

**The Republican Party
Seventh Congressional District of North Carolina
2025 Convention Saturday, April 12, 2025**

Convention Rules

Rev. 03222025 2100

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of these Rules is to provide for a fair and open Convention that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of all participants and encourages full participation of District Seven Republicans.

THE CONVENTION: To be held at The Historic Columbus County Courthouse, 100 Courthouse Circle, Whiteville, NC 28472.

REGISTRATION: Delegate registration shall open at **1:30 pm and close at 3:00 pm** on Convention Day. Those not in line **by 3:00 pm shall not be seated as Delegates. Convention begins at 3:00 pm.** Registration shall include the Delegate's full name, address and county, as shown on his or her voter registration, as well as email address and phone number which are required for identification and participation.

CONVENTION PLATFORM: The Convention will be held in-person only.

OFFICERS: The Officers of the Convention shall be the Chairman, Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-at Arms, as appointed by the District Chairman

CONVENTION COMMITTEES: The Convention Committees shall be the Committees on Credentials & Registration, Rules, Plan of Organization, Nominations, and Resolutions; the chairs of which shall be appointed as needed by the District Chairman.

QUORUM: Quorum for the transaction of any business shall be the presence of **fifty percent** of the registered and accredited Delegates from all counties who are certified by the Committee on Credentials & Registration, and are present on the floor of the Convention.

CREDENTIALS REPORT: The Committee on Credentials shall have available at the place of registration a list of names of Delegates and Alternate Delegates from each county, accredited and present at the Convention, and shall report the pertinent information.

AMENDMENT OF CREDENTIALS: Motions to amend the report of the Credentials Committee may only occur immediately following the presentation of the committee report and prior to its adoption. Prior to its adoption, no person shall be seated as a Delegate or Alternate unless duly elected at their respective Annual Precinct Meeting. No motion to amend the Report of the Committee on Credentials shall be in order unless the motion, including the specific grounds for the amendment, shall have been presented to the Convention Chairman in writing at the time of the report of the Credentials Committee. Challenged Delegates shall not vote on the report.

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION: Each year, the District Seven Convention shall adopt with a **majority vote**, a District Plan of Organization (or the State Plan of Organization), as presented by the Plan of Organization Committee. Amendments and "amendments to the original amendments" to the Plan require a **two thirds vote**. Untimely amendments require previous notice and a **two-thirds vote** to be adopted. If the District Convention fails to adopt a written District Plan of Organization, the previously adopted District Plan of Organization shall remain in effect, (to the extent not inconsistent with the State Plan of Organization). The makers of motions to amend the Plan shall provide printed copies of amendments to all Delegates.

VOTING: Delegates must be on the Convention floor when their votes are cast and recorded. There shall be no voting absentee, by proxy or substitution. No county shall cast more votes than the number of Delegates from that county. Votes shall be by voice or by standing vote of the Delegates, except for the voting of an elected office. All votes for contested offices shall be by a secret ballot method determined by the District Chairman. No delegation may be bound to vote as a unit. Ties shall be settled by a drawing except for the election of slates of officers which shall be settled by additional balloting.

DISCLOSURE AND CLOSURE: No motion shall be in order unless the maker and seconder state their name and county of residence upon recognition by the Chairman. Only Delegates may participate in discussion. No delegate may speak to the Convention longer than **One minute** at a time and not more than twice on any motion. Speakers shall state whether they are in favor of or in opposition to the motion, and shall alternate as to those speaking in favor of or in opposition to the motion, No Delegate may speak a second time until all others who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so. No Delegate may be given the floor more than twice on the same question without unanimous consent of the voting body.

ELECTIONS OF DISTRICT OFFICERS: In the odd numbered years Officers shall be elected for District Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The Nominating Committee shall have up to **five (5) minutes** to present its report with a full slate of nominees. After the Nominating Committee report, the convention chairman shall ask if there are nominations from the floor. Nominations for an entirely different slate of officers may be made by Delegates upon recognition by the Convention Chairman. These require a second. Nominating speeches shall be no longer than **two (2) minutes**. Candidates shall have **two (2) minutes** to speak in person or by electronic method in contested races in an order determined by a drawing. **Voting shall be by slate.**

Per the District Plan of Organization the votes for District Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary are **weighted**. Voting shall be by county according to the number of Delegates authorized to attend the District Convention, so long as there is one Delegate from the county on the floor to vote the Delegates authorized. Each County Chairman or designee shall declare the actual vote. **A computer program or mathematical calculation shall then weight the votes.** The number of Delegates per county, as authorized by the NC GOP, shall be reported by the Credentials Committee or the Convention Chairman.

At - LARGE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS: In the odd numbered years At-Large members shall be nominated by each County Chairman (no second is required), then elected at the District Convention. The NC GOP authorizes the number of At – Large Executive Committee Members for each District. The District Plan of Organization allocates the At -Large Members. The District Treasurer and Secretary each receive one of the allocations to the State Executive Committee. The others are allocated to the counties based on the number of registered Republicans in each county.

