



First District Republican Convention Rules May 26, 2022

DEFINITIONS

BPOU: Basic Political Organizational Unit. In these rules, BPOU also refers to official Republican Party of Minnesota statewide affiliates duly entitled to have representation at this Convention.

Delegate: Duly elected delegates from the 2022 BPOU conventions lying within the newly drawn Minnesota First Congressional District.

Alternate: Duly elected alternates from the 2022 BPOU conventions lying within the newly drawn Minnesota First Congressional District, with no voting or speaking privileges unless seated in accordance with these rules.

Section 1: GENERAL

1. The order of business of this Convention shall be as listed in the official agenda of the Convention. The sequence of events may be changed at the discretion of the Convention Chair, hereafter referred to as the Chair.
2. *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (12th edition)*, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Constitution of the First Congressional District, the Statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Official Call of the Convention, and the Rules adopted by this Convention.
3. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the Convention as given in the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee and shall be superseded by a majority of the delegates and seated alternates as given in the final or most recent report of the Credentials Committee. Once a quorum number has been established, it shall remain until adjournment of the Convention.
4. These rules, once adopted, shall not be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention.
5. Mobile devices shall be turned off or set to silent mode.
6. Any items or person determined by the Chair to be a disruption may be removed from the Convention.
7. Conversation impertinent to Convention business will be engaged off the Convention floor. Attendees shall not disrupt order and decorum and, at the discretion of the Chair, may be removed for repeated interruptions that are determined out of order or not germane to the agenda.
8. Handouts may be distributed at the Convention, but must contain the name of the organization and the physical address of the organization or the name of the individual and physical address and/or PO Box of the individual paying for said material. The exception to this rule is for a federal candidate's campaign registered with the FEC, when it does not require by law a physical address on campaign material. The Sergeant-at-Arms will confiscate any material not having such disclaimer. Campaign signs and other materials cannot be placed behind or immediately in front of or beside the Convention podium and Convention Officials' tables.

9. The Convention is a private gathering. All representatives of any form of media must register (free of charge) and be properly credentialed by the Credentials Committee. The media includes anyone who is recording or live streaming all or parts of the Convention by any means. Only mainstream established media, official Republican Party and candidates will be allowed. So called "trackers", the Democratic Party, other party units and its affiliates, and pseudo party "recorders", etc. will not be credentialed or allowed.

10. Only delegates and seated alternates registered and present at this Convention, and others authorized by these rules or the Chair, shall be permitted on the Convention floor. The Credentials Committee may issue a non-voting floor pass for accommodating ADA compliance to a person assisting a delegate or seated alternate.

11. A motion to adjourn or recess the Convention shall be debatable until all items on the agenda have been considered on the Convention floor.

12. The Convention shall adjourn by 9:15 pm on 5/26/2022.

Section 2: SEATING OF DELEGATES, ALTERNATES and AFFILIATES

13. The permanent roll of the Convention shall be constituted as follows:

- a. The delegates who are registered and credentialed.
- b. If any delegate to this Convention is absent, then an alternate shall be seated in his/her stead.
- c. If no delegates or alternates from a BPOU are present, that BPOU shall have no representation.
- d. When a registered delegate returns to the floor of the Convention, they shall be immediately seated.
- e. The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows:
 - (1) In the order specified or ranked by the BPOU.
 - (2) If the alternate vote count from the BPOU convention is available, alternates shall be seated in order of the votes received.

(3) If no system of seating has been designated, the vacancy shall be filled by drawing lots within that BPOU.

(4) If no delegates are present and seated, the Credentials Committee Chair shall fill the vacancy with alternates from that BPOU.

14. There shall be no cross-seating between BPOUs.

15. The voting strength of the Convention shall be:

- a. The delegates and seated alternates from each BPOU
- b. One (1) credentialed representative of each affiliate organization allowed by the Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution Article XIV Section 3

that are present on the Convention floor or assisting with official Convention business.

Section 3: SPEAKING

16. A delegate or seated alternate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair by using a microphone, be recognized by the Chair, state their name, BPOU, and the purpose for which they rise.

17. Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same subject. No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all those desiring to speak have had a first opportunity to do so. Total debate on any motion or subject is limited to six (6) minutes, including up to three (3) minutes pro and three (3) minutes con in rotating order.

18. Any question before the Convention that is divisible into separate questions shall be so divided when requested by any delegate or seated alternate and supported by at least fifteen (15) additional delegates or seated alternates, or at the discretion of the Chair when he/she deems it will advance the flow of Convention business.

19. Movement of the previous question shall not be in order until at least one (1) pro and one (1) con speaker, if any, have been heard. The same right of debate shall be allowed whenever a motion to lay on the table has been made on any proposition on which there has been no debate.

20. The Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussion, debate and speeches

during the Convention.

21. The Chair at any time may invite any office holder, candidate or distinguished guest to address the Convention for a period up to three (3) minutes. At the discretion of the Chair, state and federal office holders may be exempted from this time limitation.
22. No speaker shall advocate on behalf of any candidate being voted on by the Convention, except during the times provided herein by rule 29.

