



## AIP Chapter #71

Lay on the Table – RONR & TSC Differences  
June 21, 2011 Lorenzo Cuesta, PRP

LAY ON THE TABLE	RONR	TSC
Form	Move to lay the motion on the table	Move that the main motion be postponed temporarily
Life expectancy	Current session and next session if less than quarterly time away	Only current session
Purpose	Postpone temporarily due to unexpected and immediate urgency	1. Set aside because more information or time is sought 2. Set aside with intent to suppress the motion
If qualified	Is actually the lower ranking motion to 'postpone to a certain time' which is debatable.	
Applies to	Only to the pending main motion	
Vote to adopt	Majority	1. Majority 2. 2/3
Debatable	No	
Amendable	No	
Restore	Move to 'take from the table' (majority vote)	Move to 'resume its consideration' (majority vote)

The next pages illustrate the difference between RONR's motion to lay on the table and TSC's motion to postpone temporarily.

We will need a chair and 7 speakers (A, B, C, D, E, F, Z)



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**RONR: The monthly meeting in April during New Business**

Ch: Is there any new business?

A: (Rises and is recognized) I move that we allow cattle to roam freely in 'Old Sacramento'.

Z: Second

Ch: It is moved and seconded to allow cattle to roam freely in 'Old Sacramento'. Are you ready for the question?

A: (Rises and is recognized) There are just too many Easterners and tourists ruining the Western look.

B: (Rises and is recognized) Member A has been kicked in the head by his horse one too many times. They are not tourists. They are revenue sharing citizens.

C: (Rises and is recognized) Being that these 2 wish to argue, I move to limit debate to 1 minute per speaker.

Z: Second

Ch: Are you ready to vote on limiting debate to 1 minute per speaker?

D: (Rises and is recognized) I move to lay the main motion on the table until after we listen to the mayor of 'Old Sacramento'. He has just arrived and needs to return to home on the range.

C: Point of order.

Ch: What is your point of order?

C: Member D has made the qualified motion to lay on the table, and if qualified that motion is actually a motion to postpone to a certain time. My motion to limit debate is of higher rank than his motion to postpone to a certain time.

Ch: Mr. C, you are correct, beyond the capacity common to your gender. Your point is well taken. Does Mr. D wish to move the unqualified motion to lay on the table?

D: What? Whatever!

E: (Rises and is recognized) I move to amend the motion to lay on the table ...

Ch: Are you still using the Dummies Book? You can neither amend nor debate the motion to lay on the table.

E: I knew that.

Ch: If there is no objection, the main motion is laid on the table.

## **RONR continued**

Ch: If there is no objection, we shall suspend the rules that prevent us from listening to the cow town mayor.

The mayor speaks endlessly in politicianese and no one understands him. When he finishes, he leaves.

Ch: Well that was long and worthless. We were limiting debate.  
If there is no objection, we shall limit debate to 1 minute per speaker.  
Debate is now limited to 1 minute per speaker.

E: It is time to adjourn. I move to adjourn.

Ch: If there is no objection, we are adjourned.

### **The monthly meeting in May during New Business**

Ch: Is there any new business?

F: I move to take from the table the motion related to the cows in 'Old Sacramento'.

Ch: If there is no objection, we shall take the cow motion from the table.  
Are you ready for the question?

All in favor indicate by saying, 'Aye'. [All do]

All opposed indicate by saying, 'No' [Silence]

The 'Ayes' have it. The motion is adopted.

We shall allow cattle to roam freely among the tourists.

The next item of business is ...



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**TSC: The monthly meeting in April during New Business**

Ch: Is there any new business?

A: (Rises and is recognized) I move that we allow cattle to roam freely in 'Old Sacramento'.

Z: Second

Ch: It is moved and seconded to allow cattle to roam freely in 'Old Sacramento'.  
Is there any discussion?

A: (Rises and is recognized) There are just too many middle aged, over-weight, balding men with pony tails riding their Harley Davidsons and ruining the Western look.

B: (Rises and is recognized) Member A has been riding his 57 speed bicycle without his helmet again. They are not tourists. They are profit generating citizens.

C: (Rises and is recognized) Being that these 2 wish to argue, I move to limit debate to 1 minute per speaker.

Z: Second

Ch: Are you ready to vote on limiting debate to 1 minute per speaker?

D: (Rises and is recognized) I move to postpone the main motion temporarily until after we listen to the mayor of 'Old Sacramento'. He has just arrived and needs to return to the old corral.

C: Point of pompous posturing.

Ch: What was that?

C: Point of parliamentary inquiry.

Ch: What is your question?

C: The motion to postpone temporarily takes a 2/3 vote to adopt because the intent is to suppress the motion, right?

Ch: Mr. D, are your intentions honorable, or do you wish to kill the motion?

D: Trust me. I do not wish to kill the motion. However, I am not responsible for moving to resume its consideration later in the meeting.

E: (Rises and is recognized) I move to amend the motion to postpone the main motion temporarily ...

Ch: Don't you read your book? You can neither amend nor debate the motion to postpone the main motion temporarily.

E: Book? I use Google.

## **TSC continued**

Ch: A majority vote would postpone the main motion temporarily. But allow me to ask, is there any objection to postponing the motion temporarily? The main motion is postponed temporarily.

Ch: If there is no objection, we shall suspend the rules that prevent us from listening to the cowboy mayor.

The mayor speaks endlessly in politicianese and most doze off. When he finishes, he leaves.

Ch: Well that was painful and pointless. We were limiting debate.  
If there is no objection, we shall limit debate to 1 minute per speaker.  
Debate is now limited to 1 minute per speaker.

E: It is time to adjourn. I move to adjourn.

Ch: If there is no objection, we are adjourned.

## **The monthly meeting in May during New Business**

Ch: Is there any new business?

F: I move to resume consideration of the motion related to the cows in 'Old Sacramento'.

Z: Point of order.

Ch: What is your point?

Z: A motion that is postponed temporarily dies if its consideration is not resumed at the meeting when it was postponed temporarily.

Ch: Your point is well taken, in spite of the limited capacity allowed by your advanced age.

E: It is time to adjourn. I move to adjourn.

Ch: If there is no objection, we are adjourned.