

# OFFICIAL RULES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY

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## DEFINITIONS

As used in these Rules:

- **Republican State Central Committee (RSCC)** – The governing body of the Republican Party of Kentucky, the RSCC possesses the full, final, and plenary authority to govern the State Party and adopt rules for the election, composition, and governance thereof, as well as supervise local and district committees.
- **RSCC Executive Committee** – A body that governs the State Party between meetings of the RSCC and is composed of officers elected from the RSCC.
- **Subordinate Party Organization** – A party committee who is under the authority of a higher committee. For example, a county Republican committee is under the authority of a Congressional district committee and the RSCC, but the precinct committee is under the authority of a county committee and is, therefore, a subordinate party organization. As used in these rules, this does not apply to any organization that is not within the Republican Party of Kentucky.
- **Good Standing** – This refers to any person who is a registered Republican voter in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and a citizen of the United States who has not been found to be in violation of these rules or of the fundamental principles of the Republican Party.
- **Precinct** – A subdivision of a county that is drawn by the County Board of Elections and is used to group together voters in a specific geographic region for the purposes of elections. Every person in a precinct has the same city councilman or commissioner, state representative, state senator, and Congressman and every voter in that precinct votes at the same location.
- **County** – A legally defined subdivision of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, counties are created by the General Assembly in accordance with the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- **District** – As used in these rules, “District”, exclusively refers to a Congressional District, which is a geographic area that is usually, but not necessarily, composed of multiple counties and is the area represented by a member of the United States House of Representatives

## **PREAMBLE**

We are the Party of the open door. With these Rules, we seek to transfer the transcendent principle into accepted practice. But written Rules are no substitute for personal commitment. As Republicans, we are, and we must be committed to encouraging the broadest possible participation in the affairs of our Party. We must and we do encourage every Kentuckian to seek that level of Party leadership for which his or her talents and energy recommend them. No false distinctions of age, race, sex, or religion shall bar anyone from any Party position. Devotion to our Party's principles and loyalty to its candidates are and should be the only qualifications for holding any position in the Republican Party – the Party of the open door.

## **1. AUTHORITY, ORGANIZATION, & RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY:**

**1.01.** The final, full, and plenary authority and control of the Republican Party of Kentucky resides in and is possessed by the registered Republicans of Kentucky as represented by the delegates in State Convention assembled as provided in these Rules.

**1.02.** During the times when the Republican State Convention is not assembled the full and final authority stated in 1.01 shall be vested in the Republican State Central Committee (hereafter – “RSCC”). During the times when the Republican State Central Committee is not assembled, the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the operation of all party affairs subject to the limitations set forth in 12.03. Therefore, references herein to – “RSCC” shall include the Executive Committee except as limited in 12.03, or except where the context requires a different construction. When the RSCC Executive Committee is not assembled, the Chairman is responsible for the operations of all party affairs subject to the limitation provided in these Rules and will carry out such duties through the Republican Party of Kentucky (RPK) organization.

**1.03.** The authority of the Republican State Central Committee shall include, but not be limited to, full control of and over all subordinate Party committees. This authority shall include the governing and directing of Party affairs in all parts of the Commonwealth including the collection and disbursement of Party funds; the promotion of campaigns of Republican candidates at the national, state, and local levels; building party engagement and unity; and exercising such other duties, authorities, or privileges as imposed or granted either by State or Federal law and *The Rules of the Republican Party*.

Subordinate Party organizations shall include: district committees in each congressional district, county committees in each county, and precinct committees in each precinct.

## **2. THE REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**2.01. RSCC:** The Republican State Central Committee of Kentucky (hereafter “RSCC”) is a permanent political body.

**2.02. Membership:** Membership is limited to registered Republicans in Kentucky who are citizens of the United States and residents of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and in good standing. The members shall be as follows:

- (a) Eight (8) members, State-at-Large;
- (b) Twenty-four (24) members, District-at-Large, four (4) of whom are elected by each of the six (6) District Committees;

- (c) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each Congressional District Committee; The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each County Republican Committee;
- (d) The Republican members of the Kentucky General Assembly;
- (e) The Republican(s) elected to a statewide constitutional office for the period of time during which they hold such office;
- (f) The State Chairman, State Vice Chairman, State Secretary, and State Youth Chair;
- (g) The most recent past Chairman of the RSCC, who is qualified to be a member and accepts such membership;
- (h) The State Finance Chairman, State Treasurer and Legal Counsel, each of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman; all such appointments shall be subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee;
- (i) The Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman;
- (j) All current or former Kentucky Republican Governors, U.S. Senators, and U.S. Congressmen;
- (k) One (1) Republican member of the Kentucky State Board of Elections, being nominated and elected by a majority vote of the RSCC Executive Committee;
- (l) Anyone who has served as a Republican National Committeeman or Republican National Committeewoman from Kentucky for a period of twenty years shall be made a lifetime member of the RSCC and the RSCC Executive Committee. This membership shall apply to anyone who has served this number of years on the RNC as of June 30, 1996, or shall serve twenty years in the future. The life member(s) shall have all privileges of membership of the Executive Committee and the RSCC. No dues or attendance will be required of the life member(s).
- (m) The President, Chairman or highest-ranking executive officer of the Kentucky Federation of Republican Women, the Kentucky Young Republican Federation, and the Kentucky Federation of College Republicans shall serve as *ex-officio* non-voting members of the RSCC and the RSCC Executive Committee and shall have all of the privileges of membership except that of making motions and voting. Such members shall not be required to pay dues and their attendance shall not count towards quorum.

**2.03. Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the operation of all Party affairs between the sessions of the RSCC.

- (a) **Membership.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the six District Chairmen, the six District Vice Chairmen, the elected Republican leader in the Kentucky House of Representatives, the elected Republican leader in the Kentucky Senate, the eight (8) state-at-large members of the RSCC, the twenty-four (24) district-at-large members of the RSCC, the National Committeeman and Committeewoman, the State Chairman, the State Vice-Chairman, the State Secretary, the State Youth Chair, the State Finance Chairman, the State Party Legal Counsel, the State Party Treasurer, the most recent past Chairman of the RSCC, who is qualified to be a member and accepts such membership, and one (1) Republican member of the Kentucky State Board of

Elections, being nominated and elected by a majority vote of the RSCC Executive Committee.

- (b) Meetings. The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly. The schedule for quarterly meetings shall be approved by the RSCC Executive Committee. Meetings of the RSCC shall count as Executive Committee meetings for the purposes of this section. Meetings may be conducted telephonically, by video conferencing, or by other mechanisms as authorized by the RSCC Executive Committee. Electronic voting and balloting are permitted.
- (c) Voting. The manner of voting for all measures taken by the Executive Committee may be determined by the Chair and includes, but is not limited to, electronic balloting. The manner of voting determined by the Chair can only be overturned by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting.
- (d) Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be held upon the call of the State Chairman or by written petition signed by five (5) members of the RSCC Executive Committee and transmitted to the Chairman. Special meetings may be conducted telephonically, by video conference, or by any other mechanism as authorized by a majority of the Executive Committee. Electronic voting and balloting are permitted. The minutes of each meeting of the Executive Committee or of the RSCC shall be sent to all members of that particular committee at least five (5) days prior to the next meeting of that committee. Attendance in special meetings shall count towards consecutive meeting attendance but shall not be counted against attendance for members of the RSCC Executive Committee.

Notice of each meeting will be given in writing or via electronic mail at least five (5) days before the meeting. However, in the case of special meetings or in an emergency, the State Chairman may direct the State Secretary to give less than five (5) days' notice by telephoning, or contacting via electronic mail, the members.

- (e) Budget Committee. The Budget Committee is charged with the oversight from the RSCC to create and maintain fiscal responsibility for the Republican Party of Kentucky. Members of the Budget Committee of the Executive Committee shall be as follows: The State Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, State Youth Chair, Finance Chair, Legal Counsel, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and three (3) at-large members, who are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman.
- (f) Membership Committee. The Membership Committee is charged with reviewing individual cases when it comes to automatic vacancies, removals, or District Committee appeals. Automatic vacancies on the RSCC and removals from the RSCC as referenced in rules 2.08 & 2.09, are to be reviewed by the Membership Committee, who will consider individual situations and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee and RSCC. The members of the Membership Committee include: State Chairman, State Vice Chairman, six District Chairman or their designee (regarding appeals and removals, the committee will not include representation from the District whose District Committee decision is in question) and General Counsel. The Chair of the Membership Committee is the Vice Chair. Meetings to address vacancies can be held in person or by phone no later than the day prior to Executive Committee and RSCC meetings, at the discretion of the Membership Committee Chairman. Meetings to address removals and appeals will be called as needed pursuant to Rule 12.04. The District representative of the district in question shall not participate in Membership Committee meetings that hear appeals from said district, unless requested by the committee.

- (g) Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the RSCC Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

#### **2.04. State Officers:**

- (a) State Chairman: The State Chairman or their designee shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Republican Party of Kentucky with all necessary and implied powers to carry out his/her duties. The Chair is the leader of the Republican Party of Kentucky charged with establishing a strategic vision / plan for the Party, and ensuring the organization has the needed resources to fulfill its mission; oversees the overall structure of the party, is responsible for all personnel at the state party, and ensures the Party is efficient and effective at all levels. The State Chairman shall preside at all RSCC and RSCC Executive Committee meetings, shall create and appoint any special committees as necessary, and shall serve as a member of all special and standing committees including, but not limited to, those specifically provided for in these Rules. The State Chairman shall be responsible for carrying out the mandate of these Rules.
- (b) Vice-Chairman: The State Vice-Chairman shall have all the duties and authorities of the State Chairman during the absence or disability of the State Chairman and shall also serve during a vacancy in the office of State Chairman until such vacancy is filled. The Vice Chairman, or his/her designee, is to assist and support the Chairman in carrying out important tasks and act as a liaison for the Chairman and other key stakeholders as needed. He/She shall maintain broad Party relationships and is a key source of communications with the District and County leadership. The Vice-Chairman is a member of the RSCC and Executive Committee and shall also serve as a member of all committees. The Vice Chairman will chair all Membership committee meetings.
- (c) Secretary: The State Secretary, or his/her designee, shall keep and be responsible for the minutes and records, including correspondence, of the RSCC/Executive Committee. He/She will receive and file the minutes and records of all committees of the RSCC/Executive Committee, including its subordinate organizations and Party Conventions. The State Secretary is a member of the RSCC, Executive Committee, and Budget Committee.
- (d) Treasurer: The State Treasurer is the lead officer responsible for the financial compliance of the Republican Party of Kentucky and ensures proper adherence to all reporting rules and regulations. He/She shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall oversee all party receipts and disbursements. He/She shall work with the appropriate staff in order to keep careful records according to normal and accepted accounting procedures of all transactions, which he/she shall make available for audit on demand by the State Chairman or his/her designee, and at least annually to an audit committee. He/She shall be bonded in an appropriate amount. The State Treasurer is a member of the RSCC, Executive Committee, and Budget Committee.
- (e) Youth Chairman: The State Youth Chairman must be forty (40) years of age or younger at the time of election and shall encourage party activity among young voters. He/She shall work with District and County Youth Chairs to design and implement programs that will build engagement among young voters throughout the state. The Youth Chair shall also engage in and conduct any other activities and responsibilities designated to them by the State Chairman. The State

Youth Chairman is a member of the RSCC, the Executive Committee, and Budget Committee.

