

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MINNESOTA

2026 State Convention – May 29 & 30

PROPOSED RULES

1 **Preface**

2 The Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota (the “Constitution”) mandates several Convention
3 rules. These are placed in this preface as part of the rules to provide completeness only and not as part
4 of the rules to be adopted for the convention.

5 **Article XVIII** of the Constitution:

6 The rules contained in the current edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised” shall govern the
7 party in all cases to which they are applicable [e.g. State Convention] and in which they are not
8 inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, statutes of the
9 State of Minnesota, or any special rules of order the party may adopt.

10

11 **Article VI, Section 1. A.** of the Constitution:

12 Conventions shall transact such business as is specified in the call of the convention and may
13 transact such other business as a majority of the convention may determine. [NOTE: This is subject
14 to other provisions of the Constitution.]

15

16 **Article VI, Section 4,** of the Constitution:

17 Once the temporary organization has been established, the first order of business of a state or
18 Congressional district convention shall be the seating of alternates. The permanent voting roll of the
19 convention shall be composed of the delegates of each BPOU who actually are present, and in the
20 absence of any delegate to the convention, an alternate shall be seated in their stead during their
21 absence according to the procedure established by the constitution or bylaws of the BPOU. When a
22 delegate returns to the floor of the convention, he or she will be seated immediately.

23

24 **Article VI, Section 2** of the Constitution:

25 B. Once a Delegate or a seated Alternate has registered for the convention, they remain part of the
26 voting strength of the convention even if they leave the convention prior to the convention’s official
27 adjournment.

28 C. A convention may close registration of Delegates and Alternates only if the convention calls state
29 the time at which registration will close. If the call states a registration closing time the convention
30 may permit a later closing time for registration or may require the convention to remain open
31 regardless of the language in the call.

32

33 **Article VI, Section 3** of the Constitution:

34 Endorsements

35 A. General Rules.

- 36 1. It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether endorsement shall be considered for an
37 office. Voting on a candidate for endorsement for an office shall be by secret ballot, either
38 electronically or by paper ballot, as per the rules of the convention. The convention or
39 committee may decide by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to endorse by a rising vote for any office for
40 which there is only one (1) candidate.
- 41 2. Votes may be cast for any person who by law is eligible for election to the office under
42 consideration and who is eligible under this Constitution to seek the endorsement. Ballots may
43 also be cast stating ‘no preference’ or ‘undecided’, indicating no endorsement. Blank ballots or
44 abstentions, unintelligible ballots, or ballots cast for an ineligible person, or a fictional character
45 shall not be included in determining the sixty percent (60%) vote needed for endorsement. No
46 preprinted ballot shall be allowed unless an option for ‘no preference’, ‘undecided’ or ‘no
47 endorsement’ is included.
- 48 3. A motion of no endorsement may be adopted by a majority vote. The rules of a convention
49 may limit how often or when such a motion may be made. However, on any round of voting for
50 endorsement, a motion of no endorsement shall be considered adopted if a majority of the
51 ballots (excluding blanks) or a majority of the votes on a voice vote (excluding abstentions) is
52 for ‘no’, ‘none’ or ‘no endorsement’.

53 B. Pre-Primary Endorsement.

- 54 1. If the public office sought by the candidate is legally partisan, the candidate must agree prior
55 to being considered for pre-primary endorsement to seek the office as a Republican if they
56 receive the endorsement.

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- 57 2. Any candidate for any elective public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any
58 state, Congressional District, BPOU or other authorized convention if they receive a sixty
59 percent (60%) vote of the convention and if the sixty percent (60%) is greater than or equal to
60 at least a majority of the registered
61 3. Delegates and seated Alternates as established by the last report of the credentials committee
62 preceding such a vote.
63 4. Only one candidate may be endorsed per seat for a particular office.
64 5. When more than one candidate is nominated for endorsement for an office, none of the
65 candidates for that office shall be voted upon separately.
66

