

Purpose and Scope of Proposed Motions

Proposed Motions are proposals that are open for discussion by Member Organisations at the World Conference and then voted upon.

Proposed Motions should be of interest, direct concern and relevance to WAGGGS; and for decision or consideration by the Member Organisations of WAGGGS. That means that the proposals should address something that the proposer thinks is of interest for all or a majority of Member Organisations at a global level.



Before submitting a Proposed Motion, think carefully about whether this is the most appropriate method for raising the issue you wish to address or if there is another way in which you could do this.

Relationship to the WAGGGS Global Strategy

The 2024–2029 WAGGGS Global Strategy was approved by Member Organisations at the 38th World Conference in 2023. Member Organisations are encouraged to consider both the Strategy and the operational plans for its implementation before proposing additional priorities, areas of focus, or activities—particularly where these may affect the allocation of human or financial resources.



Deadline for Proposed Motions

The deadline for Proposed Motions that require a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws is **Thursday 27 November 2025**.

The deadline for Proposed Motions which do not require a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws is **Thursday 26 February 2026**.

These deadlines ensure that there is sufficient time for the Procedural Team to work with Member Organisations to finalise the wording of their Proposed Motion and to circulate the Proposed Motions in good time before the World Conference to allow Member Organisations to review and discuss the Proposed Motions within their organisation and consider whether to put forward a Proposed Amendment.

Proposed Motions may also be submitted after this date up to the end of the first day of the World Conference. Such Proposed Motions (also known as tabled motions) require the approval of the Conference Chair and Procedural Team Coordinator to be considered by the Conference and cannot be amended. Proposed Motions relating to: policy and standards, Triennial policy, Membership, general financial policy, or which require significant research must have been submitted by the 26 February 2026 deadline.

How to write a conference motion

A Proposed Motion should be clear, concise, and where possible, indicate specific future actions. If the intention of the proposer is unclear, the Procedural Team will contact the proposer to discuss clarifications and provide support. If a Proposed Motion remains too vague in its purpose, it will not be accepted for submission to the Conference.

What is most important to think of when writing a Proposed Motion?

A Proposed Motion should be easy to understand, logically argued and well presented.

It should contain three parts:

- the actual proposal,
- a short explanation (rationale) on why the proposer suggests the World Conference vote “yes” to the Proposed Motion, and
- details of any resources required to implement the motion.

The wording of the motion should be as brief and concise as possible. A helpful tip is to ask someone who isn’t familiar with your motion to read it before you submit it—this can make sure it’s clear and that your ideas come across just as you intend.

What features will reduce the chances of other MOs voting “yes” to a Proposed Motion ?

A Proposed Motion is less likely to be adopted if it:

- Is unnecessarily long or overly wordy.
- Tries to cover too many separate objectives at once.
- Is unclear, inconsistent, or incoherent in parts.
- Simply repeats existing policy or addresses issues that have recently been fully debated by the World Conference.

How can we decide what to include in our Proposed Motion?

Generally, Proposed Motions should be drafted around the three Ps:

- Proposal: The core of the motion – the actual decision or action being suggested
- Problem(s): The issues that need to be addressed (included as part of the rationale)
- Principle(s): The underlying ideas or values that support the solution (also part of the rationale)



Acceptance of Proposed Motions

After a Proposed Motion has been submitted, the Proposer may be required to work with the Procedural Team to:

- Revise the wording of a Proposed Motion to ensure clarity and effective presentation;
- Collaborate with other proposers to develop or agree on a composite Motion if multiple Proposed Motions on the same or similar topics have been submitted. If no composite Motion is agreed upon, the Procedural Team Coordinator and World Board will review all Proposed Motions on the same or similar topics to decide whether they are suitable for presentation to the Conference.

A Proposed Motion that does not meet the stated criteria or that is not clear enough in its wording to be voted on can be rejected. This decision is made by the Procedural Team Coordinator in consultation with, and acting on behalf of, the World Board. The proposer will be informed if their Proposed Motion has been approved or not. Proposed Motions submitted that have not been accepted will not be circulated to Member Organisations.

Proposed Amendments to Proposed Motions

A Proposed Amendment is a suggested change to a Proposed Motion. Once the Proposed Motions have been circulated to Member Organisations, any Member Organisation may submit a Proposed Amendment, in writing. The Proposed Amendment must be relevant to the original Proposed Motion and be submitted before the stated deadline.

A Proposed Amendment should not introduce a new topic but should clarify, strengthen, or challenge the original Proposed Motion. For example, by suggesting the addition or deletion of specific words.

Proposed Amendments should not contradict the central purpose of the Proposed Motion, or it will produce a proposed counter motion. A proposed counter motion is a motion which addresses the same issue as the original motion, but which is essentially opposed to it. If a Member Organisation disagrees with a Proposed Motion, it should demonstrate its disagreement by debating and voting against the motion at the conference.



Deadline for Proposed Amendments

Proposed Amendments to Proposed Motions that require a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws must be submitted by **Thursday 26 February 2026** to allow time for them to be duly considered prior to the formal notice and agenda for the World Conference being circulated.

Proposed Amendments to Proposed Motions that do not require a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws must be submitted by the end of the first day of the World Conference.

If you submit a tabled motion or amendment at the end of the first day of the World Conference, we will ask you to book (through a special booking link) a short meeting with the Procedural Team to discuss your proposals.

Evaluating Proposed Motions

There is a lot to consider when deciding how to vote on Proposed Motions. The following list highlights a few criteria Member Organisations should think through in relation to each Proposed Motion:

- Is the purpose of the Proposed Motion clear?
- Is it aligned with the Movement's vision, mission and values?
- What is the impact of the Proposed Motion?
- Will it benefit the Movement?
- What are the resource implications – financial, people, other?
- Are there any risks to WAGGGS and the Movement?
- What are the advantages/disadvantages?
- How will it be funded?
- Is the Proposed Motion compliant with WAGGGS governance, policies & procedures?
- Do you have enough information to cast your vote?



We encourage Member Organisations to engage with each other before and during the World Conference. Member Organisations are allowed to ask and/or answer any reasonable questions of clarification about motions that have been proposed. However, following the principles of Guiding and Scouting, the active campaigning or attempts to influence the voting of fellow Member Organisations outside of the official process is discouraged. For example, the unauthorised distribution of materials, and/or the giving of gifts in return for support of a motion is not allowed.



Next steps

If you would like to propose a motion for discussion at the 39th World Conference, please complete the [Proposed Motions form](#) and return it by email to proceduralteam@waggggs.org by:

- **23.59pm (UTC) on Monday 10 November 2025** (if your Proposed Motion requires a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws) OR
- **23.59pm (UTC) on Thursday 26 February 2026** (if your Proposed Motion does not require a change in the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws).

You can also use this email address to contact the Procedural Team for advice and guidance before submitting a Proposed Motion.