



State Convention General Rules

June 8th & 9th, 2024

Milwaukee, WI

I. General Rules

- a. The conduct of the Convention shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, insofar as it does not conflict with the following special rules of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, its Constitution and Bylaws.
- b. The State Chair may appoint temporary chairs and parliamentarians.
- c. Only paid exhibitors may distribute or display printed materials including but not limited to flyers, brochures, buttons, stickers, signs, flags, and banners.
- d. Outside noisemakers, speech amplification or other sound amplification equipment cannot be brought into or used in the convention space without prior approval, except for small speakers used by paid exhibitors at a reasonable volume for their unity fair display.

II. Authority of the Chair

- a. The Chair of the party, or the Chair of the committee or party unit presiding over specific proceedings, shall have full authority to enforce order and decorum at all times. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, the presiding Chair may call to order any attendee whose conduct disrupts the proceedings.
- b. The presiding Chair may designate another individual to act on their behalf in ensuring order and adherence to these rules.
- c. The presiding Chair, at their discretion or upon the motion of any delegate, may declare a temporary recess or adjournment to restore order or to protect the safety of attendees.

III. Disruptions and Enforcement

- a. Anyone speaking out of turn, intentionally preventing proceedings, blocking egress, or otherwise in violation of Robert's Rules of Order is causing a disruption to the convention and is in violation of these rules.
- b. Any delegate or designated official may raise a point of order immediately upon the occurrence of a breach of rules. It is the duty of the presiding Chair to promptly rule on the point of order, maintaining the orderly progression of business.
- c. In the event of an act of disruption, the presiding Chair or their designee has the authority to demand that the disruption cease and to order the removal of disruptive individuals if necessary to ensure that business may be conducted without interference.
- d. These rules are enforceable by the security personnel of the convention venue, under the direction of the presiding Chair or their designee.
- e. All attendees are required to comply with these rules as a condition of attendance and participation.



IV. Registration

- a. Registration of delegates, alternates, and guests shall be Saturday, June 9, from 9:00 AM until 7:30 PM and Sunday, June 9, from 8:00 AM until 9:30 AM at which time registration shall permanently close.
- b. Each Congressional District, with the exception of the 2nd and 4th, will have one table for registration. The exception districts (2nd & 4th) will have two tables for registration.
- c. The process of elevating alternates to delegates shall begin on Sunday, June 9, 2023, at 9:45 AM and end at 10:15 AM. Alternates shall be raised to delegate status in the order that they present themselves at the registration table and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.
- d. Anyone in line to register by 7:30 PM on Saturday, June 8, or 9:30 AM on Sunday, June 9, will be eligible to register. Any alternates in line by 10:15 AM on Sunday, June 9, will be eligible to be raised to delegate status if a county's delegate quota allows and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.
- e. Changes in the delegate alternate lists shall be made pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws of the party.

V. Quorum

- a. Pursuant to the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, a quorum is 25% of all registered delegates.
- b. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, consideration of a Party Constitutional Amendment requires a 50% quorum of all registered delegates. Proposals for amending the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin must be submitted in writing by any county unit or authorized sub-division thereof or of any permanent committee of the party to a standing constitution committee through state headquarters at least 90 days before the state convention.

VI. Voting

- a. When a full delegation of any given county is not present on the floor of the Conventions, alternates may vote in the place of absent delegates. County chairpersons or designees are responsible for assuring that alternates vote on the floor only when the full quota of the county's delegates is not present.
- b. Seating of delegations shall be by Congressional District.
 - a. Party units conducting elections at Convention shall have purview over their voting process, insofar as it does not conflict with their governing documents.
 - c. All other election and voting procedures shall be determined in the 2024 Election Rules.

VII. Platform & Resolutions

- a. A 60% vote of those delegates present and voting is required to amend the platform from the convention floor.
- b. The Platform and Resolutions Committee report shall be distributed to all delegates and alternates.



- c. Amendments must be introduced while a resolution subsection is being discussed, must be germane to the issue, and must be submitted to the Convention Secretary in writing before being discussed.
- d. Pursuant to State Party Bylaws, resolutions, including resolutions offered from the floor, shall be no more than 100 words in length, with a minimum of 50 copies on numbered lined paper, and presented to the chair of the Platform and Resolutions Committee a minimum of three hours prior to the beginning of the Convention's Call to Order and shall not be in conflict with the platform of any previous action of the Convention. The Platform and Resolutions Committee shall meet a minimum of two hours before the convention convenes to review all proposed floor resolutions. They shall reject those that do not meet the above criteria. They may make a recommendation for approval or rejection of floor resolutions.

VIII. Floor Debate

- a. The time for debate of any motion shall be determined by the chair and shall not exceed 10 minutes. For contested matters, the chair shall allocate equal time to each side.
- b. No delegate shall speak more than two (2) minutes at a time on any motion, nor speak a second time until all other delegates on the same side of the motion have spoken.
- c. Upon being recognized, delegates shall announce their name and county.
- d. If a delegate shall be called to order by the chair, the delegate shall be seated until the question of order is determined.
- e. No motion offered from the floor, except a purely procedural motion, shall be considered until delivered to the secretary in writing.
- f. All motions shall be for positive action. A motion to reject is not in order. A motion to table is not debatable or amendable.
- g. A delegate who due to disability has difficulty in voting or taking any other action permitted delegates may if present on the Convention floor authorize another person to vote or take such other action on his/her behalf as s/he shall direct. A delegate who assists another in this manner surrenders no right of a delegate.
- h. On a motion to adopt, amend, or amend an amendment of a specific congressional district resolution, the chair may first recognize for debate only a delegate who opposes the motion. If no delegate who opposes the motion seeks recognition to be the first to debate it, the chair may put the motion to a vote without debate. If a delegate who opposes the motion seeks recognition to be the first to debate it, debate on the motion shall otherwise proceed according to the rules as if this rule were not in effect, except that this rule shall continue to apply to motions to amend that are subsidiary to the motion being debated. For purposes of this rule, to "oppose a motion" means to speak against adoption of the motion or make any pertinent subsidiary or incidental motion. This rule does not limit parliamentary inquiries, points of information and order, and other privilege