Article VII, Section 3. of the Constitution

- 67
68 A. To be eligible to be considered for endorsement or election, candidates for statewide
69 endorsement and candidates for National Delegate or Alternate must meet all legal requirements
70 and submit nominations petitions to the Nominating Committee containing the printed names and
71 signatures of a minimum of two percent (2%) of the State Convention Delegates.
72 B The Nominations Committee shall report to the convention those candidates who have met the
73 petition, and legal requirements at Section 3A and whether the Nominations Committee deems
74 the candidates to be qualified, qualified with reservations or unqualified to receive endorsement
75 or be elected.
76

Article XVI, Section 2 of the Constitution:

77
78 This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any State Convention, provided that any
79 proposal for amendment shall be referred to the State Constitution and Bylaws Committee and
80 reported out of said committee.
81

Article VII, Section 5 D of the Constitution:

82
83 All motions related to the Platform Committee report shall be voted upon at the State Convention in
84 the manner prescribed in the convention rules and need to be adopted by a minimum of sixty (60)
85 percent of the last credentials report.
86

I. General

- 87
88 1) Once adopted, these Rules shall neither be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote
89 of the Convention.
90 2) Once a quorum has been established, the call for a quorum thereafter shall be out of order until the
91 completion of all endorsements. It is the responsibility of the convention chair to ensure that no business
92 is conducted without a quorum present.
93 3) As outlined in the Constitution, a minority report of any committee may be presented if concurred by
94 one-third (1/3) or more members of that committee.
95 4) No pages or Sergeant at arms shall exhibit any outward sign of support for or engage in any activities
96 on behalf of a candidate or issues.
97 5) Any and all materials distributed at the Convention must prominently display the source for that
98 material. The Sergeant at arms shall confiscate any material not having such information.
99 6) All mobile devices on the convention floor must be either set to vibrate or turned off. Any items
100 determined by the Convention Chair to be a disruption of the convention may be confiscated or
101 otherwise removed from the convention floor.
102 7) Any video presentations broadcast to delegates on the floor of the Convention must be screened and
103 approved by the State Party Chair or designee prior to being allowed.
104 8) Any regulations or policies related to access to the Convention venue for anyone who is neither a
105 Delegate, Alternate, nor a registered guest of a Delegate or Alternate is at the discretion of the State
106 Party Chair.
107 9) Guests must be invited to register with appropriate credentials issued and displayed.
108 10) Unless temporarily affixed to the venue in an approved manner, candidate signs must be 2'X4' or
109 smaller and are only allowed to be held in the hands of attendees. No sticks, pipes, handles, or
110 devices may be used to elevate or connect these hand-held signs together in the Convention area or
111 venue space.
112 11) Decorum. The Convention Chair has a responsibility to maintain good order of the convention and
113 should initiate the process to remove anyone from the convention for conduct detrimental to the
114 business of the convention.

