

**SUPPLEMENTAL RULES  
2016 STATE CONVENTION  
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF TEXAS**

**IN GENERAL SESSION**

Rule No. 1

The Constitution and Statutes of the State of Texas, the General Rules of the Republican Party of Texas, and these Supplemental Rules shall govern the proceedings of this convention. The current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised*, shall be the parliamentary authority of this convention, insofar as it is applicable and not inconsistent with the Constitution and Statutes, Party Rules, or the Rules herein set forth.

Rule No. 2

No signs may be displayed in, nor attached to any part of, the building without prior approval of the State Chairman. This rule shall not be interpreted to restrict or prohibit the handheld carrying of signs by delegates, alternates, or registered guests.

Rule No. 3

Delegates, alternates, guests, and all others shall wear the badges or carry the passes issued to them and shall sit in the sections assigned to them.

Rule No. 4

An alternate seated for an absent delegate must be certified by the chairman of the county or senatorial district convention from which the alternate was elected, or in the absence of such chairman, verified by reference to the roll of alternates filed with the State Chairman and approved for this convention. An alternate must be from the same county and senatorial district and must have been elected by the same convention as the delegate in whose place the alternate serves. In a general session, a duly certified alternate may be seated during the temporary absence of a delegate.

Rule No. 5

All original motions and amendments shall be in writing and in duplicate and, immediately upon being made and seconded, shall be submitted to the Convention Secretary.

Rule No. 6

To speak on any matter that requires recognition from the Chair, a delegate must go to a microphone and await recognition by the Chair. At each microphone, there will be a control panel containing three (3) color-coded lights and one (1) blinking light for the use of the Sergeant at Arms responsible for that microphone to seek recognition for the delegate. They shall be coded for:

INTERRUPTING MOTIONS, e.g., Point of Order (BLINKING LIGHT)  
MOTION (BLUE LIGHT)  
FAVOR (GREEN LIGHT)  
AGAINST (RED LIGHT)

After being recognized but before otherwise addressing the convention, the delegate shall state the delegate's name, county of residence and the purpose for which the delegate seeks recognition. To bring an interrupting motion to the attention of the Chair, a Sergeant at Arms in consultation with the floor parliamentarian may use both the microphone and the blinking light.

#### Rule No. 7

Debate on any motion or resolution shall be limited to four (4) speakers in favor, and four (4) speakers against, with each speaker limited to three (3) minutes, except for the plank discussion, which shall be one and a half (1 ½) minutes, provided that in his discretion, the Chair shall have the authority to extend debate.

#### Rule No. 7a

The Chair shall present the platform section in the order it appears allowing an opportunity for statements from delegates on that section.

#### Rule No. 8

In the event of a roll call vote or secret ballot, the convention chairman shall explain the allocation of votes by district pursuant to the Texas Election Code. The Secretary of the Convention shall call the roll by Senatorial or Congressional District, stating the number of votes to which the district is entitled after the delegate count of absent counties and counties which did not have a convention have been deducted.

Within the delegation from each Senatorial District the delegates from each county included in the district shall select a delegation chairman, if one has not been previously designated, who shall count the number of persons present and determine the share of the total vote to be accorded each delegate or seated alternate from that county. The county delegation chairman shall then poll the delegates, with each delegate casting that proportion of the total county delegation voting strength to which that delegate is entitled. The results of the poll of the delegation from the county shall then be conveyed to the Senate District Chairman, who shall total the results from each of the county delegations and, in turn, announce the district total to the Convention Secretary.

Within the delegation from each Congressional District, the delegates from each county included in the district (wholly or partially), or district (s) wholly within one county, will select a delegation chairman, if one has not been previously designated, who will poll the delegates and seated alternates present, each of whom will be counted as one vote. Results of the poll will then be conveyed to the Congressional District Chairman, who will tally the results from each delegation and, in turn, announce the district's total to the Convention Secretary.

#### Rule No. 9

In order to be considered a declared candidate for the office of State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committeewoman, or National Committeeman a person must file a written notice of candidacy with the convention secretary not later than two (2) hours prior to the start

of the General Session at which candidates for the office sought would be scheduled to speak. Only declared candidates may be nominated for such offices.

Declared candidates for the offices of State Chairman and State Vice-Chairman shall be allotted ten (10) minutes each, during the first general session, for the purpose of addressing the convention.

Declared candidates for the offices of National Committeeman and National Committeewoman shall be allotted ten (10) minutes each, during the second general session, for the purpose of addressing the convention.

Any part of a candidate's time may be assigned to one or more surrogate speakers.

