



- Rules & Credentials -

Gray Chapel, February 23-24, 2024

\*Ohio Wesleyan University's Mock Convention is an immersive and educational political simulation designed to capture the essence of a political party's national convention. This event, which doesn't require any previous political knowledge, is designed to foster a deeper understanding of the American political process and encourages active participation in our democracy. We welcome individuals of all political affiliations to interact and participate, offering a dynamic platform for participants to express a wide range of opinions, ideas, and perspectives. However, these expressed viewpoints, while integral to educational value of the simulation, do not represent the views or opinions of Ohio Wesleyan University. This includes the entire university community comprising its diligent students who devote their time to learning and growth, its esteemed faculty who are dedicated to teaching and academic excellence, and the administration who work tirelessly to ensure the efficient operation and continuous development of the university. Rules are based on the official rules of the GOP Convention and were compiled by Elizabeth Gangwer and Hayley Sanders, Rules and Credentials Chairs.

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# Ohio Wesleyan University

## Mock Convention 2024

### The Elephant in the Room

The subsequently listed procedures and rules, as well as Robert's Rules of Order, shall govern OWU Mock Convention 2024: *The Elephant in the Room*. If Robert's Rules of Order should at any time conflict with the following listed procedures and rules, these procedures and rules shall take precedence over Robert's Rules of Order.

#### Procedures

1. No confetti may be used by a state, or any members of a state, during the convention.
2. The use of scotch tape on any object or surface of Gray Chapel is prohibited unless the Executive Committee provides written permission.
3. Eating and drinking without prior permission from the Rules Committee are strictly prohibited in Gray Chapel. Smoking is prohibited at all times.
4. All State Chairs shall be held accountable for their delegation's behavior and involvement.
5. Each official delegate shall have one vote in his or her assigned state.
6. State Chairs may only cast votes on behalf of delegates on the Convention floor at the time of voting. No state shall cast more votes than previously allocated by the Executive Committee.
7. States with favorite sons or daughters may cast their first ballots for those candidates. If a first ballot produces no overall winner then states may not vote for favorite sons or daughters on the second or subsequent ballots.
8. Only State Chairs (or their designees) shall announce their respective delegation's vote for each candidate.
9. Discussion among states and delegates is allowed and encouraged to meet before the convention starts if they want to amend a bill on the convention floor.
10. All caucusing shall take place on the floor of the convention.
11. Security officials shall have full authority to escort out of the convention hall any persons on the floor who are without proper credentials or who are engaged in disruptive or disorderly conduct.
12. The Executive Committee shall reserve the right to reprimand or expel from the convention any delegate or chair whom they feel has violated any of the procedures or rules mentioned herein. It is

- requested, though not required, that before ordering a delegate or chairperson's expulsion, the Executive Committee will first warn a delegate or chairperson that his or her actions are out of order
13. The Executive Committee shall reserve the right to reprimand or expel from the convention any delegate or chair whom they feel has violated any of the procedures or rules mentioned herein. It is requested, though not required, that before ordering a delegate or chairperson's expulsion, the Executive Committee will first warn a delegate or chairperson that his or her actions are out of order
  14. No pets allowed except registered service animals.
  15. Any clothing that has hate speech or clothing that is found offensive may be asked to change or asked to leave.
  16. All mock convention delegates must follow the Covid protocols that are set by the Ohio Wesleyan University at the time that the convection is happening.

## Rules

1. Admission into the Convention Hall shall be limited to properly credentialed members of state delegations, officers and staff of the convention, members of the RNC, Republican statewide and federal officeholders, any others with written approval from the Executive Committee.
2. The Convention shall proceed in the order of business prepared and distributed by the Executive Committee of the 2024 Mock Convention.
3. The Executive Directors shall appoint all recorders, secretaries, and parliamentarians.
4. Parliamentary Authority, except for limitations mentioned in this document, shall adhere to the rules established by *Robert's Rules of Order*.
5. Speaking Privileges:
  - a. Any individual may address the plenary session with the consent of the Chair.
  - b. Officers of the convention shall have the privilege of addressing the session when matters pertaining to their official responsibilities are involved.
6. Delegate Credentials:
  - a. Prior to each session, delegates are responsible for picking-up their credentials and wearing them in plain sight at each session.
  - b. Credential challenges must be made in writing on the appropriate form and signed by six delegates from at least two states.
  - c. Credentials that are challenged may be revoked by a majority vote of the delegates.

