New Member Information

Compiled by the Officers

Here's your comprehensive guide to MUN-ing!!! We will test these out in simulations throughout the year, and if you ever have any questions, we can help you:) Also! Don't worry if you don't understand a lot of this right now- most kids are pretty shaky on these concepts until their first or second conferences are over!

Preparing for a MUN Conference!

1. Researching basics (your country)

Know the basic facts/history/etc really really well! Sometimes countries will try to challenge you, and if you're confident in your knowledge, you'll be able to disprove their points and it'll boost your cred with the Chairs

   a. Facts   www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html
      i. Know things like literacy rate, climate, (some countries you may not have heard of- so know where it is maybe), political system, etc.
   b. History go to Wikipedia!
      i. Look at things like past influences, past problems, revolutions, governmental systems, you get the jist
      ii. Knowing your country's history will help a lot with understanding its position on global issues (and will help you write your position paper- see bullet #5)
      iii. History will also be important in understanding what other countries will be your friends and which countries will inexplicably hate you (i.e. Russia and the United States kinda had the Cold War soooo)
   c. Current Events
      i. Every Thursday the club will go over some current events anyways, but you should google info on your country surrounding recent developments in whatever your committee is on too
      ii. It's also helpful to just know general current events on your country, even if unrelated to the conference. This info can help you figure out who to form blocs (or partnerships) with during committee!
2. Researching basics (your committee)
   a. First off, understand the powers your sector of the UN can do. For example, ECOFIN (Economic/Finance Committee) can do different things than the GA (General Assembly) or Security Council!
   b. Next, you might want to research precedents set by your committee in the past (i.e. trade agreements, treaties, rules of thumb, etc)
3. Understanding your country
   http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/visitors/shared/documents/pdfs/FS_This%20is%20the%20UN%20_2013.pdf

a. This is essentially knowing the history of your country and where their loyalties and values lie

b. NOTE, even if you like human rights, your country might not like human rights, act according to your country

4. Understanding other countries

a. If you're really feeling that conference, feel free to research a few other countries in your committee to find their perspectives too, this is a lot of extra work sometimes (as committees range from 8 person-500 person), but if you have the time, go for it!

5. Position Papers!!1!!1!

MUN Club will have position paper writing parties for each conference! So we will all be there to help! However, here is a link to a really good website that explains it very well!

http://bestdelegate.com/a-formula-for-the-perfect-position-paper-solution-oriented-re search/

Parliamentary Procedure

General disclaimer: Chairs are fairly lenient about the correct point usage. Don't raise a point because you fear being wrong.

Point of Order: Allowed to interrupt speaker when one feels that they are not following proper parliamentary procedure. (Only call a point of order if you are super duper sure you are right)

Point of Personal Privilege: Call this point when you are personally attacked [afflicted] by something (too hot, too cold, too quiet, too loud. Whatever you require to put you in your groove).

Point of Inquiry: If you are confuzzled about a speech or parliamentary procedure raise this point. (Whether you are allowed to raise this point after a speech varies conference to conference)

Motion to Open Debate: This is the first motion of the conference and is made to move into formal debate and open the primary speakers list.

Motion to Set the Agenda: This motion is made with a specific topic mentioned to be debated first and the other second. Two speakers for, two against, and requires a simple majority to pass. This motion is to vote on which topic to discuss. Generally there will be two

speaker for and two speakers against. (If you prepared for one topic more than the other this would be a great time to get your .02 in- that being said we highly suggest to prepare for both equally)

Motion to Adjourn the Session: When this passes it means you have completed   another conference. C0ngrats!!!!!1!!!!!!1!!! (This chair will only allow this at the end of the last committee session)

Motion to Enter Unmoderated Caucus: This motion suspends speechs and allows   you to mingle amongst your fellow munners to discuss ideas, create blocs and write working papers.

 Motion to Enter Moderated Caucus: This motion brings the body into a moderated debate on the issue on the floor for a specified amount of time. There is a set time limit and speech limit for this caucus (30 sec speech/ 10 min caucus) - (remember if you are going to call 45 sec speech make sure that the total time is divisible by that:

9min, 12min)

 Motion to Table the Topic: This motion tables a topic. (Ending debate on the current topic)

Motion to Divide the Question: This motion may be made to request that the   resolution be divided in a manner specified by the motioner (it can be by every other letter, by prime numbers, or even by every ten words). These clauses will then be voted on individually. This motion requires a second, is debatable (2 speeches pro/2 con), and needs a simple majority to pass. If the motion passes, the body then votes on the operative clauses as they were divided out. If an operative clause fails to receive a majority vote, it is left out of the resolution.

 Motion for a Roll Call Vote: This motion requests that the Chair conduct a roll-call   vote on the resolution. (Do not be this person it generally is a waste of time and counterproductive- coming from experience being in a 400 person committee and having to roll call vote is 25min of your life you will never get back)

Motion to Adopt by Consensus: This motion requests that the body adopt the resolution by consensus, meaning that no delegation would be casting a "no" vote if the resolution were to be voted upon normally. A delegation may abstain, but should one delegation object, the motion is out of order.

Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chair: This motion appeals a decision of the Chair to the body. This motion requires the consent of the Chair and may be deemed out of order. If accepted by the Chair, the Chair and the Delegate shall each be given one minute to present their argument to the body. This motion needs a simple majority to pass. If passed, the decision of the Chair is repealed.

Motion to Introduce an Unfriendly Amendment: This motion brings an amendment that has already been submitted to the Chair with the appropriate number of signatories to the floor for general debate and a vote when debate is closed on the resolution. No second is required. It is only for unfriendly amendments, for friendly amendments are just considered automatically part of the resolution.

Motion to Introduce a Working Paper: This motion brings a working paper that has already been approved by the Chair with the appropriate number of signatories to the floor for general debate. It requires a second, is not debatable, and needs a simple majority to pass.

Motion to Limit Debate: This motion sets the amount of time a delegate has the floor during normal debate (excluding moderated caucuses). It may also be used to change the set speaking time.

Motion to Reconsider: This motion is used to bring a resolution or topic that has been previously tabled back to the floor. It requires two speakers in favor and two against and needs a two-thirds majority to pass.

Point or Motion	Purpose	Speakers For/Against	Require to Pass	Interrupt Speaker	Special Notes
Appeal to the Chair's Decision	A delegate feels the chair has erred in his discretion	None	2/3	No	Submitted in writing. Refrain from using this.
Right of Reply	A delegate feels he or she has been personally attacked. Allow 30 seconds to defend/refute	None	Chair's discretion	No	Submitted in writing. This is not for attacks on policy
Motion to set the agenda	Establishes the order in which topics will be addressed	2 for 2 against	Simple Majority	No	
Motion to set the speaker's time	Sets the amount of time a delegate may speak in formal debate	None	Simple	No	
Motion to Open Speaker's List	Opens the speakers list so that formal debate may begin	None	Simple	No	
Motion to Close Speakers List	Closes the list so no delegation may be added	None	Simple	No	
Motion for unmoderated caucus	Delegates move into an unmoderated caucus	None	Simple	No	
Motion for moderated caucus	Delegates move into a moderated caucus	None	Simple	No	Must specify purpose, duration, and speaker time
Point of Personal Privilege	Expresses personal discomfort	None	Chair's discretion	Yes	Uses: Bathroom, room temperature, inability to hear

Point of Order	When the delegate feels the chair has made an error in procedure	None	Chair's discretion	Yes	
Point of Inquiry	Made by a delegate to ask the chair a question about proceedings	None	Chair's discretion	No	e.x. "What time would you like resolutions handed to the dias?"
Point of Information	Made by a delegate to ask the speaking delegate a question	None	Chair's discretion	No	
Motion to Divide the Question	Made by a delegate to vote on components of a resolution separately	2 for, 2 against	2/3	No	
Motion to close debate and move into voting procedure	Ends debate on the topic and results in voting on resolutions	2 for, 2 against	2/3	No	Will end all communication, cannot speak or pass notes
Motion to adjourn debate	Means the committee moves to debate on the next topic	2 for 2 against	2/3	No	Sometimes irreversible
Motion to adjourn the meeting	Means that the committee is dismissed for a certain duration	None	Simple	No	Used before lunch and at the end of the day if debate will pick up tomorrow
Motion to introduce a draft resolution	Allows a draft resolution to be distributed to the committee	None	Chair's discretion	No	Sponsors read resolution aloud
Motion for an authors panel	Allows sponsors to entertain questions on the draft resolution	None	Simple	No	Must state duration, sometimes combined with the introduction of the draft resolutions

Resolution Papers!

NOTE: conferences normally hate it when you write these beforehand as it counts as cheating. Essentially, resolution papers are the final, written result of your hours of debate in the committee room. You'll write them with other countries too, so don't worry too much:) Here's an example that Best Delegate.com puts out!

Resolution GA/3/1.1

General Assembly Third Committee

Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy

Signatories: Greece, Tajikistan, Japan, Canada, Mali, the Netherlands and Gabon Topic: "Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies"

The General Assembly,

<u>Reminding</u> all nations of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality and inalienable rights of all global citizens, **[use commas to separate preambulatory clauses]**

<u>Reaffirming</u> its Resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages Governments to work with UN bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,

<u>Noting</u> with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,

<u>Stressing</u> the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

1. <u>Encourages</u> all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts; **[use semicolons to separate operative clauses]**

2. <u>Urges</u> member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;

3. <u>Requests</u> that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;

4. <u>Calls</u> for the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;

5. <u>Stresses</u> the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

6. <u>Calls</u> upon states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance; and

7. <u>Requests</u> the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development. **[end resolutions with a period]**

For more information on everything MUN:
http://bestdelegate.com/model-un-conferences-database/