#### Rule No. 10

In contested elections for the positions of State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committeewoman and National Committeeman the vote in each caucus shall be by secret ballot. Tellers for each vote shall be appointed by the Caucus Chairman. Each candidate may appoint at least one additional vote watcher. All candidates shall be permitted to appoint an equal number of vote watchers.

In each Senatorial District or Congressional District caucus the delegates from each county included in the district shall select a delegation chairman, if one has not been previously designated, who shall count the number of persons present and determine the share of the total vote to be accorded each delegate or seated alternate from that county. The county delegation chairman shall then poll the delegates, with each person casting that proportion of the total county delegation voting strength to which each delegate is entitled. The results of the poll of the delegation from the county shall then be conveyed to the Caucus Chairman, who shall total the results from each of the county delegations and, in turn, report the vote of the caucus to the Convention Secretary.

If more than two persons are nominated for a position, and none receives a majority of the votes cast excluding blanks and abstentions, a run-off shall be conducted between the two nominees receiving the highest number of votes.

#### Rule No. 11

The Platform Committee shall include in their report a list of no more than five (5) resolutions defining legislative priorities for the Republican Party of Texas for the 85th session of the Texas Legislature. Legislative priorities should be for specific changes to the law that directly support the principles listed in the Preamble of the Platform.

After debate on the report of the Permanent Platform & Resolutions Committee has concluded (due to the effect of any motion, or expiration of limits of debate, or for any other reason), the Convention shall proceed to voting by paper ballot on adoption of the Report item-by-item, including the Platform Preamble, each of the Platform Principles, each of the Platform Planks, each of the Legislative Priorities, and any other Resolutions included in the Report. Votes on an

individual item may be "include" or otherwise in favor, "do not include" or otherwise against, or the individual item may be left blank to abstain or be recorded as present not voting. Platform planks shall be considered finally adopted if a majority voted in favor. The platform preamble, the platform principles and the legislative priorities shall be considered finally adopted if at least 60% voted in favor.

The tally of the paper ballots shall be by delegation voting strength and shall be performed electronically. The full provisional results including the weighted percentage in favor or opposed to each item shall be announced publicly when available and shall be certified by the SREC at their first regular meeting following the convention. The paper ballots shall be retained at RPT Headquarters for the remainder of the voting year, during which time the SREC by majority vote may order a manual or electronic recount of the ballots.

#### Rule No. 12

With the exception of those rules mandated by the Constitution or Statutes of the State of Texas, or the General rules of the Republican Party of Texas, a Supplemental Rule governing a General Session may be amended or suspended by majority vote of the convention.

### **IN SENATORIAL DISTRICT CAUCUSES**

#### Rule No. 13 – Seating of Delegates and Alternates

All delegates (and alternates seated for absent delegates) must be registered prior to assuming their status as voting members.

An alternate seated for an absent delegate must be certified as such by the appropriate chairman of the convention from which the alternate was elected, or in the absence of the chairman, verified by reference to the roll of alternates as submitted to the State Chairman and approved by this convention. An alternate must be from the same county and have been elected by the same convention as the delegate who the alternate replaces.

Delegates and alternates may be seated during debate, motions, speeches, or any action other than during the time a vote is being taken.

There will be no seating of delegates or alternates while a vote is being taken. If following completion of a vote and prior to the commencement of a subsequent vote, late arrivals to the caucus must be seated in accordance with the official roll as submitted to the State Chairman, approved by the State Republican Executive Committee, and adopted by the Convention.

#### Rule No. 14 - Nominations

At the time announced for nominations for any given position; each nomination shall be made without nominating speeches. After all nominations are made, the order of nominating speeches will be determined by lot. Nominating speeches may be made for each candidate, followed by seconding speeches, followed by the nominee speaking in his or her own behalf, if the nominee desires to do so.

Nominating speeches, seconding speeches and a speech by the candidate shall not exceed an aggregate time of three (3) minutes to be used as the candidate determines. Candidates for State Chairman and State Vice-Chairman and candidates for the State Republican Executive Committee shall be five (5) minutes to be used as each candidate so desire in the second Senatorial Caucus.

Candidates and nominees may distribute written material to delegates and alternates in the caucus describing their qualifications.

#### Rule No. 15 - Voting

In non-contested elections, voting may be by voice or by general consent. Voting on issues or other matters shall occur as the caucus chooses. However, a roll call shall be taken when a request for a roll call vote meets the requirements of RPT Rule # 7.

