

CONVENTION RULES

for the Republican Party

House Legislative District 53

May 6, 2023

A – Rules

1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th Edition) shall govern the Convention in all cases where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the State Party Plan, the Call of the Convention, and rules adopted by the Convention, in that order of precedence.
2. Upon adoption of these rules, the temporary convention organization shall become the permanent convention organization.
3. Once adopted, these rules may be repealed, suspended or amended only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates, unless otherwise provided in a specific rule.
4. No motion shall be in order at the Convention except those pertaining to the Order of Business or the item of business being pursued at the time the motion is made.
5. Upon the instruction of the Convention Chairman, the Sergeant-at-Arms may appoint deputies to assist him in maintaining order. The Sergeant-at-Arms and his or her deputies may remove any person who disrupts the proceedings of the Convention.
6. Guests are not allowed in the convention delegation areas, but may sit in designated guest areas. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following guests are allowed in convention delegation areas: (i) children of Delegates twelve (12) years old and younger and (ii) non-delegate volunteers identified by the candidates, who shall be issued credentials by the Credentials Committee granting them access to the convention delegation areas clearly designating them as non-delegates. Each candidate may designate up to five (5) non-delegate volunteers. Only credentialed Delegates may sit in the seating provided in the convention delegation areas and, if space permits, their qualified children.
7. The vote by which each committee report was recommended shall be announced. One member who voted in the minority may speak for one (1) minute before any discussion on the floor. One member in the majority may speak for one (1) minute before any discussion on the floor.
8. The Rules Committee may meet, including meetings as may be required during the hours the polls are open and votes are being tallied.

B – Credentials

1. The Credentials Committee shall report on the proper certification of the members of each delegation and decide any question that may arise concerning certification, subject to an appeal to the Convention. Any such appeal shall be considered final. Any challenge to an entire delegation, or individual Delegate, must come before the Credentials Committee not later than noon on May 3, 2023.

2. Unless their electing body has adopted other specific Instructions, the Delegates present in a given delegation shall designate which Alternate shall vote in the place of an absent Delegate.
3. Delegates who have been elected by their respective units will be permitted to vote if they are at the Convention and reported present by the Credentials Committee.
4. No proxies for delegates shall be accepted.
5. The Credentials Committee Chair, a member of the credentials committee, and the Unit Committee Chair or his appointed representative, may together consider and decide the case of individuals who believe they were improperly excluded from the list of Delegates.
6. Each Unit Chairman or his designee shall serve as his delegation's chairman.
7. All decisions of the Convention shall be final and binding.
8. Convention registration shall begin at 8:00 am and shall remain open until all delegates who are in line at 10:00 am have been properly credentialed.
9. Immediately prior to the vote on the Rules of the Convention, the Credentials Committee Chairman shall provide an interim report to the Convention setting forth the number and identity of Delegates eligible to vote. Prior to the first ballot for any election or nomination, registration will be closed and the Credentials Committee Chairman shall provide a final report to the Convention setting forth the number and identity of Delegates eligible to vote.
10. Upon commencement of the first ballot for any office and thereafter, no quorum call or point of order regarding the quorum of the Convention or of any committee thereof shall be in order.
11. In order to receive credentials, a delegate must present a valid form of photo identification or other identification approved by the Credentials Committee.
12. Any person, so long as space restrictions permit it, may attend the Convention, but except as provided in A 6 above, only Delegates may have or be on the floor unless specifically recognized or permitted by the Chair.
13. The Credentials Committee may meet, including meetings as may be required during the hours the polls are open and votes are being tallied.

C – Nominations

1. The Nominations Committee shall report to the Legislative District Committee, not later than March 7, 2023 the names of all candidates who meet the legal requirements of and who have properly and timely filed for the office sought.
2. In any contest where there are no more qualified candidates than may be nominated or elected, the Nominations Committee shall certify, on behalf of the Convention, that the qualified candidates are nominated or elected, as the case may be, and that contest will not appear on any ballot. Such certification shall be made not later than March 7, 2023.
3. Once the filing deadline for an office has closed, a candidate for said office who has withdrawn from consideration for the position they were seeking will be unable to have their name resubmitted for consideration by the Nominations Committee.
4. All candidates for offices elected at this convention shall meet the filing requirements contained in the Call for this convention and sign a statement of their intent to support the nominees of the Republican Party in the 2023 elections.

