

RULES OF THE 2025 WAKE COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION MARCH 5, 2025

RULE 1. **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The purpose of these rules is to provide for a fair and open Convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the Convention, respects the rights of the majority and minority, and encourages full participation by all Republicans.

RULE 2. **CONVENTION OFFICERS**

- A. The officers of the Convention, in addition to the officers of the Wake County Republican Party, shall be the Convention Chair, the Secretary, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms, appointed by the County Chair.
- B. The Convention Chair shall appoint a Parliamentarian and such Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms as he/she deems necessary.

RULE 3. **COMMITTEES**

Pursuant to Article IV.1.B of the Plan of Organization, the Convention's Committee on Credentials shall be those members duly appointed by the County Chair, with advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

RULE 4. **REGISTRATION**

- A. Registrants for the 2025 Joint Precinct Meetings and Convention must have registered to attend prior to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 2, 2025. Registration can be found at <https://wakegopconvention.com>. Once registration closes at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 2, 2025, no additional registrations may be submitted.
- B. All registrants must pick up their credentials at the Gov. Scott Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607 between 5:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2023.
 - a. Registrants must show a valid photo identification to receive their credentials and be certified to participate in the Convention. For extenuating circumstances, this rule may be waived by the Committee on Credentials if the Committee is satisfied that the Delegate is known fully by a trusted source. Delegates must at all times display their credentials unobstructed on the outside of their clothing to be easily seen by convention staff.
 - b. Any person not a Delegate or Alternate Delegate attempting to use the credentials of any

registered Delegate or Alternate Delegate will be immediately removed from the premises. After such an occurrence, an investigation by the party will be conducted to determine whether the Delegate or Alternate Delegate whose credentials were used was complicit in the use. If complicity is found, the Delegate or Alternate Delegate will be disqualified as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate for the District and State Conventions.

- C. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates must have been elected in their respective precinct meetings (which will occur at the beginning of the joint precinct meetings and convention), certified as Wake County Republican voters and resident in their precincts on January 31, 2025 (or certified to have moved since January 31, 2025), and pre-registered for their respective precinct meeting.
- D. Pursuant to Article II.1.I.(3), no Delegate or Alternate Delegate shall be added to the credentials list following the adjournment of the precinct meeting.

RULE 5. **CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The 2025 Wake County Republican Convention shall be held at the Gov. Kerr Scott Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607.
- B. The Convention shall convene around 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, and recess or adjourn as determined by the Convention Chair.
- C. The Convention Floor is defined as the marked and secured Delegate-only area of the Convention Hall.

RULE 6. **COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS**

- A. At the end of the Precinct Meeting a preliminary credential report will be made available at wakegopconvention.com/credentialreport for the review of elected Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Convention.
- B. Pursuant to Article II.1.I.(3), no Delegate or Alternate Delegate shall be added to the credentials list following the adjournment of the precinct meeting, therefore, prior to the adoption of the Final Report of the Committee on Credentials, no person shall be seated as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate unless elected as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate at his or her respective Precinct Meeting.
- C. Motions to amend the Final Report of the Committee on Credentials may occur only immediately following that Credentials Committee Report, for such period as allowed by the Convention Chair.
- D. Motions to amend a Report of the Committee on Credentials shall be in order as follows:
 - a. After the Preliminary Report of the Committee on Credentials is provided as required by Rule 6.A., but before the adoption of the Final Report of the Committee on Credentials by the Committee on Credentials, provided:
 - i. Before the Convention is called to order the motion is made by a Delegate, and

- ii. The motion is made to the Committee on Credentials prior to 5:00 p.m. the day before the Convention, and
 - iii. The motion states the specific grounds for its proposed adoption, and
 - iv. The Delegate shall confer with the Committee on Credentials after being so directed by the Chair of the Committee on Credentials, and
 - v. The Chair of the Committee on Credentials may require the motion be reduced to writing and the Committee on Credentials provided one-thousand (1,000) copies for distribution at the Convention at the expense of the maker of the motion.
- E. Notwithstanding the forgoing, after the Committee on Credentials gives its Report, if a Precinct does not have a full Delegation, the Convention may seat the Alternate Delegate(s) of that Precinct as Delegate(s), up to the maximum number of Delegates for that Precinct as allocated per the Plan of Organization.

RULE 7. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business of the Convention shall be published in advance of the Convention.

