committee including proposed fees; the
67 proposed budget and fees shall be approved by the board.
- 68 **9.3.2** be the primary contact with the host hotel.
- 69 **9.3.3** file a report on the annual session including an accounting of the annual session finances,
70 within two months after the adjournment, to the president for submission to the board at its
71 next meeting.
- 72 **9.4 Annual Reports of Officers and Committees.** All annual reports will be sent to the annual
73 session coordinator at least thirty days before the annual session for inclusion in the annual session
74 materials.
- 75 **9.5 Annual Session Finances.** The annual session coordinator may recommend to the finance
76 committee a donation to the host chapter based on their support and cooperation. This donation
77 shall not exceed 35% (thirty-five) of the net surplus from the annual session and will be made as part
78 of the final finance report on the annual session. This requirement for the session to be self-
79 supporting does not mean that AIP cannot appropriate funds for the session, which shall be
80 reimbursed to the AIP budget from the funds of the session.
- 81 **9.6 Annual Session Education Committee.** The educational program at the annual session shall
82 be the responsibility of a special committee consisting of the president, the annual session
83 coordinator, and the education director.
- 84 **9.7 Robert W. English Lecture.** The board may appoint a special committee to determine whether a
85 Robert W. English Memorial Lecture shall be given at the annual session by a person committed to
86 the ideas and ideals of Robert W. English.
- 87 **9.8 Nominations and Elections.** The order of names on the ballot shall be determined by a random
88 drawing.

89 **9.9 Notice of Candidacy.** Any person wishing to give notice of candidacy for office at the annual
90 session shall send to the AIP Secretary a statement setting forth the notice of candidacy. This notice
91 shall be not more than one hundred twenty days prior nor less than seventy-seven days prior to the
92 annual session. The secretary shall forward these notices to the editor for publication in the pre-
93 annual session Communicator.

94 **9.10 Minutes Approval Committee.** A minutes approval committee for the annual session or a
95 special session shall be appointed by the president and shall consist of three members. The
96 secretary shall send a draft of the minutes to the president and to the members of the committee
97 within forty-five days following the annual session. Committee members shall be deemed to have
98 approved the draft if they do not object in writing to the chair within the time designated by the
99 chair.

100 **9.11 The Order of the Blue Dot.** Only persons who have served AIP as an Annual Session
101 Coordinator shall be deemed to be a permanent member of "The Order of the Blue Dot." Only the
102 members of this "Order" may wear a blue dot on their name tag at annual sessions.

103 **9.12 AIP Credentials on Name Tags.** AIP members who hold AIP credentials shall be recognized by
104 such designations appearing on their name tags at AIP events.

105 **9.13 Electronic Meetings of the Membership.** Electronic meetings of the membership in Annual
106 Session shall be conducted through the use of internet meeting services designated by the Board of
107 Directors.

109 **10. Accrediting Department.**

110 **10.1 Division Chairs.** The division chairs shall be appointed by the accrediting director. The chairs
111 shall coordinate the activities of their respective divisions as directed by the accrediting director.
112 Division chairs shall have held the classification of CP or CPP for at least two years at the time of
113 appointment. CP members of the Department shall not participate or vote on any matters
114 pertaining to reclassification from CP to CPP or recertification as CPP.

115 **10.2 Examinations.** The accrediting department shall administer written and oral examinations
116 according to rules developed by the accrediting department. The accrediting department shall make
117 the current rules available on the AIP website, and members shall be notified when they are
118 changed. The authorities used for the examinations, including subsequent editions of current
119 authorities, shall not be changed except on the recommendation of the accrediting department,
120 approval by majority vote at an annual session, and with notice being given with the official notice
121 of the annual session.

122 **10.2.1** The accrediting department shall notify the examinee of the written or oral examination
123 score within two months of the examination. Examinees shall receive a report identifying
124 subject areas requiring improvement.