If a county fails to make a nomination to fill its allocation, nominations shall be accepted from the floor, regardless of the county (within the District), in which the nominee resides. All such nominations must be seconded. Nomination speeches if any, shall be no longer than **one minute**. A nominee may have **two minutes** to speak. If the number of nominees exceeds the number of unfilled seats, the election shall be performed in the following manner: Each Delegate shall vote for the same number of candidates as there are vacancies. The votes shall be tallied by a Teller Committee and reported to the Chairman. The top vote getters shall be elected as At – Large State Executive Committee Members until all seats are filled. Ties shall be settled by a drawing. This vote is not weighted.

NATIONAL DELEGATES: **Only In Presidential election years** the District shall elect **3 Delegates, 3 Alternates and 2 Replacement Alternates** to the Republican National Convention in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in the NC State GOP Plan of Organization. Election of Delegates, Alternate Delegates and Replacement Alternates to the National Convention shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast. The three Delegates securing the most votes cast shall be designated as Delegates. The Delegates securing the 4th most, 5th most and 6th most votes shall be designated as Alternates. The Delegates securing the 7th most and 8th most shall be designated as Replacement Alternates. Ties shall be settled by a drawing. There shall be no nominating or seconding speeches for National Delegate or Alternate nominations. Delegates wishing to be placed on the ballot for Delegate to the National Convention shall submit a Delegate Application Form to the District Party. The candidate must state on his or her Delegate Application Form the name of the Republican Presidential Candidate that he or she would be supporting and voting for (if given the opportunity), in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in the NC State GOP Plan of Organization. Prior to voting, each National Delegate candidate shall be given **two minutes** to speak to the Convention to specifically address items on the application form regarding his or her qualifications to be a National Delegate. Weighted voting shall not apply.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR NOMINEE: **Only In Presidential election years** the District shall **nominate one Presidential Elector and one Alternate Presidential Elector** in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in the NC State GOP Plan of Organization. Nomination of the Presidential Elector and Alternate Presidential Elector shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast. The Delegate securing the second most votes on the ballot shall be designated as the Alternate Presidential Elector. There shall be no nominating or seconding speeches for Presidential Elector or Alternate Presidential Elector. Delegates wishing to be placed on the ballot for Presidential Elector shall submit a Presidential Elector Application Form to the District Party, in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in the NC State GOP Plan of Organization. Prior to voting, each Elector candidate shall be given **two minutes** to speak to the Convention to specifically address items on the application form regarding his or her qualifications to be a Presidential Elector Nominee.. Weighted voting shall not apply.

RESOLUTIONS: Resolutions to be reviewed for consideration at the District Convention shall be prepared in PDF format and submitted via email to the District Seven Chairman or the Resolutions Committee Chairman no later than 15 days prior to the District Convention. The date, author, and organization if any shall be clearly identified in the resolution. Resolutions regarding issues sufficiently addressed in the National and State Republican Party's Platform shall be ruled out of order and considered unnecessary. The maker of the resolution shall be a duly qualified delegate to the Convention. The Resolutions Committee Report shall be sent to the Seventh District county chairs for distribution to their District 7 delegates seven days prior to the Convention. Resolutions and motions to amend resolutions shall not be submitted or accepted from the floor on Convention Day. A majority vote is required to adopt resolutions.

TIME KEEPER: A Time Keeper appointed by the District Chairman shall indicate to speakers a **30 second caution** before the expiration of their allotted time as indicated by a stop card or electronic timer.

TELLER COMMITTEE: In the odd numbered years the District Chairman shall appoint a Teller Committee of at least two (2) to count votes. Each nominee for an office may name one observer to observe the Teller Committee. In the even years an ad hoc committee of at least two (2) may be appointed to count votes.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES: GOP Officials and Candidates for Federal, State and District Offices (**in two or more counties**), may each be allowed by the Convention Chairman to speak for **two minutes** at the appropriate time in the agenda.

CONVENTION GUESTS: The Convention Chairman at his or her discretion may allow Guests to listen to and to observe the Convention in-person. Guests (seated separately from Delegates), shall not attempt to vote or speak to any matter before the Convention. Guests are excluded from Executive Sessions.

AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING: Shall not be permitted except as specifically authorized by the District Chair and Convention Chair for special events in the agenda.

ORDER OF CONDUCT: The Sergeant-at-Arms, with the Convention Chairman's approval shall reserve the right to have any disruptive Delegates, Alternates or Guests who refuse to adhere to the Rules of the Convention, muted or removed from the Convention floor.

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, (most current edition) shall govern this Convention in all cases in which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules and the State and District GOP Plans of Organization.

ADOPTION AND SUSPENSION OF RULES: A **majority vote** of the delegates present and voting shall be necessary to adopt these Rules. These Rules may be suspended during the Convention by a **two-thirds vote**. Rules that are drawn from or implement provisions of the District or State GOP Plans of Organization shall not be suspended. Amendments to Rules require previous notice by the Rules Committee. The Committee on Rules shall make available to Delegates, via the District Chairman, copies of proposed Rules of the Convention by email or other method.

DURATION OF RULES: The fundamental Rules contained herein shall remain in effect and govern, until new Rules are adopted at a subsequent Convention of the District Seven Republican Party.

The 2025 RULES COMMITTEE: Vince Musilli, Chairman.