

# Proposed Salt Lake County Republican Party 2008 Nominating Convention Rules

## **Section 1**      **Purpose**

- 1.1 To determine Nominees for the General Election, where ever possible.
- 1.2 Delegates may also transact other business properly notified and/or brought before the body.

## **Section 2**      **Delegate Qualifications and Credentials**

- 2.1 Delegates to the 2008 Salt Lake County Nominating Convention may be credentialed upon one of three criteria:
  - a. Election at the Precinct Caucuses (Tuesday, March 25, 2008). (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.A)
  - b. Appointment to fill a vacancy created when an elected delegate has died, resigned, moved primary residence from the precinct, or has been removed for violation of the purpose(s) of the Party. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Precinct Chair or acting Precinct Chair in writing, and filed with the Party no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the convention (5:00 pm, Saturday, April 19, 2008). (Bylaws Art. VII, Sec. 3.A.1)
  - c. County Party Officers, Executive Committee Members, and Republican Elected Government Officials shall have automatic delegate status to the County and State Conventions occurring during their term of office if they so desire, subject to the State Party's governing rules. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.B).
- 2.2 Allocated County Delegate positions not filled at the Precinct Caucus (Tuesday, March 25, 2008) remain unfilled. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.B).
- 2.3 Challenges to a delegate's status shall be filed in writing with the Credentials Committee no later than 5:00 pm, seven (7) calendar days prior to the Convention (Saturday, April 26, 2008). Delegates shall retain the right to challenge changes to a delegate's status on the floor. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.4).
- 2.4 Each delegate shall be a registered Republican prior to being credentialed at the Convention.
- 2.5 Delegates with verification or registration issues shall report to the Special Registration Desk.
- 2.6 Official Convention delegate credentials must be visibly worn by all delegates during Convention sessions. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.7)
- 2.7 Only credentialed delegates may be seated and vote at the Convention. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.A.2) Non-delegates may sit in the guest areas defined by and provided at the discretion of the Chair. The aisles must remain clear.

## **Section 3**      **Convention Officers**

- 3.1 The permanent Officers of this Convention shall be (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 4.B):

Chair _____	Designated Convention Chair
Secretary _____	Designated Convention Secretary
Parliamentarian _____	Designated Convention Parliamentarian
Timekeeper _____	Designated Convention Timekeeper
Sergeant-at-Arms _____	Designated Convention Sergeant-at-Arms

## **Section 4**      **Rules of Order**

- 4.1 These Convention rules shall govern if any of these rules conflict with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RRONR). RRONR shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the County Party Bylaws.
- 4.2 Disputes regarding the interpretation of Convention rules will be decided by the Convention Chair, subject to appeal by a simple majority of those voting.
- 4.3 The number of delegates in attendance at the scheduled start of the Convention shall constitute a quorum until a credentials report is accepted.
- 4.4 The number of delegates in attendance throughout this Convention shall constitute a quorum, provided that number is not less than 50% plus one of the current accepted credentials report.

- 4.5 The final credentials report announced and accepted before elections shall be binding for the remainder of the Convention. Candidate elections are not subject to quorum requirements.
- 4.6 Only credentialed delegates may speak to the business of the Convention. The Chair has discretion to recognize anyone to address the Convention.
- 4.7 Any delegate wishing to speak upon the Convention floor shall rise, address the chair, and if recognized, state his name and voting precinct. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.8).
- 4.8 No delegate shall speak more than twice upon any motion. The proponent of a motion shall open and close the debate. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.9).
- 4.9 No delegate shall speak for more than two (2) minutes at a time, unless given additional time by the body. The maker of the motion shall be allowed one (1) minute to summarize and close the debate before the vote on the motion is taken.
- 4.10 All Convention motions of any length shall be in writing (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.13), and a copy of the motion shall be given to the Convention Chair prior to debate upon the motion.
- 4.11 The Party shall not give any candidate, organization, or issue exclusive information, rights or privileges to promote their campaign, organization, or issue to the exclusion of any other competing candidate, organization, or issue prior to or during the Convention.
- 4.12 No Campaigning, distribution or other interference within ten (10) feet of the Registration Tables.
- 4.13 The Chair is responsible to maintain the course and objectives of the Convention.
- 4.14 Changing any wording in the rules does not affect the remaining sections or subsections.