RULE 8. **QUORUM**

A quorum for all business transactions and the election of officers shall consist of a majority of the accredited and registered Delegates as certified by the Committee on Credentials and present on the floor of the Convention.

RULE 9. **DISCLOSURE AND CLOSURE**

- A. No motion whatsoever shall be in order unless the maker is duly recognized by the Chair and the maker and seconder state their name(s) and precinct(s).
- B. Debate on any substantive issue shall consist of a maximum of two rounds of debate. Each round shall be a maximum of two minutes evenly divided between speakers for and against, with each speaker allowed to speak for no more than one minute.
- C. Debate on any procedural issue shall consist of a maximum of two rounds of debate. Each round shall be a maximum of two minutes evenly divided between speakers for and against.
- D. Motions for calling the previous question shall not be in order until the conclusion of the second round of debate of any issue.

- E. The Chair shall recognize the maker of a motion for the first round of affirmative debate.
- F. Any demonstrations or presentations must have prior written approval from the County Party Chair and the Convention Chair.

RULE 10. **VOTING**

- A. Voting may be conducted by voice, division, or paper ballot.
- B. There shall be no proxy voting.
- C. Delegates casting a vote must be on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast. Delegates shall be considered on the floor of the Convention pursuant to Rule 5. Entry and exit from the Convention Floor shall be limited during voting.

RULE 11. **ELECTIONS**

- A. **Election of County Officers and At-Large Members of the Executive Committee.**
 - a. Pursuant to Article IV.2.B.(1), in every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect as County Officers: Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.
 - b. Pursuant to Article IV.2.B.(6), in every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect, in addition to the County Officers, five individuals to serve as At-Large voting members of the County Executive Committee.
 - c. Candidates must file an official Statement of Candidacy no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2025, to appear on the official ballot. All others who do not provide an official Statement of Candidacy must run as a “write-in” candidate.
 - d. At the conclusion of the filing period, the Committee on Credentials will certify that each candidate meets the requirements of office as set forth in the County and State Plans of Organization.
 - e. Candidates for County Officer and At-Large Member of the Executive Committee may campaign in designated areas of the Convention Hall. Electioneering, with exception of an entitled address to the Convention, must conclude at the Call to Order of the Convention, and there shall be absolutely no electioneering during the voting process.
 - f. No candidate shall attempt to intimidate or otherwise suppress any Delegate’s voting rights during the voting process.
 - g. Pursuant to Article IV.2.B.(4)(b), the County Convention shall vote on each position separately.
 - h. Ballots shall be produced listing each County Office separately and listing those candidates

who filed a Statement of Candidacy with the Wake County Republican Party and have been qualified pursuant to Rule 11.A(b) and (c). Candidates shall be listed in the order determined as follows: After February 28, 2025, the County Chair shall ask a designee to draw a letter from a container holding all letters from A-to-Z. This shall be the “starting letter.” The County Chair shall then flip a fair coin with the designation of “heads” to cause the candidate listings to move from the starting letter forward in the alphabet and “tails” to cause the candidate listings to move from the starting letter backwards in the alphabet..

- i. Each candidate for Chair shall be entitled to address the Convention for a time not to exceed three minutes (3 minutes) prior to voting.
- j. Each candidate for First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be entitled to address the Convention for a time not to exceed one minute (1 minute) prior to voting.
- k. Each candidate for Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer shall be entitled to address the Convention for a time not to exceed thirty-seconds (30 seconds) prior to voting.
- l. Each candidate for At-Large Member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to address the Convention for a time not to exceed thirty-seconds (30 seconds) prior to voting.
- m. All candidates who choose to appear on stage to speak to the Delegates will promptly queue up in line at the designated side of the stage to expedite the process and to ensure minimum downtime in the Convention program. Any candidate who misses the opportunity to speak for failure to be available when called forfeits the opportunity to speak. Candidates are strongly encouraged to rehearse and time their comments before the convention as any candidate who exceeds his or her allotted time to speak is subject to having his or her microphone turned off after the allotted time expires.
- n. Pursuant to Article IV.2.B(4)(d), voting for County Office positions shall be by secret ballot and shall follow in accordance with Rule 10.
- o. The winner will be declared by plurality with the person obtaining the greatest number of votes declared the winner. Results will be publicized after the conclusion of the speakers.

