

Draft Rules of Procedure for Living Cosăs and Informal Sessions

(8 January 2026)

1. On the issue of the presiding officer.
 - a. The presiding officer is the Túischac'h. The Mençei acts as their deputy, e.g. when the Túischac'h is absent or speaking on a bill or making a Terpelaziun.
 - b. Members may elect further deputies by a majority vote, should the need arise.
 - c. The presiding officer shall enforce proper decorum during the proceedings. This may include reprimanding members for the use of unparliamentary language, undue disruptions of proceedings, misuse of subsidiary motions, or non-compliance.
2. On the issue of agenda.
 - a. The agenda by default consists of Terpelaziuns, bill debates, and voting, in that order.
 - b. Members may motion to have other items added to the agenda at an appropriate time. Such a motion is to be added if it is seconded by another member.
 - c. Members may motion to take a recess of at least 10 and at most 30 minutes at an appropriate time. Recess is then taken if this motion is seconded by another member and passed a majority vote.
 - d. If there are no more items on the agenda, and no member wishes to add another item, the session is to be adjourned by the presiding officer.
3. On the issue of Terpelaziuns.
 - a. Terpelaziuns are addressed to the presiding officer and to be answered by a present Government minister of the questioner's choosing.
 - b. The Tanaischteu has the first opportunity to make a Terpelaziun.
 - c. The questioned minister must make an honest attempt to answer the Terpelaziun truthfully and completely, as far as the circumstances allow. Exceptions to this follow from existing Law.
 - d. The questioner may ask one follow-up question.
4. On the issue of debates on bills.
 - a. Bills are debated on in order of the Clark, followed by individual bills in the Hopper as motioned by the main sponsor and seconded by another member. In a Living Cosă, only Clarked bills may be debated.
 - b. The bill's main sponsor has the first opportunity to speak. After that, members from Government and Opposition parties may speak alternatingly if possible, in order of seats held by that party. Parties may field another member to speak after all other parties have had a chance to speak on the bill.
 - c. Members may signal to the presiding officer that they wish to ask a question or make a brief statement during a speaker's turn. The speaker may then choose whether or not to give way.

- d. Bills may not be amended, tabled, killed, referred to committee or indefinitely postponed.
- e. Debate on a bill ends when either no more members either wish or are eligible to speak, or if a member motions to close the debate. Such a motion must be seconded by another member, and requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

5. On the issue of subsidiary motions.

- a. Immediately after a ruling by the presiding officer, members may raise an Appeal. This motion takes precedent over all other motions, and must be seconded by another member to be considered. In the event of an appeal, the decision in question may be overturned by majority vote. If the vote is tied, the decision stands.
- b. At any time, members may raise a Point of Order. They are used to draw attention to a breach of rules, improper procedure, breaching of established practices, and so on.
- c. At any time, members may raise a Point of Personal Privilege. They are used to address issues pertaining to the comfort of the meeting, such as volume, muting, connection quality, or so on. Members may also use it to address the accuracy of published reports or the accuracy of a member's conduct.

6. On the issue of voting.

- a. Clerks are voted on by each House separately, according to Law.
- b. Procedural motions are voted on by both Houses together. Members of the Chamber each have as many votes as they have seats assigned to them. Senators each have 25 votes.
- c. A “majority vote” is successful if there are more votes in favour than against.
- d. A “two-thirds vote” is successful if the votes in favour make up at least two thirds of all votes, with abstentions included.
- e. A “vote by unanimous consent” is successful automatically unless at least one member audibly objects, at which point a majority vote is conducted instead. It can be requested by any member instead of a majority vote on matters that are of minor importance or for which opposition is not expected.