

1 **State Convention – May 17 and 18, 2024**
2 **Proposed Rules**
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4 **Preface:** The Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota (the “RPM Constitution”)
5 mandates several Convention rules that can be neither debated nor amended.
6

7 **Section I. General**

- 8 **A.** The business of this Convention shall be as outlined on the Official Agenda for the
9 Convention, which will be adopted by a majority vote.
10 **B.** Article XVII of the Constitution states: *The rules contained in the current edition of*
11 *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Convention in all cases to which*
12 *they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the constitution and*
13 *bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, statutes of the State of Minnesota, or any*
14 *special rules of order the party may adopt.*
15 **C.** Once adopted, these Rules shall neither be amended nor suspended except by a two-
16 thirds (2/3) vote.
17 **D.** The quorum is a majority of the delegates registered at the Convention and in attendance
18 irrespective of whether some may have departed. Once a quorum has been established
19 there shall be no further question as to the quorum.
20 **E.** A minority report of any committee may be presented if concurred by one-third (1/3) or
21 more members of that committee.
22 **F.** No Sergeant-at-arms shall exhibit any outward sign of support for or engage in any
23 activities on behalf of a candidate or issue.
24 **G.** All literature distributed must have its source(s) prominently displayed. All campaign
25 materials require a disclosure with the name of the candidate or State Delegate or
26 Alternate responsible for the materials. The Sergeant-at-arms shall confiscate any
27 material not having such a disclosure.
28 **H.** Any video presentations broadcast to Delegates on the floor of the Convention must be
29 screened and approved by the State Party Chair or designee.
30 **I.** Any regulations or policies related to access to the Convention venue for anyone who is
31 neither a Delegate, Alternate, nor a registered guest of a Delegate or Alternate is at the
32 discretion of the State Party Chair. Guests must be pre-registered by a Delegate or
33 Alternate by Friday May 10, 2024, before 11:59 PM. No same-day guest registrations will
34 be accepted.
35 **J.** Unless temporarily affixed to the venue in an approved manner, candidate signs must be
36 no larger than 2 ft. by 4 ft. and are only allowed to be held in the hands of attendees. No
37 sticks, pipes, handles, or devices may be used to elevate these signs or connect them
38 together in the Convention area or venue space provided by MN GOP.
39 **K.** At the discretion of the Chair, agenda items may be moved up between rounds of
40 balloting while ballots are being counted.
41 **L.** A motion to lay on the table shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
42 **M.** No motion, other than adjournment, may be conducted without an affirmative vote of at
43 least twenty-five percent (25%) of the delegation as determined by the latest report of the
44 Credentials Committee.
45

46 **Section II. Seating**

- 47 **A.** Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution provides: *Once the temporary organization has*
48 *been established, the first order of business of a state or Congressional district*
49 *convention shall be the seating of alternates. The permanent voting roll of the*
50 *convention shall be composed of the delegates of each BPOU [and Affiliate] who*

51 *actually are present, and in the absence of any delegate to the convention, an alternate*
52 *shall be seated in his/her stead during his/her absence according to the procedure*
53 *established by the constitution or bylaws of the BPOU [or Affiliate]. When a delegate*
54 *returns to the floor of the convention, he or she will be seated immediately.*