In all contested elections voting shall be by secret ballot. In any election, a majority vote is required. If more than two persons are nominated for the same position and none receives a majority vote in the first, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Abstentions and blank ballots will not be counted.

In multi-county caucuses, each county shall vote their full voting strength after seating qualified alternates. Tellers shall be appointed by the Caucus Chair to count the votes and to report the results to the Caucus Chair. Each candidate may select a vote watcher to represent them and observe the vote tabulation. The Caucus Chair shall clarify the allocation of votes by districts pursuant to the Texas Elections Code.

#### Rule No. 16- First Senatorial District Caucus

Each Senatorial District Caucus shall meet twice during the course of the Convention. The first meeting shall be Thursday following the first general session for the purpose of electing a Permanent Caucus Chairman and one member to each of the four (4) permanent committees (as defined in RPT Rule #34). Under the supervision of the Temporary Caucus Chairman, the delegates qualified to vote in the caucus shall be identified and their number determined prior to the conduct of any business. The Temporary Caucus Chairman shall appoint a Temporary Caucus Secretary and other temporary officers and assistants as needed. The order of business shall be as follows:

#### AGENDA FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT CAUCUS

Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 2:30 p.m

- I. Call to order by Temporary Chairman
- II. Appointment of Temporary Secretary (by Temporary Chairman)
- III. Roll call – Seating of delegates and alternates for absent delegates
- IV. Announcement of order of business
- V. Election of Permanent Chairman (if contested, voting shall be by ballot)
- VI. Appointment of Permanent Secretary and other permanent officers (by Permanent Chairman)

- VII. Report of members of the temporary committees
- VIII. Election of one member to each permanent convention committee (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
  - a. Credentials
  - b. Rules
  - c. Platform & Resolutions
  - d. State Nominations
- IX. Announcements
- X. Adjourn to meet again Friday, 8:00 a.m.

Rule No. 17- Second Senatorial District Caucus

The second meeting of each Senatorial District Caucus shall be on Friday at 8:00 a.m., for the purpose of recommending one candidate for State Chairman and one candidate for State Vice-Chairman in that order, and of recommending of one candidate for Committeeman and one candidate for Committeewoman to serve as the representatives of that Senatorial District on the State Republican Executive Committee (SREC). Under the supervision of the Permanent Caucus Chairman, the delegates qualified to vote in the caucus shall be identified and their number determined prior to the conduct of any business.

AGENDA FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT CAUCUS

Friday, May 13, 2016 – 8:00 a.m.

- I. Call to order by Permanent Chairman
- II. Roll call – Seating of delegates and alternates for absent delegates
- III. Reading of minutes of Thursday’s Caucus
- IV. Announcement of order of business
- V. Recommendation of nominee for State Chairman (if contested, voting will be by secret ballot)
- VI. Recommendation of nominee for State Vice-Chairman (if contested, voting will be by secret ballot)
- VII. Recommendation of nominee for State Committeeman (if contested, voting will be by secret ballot)
- VIII. Recommendation of nominee for State Committeewoman (if contested, voting will be by secret ballot)
- IX. Report of permanent committee members (Optional)
- X. Announcements
- XI. Adjournment of caucus

Rule No. 18

Non-caucus business or speeches may only take place only during the counting of ballots or during announcements.

Rule No. 18a

**These supplemental rules may not be amended or suspended by action of any caucus.**

## **IN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CAUCUS**

### **Rule No. 19 - Seating of Delegates and Alternates**

All delegates (and alternates seated for absent delegates) must be registered prior to assuming their status as voting members.

An alternate seated for an absent delegate must be certified as such by the appropriate chairman of the convention from which the alternate was elected, or in the absence of the chairman, verified by the reference to the roll of the alternates as submitted to the state chairman and approved by this convention. An alternate must be from the same county and must have been elected by the same convention and from the same congressional district as the delegate who the alternate replaces.

Delegates and alternates may be seated during debate, motions, speeches, or any action other than the during the time a vote is being taken.

There will be no seating of delegates or alternates while a vote is being taken. Following completion of a vote in progress and prior to the commencement of a subsequent vote, late arrivals to the caucus must be seated in accordance with the official roll as submitted to the state chairman, approved by the State Republican Executive Committee, and adopted by the convention.

### **Rule No. 20 - Nominations**

At the time announced for nominations for any given position, nominations shall first be made without nominating speeches. After all nominations are made, order of nominating speeches will be determined by lot. Nominating speeches may be made for each candidate, followed by seconding speeches, followed by candidate speaking in their own behalf, if the nominee desires to do so.

Nominating speeches, seconding speeches and a speech by the candidate shall not exceed an aggregate time of three (3) minutes, to be used as the candidate determines.

