

Proposed Rules for the
2017 Oklahoma Democratic Party State Convention

Rule 1: Agenda -

- Call to Order & Welcome
- Colors & Pledge
- National Anthem
- Invocation
- Introduction of Keynote Speaker(s)
- Remarks of Keynote Speaker(s)
- Chair Report & Introductions
- Remarks by Candidates for Governor
- Vice-Chair Report
- Credentials Report
- Adoption of Credentials Report
- Proposed Rules
- Adoption of Rules
- Secretary's Report/Approval of Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Constitution/By-Laws Report
- Adoption of Constitution & By-Laws Report
- Removal of Constitution/By-Laws Section for Debate
- Adoption of Remaining Constitution/By-Laws
- Resolutions Report
- Adoption of Resolutions Report
- Removal of Resolutions for Debate
- Adoption of Remaining Resolutions
- LUNCH
- Updated Credentials Report
- Adoption of Updated Credentials Report
- Election of State Officers & Affirmative Action Members – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, 4-Affirmative Action Members (2 Male and 2 Female)
- Removed Constitution/By-Laws Discussion/Adoption
- Removed Resolutions/Sections for Discussion/Adoption
- Adjournment

Rule 2: Purpose of the Meeting – The purpose of this meeting is to elect for a two-year term of office a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Oklahoma Democratic Party, and to elect the four State Affirmative Action Committee members (two men and two women); to consider resolutions, to consider proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws, and such other business as may come before the Convention.

Rule 3: Committee Reports - The reports of the Convention's standing committees shall be adopted by a majority vote of the voting members of the State Convention present and voting, once a quorum is established. The adoption of the Credentials and Rules Committees' reports shall mean that the State Convention has accepted the Committees' reports, seated the credentialed members of the State Convention and adopted the proposed rules, respectively. Adoption of the Resolutions Committee Report and the Constitution & By-Laws Committee Report shall only mean that the State Convention has accepted the Committee's report, but shall not mean the adoption of any of the resolutions or proposed changes recommended by the committee.

Rule 4: Minority Reports - Twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the members of any of the Convention's committees may submit a minority report to the State Convention following the report of the respective committee before any vote is taken on the committee's report.

Rule 5: Resolutions & Proposed Changes to the Constitution & By-Laws - Following the adoption of the respective reports of the Resolutions Committee and the Constitution & By-Laws Committee, any member of the Convention may then move to remove a resolution, portion of a resolution, or proposed change to the constitution & by-laws from the body of the report and have them designated for debate and separate vote by the convention. This motion shall require a second and shall be granted by unanimous consent unless there is an objection. If an objection is made, such motion shall require a majority vote to be approved. There shall be no debate on this motion. Prior to beginning debate on any resolution or proposed change to the constitution & by-laws that has been removed from the body of the respective report, the convention shall vote en masse on those which have not been removed from the report. The convention shall then consider the remaining resolutions or proposed changes to the constitution & by-laws in the order in which the motion to separately consider was made.

Rule 6: Resolutions not in Committee Report – Any resolution or change to the constitution & by-laws not recommended for adoption by the respective committee may be moved by any delegate of the body if the resolution or change is submitted in writing to the presiding officer at or before the time the motion is made, accompanied by a petition of support signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the delegates in attendance at the Convention.

Rule 7: Amending Resolutions and Constitution & By-Laws Changes – Any resolution or constitution & by-laws change may be amended by a delegate moving such an amendment, provided that the amendment is submitted in writing to the presiding officer at or before the time the motion is made, accompanied by a petition of support signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the delegates in attendance at the Convention.

Rule 8: Debate –

- A. General – Debate on any motion shall be limited to two (2) minutes for each side, for a total of four (4) minutes except for resolutions.
- B. Resolutions & Constitution & Bylaws – Debate on any resolution, body of resolutions or changes to the Constitution & Bylaws shall be limited to three (3) minutes for each side for a total of six (6) minutes.

Rule 9: Voting-

- A. Procedure - Voting shall be by voice vote except as otherwise provided. However, if a credentialed delegate moves for a "division of the assembly" and the motion is seconded,

the chair shall proceed to a counted vote of those delegates displaying their credentials, either by a show of hands or by having the delegates stand.