- 55 **B.** If a Basic Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) or Affiliate does not have a procedure for
56 seating Alternates established by its constitution, bylaws, or convention action, the
57 seating order of Alternates shall be determined by the Alternate ranking reported to the
58 MN GOP; otherwise, a seating order shall be determined by the vote of that delegation. A
59 higher ranked Alternate shall be entitled to be seated in the place of a lower ranked
60 Alternate.
- 61 **C.** The voting strength of each BPOU or Affiliate organization equals the number of its
62 registered Delegates and seated Alternates.
- 63 **D.** The Credentials Committee Chair shall report any changes in the delegations prior to an
64 endorsement when requested by the Chair.
- 65 **E.** The Credentials Committee may refuse to provide a credential to any guest or issue a
66 hospitality credential to anyone who has publicly expressed or directly contacted
67 Delegates, Alternates, Republican candidates, Party officers, Party staff, or public
68 politicians with threats of violence, repeated harassment, or has documented intentions
69 of disrupting the business of the Convention. The State Party Chair may report any
70 documented occurrences to the Credentials Committee prior to the Convention.
- 71 **F.** The Credentials report shall reflect the Delegates and Alternates that have received their
72 credentials and been properly checked in by registration. There is no requirement to be
73 re-checked in each day.
- 74 **G.** Certain areas of the venue will have access restrictions. All attendees will be issued
75 credentials that must be kept on the attendee's person at all times and displayed upon
76 request of Party staff, Convention officials, or venue staff. Anyone found in an area for
77 which they are not credentialed shall be removed immediately by staff or a Sergeant-at-
78 arms. Repeated offenses will be considered a violation of the decorum clause and shall be
79 ejected from the Convention.
- 80 **H.** A Voting Card will be distributed by BPOU and Affiliate Chairs to Delegates and
81 Alternates according to rankings provided or the method determined by the BPOU
82 Constitution. The Voting Card will be required for Delegates and Alternates to occupy
83 the floor during business and voting. The Voting Card must match the BPOU designation
84 of the credential. A Delegate may enter the floor without a voting card but may not
85 participate in any business or votes until they retrieve a voting card from their BPOU
86 Chair or an Alternate in their BPOU.
- 87 **I.** Ten (10) Floor Passes to the Convention are available for campaigns seeking
88 endorsement prior to rounds of voting in which the candidate's name appears on the
89 ballot. Once a candidate is removed from consideration, access to the Floor will be
90 revoked.

91 **Section III. Speaking**

- 93 **A.** A Delegate or seated Alternate wishing to speak shall rise, wait for recognition, address
94 the Chair from a microphone, state their name, BPOU or Affiliate, and the purpose for
95 which they rise.
- 96 **B.** Debate on any question shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker except as
97 provided elsewhere in these Rules. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice
98 upon the same question. No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all
99 those desiring to speak have had a first opportunity to do so. Total time for debate of
100 each motion shall not exceed ten (10) minutes, with equal opportunity afforded to
101 speakers for and against the motion. Speakers must identify whether they speak for or

102 against the motion before being allowed to speak. At least two (2) speakers on each side
103 of a question shall be afforded the opportunity to speak before a motion to move the
104 previous question shall be in order. After there have been two (2) speakers on one side
105 and the Chair has asked three (3) times for a speaker on the opposing side, if there is no
106 speaker on the opposing side, the debate will be ended.

107 **C.** The Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing debate and speeches
108 during the Convention.

109 **D.** The Chair at any time may invite any office holder, Republican-endorsed candidate, or
110 distinguished guest to address the Convention from the podium for a period not to
111 exceed five (5) minutes. Speakers indicated on the official agenda shall not exceed ten
112 (10) minutes, except at the discretion of the Chair.

113 **Section IV. Voting**

114 **A.** There shall be no voting by proxy or under unit rule.

115 **B.** The vote on all questions shall be by voice vote, except:

116 **1.** A rising vote shall be taken if requested by at least twenty-five (25) Seated Delegates
117 from at least 2 different Congressional Districts, or at the discretion of the
118 Convention Chair.

119 **2.** A roll-call vote by Affiliate and BPOU shall be taken if requested by five (5) or more
120 BPOUs or Affiliates or at the discretion of the Convention Chair.

121 **3.** A secret ballot vote shall be taken for all contested races.

122 **4.** For an uncontested endorsement, the Convention may decide by a two-thirds (2/3)
123 vote to endorse by a rising vote.

124 **C.** Bullet balloting is permitted. A ballot containing votes for fewer candidates than the
125 number of positions to be filled shall be valid.

126 **D.** Ballots that contain votes for more candidates than the number of positions to be filled
127 or more than one vote for the same candidate shall be invalid.

128 **E.** The Convention Chair shall appoint a Chief Teller, who shall appoint other Tellers as
129 needed.

130 **F.** Each Delegation Leader will be responsible for promptly collecting and distributing
131 ballots in accordance with the procedures established by the Chief Teller.