- (f) Republican National Committeeman and Republican National Committeewoman: The Republican National Committeeman and Republican National Committeewoman shall be elected in accordance with the Rules and shall fulfill all duties and responsibilities as assigned to them by the State Chairman or as governed and prescribed by *The Rules of the Republican Party*.
- (g) Deputy Treasurer: The Deputy Treasurer may be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee. He/She shall assist the Treasurer in the performance of the duties of Treasurer as stated in Section (d) and shall succeed to the office of Treasurer upon the resignation, inability to serve, or death of the Treasurer. The Deputy Treasurer shall not be a member of either the RSCC or the Executive Committee.
- (h) Legal Counsel: The State Legal Counsel advises the Party Leadership on all legal issues to ensure the Party remains in compliance on matters that include: Fundraising, election regulations, and communications. He/she shall oversee deployment of poll challengers, advises on recount challenges, lawsuits, and any other matters requested by the Chairman. As a member of the RSCC and Executive Committee, the State Legal Counsel will serve as parliamentarian in those meetings. The Legal Counsel shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee.
- (i) Finance Chair: The State Finance Chairman establishes fundraising goals and a strategic fundraising plan that will ensure the needed resources each cycle. Working with the RPK staff he/she will recommend key programs, fundraising events, etc. The Finance Chair shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the State Chairman subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee. The State Finance Chairman is a member of the RSCC, Executive Committee, and Budget Committee.
- (j) Election of Officers: The election of the State Party Officers will be completed in compliance to the rules as stated in Section 6: Party Organization.

## **2.05. Meetings of the RSCC**

- (a) Meetings: The RSCC shall meet twice each year on dates approved by the RSCC Executive Committee.
- (b) Special Meetings: Special meetings of the RSCC may be called by the State Chairman or a majority of the Executive Committee. A special meeting of the RSCC may also be called by written petition, which shall be signed by at least 25% of members of the RSCC (who are compliant with their dues and attendance required as set forth in the rules), provided that such petition shall be signed by at least five (5) RSCC members from each Congressional District in order to be considered. Such petition shall state the purpose of such meeting and be transmitted to the State Chairman.
- (c) Notice: Notice of each meeting will be given in writing and mailed by the State Secretary at least five (5) days before the meeting. However, in the case of special



meetings or in an emergency, the State Chairman may direct the State Secretary to give less than five (5) days' notice by telephoning, or contacting via electronic mail, the members.

- (d) Quorum: Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the RSCC shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.
- (e) Voting: The manner of voting for all measures taken by the RSCC may be determined by the Chair and includes, but is not limited to, electronic, balloting. The manner of voting determined by the Chair can only be overturned by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting.
- (f) All meetings of the RSCC, RSCC Executive Committee, and all other subordinate committees and Conventions shall be opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2.06. Standing Committees:** Standing Committees shall be created and shall exist at the pleasure of the RSCC. To establish a Standing Committee, any member of the Executive Committee can recommend such committee to the Executive Committee, and if approved by the Executive Committee it will then be recommended for approval by the RSCC at the next meeting. Each recommended committee needs to have a defined scope, identified members of the committee, and stated time when and how often it will meet.

**2.07. Special Committees:** Special Committees may be created and shall exist at the pleasure of the State Chairman; such committees shall be subject to ratification by the RSCC Executive Committee.

**2.08. Vacancies:** A vacancy in a position may be caused by death, disqualification, resignation, removal, or inability to serve. In the case of a vacancy caused by disqualification or removal, the person who was disqualified or removed from the position shall not be eligible for election to any RSCC post for a period of four years following the date of disqualification or removal, except with the approval of the Executive Committee. The State Chairman may by appointment, fill any Party officer's position if such position has been vacant for as much as three months without a successor having been named and certified pursuant to other applicable Rules of the Party. The person so appointed shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the office; any such appointment shall be subject to the approval of the RSCC Executive Committee, but the person appointed will have full authority of the office between the time of the appointment and the time ratification is considered by the RSCC Executive Committee.

- (a) A vacancy in the position of State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, State Secretary, State Youth Chair or Republican National Committeeman or Committeewoman will be filled by election of the Executive Committee. The person so elected will serve until the next meeting of the full RSCC, at which time a new election for such position shall be held pursuant to Rule 6.08, except that one person shall be nominated to fill just the existing vacancy rather than having a full, revised slate nominated. The person elected to such a vacancy will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (b) A vacancy in a state-at-large position of the RSCC/Executive Committee will be filled through election by the RSCC Executive Committee by majority vote. The person elected to such a vacancy will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

- (c) A vacancy in a Congressional District office position will be filled by the District Committee. Nominees for such positions shall be a registered Republican voter from the district in which the vacancy occurs and the person so elected will be certified to the RSCC by the Chairman and Secretary of the District Committee within five (5) business days of said election. The person elected to such a vacancy will fill the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (d) A vacancy in a district-at-large position of the RSCC/Executive Committee will be filled through election by the District Committee in which the vacancy occurs. Nominees for such positions shall be registered Republican voters from the district in which the vacancy occurs and shall be certified to the Secretary of the RSCC by the Chairman and Secretary of the District Committee within five (5) business days of said election. The person elected to such a vacancy will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (e) Once a person has been elected to a District or County Party Office which results in the person becoming a member of the RSCC, if the boundaries of the District are changed, or the officer moves out of the District or County making such officer a non-resident of the District or County from which elected, such office will be declared vacant.

**2.09. Removal by RSCC:**

- (a) Members of the RSCC and/or the Executive Committee are expected to pay dues and attend meetings of the RSCC and/or the Executive Committee as mandated in these rules. Failure to pay dues and attend meetings are grounds for removal. Any vacancy caused by loss of membership shall be filled as provided by these Rules.
  - i. The Membership Committee will review any Executive Committee member who has not paid their dues in full by August 31<sup>st</sup>, or 60 days after their election to the Executive Committee, whichever is later, and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee and RSCC whether to declare their seats vacant. Persons removed under this provision are eligible for immediate re-election to the Executive Committee; that is, they are exempt from the four-year waiting period mentioned in the first paragraph of Rule 2.08.
  - ii. The Membership Committee will review any Executive Committee member who have missed their second consecutive meeting and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee and RSCC whether to declare their seats vacant; such persons will be eligible for re-election to the Executive Committee at such time as the vacancy is to be filled, as provided elsewhere in these rules; that is, they are exempt from the four-year waiting period pursuant to Rule 2.08. This removal provision will apply to State and District officers as well as other members; however, it will not apply to the Senate or House Floor Leaders. Absences may be excused by the State Chair, subject to appropriate notification prior to a meeting.
  - iii. At every Executive Committee meeting, the Secretary shall report the names of all Executive Committee (and all other RSCC) members, indicating (a) whether or not they have paid their dues, and (b) the number of immediately previous consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee (or of the full RSCC) they have missed. For

RSCC members who are not on the Executive Committee, there will be no automatic penalty for absenteeism or failure to pay dues.

- iv. The Secretary shall report at every Executive Committee meeting those Party positions which are vacant, so that Party leaders can expedite filling the vacancies by means of procedures set forth in these Rules.
  - v. State and District officers who are removed from the Executive Committee pursuant to this rule will also forfeit their position in that office.
- (b) Members are considered to be in “good standing” unless 80% of the Executive Committee present and voting, and then 60% of the RSCC present and voting, vote not to allow an individual to be part of the RSCC because they do not generally support the core aspects of Republican values and principle or admit to, or have been found guilty of unethical or criminal conduct by a local, state, or federal administrative body or the judicial system.
- (c) In addition to the procedures available under Section 2.09(a), any member of the RSCC may be removed from the RSCC and from Party office for misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in office provided any member so offending has been given thirty (30) days written notice and the opportunity to be heard. He or she may be removed by majority vote of the members present at a duly called and constituted meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (d) Removal by the RSCC – Any member or officer of a District, County, Precinct, or other Party Committee, may be removed by the RSCC for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office by the same method provided in 2.09(b).
- (e) After giving 30-day notice, the Executive Committee, by vote of a majority of the members then present and voting, may declare vacant the seat of any party officeholder who supports or supported (during the current or prior-year's General Election) the opponent of a Republican nominee for local, statewide, or national office.
- (f) In addition to the procedures available elsewhere in this section 2.09, any party officer above may be removed without cause from said office by the Committee of which he is an officer. That is, any of the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, State Secretary, State Youth Chair, Republican National Committeeman or Republican National Committeewoman may be removed by the Executive Committee; any of the five (5) District Officers may be removed by the District Committee; and any of the five County Officers, or precinct officers, may be removed by the County Committee. Before any such committee may vote on the question of removal of an officer under this provision, said officer must be given at least 30 days advance written notice of the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting at which said vote will be taken. The vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the committee, present and voting, shall be necessary for such removal. No reasons for removal need be given. If the necessary number of votes are cast in favor of removal, said removal will be effective immediately.

**2.10. Appeals:** The process for appeals related to matters arising from any subordinate Committee of the RSCC, or any decision that is ruled upon by the RSCC, shall be governed according to the provisions of Rule 12.04(c).

**2.11. Contests:** The RSCC shall be the judge of any contested membership for a seat on the RSCC based on the review and recommendation of the Membership Committee. Neither the challenger nor the challenged shall sit as a member for such judgment but may be present in person or by counsel. Prior to such hearing, the person presenting a certification purported to be duly signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee empowered to elect will be seated until such challenge is resolved. A decision of any Congressional District Committee resolving a membership challenge may be appealed to the RSCC and reviewed by the Membership Committee.

**2.12. Headquarters:** The State Headquarters will be established and maintained at a site selected by the RSCC.

**3.0 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES:** The District Committee's authority shall include the oversight of Party affairs in the counties that make up their Congressional District including the collection and disbursement of Party funds in support of the district's county activities; working closely with the RPK by facilitating information with the county parties regarding Party affairs, and potential issues and opportunities; and submitting an annual statement of the District Party goals for the coming year and a summary of their revenue and expenses for the current year and for the projected year by September 30<sup>th</sup> to the RSCC budget committee.

**3.01. Membership.** Membership is limited to registered Republicans in Kentucky who are citizens of the United States, residents of the district, and in good standing. The membership of each Congressional District Committee shall consist of the District Chairman, the District Vice-Chairman, the District Secretary, the District Treasurer, the District Youth Chairman, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each County in the District, the District-at-Large members of the RSCC, State-at-Large members of the RSCC who reside in the District, the Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives currently representing the district for the period of time during which they hold such office, and all Republican members of the Kentucky General Assembly residing in the district for the period of time during which they hold such office.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of any County that is split between two or more Congressional Districts shall serve on both District Committees. Members may be removed by the District Committee in the same fashion and on the same grounds as set out in Rule 2.09. Vacancies will be filled by the District Committee except for County Chairman and Vice-Chairman, whose vacancies will be filled by the County Committee; however, long-standing vacancies may be filled by the State Chairman as provided in Rule 2.08.

**3.02. Officers:**

- (a) District Chairman: The District Chairman or their designee serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the District Party with all necessary and implied powers to carry out his/her duties. He/She is charged with establishing a strategic vision/plan, and ensuring the organization has the needed resources to fulfill its mission; oversees the overall structure of the District and County Parties; and the coordination of Party activity in their District. As the primary officer, the District Chairman is responsible to ensure the scope of the District Committees tasks is accomplished. The District Chairman shall preside at all District meetings, (required at a minimum annually) shall create and appoint any special committees as necessary, and shall serve as an ex-officio member of all special and standing District committees. The

District Chairman is responsible for carrying out the mandate of the Rules.

