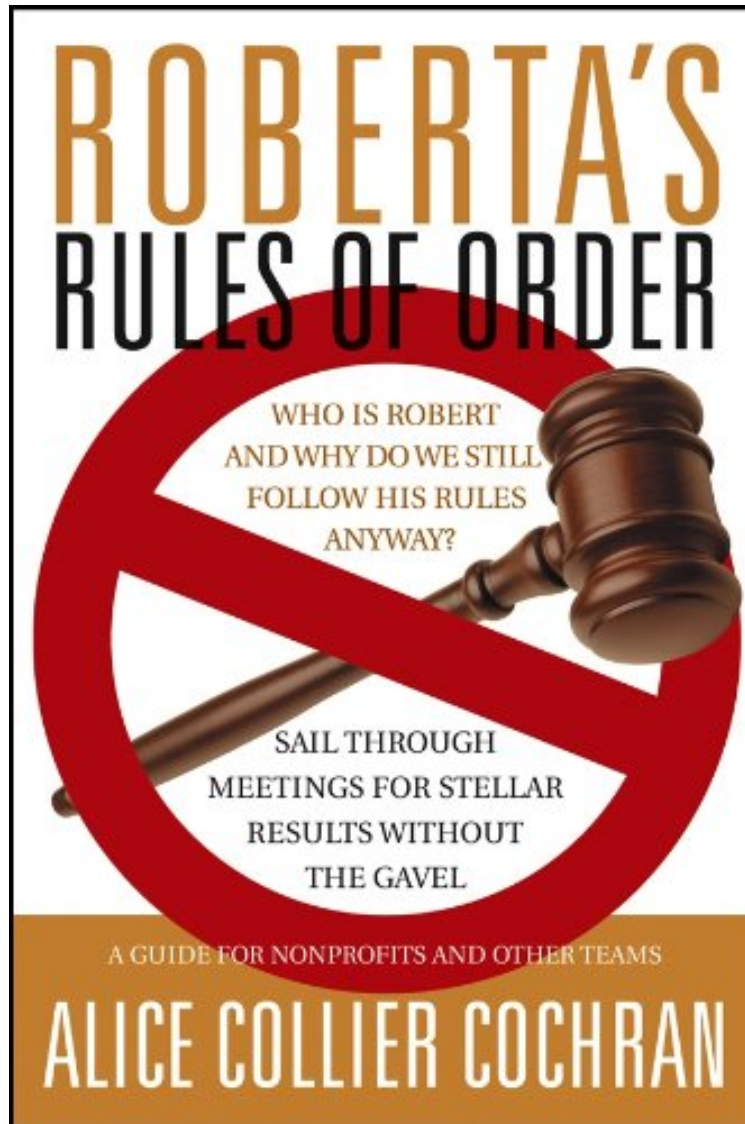


(Download ebook) Roberta's Rules of Order: Sail Through Meetings for Stellar Results Without the Gavel

## Roberta's Rules of Order: Sail Through Meetings for Stellar Results Without the Gavel

Alice Collier Cochran  
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**Alice Collier Cochran : Roberta's Rules of Order: Sail Through Meetings for Stellar Results Without the Gavel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roberta's Rules of Order: Sail Through Meetings for Stellar Results Without the Gavel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Better than Robert's Rules of Order but that was created in England in the 1870s.By maryann davenportI was looking for something more straightforward and simpler but this is a definite improvement over Parliament. I have to accept that nothing is going to be truly simple with the changes technology

has made. It's a good place to start for a small club and most all the options are laid out so big groups can use it to come to a compromise in a more timely fashion. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By SteamNPC Provided interesting information on Roberts' Rules and offered useful thoughts on how to guide comfortable and productive meetings. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Ann B. Waters a bit fussy - but useful

This one-of-a-kind book challenges nonprofit leaders (and anyone who runs meetings) to retire Robert's Rules of Order and adopt a simpler, friendlier, and more effective method for conducting meetings--Roberta's Rules of Order. Using traditional sailing ships as a metaphor, meetings and governance expert Alice Collier Cochran helps groups make the journey from the "shore" that represents the culture of Robert's Rules--procedural formality, debate, simple majority rule--to the opposite "shore" of Roberta's Rules--informality, dialogue, and decision-making options.? In doing so, she helps them to conduct friendlier, more effective meetings and to take the first step toward creating flexible, democratic organizations.

ed by: Stephen C. Nill, J.D., CEO CharityChannel Anyone who has ever participated in nonprofit board meetings that were governed by Robert's Rules of Order will not be surprised to learn of the military background of its author: U.S. Army General Henry M. Robert. The rules make a good deal of sense to those who love rigid structure, and rules, rules, rules. After sitting on nonprofit boards and serving as legal counsel to nonprofit organizations for more than two decades, I have come to loathe Robert's Rules of Order. I've seen how these rules often stifle meaningful dialog and problem-solving by giving advantage to some while relegating others to the sidelines. Indeed, they rarely coax a full contribution from those who are naturally quiet and thoughtful, or who hold back because of a lack of standing in society and/or within the board itself. It is this latter failing that cuts against the grain of our sector--a sector that so obviously values, and draws strength from, full participation from those of diverse views. Thus it was with great interest that I learned of the book provocatively titled Roberta's Rules of Order, by Alice Collier Cochran. I was so taken by the book that I spent a half-hour or so on the phone with its engaging author, talking about her motivation for writing the book, what she wanted to accomplish with it, and so on. You can listen to our discussion, part of the CharityChannel WE INTERVIEW series, at <http://charitychannel.com/weinterview/archive/021.htm>. Cochran succeeds in what she sets out to do: Provide a less formal, more feminine, and flexible approach. She replaces formality with informality; strict rules with guidelines and agreements; parliamentary procedure with democratic principles and processes; language of the 1800s with that of today; military terminology with civilian terminology; one-size fits all with flexibility, by culture; a framework designed for English and European males with that for a pluralistic society; win-lose voting with win-win decisions; a decision between two choices with straw polls and multiple choices; highly controlled and constrained meetings with those that are relaxed; and complicated with simple. I've saved perhaps the two greatest contributions for special mention: Roberta's Rules of Order replaces debate with dialog, and she puts the motion AFTER a discussion of the problem and its solution, where it belongs. While the author wants us to know that the concepts and processes she presents are not new--she gives ample credit where it is due--she should have no reluctance to take credit for putting it all together into a very well-written, easy-to-understand, fast-reading book. She uses a sailing metaphor to good advantage throughout. I do not overstate it when I say that this book is perhaps one of the most important contributions to the third sector I have seen. If board meetings could really become warm, easy, productive and effective, imagine how that would strengthen the organization! I intend to put it into the hands of board members on every board I serve on or advise. From the Back Cover Praise for Roberta's Rules of Order: "For all leaders who would like to throw away the gavel and engage the board, the assembly, and the council in thoughtful policy and direction, here are the guidelines for future effectiveness." Frances Hesselbein, Chairman Leader to Leader Institute (formerly the Drucker Foundation) and past CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA "Cochran succeeds in what she sets out to do: Provide a less formal, more feminine, and flexible approach. She replaces formality with informality; strict rules with guidelines and agreements; parliamentary procedure with democratic principles and processes; language of the 1800s with that of today; military terminology with civilian terminology; one-size fits all with flexibility, by culture; a framework designed for English and European males with that for a pluralistic society; win-lose voting with win-win decisions; a decision between two choices with straw polls and multiple choices; highly controlled and constrained meetings with those that are relaxed; and complicated with simple. 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Society for Training and Development, the Bay Area Organization Development Network, and the local Guild of the International Association of Facilitators.