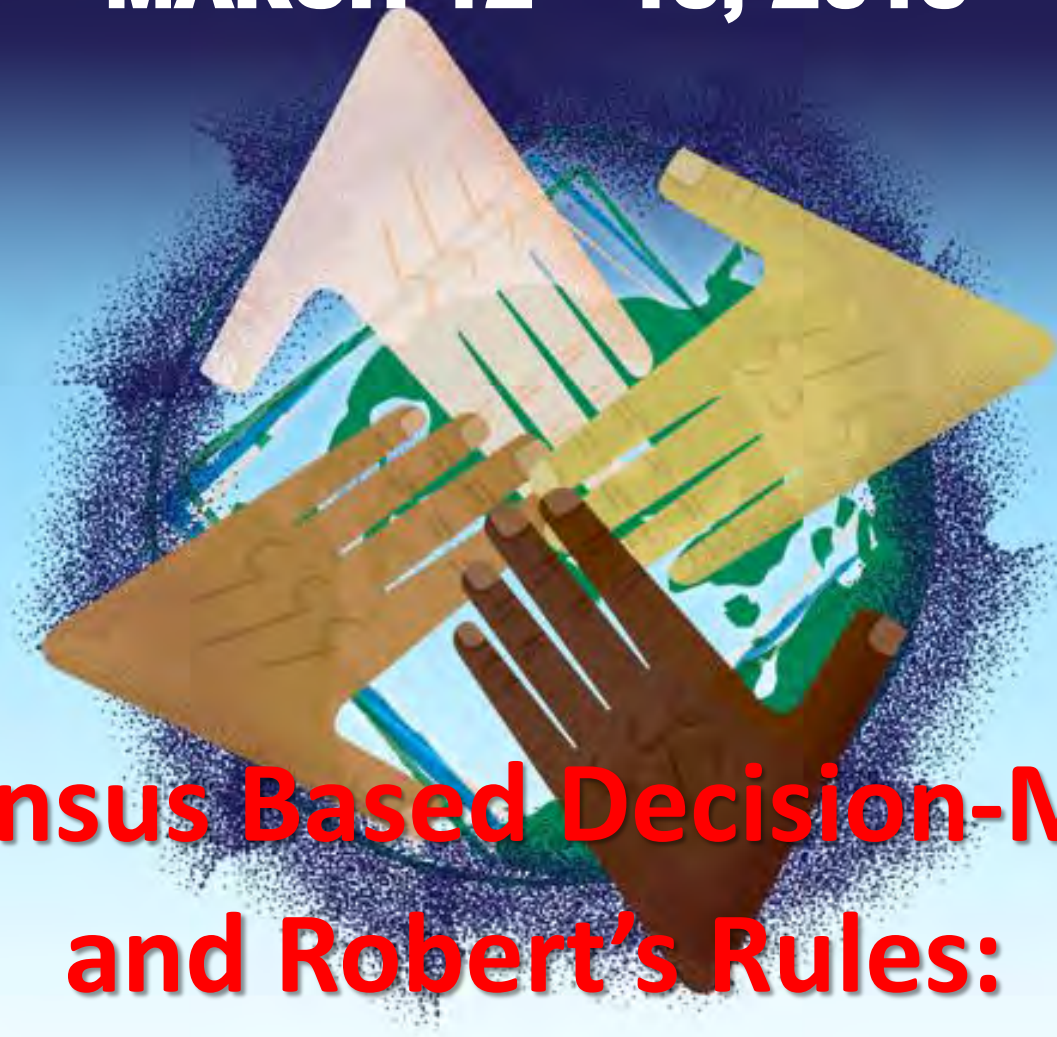


SIXTH FLORIDA SERVICE SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 12 – 15, 2015



**Consensus Based Decision-Making
and Robert's Rules:
Have I Lost my Voice?**



Let's take a Poll

- 1) How many folks here are involved at the:
 - a. Group Level?
 - b. Area Level?
 - c. Regional Level?
 - d. WSC Level?

- 2) How many use Robert's Rules?
- 3) How many use CBDM?
- 4) How many use a combination or "Hybrid" of both?



What about our Traditions, Concepts
and Principles?



Through the NA program we
learn to live by
spiritual principles...

