

Parliamentary Procedure

“Red States, Blue States and
Other States of Confusion”

or,

How We Elect People to Office



Parliamentary Procedure

- Elections are the heart of SPE's governance system
 - On a Society level
 - On a Section level
 - On a Division level



Parliamentary Procedure

- Our Society election is similar to many elections, with a few unique twists
- On a constituent group (Section or Division) Level
 - In some cases, the members elect the board and the board elects the officers
 - In EVERY case, the group members must participate in the election of their Section or Division Councilor. (SPE Policy 012)



Parliamentary Procedure

- On a Society level (Bylaw 7.4)
 - Council elects the majority of the Executive Committee
 - The President typically has the right to appoint some of the members
 - The Executive Committee elects Secretary and Treasurer
 - The Nominating Committee (President, Past President, and President plus three members chosen by the Past President) presents candidates to Council
 - Floor nominations are permitted, if the candidates are qualified and agree to run
 - Note: In any election, nominations do not require a second



Parliamentary Procedure

➤ SPE Term Limits

- Under SPE Bylaws, no person may succeed him/her self in a given office
- If a person has held an office for its full term, and is not elected or appointed to a different office, that person can no longer serve on the Executive Committee
 - *E.g.* If a person has been Senior VP for one year, and is not elected to President-elect, he/she cannot repeat the Sr. VP position, and therefore will no longer be on the Executive Committee. The same holds true for someone who is finishing the third year of a three-year VP term and is not elected to a higher office.



Parliamentary Procedure

➤ Voting

- Election process is conducted by the Past President
- Typically the election is intertwined into the business at hand
- We vote in a specific order
 - President-elect
 - Note: if a candidate for President-elect is not elected, his/her name will automatically be placed in nomination for Senior VP
 - Senior Vice President
 - Vice President(s)
- Voting is by secret (paper) ballot



Parliamentary Procedure

- Voting, continued
 - A constituency cannot “direct” a vote: Every Councilor has a responsibility to vote, in both elections and on Council issues, as he/she sees fit, and in what he or she believes are the best interests of the Society as a whole
 - Election is by a majority of votes cast
 - If there is no majority, Policy 005 (Election of Officers) indicates how the field of candidates is to be reduced until a majority is produced
- Terms begin after the Annual Business Meeting at ANTEC



➤ Questions/Comments/Clarifications?

