

Precinct Convention Process & Becoming a State Delegate



TEXAS FEDERATION
of
Republican Women

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#TFRWleads

We are the foundation of the Party!



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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 5, 2024
- ★ County/Senate District Convention – **March 23, 2024**
 - 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 – **May 23 – 25 2024** San Antonio, TX
- ★ National Convention – **July 13 – 18** Milwaukee, WI

Purpose of Conventions



- ★ Elect Delegates and Alternates to attend the next convention
- ★ Consider resolutions or statements on policy issues for possible inclusion into State Party Platform
- ★ Determine State Party Rules
- ★ Elect State Party Officers
 - State Chairman
 - State Vice Chairman
 - State Republican Executive committee (SREC) Members
- ★ Elect National Representatives
 - National Committeeman
 - National Committeewoman
 - National Delegates & Alternates
 - Presidential Elector

Delegate & Alternate Qualifications



- ★ Registered voter in represented area
- ★ Affiliated with the Republican Party
 - Voting in the 2024 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

Precinct Convention Process



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Who can Participate?



- ★ Any registered voter in the precinct
- ★ Who voted
- ★ In the 2024 Republican Primary Election

(RPT Rule 20)

When and Where



When and Where Do Precinct Conventions Occur?

- ★ The County Executive Committee (CEC) sets the date, time and location. (RPT Rule 19)
- ★ Notice of time, date, and location must be posted at each polling location before polls open on election day.
 - After the polls close on Primary Election Day
 - Between close of primary & County/SD Convention
 - The morning of the County/SD Convention
- ★ NOTE
 - Some polling locations may not allow you to hold your Precinct Convention at that location. If this is the case, notice must be posted regarding meeting location at the polling location before the polls open at 7am on Primary Election Day.

Precinct Convention Process



- ★ The **current** Precinct Chair is the Temporary Precinct Convention Chairman and will start the meeting. (RPT Rule 21a)
 - If there is no Precinct Chair for that precinct any single or group of Primary Election voters in that Precinct can still hold the meeting
 - If this happens, this person(s) might be good to fill the vacancy of Precinct Chair

Precinct Convention Agenda (RPT Rule 21)



- ★ **Step 1:** Temporary Chair calls the precinct convention to order.
- ★ **Step 2:** Ensure everyone has signed in and that all attendees voted in the primary or signs the Oath of Affiliation
- ★ **Step 3:** Announce the agenda and rules.
- ★ **Step 4:** A Permanent Convention Chairman is elected by those present at the meeting
 - The Precinct Chair is elected by voters in the Primary Election
 - The Precinct Chair can be elected as the Permanent Convention Chair
- ★ **Step 5:** Permanent Officers elected.

Precinct Convention Process



- ★ **Step 6:** Announce date/location County/SD Convention
- ★ **Step 7:** Delegates and Alternates are nominated and elected to represent the Precinct at the County or SD Convention
 - Make sure to use LEGAL names
 - AKA the name used to vote in the election
- ★ **Step 8:** Platform Resolutions are proposed and those adopted are forwarded to the County/SD Convention
 - Resolutions MUST be presented in writing!

Precinct Convention Process



★ **Step 9:** Other business

★ **Step 10:** Adjourn

★ **Note:**

- Make sure to sign the minutes! (RPT Rule 22b)
- No motions can be made and no names added as delegates or alternates once the meeting has adjourned. (RPT Rule 18A)
- Wait 30 minutes upon adjournment before leaving (RPT Rule 22b)

Precinct Convention Paperwork (RPT Rule 22a)



★ Minutes

- ***One person can hold a convention meeting

★ Delegates & Alternates elected.

★ Resolutions passed.

- Resolutions failed.

Must be delivered within
THREE DAYS to the county chair! (RPT Rule 22c)

Precinct Convention Guidelines



- ★ No quorum is required
 - One person can hold a convention meeting
- ★ Minutes and other forms **MUST** be returned by the required time and date or the convention will not be valid
- ★ Precinct Conventions can last from a few minutes to an hour or more

Resolutions Dos & Don'ts



WHEREAS M&Ms are delicious; and

WHEREAS the candy is 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.