B. Selection of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to District and State Conventions

- a. The Committee on Credentials shall present a slate of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Second, Fourth, or Thirteenth Congressional District Convention, as appropriate, and North Carolina State Republican Party Convention developed using the following order:
 - i. Those persons elected Delegates to the Wake County Convention who were certified, registered, and attended the county Convention and who requested election as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate.
 - ii. Those persons elected Alternate Delegates to the Wake County Convention who were certified, registered, and attended the county Convention and who requested election as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate.

- iii. Those persons currently holding elected public office on the federal and state level who are registered Republicans and who have requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate prior to the start of the Wake County Convention.
 - iv. Those persons currently holding elected public office on the county and municipal level who are registered Republicans and who have requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate prior to the start of the Wake County Convention, and who were not otherwise included in their precinct delegation to the county Convention.
 - v. Those persons elected Delegates to the Wake County Convention who were certified, registered, and were unable to attend the county Convention and who requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate prior to the start of the Wake County Convention.
 - vi. Those persons elected Alternate Delegates to the Wake County Convention who were certified, registered, and were unable to attend the county Convention and who requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate on their county Convention registration form.
 - vii. Those persons elected Delegates to the Wake County Convention at their precinct meetings who were properly certified to the county Convention and who requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate prior to the Convention, but did not register.
 - viii. Those persons elected Alternate Delegates to the Wake County Convention at their precinct meetings who were properly certified to the County Convention and who requested election as Delegate or Alternate Delegate, but did not register.
 - ix. Other registered Wake County Republicans, including but not limited to Convention Observers, as elected by the County Convention.
- b. Any amendment to the Committee on Credentials slate must receive two-thirds vote from the Convention to be amended.
 - c. For purely honorary purposes, the Convention may elect a Delegation Chair and Co-Chair to each Convention.

RULE 12.**CONVENTION GUESTS**

- A. The Convention Sergeant-at-Arms shall admit to the Convention Floor only those Delegates certified and registered to the Convention.
- B. The Convention Sergeant-at-Arms shall admit to the Alternate Delegate Seating Area only those Alternate Delegates certified and registered to the Convention.
- C. The Convention Sergeant-at-Arms shall admit or escort to the Convention Floor any authorized

guest, approved by the County Chair or the Convention Chair. Any guest admitted or escorted may not attempt to participate in official business, including voting, while on the Floor. These guests may be identified by an “All Access Pass” and may include security personnel, production personnel, and/or volunteers of the Wake GOP.

- D. Upon approval of the County Chair, Observers may register, pay the Convention fee, as applicable, and attend the Convention. Observers will be admitted to the Hall after Precinct Meeting have ended. All Observers shall remain in designated seating sections, as available, within the Convention Hall and may not participate in the official business of the Convention.
- E. Any Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and/or Observer who is found to be disruptive and uncooperative may be ejected from the Convention Hall and asked to leave the grounds of the Convention Site. Refusal shall be deemed trespassing and referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

RULE 13. **RESOLUTIONS**

- A. At least one copy of all resolutions to be submitted to the Convention must be provided to the County Chair by 5:00 p.m. ten days prior to the Convention (February 24, 2025) by electronic mail at chair@wakegop.org.
- B. One thousand additional copies of all resolutions must be presented to the County Chair for review and use by the Delegates of the Convention by delivering such copies to the Gov. Kerr Building between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on March 5, 2025, and must follow proper form as required by Rule 14.
- C. The maker of any resolution must be present at the Convention, clearly identified at the top of each resolution, and be responsible for distributing copies of the resolution to all Convention Delegates prior to the start of the Convention.
- D. The County Chair, at his/her sole discretion, may waive requirement in Rule 13.B. and present the resolution in the Official Convention Program, if one is printed.

RULE 14. **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The most current edition of Roberts' Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern this Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these rules and the County and State Plans of Organization.

RULE 15. **ADOPTION AND SUSPENSION OF RULES**

- A. These rules shall be adopted by a majority vote of the Delegates and Alternate Delegates sitting as Delegates at the Convention.

- B. These rules may be suspended during the Convention by a two-thirds vote, except that the Rules contained herein which are drawn from or implement provisions of the County or State Plan of Organization may not be suspended.

RULE 16.
DURATION OF RULES

These Rules shall govern the 2025 Wake County Republican Party Convention and shall expire at such time as the Convention adjourns sine die.