Section 4: VOTING

23. There shall be no voting under the unit rule or by proxy at this Convention.
24. The vote on all questions shall be by voice, rising or "show of hands" at the discretion of the Chair.
25. A counted division of the house vote may be taken at the discretion of the Chair, and shall be taken if requested by at least fifteen (15) delegates or seated alternates.
26. A roll call vote by BPOU shall be taken if requested by at least five (5) BPOUs.
27. If there is a dispute as to the vote of any BPOU, the Chair shall appoint a judge and two (2) tellers to canvass the vote of said BPOU and the judge shall report the same to the Convention.
28. During the endorsement of candidates, the following shall apply:
 - a. If the position is contested, voting shall be by secret ballot only.
 - b. The tellers will distribute the correct number of ballots to each BPOU based on the current report of the Credentials Committee.
 - c. After ballots have been cast, the chairman and/or designee of each BPOU shall, without opening or tallying ballots, collect ballots from the delegates and seated alternates of their BPOU, verify that the correct number of ballots has been collected, and deposit them with a teller.
 - d. If there is a dispute as to the number of votes cast by a BPOU, before commingling of ballots, the election judge and tellers shall decide the dispute and, if necessary, shall canvass the vote of the BPOU by a separate written ballot, which shall then be used in place of the original ballots.

- e. Only tellers shall open and tally ballots. After the tellers have all ballot envelopes, they shall verify the number of ballots before commingling them, and then tally the votes. Voter intent will be used when tallying the ballots.
- f. Blank ballots will not be counted toward the total number of votes needed to win the endorsement. Ballots marked "No", "None", "No preference", "No endorsement", "Undecided", or with any candidate's name will be counted.

A motion of no endorsement may be adopted by a majority vote. The rules of a convention may limit how often or when such a motion may be made. However on any round of voting for endorsement, a motion of no endorsement shall be considered adopted if a majority of the ballots (excluding blanks) or a majority of the votes on a voice vote (excluding abstentions) is for 'no', 'none' or 'no endorsement'. (Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 3, A4)

Section 5: ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE

29. The procedure for endorsement is as follows: (note: see State Party Constitution, Article V, Section 3 for further mandatory procedures for endorsements) <https://www.mngop.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Constitution.pdf> or <https://bit.ly/3PgI5qV>
 - a. Candidates for congressional endorsement must have been found qualified for the congressional district endorsement by the Nominations Committee for the April 23, 2022 Republican Congressional District 1 Convention and must meet all legal requirements.
 - b. Those who wish to be nominated for endorsement must contact the Congressional District 1 Chair between 5/25/2022 starting at 7:00 am and 5/26/2022 by 12:00 pm (noon). The nominations committee will meet between 5/26/2022 starting 12:00 pm (noon) and 5/26/2022 by 6:30 pm to validate the nominees are still qualified or not qualified.
 - c. To consider endorsement, a motion to endorse for First District Congress must be adopted by a secret ballot by the majority vote of the Convention.
 - d. There will be no nominations from the floor.

- e. If there is only one (1) candidate for Congress, the Convention may decide by a two-thirds rising vote to endorse a candidate for Congress.

Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 3, A 2 Voting on a candidate for endorsement for an office shall be by secret ballot. The convention or committee may decide by a two-thirds vote to endorse by a rising vote for any office for which there is only one candidate.

- f. Each nominated candidate will have up to ten (10) minutes for candidate speeches, nominating and seconding speeches, demonstrations and videos. Non-delegates are allowed to speak for candidates. The order of candidate presentations shall be determined by the drawing of lots.
- g. Each nominated candidate may have up to five (5) floor passes for campaign workers who are not delegates or seated alternates plus an additional floor pass if the candidate is not a delegate or seated alternate. Campaign workers must wear a numbered and campaign specific floor pass to identify their campaign. A member of the campaign must register with the Credentials Committee to obtain floor passes.
- h. Endorsement of a candidate shall require 60% of the valid ballots cast provided the 60% vote is greater than or equal to at least a majority of the delegates and seated alternates as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee preceding such vote.

Votes may be cast for any person who by law is eligible for election to the office under consideration and who is eligible under this constitution to seek the endorsement, even though he/she has not been nominated or has withdrawn from nomination. Ballots may also be cast stating 'no preference' or 'undecided', or indicating no endorsement. Blank ballots or abstentions, unintelligible ballots, ballots marked only '✓' or 'X', or ballots cast for an ineligible person or a fictional character shall not be included in determining the 60% vote needed for endorsement. No preprinted ballot shall be allowed unless options for 'no preference', 'undecided' and 'no endorsement' are included. (Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 3, A3)

Any candidate for any elective public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any state, Congressional District, BPOU or other authorized convention if he/she receives a 60% vote of the convention and if the 60% is greater than or equal

to at least a majority of the registered Delegates and seated Alternates as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding such vote. (Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 3, B2)

- i. If paper ballots are being used, each campaign is allowed to have two (2) observers present in the teller room while ballots are being counted.
- j. Any candidate failing to receive 20% of the vote on any ballot shall be dropped and considered withdrawn from nomination. After the second ballot, the Chair may allow each remaining candidate up to three (3) minutes to address the Convention in an order determined by drawing of lots.

- END RULES -