

## **Standing Orders of the Union Debating Society (founded 1794)**

- I. A member of the House may speak only once on any particular motion. Any member wishing to speak must catch the Speaker's eye.
- II. Members wishing to raise Points of Information, Order, and Personal Privilege should by convention rise covered. It is at the discretion of the current speaker whether or not to accept Points of Information, but all Points of Order or Personal Privilege will be accepted by the Speaker, and the Clerk will pause the keeping of time for the duration of their being raised and ruled upon.
- III. Only table speakers may raise Points of Information, and they may only be offered to table speakers on the opposite side of the debate. None may be raised during the first or last minutes of a speech.
- IV. Points of Order and Personal Privilege may be raised at any time by any member of the House. Points of Order are those which relate to these Standing Orders (for instance to alert or question the Speaker in the event of their being breached), whilst Points of Personal Privilege relate specifically to the Member raising the Point. Points raised that do not conform to these guidelines shall be ruled out of order.
- V. All remarks must be addressed to the Speaker, using the formula "Mr/Madam Speaker", "Mr/Madam Chairman", "Mr/Madam Convener", "Mr/Madam President", or "Sir" / "Madam" (if appropriate).
- VI. The Speaker will rule out of order any remarks which are ungentlemanly, or which reflect negatively upon their own conduct or upon members of the Royal Family.
- VII. All remarks must be pertinent and non-obstructive.
- VIII. No remarks may be of an overtly offensive nature.
- IX. No remark may be overtly prejudicial against an individual.
- X. Members not speaking must observe good order.
- XI. When entering or leaving the House, all members will give the customary tribute of a nod or bow to the Speaker's chair.