- B. Roll Call Vote – Except when mandatory for an election, a motion for a roll call vote shall require a second and shall be adopted upon a majority vote of those credentialed delegates present and voting. Upon the adoption of such a motion, the Secretary of the Convention shall call for the vote of the delegates of each county by stating the number of duly credentialed delegates from that county according to the latest adopted credentials committee report, to which the County Chair shall reply with the number of votes cast by the delegates from that county for each side of the issue, or for each candidate in the case of elections. After the Secretary of the Convention has called all the counties he/she shall tally the results and report them to the presiding officer who shall announce the results and declare the outcome of the vote.
- C. Proxy voting – A delegate who is unable to attend may give a written proxy to an eligible delegate or to a registered Democrat of the same gender from the same political unit as that from which the delegate was elected. A delegate who attends and leaves before adjournment may give a recorded proxy by signing before the credentials committee a proxy statement naming the eligible delegate of the same gender. No individual may hold more than one proxy.
- D. The use of secret ballot is prohibited.
- E. Any motion to reconsider the previous motion must be made by the prevailing side and be made immediately after the vote is announced or before any other business is considered.
- F. Late Arrival – A delegate who arrives after the meeting has started shall be allowed to participate regardless of whether the credentials committee has reported to the body. However, a delegate arriving late shall not be allowed to vote on any issue decided prior to arrival or any vote underway at the time of arrival. Credentials shall be given to any delegate arriving before adjournment.

Rule 10: Election of Officers –

- A. Order of Election – The order of elections shall be first the Chair, second the Vice-Chair (who shall be of the opposite gender of the chair), third the Secretary, fourth the Treasurer (who shall be of the opposite gender of the secretary), followed by four (4) Affirmative Action positions consisting of two (2) males and two (2) females.
- B. Eligibility – To be nominated for a Party office, a person who is registered to vote in the respective political unit and is otherwise qualified shall be eligible for nomination even though he or she is not a member of the electing body and regardless of whether he or she is present at the meeting when the election is held.
- C. Nominations – Nominations shall not be closed by a vote of the Convention, but shall continue until there are no further nominations.
- D. Speeches – Following the close of nominations each candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of not more than two (2) minutes, one seconding speech of not more than (1) minute, and a speech by the candidate of not more than two (2) minutes. Speaking order shall be the order in which the nominations were made. Nominating speeches for all candidates shall be given first, then seconding speeches for all candidates, and finally, all candidate speeches, after which the election shall be held.
- E. Elections – Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be by Roll Call Vote of Counties. All other elections shall be by counted vote. If there is only one candidate nominated for an office, the chair shall declare that person elected, and there shall be no nominating or seconding speeches or vote taken. If, between two or more candidates, no candidate

receives a majority vote on the first vote, there shall be a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes on the first vote. Voting shall proceed until one candidate receives a majority vote.

F. Separate Elections – Each office shall be filled by separate elections.

Rule 11: Room Order and Seating – Credentialed members shall be seated separately from all other individuals present at the Convention. Following candidate speeches, the doors of the convention shall be closed and no one shall be allowed to enter until the election is concluded. During any vote counting, no one will be allowed to move about the floor except for those persons assigned to count votes. While voting is underway, sergeant-at-arms shall keep the doors closed and shall assist in maintaining order. Tally clerks shall assist in the actual count.

Rule 12: Speaking Privileges – Speaking privileges which include making motions, seconding motions, nominating and seconding nominations shall be reserved for credentialed delegates. The only exception is that of a candidate speech as they are not required to be a voting member of the electing body/

Rule 13: Quorum - A quorum for State Convention shall be forty (40) percent of its Credentialed Delegates and Delegate Proxies. Ex-officio members or their proxies shall not be counted in determining if a quorum is present. However, all other proxies shall be counted.

Rule 14: Amendments of the Constitution & Bylaws -

A. Constitution - Amendments to the Constitution shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at a regularly called meeting of the State Convention.

B. Bylaws - Amendments to the Bylaws shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting at a regularly called meeting of the State Convention.

C. Floor Amendments – A proposed amendment to the Constitution or bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the State Convention present and voting. Amendments from the floor must be reasonably related and germane to the subject matter of the section sought to be amended.

Rule 15: Motion to Suspend the Rules - After these rules have been adopted; only a motion to suspend the rules may change them. Such a motion shall specifically state the rule to be changed, the new wording and duration of the change. It shall require a second and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those in attendance. However rules of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Oklahoma Democratic Party may not be suspended.

Rule 16: Parliamentary Law – On any question of procedure not otherwise covered by the Constitution, Bylaws or Rules of the Convention shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.