

RULES
ANNUAL CONVENTION of the GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
APRIL 10, 2021

RULE 1. Chair. The County Party Chair (Chair) shall have general direction of the meeting and shall be authorized to take such action as necessary to maintain order. The Chair, with the guidance of the appointed Parliamentarian, shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any delegate. Order of priority of Rules shall be (1) the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization, (2) the Rules adopted by the delegates of the Convention, and (3) Robert's Rules of Order (11th Edition). Courteous respect for one another will be the standing order of the day.

RULE 2. Obtaining Recognition. When any delegate wants to speak in debate, the delegate shall indicate so to the Chair electronically by using the "Raise Hand" feature on Zoom. The Chair shall inquire of the delegate the purpose for which the delegate seeks recognition. If the delegate's purpose in seeking recognition is in order, the Chair will recognize the delegate, and the delegate shall state their name and precinct name or number.

RULE 3. Limitations on Speaking and Debate. All members will be muted until recognized by the Chair. No member shall speak in debate more than once on the same motion. Debate on a motion is limited to two (2) minutes per person. The Chair will attempt to alternate between members in favor or opposed to a motion. A maximum of six (6) speakers, three (3) on each side will be recognized. A "Point of Order" should be made only if the Party Plan of Organization, Rules of the Day, or Robert's Rules of Order are being violated by the Chair or another member. A "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" should be made only if it concerns the rights of the assembly or the individual's ability to hear, participate, etc. and is urgent in nature. Neither "Point of Order" or "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" shall be used to debate a matter that is before the body.

RULE 4. Credentialed Voting. Credentialed delegates are those whose names appear on the official delegates' list submitted by the precincts and who have registered prior to the Convention call to order. Other than elections, decisions will be made by a simple majority vote of the delegates present and voting. The Chair may take voice votes, votes by Zoom hand raise, votes by Zoom polls, or ballots for any and all votes. If a voice or Zoom hand raise vote is used, any call for Division must be sanctioned by delegates from twenty-five (25) percent of the precincts present.

RULE 5. Quorum. A quorum shall exist any time there is at least one credentialed delegate present from fifty (50) percent plus one of the precincts in the County. Quorum will be determined through electronic registration after the delegates enter the meeting. If the presence of a quorum is questioned later in the meeting, the Party Secretary, and/or assistants shall call the roll of precincts to determine if a quorum exists. Once a quorum has been established, no further quorum call needs be recognized for one (1) hour. If a quorum exists when the body begins debate on a subject, it is presumed to exist until that item is completed.

RULE 6. Nominations for County Executive Committee Officers. There are candidates who have already announced for office (self-nominated). Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Nominees must be Guilford County registered Democrats and be present to accept the nomination. Nominations do not require a second. Each candidate may have up to two minutes to speak. (The candidate may share the two minutes with someone speaking on the candidate's behalf.) Only nominations for Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary, and Treasurer made in accordance with section 2.03 of the Plan of Organization shall be in order.

RULE 7. Nominations for State Executive Committee Members. Only nominations for State Executive Committee members made in accordance with section 4.01 of the Plan of Organization shall be in order.

RULE 8. Election of County Executive Committee Officers and District Executive Committee Members. If only one nomination has been made, a motion to elect by acclamation will be in order. If two or more nominations have been made for an office, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the weighted vote requirements in Section 5.02, paragraphs 1-5 of the Plan of Organization. Each delegate will have an electronic ballot. The individual votes are tallied by precinct and then the precinct's voting allotment is allocated to the candidates according to the number of votes they receive.

RULE 9. Election of 29 State Executive Committee Members. If the number of nominations for State Executive Committee members is equal to the number of members to which the county is entitled, and the nominations conform with section 4.01 of the Plan of Organization, a motion to elect all nominees by acclamation will be in order. In contested elections, the top vote getters in a single round of voting will be elected to fill the respective number of seats for the SEC.

RULE 10. Election of 601 Congressional Convention Delegates. Any credentialed delegate may place in nomination the name of a registered Democrat as delegate to the Congressional District convention. (A motion may be made that Convention delegates present are nominated.) If nominations for delegates to a convention are closed and the number of nominations does not exceed the number of seats, a motion to elect all nominees by acclamation shall be in order. If all the delegate positions (601) are not filled by election, a motion will be considered to allow the Executive Director (Bess Lewis) to fill any remaining delegate slots to the District Convention, so Guilford County is fully represented at the convention (Names can be submitted to Bess [via email gcdpchair@guilforddems.org] by noon Tuesday, April 13] Include person's full name, address, phone number and email address.)