

# Navigating the Convention Process



TEXAS FEDERATION  
of  
*Republican Women*

**Lead by: Cassie Daniel Howell**

#TFRWleads #TFRWvotes

# Conventions



- A MAJOR function within the Party
- Precinct Convention
  - Each County determines when and where to be held
  - Must be AFTER polls close on March 1, 2022
- County/Senate District Convention – March 26, 2022
  - County Convention – if the County is entirely in ONE State Senate District
  - Senate District Convention – if the County has more than one State Senate District
- State Convention – June 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Houston, TX

# Purpose of Conventions



- Elect Delegates and Alternates to attend the next convention level.
- Consider resolutions or statements on policy issues for possible inclusion into State Party Platform.

# Who can Participate?



- Registered voter in represented area
- Affiliated with the Republican Party
  - Voting in the 2022 Primary Election
  - Take Oath of Affiliation
    - ✦ Cannot have voted in another party's Primary Election or participate in another party's convention process
- And has been elected to serve at a previous convention
  - Excluding Precinct Conventions

# Resources & Acronyms



# Utilize Resources



- Republican Party of Texas
  - [www.texasgop.org](http://www.texasgop.org)
    - ✦ RPT Rules
    - ✦ RPT Platform
    - ✦ Local County Chair
- Texas Federation of Republican Women
  - [www.tfrw.org](http://www.tfrw.org)
    - ✦ This PowerPoint & Video
    - ✦ 2022 Precinct Convention Paperwork
- Local County Party


# Ace the Acronyms



- Alt – Alternate
- CEC – County Executive Committee
- Del – Delegate
- GOP – Grand Old Party
- Pct – Precinct
- RNC – Republican National Committee
- RPT - Republican Party of Texas
- SD – Senate District
- SREC – State Republican Executive Committee
- TFRW - Texas Federation of Republican Women

# Precinct Conventions



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# Time & Location



- Reach out to your local County Party to find out:
  - Date & Time
    - ✦ Do NOT start before the stated time!
  - Location
    - ✦ Do NOT change from the stated location!
  - Precinct Chair
    - ✦ If you DO have a precinct chair reach out to them in advance.
    - ✦ If you do NOT have a precinct chair you might be running the precinct convention!
- If you DO have a Precinct Chair they are the temporary Precinct Convention Chair

# Paperwork



- There should be a folder at your precinct convention location with the following items:
  - Precinct Convention Instructions
  - Precinct Convention Script
  - Exhibit A – Precinct Convention Minutes
  - Exhibit B – Precinct Convention Attendance and County/SD Delegate and Alternate Form
  - Exhibit C – Passed Resolutions
  - Exhibit D – Failed Resolutions
- If you do NOT have these items source them from TFRW website.

# Process



## A. Call to Order

- Temporary Convention Chair (Precinct Chair) Calls the meeting to order and state that a quorum is present.
  - ✦ \*Invocation
  - ✦ \*US Pledge
  - ✦ \*Texas Pledge
  
- Appointment of Temporary Officers
  - ✦ Secretary
  - ✦ Sergeant-at-Arms if needed
  - ✦ Parliamentarian if needed

# Process



## B. Configure Number of Qualified Candidates

- All participants should sign in:
  - ✦ Exhibit B – Precinct Convention Attendance and County/SD Delegate and Alternate Form
- Verify that everyone has affiliated with the Republican Party
- Announce how many qualified participants there are.

## C. Give an overview of the agenda and basic procedure

# Process



## D. Election Permanent Officers

- Convention Chair
  - ✦ This person's position ends once they turn in the completed paperwork on this convention.
  - ✦ They do not replace the Precinct Chair elected in the Primary
    - NOTE: In 2022 they are elected in the primary runoff.
- Secretary
- If the races are contested hold elections and announce the winners.

