Convention Rules, 2020 LPKY State Convention

**1.1 Credentials Committee**

1.1.1: The committee shall consist of three (3) or five (5) Voting Members of that Party. One shall be the Executive Committee Secretary of that Party, and the others to be appointed by the Executive Committee of that Party not later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the convention.  In the absence of an Executive Committee appointment by twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the convention, the Secretary of the Executive Committee calling the convention shall appoint the other members of the Credentials Committee and provide notice of those appointments to the Executive Committee.

**1.1.2 Registration and check-in of Voting Delegates for the Convention**

1.1.2.1 The Membership Director shall transmit, to the Credentials Committee, a list of persons that are Voting Members of that Party on the fourteenth day prior to the convention.

1.1.2.2 Registration and check-in for the convention shall be opened, onsite, starting one hour prior to the start of convention business, at the convention location. Any person who is a Putative Delegate shall then be permitted to register, if necessary, and check-in to become a Voting Delegate; provided he or she is in line to register by the time set for the start of convention business.

1.1.2.3 Registration, check-in, and check-out shall be processed by the Credentials Committee at reasonable times during the convention, and periodically provide a report, to be approved by the body, with proposed amendments to the list Voting Delegates.

1.1.2.4 After the initial report of the Credentials Committee, no additional persons may be a Voting Delegate until amendments to the Credentials Committee report, subject to amendment and division by the convention body, have been accepted by vote of the current Voting Delegates by a 2/3 vote. No person may be added to the Report who is not a Voting Member.  The Credentials Committee shall permit check-in to occur at a period of every two hours following the opening of the convention for 10 minutes, and 10 minutes preceding the opening of business at the end of each recess longer than ten (10) minutes; and shall present those additional check-ins to the convention body for approval.

**1.1.3 Opening of the Convention, Presentation of the Report of the Credentials Committee and amendments thereto, and Adoption of Rules**

1.1.3.1 The Chair shall not call the convention to order until the check-in procedure above has concluded. The Chair of the Convention at the start of the convention shall be the Executive Committee Chairman, unless he shall not be present or resign, in which case the Vice Chair of the Party shall serve as Chair. The Secretary of the Convention at the start of the convention shall be the Executive Committee Secretary. In the event the Executive Committee Secretary shall not be present, or shall resign, the Chair shall appoint the Secretary of the Convention.

1.1.3.2 Immediately after the Chair calls the convention to order, the first order of business shall be the Presentation of the Report of the Credentials Committee, which shall report those Voting Delegates authorized to vote. The Report may be, by the body of those Voting Delegates authorized to vote in the Report, debated, adopted or amended, by a simple majority vote. Putative Delegates shall be entitled, however, to be recognized on the floor, for a period of two minutes each, for the purposes of debating the Report of the Credentials Committee, but shall not be entitled to vote on the adoption or amendment of the Report.

1.1.3.3 The second order of business by the Chair shall be the presentation of Standing Convention Rules to the convention body, which may debate, adopt or amend these rules, by a simple majority vote. Once approved, these rules may not be further amended, but may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

1.1.3.4 The fourth order of business by the Chair shall be presentation of the proposed agenda. Once adopted, the agenda may not be modified, or its order of business deviated from, except by a motion to suspend the orders of the day, which must pass by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

**1.1.4 – General Convention Rules**

1.1.4.1 Balloting for each office to be elected shall immediately follow nominations from the floor for that office, and not as part of a slate.

1.1.4.2 The right of any Voting Delegate to nominate any person from the convention floor who is qualified, and meets all qualifications for the position, under the Constitution and Operating Rules as of the opening of the convention, to hold a position to be elected at that convention shall not be infringed.  Nominations shall be accepted by the presiding officer of the convention until the Chair calls for any further nominations three times over a contiguous period of 15 seconds, with no further nominations. No nomination shall be official until it is accepted by the person so nominated. If seconding speeches are to be given, the order shall be determined by random drawing of lots. At the discretion of the Chair, questions to candidates from the floor may be permitted.

1.1.4.3 Any vote for officer or office must be taken by secret ballot, implementing instant runoff or preferential voting, and “None of the Above” (or NOTA) also listed as an option. Tellers shall be appointed, as set forth in Paragraph 5 below, for any vote for any officer or office. The Secretary of the Convention shall serve as the chief teller and coordinate their activities. If NOTA prevails, there shall be no one elected to the position in question and it shall be counted as a vacancy at the close of the convention. The persons elected shall not take office until the adjournment of the convention.

1. Upon the conclusion of the voting and reports from the tellers, if any, for any office or officer to be elected at this Convention, the results of the voting shall be reported by the tellers to the Chair, who shall then report it to the Convention body. The Chair shall also report whether or not the results from the tellers is unanimous to the Convention body.
2. If the tellers results are unanimous, the vote shall not be subject to any challenge from the floor except upon a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the convention body to reconsider. If tellers are not unanimous, the convention body shall resolve the discrepancy by majority vote, or by declaring the election void and holding it again.
3. It shall be out of order for any member to seek reconsideration of any vote for any office or officer to be elected at this Convention: (i) except on the date the vote is held for the office or officer to be elected; and (ii) within two hours of the initial announcement of the results. Any such motion to reconsider shall be considered a privileged motion the first time that it is made. Not more than one motion to reconsider shall be considered.
4. Optional field race preference voting/instant run off procedure: for any field race in which more than one candidate for an office is to be elected, in an effort to effectively decrease the time elections take, the Chair may utilize this procedure for the counting of votes if he informs the delegates that he is using this procedure: once nominations are closed, the delegates shall submit ballots rank ordering their preferences between the candidates nominated; with a score that begins at the number of positions nominated; further, NOTA shall automatically be nominated (i.e. if 15 people plus NOTA are nominated, the first preference will be “16” and the last “1”); if a delegate lists on their ballot less than the number of people nominated, NOTA shall receive the next vote (i.e. if 14 and NOTA people are nominated, and the ballot has five candidates, then NOTA would receive a ballot of 9); any candidate that is selected on a ballot lower than NOTA shall receive a ballot of 0. The ballots shall add up the point totals, and the candidate having the top score will be placed first and rank ordering then provided; no candidate shall be nominated that receives a vote total that is less than NOTA. If any candidate receives an equal vote to NOTA, and positions remain available, another round of balloting shall occur in which that candidate and NOTA shall run against each other for the next available position, and delegates shall vote whether to add that candidate to the list.

1.1.4.4 It shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce the provisions of the party’s Constitution and Operating Rules. No appeal of the Chair enforcing the requirements or interpretation of the Constitution or Operating Rules shall be in order except upon 3/4 vote of the body, if the question may be appealed under the Constitution or Operating Rules; if the question may not be overridden under Article VIII, Section 1(vi) of the Party’s Constitution, no appeal or suspension of the rules shall be in order. Other appeals of the ruling of the chair shall require a 3/5 vote.

1.1.4.5 The Secretary shall be a teller. The Chair of the convention shall appoint two (2) or four (4) additional tellers. In the event that any teller is running for any office, a substitute teller shall be appointed for the vote for that office.

1.1.4.6 It shall be the duty of the Chair of the convention to assure that the right to challenge any committee recommendation is more than perfunctory, and places no undue burden on the challengers. All such committee reports shall be subject to approval and to amendment, in whole or in part, from the floor of the convention, and shall be subject to the final vote of the Convention.

1.1.4.7 Quorum to do business shall constitute 45% of the Voting Delegates. The Credentials Committee shall be responsible for tracking and calculating the quorum number.