125 **11. Education Department.**

126 **11.1 Education Director.** The education director shall direct the activities of the department and
127 shall oversee the development of educational materials and online courses. The director shall
128 approve the curricula for practicums, workshops, institutes, and the annual session in consultation
129 with the president.

130 **11.2 Division Chairs.** The division chairs shall coordinate the activities of their divisions under the
131 direction of the education director and the assistant education director. These activities shall include
132 developing and administering correspondence courses; developing and revising educational
133 materials and chapter education programs; developing the curriculum for practicums and other
134 educational events; developing and implementing curriculum for on-line education courses; and
135 reviewing educational materials not produced by AIP.
136

137 **11.3 Members of Divisions and Special Committees.** The other members of the divisions and any
138 such special committees as may be necessary shall be appointed by the president, in consultation
139 with the education director.

140 **11.4 Evaluation of Materials.** The education department shall evaluate and approve all materials
141 before the material is offered for sale by AIP.

142 **11.5 Education Materials.** The education department shall set pricing on AIP-produced educational
143 materials subject to the approval of the executive committee.

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145 **12. Communications Department**

146 **12.1 Communications Director.** The communications director shall direct the activities of the
147 department and shall oversee the communications within and outside of AIP.

148 **12.2 Assistant Communications Director.** The assistant communications director shall perform such
149 duties as assigned by the communications director.

150 **12.3 Division Chairs.** The division chairs shall coordinate the activities of their divisions under the
151 direction of the communications director and the assistant communications director.

152 **12.4 Members of Divisions and Special Committees.** The members of the divisions and any such
153 special committees as may be necessary shall be appointed by the president, in consultation with
154 the communications director

155

156 **13. Dedicated Funds.** Dedicated funds are those which are gifted to AIP for a specific purpose by a
157 donor. Individuals who support that purpose may make additional donations to these funds. There shall
158 be the following dedicated funds: Lee Demeter Fund; Rose Dhein Fund.

159 **13.1 Lee Demeter Fund.** Funds in the Lee Demeter Fund are to remain in an invested fund, except
160 that the income earned shall be transferred to the general accounts of AIP.

161 **13.2 Rose Dhein Fund.** Funds in the Rose Dhein Fund are to remain in an invested fund, except that
162 the income earned shall be transferred to the budget line item for educational printing.

163

164 **14. AIP Educational Foundation.** There is established an AIP Educational Foundation for the purpose of
165 advancing parliamentary educational activities. The Foundation shall be a separate entity from AIP,
166 which shall be governed by its own bylaws. It accepts donations which are not restricted, though these
167 may be made in honor or memory of any person.

168

169 **15. Financial Policies.**

170 **15.1 Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year shall be from April 1 through March 31.

171 **15.2 U.S. Currency.** All financial transactions of AIP shall be in United States currency.

172 **15.3 Authorized Signatures.** The president and treasurer shall be authorized signatories on all
173 financial accounts.

174 **15.4 Bonding.** Any person authorized to sign checks or receive funds shall be bonded. If an
175 association management company is providing these services, the company shall be required to
176 furnish AIP with a Certificate of Liability Insurance that includes Employee Theft coverage.

177 **15.5 Board Meeting Stipend.** AIP shall pay a stipend to each director and the parliamentarian
178 attending sessions of the board as authorized in the budget.

179 **15.6 Reimbursement Procedure.** When an individual spends personal funds for AIP obligations a
180 request for reimbursement shall be submitted with appropriate documentation on an approved
181 voucher to the AIP Treasurer within thirty days of incurring the expense or the conclusion of the
182 event. The treasurer will reimburse expenses authorized in the annual budget within thirty days of
183 receipt if appropriately documented. If the expense requires approval of the budget and finance
184 committee and the board, the treasurer shall reimburse the expense within thirty days following the

185 final approval.