- (b) District Vice-Chairman: The District Vice Chairman shall have all the duties and authorities of the District Chairman during the absence or disability of the District Chairman and shall also serve during a vacancy in the office of District Chairman until such vacancy is filled. Further, the Vice Chairman, or their designee, is to assist and support the Chairman in carrying out important tasks and act as a go-between for the Chairman and other key stakeholders as needed. While this is one of the most undefined roles, it plays a critical role in maintaining the relationship between the State and County.
- (c) District Secretary: The District Secretary, or their designee, shall keep and be responsible for the minutes and records, including correspondence, of all District Party meetings.
- (d) District Treasurer: The District Treasurer is the lead officer responsible for the financial compliance of the District Republican Party and oversees proper adherence to all reporting rules and regulations.
- (e) District Youth Chairman: The District Youth Chair's role is to encourage party engagement among young voters and also conduct any other activities and responsibilities designated to them by the District Chairman; and to coordinate programs that will build engagement among young voters throughout the District and share with the State Youth Chair to build coordination throughout the state.

**3.03. Duties:** In addition to the authority and duties set forth in Rule 1.03, it shall be the duty of each District Committee to meet annually and to see to the organization of each County in its jurisdiction, that each County Committee is advised as to State and National Party affairs, and that regular written reports of its activities and copies of the minutes of its meetings are transmitted to State Party Headquarters. Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the District Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

**3.04 Meetings:** Notice of each meeting will be given in writing, by regular or electronic means, by the District Secretary, at least five (5) business days before the meeting. The District Committee may be called into a special meeting with twenty-four (24) hours electronic notice by the District Chairman, 25% of the District Committee, or by the State Chairman. Meetings may be conducted telephonically, by video conferencing, or by other mechanisms as authorized by the RSCC Executive Committee. Electronic voting and balloting are permitted.

**3.05 Appeals:** The process for appeals related to matters arising from the District Committee or any decision that is ruled upon by the District Committee shall be governed according to the provisions of Rule 12.04.

**4. COUNTY COMMITTEES:** The County Committee's authority shall include the managing and directing of Party affairs in their respective county including: the collection and disbursement of Party funds; the promotion of campaigns of Republican candidates who represent their county at the national, state and local levels; and the recruitment of poll workers that will represent the Republican Party on Election Day to ensure the fairness of elections. Each County Party will submit an annual statement of their Party

goals for the coming year, and a summary of their revenue and expenses for the current year just ended and for the projected year by July 31<sup>st</sup> to the District Committee and the RSCC budget committee.

**4.01. Membership:** The membership of each County Committee shall consist of the Precinct Officers and the County Officers. Each County Committee or Executive Committee (pursuant to Rule 4.08) may, by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, include as members any or all elected Republican officials who reside in the county, provided that quorum for such meetings shall be two-fifths.

In addition to Precinct Committees, County Committees may, by a majority vote, establish Ward, District or Area Captains over groups of Precincts in that County. Such Captains will be full-voting members of the County Committee.

**4.02. Officers:** The County Officers shall be:

- (a) County Chairman: The County Chairman, or their designee, serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the County Party with all necessary and implied powers to carry out his/her duties. He/she is charged with overseeing an annual plan that is reflective of the County goals, priorities, and financial resources; and oversees the overall structure of the County party and coordination of County Party activities. As the primary officer, the County Chairman is responsible to ensure the scope of the County Committee tasks are accomplished. The County Chairman shall preside at all County meetings, shall create and appoint any special committees as necessary, and shall serve as an ex- officio member of all special and standing County committees. The County Chairman is responsible for carrying out the mandate of the Rules.
- (b) County Vice-Chairman: The County Vice-Chairman shall have all the duties and authorities of the County Chairman during the absence or disability of the County Chairman and shall also serve during a vacancy in the office of County Chairman until such vacancy is filled. Further, the Vice Chairman, or their designee, is to assist and support the Chairman in carrying our important tasks and act as a go-between for the Chairman and other key stakeholders as needed. While this is one of the most undefined roles, it plays a critical role in maintaining the relationship between the State and County.
- (c) County Secretary: The County Secretary, or their designee, shall keep and be responsible for the minutes and records including correspondence, of all County Party meetings.
- (d) County Treasurer: The County Treasurer is the lead officer responsible for the financial compliance of the County Republican Party and ensures proper adherence to all reporting rules and regulations.
- (e) County Youth Chairman: The County Youth Chair's role is to encourage party engagement among young voters and also conduct any other activities and responsibilities designated to them by the County Chairman. They should design and implement programs that will build engagement among young voters throughout the county and share with the District and State Youth Chair to build coordination throughout the state.
- (f) Precinct Officers: The Precinct officers are a volunteer grassroots positions primarily used for election campaigns. Additional responsibilities of the post include facilitating voter registration and absentee ballot access; leading get out the vote outreach efforts; distributing campaign and party literature; promoting the party; and addressing voter concerns.

**4.03. Meetings:** In addition to the rights and duties enumerated in Rule 1.03, the County Committee shall hold regular meetings not less than quarterly.

- (a) Special meetings of the County Committee may be called by the County Chairman or on petition in writing signed by five (5) members of the County Committee and transmitted to the County Chairman. Such petition by members shall state the purpose of such meeting. Whenever a special meeting is called by a petition, the County Chairman shall hold the meeting not later than forty-five (45) days following the receipt of such petition, except, that if the petition is related to the removal of an officer as prescribed in Rules 2.09(f), that such meeting shall respect the thirty (30) day notice requirement provided by such rule. Should the County Chair fail to hold such meeting, the District Chair or State Chair shall be empowered to hold the special meeting. If the end of the 45-day period falls within 2 weeks of an election, such meeting shall be held within (10) days following the election. Any such special meeting shall require at least five (5) business days written notice to all members of the County Committee. Special meetings may be conducted telephonically, by video conference, or by any other mechanism as authorized by a majority of the Executive Committee. However, in an emergency, the County Chairman may direct the County Secretary to give less than five (5) days' notice by telephoning, or contacting via electronic mail, the members.
- (b) Fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

**4.04. Standing Committees:** Standing Committees shall be created and shall exist at the pleasure of the County Committee. The Chair of any such Standing Committee may, by majority vote of the County Committee, be afforded membership on the County Committee.

**4.05. Special Committees:** Special Committees may be created and shall exist at the pleasure of the County Chairman; such committees shall be subject to ratification by the County Committee. The Chair of any such Special Committee may, by majority vote of the County Committee, be afforded membership on the County Committee.

**4.06. Local Rules:** Counties with populations in excess of 150,000 people may adopt local rules for the organization and governing of party affairs in those counties, but such rules shall have force and effect only after the local rules have been approved by the RSCC Executive Committee. Said local rules, if adopted, shall not contain provisions which conflict with these Rules applicable to removal or replacement of Party officers and appeals and contests.

No other county shall adopt local rules unless specifically authorized by the RSCC Executive Committee.

**4.07. Dues:** The County Committee, by majority vote, may establish annual dues for its membership. The failure to pay dues by August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year shall constitute cause for removal of any member.

**4.08. Vacancies:** Vacancies in the County Committee will be filled by the County Committee, except that long-standing vacancies may be filled by the State Chairman as provided in Rule 2.08. Individuals who fill vacancies in precinct officer positions need not reside in the precinct in which they are elected to serve.

All such vacancies filled by the County Committee shall be reported, in writing, within ten (10) days to the State Republican Headquarters. The new members shall not be recognized until the minutes of the

meeting at which they were elected, their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses are reported to State Party Headquarters.

**4.10. Removal Local:** The County Committee may itself remove any member without notice for absence from three (3) consecutive duly called meetings, or with 30-day written notice for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office subject to the same appeal as provided in contested elections to the RSCC.

**4.11. Appeal:** The process for appeals related to matters arising any subordinate Committee of the RSCC or any decision that is ruled upon by the RSCC shall be governed according to the provisions of Rule 12.04.

**5 . PRECINCT COMMITTEE:** The Precinct shall be the basic organizational unit of the Republican Party of Kentucky and managed through the precinct committee.

**5.01. Precinct Committee Officers:** The Precinct Committee shall consist of:

- (a) Precinct Captain: The Precinct Captain is an elected official who represents the GOP voters of his or her precinct at the County Republican Party level. This is a volunteer grassroots position primarily used for election campaigns; facilitates voter registration and absentee ballot access; leads the get out the vote outreach efforts; distributes campaign and party literature; promotes the party; and addresses voter concerns. The Precinct Officer is a member of the County Committee in which they reside.
- (b) Precinct Co-Captain: The Precinct Co-Captain shall have all the duties and authorities of the Precinct Captain during the absence or disability of the Precinct Captain and shall also serve during a vacancy in the office of Precinct Captain until such vacancy is filled. Further the Precinct Co-Captain is to assist and support the Precinct Captain in carrying out important tasks and act as a go-between for the Precinct Captain and other key stakeholders as needed.
- (c) Precinct Youth Captain: The Precinct Youth Captain, who shall be forty (40) years old or younger when elected, shall encourage party engagement among young voters and conduct activities and responsibilities designated to the Precinct Captain. They will design and implement programs that will build engagement among young voters throughout the precinct and share with the County Youth Chairman to build coordination throughout the County.

**5.02. Boundary Changes:** When Precincts are combined or divided, the individual(s) holding a precinct committee office pursuant to Rule 5.02 shall continue to hold said position in the newly constituted precinct. Any vacancies arising from a combination or division of precinct boundaries shall be filled pursuant to Rule 4.09.

## **6. PARTY ORGANIZATION:**

**6.01. Call to Reorganize:** In the year immediately following the year in which the President of the United States is elected, the RSCC Executive Committee shall issue a Call to Reorganize for Precinct Committee Elections not later than January 31 that same year. Each County Committee is responsible for submitting the time, date, and location of Precinct Committee Elections not later than January 25 that same year to Republican Party State Headquarters so that it can be included in the Call.



**6.02. Force Majeure:** In the event that any provision within this Section 6 cannot be performed due to acts of God, wars, national emergencies, or state emergencies, the RSCC Executive Committee is authorized to allow all meetings and/or elections contemplated by this Section to be held telephonically, by video conference, or by any other mechanism as authorized by a majority of the RSCC Executive Committee. In the case of a Force Majeure, the RSCC Executive Committee is authorized to take all other steps necessary to effectuate the purpose of Section 6, which includes but is not limited to changes related to time, manner, and place, without making additional changes to these Rules as long as all changes comply with the parameters set forth by the Republican National Committee.

**6.03. Precinct Committee Elections:** The Party reorganization begins every four years with the elections at the precinct level. The Precinct shall be the basic organizational unit of the Republican Party of Kentucky.

- (a) With the call to reorganize, all precincts shall hold elections for party office not sooner than February 15 but not later than March 31. Any county committee who fails to submit information to State Headquarters by January 25 for the Call to Reorganize shall hold their precinct elections on the first Saturday after March 1, at 10 AM local time, at a location to be determined by the county committee. Failure to submit written notice by the County committee prior to March 1 under this rule mandates that the RSCC Executive Committee implement a mechanism to hold precinct elections.
  - i. Precinct elections shall be held on the same day and at the same location except that a County Committee may opt to hold precinct elections in groups on separate dates, times, or at separate locations. Any County Committee choosing to hold precinct elections in groups as described above shall include the specific dates, times, and locations for precinct elections in the written notice described in 6.04(a) and shall be due not later than the second Friday in January.
  - ii. Inclement Weather: In the event of inclement weather conditions, it shall be the responsibility of the County Chairman to consult with the County Committee and make a decision on the cancellation and rescheduling of said Precinct Committee elections in the most timely manner possible. All efforts should be made by the County Chairman to notify all local news outlets of said cancellation and rescheduling information. Notice of cancellation and rescheduling shall be given to State Republican Headquarters within twenty-four (24) hours or on the next business day.
- (b) **Notice of Elections:** To encourage broad participation, widespread and frequent promotion of precinct committee elections is strongly recommended. The County Committee shall provide not less than fourteen (14) days' notice of the date, time, and location of Precinct Committee elections. The notice provided by this rule shall indicate the time registration for said election begins and ends. The County Committee must also notify RPK Headquarters of the key logistical information regarding Precinct Committee Elections, and RPK Headquarters staff will post the election notice to the RPK website. The notice provided by this rule shall indicate the time registration for said election begins and ends. Methods of acceptable notice include:

- i. advertisement(s) of not less than one-quarter page in size in the newspaper that has the largest circulation in the county; or
- ii. automated or live phone calls to eligible Republican voters; or
- iii. mailings to eligible Republican voters; or
- iv. social media promotions; or
- v. mass electronic communication; or
- vi. public service announcement to media outlets.

