

## 2020 SPOKANE COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

**THE FOLLOWING RULES SHALL REQUIRE A MAJORITY VOTE FOR ADOPTION.** Rules marked with an “ \* ” are mandatory by WSRP Rules and cannot be changed. The remaining rules are local Spokane County Convention Rules and shall require a majority vote for adoption. A permanent suspension of a local rule shall require a 2/3 vote, and a temporary suspension of a local rule shall require a majority vote.

\*Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern proceedings of the Convention in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of Spokane County Republican Central Committee, Rules of the Washington State Republican State Committee, the National Republican Rules, and the rules set forth in the Official Call to the 2020 Washington State Convention.

### I. Credentials

- A. All delegates (and alternates) must register and be approved by the Credentials Committee before voting or taking part in the Convention. Registration shall commence at 7:30 a.m. and be closed at 8:45 a.m. on March 21, 2020. Convention begins at 9:00 am.
- B. The Credentials Committee shall report the number of delegates eligible to vote and the number of alternates attending as the first order of business, immediately after appropriate opening remarks and ceremonies.
- C. In the event a delegate shall fail to register for or attend this convention, such delegate's position shall be filled by the Credentials Committee after the close of registration from the list of alternates present and registered from the absentee's precinct in the order of their priority as established at their precinct caucus. **No proxies will be allowed to participate in any votes or activities conducted at this Convention or Legislative District Caucus.**
- D. Delegates and alternates shall be provided with distinguishing badges and be seated in separate, designated areas. Only credentialed delegates will be permitted on the convention floor.
- E. A quorum for this convention will consist of 50%+1 of the seated delegates. No business shall be conducted unless a quorum is present.
- F. Any Republican within Spokane County who wishes to challenge the certification of a delegate elected to the Spokane County Convention must submit that challenge to the Chairman of the Credentials Committee no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the adoption of the rules by convention delegates.
- G. The Credentials Committee shall make a decision on any challenge in a timely manner. All decisions by the Credentials Committee will be final.

### II. Addressing the Chair

- A. Any delegate wishing to be heard from the floor of the Convention will:
  - 1. Present themselves to microphone monitors
  - 2. Wait to be recognized by the Chair
  - 3. State their name, precinct and the purpose for which they rise, i.e., to make a motion, or speak to an issue, stating pro, con or undecided on the issue in question.
- B. Except as listed below, debates will last no longer than five (5) minutes per motion.
- C. Debate on any section of the platform shall be limited to twenty (20) minutes with each speaker limited to two (2) minutes, the debate alternating between pro and con.
- D. Debate on any amendment to the platform shall be limited to a total of ten (10) minutes, with each speaker limited to two (2) minutes, the debate alternating between pro and con. Amendment debate time will be in addition to section debate time.
- E. Debate on any resolution will be limited to five (5) minutes.
- F. Amendments to add or change language (motions to strike excluded) to any motion, including amendments to the platform, shall be submitted to the Chair in writing, signed by delegates from three (3) different precincts.

- G. No person shall speak on any motion before this convention more than once, except the proponent who shall be granted one (1) minute to close debate on platform issues, and two (2) minutes on all other issues notwithstanding the previous question moved or called for.
- H. Duration of speeches by candidates or those recognized by the chair (except the featured speaker) will be limited as follows:
  1. Statewide candidates – three (3) minutes.
  2. Countywide candidates – three (3) minutes.
  3. 5th Congressional District candidates – five (5) minutes.
  4. Speakers for any other purpose recognized by the Chair – three (3) minutes.

### III. Order of Business

The order of business will be determined by the Convention Committee, or in the absence thereof, by the Spokane County Central Committee Officers, subject to amendment by the delegates, and shall require a majority vote of the delegates if changed. Amendments will be limited to the order of business. After the Agenda is passed, no changes or alterations to the order of business will be allowed.

