

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 16th – 18th 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
 - ✦ RPT Rules
 - ✦ RPT Platform
 - ✦ Local County Chair
- Texas Federation of Republican Women
 - 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



THE MOST _____
POWERFUL
WOMEN'S Political Organization
_____ **IN TEXAS**

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



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 M&Ms are in your mouth and not in your hand;

WHEREAS they come 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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The logo is set against a dark blue rectangular background. On the left side, there is a red silhouette of the state of Texas. The text is arranged in four lines: 'THE MOST' in white, followed by a red horizontal line; 'POWERFUL' in large white letters; 'WOMEN'S' in white, followed by 'Political Organization' in a smaller white font; and 'IN TEXAS' in white, preceded by another red horizontal line.

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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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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