## **Section 5      Order of Business**

- 5.1 The Convention shall consider as the first order of business the Credentials Committee report, then the Rules Committee report, and then the proposed agenda. The Convention reports may be amended before their adoption by a simple majority of those voting. After debate and amendment, if any, a single vote will be taken on the body of each report.
- 5.2 The order of business shall follow the agenda adopted by the delegates. Following its adoption, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those delegates voting is required to amend the Convention agenda.

## **Section 6      Convention Voting**

- 6.1 Except for elections, all voting shall be conducted by raised credential. There shall be no voice voting.
- 6.2 A standing count of the delegates shall be taken only upon a call for a **Standing Count**, supported by a total of fifty (50) delegates.

## **Section 7      Elections & Balloting**

### General

- 7.1 Candidates' Ballot and Speaking Order shall be determined by random drawing (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.6). The drawing will be conducted at the last Executive Committee meeting before Convention. (Thursday, April 10, 2008).
  - 7.1.a. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed by individuals other than delegates. Nominating speeches are not required.
  - 7.1.b. Any unopposed candidates shall be announced to the Convention.
  - 7.1.c. Candidates may have their campaign literature distributed to their delegates within their respective venues prior and up to the time that the first Candidate in their race begins to speak.
- 7.2 The Elections Committee Chair shall be responsible for the security relating to the ballots, the accuracy of the count, and directing the access and conduct of all persons within the ballot counting area.
- 7.3 Each Candidate shall be allowed one (1) poll watcher for each counting station, plus one (1) additional poll watcher in the ballot counting room.

- 7.4 Candidates shall identify their designated poll watchers to the Elections Committee Chair, who shall in turn issue official credentials allowing them access to observe the proceedings of the ballot counting area.

#### Balloting

- 7.5 The person manning each ballot box will expose the inside of the ballot box to reveal its contents immediately prior to the casting of the first ballot.
- 7.6 Polls will open and close until officially announced by the Convention Chair or respective Caucus Chair.
- 7.7 Ballots: (a) containing more than one vote in a Nomination Race; (b) that are not clearly marked; or (c) with a vote for any person who was not properly nominated, will be considered spoiled and will not be counted for that race, either for a candidate or in the calculation of a majority threshold.
- 7.8 Spoiled ballots may be exchanged prior to deposit in the ballot box upon showing of proper credentials and the surrendering of the spoiled ballot at the "Spoiled Ballot Desk(s)" where the spoiled ballot shall be exchanged and immediately destroyed in the presence of the requesting voter.
- 7.9 Only County Delegates, upon presentation of proper credentials, will be allowed to deposit their own ballots in the designated ballot boxes. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.A.3).
- 7.10 Voting for Candidates will be by official ballot only.
- 7.11 Delegates may only vote for one candidate in each Nomination Race. (Bylaws Art. IX, Sec. 3).
- 7.12 Ballot counting shall not commence for Nomination Races until after polls have been closed for at least: County Wide five (5) minutes; Regional three (3) minutes; Senate and Legislative one minute (1).
- 7.13 Challenges to balloting must be made to the Convention Chair, Caucus Facilitator or Designee before the time expires.

#### Counting

- 7.14 Official tally sheets shall be used to record each counted vote, and will be kept with the supporting ballots. These materials shall be preserved by the Party Officers in a secure location for at least five (5) business days following the Convention (until 5:00 pm, Friday, May 9, 2008).
- 7.15 Any challenges to the counting process must be made to the Elections Committee Chair or Designee before the election results of that race are announced.

