

## **Rules of the Brunswick County Republican Party Convention.**

**Republican Party Headquarters, 971 Old Ocean Highway, Bolivia, NC**

**March 11, 2023.**

**Statement of Purpose:** It is the purpose of these rules to provide for a fair and open Convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of all participants, and encourages full participation of Brunswick County Republicans.

**Registration:** Delegate registration shall open at **9:00** a.m. and close at **10:30** a.m. on Convention day. Individuals arriving after **10:30** a.m. shall not be seated as Delegates. Convention begins at **10:30** a.m.

**Convention Officers:** The officers of the Convention shall be the Convention Chairman, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Convention Chairman shall appoint Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms and other officers deemed necessary.

**Quorum:** A quorum for all business transactions and the election of officers shall consist of 50% of the registered and accredited Delegates who are certified by the Committee on Credentials, and present on the floor of the Convention. Certified Delegates shall be considered on the floor of the Convention if they are in the Convention hall or attending and participating via phone or electronic method.

Delegates shall be seated on the Convention floor separate and apart from Alternates and Convention Guests.

**Credentials:** Motions to amend the report of the Credentials Committee may occur only immediately following the presentation of the Credentials Committee report and prior to its adoption. Prior to the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee, no person shall be seated as a Delegate or Alternate unless properly elected as a Delegate or Alternate at their respective annual precinct meeting.

**Voting Body:** The voting body shall be duly elected Delegates in accordance with the North Carolina Republican Party Plan of Organization and the Brunswick County Republican Party Plan of Organization. All Delegates shall wear name tags or other identifier given to them by the Credentials Committee.

**Voting:** Votes shall be by voice vote or by a standing vote, and/or by electronic ballot of Convention Delegates, except for the election of County Party Officers, which shall be by secret ballot in contested races. A Delegate casting a vote must be on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast and recorded. A **majority** of all votes cast shall be necessary for the election of Officers of the Brunswick County Republican Party. In the event that a majority is not received by the nominee receiving the highest number of votes, subsequent balloting shall be conducted; however only votes cast for the nominees receiving the first and second most votes from the first ballot shall be counted in subsequent voting. In elections for At-Large executive committee members, **five**, and no more than **seven**, At-Large-Members shall be elected as required in the Plan of Organization. Any Delegate wishing to nominate one or more At-Large candidates from the floor must nominate a slate equal in number to the slate presented by the Nominating Committee, and the vote shall be by slate.

**Convention Guests:** Alternate Delegates and guests must remain seated their designated sections. The Convention Chairman at his or her discretion may allow guests to listen to and observe the Convention via phone or electronic method. Guests are excluded from Executive Sessions, and shall not attempt to vote or speak to any matter before the Convention.

**County Plan of Organization:** Each year the Delegates to the County Convention shall approve the Brunswick County Plan of Organization. In accordance with that document, the Plan of Organization Committee shall give written notice, of all business it will place before the Convention, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention by placing its report on the County website. Any proposed amendments not included in the Plan of Organization Committee's posted report may be submitted by the committee or a Delegate on the day of the Convention, but only if the Convention Delegates pass a motion to consider such amendments by a **two-thirds vote**. In all situations, the maker of the motion to amend the Plan of Organization shall provide a printed copy of the amendment to each Delegate attending the Convention.

**Nominations:** In the odd numbered years, in accordance with the County Plan of Organization, the Nominating Committee shall post its report on the County website thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. The committee shall present its full report prior to the Convention floor being opened for additional nominations. The Nominating Committee shall have up to **five (5) minutes** to present its report. Upon presentation of the Nominating Committee report, the Convention Chairman shall ask if there are additional nominations. Additional nominations for County Officers or a slate of Members-at-Large may be made by Delegates upon recognition by the Convention Chairman. Nominators will be allocated **two (2) minutes** for a nominating speech from the podium. Delegates making nominations must state their name and precinct of residence. Up to three (3) Delegates may second a nomination from the floor of the Convention upon recognition by the Convention Chairman. They must state their name, precinct of residence and the name and office of the nominee being seconded; there shall be no seconding speeches. Before balloting for election to each office, the Convention Chairman shall allow **two (2) minutes** for speeches by each nominee in contested races. Candidates shall speak in the order in which they were nominated.

**Elections:** These County Officers shall be elected in the odd numbered years: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Members-at-Large, Delegates and other Officers as defined in the Plan of Organization.

**Teller Committee:** In the odd numbered years, the Convention Chairman shall appoint a Teller Committee of at least two (2), to count votes. Each nominee for an office may name an observer to observe the Teller Committee. In the even years an ad hoc committee of at least two (2) may be appointed to count votes.

**Motions:** The Convention Chairman may require that Motions be furnished in writing to the Convention Chairman before action is taken. Only Delegates may make or debate Motions. No Motion shall be in order unless each maker and each Delegate seconding it, states his or her name and precinct of residence.

**Disclosure, Closure, and Discussion:** Only Delegates may participate in discussion. A Delegate must obtain recognition from the Convention Chairman and must stand and state his or her name and precinct of residence prior to speaking. No Delegate shall speak to the Convention longer than **one (1) minute** at any one time and not more than twice on any motion open for discussion. Speakers shall state whether they are speaking in favor of, or in opposition to the Motion. Speakers shall alternate as to those speaking in favor and those speaking in opposition to the Motion. Discussion on a Motion shall be limited to **one (1) minute** per speaker. No Delegate may speak a second time until all others who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so. No Delegate may be given the floor more than twice on the same question without unanimous consent of the voting body.

**Time Keeper:** A time keeper appointed by the Convention Chairman shall indicate to each speaker, a thirty second warning before the expiration of the allotted time.

**Resolutions:** In accordance with the County Plan of Organization, the Resolutions Committee shall post notice of all business it will place before the Convention, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention by placing its report on the County website. Any resolutions not included in its posted report may be submitted by the Committee or a Delegate on the day of the Convention, but only if the Convention Delegates pass a motion to **consider** the resolution by a **two-thirds vote**. The maker of a resolution shall provide a printed copy of the resolution to each Delegate and Alternate attending the Convention. Resolutions regarding issues sufficiently addressed in the National and State Republican Party Platforms will be ruled out of order, and considered as unnecessary. The maker is asked to submit the resolution to the Resolutions Committee three days prior to the convention to verify this. The date, the author and the organization if any, must be clearly identified at the top of the resolution, and the maker is advised to be present at the Convention. **Three (3) minutes** may be allowed for presentation. Resolutions require a **majority vote** to pass.

**Order of Conduct:** The Sergeant-at-Arms, with the Convention Chairman's approval, shall reserve the right to have any disruptive Delegates, Alternates or guests who refuse to adhere to the rules of the convention, removed from the convention floor.

**GOP candidates for local, state and federal offices:** May each be allowed by the Convention Chairman to speak for **two (2) minutes** at the appropriate time provided for in the agenda.

**Parliamentary Authority:** Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Current Edition, shall govern this Convention in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules or the County or State Plans of Organization.

**Suspension of Rules:** A **two-thirds vote** is required to suspend these rules, except that the rules contained herein, which are drawn from or implement provisions of the County or State Plans of Organization shall not be suspended. Rules are adopted by a **majority vote**. Amendments to Rules require prior advice to the Rules Committee ten days preceding the Convention and prior to final printing of the Rules.

**Duration of Rules:** The fundamental rules contained herein shall remain in effect and govern until new Rules are adopted at a subsequent Convention of the Brunswick County Republican Party.

**The Rules Committee.** Chairman: Vince Musilli; Eric Edgerton; Preston Hilton.