

**2007 DELAWARE-MARYLAND SYNOD ASSEMBLY  
RULES OF PROCEDURE**

1. All cell phones and pagers shall be on vibrate or silent during the assembly.
2. Registered voting members shall be seated within the bar of the assembly.
3. The privilege of voice (on any issue before the Assembly), but not vote shall be granted to”
  - a. The presiding bishop of the ELCA and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council;
  - b. The chairpersons of synodical mission teams and task forces who are not voting members of the Synod Assembly; and
  - c. The president or president’s appointee of the synodical youth, women’s and men’s organizations, and those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.
4. In addressing the chair, speakers shall use a microphone and shall identify themselves by name and congregation, agency, or institution.
5. No person shall speak more than twice on the same question and only after all others have spoken except by consent of the assembly.
6. A member who has spoken on the pending question(s) may not move the previous question(s) at the conclusion of his/her speech.
7. A member may not move previous question until the opportunity is available for five pro and five con points of view to be presented.
8. In all business meetings, speeches from the floor shall be limited to two minutes .
9. All motions, other than routine ones, shall be written by the mover on forms furnished for that purpose, signed, and sent to the presiding officer, with a copy for the secretary.
10. When there are many pro and con statements on any motion, the chair will recognize alternately persons making a pro or con statement. This shall be done by those speaking “for” using the odd-numbered microphone and those speaking “against” using the even-numbered microphone. Those persons proposing a subsidiary, incidental, or privileged motion shall indicate this action by raising a white card and using either microphone.
11. Only voting members wearing voting member badges shall receive ballots for voting.

12. No motion is before the house until it is stated by the chair, and no discussion shall occur without a motion before the assembly.
13. For elections other than bishop, additional nominations may be made from the floor for all positions except for conference-cluster based positions on the Synod Council, the youth position on the Synod Council, Mission Team Leaders, and Dean on Synod Council. Those making such nominations must:
  - A. Obtain the consent of the person being nominated.
  - B. Insure the nomination fulfills the category assigned for that purpose.
  - C. Obtain a nomination form at the Pages table and turn it in to the secretary when the nomination is presented.
14. Amendments to the budget may not increase total expenditures. Amendments changing one line item must be reflected in an equivalent change in other line item(s) so that total expenditures remain constant. Anyone suggesting an amendment, must complete a form which spells out not only the proposed changes but also the rationale behind it. (This will give the Synod Council more background for their decision to recommend acceptance or denial of the budget amendments.) The forms can be found at the Pages table.
15. The minutes of this Synod Assembly shall be referred to the Synod Council for certification.

Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary procedure of this assembly, except as otherwise provided in the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of this synod and in these rules of procedure of the Synod Assembly, unless otherwise ordered by the assembly.