

OREGON REPUBLICAN PARTY
State Convention Rules – *October 19-October 21, 2023*

CR I.
Purpose and Goals

- A. Pursuant to ORP Bylaws Article XVII Section A, the purpose of the State Convention shall be to consider amendments to the existing Platform of the Oregon Republican Party (Art. XXVII). The ORP Chairman or his Designee shall serve as Presiding Officer during the platform portion of the convention.
- B. The Standing Platform from **2021** forms the basis for all discussion at this convention. Concise sections and planks will spell out specifics of values and ideals. The target length is five pages and no more than ten. When each Section Chair presents to the assembly the Section to be voted on, they will first submit the changes to the actual Section in the platform and second submit legislative agenda items for that section topic. Both the changes to the platform and the legislative agenda items, if any, must be voted on prior to moving on to the next Section.
- C. The Platform is the document that states the Oregon Republican Party (ORP) values and ideals. It should contain our guiding principles and morals but should not be bogged down in details. Legislative Agenda items, are items from the various section that instead of being placed in the platform as too much detail, they will be placed in a Legislative Agenda document, to inform everyone that those items are the top legislative priorities of the Oregon Republican Party. The Legislative Agenda can be broken down into action items for the State Legislature, Federal Congress, Governor, President, (Executive Branch such as agencies, rules, regulations), and even the county, city or local level. The purpose of the Legislative Agenda is to put the details of how to accomplish our platform in a written document that can be shared with the appropriate branch of government, instead of weighing down the platform with unnecessary detail.
- D. Platform format rules:
 - 1. Platform sections may have a narrative introduction and all planks shall be listed in item numbers (Section 1.1, 1.2 1.3 etc.)
 - 2. Technical revisions are those that have to do with grammar, style or timeliness, not substance. “Style” is defined to include duplication or redundancy, placement of a plank under a section or syntax and typographical issues. The convention may adopt technical changes in one vote or allow Staff to make technical revisions after closing of the Second General Session. If any of the technical changes are considered controversial, the technical changes must be referred, in part or in whole, to a caucus session.

CR II.
Convention Agenda

- A. The credentials process shall begin on Friday morning at the time set in the agenda.
- B. Opening ceremonies shall be held with the following agenda items:
 - 1. Approval of the Agenda for the State Convention
 - 2. Approval of these Rules or Rules as amended by the delegation.
 - 3. Allow any preliminary technical revisions report offered by committee.
 - 4. Conduct any business, give announcements or present reports, speeches and/ or presentations as deemed appropriate by the Presiding Officer.
 - 5. First General Session (referrals to caucus, see Section CR II C)
 - 6. Division to Caucus

7. Second General Session (adopt or amend sections or planks from caucuses, and adopt or amend the legislative agenda items from the caucuses. See CR II E)
- C. The First General Session shall be held as follows:
1. Consider motions or questions from the general assembly of the convention relating to the platform.
 2. Certified delegates shall consider motions to refer platform sections to caucus for possible amendment.
 3. If a majority of delegates vote to send an entire section to a caucus, the referral will occur. If the delegates decide, by **Two-Thirds** vote, that a caucus session need not be held on a platform plank or section, the plank or section will be left "as is."
 4. To assist in this process, the following steps will be taken prior to the Convention, beginning as much in advance as is deemed practical by the state, district and county leadership involved:
 - a) A form will be provided to all delegates and alternates to expedite any proposed revisions or additions to the Platform.
 - b) Each Section Caucus Chair may hold pre-caucus via telephone or video conference. All Precinct Committeepersons are eligible to participate in a pre-caucus. All suggested changes or amendments agreed to in a pre-caucus should be carried over to the caucus on Friday and the voting members in the caucus can either approve, reject, or amend the changes from the pre-caucus.
 - c) Amendments will be considered by the caucuses in the order received.
- D. Potential caucus sessions shall be scheduled after the General Session but shall be held only on sections which have been referred to caucus. The caucus sessions will report back at the closing of the caucus session on any proposed amendments to those sections as appropriate. The report from the caucus to the full convention shall present the entire section as it is proposed to be amended to the full convention delegation. After the caucus report on the platform section has been made, then that caucus chair will report on the legislative agenda items.
- E. The full convention shall convene on Saturday morning in the Second General Session.
1. The full convention shall consider motions to amend the platform **that are presented by a caucus**.
 2. If caucus sessions have been held, caucus reports will be considered as motions to amend the particular section as reported by caucus. Also, reports on Legislative Agenda will be considered as motion to create that section in a Legislative Agenda document.
 3. In the event that no sections have been referred to caucus, there would be no amendment to Platform.
 4. Action shall be taken only on sections referred to caucus. **Amendments presented by the caucus will be subject to debate then a vote of the majority to approve. The proposed amendment will not be subject to word smithing or further changes to the caucus section report from the floor of the convention. Legislative Agenda will be subject to limited debate under CR VIII B.2 unless time has expired then a majority vote to approve.**
 5. Any sections referred to caucus but not considered by the full convention will be considered not amended, reverting to the previously existing version.
 6. After the vote on the amendments by the caucus chair has been taken, then that caucus chair shall present for a vote any legislative agenda item. The assembly cannot move on to the next caucus section until a vote has been taken on changes to the platform and the legislative agenda items.
 7. The final items before adjournment would be the consideration of any old and new business not relating to Platform amendment.
- F. As used in these Rules, the term "section" refers to the preamble and major sections of the Platform (i.e. Economy; Crime Justice; etc.); "plank" refers to the single lines of each section (1.1, 1.2, etc.).

