

PROPOSED RULES
REPUBLICAN CONVENTION OF SENATE DISTRICT 57

March 9, 2024

1. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the conduct of the convention in all actions not covered by the constitutions of the Republican Party of Senate District 57 and of Minnesota, the statutes of the state of Minnesota, the Official Call of the convention, and these rules as adopted.
2. The order of business of the convention shall be as specified in the Agenda which is adopted as part of these rules.
3. The roll of the convention at any time shall be those seated delegates elected at their respective precinct caucuses of February 27, 2024 and those alternates similarly elected and qualified who have been seated in accordance with these rules. The voting roll of the convention shall be composed of the delegates who actually are present.
4. After the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee, alternates shall be seated to fill in for absent delegates in the manner designated by the precinct caucuses electing them. If no such provision has been made by a caucus, a majority of the seated delegates of a precinct shall elect from among the alternates from that precinct present, one to fill a vacant seat.
5. A duly elected and qualified delegate may be seated immediately at any time during the convention, replacing the last-seated alternate if the precinct delegation is full.
6. A quorum shall be established as 20% of the total number of delegates elected at the precinct caucuses within the Senate District. Once established, it shall prevail until adjournment of the convention.
7. Nominations
 - a. All nominees for legislative offices are required to meet with the Nominating Committee prior to the convention starting.
 - b. Nominees for legislative offices are not allowed from the floor of the Convention.
8. Voting
 - a. The voting on all questions shall be by acclamation, except as hereinafter provided.
 - b. A rising vote shall be taken if desired by the convention Chair or at the request of any delegate.
 - c. A poll by precinct delegation shall be taken in the judgment of the convention Chair or at the request of five precinct delegations. In that event, the chair of each precinct shall poll her/his delegation and report the vote. The number of votes cast by each precinct shall not exceed the number seated within that precinct at the time of the vote. A majority of seated delegates within a precinct may request a secret ballot within its delegation.
 - d. There shall be no voting by proxy or by unit rule.
 - e. Voting in the process of endorsement for State Representative, for delegates and alternates and for party officers shall be by secret ballot. If there is only one nominee for an office, voting shall be by acclamation. If voting is by ballot and if tellers have been appointed and approved by the convention, they shall distribute, collect and count the ballots and report the results. If not appointed, the convention Chair or sub-convention chairs, as circumstances require, shall appoint at least two tellers, any of whom may be unseated alternates.

- f. To be valid, a ballot must not have more votes than the number of positions to be filled.
 - g. Ballots for state representative, delegates, alternates, and for party officer shall be counted in a separate room by the tellers. Each campaign shall have the privilege of having one representative of said campaign in the counting room to observe the counting process. Such representatives shall be declared by each campaign to the Chief Teller prior to the counting process. Campaign representatives must stay back at least 5 feet from the tables where votes are being counted. Campaign representatives may not interfere with the counting procedure in any way. Campaign representatives shall not photograph ballots or tally sheets during the time that votes are being counted. At the discretion of the Chief Teller, any campaign that violates these rules shall forfeit the privilege to have a representative present in the counting room.
9. Addressing the Convention
- a. Candidates for endorsement as State Representative shall be given **ten (10) minutes** to make remarks to the convention or sub-convention including nominating and seconding speeches.
 - b. Candidates, other than those referenced in the preceding Section above, seeking Republican endorsement or their official representatives shall be allowed **five (5) minutes**. The convention Chair shall recognize each candidate and direct them to speak at a time convenient to the convention Chair.
 - c. Any other persons wishing to address the convention that are not delegates, alternates or convention officials shall be considered guests. Guests may be given time to speak at the discretion of the convention Chair.
10. House District Sub-Conventions
- a. At the discretion of the convention Chair, the convention shall divide, with those seated delegates from Legislative Districts 57A and 57B each meeting separately for the purpose of endorsing candidates, electing district officers and/or delegates and alternates. The sub-conventions shall be chaired by the then-serving House District chairs.
 - b. The House district sub-conventions shall consist of those delegates and alternates, seated according to herein, elected at the caucus of each precinct which is located within the bounds of their respective House Districts.
 - c. Delegates from the Scott County BPOU portion of 57A may have their voting capacity weighted so as to compensate for any difference used in delegate allocation formula.
 - d. The first order of business of each sub-convention will be to elect delegates and alternates to the State Convention of the Republican Party of Minnesota and the Congressional District 2 of the Republican Party.
 - i. The term of such delegates shall be for two years.
 - ii. Any person wishing to be a candidate for such position, or wishing to nominate another person for such position may do so from the floor of each sub-convention and/or convention prior to closing nominations.
 - iii. Each nominee shall be entitled to **thirty (30) seconds** in which to speak or have someone speak in his/her behalf, before balloting begins.
 - iv. One vote shall be taken for the election of delegates and alternates in 57A. **Each seated delegate in SD57A** may vote for up to 11 people on their ballot, any more than 11 will spoil the ballot. The top 11 people receiving the most votes shall be elected delegates.