## E. Announce the County/SD Convention time, date, & location

# Process



## F. Hold Elections for Delegates & Alternates

- Fill the Delegates first
- Then fill the Alternates
- Two Methods
  - One Slot at a time
    - ✦ If you have more people than slots this might be the best method
    - ✦ It will take more time to vote on each slot.
  - As a Slate
    - ✦ If you have more slots than people, this might be the easiest method.

***NOTE: You do not have to be present to be elected as a Del/Alt!***

# Process



## G. Consideration of Resolutions Committee

- If there are any resolutions, you will consider them one at a time
  - ✦ Each resolution must be written
  - ✦ They may be debated and amended
  
- Resolutions that ARE adopted – Exhibit C
  - ✦ It is a huge help if these are typed and sent in an editable format to your County/SD
  
- Resolutions NOT adopted – Exhibit D

# Process



- Review ALL paperwork!!
  - Exhibit A – Precinct Convention Minutes
  - Exhibit B – Precinct Convention Attendance and County/SD Delegate and Alternate Form
  - Exhibit C – Passed Resolutions
  - Exhibit D – Failed Resolutions
- Make sure all documents are signed by the correct convention officers
- You must remain 30 minutes after adjournment for others to review the records.




# Follow Through



- **Submit paperwork to your County Chair**
  - The Precinct Convention Chair MUST return, either electronically or in person, all original copies of all convention documents to the County Chair
    - ✦ **Within three days** or
    - ✦ **Postmarked within two days of the convention**
  - ***The convention will not be valid.***
    - ✦ (Texas Election Code Sec. 174.027)

# Resolution Guidelines



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# Resolutions



- Formal statement of expression of an opinion put before the assembly for adoption
- Must be offered by a Delegate
- May be discussed and/or debated
- Must be passed by the delegation before advanced to the next convention level
- May become part of the Party's Platform

# Resolutions Dos & Don'ts



WHEREAS M&Ms are delicious; and

WHEREAS the candy is in your mouth and not in your hand;

WHEREAS the candy comes in an assortment of varieties that everyone can enjoy; and

WHEREAS they can be personalized for any occasion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT M&Ms be the official candy of Texas, and


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that every Texan should carry a package at all times.

M&Ms should be the official state candy of Texas & all Texans must carry a package.



# County/SD Conventions



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# Senate District (SD) Convention



- NOTE: If you are holding a Senatorial District Convention, there are additional guidelines regarding selection of Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention

# Volunteers



- Temporary Committee Chair\*
- Temporary Committee Member\*
  
- Tasks
  - Registration
  - Set up
  - Tear down
- Refreshments
- Sponsorships
- Candidate Fair

*\*Must be a delegate*

# Pages



- High school students are great resources
- Tasks
  - Assist at committee meetings
  - Act as a runner between the main convention and committees
- Can also assist with registration, set up and tear down



# Appoint Temporary Committee Officers



- Must be after the Primary Election
- Must be a Delegate to the County/SD Convention
- Officers
  - Temporary Convention Chairman
    - ✦ County Convention - County Chairman is automatically the Temporary Chair of a COUNTY Convention
    - ✦ SD Convention – Precinct Chairs who live in that SD elect the Temporary SD Convention Chair from amongst themselves
  - Temporary Convention Secretary
    - ✦ May appoint assistants if necessary
  - Temporary Sergeant-at-Arms
    - ✦ May appoint assistants if necessary
  - Temporary Parliamentarian

# Appoint Temporary Committee Members



- May be done in consultation with Temporary Committee Chairman
- Must be after the Primary Election but before the County/SD Convention
- Must be a DELEGATE to the County/SD Convention
- Appoint an odd number of members to each committee to avoid tie votes
  - If your County/SD Convention has more than 25 delegates
    - ✦ Each committee shall be composed of at least 5 members but not more than 15