(c) **Validation of Eligible Republican Voters:** The County Committee shall provide a registration list containing the names and addresses of all registered Republican voters eligible to vote in the previous General Election. All registered Republican voters attending Precinct Committee elections shall be required to present a government-issued photo identification upon registration.

(d) **Precinct Committee Elections:** Registration for Precinct Committee elections shall close at the time prescribed by the County Committee. Upon the closing of registration, the County Chairman, or their designee, shall report the number of eligible Republican voters in each precinct in attendance. Following said report, the County Chairman shall divide the meeting by precinct for the purpose of conducting Precinct Committee elections.

- i. **Method of Election:** The Chairman of the Precinct Committee Election shall be the County Chairman or their designee. The Secretary of the Precinct Committee Election shall be the County Secretary or their designee. The order of business for the Precinct Committee Election shall be as follows: (a) the positions of Precinct Captain, Co-Captain and Youth Captain will be filled in that order by nomination(s) from the floor by balloting; (b) if after a ballot, no candidate for that office has a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest number of votes will be eliminated, and another ballot will be taken, and so on until the winner is elected by a majority of the votes cast. The names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses shall be recorded on the Precinct Committee Officer form authorized by the RSCC Executive Committee and submitted to the County Secretary, or his designee, upon completion of the Precinct Committee Election.

**6.04. Eligibility & Contests:** In Precinct Committee Elections set forth in this section, the right to vote will be determined by the Republican voter registration list as established for the previous General Election. It will be the duty of the County Chairman and Secretary to see that such list is available for the Precinct

Committee Elections. Said list of registered Republican voters shall reflect registered voter information on file with either the County Clerk's office or the Kentucky State Board of Elections as of the date of the previous General Election. Any individual who does not appear on said list shall not participate in the Precinct Committee elections set forth in this section.

It shall be the responsibility of the State Republican Headquarters to procure and maintain a statewide database of registered Republican voters who were eligible to vote in the previous General Election. Said list shall be made available for use in the Precinct Committee Elections.

**6.05. Certification:** The Chairman and Secretary of each County Committee shall assume responsibility to certify, in writing, the names of the newly constituted County Committee as set forth in this section. A composite list of all newly elected Precinct Officers will be certified by the County Secretary and Chairman to State Republican Headquarters with a copy to the Chairman of the Congressional District Committee.

**6.06. County Committee:** The County Committee may, on the same day and in the same location as the Precinct Conventions, but not later than thirty (30) days following the Precinct Conventions, meet and elect a County Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Youth Chair, who need not already be members of the County Committee. Upon their election, the names of the new County officers will be certified to the Secretary of the RSCC. Failure to submit appropriate certification forms to State Party Headquarters within fifteen (15) days of Precinct Committee Elections and County Officer Elections shall result in the County Committee not being recognized as the official County Republican Party.

**6.07. District Committee:**

- (a) Not sooner than May 1 but not later than May 31 during the year immediately following the year in which a Presidential election is held, the District Committee shall convene. The newly constituted District Committee, consisting of all County Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each county within the District, all Republican members of the General Assembly who reside in the District, the District officers, and the Republican member of the United States House of Representatives who represents the District, shall meet and elect the following: (i) District Officers: a District Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Youth Chair, and (ii) four (4) District members at-large members of the RSCC. Upon their election, the names of the new District officers and District members-at-large shall be certified to the Secretary of the RSCC. To be qualified for election as a District Officer or District member-at-Large, a person need not already be a member of the committee.
- (b) The Chairman and Secretary of each Congressional District Committee shall assume responsibility to certify, in writing, the names of the newly constituted Congressional Committee. A composite list of all newly elected Congressional District Officers will be certified by the District Secretary and Chairman to State Republican Headquarters.

**6.08. State Officers and State Members-at-Large:**

- (a) Not sooner than June 1 but not later than June 30 during the year immediately following the year in which a Presidential election is held, the RSCC shall meet to elect State Officers and RSCC State Members-at-Large. The Nominating Committee shall meet and submit two slates to the RSCC: (i) a slate of Officers; that is the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, State Secretary, and State Youth Chair, and (ii) Eight (8) RSCC State Members-at-Large. Both slates shall be voted on separately and the RSCC shall either ratify or reject the slates. In the event that a slate does not receive the majority of votes cast, the nominating

committee shall nominate and offer a new slate of candidates for said offices. This process shall continue indefinitely until a slate is elected.

(b) The nominating committee shall be the RSCC Executive Committee. More specifically, members of the the nominating committee shall be:

- (1) Twenty-four (24) District-at-Large members, four of whom are elected by each of the six Congressional District Committees;
- (2) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each Congressional District Committee;
- (3) The current Chairman and officers of the RSCC;
- (4) The most recent past Chairman of the RSCC, who is qualified to be a member and accepts such membership;
- (5) The State Finance Chairman, State Treasurer and Legal Counsel;
- (6) The Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman; and
- (7) The Republican Leader in both the State Senate and State House.

## **7. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, COUNTY MASS MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS:**

**7.01. Election of National Committeeman and National Committeewoman:** The Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman shall be elected in the following manner: During the first meeting of the year in each year in which a Presidential election is held the RSCC Executive Committee shall nominate a slate of one National Committeeman and one National Committeewoman. Within twenty (20) days of said meeting, the full RSCC must meet, at which time the RSCC shall ratify or reject the slate. If the slate is rejected by the RSCC, the Executive Committee shall reconvene and nominate a new slate. This process shall continue indefinitely or until a slate is approved, provided that a slate must be approved not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Republican National Convention.

### **7.02. Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the District and State Conventions:**

- (a) Not sooner than March 1 but not later than March 31, during each year in which a Presidential election is held, each County Committee shall conduct a County Mass Meeting of registered Republican voters in the county to elect three slates: (i) a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the District Convention, in accordance with the Official Call to Convention issued by the RSCC Executive Committee, (ii) a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the State Convention, and (iii) one delegate from that county to serve on each of the four District Convention Committees: Credentials, Nominations, Rules, and Permanent Organization.. The minutes of the meeting in which delegates, alternate delegates, and committee appointments shall be forwarded to the District Chairman, District Secretary, State Chairman, and State Secretary.
- (b) Participation in a County Mass Meeting is open to all qualified voters who have been registered Republicans on or before December 31 of the year preceding a presidential election.
- (c) The Chair of the County Committee, or his/her designee, shall be the Chair of the County Mass

Meeting.

- (d) The County Committee shall serve as the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall nominate a slate for each type of office to be filled. Following the report of the Nominating Committee recommending (i) a slate of individuals to serve on the District Convention Committees set forth in Section 7; (ii) a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the District and State Conventions. Each slate will be voted on separately.
- (e) If the slate of individuals to serve on the District Convention Committees or the slate of delegates and alternate delegates recommended by the Nominating Committee is rejected by the Mass Meeting, the same and one or more other slates of delegates and alternate delegates may be placed in nomination from the floor, followed by balloting to choose between the competing slates; to be placed in nomination, a slate need not necessarily contain names for the entire number of delegates and alternate delegates which are allocated to that county. If after a ballot, no slate has a majority of the votes cast, the slate receiving the fewest number of votes will be eliminated, and another ballot will be taken, and so on until the winning slate is elected by a majority of the votes cast. The winning slate of delegates and alternate delegates adopted by the County Mass Meeting need not necessarily contain names for the entire number of delegates and alternate delegates which are allocated to that county. If the adopted slate contains empty slots for one or more delegates or alternate delegates, such vacancies shall not be filled by further action of the County Committee.
- (f) Each County Committee shall provide written notice of the date, time, and location of said County Mass Meeting to Republican Party State Headquarters not later than the second Friday in January of the same year. After review, Republican Party State Headquarters Staff may direct a County Committee to change the date, time, and/or location of the County Mass Meeting if such date, time, and/or location is not deemed appropriate.
- (g) A complete list of the names of the county's delegates and alternate delegates to the District and State Conventions, as adopted at the County Mass Meeting, will be certified by the Chairman and Secretary of said Mass Meeting to the Secretary of the RSCC at Republican Party State Headquarters, with a copy to the Chairman of the Congressional District Committee; no names may be added to said list following adjournment of the County Mass Meeting held for this purpose. Said certification shall include a complete list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of delegates and alternate delegates and individuals elected to serve on District Convention Committees. Certification must arrive at State Headquarters not later than ten days before the District Convention. No names may be purged from the certification for any reason except by action of the Credentials Committee at the District and/or State Conventions.
- (h) In the event that a County Mass Meeting envisioned by these Rules was not held, the RSCC Executive Committee may establish a reasonable method of conducting a new County Mass Meeting, or otherwise forfeit any delegates from affected counties.
- (i) In the event the RSCC elects to allocate the Kentucky Republican Party's delegate votes at the Republican National Convention by a presidential caucus as set forth in Rule 11.03(b), no County Mass Meeting shall be held on or before the date of the presidential caucus.
- (j) In the event that any provision within this section cannot be performed due to acts of God, wars, national emergencies, or state emergencies, the RSCC Executive Committee is authorized to allow County Committees or County Executive Committees, if one has been elected, to meet, instead of having County Mass Meetings in order to perform the functions outlined in Section 7.02. In

addition, the RSCC Executive Committee is authorized to take all other steps necessary to effectuate the purpose of this section, without making formal changes to a Call to Convention, as long as they comply with the parameters set forth by the Republican National Committee.

### **7.03. District Convention:**

- (a) The District Convention will be held at such time and place as designated by and set forth in the Official Call to Convention issued by the RSCC Executive Committee, which will consider but need not follow recommendations which may be made by the District Chairman.
- (b) The District Chairman shall serve as the Temporary Chairman of the District Convention and the District Secretary shall serve as the Temporary Secretary of the District Convention. The District Chairman shall appoint two (2) members-at-large to serve on each of the four District Convention Committees as described in Rule 8.04. Additionally, the District Chairman may appoint tellers, a parliamentarian, and a sergeant-at-arms, whose respective appointments shall be made permanent upon the adoption of the report of the Committee on Permanent Organization.
- (c) Only a delegate certified by his County Mass Meeting may challenge the credentials of any other delegate or alternate delegate at the District Convention. The Credentials Committee report will first certify the number of undisputed and unchallenged votes which may be cast by each county, and the Convention will take action to accept or reject said partial report. Then the Credentials Committee will report its findings and recommendations on all disputed delegates for one county at a time, the order of such county-by-county reports to be reported alphabetically during the report of the Credentials Committee. The Convention will take action on the report for each challenged county before hearing the report on the next county. When challenged delegates have been thus certified as official delegates by action of the Convention, they may vote on all matters thereafter coming before the Convention, including any subsequent portions of the Credentials Committee report; no challenged delegate may vote on any matter until his credentials have been certified by the Convention to be official. In the event that more than ten percent (10%) of the authorized number of delegates to the District Convention are challenged, the RSCC Executive Committee, after due consideration, may invalidate any such challenges which it finds to be spurious, leaving more substantial disputes to be resolved by the convention during the report of the Credentials Committee.
- (d) The committee on Permanent Organization shall nominate a slate for Permanent Convention Chairman and Secretary, who need not be the District Chairman or Secretary. If the report of the committee on Permanent Organization is rejected, the committee shall reconvene and submit a new slate. If the second report is rejected, the Temporary officers shall become permanent.
- (e) If the report of the Rules Committee, as may have been amended from the floor, is rejected, the Temporary Rules shall become the Permanent Rules.
- (f) The District Nominations Committee shall submit three separate slates to the District convention for ratification: (i) a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican National Convention, as may be apportioned and governed by *The Rules of the Republican Party*, (ii) one Presidential elector, (ii) and one person to serve on each of the State Convention Committees as provided in these rules. Each slate shall be voted on separately, and if rejected, the Nominations Committee shall reconvene and nominate a new slate. This process shall continue indefinitely until a slate is ratified by the Convention.
- (g) A Registration Fee may be charged to help defray the expenses of a District Convention, with the

amount per person to be determined by the District Chairman and Vice Chairman. In the event the District Chairman and Vice Chairman determine to charge a fee for the District Convention, the District Chairman may have the RSCC Executive Committee notify all delegates and alternate delegates of the amount of the fee and the manner of payment in the Call for the District Convention, and may require payment of registration fee no later than when the person signs in at the District Convention.

