**FAQ for Party Structure, SCC, CC, PC, and Conventions

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# Party Structure Overview

1. What is the official party structure? *According to IL Election Law: 10 ILCS 5/7-8) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-8)*
	* PC > County Central Committee > Congressional Committee > SCC
	* The SCC consists of 18 people. One for each congressional district
	* Each SCC rep is the chair of the Congressional Committee.
	* The Congressional Committee is composed of chairs of the Country Central Committees in that congressional district.
		1. The SCC rep/congressional committee chair is supposed to meet with the congressional committee and update them on the SCC/state of the party/changes that are happening/their opinions on votes
	* The County Central Committees are composed of all the Precinct Comitteepersons in that county.
	* The Chair of the County Central Committee is also a Precinct Committee Person and sits on the Congressional Committee
		1. The CCC Chair/congressional committee rep is supposed to meet with the County Central Committee and update them on the SCC/state of the party/changes that are happening/their opinions on votes

# Precinct Committeeperson (PC)

1. What is a PC?
	* The Committeemen shall be Governing Members, which means they have the rights to be elected to executive office in their county central committees, to be elected to the Central Committee, to hold office in the Executive Committee of the Central Committee, and/or hold office in any other political district committees as provided by law. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section B.3.)
2. What are the job duties of a PC?
	* It shall be the right and duty of Committeemen to vote on amendments to the Bylaws, and to vote in elections for the statutory officers of the Party. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section B.3.)
	* Delegate at the State Convention
		1. (According to IL Election Law and only with official party status)
	* Primary function is to elect :
		1. The Chairman of their County Central Committee
		2. Their SCC rep from their given congressional district.
		3. The Executive Board of the party
	* The Committeeperson’s job is really just an extension of what most people already do–talking to the neighbors. The difference is that our Committeemen become part of a state–wide team of activists.
	* With continual support and guidance of our Political Division, our Committeemen will be given the tools and instructions needed to become a libertarian leader and advance our platform principles of Less Government and More Freedom. A few example of Precinct Committeemen activities are:
		1. Identify libertarian–leaning voters
		2. Register new voters and encourage them to vote
		3. Distribute libertarian and/or campaign literature
		4. Participate in state–wide grassroots initiatives
		5. Carry out local party activities
3. PC Requirements
	* 1. *“Must be registered with the LP Illinois State Party”*
	* Must be a United States citizen.
	* Must be at least 18 years of age.
	* Must be a registered voter of the precinct.
	* Must not be a convicted felon.
4. How is a PC elected?
	* In those counties or districts within the State of Illinois where the Party is established according to Illinois law, Precinct, Ward and Township Committeeperson shall be elected in primary elections or appointed by their county central committee chair as provided by law. In all other counties and districts, Committeemen will be appointed by the Central Committee as provided by these Bylaws. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section B.3.)
	* Next opportunity to run is in the 2020 Primary Election.
	* Must file 10 petition signatures from Sept 2019 - Dec 2019
		1. Petitions must contain the valid signatures of a minimum of 10 registered voters of the Libertarian Party in the precinct in which you are running.
		2. HELPFUL TIPS:
			1. Get at least twice the minimum number of signatures required.
			2. You can sign your own petition
		3. File Nominating Papers.
			1. The following documents must be filed with your Office of County Clerk:
				1. Precinct Committeeperson Petitions (All petition pages must be numbered; bound (staple or hole-punch/fasteners); and notarized.)
				2. Statement of Candidacy (Also must be notarized. And note the referenced Statement of Economic Interests is NOT required for Precinct Committeeperson or any other party office.)
				3. Loyalty Oath (Optional)”
	* What happens if my precinct doesn’t submit the signatures on time?
		1. That candidate will not appear on the primary ballot
	* What happens if I have someone interested in becoming a PC after the December deadline?
		1. They can be nominated for the position, with their term ending the date of the primary.
		2. They can still run as a write in candidate, but will not on the primary ballot.
		3. If they do not run as a write-in candidate and do not appear on the ballot, they must wait until the 30th day after the primary election to be nominated by the Chair of the CCC to be a PC. This means they cannot vote at the County Convention
	* Can be appointed to position if no one ran in the Primary, or if an elected PCs vacates the spot, except the period between the primary election and the 30th after the primary election.
		1. (i) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, whenever a vacancy exists in the office of precinct committeeperson because no one was elected to that office or because the precinct committeeperson ceases to reside in the precinct or for any other reason, the chairman of the county central committee of the appropriate political party may fill the vacancy in such office by appointment of a qualified resident of the county and the appointed precinct committeeperson shall serve as though elected; *however, no such appointment may be made between the general primary election and the 30th day after the general primary election.* (10 ILCS 5/7-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9) (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 100-1027) Sec. 7-9. County central committee; county and State conventions.)
			1. **The chairman of the county central committee is not required by law to appoint a PC. If a chairman refuses to appoint someone to a vacant PC position, the next opportunity for that person to fill the position is in the next primary election, held every 2 years.**
	* <https://elections.il.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/2018CanGuide.pdf>
		1. (Elected at the primary election) Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the general primary
		2. Precinct Committeemen – a minimum of 10 primary electors of his party
		REQUIREMENTS:
		Township Committeeperson- not less than 5% nor more than 8% of the votes
		cast (or 50 more than minimum, whichever is greater) for the party’s
		candidate who received the highest number of votes in the township.
		[10 ILCS 5/7-10(i)]
		3. In all counties other than Cook County, precinct committeemen are
		elected every 2 years. Township committeemen in suburban Cook County
		are elected every 4 years. [10 ILCS 7-8(b)]
	* <https://illinoisfamilyaction.org/2014/01/what-is-a-precinct-committeeman/>
		1. In all counties other than Cook, Republican Precinct Committeemen are elected to a two-year term in all even-year Primary Elections.
5. Cook County PCs
	* From <https://illinoisfamilyaction.org/2014/01/what-is-a-precinct-committeeman/>
		1. Do all 102 Illinois counties have elected Republican Precinct Committeemen?
			1. “No. But it’s only one county that doesn’t. By Illinois law, Cook County does not elect Precinct Committeemen (from either Party). In theory, GOP Township Committeemen and GOP Ward Committeemen in Cook can appoint Precinct Committeemen (or “Captains” as they are sometimes called in Cook), but very few do on the Republican side.”
6. How do I find out my precinct?
	* <https://illinoisfamilyaction.org/2014/01/what-is-a-precinct-committeeman/>
		1. If you have a voter registration card, your precinct is listed there. Or you can look up your voter registration information via the Illinois Board of Elections here.