Consensus Based Decision-
Making is making decisions
by using those spiritual
principles



Tradition 2 states...
For our group conscience
there is but one ultimate
authority – a loving God as
he may express himself in
our group conscience. Our
leaders are but trusted
servants; they do not
govern.



Concept 6 states...
Group Conscience is the
spiritual means by which
we invite a loving God to
influence our decisions;
and...

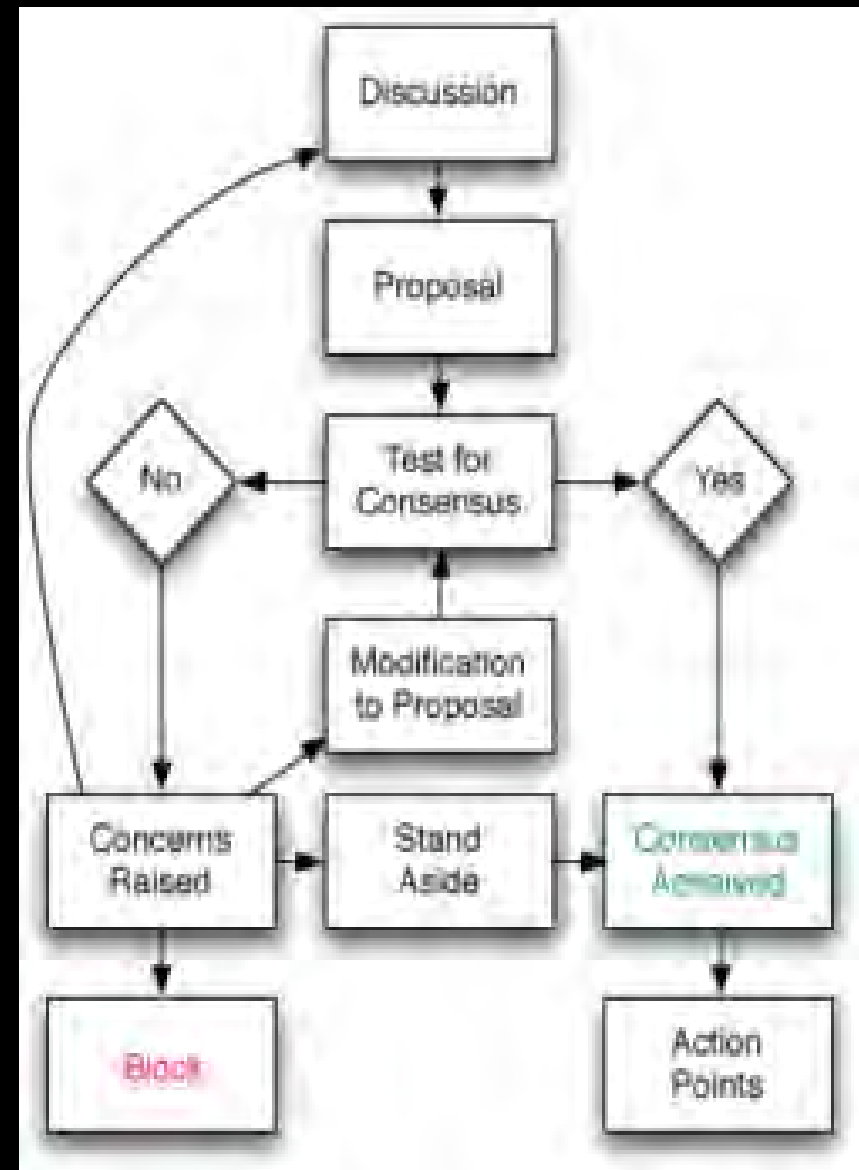
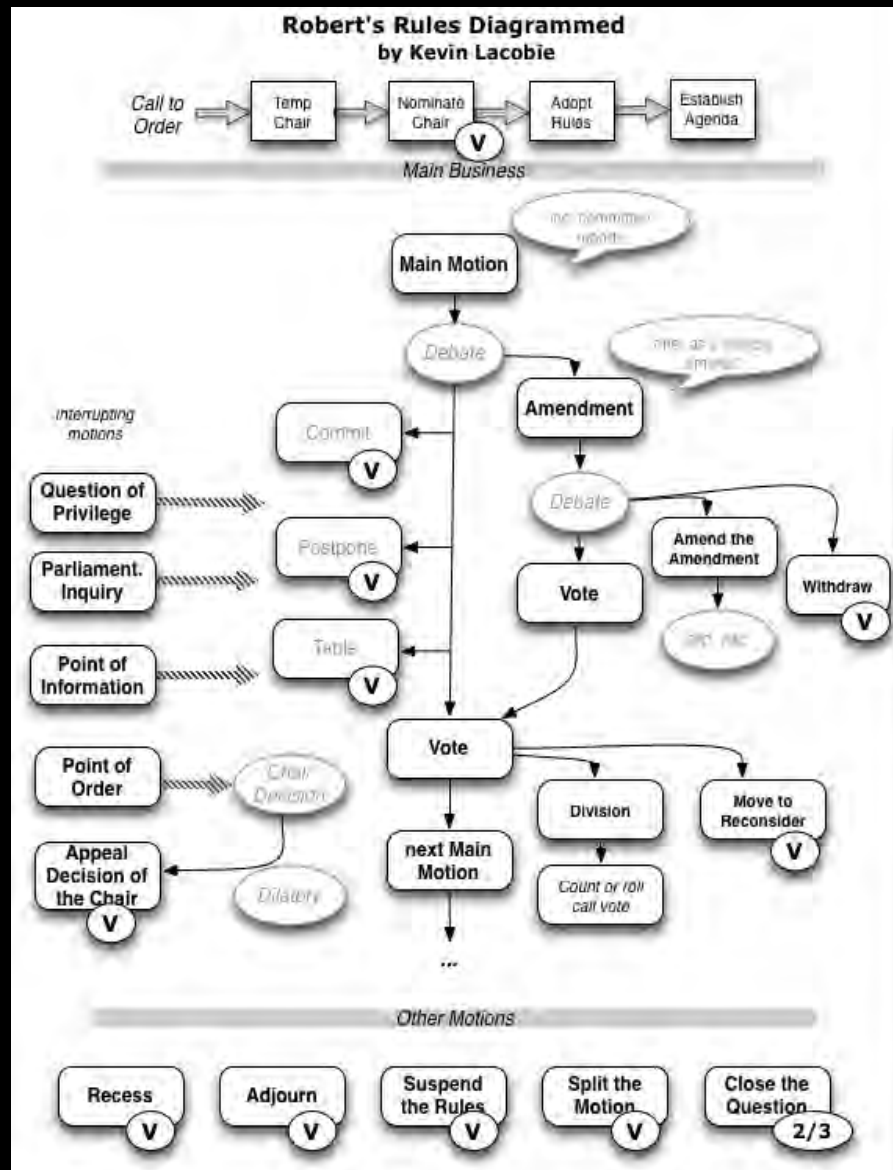


