



# New Hanover County Republican Party Convention Rules March 3, 2025

## Convention Rules

**Purpose:** It is the purpose of these Rules to provide for a fair and open Convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of the majority and minority, and encourages full participation by all Republican Delegates.

- 1. Convention Officers:** The officers of the Convention shall be as follows:
  - a. Convention Chair: Responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting.
  - b. Secretary: Responsible for all minutes of the meeting.
  - c. Parliamentarian: Responsible for adherence to the State and County Plans of Organization as well as questions on proper procedure.
  - d. Sergeant-at-Arms: Responsible for orderly conduct on the floor of the convention. The Convention Chair shall appoint Assistant Sergeants-at Arms as necessary.
  - e. Timekeeper: Responsible for keeping time of speaking for motions. The timekeeper will indicate to each speaker a thirty second warning before the expiration of the allotted time.
  - f. Tellers: Responsible for counting of floor votes as needed.
- 2. Committees:** The Committees of the Convention shall be the Committee on Credentials and the Committee on Motions and Procedures.
- 3. Voting Body:** The voting body of this Convention shall be the duly elected delegates as stated in the County and State Party Plans of Organization. All delegates will wear nametags and other identifiers given to them at check-in.
- 4. Quorum:** A quorum is twenty-five percent (25%) of delegates registered and attending, as certified by the Credentials Committee and reported to the County. Provided a quorum is present during any vote, the majority shall be determined by those present and voting.

5. **Attendance at Meeting.** Registration to vote and participate will close at 10:00 AM February 8, 2025. On any matter brought to the floor of the convention for consideration, once the voting starts no one will be allowed to exit and re-enter the room until the Chair of the Convention calls an end to voting.
6. **Disclosure and Closure:** In order to allow for proper discussion of business, the following procedures are put in place:
  - a. No motion shall be in order unless each maker and seconder thereof states his or her name and precinct of residence.
  - b. No Member shall speak in the Meeting longer than 2 minutes at any one time, or more than twice on any motion open for discussion.
  - c. If any contest shall develop over any matter, the Meeting Chair may, at his discretion, allow each side not more than 5 minutes to present its position.
7. **Voting On Motions:**
  - a. Voting shall be conducted, at the discretion of the Meeting Chair, by voice vote or by the standing of the Members.
  - b. There shall be no proxy voting
  - c. Members casting a vote must be on the floor of the Meeting at the time such vote is cast.
8. **Election of Party Officers:** Candidates for County Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be nominated at odd year conventions as a slate. Nominations shall be done as follows:
  - a. According to the County POO III.C.1: Officers shall be elected as a slate to serve as the Executive Board of the County Party.
  - b. The delegate nominating a slate will rise and address the Chair.
  - c. Once recognized by the Chair, the delegate will then place the slate into nomination. No nomination speech is given at this time.
  - d. If the nomination is seconded, the Chair of the Convention will read the entire slate. At this point, the slate is considered nominated.
  - e. The Chair will continue to ask for nominations. Nominations are closed by the Chair when no other nominations come from the floor of the Convention.
  - f. The Chair will then recognize each of the nominating delegates to speak for their slate. The nominating delegate has up to three (3) minutes to speak to his or her slate.
  - g. The Chair of the Convention will then recognize the Chair Candidate of each slate who will be allowed to speak up to 5 minutes for their slate.
  - a. Voting for leadership slate shall occur through ballot. Delegates will vote for one nominee for Chairman. The Credentials Committee will tally the votes and report the results to the Presiding Officer. The winning slate is that of the nominee receiving a majority of the votes. If there are more than two slates running, and no one slate receives a majority, the two slates with the highest votes will move to a second vote. If only one slate is put into nomination, the Chair may call for a vote by acclamation.