# County Central Committee (CCC)

1. What is the CCC?
	* Made up of all the PCs, WCs, and/or TCs in the county
		1. The county central committee of each political party in each county shall consist of the various township committeepersons, precinct committeepersons and ward committeepersons, if any, of such party in the county. (10 ILCS 5/7-8) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-8) (Section (d) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027. eff. 1-1-19.)
	* Consists of a chair and any other officers deemed necessary
		1. On the 29th day next succeeding the primary at which committeepersons are elected, the county central committee of each political party shall meet within the county and proceed to organize by electing from its own number a chair and either from its own number, or otherwise, such other officers as such committee may deem necessary or expedient. Such meeting of the county central committee shall be known as the county convention. (10 ILCS 5/7-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9. Section (a)) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
2. What are the job duties of the County Central Committee Chair/Congressional Committee Rep?
	* The chair is the representative for the CCC on the Congressional Committee.
3. How is the CCC Chair/Congressional Committee Rep elected?
	* On the 29th day next succeeding the primary at which committeepersons are elected, the county central committee of each political party shall meet within the county and proceed to organize by electing from its own number a chair and either from its own number, or otherwise, such other officers as such committee may deem necessary or expedient. Such meeting of the county central committee shall be known as the county convention. (10 ILCS 5/7-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9. Section (a)) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)

# Congressional Committee

1. What is the Congressional Committee?
	* A Congressional Committee shall be composed of the chairs of the County Central Committees of the counties composing the congressional district, except that in congressional districts wholly within the territorial limits of one county, the precinct, township and ward committeemen, if any, of the party representing the precincts within the limits of the congressional district, shall compose the congressional committee. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section E.)
2. What are the job duties of the Congressional Committee Chair/SCC Rep?
	* The chair is the representative for the Congressional Committee on the SCC.
	* A State Central Committeeperson shall be a member and the chair of the Congressional Committee for the Congressional District in which he resides. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section F.)
	* The State Central Committeeperson, as chair of the Congressional Committee, shall not have the right to vote in the affairs of the Congressional Committee, except in the case of a tie
3. How is this Congressional Committee Chair/SCC Rep elected?
	* State Central Committeemen shall be elected in the same manner as provided by law for the election of officers of the County Central Committee and such election shall follow the election of officers of the County Central Committee. Each elected precinct, township or ward committeeperson who is present at the county convention shall cast their vote for State Central Committeemen. If the Party is established in the Congressional District, each vote cast shall equal the number of Libertarian ballots voted for all Precinct Committeemen in the precinct for the last preceding primary election. If the Party is not established in the Congressional District, each vote cast shall equal the number of Libertarian ballots voted for President or Governor in the precinct for the last preceding general election. The weighted vote for vacant precincts, and precincts not represented at the county convention, shall not be counted. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section H.)
4. Who are the Current State Central Committeepersons? ([See Map in Appendix](#_hlr5pfotefbc))
	* *District 1 - No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 2 - *No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* *District 3 - No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 4 - Justin Tucker
	* District 5 – Bennett Morris
	* District 6 - Julie Fox
	* *District 7 - No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 8 – Steve Dutner
	* *District 9 -* *No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 10 – Les Deffner
	* *District 11 -* *No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 12 – Scott Schluter
	* District 13 – Andrew Apel
	* *District 14 -* *No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* *District 15 -* *No Declared Candidate / Vacant*
	* District 16 – Fran Holt
	* District 17 – Chris Utke
	* District 18 – Damon Dillon

