

LET ME INTERRUPT

It is a basic principle of parliamentary procedure that when a member has the floor, other members usually may not interrupt him. There are some circumstances when other members can interrupt. Some motions may interrupt after a speaker has been assigned the floor but before he begins to speak. Other motions may interrupt even while a member is speaking. Some motions may interrupt but only if the situation is urgent. Knowing the rules about when, how, and why a member can interrupt another member's right to speak, is a powerful tool for the individual member.

Fill out the chart using RONR to look up each motion and determine if the motion can be interrupted when a member has been assigned the floor or when a member has begun to speak. Remember to use the tinted pages as well as the text. In unit meetings, you may want to work in teams and have everyone share their answers.

Motions that interrupt	When the motion is in order	Page #
Appeal		
Call for the orders of the day		
Division of the assembly		
Objection to the consideration of a question		
Parliamentary inquiry		
Point of information		
Point of order		
Raise a question of privilege		
Reconsider		
Request for Information		
Request to modify or withdraw a motion		
Request to be excused from a duty		
Other requests		

ANSWERS TO LET ME INTERRUPT

Motions that interrupt	When the motion is in order	Page #
Appeal	When another has the floor at the time of an appealed ruling. Can interrupt a person speaking in debate if urgency requires it.	257, tp 41
Call for the orders of the day	When another has the floor, even if it interrupts a person speaking, as long as it is in order at the time	221, tp 40
Division of the assembly	When another has the floor and is called for without obtaining the floor. Can interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	281, tp 40
Objection to the consideration of a question	When another has been assigned the floor but has not begun to speak, until consideration of the question has begun.	268, tp 40
Parliamentary inquiry	When another has the floor if it requires immediate attention and can interrupt a person speaking if urgency requires it.	293, tp 40
Point of order	When another has the floor, even interrupting a person speaking or reading a report if the point genuinely requires attention at that time	249, tp 40
Raise a question of privilege	When another has the floor and before he has begun to speak. May only interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	226, tp 40
Reconsider	When another has been assigned the floor as long as he has not begun to speak. (Applies to <i>making</i> the motion, but not to <i>taking it up</i> .)	320, tp 43
Request for information	When another has the floor and may interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	293, tp 40
Request to be excused from a duty	When another has the floor if it requires immediate attention and may interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	290, tp 40
Requests to read papers	When another has the floor if it requires immediate attention and may interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	293, tp 40
Request to withdraw or modify a motion	When another has the floor if it requires immediate attention and may interrupt a speaker if urgency requires it.	293, tp 40