**9. Election of Executive Committee At-Large Members:** As required by the North Carolina State Plan of Organization, the Convention shall elect at odd-year conventions 5 At-Large Members to serve with full voting rights on the Executive Committee. Nominations for the At-Large Members shall be as follows:

- a. Nominations for the At-Large Members shall be by block.
- b. Delegate nominating a block will rise and address the Chair.
- c. Once recognized by the Chair, the delegate will then place the block into nomination by reading the entire block. No nomination speech is given at this time.
- d. If the nomination is seconded, the Chair of the Convention will read the entire block. At this point, the block is considered nominated.
- e. The Chair will continue to ask for nominations. Nominations are closed by the Chair when no other nominations come from the floor of the Convention.
- f. The Chair will then recognize each of the nominating delegates to speak for their block. The nominating delegate has up to three (3) minutes to speak to his or her block.
- g. Voting for At-Large blocks shall occur through standing vote. The winning block is the block receiving the majority of votes. If there are more than two blocks running, and no one block receives the majority of the votes, the two blocks with the highest votes will move to a second vote. If only one block is put into nomination, the Chair may call for a vote by acclamation.

**10. Election of Delegates to District and State Conventions:** As required by both the District Plan of Organization and the State Plan of Organization, the Convention shall elect at each convention delegates who will represent the county party at each Convention.

- a. Each precinct shall nominate delegates to attend both the District and State Republican Party Convention.
- b. All elected officials who are members of the Executive Committee as per the County Plan of Organization shall also be named as delegates to the District and State Conventions in addition to the nominated delegates from the County Convention.
- c. The Credentials Committee shall report the number of nominated delegates, including the elected officials.
- d. If the number of delegates nominated is LESS than or EQUAL to the number of delegates allotted to the county as stated in the District or State Plan of Organization, the Credential Committee shall move the entire list of delegates be elected. The Chair shall then call for a vote by acclamation.
- e. If the number of delegates nominated is MORE than the number of delegates allotted to the county as stated in the District or State Plan of Organization, the Credentials Committee shall draw names to be removed from the list until the number of delegates nominated is EQUAL to the number of delegates allotted. The Chair shall then call for a vote by acclamation.

**11. Parliamentary Authority:** Roberts Rules of Order, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, shall govern this Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these rules, the County Plan of Organization, State Plan of Organization, North Carolina Law, or the Laws of the United States. The Chair of the Convention is the final authority in all matters of Parliamentary procedure.

- 12. Proposed Changes or Amendments to the Plan of Organization:** Proposed amendments or changes to the Plan of Organization must be submitted to the Motions and Procedures Committee no less than 20 days prior to the Convention. Any terms in any proposed Plan or proposed amendments to any Plan that are inconsistent with the State Republican Party Plan of Organization may be ruled out of order and stricken by the Chair of the Motions and Procedures Committee or the Chair of the Convention prior to, or during, any discussion or other consideration of the proposed Plan or proposed amendment.
- 13. Resolutions:** Proposed resolutions must be submitted to the Motions and Procedures Committee no less than 20 days prior to the Convention. All resolutions shall be no longer than 150 words in length. Resolutions regarding issues sufficiently addressed in the National and State Republican Party Platforms will be ruled out of order. Any terms in any resolution that is inconsistent with the State Republican Party Plan of Organization may be ruled out of order and stricken by the Chair of the Motions and Procedures Committee or the Chair of the Convention prior to, or during, any discussion or other consideration of the proposed Plan or proposed amendment.
- 14. Demonstrations:** Any demonstrations or presentations prior to the voting for elected positions, other than traditional speeches, must have prior written approval from the County Republican Party Chair and the Convention Chair.
- 15. Proxy Voting:** There shall be no proxy voting. Delegates casting a vote must be on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast.
- 16. Convention Guests:** Only Delegates will be allowed on the floor of the Convention to speak or vote. All Alternate Delegates and guests must remain seated in the section designated for guests. The Convention Chair has the sole authority to remove any alternate or guest for violation of these rules.
- 17. Duration of Rules:** The fundamental Rules herein shall govern until new Rules are adopted at a subsequent Convention of the New Hanover County Republican Party.