132 **G.** Each candidate's campaign will be allowed two people to be physically present to observe
133 the counting of any ballots regarding that candidate's endorsement. The candidate must
134 provide the names of their observers to the Teller before such persons will be granted
135 access. Any such observers must not interact with the persons counting ballots. All
136 questions or concerns should be raised directly to the Chief Teller, who may request they
137 be submitted in writing. Any observer who handles any ballot or counting
138 documentation or apparatus must be removed from the room immediately.

139 **H.** Only the Chief Teller may disclose the results of any round of balloting outside of the
140 counting area, including to candidates or their campaigns. Any other person present in
141 the room in which ballots are counted, including observers, must not disclose partial or
142 final voting results (a) until the results have been duly announced to the Convention, or
143 (b) pursuant to a written authorization signed by the Chief Teller or the Convention
144 Chair.

145 **Section V. Endorsements, Elections, and Elector-Nominations**

146 **A.** The rules of this section apply to endorsement of Senate candidates, election of National
147 Delegates and National Alternates, and nomination of Presidential Electors and
148 Alternates.

149 **B.** The Nominations Committee shall report all candidates who have met the petition and
150 legal requirements and whether the Nominations Committee deems the candidates to be
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153 qualified, qualified with reservations, or unqualified to be endorsed, elected, or
154 nominated. If a candidate is deemed qualified with reservations or unqualified, the
155 report shall include the reasons for the determination. The order of presentation shall be
156 determined by lot.

157 **C.** There shall be no nominations from the floor.

158 **D.** After the report, each candidate that 1) is in a contested race, 2) is rated either qualified
159 or qualified with reservations, and 3) has met with the Nominations Committee may
160 address the Convention.

161 **E.** In the event of a tie vote for any position, the winner shall be elected or nominated by
162 drawing lots.

163 **F.** To be elected or nominated for a position, a candidate must receive at least one vote.
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165 **Section VI. Senate Endorsement**

166 **A.** To be eligible to be considered for endorsement, U.S. Senate candidates must meet the
167 requirements provided by the MN GOP Nominations Committee, including submitting a
168 nominating petition form to the Nominations Committee having the names and
169 signatures of a minimum of 2% convention delegates by 11:59 PM on May 5th and
170 interviewing with the Nominations Committee.

171 **B.** Prior to the Nominations Committee report, it shall be determined by a majority vote
172 whether endorsement shall be considered for each office.

173 **C.** Candidates who do not meet requirements, do not meet with the Nominations
174 Committee, or are found to be unqualified, will not address the convention. If candidates
175 are found to be unqualified, the reasoning behind that finding will be provided in the
176 Nominations Committee report.

177 **D.** There will be no candidate speeches between the first and second rounds of balloting.
178 Before the third or later round of balloting, each remaining candidate permitted to speak
179 by Rule V.D will be given an opportunity to address the Convention for not more than
180 three (3) minutes.

181 **E.** Campaign staff and supporters may not distribute materials in the arena during another
182 candidate's presentation.

183 **F.** Endorsement requires a 60% vote that is also a majority of the registered Delegates and
184 seated Alternates, according to the most recent report of the Credentials Committee.

185 **G.** In the first round of balloting for any endorsement, votes may be cast for any person who
186 by law is eligible for election to the office under consideration and who is eligible under
187 the MN GOP Constitution to seek the endorsement, even though that person has not
188 been nominated or has withdrawn from nomination.

189 **H.** Ballots may be cast stating "no preference" or "undecided" or indicating no endorsement.
190 Blank ballots or abstentions, unintelligible ballots, or ballots cast for an ineligible person
191 or a fictional character will not be included in determining the 60% vote necessary for
192 endorsement.

193 **I.** No preprinted ballot for endorsement will be allowed unless an option for "no
194 preference," "undecided," or "no endorsement" is included.

195 **J.** The process for each endorsement must come to conclusion with an endorsement or a
196 vote for no endorsement before the convention can begin any other endorsement, due to
197 the tellers being off the floor and unable to participate.

198 **K.** Continuation procedures:

199 **1.** In the first round of balloting for endorsement for any office, any person who
200 receives ten percent (10%) or less of the vote on the first ballot will be eliminated.