### IV. Voting

- A. All oral votes taken by the body of the convention will be conducted by saying “Yea” if for a proposal or “Nay” if against a proposal. The Chair may determine whether the Yeas or Nays have won a vote.
- B. If any delegate wishes to challenge the decision of the Chair, the delegate may ask for a division. A division will be conducted by a standing vote. The chair will ask the Yeas to stand and will be counted by persons identified as counters. Then the Nays will be asked to stand and will be counted by the same counters.

### V. Platform and Resolutions

- A. No statement of platform principle or supporting policy or resolution shall be in order unless it has been legibly written, signed, and presented to the Chairman of the Convention or his designee prior to 9:00 a.m. on the morning of the Convention. Changes to the platform principles and supporting policies can, of course, be motioned from the floor during the Convention; however, new resolutions, for logistical reasons, will not be accepted after the Convention is called to order.
- B. No statement in support of or in opposition to any platform principle/supporting policy or resolution shall exceed one (1) minute per speaker or twenty (20) minutes per subject. Speakers shall alternate between pro and con unless no advocate of one position appears, in which case the opposition may speak out of turn.

### VI. District Caucuses - Selection of Delegates to the State Convention

- A. **Temporary Chair.**  
The District Leaders shall appoint a temporary chair for each district caucus, who shall appoint a temporary secretary. The permanent chair and the permanent secretary of each caucus shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates present at the legislative district caucus.
- B. **\*Declaration of Candidacy to the State Convention. (WSRP Rule 26)**  
In any county which is required to have a printed ballot, any Republican who is a registered voter within the County/District he/she seeks to represent, wishing to be considered for the position of delegate to the State Convention and wishing to have his/her name appear on an alphabetized printed ballot for such post shall notify the county chairman or the chairman's designated representative in writing at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the opening gavel of the County Convention. Notice of this procedure shall be contained in the convention call.
- C. **\*Printed State Delegate Ballot. (WSRP Rule 27)**  
In the case of any district election in which five (5) or more delegate positions are to be elected, the County Chairman shall cause to be printed a ballot listing each declared candidate for delegate to the State Convention in alphabetical order. Said ballot shall be used in the first ballot only for delegates to the State Convention. Said ballot shall contain blank spaces equal to the number of delegates allotted for the purpose of write in candidates or those nominated from the floor. **In any case, the produced ballot, whether paper or electronic must assure secrecy, auditability and visual verification of the results.**

**D. \*Nominations from the Floor for Delegates to the State Convention (WSRP Rule 28)**

Nominations from the floor for delegates to the State Convention shall be in order and shall remain open until the Chair has called for further nominations three (3) times in succession without response. The county organization shall not be responsible for publishing, posting or alphabetizing nominations from the floor on the first ballot.

**E. \*Majority Vote Required for State Convention Delegates. (WSRP Rule 29)**

When there are more nominees than positions to be elected, all voting shall be by secret written ballot. Each delegate may vote for as many candidates as there shall be positions to be voted for that ballot. There shall be no cumulative voting. Those candidates for delegate to the State Convention who receive a majority of votes cast (over 50% of the of the amount of the delegates voting, Example: fifty [50] voting delegates, twenty-six [26] votes represents a majority) shall be deemed elected with succeeding ballots being conducted until all delegate positions have been elected by a majority of votes cast, except as provided in subparagraph E.1.c below.

