

LPHarris Voting Rules for 2024 County Convention

As adopted by LPHarris CEC and posted per LPHarris Bylaws.

1. Convention Delegate Contact Information

- A. The CEC, or a designee of the CEC assigned to credential delegates for the County Convention, shall collect the email addresses of all delegates so credentialed.
 - i. Delegates must provide an email address for the purposes of party communications during their term as a voting member of LPHarris and for convention balloting. Emails will remain confidential and will only be used for the purposes of LPHarris meeting, convention or special convention notices during the 2024-2026 term and for balloting at this convention.
 - ii. Delegate emails will be held by the CEC Secretary for the duration of the term during which the delegate is a voting member. They will only be used to communicate with the voting member any scheduled business meetings or special sessions both of which may or may not contain votes related to party business.
 - 1. If the email provided is the same as the email used by LPHarris for general communications, the voting member will continue to receive standard LPHarris communications in addition to those specifically related to their duties as voting members.
- B. The email addresses shall be included in the credentials report submitted to the Convention Secretary. Email addresses will NOT be included in any public report, convention minutes or posted anywhere for the general public.
- C. Upon adjournment of the County Convention, the CEC shall, within 45 days of said adjournment, post the following documents online to the LPHarris website:
 - i. The current bylaws of LPHarris.
 - ii. The current members of the CEC.
 - iii. The minutes of the County Convention.

2. Election of CEC Officers

- A. Eligibility
 - i. All candidates to be CEC officers must be voting members of LPHarris.
- B. General Provisions

- i. Convention Chair shall open nominations for CEC one at a time starting with Chair. For each CEC position, the nomination process AND election should be completed before moving on to the nomination process for the next CEC position.
 - 1. This is to allow individuals who lost a previous CEC election to be nominated for subsequent CEC positions.
- ii. Convention Chair will close nominations for each position when no more candidates are nominated for said position.
 - 1. After completion of nominations, each nominated candidate will be given 5 minutes for a nominating speech by them or their designee(s) while ballots are being prepared.
- iii. All candidates for the CEC will be elected using the procedures noted in section 5 below.

3. Election of Candidates for Public Office

A. Eligibility

- i. All candidates for public office must meet the eligibility requirements established by LPTexas and Texas Election Code.

B. General Provisions

- i. Convention Chair shall open nominations for public office. Order chosen by the Convention Chair.
- ii. Convention Chair will close nominations for each position when no more candidates are nominated for said position.
 - 1. After completion of nominations, each nominated candidate will be given 5 minutes for a nominating speech by them or their designee(s) while ballots are being prepared.
- iii. All candidates will be elected using the procedures noted in section 5 below.

4. Election of Delegates to District and State Conventions

A. Eligibility

- i. All candidates to be delegates to district or state conventions must be voting members of LPHarris.

B. General Provisions

- i. The election of delegates to the District Conventions must be conducted separately from election of delegates to the State Convention.

- ii. Convention Chair shall open nominations for delegates to District Conventions first. Followed by electing district delegates as noted below in 4.C. Following completion of the election of district delegates, the Convention Chair will proceed to nominations for State Convention, followed by the elect of state convention delegates as noted below in section 4.D.
- iii. Convention Chair will close nominations for each position when no more candidates are nominated for said position.

C. Election of delegates to District Conventions

- i. There shall be no limit on the number of delegates elected to District Conventions.
- ii. To be a delegate to District Conventions, the voting member must reside within that District, based on their current voter registration.
- iii. All LPHarris voting members residing within the District are considered delegates to their relevant District Conventions.
 - 1. Time and date of District Conventions determined by applicable Texas Election Code and LPTexas bylaws.

D. Election of delegates to the State Convention

- i. LPTexas bylaws determines the number of LPHarris delegates to the State Convention and this delegate number shall be provided to the convention body prior to nominations.
- ii. The procedure to elect Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention is outlined in Section 5.E below.
- iii. When LPTexas allows alternate delegates to the State Convention, such delegates shall be assigned a numerical order of precedence.

5. Convention Voting Procedures

- A. Wherever possible, single seat elections should be grouped on the same ballot.
 - i. Candidates for CEC will be on individual ballots, with elections held one at a time in order starting with Chair,
 - ii. Candidates for public office in contested races will be on the same ballot.
- B. For single seat races with only one candidate, election by electronic ballot or by acclamation are both acceptable. All candidate races will also have the option of none of the above (NOTA) as noted in section

5.G below. Convention Chair shall choose the method (of the ones mentioned above).

- i. Election by acclamation occurs when the Convention Chair asks the convention body if there is objection to a candidate being our nominee for a given office. With no objection the nominee is elected. If there is objection, proceed to an electronic vote with the nominee running against NOTA.
- C. For single seat races with two candidates, the convention body shall vote as follows:
 - i. Plurality Voting (by electronic ballot)
 - 1. Vote for only one candidate
 - 2. NOTA will be a candidate on the ballot
 - 3. Simple majority wins
- D. For single seat races with 3 or more candidates, Approval Voting shall be used; except where restricted by the State Rules, or when a different voting system is decided upon by majority vote.
- E. For multi seat races, (state convention delegates and alternates), Approval Voting shall be used; except where restricted by the State Rules, or when a different voting system is decided upon by majority vote.
 - i. State delegate candidates who do not receive enough votes to be elected as a delegate, will be ranked in order based on their vote totals from the delegate election and will be considered Alternate Delegates, in that order, to the state convention.
- F. LPHarris will use OpaVote online voting website for balloting. Cost to be absorbed as part of convention costs.
 - i. CEC will confirm prior to convention that OpaVote is still an available option. If not, the CEC will propose and vote on an alternate electronic platform prior to convention and posted according to LPHarris bylaws.
 - ii. Voting members will be required to have electronic devices with email support allowing them to use OpaVote (or other approved electronic voting method as adopted by the CEC). Electronic balloting systems, such as OpaVote, significantly reduce the time for balloting and reduce errors associated with collection and counting.
 - 1. If a Voting member cannot meet the requirements of 5.F.ii, a paper ballot will be issued to that voting member.
- G. Right to Vote Against

- i. The right to vote for none of the nominees, none of the above or “NOTA”, shall be an available choice in all elections except where restricted by LPTexas State Rules.
- ii. LPHarris Voting members shall have the right to not elect someone to Public or Party Office.