

**RULES OF THE
2026 SOUTH DAKOTA REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION
AS RECOMMENDED AS OF _____ a.m.**

1. Robert's Rules of Order (12th Edition) shall govern the deliberations of this convention, except as may be modified by South Dakota Codified Law, the Bylaws of the South Dakota Republican Party, or these rules.
2. Any proposed resolution or platform item, not required by law, shall be submitted in writing and pursuant to the committee's rules to the Resolutions or Platform Committee Chair. Only resolutions or platform items, or amendments thereto, submitted to a committee may be introduced on the floor of the convention. Any resolution or platform item to be considered by the convention must have been submitted to the committee and approved by a 2/3 vote of the committee.
3. Speaking and floor privileges shall be limited to registered delegates, convention officers, convention committee members, state party officers who are not delegates, and any candidate for statewide office nominated at the party primary election. To be eligible to vote in the elections for candidates, floor votes or be present on the floor, a delegate must be registered for the convention. Delegate registration closes at 8:45 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2026.
4. Any delegate addressing the Chair shall identify himself or herself and the county which the delegate represents or position they hold. All delegates, officers, committee members and statewide officers nominated must register and pay the convention registration fee, if any, for speaking and floor privileges. No proxies will be allowed.
5. In accordance with SDCL § 12-5-18 and the South Dakota Republican Party Bylaws, all nominations, elections, and roll call votes shall be held in accordance with Rule 6. For all other votes, each delegate shall have one vote, and voting shall be by voice vote.
6. In a roll call vote, each delegate is entitled to vote his or her proportionate share of the total delegation among those delegates present and voting at the time of the vote. A delegate shall not split their vote among more than one candidate or question. In accordance with SDCL § 12-5-18: "each delegate shall vote the number of votes equal to his proportionate representation as to all delegates present from that county bears to the number of votes cast in his county at the last gubernatorial election for his party candidate for Governor."
7. In a roll call vote, the Chair of each county delegation shall announce the number of delegates on the floor and voting, followed by the vote totals for each candidate and for and against each question. In any county that does not have a county chair, the county delegation shall meet and select a person to announce their votes at the convention.

8. Nomination Process. The following rules shall apply for the nomination or election of a candidate
- a. No person shall be nominated or elected for public office or party office unless that person gave written notice of his or her intention to run for the office to the Convention Secretary by 5:00 p.m., Thursday June 25, 2026 and who has not first been nominated in the following manner:
 - i. Nominations shall be upon a roll call of counties in alphabetical order. A county may defer to another county. Once a county has deferred and the county that was deferred to made any nomination or taken other action, the roll call shall resume by calling on the county that alphabetically follows the county that deferred.
 - ii. One nominating speech of not more than three (3) minutes and no more than two seconding speeches of not more than one and a half (1.5) minutes shall be permitted for each person who is nominated. The nominating speech may be given from the dais with seconding speeches given from the floor.
 - iii. When there are no further nominations the chair shall declare nominations closed. After the nominating speeches are closed, each candidate nominated will be given the opportunity to give a speech of not more than five (5) minutes.
 - iv. Upon completion of the speeches, roll call voting shall begin and shall be conducted in alphabetical order of the counties. If a motion to cast a unanimous ballot is made, seconded and carried without objection, a roll call vote shall not be conducted or may be terminated.
 - v. As required by state law, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by those present and voting to be elected or receive the Republican nomination. If no candidate receives a majority on the first or second ballot, successive ballots shall be limited as follows: Prior to the third ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest votes on the prior ballot, if there is one such lowest, shall be dropped from consideration on the following ballot. On each successive ballot the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the prior ballot, if there is one such lowest, shall be dropped from consideration on the next ballot until only two candidates remain.
 - vi. Any person who has been duly nominated may ask to have his or her name removed from consideration at any time prior to completion of a roll call vote where that person's name is under consideration. Any duly nominated person who removes their name from consideration shall be allowed to address the State Convention for a period not to exceed three (3) minutes in length.
 - b. The order of voting on nominations and elections shall be as follows:

Public Utilities Commissioner
Treasurer
Auditor
School and Public Lands
Secretary of State
Attorney General

- c. Upon completion of the balloting, each person who is nominated or elected may give an acceptance speech of not more than five (5) minutes. Candidates may waive the acceptance speech.
9. If a motion to amend is permitted by these rules, a motion to amend must be submitted in writing to the Convention Secretary before being considered.
 10. With the exception of nominating speeches, the following rules shall apply generally to all floor speeches during the Convention:
 - a. Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, no delegate shall speak for more than two (2) minutes on any item. This time must be used in the delegate's one floor speech allotted for the item and members may not reserve rebuttal time or otherwise split up their allotted two (2) minutes. No delegate may speak more than once on an item.
 - b. Delegates are not permitted to yield time for any floor speeches to other members. Each member is limited to their maximum allotted time dictated under this rule.
 - c. Only delegates recognized by the chair may make floor speeches and may do so only from the floor at one of the designated standing microphone(s).
 - d. For any and all floor speeches, including nominating speeches, time limits shall be monitored and enforced by the Convention Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall use reasonable signaling or signage to keep floor speakers aware of their remaining time.
 - e. Any delegate giving a floor speech shall closely watch the Convention Parliamentarian to ensure that time limits are strictly observed. The Parliamentarian or the Convention Chair may also give a verbal signal for a floor speech to end when the pertinent time limit expires.
 - f. Time for debate on resolutions shall be limited to a total of 10 minutes per resolution.
 11. No motion or request for division is in order. A motion for a roll call vote must be supported by forty percent (40%) of the delegates present. When voting on a motion for a roll call, each delegate present has one (1) vote.
 12. The Convention may be recessed from time to time by the Chair of the Convention in

accordance with the procedures provided in Robert's Rules of Order.

13. Any motion to suspend these rules requires a 2/3 vote of the delegates eligible to vote on a voice vote. No motion to suspend South Dakota Codified Law or the Bylaws of the South Dakota Republican Party is in order.

14. With the permission of the chair of a convention committee, a member of the committee may meet for a committee meeting by phone or electronically.

15. Due to the need to optimize the ability of delegates to see and participate, campaign posters and signs shall not be allowed on the convention floor. Campaign literature will not be distributed on the convention floor. When the convention floor is in session, cell phone calls shall not be made or received while on the convention floor. Candidates and their representatives will be asked to assist in honoring these rules and the ability of fellow delegates to participate in this convention.

16. The temporary roll of delegates presented by the Credentials Committee in its report shall include all eligible delegates. When the report of the Credentials Committee is adopted by the convention, it shall become the permanent roll of delegates. Any motion to amend the permanent roll of delegates must be made by the Credentials Committee or be referred to it prior to its consideration. After the adoption of the permanent roll of delegates, no further report from the Credentials Committee is required unless the convention refers a matter to the committee.