5. The Nominations Committee shall prepare and report those candidates who qualified based only on the parameters set forth in the Call.
6. The Nominations Committee shall report to the Convention, before balloting, the names of all candidates who meet the legal requirements. The Nominations Committee Report shall be voted on as presented.
7. No nominations are allowed from the floor except upon a two-thirds vote of the Delegates.
8. The order of speeches shall be determined by lot by the Elections Committee.
9. Each candidate shall be granted the opportunity of a nomination and related speeches, not to exceed ten (10) minutes in length.

D – Balloting and Tabulations

1. The Chair of the Balloting and Tabulating Committee shall select two individuals who are registered to vote in the Commonwealth of Virginia to serve with him as a three-member committee.
2. The Committee will select three registered voters from each of the three counties in the district to form counting teams of three members each: one team from Bedford County, one team from Amherst County, and one team from Nelson County.
3. Voting for Nominees shall be by secret ballot and conducted after completion of all candidate speeches.
4. The names of the candidates for election or nomination shall appear on the ballot in the order in which applications for candidacy were received as directed by the call.
5. All votes that require ballots shall be figured on the basis of weighted votes. [See table below.]
6. At the time balloting is to commence, the delegation leader from each county shall be given an envelope with a precise number of ballots in it, the number to be based on the number of that unit's delegates who are in attendance, plus ten. The envelope will also contain a hole punch and several sharpened pencils and pens.
7. To receive a ballot, a delegate must present valid delegate credentials and a valid form of photo identification or another identification approved by the Credentials Committee.
8. The delegation leaders shall hand out ballots to each of their delegation members at the same time the leader punches a hole in the credentials of the delegation member who is receiving the ballot. Delegation leaders (or their designee) will also mark that delegate on their delegate roster as having received a ballot.
9. After each of a delegation's delegates have received their ballots, each delegate having marked his/her ballot will then place that ballot in the unit's envelope, and the delegation leader or designee will mark on the delegate list that the ballot was returned.
10. Should a delegate make a mistake in marking his/her ballot to the extent that a reasonable person cannot determine which candidate is selected on that ballot, the delegate shall return that ballot to the delegation leader who will write "SPOILED" on the ballot **in LARGE letters, add their initials on the spoiled ballot**, and place it in the envelope. The delegation leader will then hand the delegate a new unmarked ballot. The leader will also indicate on that unit's delegate list which delegate

returned a spoiled ballot and received a new unmarked ballot. **Delegation leaders are responsible for assuring that each delegate casts no more than one vote and that the number of marked ballots in the envelope matches the number of delegates who properly voted.**

