



Motion: To allow all IWGB members the right to propose motions for consideration for debate at the AGM

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Co-sponsored by:

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Background:

As the union grows, we must grapple with the balance between representative and direct democracy. This year marked a distinct change in how members are able to interact with the body vested with "the supreme government of the Union."

In all previous years all IWGB members have as a right been able to propose motions for discussion at the AGM, these were submitted to the AGM Sub-Committee. Following which delegates were then able to submit amendments prior to discussion and voting at the AGM.

On the 30th of September 2020 branch delegates were informed that this year they were informed of the introduction of the requirement that motions need "to be proposed by a delegate to the AGM and be co-sponsored by 5 additional delegates from a minimum of 3 branches."

Delegates were informed that along with discussions with other branches "delegates can gain co-sponsorship of their motions from other delegates by sending them to delegates@iwgb.co.uk."

Earlier that same day all members were informed that if they wished to put forward a motion "the best thing to do is contact one of your branch's delegates, which you can do via your branch secretary." Although delegates were given access to a means of directly contacting delegates to garner sponsorship for their motion's members were not.



Although the need for cross branch support and the support of the representatives whose votes will be required for any motion to be passed is important, as a grassroots union it is vitally important that union structures and processes are open to as many members as possible. The AGM is the only place where all members not elected to positions on the Executive Committee are able to put forward motions that affect the union as a whole and this is a vital part of our democracy and should be as open as possible to all members.

This year's AGM had a 2-step process for deciding motions for discussion at the AGM

1. Delegates were given till Wednesday 14th October to submit motions and find cosponsor and submit motions. "After 14th October the New Branch and AGM Sub-Committee will meet again to sift through the motions to ensure that motions debated at the AGM are actionable.
2. "Motions will then be sent to all delegates on 20th October and delegates will be given until 3rd November to submit amendments. Amendments will then go through a similar sifting process with the Sub-Committee."

This motion proposes the altering of this 2-step process into a 3-step process

1. All members should be able to submit motions to the first sift of the New Branch and AGM Sub-Committee
2. Following the initial sift determining whether motions are actionable sponsorship of motions should be sought from delegates.
3. Delegates should then have to opportunity to table amendments to any motions that meet the sponsorship requirement

Resolves:

The 2020 IWGB AGM resolves that at subsequent AGM's all members will be able to submit motions for consideration for debate.