#### Results

- 7.16 Candidates must receive 60% of the vote to be the Party's Nominee. Otherwise, if more than two (2) candidates are in a race, each round of balloting shall be used to reduce the number of candidates to no less than two (2) from those receiving the highest percentage of votes that, when combined, represent a majority of votes. Ties shall be determined by a toss of the coin. This process continues until a runoff round between two (2) Candidates. If neither Candidate reaches the 60% threshold, the two (2) remaining Candidates advance to the Primary. (Bylaws Art. IX, Sec. 3).
- 7.17 Any candidate requesting a recount or challenging an election must file a request in writing to the Elections Committee Chair by 5:00 pm two (2) business days following the Convention. (Tuesday, May 6, 2008).
- 7.18 Recounts and challenges may only be brought if they might legitimately affect the outcome of the election.

### **Section 8 County Elections**

- 8.1 Each candidate for countywide office shall be allowed a total of five (5) minutes in which to address the Convention. The time may include, but is not limited to, nominating, seconding, and candidate speeches.

### **Section 9 Caucus Elections**

- 9.1 A list of procedures to be followed in caucus nominations and elections shall be given to each caucus facilitator in advance.

- 9.2 Senate and Legislative District Chairs will conduct their respective Senate and Legislative District caucus meetings. County Council District caucuses will be conducted by a Region Chair appointed by Party Leadership. If the chair is unable to conduct the caucus, Party Executive Leadership or the Elections Committee shall appoint an alternate to conduct the caucus meeting.
- 9.3 No person shall be allowed to conduct the caucus in which he or she is a candidate.
- 9.4 The Caucus Facilitator shall provide a timekeeper and a ballot person for their caucus.
- 9.5 Each candidate shall receive three (3) minutes for nominating speeches. A candidate is not required to be nominated by another person. Voting in each respective caucus race shall not occur until all candidates in that caucus have received reasonably equal time to speak and answer questions from their respective delegates.
- 9.6 In Multiple Round Elections, prior to casting the next round ballots, surviving Candidates, or those they designate, shall be allowed one (1) minute for additional delegate presentation.
- 9.7 If any precinct at the Party's precinct caucuses (Tuesday, March 25, 2008) fails to elect any of its allocated State Convention delegates, those unfilled delegate positions may only be filled by means of election at the Legislative Caucus of the County Nominating Convention. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.B).
- 9.8 Candidates for those unfilled State delegate positions must reside within the same Congressional District, State Senate District and State House District as the precinct with the unfilled seats, but not necessarily within the same precinct. (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3.B). Candidate eligibility shall be verified prior to voting by the Caucus Facilitator.

#### **Section 10 Resolutions**

- 10.1 Only delegates shall sponsor resolutions
- 10.2 Resolutions sponsors wanting resolutions to be included on the official Convention agenda must deliver copies of the resolutions for all delegates no later than 5:00 pm, eight (8) calendar days prior to the Convention (Friday, April 25, 2008). All resolutions meeting the deadline shall be included on the official Convention agenda, handed out at registration and posted on the County Party website no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Convention (Saturday, April 26, 2008). (Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 6.B.3).
- 10.3 Resolutions shall be no more than 100 words, printed on one side of the sheet. The "whereas" arguments may occupy the remaining area of the paper, front and/or back side.
- 10.4 Amendments to Resolutions will not be considered.
- 10.5 Consideration of all resolutions shall be limited to a total of one (1) hour. Any resolution not voted up or down at the end of one (1) hour shall not be given further consideration.

#### **Section 11 Physical Arrangements**

- 11.1 The Convention shall follow the Hosting Facility Policies and Procedures and Arrangement Committee's requirements.
- 11.2 Candidates, organizations and individuals using the Convention for distribution, campaigning or any other promotional or reporting use shall be responsible to research and comply with the Hosting Facility's Policies and Procedures and the Arrangements Committee's requirements.
- 11.3 All literature to be distributed shall contain the name(s) and/or contact information of those responsible for the literature.
- 11.4 Candidates and organizations shall be assigned booth space by the Arrangements Committee. The method, location and time booth assignments will take place shall be noticed to the Candidates a reasonable time in advance. Booth spaces for countywide candidates will be given priority.
- 11.5 Those desiring a booth may send a representative in their place with all materials, documents, finances and authorizations required to participate in assignments on their behalf.
- 11.6 A representative from the Salt Lake County Republican Party Convention staff will be present to assist with questions about adherence to the Arrangement Committee's and Facility's rules.