1. Upon the completion of the first round of voting, the following rules of elimination shall be used:
  - a. On the second ballot, each candidate who receives less than 10% of the total votes on the first ballot shall be eliminated.
  - b. On the third ballot, each candidate who receives less than 20% of the total votes on the previous ballot shall be eliminated.
  - c. On the fourth ballot, sufficient candidates receiving the lowest number of votes on the previous ballot shall be eliminated so that the ballot includes twice the number of unfilled positions to be voted on. Those candidates receiving the most votes shall be elected without regard to whether they have a majority of votes cast.
  - d. However, regardless of the foregoing rules for elimination, every ballot shall include a number of candidates not less than twice the number of unfilled positions to be voted on if sufficient candidates have been nominated. When this requirement conflicts with the above rules the candidate receiving the most votes on the previous ballot who was eliminated shall be included until the number of candidates remaining is twice the number of unfilled positions.
  - e. In the event of ties for election or elimination, the result shall be determined by the flip of a coin.
2. **Registration and Payment for State Convention. (WSRP Rule 29)** Delegates must complete and submit registration and payment for the State Convention within ten (10) business days of their election. Should any elected delegate fail to complete registration and payment within said time, their position is forfeited, and delegate status awarded to the first alternate. Said elected delegate will be moved to the last alternate position slot available. The State Party Chairman will notify the county chair and alternate within 24 hours. Said newly designated delegate shall complete registration and payment within five (5) business days, and shall forfeit their delegate position if they do not. The newly designated delegate shall receive a credit towards delegate registration any amount paid for alternate registration. If the first ranked alternate declines the delegate position, the next ranked alternate shall be the designated delegate and notified in the same manner as above (see Rule 29); provided that all registration fees and forms shall be paid and completed for the newly designated delegate(s) not later than May 1, 2020. State Headquarters shall make Delegate/Alternate Registration Packets available to all counties prior to their county or legislative district conventions.
3. **Selection of Alternate Delegates to the State Convention. (WSRP Rule 30)** Nominations for alternate delegates to the State Convention shall be made in the same manner from the floor of the same caucus that elected its delegates. There shall be two ballots, if necessary, for the position of alternate delegate. On the first ballot, all candidates receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected to position numbers in accordance to the highest vote-getter following in a diminishing order. The second ballot shall fill the remaining vacant alternate delegate positions by a plurality vote, also in diminishing order. If fewer candidates are nominated than the number of positions allocated, a single ballot shall suffice. Ties for election shall be resolved by a flip of a coin. Alternates shall complete and pay registration fees to be received by the State Headquarters by May 1, 2020.

**VII. \*Unit Rule. (WSRP Rule 32)**

At the county convention/district caucus, the unit rule (block voting) shall not be permitted, nor shall any county convention or district caucus adopt a resolution binding its delegates to vote as a unit at the State Convention.

**VIII. \*Pre-Convention Meeting of the County Delegates to State Convention  
(SCRCC Bylaws, Art. 11.3, WSRP Rule 34)**

Within two weeks after the County Convention, Spokane County's elected State Delegates shall meet, at the call of the County Chairman, to elect a Delegation Chairman and such other officers, as they desire, and to consider other relevant matters that the delegation chooses to consider. The County Chairman or his representative shall act as temporary Chairman at the meeting of State Delegates. The first order of substantive business shall be the election of a Delegate Chairman, who shall assume the Chair immediately upon election. Spokane County delegates shall elect one person to serve on the State Convention Platform Committee, Rules and Order of Business Committee, and Credentials Committee, taking into consideration the recommendations of the County Chairman.

**IX. Credentials Challenges of State Delegates (WSRP Rule 35)**

Any Republican within a county, commissioner district or legislative district (the original electing unit) that wishes to challenge the certifications of delegates and alternate delegates elected to the State Convention or elected to be a member of a state convention committee shall cause to be postmarked or delivered to the State Headquarters a Notice of Challenge no later than ten (10) days following the election in question. Upon receipt of a Notice of Challenge, the State Headquarters shall promptly notify the Chairman of the County of the challenged delegates. Not later than twenty (20) days after the election in question, or ten (10) days prior to the commencing of the State Convention, (whichever shall occur first), the person filing the challenge shall file with State Headquarters all documents and statements (which may be in the form of affidavits), supporting the challenge and setting forth the facts upon which the challenge is made accompanied by a statement of position giving fair notice to all of the nature and grounds of challenge. Documents and written statements in response (which may be in the form of affidavits) shall be filed with State Headquarters not later than five (5) days prior to the meeting of the State Convention Credentials Committee. A non-resident of the county, commissioner's district or legislative district may not initiate challenges in question. The State Convention Credentials Committee shall consider each challenge in the order that it was received.

Respectfully Submitted by the Rules Committee  
for consideration of the Spokane County Republican Convention of 2020.

Patience Ryan, Matthew Pederson, Ruth Ryan.