Concept 7 states...
All members of a service
body bear substantial
responsibility for that
body's Decision and should
be allowed to fully
participate in its decision-
making processes;
and...



Concept 9 states...
All elements of our service
structure have the
responsibility to carefully
consider all viewpoints in
their decision making
processes.

Roberts Rules vs CBDM



<u>Robert's Rules of Order</u>	<u>Consensus Decision Making</u>
Competitive, win/lose	Problem-solving, collaborative
Discussion constrained by motion	Multiple concerns and info can be considered
Discussion takes the form of a debate with a win-lose approach.	Discussion involves active listening and sharing information.
Few constraints are placed on the order or frequency of speaking.	Norms limit number of times one asks to speak to ensure that each speaker is fully heard.
Differences resolved by voting on motion.	Differences resolved by discussion. Facilitator identifies areas of agreement and names disagreements to push discussion deeper.
Chair calls for a vote.	Facilitator articulates the sense of the discussion, asks if there are other concerns, and proposes a "minute" of the decision.
Winners and losers are identified. Decision belongs to the winners.	Group as a whole is responsible for the decision, and the decision belongs to the group.
Chair's vote can determine the decision when votes are tied.	Facilitator can discern if a minority concerns' warrant a delay in a decision.
Dissenters' perspectives suppressed in majority vote.	Dissenters' perspectives are embraced and incorporated into decisions.



