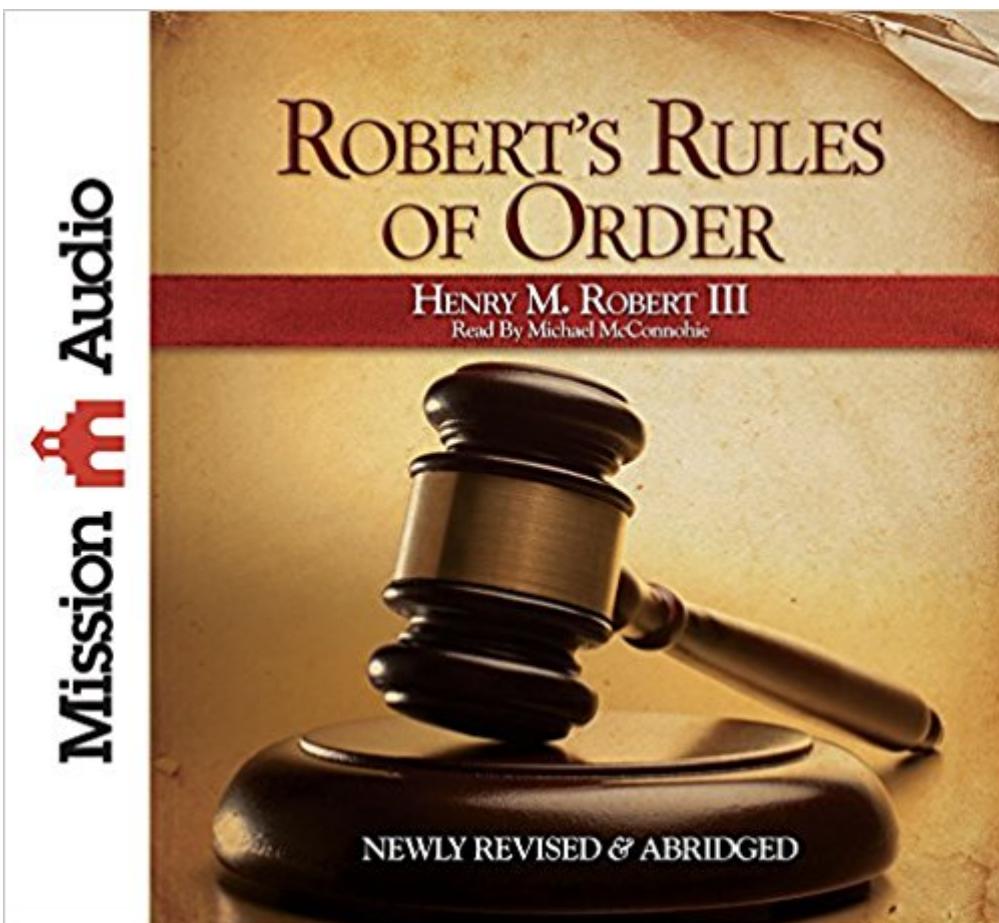


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# Robert's Rules Of Order



## **Synopsis**

Originally published in 1896, General Henry M. Robert's classic guide to smooth, orderly, and fairly conducted meetings has sold millions of copies in numerous editions as the gold standard of meeting procedure for parliamentarians and novice club presidents and members alike. The best book from which to learn all about running and taking an effective part in meetings, General Robert's gift of order is as indispensable now as it was a century ago.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A powerful brand name and an American classic. --New York Times Book Review

General Henry M. Robert, who gave his name to the book that has brought order to millions of meetings, was a U.S. Army Engineer officer of Huguenot decent born May 2, 1837. Led to study parliamentary law over a number of years by experiences in civil and church organizations, he published the first edition of Robert's Rules of Order on February 19, 1876. After his retirement from the Army in 1901, he practiced consulting engineering and devoted the last decade of his life to writing on parliamentary procedure. He died on May 11, 1923.