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 2024 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 2024 Primary Election
 - Take Oath of Affiliation



County/SD Convention Process



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Date, Time and Location



- ★ Local County GOP (CEC) should vote on location and start time of the County/SD Convention
 - County - the **whole county** is in one senate district.
 - SD - each SD within the county has their own meeting.
- ★ Location Suggestions – plan for your size
 - County headquarters
 - County courthouse courtroom
 - School auditorium or cafeteria
 - Local business
 - House
- ★ County/SD Conventions must be held the 3rd Saturday after the Primary Election - **March 23, 2024**

Volunteers



- ★ Delegates, Alternates and Party Officers can also help with these roles
- ★ Tasks
 - Registration
 - Set up
 - Tear down
- ★ 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

Other Ideas



Refreshments

- ★ Ask a Republican club, local business owner, local elected officials or candidate to provide:
 - Breakfast/Coffee/Lunch
 - Bottled water

Decor/Backdrop

- ★ Offer/Sell - candidate signs
 - The larger the sign the larger the donation ;)

Candidate/Club Meet & Greet

- ★ Offer/Sell tables for candidates or clubs
 - Pass out signs, pushcards, swag
 - Membership Drives

Appoint Temporary Committee Chairs



- ★ Must be after the Primary Election but before the County/SD Convention
- ★ Must be a Delegate to the County/SD Convention

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

Appoint Temporary Officers



★ 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

★ Other Officers

- Temporary Convention Secretary
 - May appoint assistants if necessary
- Temporary Sergeant-at-Arms
 - May appoint assistants if necessary
- Temporary Parliamentarian

Temporary Committees



- ★ Once the Chairman and members of the committee are appointed, the committees should meet in **ADVANCE** of the County/SD Convention to conduct their tasks and then be able to provide a report to the delegates at the County/SD Convention

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 2024 Republican Primary Election
 - 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

Temporary Nominations



- ★ Individuals to consider
 - County Chair & County Party Officers
 - Precinct Chairs
 - Party Volunteers
 - Elected Republican Officials
- ★ Make sure the convention states ***how alternates will be seated as delegates*** at the State Convention.
- ★ If both a Husband and Wife want to attend the State Convention, many counties ask one spouse to be a Delegate and ask the other spouse to be an Alternate to allow for more overall involvement

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

Voting



★ Voting Strength

- Each Precinct is allotted a certain percentage of delegates depending on the turnout in the 2022 election
 - Based on the turnout for Governor in your area.
 - **FYI this is also what dictates Presiding Election Judges
- Unless all delegates are present each delegate's vote will be a percentage.
 - 20 delegates allowed with 10 in attendance = 2 votes per delegate

Follow Through



★ **Submit your paperwork to RPT**

- Exhibit E – Delegates elected to the State Convention
- Exhibit F – Alternates elected to the State Convention
- Exhibit G – Resolutions ADOPTED

Use Your Time Wisely



★ County Executive Committee

- Precinct Chair Vacancies
- Meeting times and other events

★ Promote Party Candidates and Elected Officials

- Speak to the convention
- Sponsor portions of the convention

★ 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)

★ Promote Clubs

Why YOU should be a Delegate!



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Delegate vs Alternate



- ★ A delegate may vote – an unseated alternate cannot vote
- ★ A delegate may serve on a temporary or permanent convention committee – an alternate cannot
- ★ A delegate may serve as a temporary or permanent convention officer – an alternate cannot
- ★ A delegate may serve as a CD or SD Caucus temporary or permanent officer – an alternate cannot
- ★ A delegate is included for purposes of a quorum – an unseated alternate is not

The Process



★ How many spots? RPT Rule 23a

- Each County Chair will receive a list from RPT
 - Same number of alternates slots as there are delegate slots

★ Two Opportunities

- Nominations Committee
 - Serve as a Nominations Committee Member
 - You MUST be a delegate at the County/SD Convention to serve on any committee
 - Submit an application
 - Interview
- Nomination from the Floor
 - The Permanent County/SD Convention Chair of the Nominations Committee gives a report to the whole listing all the delegates & alternates.
 - The list/report can be amended from the floor

State Convention Process



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Function of State Convention



★ Election of Party Officers

- State Chair, Vice Chair, SREC Members (every 2 yrs)

★ Adopt

- State Party Rules
- State Party Platform
- State Party Legislative Priorities

★ Presidential Years

- Selection of National Convention Delegates & Alternates
- National Committee Man & Woman
- Presidential Elector

Other Aspects of the State Convention



★ Speakers

- Statewide Elected Officials
- Other prominent Republicans from around the nation

★ Lunch & Learns

- Educational training
- Issue driven discussion groups
- Panel discussions with field experts

★ Events – Elected Officials have events where you get to meet them, their campaign staff and other supporters

★ Exhibitors

- Contact and literature from advocacy groups
- Swag – T-shirts, bumper stickers, pins, jewelry, etc.
- Candidates and Campaigns