**Wait a minute! What
is a hybrid?
Isn't it just one way
or the other?**



What if instead of making a motion, a well thought-out, well defined proposal is made which:

WHAT IS A PROPOSAL

IDEA



Date and Brief Objective Title:

Specific Objectives:

Rationale:

WHAT



- **What is the projected Outcome?**

- **Why is proposal necessary?**

WHY



- **Human and Financial Resources Required?**

HOW



- **Time Requirements?**

- **Specific Skillsets Necessary**

A Common Motion Format

Home Group Motion:

Motion:

Intent:

Motioned by:

Seconded by:

Motion outcome: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Abstain

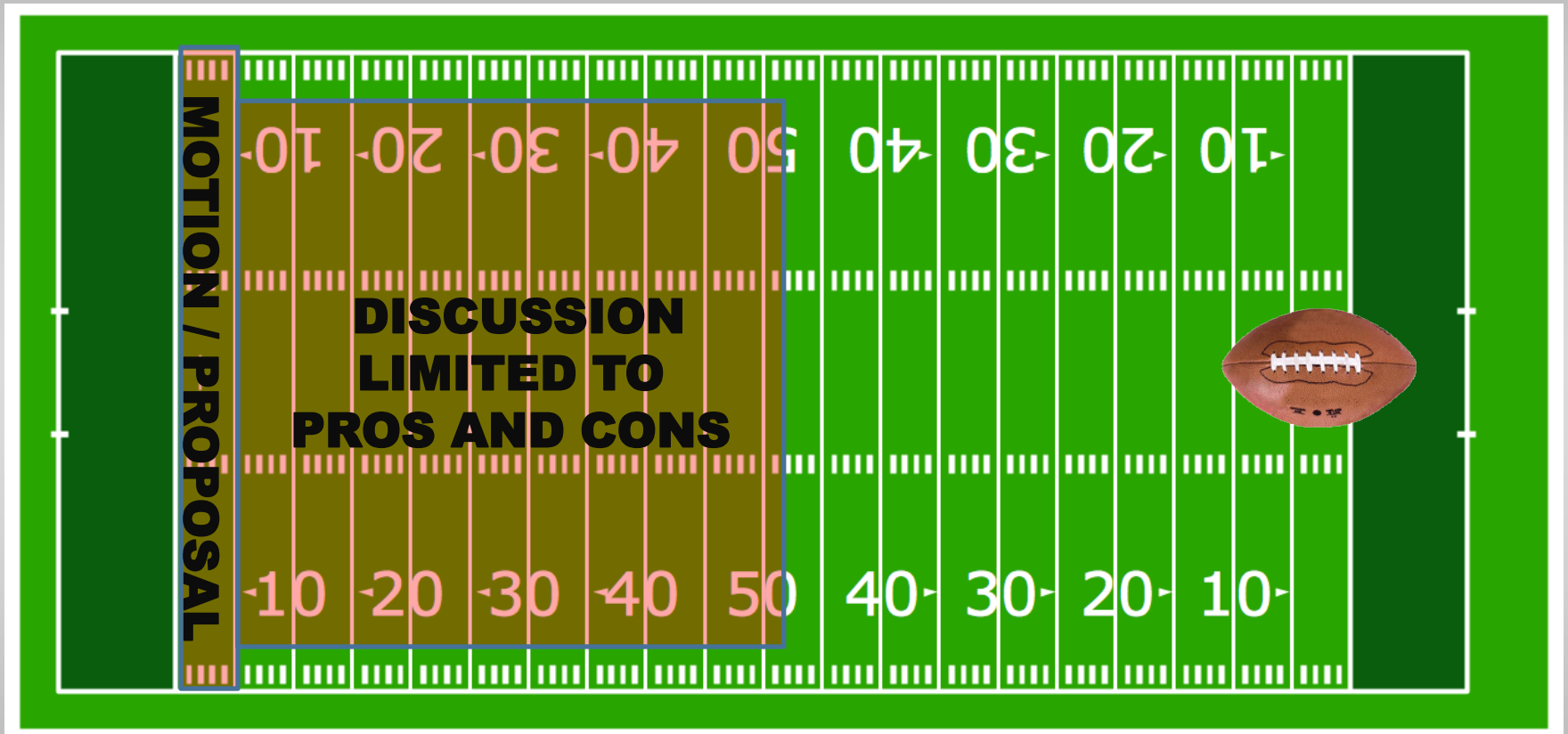
☐ Passed ☐ Failed ☐ Withdrawn ☐ Tabled ☐ Amended