As a lawyer and parliamentarian, when I am asked about proper procedure at a meeting, my first question is: What rules do you use? Is there an applicable statute, or bylaws or rules that the organization has adopted? Nine times out of ten, the answer is: "Robert's Rules of Order." Robert's is the most widely used parliamentary manual in the United States. General Henry M. Robert

published the original "Robert's Rules" in 1875 and 1876 and, since the copyright on that edition (and the next few editions) has long since expired, there are numerous unofficial editions on the market. The third edition, published in 1893, is still marketed in paperback by more than one publisher as the "original" Robert's Rules. With the copyright expired, even the name "Robert's" has passed into the public domain, and many imitators have slapped the name "Robert's" on books of parliamentary procedure that bear minimal relation to General Robert's work (much as many dictionaries claim the name "Webster's" without any connection to Noah Webster or the Merriam-Webster brand that carries on his work). This book is the real Robert's, composed by an editorial board appointed by General Robert's heirs (including his descendant Henry III, an eminent parliamentarian in his own right). Now in its 11th edition, published in September 2011, this book "supersedes all previous editions and is intended automatically become the parliamentary authority in organizations whose bylaws prescribe 'Robert's Rules of Order' ... or the like, without specifying a particular edition." The 11th edition, the first new edition in 11 years, incorporates various issues that the authors have addressed informally since the 10th edition was published in 2000. For example, the chapter on disciplinary procedures has been fleshed out so that it has become a practical rather than a theoretical guide, and new provisions have been added about electronic notice and about participation in meetings by phone or by internet connection. (There are still quite a few archaisms, though: the presiding officer is still referred to as "he," while the secretary is "he or she." And the arcane and archaic motion to "reconsider and enter on the minutes" is still around.) This edition is being released in conjunction with the new (2d) edition of the shorter and more user-friendly "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief," an authoritative abridgment that will serve as an adequate alternative for users who don't need the full 669-page version. Robert's is not necessarily the best parliamentary manual on the market: "Modern Parliamentary Procedure" by Ray Keesey is far more logical and user-friendly, and "The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure" by Alice Sturgis (commissioned by the American Institute of Parliamentarians as a contemporary alternative to Robert's) is more readable and more rooted in modern practice. But no other book has gained as much as a toehold in Robert's dominance in the market. If you are interested in parliamentary procedure, or figuring out how most organizations work in the 21st-century United States, this Robert's is indispensable.

Being a total nerd, I love books like this. I haven't read all of it...but it's way more complete than the newly published "in short" version of the Rules. Also, the history in the intro is satiating to the curiosity of people like me who are curious about the history of parliamentary procedure.

A lovely little book, about 6 in x 3 in x 5 in, with gold leaf on the edges. Clear and well written, but a few pages were printed slightly out of alignment.

I got the printed paperback form of the Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition. I got these for the content of church leadership in the episcopal church. These Rules of Order are used in our legislative meetings in the wider church so they are very relevant and important to pay attention to. I did not have the problem that some seemed to have of missing pages. All of the pages were contained in the paperback form of the book. I appreciated the size of the book because it wasn't overpowering. The key to this book is definitely the table of contents. They are very thorough which allow for you to quickly look up what you need. It is obviously a dense book, but being able to look for what you need makes it easier to take in chunks.

The more contentious the meeting, the more you need rules to preserve order. Robert's Rules are world famous and more well recognized than other rules for meetings. This edition is an update that addresses emerging issues requiring rules. It is quite comprehensive and includes reference charts. Parliamentarians make careers out of studying and interpreting these rules, but members of any organization can help themselves through contentious situations with these rules that afford minorities on an issue a reasonable opportunity to be heard without preventing the organization to move forward. Individuals leading large meetings would do well to study the contents of this book and then keep it handy for reference.

This book is an essential reading material for any one in the Non Profit organizations, particularly those in the leadership to run an orderly meeting and administration as per the democratic and parliamentary rules.

I'm training to become a parliamentarian and this total book of ROR is absolutely necessary.

I needed an updated copy of Robert's Rules of Order! My organization uses parliamentary procedures to conduct meetings.

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