186

187 **16. Chapters.** The AIP Secretary shall forward copies of all documents submitted by an organizing
188 chapter, except for the bylaws, to the chair of the member services committee for review and
189 recommendation; a copy of the proposed bylaws shall be forwarded to the chair of the bylaws and
190 standing orders committee for review and recommendation.

191

192 **17. Standing Committee Procedures.**

193 **17.1 Plan of Work.** Each committee shall:

194 **17.1.1** within sixty days of appointment, submit a plan of work and a budget for the president's
195 review and approval; the plan of work shall be based on the charge given to the committee.

196 **17.1.2** work with officers and other AIP committees as appropriate to carry out the work of the
197 committee.

198 **17.1.3** perform other duties as directed by the annual session, the board, the executive
199 committee, or the president.

200 **17.2 Reports.** Each committee shall submit:

201 **17.2.1** a written report, which may include recommendations, at each board meeting.

202 **17.2.2** a written report, which may include recommendations, at each annual session.

203

204 **18. Standing Committee Duties: Audit Committee.** The committee shall:

205 **18.1** receive and review the audit report from the auditor.

206 **18.2** make any recommendations for management changes based on the auditors' findings and
207 recommendations.

208 **18.3** develop the criteria for the solicitation of bids for the audit.

209 **18.4** make recommendations for procedures, checks and balances for the control of AIP funds.

210 **18.5** maintain the financial review plan that includes an internal review with a check list of
211 documents required and information to be verified.

212

213 **19. Standing Committee Duties: Budget and Finance Committee.** The committee shall:

214 **19.1** prepare a recommended budget for the year after requesting input from the board, editors,
215 standing committee chairs, and special committee chairs.

216 **19.2** receive and review monthly and quarterly financial reports on expenditures and income.

217 **19.3** require an accounting of items not authorized in the approved budget.

218 **19.4** submit to the board a report and analysis of the organization finances.

219 **19.5** study and recommend sound investment of organization funds.

220 **19.6** arrange for and review the results of an internal or external audit of the accounts.

221 **19.7** ensure that the bookkeeping and finance records are kept in a manner specified for nonprofit
222 organizations.

223

224 **20. Standing Committee Duties: Bylaws and Standing Orders Committee.** The committee shall:

225 **20.1** review all proposals from the membership for amendment to the bylaws and standing orders;
226 all proposals shall be submitted by March 31 and include the specific wording, rationale, financial
227 implication, and signature of the maker.

228 **20.2** acknowledge the receipt of proposed amendments.

229 **20.3** initiate proposals for amendment to the bylaws and standing orders.

230 **20.4** prepare and ensure that all proposals, properly submitted, shall be sent to members for study
231 in advance of the annual meeting with the committee recommendation [for, against, or no
232 recommendation].

233 20.5 prepare committee recommendations on all proposals for bylaws and standing orders first
234 introduced for consideration at the annual session.

235 20.6 prepare and present proposed standing rules for the annual session.

236

237 **21. Standing Committee Duties: Member Services Committee.** The committee shall:

238 21.1 develop and recommend policies, plans, and programs to build and maintain membership.

239 21.2 upon proper application, to recommend recognition as an AIP chapter to the board.

240 21.3 upon receiving relevant information, recommend to the board dissolution of a chapter.

241 21.4 provide guidelines for chapter presidents.

242

243 **22. Standing Committee Duties: Opinions Committee.** The committee shall:

244 22.1 prepare a parliamentary opinions column for each issue of the *Parliamentary Journal*.

245 22.2 cite American and Canadian authorities as appropriate and instructive.

246 22.3 assist AIP members by answering written requests for parliamentary advice.

247

248 **23. Standing Committee Duties: Youth Activities and Scholarship.** The committee shall:

249 23.1 develop a plan for actively recruiting students on high school and college campuses.

250 23.2 encourage scholarship recipients to become members of AIP.

251 23.3 prepare, in conjunction with the Education Department, materials for study and competition
252 for national and international organizations.