State Convention Committees



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Temporary Committees



- ★ Each SREC Member recommends ONE delegate for each committee & SD Caucus Chair.
 - If both SREC Members agree on the same committee appointment that is who the State Chair must appoint to the committee.
 - If they members disagree the State Chair must choose between the two recommendations.
 - The State Chair may appoint any delegate from a SD that:
 - Does not submit any names for consideration
 - Submits names that are ineligible or unwilling to serve
- ★ Appointments must be made within 20 days of the County/SD Conventions.
- ★ Committee Chairs are appointed by the State Chair

Appointment Process



- ★ State Chairman Appoints a Temporary Chair for each Senate District (SD) Caucus.
- ★ Rules concerning appointments
 - All individuals submitted must be delegates at the state convention.
 - Alternates are not allowed to sit on committees.
 - The individual must be willing to serve
 - Ensure the appointee is aware of the additional time and financial commitments that serving as a committee member will incur.
 - Their name and contact information will be posted on the RPT website
- ★ Committee Chairs are appointed by the State Chair
- ★ ***CD Caucus Chairs appointed by State Chair

Convention Committee Advocacy



- ★ Begin meeting on Mon, May 20th
- ★ Testify and Inform
 - Be respectful
 - Be prepared
- ★ Engage and Prepare
 - Committee meetings are livestreamed
- ★ Delegates will elect Permanent Committee Representatives in SD Caucus
- ★ Permanent Committees will meet Thursday afternoon.

Convention Committee Advocacy



★ Contact Information on RPT website

- Reach out IN ADVANCE of the committee meetings
 - Contact your SD representative
 - Contact other board members

★ Opportunities to communicate with Committees

- By email
- In Person
 - The temporary committees meet in person three days before convention starts.
 - Most meetings are livestreamed.

State Convention Caucuses



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Caucuses



★ Senatorial District (SD)

- Elects Permanent SD Caucus Chairman
- Elects one delegate to Permanent Committees
 - Platform & Resolutions, Rules & Order of Business, Credentials, State Nominations Committee
- Each SD elects their State Republican Executive Committee (SREC) Members
- Each SD selects their picks for State Chairman and Vice Chairman
 - Requires support from 16 of the 31 SD Caucuses to win
- Vote by delegation strength

★ Congressional District (CD) (every 4 yrs)

- Elects Permanent CD Caucus Chairman
- Elects one delegate to the National Nominations Committee
- Selects their picks for National Committee Man & Woman
 - Requires support from 19 of the 36 CD Caucuses to win
- Elects their National Convention Delegates (3) & Alternates (3)
- Elects their Presidential Elector
- Vote - one person, one vote

Helpful Hints



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IN TEXAS



General Dress Code



★ Patriotic & Comfortable

- You may want to take pictures with candidates or elected officials
 - Pro Tip: Take off your name tag for photos

★ Comfortable walking shoes

- Cannot say it enough!

★ Dress in layers

- Sometimes hot, sometimes cold

Helpful Hints



- ★ Comfortable walking shoes
- ★ Phone Accessories
 - Cord, wall plug, & back up battery pack
- ★ Snacks
- ★ Cash
- ★ Bag to carry your items and program etc.
- ★ Light jacket
- ★ Band-Aids
- ★ Bottle of water
- ★ Pen & Notepad



TFRW at the RPT State Convention



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THE MOST _____
POWERFUL
WOMEN'S Political Organization
IN TEXAS



La Quinta \$179/night



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Fiesta at the **Alamo**

Thursday May23

Time TBA

Members and Patrons are free

Guests are \$25



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Champion of Freedom



Champion of Freedom Dinner

May 24

Time TBA

\$95/person

Westin Riverwalk

Giving Back to Our Members



→ Travel Reimbursement to the Clubs

- ◆ 1-4 delegates: \$200
- ◆ 5-9 delegates: \$400
- ◆ 10+ delegates: \$600
- ◆ Must be a member by **March 1**

→ Club Bonus!

- ◆ \$1000 to the club that sends the most delegates in each category small, medium, large, and jumbo
- ◆ Club size determined on **March 1**



Giving Back to Our Members



- Ask for Time off Now
- Attend your precinct conventions
- Find out what the nominating committee process is for your Senate or County Convention and apply
- Attend your Senate or County Convention
- Read the TFRW Newsletter for further details and links to events
- This is A LOT of information – we will have zooms in February, March, and April to guide you. In addition, there are videos on our website now with this information.





Zoom Convention Prep

Feb 12 and 16

How to become a State Delegate
and Precinct Convention

March 12 and 15

The Ins and Outs of
County/Senate Convention

April 8 and 23

The Ins and Outs of
State Convention

**LOOKING
AHEAD**

Watch your
email for
more
info

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