**7.04. State Convention:**

- (a) The RSCC Executive Committee shall designate a time and a place for the State Convention to be held at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Republican National Convention and shall select two (2) members-at-large, who may or may not be delegates to said Convention for each of the Convention Committees as specified in Rule 8.04. The Executive Committee will also determine the Temporary Rules of the State Convention which shall be distributed with the Call pursuant to Rule 8.06. The State Chairman or someone appointed by him/her will serve as Temporary Chairman of the State Convention. The State Secretary or in his/her absence a person appointed by the Temporary Chairman, will serve as Temporary Secretary.
- (b) Only a delegate certified as such by his County Mass Meeting may challenge the credentials of any other delegate or alternate delegate at the State Convention. The Credentials Committee report will first certify the number of undisputed and unchallenged votes which may be cast by each county, and the State Convention will take action to accept or reject said partial report. Then the Credentials Committee will report its findings and recommendations on all disputed delegates for one county at a time, the order of such county-by-county reports shall be alphabetical during the report of the Credentials Committee. The State Convention will take action on the report for each challenged county before hearing the report on the next challenged county. When challenged delegates have been thus certified as official delegates by action of the State Convention, they may vote on all matters thereafter coming before the State Convention, including any subsequent portions of the Credentials Committee report; no challenged delegate may vote on any matter until his credentials have been certified by the State Convention to be official. In the event that more than ten percent (10%) of the authorized number of delegates are challenged, the RSCC Executive Committee, after due consideration, may invalidate any such challenges which it finds to be spurious, leaving more substantial disputes to be resolved by the State Convention during the report of the Credentials Committee.
- (c) If the report of the Rules Committee, as may have been amended from the floor, is voted down by the State Convention, the Temporary Rules shall be used thereafter as the Permanent Rules.
- (d) If the report of the Permanent Organization Committee is voted down by the Convention, the Permanent Organization Committee shall, as soon as possible, submit a new report recommending for both of the two offices new nominees, neither of who were recommended in the earlier report(s) of the Committee.

- (e) The Nominations Committee shall nominate two slates: (i) two Presidential electors, and (ii) a slate of delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican National Convention, as apportioned and governed by *The Rules of the Republican Party*. These slates shall be voted on separately by the State Convention. If a slate is rejected, the Nominations Committee shall reconvene and put forth a new slate. This process shall continue indefinitely until a slate is approved by the State Convention.
- (f) In order to defray costs, a State Convention registration fee shall be paid before the Credentials committee of the State Convention is authorized to certify the delegate or alternate delegate as fully credentialed and registered. Registration fees must be paid by the time the delegate or alternate delegate is registered. Registration fees may be charged for guests or waived at the discretion of the Arrangements Committee.

#### **7.05. Republican National Convention:**

- (a) Any registered Republican who desires to be nominated at either the District or State Convention to be a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the National Convention, shall submit a letter which must be received by the Republican Party State Headquarters at least seven (7) business days before the applicable District or State Convention. Said letter shall be addressed to the Nominations Committee, state the persons interest in becoming a Delegate or Alternate Delegate, and set forth reasons why they should be considered by the Nominations Committee. The State Headquarters staff will convey the interested party's nomination letter to the Nominations Committee of the appropriate convention. Should the Call to Convention levy a filing fee and petition process for candidates for Delegate to the Republican National Convention as prescribed by Rules 8.06, the State Party Headquarters shall also certify to the Nominations Committee that such requirements have been met. No person shall be selected as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the Republican National Convention unless this procedure is followed. If an insufficient number of persons thus qualified are elected at District or State Conventions, the remaining slots will be filled as if they are vacancies which occurred after the State Convention. The Nominations Committee shall consider at least two criteria in selecting Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the National Convention; namely, (1) the letter received in accordance with this rule, and (2) any current political involvement on behalf of the Republican Party or Republican candidates at any level.
- (b) No person who did not support the Republican Presidential nominee during the most recent Presidential election shall be elected to be a Delegate or an Alternate delegate to the District, State, or National Conventions, respectively.
- (c) The delegates and alternate delegates elected to the National Convention by the State and District Conventions will meet in Kentucky at the call of the State Chairman prior to the National Convention to elect a Delegation Chairman and to elect various members to the National Convention Committees.
- (d) Delegates to the Republican National Convention from Kentucky shall be allocated proportionally in accordance with Rule 16(c)(3) of *The Rules of the Republican Party*. With regard to the allocation of delegates votes of the Kentucky Republican Party at the Republican National Convention pursuant to the Kentucky Presidential Preference Primary Statutes, the method of allocation set forth in KRS 118.641(1)(a) shall be the method used by the Kentucky Republican Party. The proportional delegate allocation shall be rounded



to the nearest whole delegate. In the event that a delegate is unallocated due to mathematical rounding, the unallocated delegate vote shall be case in favor of the candidate closest to the rounding threshold. In the event that delegates are over-allocated due to mathematical rounding, the over-allocated delegate shall be removed from the candidate furthest from the rounding threshold.

- (e) The Kentucky Republican Party shall use the allocation method detailed in Section 7.05(d) unless the Republican State Central Committee elects to allocate said delegate votes by a party caucus as provided for in KRS 118.555. A vote by the Republican State Central Committee to allocate its delegate votes of the Kentucky Republican Party at the Republican National Convention by a party caucus shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting and shall be governed by Section 11 of the *Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky*. Furthermore, any such vote to allocate delegate votes by a party caucus shall occur prior to September 1 of the year prior to the presidential election year.
- (f) Whenever delegates from Kentucky are to be bound by a party caucus as in Rule 7.05(e), the candidate receiving the highest number of votes statewide, shall be awarded all of the authorized delegate vote for the Kentucky Republican Party at the Republican National Convention. This allocation of delegate votes shall bind the authorized delegates of the Kentucky Republican Party on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention.
- (g) In the event that a candidate dies or withdraws, and the delegate votes allocated to such candidate become uncommitted pursuant to KRS 118.641(2), the Chairman of the delegation shall call a meeting of the delegates and alternate delegates at the convention by giving notice to each delegate and alternate delegate of the time and place of the said meeting. At the meeting the delegates (or alternate delegates who replace any delegates who fail to attend) in attendance shall vote by secret ballot for any candidate for the Republican nomination for President each may choose. The number of votes cast for the various candidates shall be converted to a percentage of the total votes cast by the delegates at said meeting, and the delegate votes which have become uncommitted as provided above shall be allocated to the candidates in accordance with their said respective percentages, and these said delegate votes shall be cast on the first ballot in such proportion for the said candidates. All fractions shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- (h) If a vacancy should arise by death, disqualification, or resignation, in the Delegation to the Republican National Convention between the State Convention and ten (10) days prior to the Republican National Convention, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - (i) If the vacancy is that of a delegate elected at the State Convention, the first alternate shall become a delegate, and the alternate delegates remaining shall be moved up one spot. The RSCC Executive Committee shall then convene and elect an Alternate Delegate, who shall be placed as the last Alternate Delegate.
  - (ii) If the vacancy is that of an Alternate Delegate elected at the State Convention, then the Alternate Delegates below the order in which said Alternate Delegate was elected shall be moved up to fill the place of the vacant Alternate Delegate position, and the RSCC Executive Committee shall

convene and elect an Alternate Delegate, who shall be placed as the last Alternate Delegate.

- (iii) If the vacancy is that of a delegate elected at a District Convention, the first alternate shall become a delegate, and the alternate delegates remaining shall be moved up one spot. The District Committee shall then convene and elect an Alternate Delegate, who shall be placed as the last Alternate Delegate.
- (iv) If the vacancy is that of an Alternate Delegate elected at a District Convention, then the Alternate Delegates below the order in which said Alternate Delegate was elected shall be moved up to fill the place of the vacant Alternate Delegate position, and the District Committee shall convene and elect an Alternate Delegate, who shall be placed as the last Alternate Delegate.
- (v) If a vacancy in the position of Delegate shall arise less than then (10) days prior to the Republican National Convention, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner described in Rule 18(d) of *The Rules of the Republican Party*. Any changes to the composition of the National Convention delegation shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the RSCC and the Secretary of the Republican National Committee.

## **8. ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTIONS:**

**8.01. Conventions:** The conventions provided for in Rules 7.03 and 7.04 will be organized according to the following process.

**8.02. Call to Order:** The Temporary Chairman designated by these Rules for each Convention shall call the Convention to order; then the Temporary Secretary as designated by these Rules will be announced; the Temporary Chairman will then briefly describe the Official Call to Convention from the RSCC, but without objection the Call need not be read aloud to the meeting. The Temporary Rules of the Convention will be made available to the delegates in printed form, or read to the meeting, unless a motion is passed to waive the reading. The Temporary Chairman will preside until permanent convention officers are elected. A set of Temporary Rules for each Convention will be adopted by the RSCC Executive Committee and will be included as a part of the Call; the Temporary Rules will be in effect until each Convention adopts its Permanent Rules upon approving the report of its Rules Committee.

**8.03. Order of Business:** The order of business of each convention shall be:

1. The Call to Order;
2. Announcement of Temporary Officers;
3. Report of the Credentials Committee;
4. Report of the Rules Committee;
5. Report of the Committee on Permanent Organization;
6. Report of the Nominations Committee;

7. Announcements;

8. Adjournment *sine die*.

**8.04. Committees:** Each County Mass Meeting shall elect one of the following officers to the District Convention and the District Convention shall elect one to the State Convention:

- One member of the Credentials Committee;
- One member of the Rules Committee;
- One member of the Committee on Permanent Organization;
- One member of the Nominations Committee;

The County Mass Meeting of any county lying in more than one Congressional District shall name one member to the District Convention Committees for each Congressional District in which the county lies.

The District and State Convention Committees may meet prior to the District and State Conventions to transact their business, on the call of the District or State Chairman, respectively. However, each Committee will be considered to be in session during the Convention itself, and may meet, change its report, and continue to transact such other business as may be appropriate until such time as the Convention has taken final action on the Committee's report.