- G. This Convention Agenda shall apply notwithstanding any Convention Rule to the contrary.

CR III.
Credentials Committee

- A. The credentials committee, directly after the opening ceremonies of the convention, shall report by category, the number of delegates and alternates registered with proper credentials and shall make supplementary reports as necessary and proper.
- B. Any challenge to the credentials committee report shall be decided by majority vote of the convention with the party or parties involved not voting. All parties who are involved in challenges brought to the convention in the same report may not vote until the next item on the agenda.
- C. Definitions: as used in these Rules:
1. “**Certified delegates**” or “**delegate**” includes voting members of the State Central Committee, additional bonus delegates to the State Convention, GOP elected officials and 2022 GOP nominees. References to delegates or delegate include voting members of the State Central Committee, additional bonus delegates to the State Convention, GOP elected officials and 2022 GOP nominees.
 2. “**Certified alternate**” or “**alternate**” includes alternate voting members to the State Central Committee, additional bonus alternate delegates to the State Convention.

CR IV.
Delegate Identification

- A. Display: For admission to the convention floor, caucus meetings and to facilitate identification for seating, members and guests shall be required to wear or prominently display the identification issued by the credentials committee upon registration.
- B. Types: There shall be seven (7) categories of identification.
1. Elected officials and Candidates in categories 1-5 (ORP Bylaws Article XVII, Section B) – full voting member
 2. Delegates to the ORP State Central Committee – full voting member
 3. Alternates Delegates to the ORP State Central Committee – fill in for a voting member if needed
 4. Additional Bonus Delegates elected for the Convention – full voting member
 5. Additional Bonus Alternate Delegates elected for the Convention – fill in for a voting member if needed
 6. Media – do not have a vote
 7. Precinct Committeepersons as guests – do not have a vote

CR V.
Floor Procedures

- A. The area of the convention shall be separated into sections for delegates, alternates, and guests.
- B. Each delegate may be provided a voting card, if there are voting cards, to be used for voting identification. If the delegate leaves the voting floor, the delegate shall provide the voting card to an alternate in the same category. When the delegate returns, the alternate shall return the voting card to the delegate. An alternate with a voting card who leaves the voting area shall provide the voting card to another alternate in the same category. Each County Chair (or Vice Chair if the Chair is absent) is responsible for making sure each voting slot is filled with an appropriate delegate/alternate or bonus delegate/bonus alternate. An alternate can only replace a delegate and a bonus alternate can only replace a bonus delegate.

CR VI.
Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a majority in each of the following with 19 counties represented in categories A & B below (Bylaws Article XVII Section C).

- A. The certified delegates or their alternates to the ORP State Central Committee seated at this convention (Bylaws Article XVII, Section B (6)).
- B. Additional Bonus delegates or their alternates from each county seated at this convention (Bylaws Article XVII, Section B (7)).
- C. Those officeholders or candidates listed in Article XVII, Section B (1-5) of the ORP Bylaws will not be considered in figuring of the quorum but their number will be tracked and announced each time a credentials report is given, and their votes count in reaching majority.

CR VII.
Voting

General business. Any vote required during general business shall be taken by voice or by use of the voting cards. On a call for a division of the assembly, the Chair shall have members rise to be counted.

CR VIII.
Debate

- A. Only duly certified delegates, or their alternates if a delegate is absent, shall be permitted to speak in debate from the floor. (Includes GOP elected officials and GOP nominees, see CR III. C. 1.)
 - 1. Each delegate desiring to address the convention shall proceed to the microphone and wait in line for recognition from the Chair.
 - 2. The Chair shall recognize the first delegate in line as having the floor, when more than one microphone or line exists, the Chair shall alternate. Each person must state their name, county and position. (For example, John Doe, Crook County, Bonus Delegate; Jane Doe, GOP Nominee for CD6; Jack Doe, State Representative HD 40).