Those people receiving the 12th through 33rd number of votes shall be elected Alternates, and ranked according to the number of votes received.

- v. One vote shall be taken for the election of delegates and alternates in 57B. **Each seated delegate in SD57B** may vote for up to 21 people on their ballot, any more than 21 will spoil the ballot. The top 21 people receiving the most votes shall be elected delegates. Those people receiving the 22nd through 66th number of votes shall be elected Alternates, and ranked according to the number of votes received.
 - vi. In the event that the Senate District is allocated an odd-number of delegates, an at-large delegate and/or alternates representing the entire Senate District shall be elected prior to the Legislative Districts electing the delegates and alternates.
 - e. The second order of business of each sub-convention will be to elect House District BPOU officers as defined in the constitution.
 - f. The third order of business of each sub-convention will be to determine whether the sub-convention wishes to endorse a House District candidate and, if so, to endorse such candidate
11. Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one minute by each speaker. No one may speak more than twice on the same question. Debate shall not be closed on any matter unless at least two people have had an opportunity to speak on each side of the matter or there is no further discussion at the discretion of the convention Chair.
12. The convention Chair shall appoint a timekeeper whose duty it shall be to advise speakers of the near expiration and /or expiration of their speaking time.
13. Displaying Signage at the Convention.
- a. Only painters tape shall be allowed to affix signage and such signage shall be affixed in such a manner as to not damage the facility in which the convention is held.
 - b. No signs shall be allowed in the auditorium, except during a time period in which a candidate is addressing the convention, in which case, signs shall be limited to that candidate and shall be promptly removed by the candidate immediately thereafter.
 - c. No candidate specific signs shall be displayed at any time on the official front table or any wall adjacent to the official convention podium.
 - d. No person addressing the convention in any official capacity (party officer, convention officer, committee chairman, etc) shall have any candidate specific literature or promotional materials displayed on their person while addressing the convention.
14. Audio/Visual Recordings. No audio or visual recordings by any medium shall be allowed in the auditorium, except during a time period in which a candidate is addressing the convention, in which case, such recordings shall be performed only by the candidate or that candidate's designee and shall promptly cease upon completion of the candidate's remarks.
15. If resolutions are to be considered, they shall be limited to those proposed by the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions shall be considered by block (or topic). An exception may be made if five seated delegates from at least three precincts choose to debate an individual resolution, in which case the remainder of the block will then be voted upon by the delegates. Resolution blocks or any individual exceptions, including any debate thereof, may, at the discretion of the convention Chair, be addressed at any time convenient to the convention.

16. Endorsement Procedure

- a. It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether endorsement shall be considered for an office.
- b. Voting in the endorsement process shall be in accordance with Rule 8e.
- c. Only one candidate may be endorsed per seat for a particular office.
- d. If the office sought is legally partisan, a candidate must agree to seek the office only as a Republican prior to being considered for pre-primary endorsement. (No cross-endorsements).
- e. Any candidate for public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement 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.
- f. Votes may be cast for any person who by law is eligible for election to the office under consideration 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 'check mark' 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. Appointed tellers shall have the sole responsibility for determining if ballots are otherwise spoiled.
- g. In the case where multiple rounds of voting for endorsement is necessary, an opportunity for each candidate to address the convention for **two (2) minutes** shall be granted between each vote. The order of speaking will be determined in a random fashion by the convention chair.
- h. After three rounds of balloting and for each successive round thereafter, any candidate who does not maintain at least 20% of the votes shall no longer be considered for endorsement.
- i. After the second round of voting for endorsement a "question and answer" period between the candidates and seated delegates may be established during a contested endorsement. Each candidate shall be given equal opportunity and up to 2 minutes to answer questions submitted by the body in writing and will be randomly chosen by drawing. We will continue this process after each round of Voting for endorsement. If, in the ruling of the convention Chair, a question does not apply to a candidate or is inappropriate, that candidate shall be given equal time to address the convention on topic chosen by the candidate or answer a previous question.

17. These rules or a portion thereof may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the convention, or, as they apply to it, of a sub-convention.