Amendment:

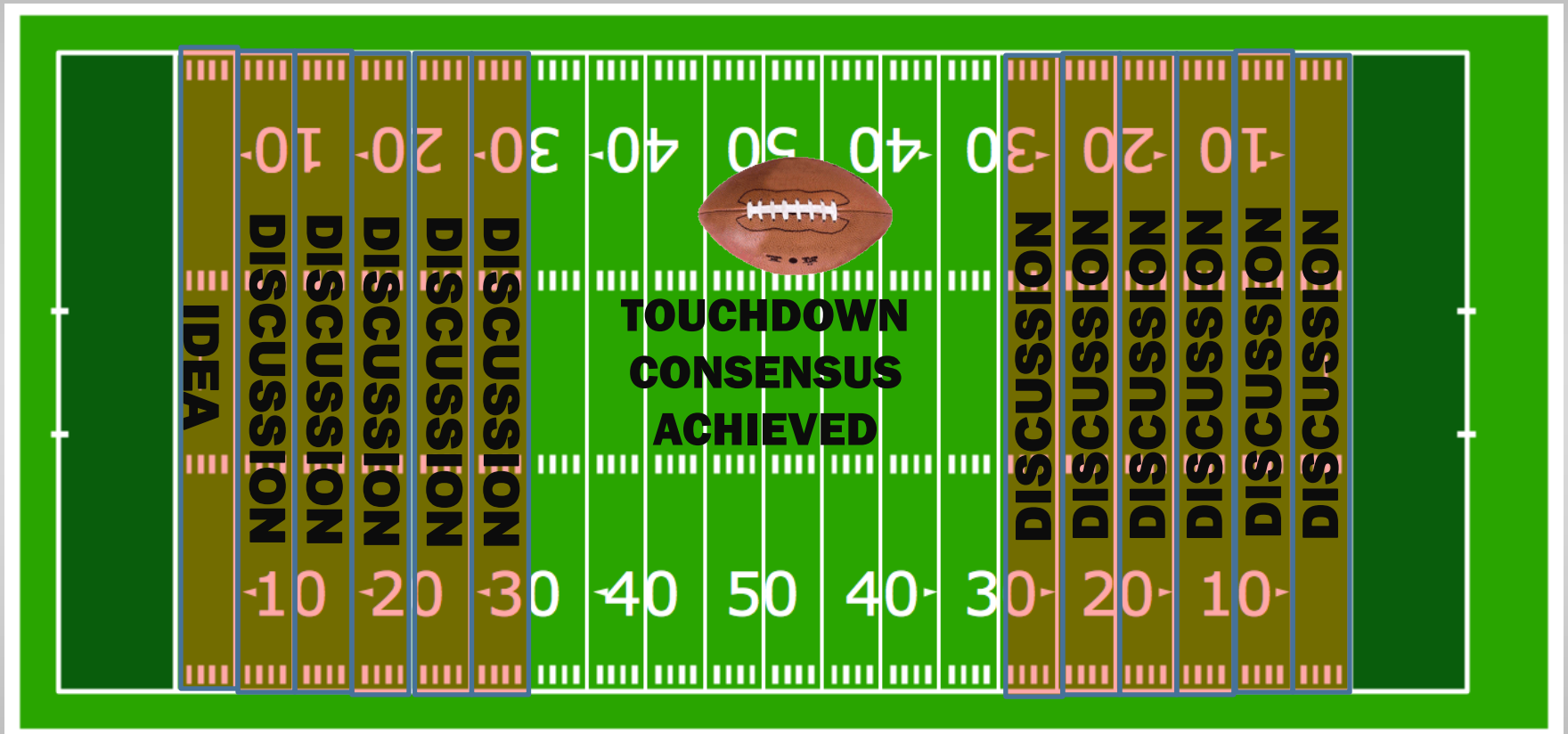


When a majority of one person (51%) agrees, what about the other 49%?