# Temporary Committees & Function



- Temporary Credentials – shall hear any contest concerning delegates and shall recommend the permanent roll of the convention
  - This committee checks to ensure that all delegates whose names are submitted did vote in the Republican Primary Election or have taken the Oath of Affiliation
- Temporary Rules – shall recommend supplementary rules for the convention
  - Set additional rules concerning time limits, as long as they do not conflict with State Law or Republican Party of Texas Rules
- Party Organization – shall recommend permanent officers for the County/SD Convention from among the delegates
  - Often the committee will simply recommend the temporary officers to be permanent officers

# Temporary Resolutions



- Temporary Resolutions – shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Resolutions Committee
  - With all the precincts submitting resolutions for consideration the committee combines and organizes these down to be put before the body for debate and possible adoption
  - The resolutions submitted through this process help form the State Party Platform
    - ✦ It is not necessary to pass planks of the current RPT platform
    - ✦ Some counties do use it to help organize the submitted resolutions and show delegates how those resolutions would impact the current State Platform

# Temporary Nominations



- Temporary Nominations – shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Nominations Committee
  - This committee compiles a list of eligible Delegates and Alternates to represent the County/SD at the State Convention
  - Eligibility Requirements
    - ✦ Must have voted in the 2022 Republican Primary Election
    - ✦ Or affiliated with the Republican Party
  - Depending on size some counties ask interested individuals to fill out an application and may even offer opportunities to vet individuals in face-to-face interviews

# Guidelines



- Voting Strength


- Each Precinct is allotted a certain percentage of delegates depending on the turnout in the 2018 election
- Unless all delegates are present each delegate's vote will be a percentage
  - ✦ 20 delegates allowed with 10 in attendance = 2 votes per delegate

- Candidate Literature

- May be freely distributed in delegate and alternate seating areas as long as the items display name and address of the person or group (RPT Rule 15A)

# State Convention



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# Guidelines



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# Temporary Committees



- Temporary SD Caucus Chair
- Temporary Committees
  - Credentials
  - Rules
  - Organization
  - Platform
  - \*\*Legislative Priorities\*\*
- Selection Process
  - SREC nominate to State Chair.
    - ✦ SREC agree – automatic appointment
    - ✦ SREC disagree – State Chair chooses between the recommendations
    - ✦ SREC does not recommend anyone – State Chair appoint anyone



# Permanent Committees



- SD Caucus Chair
- Committees
  - Credentials
  - Rules
  - Organization
  - Platform
  - Legislative Priorities
  - \*\*State Nominations\*\*
- State Nominations
  - Carries the vote of the SD to the state committee for:
    - ✦ State Chair
    - ✦ State Vice Chair



# The Impact of Your Vote




- Elect Party Officers
  - State Chair
  - State Vice Chair
  - SREC Woman
  - SREC Man
- Party Guidelines
  - Rules
  - Platform
  - Legislative Priorities
- Events & Booths
  - TFRW Event
  - Booths
    - ✦ Issues
    - ✦ Organizations
    - ✦ Vendors



# POP QUIZ!!



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# Pop Quiz



You did NOT attend your precinct convention. . .  
Do you still have a chance to be elected a delegate  
or alternate to State Convention?

**Yes!**

You were elected as a delegate to  
your County/SD Convention. . .  
Are you automatically a delegate  
or alternate to State Convention?

**NO!**



Can delegates or alternates be added after  
the convention has adjourned?

# Pop Quiz



If you are not elected as a delegate or alternate to the County/SD Convention can you still be elected to the State Convention?

The only way to serve as a delegate or alternate, after the precinct convention, is to be elected by the previous convention?



Are you required to be present at the convention to be elected as a delegate or alternate to the next convention level?

# Pop Quiz



If you vote in the 2022 Democrat Primary can you participate in the REPUBLICAN convention process?

What is the only qualification to participate in the Republican Convention process?

- ❖ Registered voter in represented area
- ❖ Affiliated with the Republican Party
  - Voting in the 2022 Primary Election
  - Take Oath of Affiliation





# Navigating the Convention Process



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