253 23.4 exercise general oversight of the scholarship program, to include establishing an application
254 form and time lines for distribution and return of the application(s) for scholarships.

255 23.5 advertise the scholarship program.

256 23.6 award scholarships based on merit.

257 23.7 ascertain the funds available for scholarships and the annual cost of scholarships.

258 23.8 promote scholarship donations.

259 23.9 provide information about the scholarship recipients to headquarters.

260 23.10 report on the membership and participation rates in AIP of scholarship recipients for a period
261 of 10 years after the scholarship has been used.

262 23.11 grant membership dues waivers to participants in national level youth parliamentary
263 procedure contests of organizations approved by the board of directors or executive committee on
264 an opt-in electronic only basis, renewable until the end of the membership year of the recipient's
265 30th birthday.

266

267 **24. Website Policies.**

268 24.1 **Oversight.** The executive committee is responsible for general oversight of the website which
269 includes approving website content. *The website shall include minutes of board meetings (except*
270 *minutes of closed sessions) in the members-only section of the website.* The executive committee
271 shall review recommendations from the communications committee regarding the website.

272 24.2 **CP and CPP Listing.** The website shall contain a page listing those CP and CPP members who
273 have paid the required annual website listing fee. The list shall rotate randomly on each viewing.
274 The annual fee, which may include a set-up charge and a "change" fee, for the CP and CPP listing
275 shall be approved by the board.

276

277 **25. Publications.** There shall be two official publications, the *Parliamentary Journal* and *The*
278 *Communicator*.

279 **25.1 *Parliamentary Journal*.**

280 **25.1.1 Purpose.** The *Parliamentary Journal* shall publish, at least three times per year, articles of

281 interest in the field of parliamentary procedure, law, and education.
282 **25.1.2 Appointment of Editor.** The president shall appoint the editor of the *Parliamentary*
283 *Journal* for a term of three years, starting with the January issue, with the approval of the board.
284 **25.1.3 Subscription.** The annual subscription fee for the *Parliamentary Journal* for non-
285 members shall be established by the board. The member subscription rate shall be included as
286 part of the membership dues.
287 **25.1.4 Advertising.** Only advertising approved by the board may appear in the *Parliamentary*
288 *Journal*.
289 **25.2 The Communicator.**
290 **25.2.1 Purpose.** *The Communicator* shall be a newsletter, published quarterly. It shall include
291 officer news, board reports, chapter information, and member news. It may include official
292 notices or educational items.
293 **25.2.2 Appointment of Editor.** The board shall appoint the editor, and the term shall
294 correspond to the term of the president.
295 **25.2.3 Distribution.** *The Communicator* shall be disseminated by electronic format unless a
296 written request for a hard copy has been received by AIP headquarters.
297 **25.2.4 Advertising.** Advertising may be accepted at the discretion of the editor. The following
298 disclaimer shall appear with every advertisement: “Acceptance of advertising in *The*
299 *Communicator* shall in no way constitute an endorsement of the product or the advertiser.”
300
301 **26. Parliamentary Practicums.** A Parliamentary Practicum is a multi-day educational activity in which
302 the participants acquire practical experience in parliamentary procedure, using an immersive
303 environment with strong emphasis on active participation by the students, learning to translate
304 knowledge into practice.
305 **26.1 Annual Practicums.** In each calendar year, AIP shall sponsor a minimum of two practicums. If
306 multiple practicums are held in person, they shall be distributed geographically
307 **26.2 Approvals.** The board will approve the budget and general coordinator of practicums
308 sponsored by AIP. The executive committee will approve the date and location of practicums
309 sponsored by AIP.

ⁱ **Proviso 8.1:** Members currently receiving a printed copy of the *Parliamentary Journal* or *The Communicator* may transition to receiving a digital subscription or online access *before* the end of 2024. Prior to the end of 2024 members have a right to change their subscription format to digital when they renew their membership, or by contacting the AIP headquarters. All new subscriptions will be digital.