# State Central Committee

1. What is the SCC?
	* A controlling body within the State Party that works in congruence with the Board of Directors. This is the central governing body that is within compliance with state statute.
	* The Central Committee shall be composed of the Libertarian Committeemen who are elected or appointed chair of their Congressional Committee as provided by Illinois law and these Bylaws. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section C.)
	* The members of the State Central Committee shall be the Libertarian Committeemen, and the Officers and other officials who are elected or appointed as provided by law and these Bylaws. (IL Bylaws. Article 2. Section G.)
2. What are the job duties of the SCC?
	* Amendments. Amendments to these Bylaws, unless otherwise provided herein, may be adopted by the Central Committee upon receiving two-thirds (2/3) of the weighted vote of those present on the question, or upon receiving a majority of the weighted votes of those present if a copy of the proposed amendment is received by each member 30 days prior to the vote thereon. (IL Bylaws Article 9. Section A)

B. Suspension. Any provision of these Bylaws, with the exception of Article IX may be suspended by the Central Committee upon the vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the weighted vote. (IL Bylaws Article 9. Section B)

# Conventions

1. What is a county convention?
	* On the 29th day next succeeding the primary at which committeepersons are elected, the county central committee of each political party shall meet within the county and proceed to organize by electing from its own number a chair and either from its own number, or otherwise, such other officers as such committee may deem necessary or expedient. Such meeting of the county central committee shall be known as the county convention. (10 ILCS 5/7-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9. Section (a)) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
2. When do county conventions need to take place?
	* On the 29th day next succeeding the primary at which committeepersons are elected (10 ILCS 5/7-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9. Section (a)) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
3. What is a state convention?
	* The State convention of each political party, if the party chooses to hold a State convention, has power to make nominations of candidates of its political party for the electors of President and Vice President of the United States, and to adopt any party platform, and, to the extent determined by the State central committee as provided in Section 7-14, to choose and select delegates and alternate delegates at large to national nominating conventions.(10 ILCS 5/7-9 Section (b)) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
4. When is the state convention?
	* State conventions may be held within 180 days after the general primary in the year 2000 and every 4 years thereafter. In the year 1998, and every 4 years thereafter, the chair of a State central committee may issue a call for a State convention within 180 days after the general primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-9 Section (b)) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
5. Delegates at the State Convention
	* **(According to the Libertarian Party of Illinois Bylawsl)**
		1. [State] Convention delegates shall be selected pursuant to law and rules adopted by the Central Committee and spelled out in a Convention Rules Handbook or included in the SOC Board of Directors Manual. (IL Bylaws Article 6. Section C)
	* **(According to IL Election Law)**
	* Delegates from each county, other than Cook, are selected by the CCC Chair. In Cook County, delegates are selected by the various ward and township committeepersons
		1. The county convention of each political party shall choose delegates to the State convention of its party, if the party chooses to hold a State convention; but in any county having within its limits any city having a population of 200,000, or over the delegates from such city shall be chosen by wards, the ward committeepersons from the respective wards choosing the number of delegates to which such ward is entitled on the basis prescribed in paragraph (e) of this Section such delegates to be members of the delegation to the State convention from such county. In all counties containing a population of 2,000,000 or more outside of cities having a population of 200,000 or more, the delegates from each of the townships or parts of townships as the case may be shall be chosen by townships or parts of townships as the case may be, the township committeepersons from the respective townships or parts of townships as the case may be choosing the number of delegates to which such townships or parts of townships as the case may be are entitled, on the basis prescribed in paragraph (e) of this Section such delegates to be members of the delegation to the State convention from such county. (10 ILCS 5/7-9 Section (a)) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)
	* The number of delegates determined:
		1. One delegate for each 500 ballots voted by the primary electors of the party in such county at the primary to be held next after the issuance of such call
		2. If there were less than 500 ballots voted in one county, then there shall be one delegate for such group.
		3. If the number of ballots so voted is not exactly a multiple of 500, There shall be one delegate for the group representing the number of votes over the multiple of 500, which delegate shall have 1/500 of one vote for each primary vote so represented by him.
			1. In such convention each county shall be entitled to one delegate for each 500 ballots voted by the primary electors of the party in such county at the primary to be held next after the issuance of such call; and if in such county, less than 500 ballots are so voted or if the number of ballots so voted is not exactly a multiple of 500, there shall be one delegate for such group which is less than 500, or for such group representing the number of votes over the multiple of 500, which delegate shall have 1/500 of one vote for each primary vote so represented by him. (10 ILCS 5/7-9 Section (e)) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-9) (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 100-1027) (Source: P.A. 99-522, eff. 6-30-16; 100-1027, eff. **1-1-19.**)

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# Appendix

## Notable Upcoming Dates

2019

* February 26, 2019: Consolidated Primary Election
* April 2, 2019: Consolidated General Election
* May 3-4, 2019: LPI State Convention
* Sept - Dec 2019: PC petition signature submit deadlines

2020

* March 17, 2020: Presidential Primary Election
* April 15, 2020: County Conventions
* November 3, 2020: Presidential General Election
* State Convention

2021

* February 23, 2021: Consolidated Primary Election
* April 6, 2021: Consolidated General Election

## Congressional Districts Map