201 **2.** In each subsequent round of balloting for endorsement after the first round in which
202 there are greater than two (2) eligible persons remaining, the person who receives
203 the least votes, if such amount of votes is less than or equal to 25% of the vote

204 necessary for endorsement, will be eliminated.

205 L. A motion for no endorsement will be out of order until after the fifth ballot in each race.

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207 **Section VII. Constitution**

208 A. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall present its report of proposed
209 amendments to the Convention for its consideration. Any member of the Committee
210 shall have the privilege of addressing the Convention when its report is being considered.
211 No new amendments shall be considered from the floor.

212 B. The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote, provided that any proposal for
213 amendment shall be referred to and reported out of the Constitution and Bylaws
214 Committee.

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216 **Section VIII. Platform Report**

217 A. Any resolutions required to be included in the Platform Committee report by the MN
218 GOP Constitution, but not recommended for inclusion in the platform by the committee,
219 shall be indicated in the report as to why. If the report is adopted by the Convention,
220 these items will not be included in the final platform document.

221 B. Amendments and resolutions from the floor are not permitted.

222 C. Each plank of the platform shall be voted on separately as a voice vote requiring 60% of
223 the last credentials report.

224 D. The action agenda may be voted on in its entirety as a voice vote requiring 60% of the
225 last credentials report.

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227 **Section IX. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention**

228 A. Individuals wishing to be considered for the position of delegate (“National Delegate”) or
229 alternate (“National Alternate”) to a convention of the Republican National Committee
230 (the “RNC”) must comply with the requirements of the Nominations Committee and
231 applicable rules of the RNC and the State Party.

232 B. Each candidate permitted to speak by Rule V.D shall be given one (1) minute to address
233 the Convention. Videos shall not be allowed.

234 C. Voting for the election of National Delegates and National Alternates will be by a single
235 ballot, with separate sections for each presidential candidate to which National Delegates
236 and National Alternates are required by applicable law or State Party Rule to be bound.
237 Each Delegate or seated Alternate may vote for up to eight (8) candidates. The eight (8)
238 candidates with the highest number of votes in the Trump section shall be elected
239 National Delegates and the eight (8) candidates with the next highest number of votes
240 shall be elected National Alternates, all of whom have agreed to be bound to cast a vote
241 for Donald Trump at the next RNC Convention. The four (4) candidates with the highest
242 number of votes in the Haley section shall be elected National Delegates and the four (4)
243 candidates with the next highest number of votes shall be elected National Alternates, all
244 of whom have agreed to be bound to cast a vote for Nikki Haley at the next RNC
245 Convention if she reactivates her campaign.

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247 **Section X. Nomination of Presidential Electors and Alternates**

248 A. Potential candidates for Presidential Elector shall notify the MNGOP executive director
249 no later than April 30, 2024.

250 B. Each at-large candidate permitted to speak by Rule V.D shall be given one (1) minute to
251 address the Convention. Videos shall not be allowed.

252 C. Voting for the nomination of at-large Presidential Electors and Alternates will be by a
253 single ballot. Each Delegate or seated Alternate may vote for up to the number of at-large
254 Presidential Electors. The two (2) candidates with the highest number of votes shall be

255 nominated as Presidential Electors. The two (2) candidates with the next highest number
256 of votes shall be nominated as Alternates.

257 **D.** All Presidential Elector-Nominees and Alternates nominated by the Congressional
258 Districts shall be nominated by majority vote in a single voice vote of this Convention
259 (see **RPM Constitution, Article VI, Section 8A**).

260 **E.** If any Congressional District has not nominated a Presidential Elector-Nominee or
261 Alternate, this Convention will add an additional at-large Elector or at-large Alternate for
262 each such position in Rule X.C (see **RPM Constitution, Article VI, Section 8C**).

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264 **Section XI. Adjournment**

265 **A.** A motion to adjourn *sine die* shall be out of order until all items on the agenda have been
266 considered on the Convention floor.

267 **B.** The Friday meeting of the Convention shall recess no later than 5:00 PM.

268 **C.** The Convention shall adjourn *sine die* no later than 11:59 PM on May 18, 2024,
269 regardless of what remains on the agenda.