



Formulating a motion for the FSF AGM

Motions to the AGM are the means by which Federation policies are defined or refined and affiliates/associates and individual members are encouraged to submit proposals on matters which they feel are absent from our current campaigns and representation to the authorities, or on matters on which existing policy needs to be refined.

Validity of Motions

To be accepted for debate, motions must have both a proposer and seconder, both of whom will be invited to the rostrum to speak on the matter. Proposals from individuals not already represented on National Council are particularly welcome.

Wording of Motions

1. Motions will normally commence with the words: "Federation proposes" "Federation recommends ...", "Federation rejects", "Federation notes" or similar, appropriate to what follows. AGM/The FSF is an equally acceptable alternative to "Federation".
2. The motion should express, in the simplest form possible, what it is seeking to achieve.
3. Where a motion commences with the words "Federation notes" there should follow a summary of the situation it is seeking to address. The motion should then propose what remedial or follow-up action is required of Federation to change that situation.
4. Whilst some background is sometimes necessary it should be set out as briefly as possible. The place to go into detail about the current situation and why it's considered unacceptable, is at the rostrum in proposing the motion. Any background included should precede the main thrust of the motion which should then follow as proposed in 1 above.
5. Motions should ideally only request a single action, or define a single policy. Unless they are inextricably linked or mutually consequential, multiple actions/policies in the same motion risk rejection of the whole because the "electorate" may wish to vote "For" one part and "Against" others.

Timescale

The sooner items for debate are submitted centrally the better so that they can be publicised to the whole membership – see the FSF website or email secretary@fsf.org.uk if you are unsure on deadlines. Affiliate delegates to the AGM should ideally have ample opportunity to consult within their own club on matters on which they are subsequently going to vote.

Early submission also provides the Agenda Committee the chance to consult with members where motions with a similar aim have been independently submitted, with a view either to modify their emphasis to make them distinct from each other or, alternatively, to composite them into a wording acceptable to both parties.

Where events in football occur after the declared deadline for the acceptance of motions onto the agenda, provision exists within the Bye-Laws for an emergency motion to be added for AGM debate.

www.fsf.org.uk/agm

Many thanks to FSF NC member Ian Todd for his help with this document.