

# WHAT IT WILL TAKE TO WIN IN 2016

**Two years from now, Teamster members will vote to elect International Union officers.**

**What will it take to win—and how can we get started now?**

Two years from now, the IBT Convention will be held in Las Vegas to nominate candidates for General President and all 28 International officers.

Will there be reform delegates from your local union? Who will be nominated there? What will it take to win and how can we get started now?

Hundreds of thousands of Teamster members are angry—and some local officers too. They believe in the Teamster Union and want to rebuild Teamster power. They're tired of excuses, inaction and concessions from top officials.

The Vote No movement showed that a majority of Teamsters in key industries oppose Hoffa-Hall's concessions.

What happens now that the national contracts have been settled and, in the case of UPS, imposed on the members?

Will Teamsters opposed to concessions become a force for change? That depends on what Teamsters like you do now. Being fed up won't do the job. We need a united, national campaign organization of members in every industry working together to channel that anger into votes for change.

Members are forming a network, Take Back Our Union, to start the education process, build local committees of members who will run for convention delegate and nominate and support a coalition of candidates.

Initial meetings are being held and more will be scheduled.

## Why Start Early

Hoffa and Hall have a built-in campaign organization: they have a huge payroll with over 100 officials getting multiple salaries from the IBT. Hoffa and Hall don't have to start early because they have already have a fundraising and campaign patronage machine.

We need a different kind of machine, a grassroots army of Teamster volunteers.

## How the Election Works

The IBT Election is governed by Election Rules and overseen by an independent Election Supervisor.

Ballots will be mailed to all Teamsters in October 2016, but the election process starts nearly two years before that, when an Election Supervisor is named.

Next June (2015) petitioning starts to accredit candidates; accreditation entitles candidates to get a copy of the Teamster membership list and to reach members through campaign pages in five issues of the *Teamster* magazine.

Members in every local union elect convention delegates to represent them at the Teamster Convention where candidates for International Union office are officially nominated.

In the last election, many locals where members voted against Hoffa were represented at the convention by officers who nominated Hoffa-Hall and tried to keep all opposition candidates off ballot.

It's up to active members to make sure that doesn't happen again. We need to start organizing now and forming local committees.

## What it Takes to Win

Hoffa has been able to win the last three elections with 60-65 percent of the vote. To defeat him, it will take about 200,000 votes. What will it take to achieve this goal?

**1) A Grassroots Army.** Hoffa has a top-down machine; we need a grassroots army. TDU has analyzed the local-by-local results from the last six IBT elections. In each election, members voted for reform in local unions where Teamsters were actively campaigning for reform candidates. We need boots on the ground to win.

**2) A Campaign War Chest.** We do not have to outspend Hoffa because we will outwork him. But we need to raise enough money to pay for campaign mailings to the membership and other Get Out the Vote costs. It will take at least \$500,000 to win.

**3) A Full Slate and Coalition Effort.** Last time anti-Hoffa forces split into two camps. Together, they carried a majority of the votes in over 100 locals. There is growing momentum toward a united coalition that includes not only TDU but everyone who wants to rebuild Teamster power. That is what Take Back Our Union is all about.

## IBT Election Timeline

### Summer-Fall 2014

**Take Back Our Union** forms to unite Teamster members who oppose concessions and want to rebuild Teamster Power by electing new International Union leadership in 2016.



### November 7-9, 2014

**Campaign Summit:** Special training held at TDU Convention for members who want to learn how to run for delegate, build a local campaign committee, and be an active part of a national campaign



### Early 2015

**Election Supervisor** will be appointed to oversee the entire process and decide all pre-election protests. The updated Election Rules will issue for the 2015-2016 delegate and IBT officer elections. (See [www.IBTVOTE.org](http://www.IBTVOTE.org) for the 2011 Rules and other information.)



### June-August 2015

**Accreditation Petition Drive** to collect some 50,000 signatures, spread out over five regions, to officially "accredit" a coalition slate of candidates. Accredited candidates get access to the *Teamster* magazine and the entire Teamster membership list.



### September-October 2015

**Accredited Candidates get to publish campaign pages** in the *Teamster* magazine which is mailed to all members, and four additional times over the next year. In October, the Election Supervisor will publish a list of dates and election plans for local union delegate elections to be held January-March 2016.



### January-April 2016

**Convention Delegate elections held** in almost all local unions. These elections are overseen by the Election Supervisor. The winners have the power to officially nominate candidates at the Teamster Convention so members have a choice in the election.



### June/July 2016

**IBT Convention in Las Vegas.** The entire IBT Constitution will be up for review and amendment. Nominations for General President, Secretary Treasurer and all Vice Presidents and Trustees. Five percent of delegates from the relevant region, and overall, are needed to nominate candidates.



### October 2016

**Mailing of ballots** to all Teamster members.



### November 2016

**Counting of ballots** for all International officer positions.