7. Delegates Privileges:

- a. originate platform language
- b. vote on convention business
- c. make or second motions
- d. make nominations
- e. raise parliamentary points
- f. address sessions of the convention

8. Quorum:

- a. A majority of delegates registered and present when the convention is called to order shall constitute a quorum. The presence of a quorum may be challenged if at least twenty delegates from at least two states request such a challenge. At such time, a roll call shall be called until a quorum is established or an absence of one is confirmed.
- b. Whenever the rules of the convention require a certain percentage of delegates in plenary sessions for any purpose, that percentage shall be calculated on the basis of the most recent quorum vote.

9. Primary Amendments:

- a. In order for an amendment to be considered, it must be written on the proper form with the name, state, and signature of the sponsor and the name, state, and signatures of 25 additional delegates.
- b. Any primary amendment up for consideration regarding the platform must be turned in to the Secretary at least 15 minutes prior to debate on the relevant section of the platform.
- c. All amendments filed under these rules shall be maintained by the Secretary and made available at the appropriate time to all delegates of the convention.
- d. Once the amendment has been deemed valid, it will be submitted to the Secretary for reading to the convention at the appropriate time.
- e. The Chair then will recognize the sponsor to speak for no more than two minutes.
- f. Subsequent debate will alternate between amendment opponents and supporters.
- g. When the amendment has been fully discussed, the Chair will call for a vote.
- h. Once a vote has been recorded on a primary amendment, all debate on said amendment will cease.

10. After all written platform amendments submitted for consideration have been dispensed with, the Chair

may allow non-printed amendments to be introduced.

11. No Secondary Amendments may be offered up to the Convention at any time.

12. Debate:

- a. To address the convention, delegates must proceed to one of the microphones on the convention floor.
- b. Once recognized by the Chair, delegates must state their name and state delegation before addressing the convention.
- c. Where not otherwise provided for by these rules, no delegate will speak more than once or longer than two minutes on the same question.
- d. At the Chair's discretion, debate on amendments may be closed after a minimum of one speaker from each side of the issue has addressed the convention.
- e. Delegates may move to call the question but only after at least one delegate in support of and one in opposition to have had a chance to address the convention. Debate will end if such a motion is supported by a 2/3 vote.
- f. Once debate has ended, a voice vote will commence.

13. Roll Call

- a. A roll call shall be taken at any such time that 50 delegates from ten states submit the proper form in writing to the Secretary or at any time at the behest of the presiding Chair.
- b. At any such time that a roll call vote is required, states shall be called in alphabetical order.
- c. Each State chairperson or his or her representative shall announce the vote of the delegation when called upon by the Secretary.
- d. If the vote of any state is divided, the state chairperson shall announce the number of votes for each candidate, or for or against any proposition.
- e. The announced vote of any state may be challenged by any voting member of that state's delegation. At such time, the Chair shall poll the individual members of the delegation to determine the accurate vote count.
- f. The Chair will call the roll once. A delegation will be allowed to pass only once on each roll call vote. At the conclusion of the roll call, state(s) which previously passed on the vote will be called on in alphabetical order for the final time.
- g. No delegation shall be allowed to change its vote until all delegations which have previously passed have voted. A delegation wishing to change its vote should notify the Chair in advance so that the Chair can recognize it to do so.

- h. Following a roll call vote of the states, the Chair, after asking for one round of challenges or corrections, shall rule the vote closed and shall not entertain any change subsequently, except by unanimous consent.

#### 14. Tie Votes

- a. If, after the Chair has exercised her or his privileges under Robert's Rules of Order, a tie vote remains, the Chair shall recess the session for no more than ten minutes to give delegates a chance to caucus.
- b. Upon resumption of the session, the Chair will recognize one delegate from each side to speak on the motion for no more than two minutes.
- c. A second vote then will be called.

#### 15. Nomination Process for President and Vice President of the United States:

- a. At the designated time the Chair will call for nominations for President or Vice President of the United States.
- b. Each candidate nominated for President of the United States and Vice President of the United States shall demonstrate the support of thirty signatures from a minimum of five delegations.
- c. Each delegate may sign only one nomination form for each office.
- d. The total time of the nominating and seconding speeches for any nominated candidate shall not exceed ten minutes.
- e. After the nominations have been closed, a roll call of the states shall be called.
- f. When, after the close of a roll call vote, any nominated candidate has received a majority of the votes cast, the Chair shall declare that candidate nominated.
- g. If no candidate received such a majority, the Chair shall announce the candidates with two highest vote counts shall remain in nomination
- h. A second roll call of the states shall be called and the candidate with the highest vote total declared the presidential nominee.
- i. The same nomination and election process shall be followed to determine the nominee for vice president.