11. During the balloting for elections and nominations, each candidate contesting that race, or his designee, may designate not more than two (2) observers for each unit. Nothing in these rules shall be construed to deny a candidate for nomination to public office a right to serve as his own observer in any unit.
12. No delegate may change his/her vote after his/her ballot has been collected.
13. The delegation leaders will then return their envelopes with marked and unmarked ballots, the hole punches, and writing utensils to the ballot counting room.
14. Delegation leaders will verify that the number of marked, unmarked, and spoiled ballots they are returning to the ballot counting room equals the number of unmarked ballots they received prior to ballots being cast.
15. Once the correct number of ballots in each envelope is verified, everyone will leave the room other than the Balloting and Tabulating Committee members, the three counting teams, and up to three observers for each candidate. Observers may watch but not interfere with the work of the counting teams. Any questions about procedures, etc., should be directed to the chairman of the Balloting and Tabulating Committee. Any observer who disturbs the tally process will be required to leave the tally area.
16. The Amherst County ballots will be counted by the Nelson County counting team. The Bedford County ballots will be counted by the Amherst County counting team, and the Nelson County ballots will be counted by the Bedford County counting team.
17. After the ballots have been counted by each team and the results have been marked on the envelope's tally sheet, the ballots will be recounted. The Amherst ballots will be recounted by Bedford. The Bedford ballots will be recounted by Nelson. The Nelson ballots will be recounted by Amherst. If the numbers do not match, the Balloting and Tabulating Committee will count the ballots to resolve the discrepancy.
18. Once the correct raw count is determined, the totals will be taken to the tabulating table and weighted votes will be figured.
19. After the winner of the ballot is determined, the chairman of the Balloting and Tabulating Committee will present a written notice of the results to the chairman of the convention for the public announcement of the winner.
20. Prior to the announcement of the winner of a contest, if any candidate wishes to withdraw and move to nominate or elect by acclamation of the full convention, such motion shall be in order.
21. In the case of roll call votes, including roll call votes for Temporary Chairman and Temporary Secretary, the reports of the Rules Committee and the Credentials Committee, and any other matters other than balloting for elections and nominations, the Chair of each respective Unit Committee, or his designee, shall report to the Chair and the Chair of the Elections Committee the number of votes of the Delegates of such Unit Committee in favor of and votes opposed to the matter in question. Based on such reported totals the Elections Committee shall determine the weighted votes of such Unit Committee in favor of and opposed to such matter.
22. Numbers by which Weighted Votes shall be figured.

Locality	Delegate Vote	Maximum Number of Delegates
Bedford County	131	655
Amherst County	84	420
Nelson County	24	120

E – Campaigning and Campaign Materials

1. Each campaign will be responsible for their own materials and volunteers. They are responsible to remove all their materials from the convention premises within 1 hour of the close of the convention.
2. In the convention auditorium, posters, placards, and banners shall be held by hand only and not affixed to stakes, walls or other surfaces (other than tables designated for the purpose). Materials not complying shall be subject to confiscation by the Sergeant-at-Arms.
3. Outside the convention auditorium, posters, placards, and banners may be affixed to stakes, but not to walls or other surfaces, and must not hinder the visibility of traffic. Materials not complying shall be subject to confiscation by the Sergeant-at-Arms.
4. Campaign signs and banners may not be on or behind the convention stage.
5. Campaigns shall not hinder or delay a qualified delegate in entering or leaving the convention location.

F - ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The order of business shall be as set forth below, provided, however, that upon a majority vote of the Convention, an item may be omitted or added. Unless otherwise specified in these rules, the Chairman of the Convention may interrupt the order as he deems appropriate and in keeping with the intent to facilitate the selection of the party nominees and party officers.
2. On Saturday, May 6, 2023, the Convention will be called to order promptly at 10:00 a.m. No votes on nominations or elections (other than Temporary Chairman and Temporary Secretary) shall begin prior to 10:30 a.m.
3. Call to Order
4. Invocation
5. Pledge of Allegiance
6. National Anthem
7. Reading of the Creed of the Republican Party of Virginia
8. Welcoming Remarks by Legislative District Chairman
9. Election of Temporary Chairman (Upon adoption of these rules this office becomes permanent.)
10. Election of Temporary Secretary (Upon adoption of these rules this office becomes permanent.)

11. Reading of the Call (Unless dispensed with)
12. Appointment of Temporary Parliamentarian, Timekeeper, and Sergeant-At-Arms (Upon adoption of these rules these offices become permanent.)
13. Appointment of Committees
14. Meetings of Committees
15. Initial Report of Credentials Committee
16. Vote on Adoption of Initial Report of Credentials Committee
17. Report of Rules Committee
18. Adoption of Report of Rules Committee
19. Report of Nominations Committee.
20. Speeches by candidates
21. Final Report of Credentials Committee
22. Vote on Adoption of Final Report of Credentials Committee
23. Report of Elections Committee
24. Adoption of Report of Elections Committee
25. Balloting
26. Speeches from guests and elected officials
27. Announcement of Results of Elections
28. Other Business
29. Adjournment