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- 115 **II. Convention Credentials and Seating**
- 116 **12)** The voting strength of each Basic Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) or Affiliate organization equals
- 117 the number of its registered Delegates and seated Alternates that have received credentials.
- 118 **13)** In a BPOU or Affiliate organization which has a procedure for establishing the seating order in its
- 119 constitution, bylaws, a Delegate or higher ranked Alternate shall be entitled to be seated in the place
- 120 of a lower ranked Alternate.
- 121 **14)** If a BPOU or Affiliate organization does not have a procedure for establishing the seating order of
- 122 Alternates in its constitution, bylaws, or by convention action, the seating order of Alternates shall be
- 123 determined by vote of that delegation and reported to the Credentials Committee Chair
- 124 **15)** The Credentials Committee Chair shall certify to the Convention Chair those official Affiliate
- 125 organizations specified in Article VI, Section 1B of the Constitution and listed in the addendum to the
- 126 Party Bylaws with elected Delegates or Alternates. On any roll call or written vote or ballot those
- 127 Affiliate Delegates shall vote/ballot as a separate group and only the vote/ballot of those present and
- 128 voting/balloting shall be counted.
- 129 **16)** The Credentials Committee Chair shall report any changes in the voting strength of delegations prior
- 130 to an endorsement when requested by the Convention Chair.
- 131 **17)** The Credentials Committee may refuse to provide a credential to any Delegate, Alternate, guest, or
- 132 issue a hospitality credential to anyone who has publicly expressed or directly contacted other
- 133 Delegates, Alternates, Republican candidates, Party officers, Party staff, or public politicians with
- 134 threats of violence, repeated harassment, or has documented intentions of disrupting the business of
- 135 the Convention. The State Party Chair may report any documented occurrences to the Credentials
- 136 Committee prior to the Convention. The refusal to provide credential to anyone shall be explicit in the
- 137 report to the Convention and subject to the will of the body
- 138 **18)** Certain areas of the venue will be limited access. All attendees will be issued credentials that must be
- 139 kept on the attendee's person at all times and displayed upon request of Party staff, Convention
- 140 officials, or venue staff. Anyone found in an area for which they are not credentialed, shall be
- 141 removed immediately by staff or a Sergeant at arms. Repeated offenses will be considered a violation
- 142 of the decorum clause and shall be ejected from the Convention.
- 143 **19)** A Voting Card or electronic voting device will be distributed by BPOU Chairs to Delegates or
- 144 Alternates according to rankings provided or the method determined by the BPOU Constitution. The
- 145 Voting Card will be required for Delegates or Alternates to occupy the BPOU space on the convention
- 146 floor during business and voting. A Delegate or seated Alternate shall surrender their Voting Card to
- 147 the BPOU Chair before leaving the Convention floor. The Voting Card must match the BPOU
- 148 designation of the credential. A Delegate may enter the floor without a voting card but may not
- 149 participate in any business or votes until they retrieve a voting card from their BPOU Chair or an
- 150 Alternate in their BPOU.
- 151 **20)** Credentials to allow access to the convention floor are available for campaigns seeking endorsement.
- 152 a) Convention floor access is limited only to campaigns seeking endorsement prior to rounds of
- 153 balloting in which the candidate's name appears on the ballot. Once a candidate is removed from
- 154 consideration, access to the convention floor will be revoked.
- 155 b) War Room Passes are candidate specific and only provide access to the convention floor prior to
- 156 rounds of balloting in that race in which the candidate's name appears on the ballot. They can still
- 157 access their War Room after removal from the ballot.
- 158 c) Credentials for convention floor access are candidate specific and only provide access to the
- 159 convention floor prior to rounds of balloting in a race in which the candidate's name appears on
- 160 the ballot.
- 161
- 162 **III. Speaking**
- 163 **21)** A Delegate or seated Alternate wishing to speak shall rise, wait for recognition by the Convention
- 164 Chair, address the body from a microphone, state their name, BPOU, and the purpose for which they
- 165 rise.
- 166 **22)** Limits on Debatable Motions
- 167 a) Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker except as
- 168 provided in the Rules.
- 169 b) No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all those desiring to speak have had a
- 170 first opportunity to do so and no person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same
- 171 subject.

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- 172 c) Total time for debate of each motion shall not exceed ten (10) minutes with equal opportunity
173 afforded to affirmative and the negative speakers.
174 d) Each speaker must identify whether they speak in the affirmative or the negative before being
175 allowed to speak on a motion or subject.
176 e) At least two (2) speakers on each side of a question shall be afforded the opportunity to speak to
177 an issue before a motion to move the previous question shall be in order.
178 f) After there have been two (2) speakers on each side and the Chair has asked three (3) times for
179 a speaker on the opposing side with no response the debate will end.
180 **23)** The Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing debate and speeches during the
181 Convention.
182 **24)** The Chair at any time may invite any office holder or other distinguished guest to address the
183 Convention from the podium for a period not to exceed five (5) minutes.

