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1975

## Ard Fheis - 1975 -76 : Steering Committee Recommendations

Sinn Fein

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### Recommended Citation

Sinn Fein, "Ard Fheis - 1975 -76 : Steering Committee Recommendations" (1975). *Materials*. 47.  
<https://arrow.tudublin.ie/workerpmat/47>

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SINN FEIN ARD FHEIS 1975/1976  
STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS  
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The annual Ard Fheis is the most important gathering of Sinn Fein since it is here that the policies and strategies on various issues are democratically decided. If we are to use the Ard Fheis to the best advantage, covering as much business as possible in the short time available, it is important to use the procedures properly. These notes are to help delegates understand the procedures and the Steering Committee Recommendations.

The Steering Committee, following the usual practice of the last few years, has grouped resolutions under specific headings (e.g. Youth Organisation resolutions 47 - 56, or Women 21 - 40). Because of the large number of categories this year, some have had to be grouped together for the purpose of debate e.g. Sectarianism and the General Political Resolutions are taken together. Because of the large number of resolutions on the Clar the time allocated for each debate is fairly short. We recognise that delegates will feel that particular categories should have been allocated more time, but the Steering Committee has had an almost impossible task in trying to ensure that most of the Clar will be covered during the weekend. If we are to have any hope of dealing with the business facing the Ard Fheis, it is important that delegates try and stick to the timetable and the Steering Committee recommendations will help in this.

First we should explain the words we use. Substantive motion means the main motion under debate. An amendment replaces something in the original. An addendum adds to the original motion. A composite motion is the grouping together of several motions to read as one.

Only motions which have been proposed and seconded by delegates at the Ard Fheis will be discussed.

**FINANCE CAPITAL:** (Resolutions 1 & 145.) Resolution 1 is the substantive motion. Res 145 is an addendum to No 1.

**EMPLOYMENT:** (Resolutions 2 to 18) Resolution 2 is the substantive motion. This covers 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. [3, 4, 9, 11, 17 are addenda to the substantive motion, while 7 and 18 are amendments.

**TRANSPORT:** (Resolutions 19 and 20) 19 is the substantive motion, this covers No 20.

**WOMEN:** (Resolutions 21 - 40). It is not possible to have one substantive motion in this category, because the resolutions cover different areas of the question. Separate votes should be taken as follows: 21, 22 (covers 25, 40), 24, 26 (covers 27, 28), 29 (covers 30, 31), 32 (covers 33), 34 (covers 35), 36 (covers 37, 38, 39).

**FISHERIES:** (Resolutions 41 - 46). Resolution 41 to be substantive. This covers 44 and 45. 46 is an addendum to 41.

YOUTH: (Resolutions 47 - 56). Resolution 47 will be the substantive. This covers 48,49,50,51. Resolutions 52,53 and 54 amend section 2 of 47. 55(covers 56) amends the substantive motion.

TRADE UNION AFFAIRS: (Resolutions 57 to 61). One debate. Four votes. Resolutions 57,58,60(covers 59), 61.

HEALTH:(Resolutions 62 & 63). 62 is the substantive motion. 63 is an amendment.

EDUCATION:(Resolutions 64 - 73). Resolutions 64,65 and 66 all express the same general principles in relation to Education. The Steering Committee suggests that a composite Resolution made up of No 65, plus sections 2,4 and the last paragraph of 64, as well as sections f and h of No 66, will be the substantive resolution. This covers 70. Resolutions 67 and 68 are addenda to the Composite Resolution. 69 amends section of the Composite, and 71(covers 72) and 73 are amendments to the Composite.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: (Resolutions 74 - 81)  
74(covers 75), 76,77,78,79 and 80(covers 81)

SECTARIANISM AND GENERAL POLITICAL: (Resolutions 82 -84, and 91/92)  
Resolution 82 covers 84. 83 is an addendum to 82. Resolution 92 is an addendum to 91.

POLICE AND JUDICIARY: (Resolutions 85 - 87). One debate - two votes.  
Resolution 85 is amended by 86. Resolution 87.

CIVIL LIBERTIES: (Resolutions 88 - 90). Resolution 88 is the substantive motion, amended by 89(covers 90).

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY: (Resolutions 93 - 99). Resolution 93 to be substantive. Resolutions 96,98 and 99 are addenda. Resolution 94 to be voted on separately.

PUBLICATIONS AND LITERATURE: (Resolutions 100 - 112). Separate votes on all resolutions except 107 covers 106,108,109 and 111.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS : (Resolutions 113 - 117). Resolution 114 is substantive(covers 113 and 115). Resolutions 116 and 117 are addenda.

ELECTIONS: (Resolutions 118 - 123) All taken separately. Res 120 covers 119.

PRISONERS: (Resolutions 124 - 129). All taken separately. Resolution 128 covers 127.

MISCELLANEOUS: (Resolutions 130 - 145). All taken separately except Resolution 132 covers 134. Resolution 133 is an addendum to 132. Resolution 136 covers 137. Resolution 145 is taken with Finance Capital. Resolution 148 covers 147.

N.B. There are a number of errors in the numbering of the Resolutions on the Clar. On Page 10, No 23 is in fact part of Resolution 22. On page 15 Nos 42 and 43 are part of Resolution 41.