

SRKW Task Force

Development of Consensus Recommendations

August 7, 2018

1. Definition of Consensus (from SRKW Task Force Charter)

Consensus is a group process where the input of everyone is carefully considered and an outcome is crafted that best meets the needs of the group as a whole. The root of consensus is the word consent, which means to give permission to. When members consent to a decision, they are giving permission to the group to go ahead with the decision. Some members may disagree with all or part of the decision, but based on listening to everyone else's input, all members agree to let the decision go forward because the decision is the best one the entire group can achieve at the current time.

2. Decision Making and Voting (from SRKW Task Force Charter)

- The Task Force will use consensus-based decision-making and will not rely on parliamentary procedure.
- The Task Force will strive toward consensus. The levels of consensus include:
 - ✓ I can say an unqualified "yes"!
 - ✓ I can accept the decision.
 - ✓ I can live with the decision.
 - ✓ I do not fully agree with the decision; however, I will not block it.
- If consensus cannot be reached after substantive discussion, the co-chairs may ask for a vote. The vote will carry if two-thirds (66%) of the members present vote in favor.
- Minority reports will be allowed for all decisions. In addition, Task Force reports and meeting summaries will highlight the pros and cons of the actions discussed.

3. Approving Task Force Recommendations

- Our goal is to develop a package of recommendations that includes the priorities of the diverse interests represented on the Task Force.
- The Task Force will be approving recommendations as a package. We will spend time discussing individual recommendations but do not plan on voting on every recommendation separately.
- It is not expected that any Task Force member will strongly support every recommendation. The goal is to develop a list of recommendations that the full Task Force will consent to approve.
- The final list of recommendations will likely include some actions that you strongly support and others that you don't favor but understand are important to fellow Task Force members.
- As noted above, minority reports will be allowed.