



July Quiz

Both the 10th and 11th editions of *RONR* make it clear that straw polls are not in order (p. 415 *10th* and p. 429 *11th*). However, can you think of an instance where the 10th edition declares that a particular action is not permitted but the 11th edition declares that it is permitted?

The answer: from Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th edition:

Recapitulation: It's a precise term when used in parliamentary lingo meaning to summarize and restate the votes taken by means of a roll call. The term does not appear in any *RONR* edition through the 9th (1990) but appears for the first time in the 10th edition (2000). When it then appears in the 11th edition (2011), the authorship team has taken a full 180° about-face and totally changed its application in parliamentary practice as indicated below:

From Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 10th edition (p. 408, II.13-15): "On the same grounds, a recapitulation (the secretary reading the names of those who voted 'aye' or 'no') is not permitted."

Ready for the complete reversal?

From Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th edition (p. 422, II. 1-8): "The chair, at his or her discretion, may direct, or the assembly may order, a 'recapitulation' – a procedure in which the secretary calls out the names, first, of the members who voted in the affirmative, second, of the members who voted in the negative, and third, of the members who answered *present*, with the chair calling for any necessary corrections to each category after the names in the category have been called."