**8.05. Convention Committees and Officials:**

- (a) The Credentials Committee will report a list of the proper accredited delegates and alternate delegates to be seated by the Convention. They will hear and make a report to the convention on any disputed delegations, delegates, or alternate delegates. The Credentials Committee shall not certify as an accredited delegate or alternate delegate any person who they do not believe was duly elected by his County Mass Meeting.
- (b) The Rules Committee shall report a proposed set of rules to the Convention which will not conflict with these Rules unless passed by two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates.
- (c) The Committee on Permanent Organization will nominate a permanent Convention Chairman and a permanent Convention Secretary.
- (d) The Nominating Committee will nominate candidates for any positions to be filled by the Convention under these Rules.
- (e) If any duly-elected member of a District Convention Committee or State Convention Committee is absent for any reason from a formal or informal meeting of said Committee, the County Chairman of his County, or the District Chairman of his District, respectively, may appoint a substitute to serve in the place and stead of the absent Committee member; said substitute shall have full power to vote during the absence of the duly-elected member, but shall have no power to vote if and when the duly-elected absent member later is in attendance at the same or any subsequent meeting of said Committee.
- (f) An Arrangements Committee may be appointed for the District or State Convention, respectively, by the District or State Chairman. The Arrangements Committee will provide the space, adequate staff, including security and supplies, and make all physical arrangements subject to the approval of the District Committees or the RSCC, whichever

appointed them.

- (g) The Temporary Chairman of each convention will appoint a Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Teller, and other necessary personnel. Such persons shall continue to serve for the entire Convention in the offices to which they were thus appointed unless and until they are replaced by appointment of the Permanent Chairman of the Convention, who is permitted but not required to appoint different persons to such positions.
- (h) If it becomes necessary to determine which alternate delegates should replace absent delegates at the District or State Conventions, the alternate delegates will be taken in the order listed on the list of alternate delegates submitted by the County Committee to State Headquarters.

**8.06. Call:** The RSCC Executive Committee will issue the Official Call to Convention not later than January 31 in a year in which a presidential election is held. The Call will contain the number of delegates and alternate delegates allocated each County, and the time and site of the State and District Conventions. Each county will be allocated that number of delegates (and an equal number of alternate delegates) equal to (i) the number of votes cast in the county for the Republican presidential nominee in the most recent presidential election, divided by (ii) 1,600, or, only in the event that the Presidential precinct level data is not available, each county will be allocated that number of delegates (and an equal number of alternate delegates) equal to the number of votes cast in the county for the Republican nominee in the most recent U.S. Senate election, divided by 1,200, but no county will have less than three(3) delegates. The Call will include a set of Temporary Rules as approved by the RSCC Executive Committee each of the Conventions being called; namely the District Conventions and State Convention. The Call may also set an amount of the filing fee to be paid by every individual putting their name forward for consideration to be elected as a delegate to the Republican National Convention, *provided*, that if the RSCC Executive Committee assesses such a fee, that the fee shall not be in excess of the amount required to file for United States House of Representatives in the State of Kentucky, and that such fee may be waived by a petition of fifty (50) registered Republican voters from the congressional district in which the applicant is a resident.

## **9. EMERGENCY ALTERNATIVE METHODS TO CONDUCT DISTRICT & STATE CONVENTIONS:**

**9.01. Emergency Convention Procedures:** In the event that any provision within Sections 6 and 7 cannot be performed due to acts of God, wars, national emergencies, or state emergencies, (hereinafter collectively referred to as “emergency”), the procedures within this section may be utilized. In addition, the RSCC Executive Committee is authorized to take all other additional steps necessary to effectuate the purpose of Sections 6 and 7, without making formal changes to the Call to Convention, as long as these steps comply with the parameters set forth by the Republican National Committee.

In the event of an emergency, the RSCC Executive Committee may vote to trigger alternative procedures by which District and State Conventions may be conducted by electronic means. All meetings, all balloting, and all votes referenced in this section can be conducted electronically. Upon the adoption of such methods, the State Party Staff may be directed to amend the Official Call to Convention as adopted in Rule 8.06, and District and State Conventions shall be conducted according to the procedures set forth by them.

## **10. STATUTORY DUTIES:**

### **10.01. Election Officials:**

- (a) Pursuant to the Kentucky Revised Statutes, from time to time it shall be the duty of the RSCC Executive Committee to nominate a list of candidates to the Governor for each Republican member of the State Board of Elections and the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance. Each list shall contain the number of nominees required by statute and shall be submitted to the Governor by the date required by statute.
- (b) Following the elections of persons to statewide office, each County Committee will nominate a list of five (5) Republicans for the County Board of Elections by sending the same on a form provided by the State Board of Elections to Republican State Headquarters. Republican State Headquarters shall submit said list to the State Board of Elections.
- (c) Each County Committee will submit the names of not fewer than four (4) Republicans for Election Officers in each Precinct to the County Board of Elections on a form prescribed by the State Board of Elections by March 15, along with such other information as may be required by law, such as addresses, phone numbers and social security numbers if available of such nominees. Further, the list shall be accompanied by a signed statement from each person set forth therein, that the person is willing to serve, has not failed to serve without excuse in the past, and has not been convicted of an election law offense. In the event the Kentucky Revised Statutes shall be amended to alter the method of selection, the number of nominees to be submitted or otherwise require additional information or statements, these Rules shall be deemed amended to comport with such altered statutory requirements.

**10.02. Nominees:** Wherever else public or Party law requires the filling of a nomination by a Party Committee, the lowest level Precinct, County, or District Committee embracing the entire geographic area of the office for which a nomination is to be made, shall make such nominations.

- (a) Statewide nominations shall be made by the RSCC Executive Committee.
- (b) In those cases where the office for which a nomination is to be filled embraces one entire Congressional District, the District Chairman or his designee shall call and chair such meeting. The selection will be made by the District Committee. Each voting member of the District Committee shall be entitled to vote a number of votes calculated as follows: (i) the number of registered Republicans in those precincts of that member's County which form a part of the Congressional District for which a nominee is to be chosen, divided by (ii) the number of voting members of the District Committee residing in that County who are present at such meeting. No member of the District Committee may cast the votes which he is entitled to cast for more than one person on any ballot; that is, he may not split up his votes and vote for more than one candidate on any particular ballot.
- (c) In those cases where the office for which a nomination is to be filled embraces more than one County, but less than a Congressional District, a Committee made up of the County Committee of each of the affected Counties shall make the selection. The District Chairman (or his designee) shall call and chair such multi-county meeting whenever the district for which a nominee is to be chosen lies entirely within one Congressional District; otherwise, the State Chairman (or his designee) will do so. Each member of a County Committee in attendance at such a meeting shall be entitled to vote a number of votes calculated as follows: (i) the number of registered

Republicans in those precincts of that member's County which form a part of the district for which a nominee is to be chosen, divided by (ii) the number of members of that County's County Committee who are present at such meeting. Wherever this rule refers to a "County Committee" the County's Executive Committee, if one has been created pursuant to Rule 4.06 and 4.08, shall function instead.

- (d) Persons on County Committees, Executive Committees, or District Committees empowered to act by this rule, shall be permitted to serve whether or not their personal residence is within or outside the district for which a nominee is being selected.
- (e) Persons on County Committees, Executive Committees, or District Committees empowered to act by the rule must have been verified members of their respective committee and on file with the State Republican Party Headquarters not less than (30) days prior to the date the vacancy occurs. The State Chairman shall not fill any vacancies pursuant to Rule 2.08 on or after the date a vacancy in office is known.
- (f) For the purposes of this rule, the number of registered Republicans in any area shall be the number determined by the Secretary of State after registrations closed before the previous statewide General Election.
- (g) For the purposes of this Rule 10.02, no person may cast more than one person's share of any allocated votes by virtue of holding two different offices, both of which would be entitled to vote if held by different individuals.
- (h) After any nominating meeting held pursuant to this Rule 10.02, the State Chairman shall certify the nominee so chosen by a majority vote (defined as 50% plus one), to the Secretary of State and/or other applicable authority.
- (i) Special nominating meetings for the purposes of Rules 10.02 may be conducted telephonically, by video conferencing, or by other mechanisms as authorized by the appropriate committee chairman. Electronic voting and electronic balloting shall be permitted.

## **11. KENTUCKY REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CAUCUS:**

### **11.01. Authority and Notification Provisions:**

- (a) KRS 118.555 provides: (1) The state executive committee of each political party shall, pursuant to its party's rules, determine whether to distribute its party's authorized delegate votes for presidential candidates at its party's national convention based on the results of a party caucus, a presidential preference primary, or a combination of the two (2) methods. (2) If a state executive committee determines that its party's authorized delegate votes for presidential candidates at its party's national convention shall be distributed based on the results of both a party caucus and a presidential preference primary, the formula for distribution of authorized delegate votes based on the results of a party caucus shall be determined by party rule.
- (b) Following a vote of the Republican State Central Committee, as stipulated in Rule 7.05(c), to allocate its delegate votes of the Kentucky Republican Party at the Republican National Convention, this section shall govern the conduct of the party caucus. Furthermore, all governing rules and available procedural documents related to a party caucus shall be submitted to the

Secretary of the Republican National Committee in accordance with the national *Rules of the Republican Party*.

- (c) Pursuant to KRS 118.555, the RSCC Executive Committee shall notify the Kentucky Secretary of State no later than December 31 of the year prior to a presidential election that the Kentucky Republican Party shall distribute its authorized delegate votes at the Republican National Convention by a party caucus as set forth in this section.

**11.02. Date and Time of Caucus:**

The Caucus shall be held on the third Saturday in March in the year of a presidential election between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. local time.

**11.03. County and Regional Caucus Plans:**

- (a) Each County Committee, as set forth in Section 4, shall, by majority vote of its membership, create a County Caucus Plan or enter into a Regional Caucus Plan with neighboring counties, in compliance with this section, during a regular or special meeting of the County Committee. A Regional Caucus Plan of identical language must be approved by all County Committees involved in that particular Regional Caucus Plan.
- (b) County Caucus Plans and Regional Caucus Plans shall be submitted, in writing, to Republican Party State Headquarters on, or before, the third Monday in November in the year prior to a presidential election.
- (c) County Caucus Plans and Regional County Caucus Plans shall include the following:
  - (1) The name, address, telephone number, and email address of the designated Caucus Chair for each caucus location. The designated Caucus Chair shall be a registered Republican as of the General Election immediately preceding the year in which a presidential election will be held;
  - (2) The name, physical address, and telephone number for the location at which the County or Regional Caucus will be held. In the event a County Caucus will have more than one caucus location, a listing of precincts served by each caucus location shall also be provided;
  - (3) The name, address, telephone number, email address, and assigned caucus location of any and all known individuals identified to serve as Caucus Officials as set forth in this section.

**11.04. County and Voter Participation:**

- (a) The State Chairman shall recommend to the RSCC Executive Committee a method for conducting a caucus for counties who have not satisfied the requirements of Rule 11.03. Approval by the RSCC Executive Committee shall occur prior to the issuance of the Call to Caucus as set forth in Rule 11.06.
- (b) Participation in a caucus is open to all qualified voters who have been registered Republicans on or before December 31 of the year immediately preceding the year in which a presidential election.

- (c) The official roster of voters eligible to participate in a county or regional caucus shall be provided by Republican Party of Kentucky State Headquarters and shall reflect voter registration records obtained from the Kentucky State Board of Elections.
- (d) The method of identification used to verify a voter qualified to participate in a caucus shall be recorded on the official voter roster at each caucus location. The acceptable methods of verification shall be limited to:
  - (1) Motor vehicle operator's license (denoted as "DL" on official voter roster)
  - (2) Identification card with picture and signature (denoted as "OI" on official voter roster)
- (e) The form of identification presented by a voter for verification purposes stated above must match the official voter roster described in Rule 11.04(c).
- (f) At no time during any caucus shall any qualified voter as described in Rule 11.04(b) be required to pay a cost or fee as a stipulation of participation in the caucus. Voluntary contributions to a state, district, or county party committee may be made, but under no circumstances shall such a contribution be mandatory.
- (g) No person shall be permitted to vote at any caucus location other than the specific location assigned to that individual as set forth in the Call to Caucus.