184 **IV. Voting**

- 185 **25)** There shall be no voting by proxy or under unit rule in this Convention.
186 **26)** The vote on all questions shall be by voice vote except:
187 a) If Division of the Assembly is called, supported by thirty (30) Delegates or seated Alternates, or at
188 the discretion of the Chair, a rising vote shall be taken, unless the Convention Chair directs a vote
189 by electronic device.
190 b) Electronic voting devices will be assigned to a delegate or seated alternate by a BPOU chair or
191 designee. Devices shall be collected and placed in a secured area when not in use on the floor
192 of the convention or at the discretion of the Convention Chair. If a device is not returned by the
193 BPOU, the BPOU shall be responsible for any penalty or fee charged.
194 c) The minimum voting period when using electronic devices shall be at least two (2) minutes.
195 d) If there is a dispute as to a rising or voice vote, the Chair shall appoint a Chief Teller and enough
196 Tellers to canvass the vote and the Chief Teller shall report the same to the Convention Chair.
197 e) Voting for endorsement will be by ballot, as described in the endorsing procedures.

198 **V. Endorsement Procedures**

199 **27) Nominating**

- 200 a) See preface for provisions from the Constitution
201 b) Prior to the Nominating Committee report, it shall first be determined by a majority vote whether
202 endorsement shall be considered for each office.
203 c) To be eligible to be considered for endorsement, a candidate for statewide endorsement must
204 meet all legal requirements to run for and hold the office, submit a nominating petition form to the
205 Nominating Committee having the names and signatures of a minimum of forty-seven (47) State
206 Convention Delegates (that is 2% of delegates).
207 d) Each Delegate may sign only one candidate's nominating petition for each race. If a Delegate
208 signs more than one candidate's nominating petition in the same race (e.g. two gubernatorial
209 candidates), their signature will be voided on each nominating petition they signed and not count
210 towards any candidate's required signature total in that race. Alternate's signatures do not qualify
211 for this procedure, since they are not seated prior to the convention.
212 e) The candidate's nominating petition must be received by MNGOP State Party office by 12 Noon
213 on Tuesday May 5, 2026. Candidates may submit a physical copy or original of their nominating
214 petition, email a scanned copy or complete a Google document provided by MNGOP.
215 f) Candidates must also appear and be interviewed by the Nominating Committee by May 27, 2026.
216 The Nominating Committee shall then report to the Convention any of the candidates who have
217 met the requirements to be nominated.
218 g) The Nominating Committee may state whether they deem any nominee to be "qualified,"
219 "qualified with reservations" or "unqualified" to receive the endorsement. If a nominee is deemed
220 "qualified with reservations" or "unqualified," then the committee chair shall report the reasoning.
221 h) There will be no nominations for any office from the floor.
222 i) The presentation order for nominees for the duration of the endorsement shall be determined by
223 the Nominating Committee. If nominees are allotted presentation time prior to subsequent rounds
224 of voting, then the nominee that spoke last in the previous round shall present first and the order
225 for the remaining nominees shall follow the order from the previous round with the first nominee
226 from that round last.

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- 227 j) Campaign staff or supporters may not distribute materials on the convention floor during another
228 nominee's presentation.
229

VI. The Endorsement Process

231 **28)** Prior to balloting for each round:

- 232 a) If the race is unopposed, the nominee shall have five (5) minutes to address the convention. The
233 Convention may decide by a rising vote in place of balloting as outlined in the Constitution.
234 b) Nominated Candidate time –
235 i) This time may be used for nominating and seconding speeches (NOTE: since all nominations
236 are done by the nominating committee, no other formal nomination is required), their speech
237 to the convention, or demonstration on their behalf.
238 ii) Nominated candidates for contested statewide endorsement that will appear on the first
239 round of balloting, for that office, shall have a total of ten (10) minutes, unless running for US
240 Senate or Governor where they will have fifteen (15) minutes of presentation time.
241 iii) No presentation time will be allowed before the second round of balloting.
242 iv) A three (3) minute presentation will be allowed prior to the third (3rd) round of balloting and
243 each subsequent round of balloting that day.
244 v) If the endorsing process for a race begins on Friday and resumes on Saturday, the remaining
245 nominees will each be given five (5) minutes for a presentation before balloting resumes
246 unless running for US Senate or Governor where they will have ten (10) minutes.
247 vi) During pauses or nominee presentations, any motions or other business will be out of order,
248 Delegates, seated Alternates, Convention Staff, and anyone with supplemental floor access
249 for the race being considered will be allowed to move freely in the arena to hold signs,
250 distribute materials, or converse with Delegates and seated Alternates. After the pause, the
251 floor will be cleared, and balloting will commence.
252 vii) Nominees who have withdrawn or have been removed due to the drop rules, may only
253 address the Convention if invited to use the allotted time of another nominee who is still being
254 considered for endorsement.

