

Annual Business Meeting Rules

For the sake of clarity, the terms “nominee” and “nomination” will refer to a person in official consideration to represent the Libertarian Party as a statewide candidate via a nominating motion, a second, and an acceptance. The term “victor” and “victory” will refer to the person who is selected to be the Libertarian Party statewide candidate.

Process for Nomination of Statewide Candidates

1. The Chair opens up the floor for nominations to a specific office. **Please read the following “I have a notice for the body before we open the floor for nominations for a specific office. For those who were not in attendance at the 2018 convention, the state party by-laws have changed. All Illinois Libertarian Party leadership positions shall be elected at the county conventions this year in accordance with Illinois state election law. Your county convention will be held 29 days after the presidential primary. This year that date is April 15, 2020. Please contact your county chair for the exact time and location for your county convention. To be eligible to vote at the county convention, you MUST be a precinct committeeman representing your precinct. If you are not currently a precinct committeeman and would like to be, please see Ryan Mahoney about becoming one for your precinct.”**
 - The order of offices to be nominated will be based on ballot position:
 - United States Senate
 - United States House of Representative seats (called by seat number)
 - NOTA (“none of the above”) is *always* a declared option when voting.
 - Potential candidates must be physically present at the annual business meeting to accept a nomination.
 - Nominees must be eligible to serve in the office being considered.
 - For the sake of time, please refrain from “gag nominations” or nominating people who are not serious about representing our party in that capacity.
2. Nominations
 - Nominations will be made with no initial speech.
 - Seconds will be made without a speech.
 - The person being considered will accept or decline the nomination.
 - The Secretary will record the names of nominees who accept.
3. Nomination speeches
 - If there is only one candidate (and NOTA) when nominations are closed, then proceed to the rules for Uncontested Races.
 - Contested Races
 - Nominating speeches will be granted in the order in which the nominations were accepted.
 - The person who made the initial nomination for that nominee may give a nominating speech no longer than 2 minutes.
 - There will not be time allotted to the person who seconded the nomination.
 - The nominee may give an acceptance speech no longer than 5 minutes.
 - Repeat until all nominees are granted nomination and acceptance speeches.
 - Uncontested Races
 - Nominees who are only running against NOTA are considered uncontested. Time limits are shortened for uncontested nomination speeches.
 - The person who made the initial nomination may give a speech no longer than 1 minute.
 - There will not be time allotted to the person who seconded the nomination.
 - The nominee may give a speech no longer than 2 minutes.
4. Creation and Distribution of Ballots
 - The Secretary will call for the quorum from the Sergeant at Arms.

- The Sergeant at Arms will identify the number of voting members present in the room and the number of votes needed for a victory.
 - Once the quorum is declared, it cannot be changed for that round of voting. Voting members will not be allowed to enter the room until ballots are submitted for that round of voting.
 - The Secretary will count out the number of ballots equal to the number of voting members declared by the Sergeant at Arms. The official ballots will be placed on the table in front of the Secretary for voting members to retrieve.
 - Each voting member must prove his or her voting credentials by showing his or her badge to the Secretary in order to be given a ballot.
 - Voting members may only retrieve one ballot and may not pick up a ballot for another voting member.
 - If a voting member is physically unable to retrieve a ballot, then he or she may notify the Chair to be delivered one.
5. Voting (Ranked Choice)
- The Secretary will project the list of eligible nominees on the screen.
 - The ballot will identify the office being considered and will list all candidates for the nomination. A NOTA checkbox will be offered on every ballot.
 - Please try to use the nominee's full name to prevent any ambiguity in reading your selection.
 - Paper ballots may be used in the event electronic voting is unavailable.
 - Voting members shall rank the nominees they wish to vote for. A voting member may rank all or some of the nominees. If NOTA is selected, NOTA receives the rank of 1 and no other ranked votes are counted.
 - 10 minutes will be allotted for voting from the time the first ballot is delivered. Pending administrative delays, the Chair may extend time in 5-minute increments at his or her discretion.
 - Any ballot not submitted to the Secretary by the time voting is closed will not be counted. The total votes required for victory as declared by the Sergeant at Arms will not change.
6. Counting Votes
- At the end of the time allotted or as soon as all ballots have been returned to the Secretary (whichever occurs first), the Secretary and Chair will count the votes in private and record the totals in a spreadsheet not being projected.
 - Candidates shall be tabulated by the number of first choice votes.
 - If no candidate receives a majority (over 50%) of the first-choice votes, the candidate receiving the lowest number of first choice votes is eliminated. The ballots of the eliminated are counted by second choice votes and credited to the respective candidate vote totals. This process is repeated until a candidate receives a majority of votes.
 - When the counting is complete, the Chair will announce the victor. The Secretary will then display the spreadsheet on the screen. Victory requires a simple majority once allowing for ranked choice votes of eliminated nominees.
 - If NOTA is the victor, then all nominees on that ballot immediately become ineligible for nomination to the office being considered, and the electing body will return to step 1 and open the floor to brand new nominations. No concession speeches are granted.
 - If a nominee is the victor, then the victor is granted an acceptance speech no greater than 1 minute. Victors of uncontested races are not granted an acceptance speech.
7. Repeat the process until all statewide nominations have victors.

Process for nomination of National Convention Delegate Candidates

1. Nominations to the National Convention Delegation are made at the Membership Credentials table at the Illinois State Convention.