**11.05. Candidate Filing:**

- (a) In order for a candidate to participate in the caucus and have his or her name appear on the caucus ballot, the candidate's campaign committee must be registered as a Republican presidential candidate with the Federal Election Commission, file a Declaration of Candidacy with the Secretary of the Republican State Central Committee on the form prescribed by the RSCC Executive Committee, and remit a filing fee of \$15,000 to the Republican Party of Kentucky's federal election account.
- (b) All forms and filing fees referenced in Rule 11.05(a) must be received at Republican Party of Kentucky State Headquarters on or before 5:00 PM EST on the first Thursday after January 2 of a presidential election year.
- (c) Write-in candidates are prohibited

**11.06. Call to Caucus:**

- (a) The RSCC Executive Committee shall ratify and disseminate the official Call to Caucus not later than December 31 of the year preceding a presidential election. The Call to Caucus shall be available in a downloadable format on the Republican Party of Kentucky's official website and transmitted to the full membership of the Republican State Central Committee and Kentucky media outlets.
- (b) The Call to Caucus shall contain the following information at a minimum:
  - (1) The definition of an eligible voter in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus as established in Rule 11.04(b);
  - (2) A description of the acceptable forms of voter identification as set forth in Rule 11.04(d);



- (3) A listing of key dates relating to the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus including, but not limited to: 1) the date and time of the caucus; 2) the deadline for absentee ballots to be received; 3) the deadline to request an absentee ballot; 4) the deadline for absentee ballots to be printed; 5) the candidate filing deadline; 6) the date voters may make application for an absentee ballot; and 7) the candidate filing deadline;
  - (4) A listing of all County Caucuses and Regional Caucuses including county and/or precinct assignments to each caucus location and the name (if applicable) and physical address of each caucus location; and
  - (5) Information regarding absentee voting procedures as set forth in Rule 11.10
- (c) The RSCC Executive Committee may modify the Call to Caucus in the event a county becomes unable to conduct its caucus pursuant to the County Caucus Plan submitted pursuant to Section 11.03 of these Rules, or if a caucus location becomes unavailable after the Call to Caucus is issued as set forth in 11.06(a). All modifications to the Call to Caucus will be transmitted within two business days to all qualified candidates as defined in Section 11.05 and Kentucky media outlets. The Call to Caucus available on the Republican Party of Kentucky's official website will be amended within one business day following action of the RSCC Executive Committee.

**11.07. Caucus Officials:**

- (a) The Caucus Chair for each County Caucus or Regional Caucus shall be the primary point of contact for all matters relating to the administration of that particular County or Regional Caucus. The Caucus Chair, as certified to Republican Party State Headquarters pursuant to Rule 11.03(c)(1), shall satisfy all eligibility requirements set forth in Rule 11.04(b). Furthermore, the designated Caucus Chair shall not be employed or compensated by any candidate's campaign committee whose name will appear on the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot and the individual shall not be the spouse, parent, sibling, or child of a candidate whose name will appear on the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot. The duties and responsibilities of a Caucus Chair include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (1) Ensure the caucus location is open not less than two hours prior to the time voting begins;
  - (2) Ensure the timely arrival of all other designated Caucus Officials to the caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins;
  - (3) Ensure the official voter rosters described in Rule 11.04(c) are at the caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins;
  - (4) Ensure voter check-in areas and voting areas are setup in a manner that protects the privacy and security for each voter and each voter's ballot at least thirty minutes prior to the time voting begins;
  - (5) Ensure the official Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballots are securely stored at the caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins;
  - (6) Ensure all voting equipment, ballot boxes and other necessary supplies are at the caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins;

- (7) Ensure designated campaign representatives present at the caucus location do not interfere with the voting process;
  - (8) Ensure all ballot boxes are transported to the designated tabulation center immediately upon the conclusion of voting.
- (b) Caucus Officials are individuals designated to the Republican Party of Kentucky State Headquarters pursuant to Rule 11.03(c)(3) and shall meet the same eligibility requirements as a Caucus Chair. Furthermore, the designated Caucus Chair shall not be employed or compensated by any candidate's campaign committee whose name will appear on the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot and the individual shall not be the spouse, parent, sibling, or child of a candidate whose name will appear on the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot. The duties and responsibilities of a Caucus Official include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (1) Attend a mandatory training session authorized by the Republican Party of Kentucky prior to the commencement of voting in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus;
  - (2) Arrive at the caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins;
  - (3) Remain at the caucus location until such time the Caucus Chair requires to ensure voting has concluded;
  - (4) Assist the Caucus Chair, as may be required, to arrange and organize voter check-in areas and voting areas;
  - (5) Process voters in an orderly fashion and provide assistance, if requested, to elderly or handicapped voters;
  - (6) Treat every voter with respect and courtesy.
- (c) A final list of designated Caucus Officials shall be submitted to Republican Party of Kentucky State Headquarters not later than January 31 in a year in which a presidential election will occur and shall include the name, mailing address, telephone number, email address, and assigned caucus location (if multiple locations exist).
- (d) The State Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee may appoint, in writing, any number of Caucus Officials to any caucus location as may be required to ensure the proper implementation of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus. The State Chairman may remove or replace Caucus Officials to ensure proper conduct of the Presidential Caucus, as deemed necessary.

**11.08. Conducting the Caucus:**

- (a) Voting shall commence at 10 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m., prevailing time. Each caucus location shall be opened at the direction of the Caucus Chair at least two hours prior to the time voting begins. All voting shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- (b) Each candidate, as defined in Rule 11.05, shall be permitted to display campaign literature at each caucus location in an area designated by the Caucus Chair. Furthermore, a candidate shall be permitted to designate a representative to be present during the entire time the caucus location is open for the purpose of answering questions about the candidate posed by voters participating in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus. The name, address, cellular telephone number, email address, and assigned caucus location of each designated

representative of a candidate's campaign shall be provided to Republican Party State Headquarters on or before the last Friday in February in the year containing a presidential election. All designated representatives of a candidate shall present a government-issued photo identification and a letter signed by the State Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee to the Caucus Chair upon seeking entry to the caucus location to which they have been assigned. The Caucus Chair possesses the authority to remove any designated representative of a candidate, after consultation with Republican Party State Headquarters, if the designated representative's conduct is determined to be disruptive to the process of voting. A candidate, as defined in Rule 11.05, may enter any caucus location while voting is underway. Speeches by, or on behalf of, a candidate are not permitted inside any caucus location and no candidate or designated representative of a candidate shall be permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of the area designated for voting and/or voting equipment.

- (c) All ballots, voting equipment, ballot boxes, voter rosters, and voting supplies shall be on site at each caucus location at least one hour prior to the time voting begins.
- (d) All voters shall have their identity and eligibility verified by a Caucus Official as set forth in Rule 11.04(d) and sign the official voter roster established in Rule 11.04(c) before receiving an official Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot.
- (e) No voter shall be given more than one (1) ballot and each voter shall vote for only one (1) candidate of his or her choosing.
- (f) "Uncommitted" shall appear as the last candidate choice on each official Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus ballot.
- (g) If a caucus location serves multiple counties the Caucus Chair shall ensure ballots for each county are kept separate and do not become comingled.
- (h) Voting will cease at the designated time except that voters inside the caucus location at 4 p.m. prevailing time shall be permitted to be verified pursuant to Rule 11.04(d) and sign the official voter roster pursuant to Rule 11.04(c) and be given a ballot to cast their vote.
- (i) The Caucus Chair shall cause the immediate delivery of all necessary information to tabulate and/or report the votes cast to the designated Regional Tabulation Center.
- (j) The RSCC Executive Committee may adopt any manuals or documents, as deemed necessary, outlining technical procedures for Caucus Chairs and Caucus Officials as long as said manuals or documents are not in conflict with these rules governing the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus.
- (k) The State Chairman shall appoint a special committee, subject to ratification of the RSCC Executive Committee, who shall be in session starting one hour prior to the time voting begins at any caucus location until all voting has concluded at all caucus locations on the day of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus. This special committee will rule on any questions or conflicts arising from the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus. The decisions of the special committee are final and binding.

#### **11.09. Delegate Allocation and Tabulation of Votes:**

- (a) The RSCC Executive Committee shall establish Regional Tabulation Centers to facilitate the tabulation of votes cast in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus except that the

Executive Committee may determine specific counties where the tabulation of votes will occur at the caucus location(s).

- (b) The RSCC Executive Committee shall, at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus, determine for each caucus location whether ballot tabulation will occur at the caucus location or a designated Regional Tabulation Center.
- (c) Ballots shall be tabulated separately for each county.
- (d) Tabulation of absentee ballots may begin immediately following the deadline established in Rule 11.10(h) at Republican Party State Headquarters by a committee appointed by the State Chairman and ratified by the RSCC Executive Committee.
- (e) The RSCC Executive Committee shall determine the method of tabulating votes cast in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Caucus.
- (f) The RSCC Executive Committee is the sole entity permitted to report the tabulated results of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus to the media. No tabulated results shall be reported prior to 7 p.m. eastern time.
- (g) The RSCC Executive Committee shall certify, at the call of the State Chairman, the results of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus and the allocation of delegates within three (3) weeks following the date of the Caucus.

#### **11.10. Absentee Ballots**

- (a) A qualified voter, as defined in Rule 11.04(b), may vote in the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus by absentee ballot after making application on a form prescribed by the RSCC Executive Committee for one of the following reasons:
  - (1) The voter will be absent from their county on the day of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus;
  - (2) A caucus location is not established in the county in which the voter's registration record is filed;
  - (3) The voter is an active-duty member of the military, and is stationed outside the county in which their voter registration record is filed;
  - (4) The voter will be least seventy (70) years of age on the date of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus;
  - (5) The voter, due to a medical condition or disability, admission to or residence in a health care facility, would face undue hardship to vote in person at the voter's designated caucus location;
  - (6) The voter is a student who does not reside in the county in which their voter registration record is filed; or
  - (7) The voter is a caucus official as identified in Rule 11.07.
- (b) Voters may begin making application to vote by absentee ballot on the date established as the filing deadline for candidates set forth in Rule 11.05(b).
- (c) The Republican Party State Headquarters will begin mailing absentee ballots to voters making application under Rule 11.10(a)(1)-(7) not sooner than the first Thursday following the candidate

filing deadline set forth in Rule 11.05(b).