255 **29)** When there are multiple candidates, after all nominees have made presentations, there will be a ten
256 (10) minute pause before the first ballot is started.

257 **30)** Drop rules

- 258 a) A drop rule shall apply to any race that has three (3) or more nominees until there are only two (2)
259 nominees remaining.
260 b) Any nominee failing to receive at least 10% of the vote on the first ballot, 15% on the second , or
261 20% on any subsequent ballot shall cease to be nominated for endorsement and be removed
262 from all subsequent ballots.
263 c) On the fourth and subsequent ballots, the lowest nominee will be removed.

264 **31)** If the "write-in" reaches a qualifying percentage for winning endorsement, the balloting shall cease
265 and the convention chair shall query the body to discern if that candidate is eligible for
266 nomination/election.

267 **32)** A motion for "no endorsement" shall be in order during the endorsement process only after the tenth
268 round of balloting and every ballot thereafter.
269

VII. Balloting for endorsement:

- 271 a) Each round of balloting shall be open for five (5) minutes.
272 b) Prior to the results of each round of balloting, each nominee's campaign will be given an
273 opportunity to see the ballot results for a period not to exceed five (5) minutes prior to
274 announcement or display of ballot results.
275 c) Following the waiting period for each ballot, the results will be announced/displayed to the
276 convention.
277 d) The convention shall then pause for ten (10) minutes.
278 e) For the second round, the convention will immediately move to the next round of balloting
279 following the pause.
280 f) In subsequent rounds of balloting, balloting shall take place immediately after the last nominee
281 presentation.
282

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- 283 **VIII. Constitutional Amendments**
- 284 **33)** Article XVI, Section 2 of the Constitution provides for amendments to the Constitution. NOTE: Due to
- 285 the requirements in this section, no new amendments shall be considered on the floor and any motion
- 286 to amend the Constitution Committee report shall be out of order.
- 287 **34)** Debate over any amendment proposed by the Constitution Committee shall be allowed subject to the
- 288 convention rules including motion to divide the report to allow consideration of portions of proposed
- 289 amendments as separate items.
- 290
- 291 **IX. Platform Report**
- 292 **35)** The committee shall present a proposed platform to the Convention based on guidelines set forth in
- 293 the State Party Constitution.
- 294 **36)** Any resolutions required to be included in the report by the State Party Constitution but not
- 295 recommended for inclusion in the platform by the committee shall be indicated in the report as to why.
- 296 If the report is adopted by the Convention, these items will not be included in the final platform
- 297 document.
- 298 **37)** Amendments and resolutions from the floor are not permitted. The report may be divided into
- 299 separate questions on each item on the report.
- 300 **38)** Debate on the platform report shall be limited to one (1) minute for each speaker. Equal opportunity
- 301 will be afforded to pro and con speakers in alternating order. No person shall be allowed to speak a
- 302 second time until all others wishing to be recognized on the report have been heard. No person shall
- 303 be allowed to speak more than twice. Debate shall be limited to Delegates and seated Alternates.
- 304 **39)** A plank of the platform is adopted only if it receives a 60% of the last credentials report as outlined in
- 305 the Constitution.
- 306 **40)** The Action Agenda shall be voted on as a single ballot requiring 60% of the last credentials report to
- 307 be adopted.
- 308 **X. Recess and Adjournment**
- 309 **41)** A motion to adjourn the Convention shall be out of order until all items on the agenda have been
- 310 considered on the Convention floor.