- To be eligible, nominees must be current members of the Libertarian Party of Illinois, current member of the Libertarian National Party, and residents of Illinois. Nominees should be confident in their abilities to attend and serve as delegates at the National Convention in Austin, TX in May, 2020.
 - Nominations may only be made by members of the Illinois state party that are eligible to vote at the Illinois State Convention in Peoria.
 - Members that are eligible to vote at the State Convention may nominate themselves.
 - Nominees must be seconded by a member of the Illinois state party that is eligible to vote at the Illinois State Convention in Peoria.
 - All nominating members and seconding members are requested be in attendance at the business meeting when the call for National Convention Delegates is made. Nominees must be present to accept their nomination unless he or she has delivered a statement of interest in writing to the Chair before the Annual Business Meeting is called to order.
 - Members that are eligible to vote at the State Convention are restricted to 3 nominations plus a self-nomination for themselves and 4 seconds. The nominee, nominator and second shall have their names recorded on a spreadsheet for record keeping. Those nominators and seconds with 3 or 4 nominations or seconds will be posted on a spreadsheet to ensure they do not exceed the 4 nomination or second cap.
 - Nominations must be recorded by the Credentials Committee or the Rules Committee at the Membership Credentials table to receive a ranked position on the ballot.
 - At 30 minutes prior to the State Business Meeting being called, nominations to the National Convention Delegation close and the ballot is compiled. Candidates receive points for each activity and will be listed on the ballot by the total score from highest to lowest with a maximum score of 32.
 - State Executive Committee membership status (10)
 - Board of Directors membership status (8)
 - State Central Committee membership status (6)
 - Precinct Committeemen status (4)
 - Convention Committee membership status (2)
 - Experience as a prior National Delegate (2)
 - The Secretary shall present the ranked ballot nominees to the chair by putting them on screen.
2. The Chair opens the floor to nominations
- Ballot is shown on the screen with the existing nominees in the proper ballot order. All nominations from the floor will be listed at the bottom of the ballot.
 - Members of the voting body may nominate themselves.
 - Nominees must be seconded.
 - Nominees must be present to accept their nomination unless he or she has delivered a statement of interest in writing to the Chair before the Annual Business Meeting is called to order.
 - To be eligible, nominees must be current members of the Libertarian Party of Illinois and residents of Illinois. Nominees should be confident in their abilities to attend and serve as delegates at the National Convention in Austin, TX in May 21 through 25, 2020.
 - A vote by acclamation is acceptable if there are no objections and the number of nominees does not exceed the seats allotted for the national delegation.
3. Creation and Distribution of Ballots
- The Secretary will call for the quorum from the Sergeant at Arms.
 - The Sergeant at Arms will identify the number of voting members present in the room and the number of votes needed for a victory.
 - Once the quorum is declared, it cannot be changed for that round of voting. Voting members will not be allowed to enter the room until ballots are submitted for that round of voting.

- The Secretary will count out the number of ballots equal to the number of voting members declared by the Sergeant at Arms. The official ballots will be placed on the table in front of the Secretary for voting members to retrieve.
 - Each voting member must prove his or her voting credentials by showing his or her badge to the Secretary in order to be given a ballot.
 - Voting members may only retrieve one ballot and may not pick up a ballot for another voting member.
 - If a voting member is physically unable to retrieve a ballot, then he or she may notify the Chair to be delivered one.

4. Voting (Approval Voting)

- The Secretary will project the list of eligible nominees on the screen with a number assigned to each nominee.
- The ballot will have the numbers representing each nominee and a “yes” and “no” checkbox for each candidate. The NOTA requirement is represented on the ballot by allowing the voter to select “no” for every nominee.
- Voters will select “yes” for numbers representing the nominees they would like to send as delegates to the National Convention. Each “yes” vote has a value of 1. A “no” vote represents a negative vote and has a value of -1. Voters may also choose to not check either box. The absence of a mark under either box carries a value of 0.
- Paper ballots may be used in the event electronic voting is unavailable.
- 10 minutes will be allotted for voting from the time the first ballot is delivered. Pending administrative delays, the Chair may extend time in 5-minute increments at his or her discretion.
- Any ballot not submitted to the Secretary by the time voting is closed will not be counted. The total votes required for victory as declared by the Sergeant at Arms will not change.

5. Counting Votes

- Nominees whose total “no” votes are greater than or equal to their total for “yes” votes are not selected as delegates and are ineligible to serve as delegates at the National Convention.
- Nominees who receive net positive “yes” votes are ranked by the number of net positive “yes” votes. However, if the number of victors is lesser than the number of delegates allotted to Illinois, then any nominees who receive net positive “yes” votes will be selected as delegates.
- If the number of nominees is greater than the number of delegates allotted to Illinois, then the votes will be ranked for each nominee. Nominees who receive votes but do not receive enough to be selected as a delegate will be considered an alternate delegate. If there is a tie for the final spot(s), then there will be tie breakers until the final spots are filled:
 - SEC membership status
 - BOD membership status
 - SCC membership status
 - Precinct Committeemen status
 - Convention Committee status
 - Prior National Delegate status
 - Run-off ballot
 - Those who lose the tie breaker are still eligible to be alternates.
 - Secretary to list nominees remaining and delegate seats remaining on the screen.
 - Ballot will be created.
 - Voters select nominees equal to or less than the number of delegate seats remaining.
 - Nominees are ranked by the number of votes to determine victors.
 - Repeat until final spots are filled or NOTA prevails. If NOTA prevails in the tiebreaker, then all nominees can still be alternate delegates.
 - If repeat ballots are needed, then the nominee(s) with the lowest vote total(s) is/are excluded from the next round.