Candidates and nominees may distribute written material to delegates and alternates in the caucus describing their qualifications.

### **Rule No. 21 - Election of National Delegate and Alternate Delegate**

Elections for each delegate to the national convention and alternate delegate to the national convention shall be conducted one at a time, with elections for delegate positions held first, followed by elections for alternate delegate positions, as outlined in RPT Rule #38, Section 6.b. Participation in the state convention is not a prerequisite for election as a delegate to the national convention or alternate delegate to the national convention.

Pursuant to RPT Rule #38, Section 8, each delegate and alternate shall be pledged to a presidential candidate. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in the order of the primary

vote received by each presidential candidate who is entitled to pledges in descending vote order beginning with the presidential candidate who received the most votes and continuing until all delegates and alternates are elected.

#### Rule No. 22 - Voting

In non-contested elections, voting may be by voice or by general consent. Voting on issues or other matters shall occur as the caucus chooses. However, a roll call vote must be taken when a request for a roll call vote satisfies the requirements of RPT Rule No. 7.

In all contested elections voting shall be by secret ballot. In any election, a majority vote is required. If more than two persons are nominated for the same position and none receives a majority, and if one candidate receives 20% or more of the vote, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Otherwise, there will be a run-off election between the three candidates receiving the most votes. Abstentions and blank ballots will not be counted.

The caucus shall vote the actual number of delegates in attendance after seating qualified alternates. Tellers shall be appointed by the Caucus Chair to count the votes and to report the results to the Caucus Chair. Each candidate may select a vote watcher to represent them and observe the vote tabulation.

#### Rule No. 23- Credentialing

All delegates and alternate delegates to the national convention and all presidential electors must provide the accurate spelling of their name, their current mailing address, their current telephone number and their current email address to the Chairman of the National Nominations Committee. This information will become a part of the official minutes of the committee meeting and will be submitted to the Republican National Committee for credentialing as a delegate or alternate delegate to the national convention.

#### Rule No. 24 - Non-Caucus Business or Speeches

Non-caucus business or speeches may only take place during the counting of ballots or during announcements.

#### Rule No. 25 – First Congressional District Caucus

Each congressional district caucus shall meet twice during the course of the convention. The first meeting shall convene as soon as possible after adjournment of the first general session and after the adjournment of the first Senatorial Caucuses on Thursday, May 12, 2016, in the announced locations. Under the supervision of the temporary caucus chairman, the delegates qualified to vote in the caucus shall be identified and their number determined prior to the conduct of any business. The temporary caucus chairman shall appoint the temporary caucus secretary and other temporary officers and assistants as needed. The order of business shall be as follows:

#### AGENDA FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CAUCUS

Thursday, May 12, 2016 – Upon adjournment of the first Senatorial Caucus



- I. Call to order by Temporary Chairman
- II. Appointment of Temporary Secretary and sergeant-at arms (by Temporary Chairman)
- III. Roll call – Seating of delegates and alternates for absent delegates
- IV. Announcement of order of business
- V. Election of Permanent Chairman (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- VI. Appointment of Permanent Secretary and other permanent officers (by Permanent Chairman)
- VII. Election of National Nominations Committee member (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- VIII. Announcements
- IX. Adjourn to meet again, Saturday, May 14, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

Rule No. 26 – Second Congressional District Caucus

The second meeting of the congressional district caucus shall be on Saturday, May 14, 2016, at 8:00 a.m., for the purpose of selecting national delegates and alternate delegates, recommending one candidate for national committeeman, and recommending one candidate for national committeewoman. Under the supervision of the permanent caucus chairman, the delegates qualified to vote in the caucus shall be identified and their number determined prior to the conduct of any business.

AGENDA FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CAUCUS

Saturday, May 14, 2016 – 8:00 a.m.

- I. Call to order by Permanent Chairman
- II. Roll call – Seating of delegates and alternates for absent delegates
- III. Reading of minutes of Thursday’s caucus
- IV. Announcement of order of business
- V. Election of three (3) national delegates and three (3) alternate delegates (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- VI. Recommendation of an at large delegate and/or alternate to be considered by the National Nominations Committee (Optional)
- VII. Nomination of one (1) presidential elector for the congressional district (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- VIII. Recommendation of nominee for national committeeman (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- IX. Recommendation of nominee for national committeewoman (if contested, voting shall be by secret ballot)
- X. Announcements
- XI. Adjournment of caucus

Rule No. 27

**These supplemental rules may not be amended or suspended by action of any caucus.**