

**Online Conferences V**

**The meeting will begin shortly**



Exam Copy – www.engagingtheun.com

Sample Instructor’s guide with online exercises

email [engagementlearning@gmail.com](mailto:engagementlearning@gmail.com)

Today we discussed rule changes that might accompany an online conference environment.

**Upcoming Fall Conferences**

Florida MUN Oct 17

Contact Doug Ryan FMUN.org

SRMUN Atlanta Oct. 23-Oct 25.

Visit srmun.org/atlanta for info.

COCMUN October 24th and 25th

www.canyons.edu/cocmun

Contact Phil Gussin phil.gussin@canyons.edu

NMUN-DC Nov 6-8

Info at NMUN.ORG

Teton County MUN (HS) Nov 16-17

www.tcmun.org

MCCMUN Sonoran Desert Conference Nov 20 and 21

https://www.mesacc.edu/departments/social-science/model-un/sonoran-desert-conference

Contact Brian Dille bdille@mesacc.edu

Thinking about Rules changes for an online conference

Opening Plenary - probably not much change needed as it is mainly a spectator event normally.

Committee Dynamics

Maintaining Quorum – What counts as “present” for determining vote outcomes?

LisaMari Centeno – We require cameras on at all times, and schedule breaks for bathroom or personal needs.

Jack Parson – It may make sense to require delegates have their video on during votes, otherwise they could have their video off.

Lindsey Ehinger - Gatherly use would complicate that, because cameras are off in the main committee if the delegate is in cluster. Her students attended a conference that had Gatherly going at all times, they had audio problems, and trouble sharing screens.

Katie Behnke reminded us that some may not have a reliable video stream, this is a socioeconomic issue. Delegates are coming from their houses, not all have broadband access.

Speakers list - How to set it up fairly (in person practice of not calling on the front row all the time)

Phil Gussin Use the raise hand function – chairs can try to be random – chair can uncheck the raised hand in Zoom– co-chair can track who has spoken to ensure fairness.

Michael Oleaga - I agree with Phil. If there are multiple "Raised Hands" when we're adding into the Speaker's List, our SRMUN staffers will pick randomly. Sometimes a delegates' internet connection might be a bit slow or lag to press "Raise Hand." On Zoom, the Host cannot raise a hand (only the delegates can), but the Host may lower someone's "Raise Hand."

Comments and Questions

Motions after a speaker

Phil - rudeness in a virtual form is different, we still don’t want people raising their hands during a speaker. Remind gently not to do that by using a private chat

The issue of Note passing. Easy and not secret in conference software

Rebecca Gibbons - Just tell them they are monitored!

Lindsey - Gatherly is working on a bot to catch chats for certain words – be careful about sexist or racist notes

Delegates can take a Screenshot to report it to co-chair (rapporteur or substantive)

Phil - Chairs should announce that cyberbullying is unacceptable at the beginning and encourage delegates to screenshot offending notes and submit to chair.

Michael - I think Zoom does allow participants to save chats. If a delegate experience some type of written harassment, they can save the chat, or screenshot it and report it to us.

Lindsey - The Gatherly conference we attended started out with a note on the screen to all participants that explicitly stated that chats were not recorded. I can't remember if it also said "monitored." I wasn't sure if it was for online security/safety concerns?

Suspension of meeting to move into caucus - Frequency and length –

Kimberly Pace - Chairs should suggest breaks after time period – 60 mins or so

Michael Oleaga - Virtual cuts everything down, everything takes less time, so SRMUN is cutting everything down, max 30 mins unmoderated, 15 moderated caucuses. – Chairs can rule things dilatory

Kim Pace - chairs will have to be on top of their game and much more in charge, “a kind and benevolent dictator”

Phil – Our conf built in a full hour break during lunch to give non-screen time

LisaMari - Our caucuses are 20 minutes with ability to extend for 10 more minutes. But we have some breaks that delegates could use like a caucus.

Unmoderated – Do chairs need to continuously monitor?

Phil – We used discord to talk, but the screen was google docs – this enabled them to collaborate while Secrtariat could pop in an out

Moving between General🡪Substantive 🡪 Voting bloc: Maintain supermajority rules?

Yes, the polling functions of the tool enable the chairs to see who is voting and who is not.

Voting Bloc Ideas

Phil - Disable chat function during voting bloc.

Roll call votes? Kim says no, only allowed in opening plenary

Phil also says no, especially when someone is being a “dick-lomat”

Michael - For SRMUN, we'll still use the traditional Roll Call Vote. It might be a bit slower since delegates have to press unmute and turn on their videos.



**Upcoming Topics**

Oct 13 11 am EDT

Chair training and conference management

Nov 10 11 am EDT

Commiseration

Dec 1 11 am EDT

Commiseration