Roberts Rules of Order



Consensus Based Decision Making

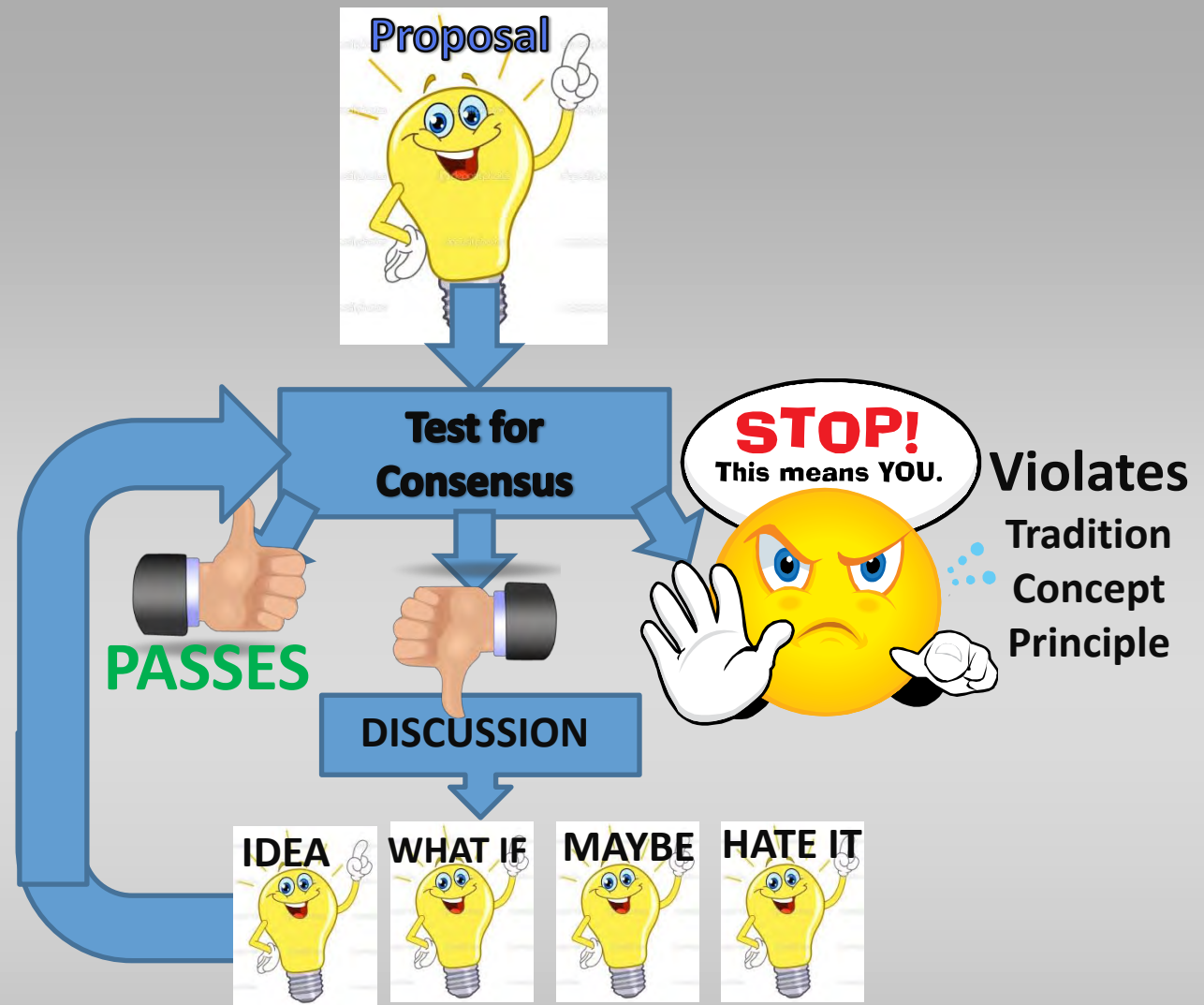




The Next Step is Discussion

**Not those
kinds of
discussions!**





EVENTUALLY WE:
COME TO CONSENSUS SEND TO MAKER DROP IT

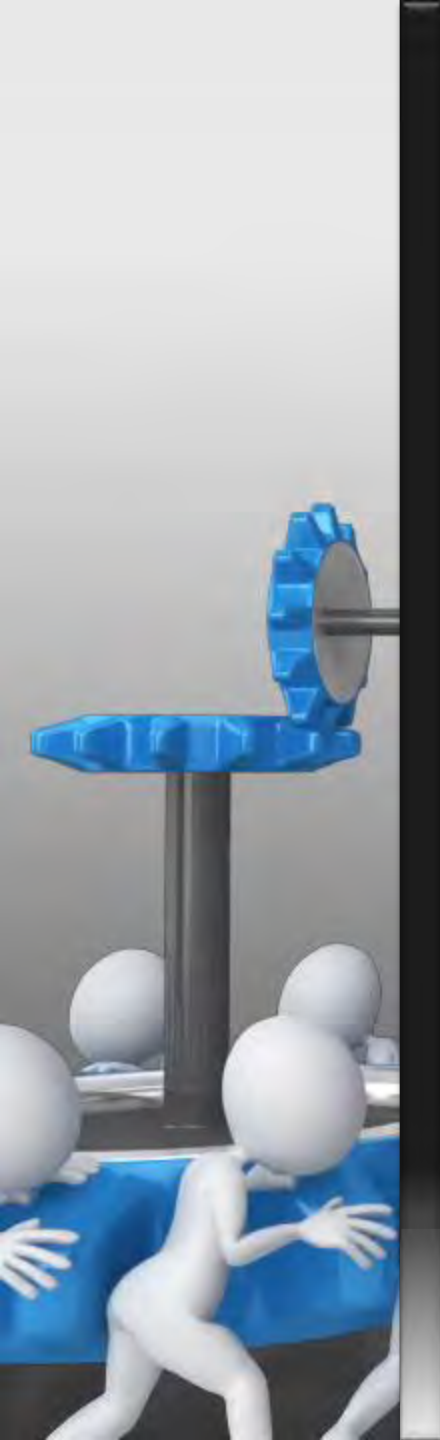
Through Discussion and Teamwork



We Put The Puzzle Together

Concept 9 states...

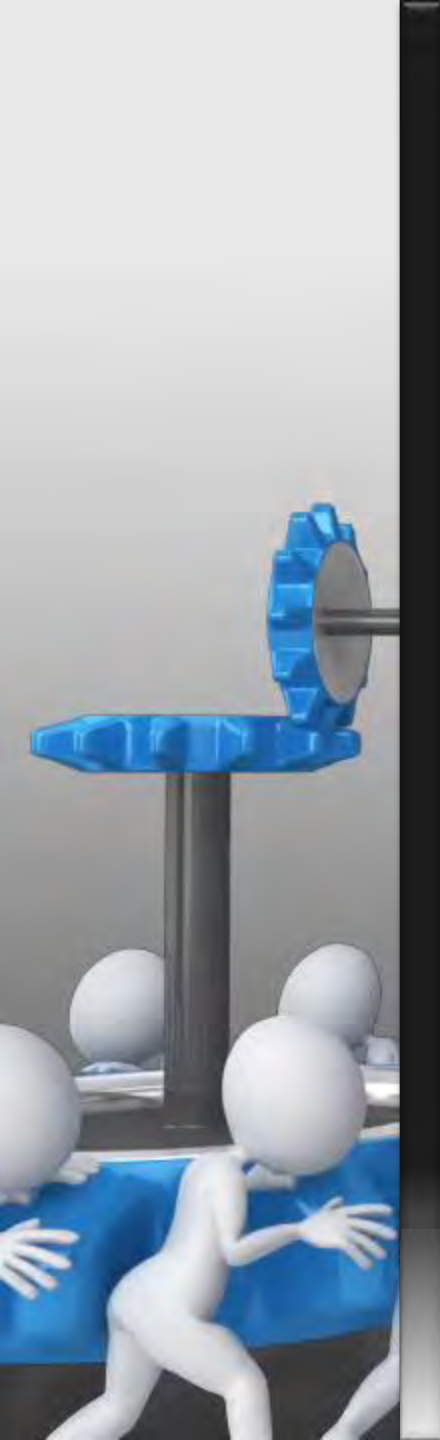
All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision making processes.



Q & A's

- There are no stupid questions
- Now is the time to ask???
- Does anyone have any experience they would like to share concerning either of these?

*Please note some graphics for this PowerPoint were found in other presentations and borrowed.



“...as long as the ties that bind us...”

