This reference handout explains some particularly challenging motions/scenarios that come before the House of Delegates (HOD).

Parliamentary Pointers

1) Reference Committee Recommended Amendments

2) Reference Committee Recommended “Not Adopt”:
   Example A – a Resolution
   Example B – a Committee Report “Back”
Per Procedure 12 of the Procedures of the HOD, when the reference committee has recommended amendments, the reference committee’s proposal is the main motion; meaning, the matter placed before the House.

EXAMPLE
The reference committee has proposed an amendment:

Ref Com Report is the main motion:

That we paint the house red pink.
A delegate extracts this item from the reference committee report and proposes a one-word change. This is considered a first-order amendment (or ‘primary’), because, remember, the reference committee’s amended wording is the main motion — the matter before the House.

**Extracted and Delegate Proposes a First Order (Primary) Amendment:**

That we paint the house **red pink orange**.

A delegate can propose a second-order amendment. That amendment must apply to the text already proposed for amendment; so amend the color only.

In another scenario, a delegate might make a motion to “restore the original.”

What does that mean?
A delegate may make a motion to amend the reference committee version by restoring the original language.” This is considered a first-order amendment.

Note: if an amendment is already pending (a delegate has already proposed an amendment to the reference committee version) it is not germane — in most cases — to move the original at that point in time because the current/pending amendment usually does not apply to the entire item of business as the original would. So the pending amendment would usually have to be processed first, and then the original may be moved.

Your speakers will explain this to the House so delegates understand their options.
EXAMPLE A:

A Resolution
Ref Com Recommends Not Adopt:

That we buy cookies daily.

When the reference committee has recommended “Not Adopt” for this resolution and the item is extracted from the reference com report, the original resolution resolves (or report recommendations) from the Delegates’ Handbook is the main motion — the matter that is before the House. The original language is what you’ll be talking about.

The reference committee has recommended “Not Adopt” for the resolution. It was extracted.
Motion on the Floor is the Resolution

That we buy cookies daily.

How do I Vote?
If you are in favor of buying cookies daily, vote “in favor” of the resolution. If you are opposed to buying cookies daily, vote “opposed” to the resolution.
EXAMPLE B:
Where things get a bit more complicated is in the case of an MMS committee report where the MMS committee is reporting back on a resolution from a previous meeting that was referred for a report “back.” An MMS committee was assigned the item to review further and to make a recommendation on whether to adopt, not adopt, etc., that resolution. In their report to the HOD in the Delegates’ Handbook the MMS committee recommended that it be not adopted.”

Let’s use the Committee on Info Tech, the ‘CIT,’ as a generic example.

The CIT submitted a report which recommends that original resolution I-19 XYZ be not adopted.

A Report “Back” from Committee on Info Tech

“That the MMS not adopt Resolution I-19 XYZ which reads as follows:”

That the MMS XYZ...

The reference committee — based on testimony — agrees, and recommends “Adopt.” (Adopt the CIT’s report recommendation.)
“IF that CIT report was extracted, in THIS case, what is before the House is the CIT’s report recommendation to Not Adopt the original resolution. Why? Because the CIT’s report, as presented in the Delegates’ Handbook, is the main motion — the matter that is before the House.

Extracted: Motion on the Floor is the CIT’S Report Recommendation

“That the MMS not adopt Resolution I -19 XYZ which reads as follows:”

That the MMS XYZ...
How do I Vote?
The visual below explains how to vote on the CIT Report:

### The CIT Report is Extracted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REF COMM REPORT RECOMMENDS:</th>
<th>IF Extracted, WHAT IS BEFORE THE HOUSE NOW?</th>
<th>VOTE IN FAVOR</th>
<th>VOTE OPPOSED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADOPT CIT’s Report recommendation to NOT ADOPT original resolution I-19 XYZ</td>
<td>CIT Report recommending TO NOT ADOPT original I-19 resolution XYZ</td>
<td>Vote &quot;in favor&quot; if you favor/agree with CIT Report (which says to Not Adopt original I-19 resolution XYZ) &amp; You Want to Consider the original I-19 resolution XYZ</td>
<td>Vote &quot;opposed&quot; if you oppose/disagree with CIT Report (which says to Not Adopt original I-19 resolution XYZ) &amp; You Want to Consider the original I-19 resolution XYZ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Resources

The **New Delegate Orientation Recording** is on the Interim Meeting Website at URL below. Here you can find additional information on procedures and your role as a delegate.

Also, the **MMS Procedures of the HOD** are available at [www.massmed.org/policies](http://www.massmed.org/policies)