- (d) A voter's application to vote by absentee ballot must be received at Republican Party State Headquarters fourteen (14) days prior to the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus.
- (e) A voter may make application to vote by absentee ballot to Republican Party State Headquarters by mail, fax, in person, or online submission if available.
- (f) The application to vote by absentee ballot shall be available for download on the Republican Party of Kentucky's official website not later than the date set forth in Rule 11.10(b).
- (g) A voter will become ineligible to vote in person at any caucus location once an absentee ballot has been mailed to the voter. Republican Party State Headquarters will identify voters who have been mailed an absentee ballot in the official voter roster described in Rule 11.04(c).
- (h) A voter's absentee ballot must be received at Republican Party State Headquarters prior to the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus or no later than by 5:00 PM Eastern Time on the date of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus.
- (i) Republican Party State Headquarters will maintain a roster of voters who have made application for an absentee ballot. This absentee roster will reflect the date the application was received and the date

**11.11. Candidate Provisions:** A candidate, as defined in Rule 11.05, may exercise the following rights in regard to the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus:

- (a) Candidates may enter any caucus location on the date of the Kentucky Republican Presidential Caucus;
- (b) A candidate's campaign may identify up to two (2) designated representatives to serve the following functions at any caucus location:
  - (1) One designated representative per caucus location to distribute literature and/or answer questions about the candidate posed by voters participating in the caucus; and
  - (2) One designated representative per caucus location to observe the voter check in process and record on a wireless electronic device, if desired, the names of voters who have voted at that caucus location.
- (c) A candidate's campaign may designate a representative at each ballot tabulation location to observe the tabulation of votes.
- (d) The names of all designated representatives from candidate's campaign as set forth in Rule 11.11(b)(1) and 11.11(b)(2) shall be made to Republican Party State Headquarters on or before the last Friday in February in a year in which a presidential election is held. The submission of designated representatives from a candidate's campaign shall include the name, address, cellular telephone number, email address, assigned caucus location or assigned tabulation location.
- (e) A candidate's campaign may provide snacks and refreshments to Caucus Officials at any caucus location.
- (f) A candidate's campaign may transport eligible voters to their designated caucus location.

- (g) A candidate's campaign may request a copy of the absentee roster from Republican Party State Headquarters as described in Rule 11.10(i).

## **12. GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

**12.01. Proxies and Quorum:** No proxy voting is allowed at any level Committee meeting. The quorum at any level Committee meeting will be fifteen percent (15%) of the duly qualified members except as provided in Rule 4.01. There shall be no minimum quorum for any Mass Meeting or Convention set forth in Section 7, a nominating meeting set forth in Rule 10.02, for District and State Convention Committees set forth in Section 8, or for precinct committee elections set forth in Section 6.

**12.02. Rules:** The Current Edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, will be the rules of order of all committees and conventions provided in these rules except where in conflict with these rules.

**12.03. Amendment:** These rules may be amended by majority vote of those members voting at a meeting of the RSCC provided a copy of the proposed changes is sent to the members by regular or electronic mail with a notice of the meeting; provided, however, that if one-third (1/3) of the members present at an RSCC meeting object, the proposition to alter, amend or repeal shall be postponed until the next meeting, at which time action will be required. The Executive Committee may amend these rules by majority vote at any regular or special session so long as five (5) days' notice of the rule change shall have been effected; provided, however, that the Executive Committee cannot change the composition of the RSCC. Further, any change of rules made by the Executive Committee must be submitted for ratification by the RSCC at the next meeting thereof; provided, however, that any changes made by the Executive Committee shall have the full force and effect as the Rules of the RSCC until such time as they fail to receive said ratification.

**12.04. Appeals and Contest:** Any dispute over the identity of an officer, outcome or validity of any election, or matter pertaining to the Rules and procedure of any Precinct Committee, County Committee, or District Committee shall be resolved in accordance with the following dispute resolution procedure:

- (a) **Notification of Appeal:** Any party to such a dispute may initiate proceedings under this Section by filing a written complaint with the Chairman of the committee for which the appeal shall arise— that is, (i) if the appeal arises from City, Precinct, Magisterial District and County— matters shall be ruled upon by the County Committee; provided, however, the losing party may appeal for a hearing to a special Republican Congressional District committee; (ii) if the appeal arises from the Precinct Committee, County Committee, or the County Chair, the appeal is first made to the District Chair and District Committee, however, the losing party may appeal for a hearing, due to questions of interpretation of the rules or procedure, by notifying the State Chair for review by the Membership Committee. Any such complaint must be delivered to the appropriate Chairman by electronic mail and time stamped no later than seven (7) business days following the incident, election, or other event from which the dispute arises.
- (b) **Committee Composition:** Both the County Special Committee and District Special Committee will be made up of the respective body's officers, namely the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Youth Chairman and Treasurer shall comprise the said special County/District committee. In the event that any officer cannot or will not serve, the District Chairman shall appoint a replacement member for the hearing.
- (c) **Appeal at the County and/or District level:** Not later than three (3) business days following the receipt of any complaint filed in accordance with Rule 7.02, the Chairman of the Committee in

which the dispute arises shall notify the committee of jurisdiction; that is, if the dispute arises from the Precinct or County Committee, the County Chair shall notify the County committee, and if such dispute arises between counties within the same Congressional District or regarding the identity of an officer or procedure at the Congressional District level, then the District Chairman shall notify the District Officers. The County Committee shall hear all appeals that originate at the precinct or county level, and shall, within thirty (30) business days of the receipt of such appeal, hear the matter and vote on a resolution.

- (d) Hearings by the Special Appeal Committee: At any hearing held all parties to the dispute may be permitted to appear before the Committee and present evidence, including oral and written testimony, in accordance with procedures approved by a majority of the members of the Committee. The entire hearing record shall be made available to any member of the Committee no later than thirty (30) business days following a request in writing thereof to the Chair of the Committee. The Secretary shall record the minutes of any such meeting and make them available to the members of the committee and the State Secretary within thirty (30) business days of such proceedings.
- (e) Further Appeal: Any Party may appeal a decision of the County or District Committee, in whole or in part, by filing a written appeal with the State Chairman, who shall refer the matter to the District chair of the District the County is a part.

If any matter is appealed to the District Committee, the five (5) District Officers shall serve as the special appeal Committee and review the appeal. No new hearings or submissions shall be in order. The District Chair or their designee shall preside over the meeting, and they shall, within thirty (30) business days of receiving the appeal, issue a ruling on the matter. The committee shall enter a written ruling stating the factual basis of the complaints and a summary of reasons for the decisions within ten (10) days after the hearing. The decision of this special District committee shall be final and binding unless and until overruled upon appeal by the RSCC Executive Committee. The losing party has ten (10) business days following this decision by the District Committee to appeal to the RSCC.

In all cases where an appeal is made to the RSCC, the following process shall occur: A written notice of the appeal to the RSCC Executive Committee shall be submitted to the State Chairman stating the grounds of the contest and appeal and shall be made within thirty (30) days from the date on which the election, action, or decision appealed from is held, taken, or rendered. No appeal or contest shall be considered unless such notice is filed within such time. Within ten (10) days of receiving the appeal, the State Chairman shall notify the Membership Committee less representation from the District in question. If the case has been heard by a subordinate Committee, no new hearings or submissions shall be in order. The Membership Committee has thirty (30) days to report a recommendation to the RSCC Executive Committee. The RSCC Executive Committee shall ratify or reject the recommendation of the Membership Committee. (If the appeal is made within two months of Election Day the recommendation will be submitted to the Executive Committee within 75 days of the election.) The decision by the RSCC Executive Committee shall be final and absolute.

- (f) Appeals Regarding the Identity of the RSCC: If any dispute arises over the identity of a member of the RSCC or of the composition of the RSCC, the dispute shall immediately be taken to the RSCC Executive Committee, in the process described in Rule 12.04(e). The RSCC shall be the judge of its own elections, and the decision of the RSCC shall be final and absolute.

- (g) Except as provided in Rule 7.03(c) and 7.04(b), any challenge, objection or appeal of a ruling or of an election regarding a County's delegates or alternate delegates to the District or State Conventions will be decided by the Credentials Committee of that Convention, subject to the approval of the Convention. Any such challenge to any delegate or alternate delegate must be submitted in writing to State Republican Headquarters at least three days before the Convention at which the Credentials Committee will be asked to rule.

**12.05. Republican Integrity:**

- (a) During a general election, any registered Republican who has publicly supported the opponent of a Republican nominee for local, statewide, or national office may be ineligible to hold any Party office for a period of two years following that General Election in which said Republican nominee was on the ballot. Any dispute to this rule shall be referred to the Membership Committee, who after review, will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee pursuant to Rule 2.09(e).
- (b) Any person who did not support the Republican Presidential Nominee during the most recent presidential election shall not be elected to be a delegate or an alternate delegate to the District, State, or National Conventions, respectively.
- (c) The RSCC Executive Committee may vote to disavow a candidate who, in its judgment, exhibits excessively immoral or illegal behavior unbecoming of a representative of the Republican Party. Any five (5) members of the Executive Committee may submit a letter to the State Chairman requesting such action be taken. The State Chairman shall then conduct a meeting of the RSCC Executive Committee to consider such action. A three-fourths (3/4) majority of members present shall be required to disavow a candidate. Party members who publicly oppose a candidate disavowed by the RSCC Executive Committee shall be exempt from the penalties outlined by Rule 12.05(a).

**12.06. Contact Information:** It shall be the responsibility of each member of the RSCC to keep State Republican Headquarters informed of his or her current addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. The officers of the RSCC shall be entitled to rely upon the accuracy of such records for all notice purposes.

**12.07. Dues:** All members of the Executive Committee shall pay to the Party the sum of \$200 per year in dues. All other members of the RSCC shall pay annual dues of \$50. Such dues shall be payable on or before July 1st of each year. Each payment of dues applies to that specific office held. If a new person replaces in office a person whose dues were previously paid, the new person's dues are considered already paid, until the following July 1st.

**12.08. Registration Requirements:** In order to be eligible to vote at any meeting described in these Rules, or to be eligible for election or to serve in any Party position or office described in these Rules, a person must be and remain a registered Republican voter, eligible to vote in the next Republican primary election. In order to be eligible to file as a candidate or to vote in a Republican Primary Election, a person must be a registered Republican by close of business on the day of the filing deadline. Such person will be officially acknowledged as a Republican candidate or voter notwithstanding Kentucky law. If a qualified person holding a Party office or other position is purged, or otherwise ceases to be a registered Republican, qualified as above, a grace period of ten (10) days (during each of which the registration books are open) will be allowed for re-registration after the person is notified by Party Headquarters that his position will otherwise be considered vacant at the end of the ten (10) day period.



**12.09. Indemnification:** The Republican Party of Kentucky shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless any member of the RSCC against any and all claims, suits, and damages, including attorney's fees, arising out of actions or duties performed in an official capacity on behalf of the Republican Party of Kentucky, excluding any claims or liabilities arising out of intentional misconduct or fraud. The determination as to whether the RSCC member was, in fact, acting within the scope of his/her official duties on behalf of the Republican Party of Kentucky shall be made by a majority vote of the RSCC or the Executive Committee on its behalf.

**12.10 Gender:** Throughout these rules, unless the context clearly requires a different interpretation, all references to "he" or "him" or "his" shall be read to mean "he or she," "him or her" or "his or hers," respectively.

**Appendix**  
Rules - Calendar of Activity

Year before Presidential Election (Governor Election Yr)

- November
- December
- Dec 31 – Date of defining registered voters

Presidential Election Year

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of Yr
- 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee meeting of Yr
  - Nominate slate for Nat'l Committeeman & Committeewoman
  - Within 20 days hold RSCC to ratify nomination
  - Approve not later than 45 days prior to Republican National Convention
- January
- Issue Call to Convention by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>
- February
- March
- Request to be Delegate or Alternate to National Convention
  - Letter received 7 days prior to District or State Convention
- District Delegate & Alternate Selection
  - County Mass Meeting start Mar 1 & end Mar 31
- April
- May
- State Convention 45 days prior to RNC
- June
- July
  - Elect a Delegation Chairman prior to Republican National Convention
  - Republican National Convention in July or August
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December

Year after Presidential Election

- January
  - Call to Reorganize
  - Precinct Committee Elections logistics submitted
- February
  - Precinct Election Start Feb 15
  - County Election Start Feb 15
- March
  - Precinct Election end Mar 31
  - County Election end Mar 31
- April
- May
  - District election start Mar 1 & end Mar 31
- June
  - State election start June 1 & end June 30
- July