The only exceptions to being at the microphone in order to speak shall be motions that do not require recognition under the parliamentary authority, specifically:

 - a) Call for the Orders of the Day.
 - b) Raise a Question of Privilege.
 - c) Appeal from the Decision of the Chair.
 - d) Division of the Assembly.
 - e) Point of Information.
 - f) Point of Order.
 - g) Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
 - h) Objection to the Consideration of the Question
 - i) Reconsider.
- B. Limitations.
 - 1. The debate shall alternate between those members speaking for and those speaking against the motion, unless and until there are no remaining speakers for a particular position, or time has expired.
 - 2. No certified delegate shall speak in debate for longer than two minutes.

- a) Should a certified delegate wish to continue speaking after reaching the two-minute limit, he may request that the next certified delegate in line at the microphone yield him the floor in order to continue.
 - b) If the next certified delegate in line chooses to yield the floor, the first certified delegate may continue speaking for up to an additional two minutes.
 - c) When the next certified delegate in line yields to the first certified delegate in line, the time the first speaker uses shall count toward the two minutes speaking allotment of the second certified delegate in line.
 - d) In any case, no certified delegate shall be allowed to speak for more than six minutes on the same question.
3. The debate on any one amendment shall not exceed more than one half of the time allotted by the rules for each Section, unless the schedule permits. In no event shall any single debate exceed 20 minutes.
 4. A motion for the "Previous Question" will be in order only if no one is in line for debate and may be ruled out of order if it would delay proceedings.

CR IX.
Caucuses

The purpose of the caucus shall be to consider and refer amendments to the Platform. Amendments referred by caucus will be formally considered and adopted pursuant to these rules in the Second General Session.

- A. The State Chairman shall appoint at least one chairperson and vice chair/recorder for each caucus.
- B. As each caucus is completed, the vice chair/recorder shall deliver to designated ORP staff an electronic copy of the amended Section that is to be presented to the entire convention as the caucus report and compliant with CR I. D. Additionally, the vice chair/recorder shall deliver to designated ORP staff an electronic copy of the legislative agenda items.
- C. Debate in caucus:
 1. Any delegate or alternate may speak in caucus, provided they are recognized by the Chair. (See CR III. C. 1.)
 2. All duly certified delegates and alternates, as described in CR III, may vote on issues before the caucus.
 3. Debate procedure and limitations are as indicated in CR VIII.
 4. A quorum for a caucus consists of at least 5 voting delegates or alternate delegates, excluding the caucus chair(s).
 5. Any special or late-night meetings of caucuses must be announced during a general session by the presiding officer or other person appointed or allowed to make announcements.
- D. No Attendee/Guests can attend the caucus meetings. Only the ORP State Central Committee members, delegates, alternate delegates, bonus delegates, alternate bonus delegates, GOP elected officials, 2022 GOP nominees, the section chair, the section vice chair/recorder, ORP staff, and anyone with specific invitation from the ORP may attend individual caucus meetings.

CR X.
Second General Session

- A. The full convention assembly shall consider for adoption the amendments to the Platform proposed and approved by the

Caucuses

- 1 The time allotted for debate of all platform amendments during the Second General Session shall be divided by the number of Sections referred to the caucus and, a share of the time allotted for the entire Second General Session shall be allocated to each platform section that was referred.
- 2 Only duly certified delegates or their alternates, as described in CR III, may vote in this session.
- 3 Debate procedure and limitations are as indicated in CR VIII.
- 4 In the event that time for debate expires under these rules, and no motion to extend debate or suspend rules prevails, **the motion currently pending shall be resolved with no further debate.**
- 5 **After the motion from a caucus section has been resolved, no further motions will be allowed on that Section or agenda item regarding the platform. However, right after the vote on Section for the platform that Section Chair shall present the Legislative Agenda Items for vote. After the Legislative Agenda Items are voted on, no further motions will be allowed on that Section or agenda item.**
- 6 If Legislative Agenda Items are passed by the assembly, then the ORP Chair shall select a chair for a new Legislative Agenda Committee to take all the Legislative Agenda Items from each section and create a Legislative Agenda Item document. The Legislative Agenda Item document shall be voted on by the Executive Committee before the next legislative session. The Legislative Agenda shall be completed in time for consideration by the next session of the Oregon Legislature.

B Debate:

- 1 Only certified delegates or alternates serving in place of delegates may participate in debate during any General Session.
- 2 Debate procedure and limitations are as indicated in CR VIII.

CR XI. Rules of order

The rules contained in the 12th edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with either the Oregon Republican Party Bylaws or these Convention Rules.