

YOU CAN BE A TEAMSTER DELEGATE

Your Local Union will hold an election for delegates in just a short time—and you can be a part of the process.

What's a delegate?

Every Teamster local—including yours—will soon hold an election for delegates and alternate delegates to attend the Teamster Convention, which will be held in Las Vegas on June 27–July 1, 2011. Nominations are coming up soon, so the time to think about it and get help is now.

Why are delegates important?

The Teamster Convention is the highest body of our union. The entire Teamster Constitution will be up for review—every article in it is up for possible amendment or change. Reform delegates will put forward specific changes to make our union more accountable to members, and all delegates get a vote.

The Teamster Convention will also nominate candidates to run for Teamster president, and all the vice president positions. Hoffa will be nominated at that convention, and reform delegates will no doubt nominate a candidate to run against him. It takes 5% of the delegates to nominate, and more than that to get democratic proposals passed.

The Convention is also a media event, and an excellent opportunity for Teamster reformers—including rank and filers—to get our story out to fellow Teamsters and the public.

You can be part of charting a new direction for our union.



When, where and how?

By September 30, 2010 (soon!) each local must submit a proposed Local Union Plan to the Election Supervisor, regarding the delegate election. At that time, you will know the date of nominations and the election in your local.

Nominations will be in January or February 2011, and ballots will be mailed 30 days after nominations to all members of your local.

The whole election process will be overseen by the staff of the impartial Election Supervisor, who was designated by federal judge Loretta Preska. Local officials are not overseeing the election. The Election Supervisor's website is www.ibtvote.org.

Who is eligible to run?

Any member who has been in continuous good standing for 24 consecutive months prior to nominations is eligible to run.

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So, unless a member fell behind on their dues in the past two years, they are eligible to run.

How many delegates does my local get to elect?

That depends on the size of the local. A small local, with under 1376 members, gets to elect one delegate and one alternate delegate. A local with 3000 members will elect four delegates, and at least one alternate. A local with 7000 members will elect nine delegates, and at least three alternates. The exact number for each local union is available on a chart at www.ibtvote.org and on www.TDU.org.

Any group of two or more members running can form a slate, and put their slate name or slogan right on the ballot.

It sounds a little complicated -- how do I get help with running?

You can contact Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU), where you can get a full briefing, sample campaign materials, website help, campaign ideas and tactics, and expert advice on the Election Rules. You can get a workshop in your area if others are interested. You can also obtain the book "Running for Office" from TDU.

Many rank and file Teamsters do win delegate races, if they put in the effort and learn the right way to do it. It is easier to win a delegate election than a local union officer election; and often becomes a stepping-stone to winning a local election later.

If I win, what kind of help can I get?

In the spring of 2011, after the elections, TDU will hold one-day delegate training schools, where you will hear from experienced delegates, and get DVDs of important sections of previous conventions. You will

also be able to share your ideas with other reform delegates. At the 2011 Convention in Las Vegas, TDU will hold meetings each evening for briefings and help for delegates.

During the week a delegate is at the Convention, the Local Union must get you a leave of absence from work and pay your wages and benefits. This is all part of the Election Rules.

What would it mean for the future?

It could mean a new direction for our union, and a new leadership. In your own local, it could mean you now have a lot more experience, knowledge and credibility with your fellow Teamsters.

How do I get started?

Call TDU and talk it over. There may already be folks in your local working together to make it happen. Or, you can start the ball rolling yourself.

Teamsters for a Democratic Union
313-842-2600 ♦ info@tdu.org

IBT Election Timetable

September 30, 2010

Local Union Plans for delegate elections are due from every local union and available to members for comment.

October 15, 2010

List of dates, times and places for Local Union delegate nominations are distributed by Election Supervisor.

Jan 1 - March 10, 2011

Nominations for delegates and alternate delegates

Mid-February 2011

Issuance of Convention Call

Feb 20 - April 30, 2011

Elections (ballot count) for delegates and alternate delegates.

June 27- July 1, 2011

IBT Convention, Las Vegas

October 2011

Ballots mailed out by Election Supervisor to 1.3 million members for General President and all International Officers

November 2011

Ballots counted.