

## DRAFT RULES FOR SPOKANE COUNTY CONVENTION AND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT CAUCUSES/SUB-CAUCUSES

March 24, 2018

1. The Spokane County Convention/Legislative District Caucuses/Sub-Caucuses shall be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 commencing at 10:00 am, at Cheney Middle School, Cheney, Washington.
2. To vote at the Spokane County Convention an individual must be a resident, registered voter in Spokane County and affirm that they are a Democrat by signing on the registration sheet and agree to public record of their attendance at the meeting. To vote at a Legislative District Caucus/Sub-Caucus an individual must be a resident, registered voter in the legislative district, and affirm that they are a Democrat by signing on the registration sheet and agree to public record of their attendance at the meeting.
  - a. Registered voters include all registered voters and any 17 year old who will be eligible to vote on or before November 6, 2018. Registered voters also include any eligible individual who completes a voter registration form while signing in to attend the County Convention/Legislative District Caucus/Sub-Caucus.
  - b. Individuals who are not qualified to register to vote because of residence, citizenship, or age shall be allowed to participate in the platform discussion, but may not vote on rules, matters of order, resolutions or for the election of delegates or alternates, nor may they be elected as delegates or alternates.
3. There may be a suggested registration donation of \$5.00 requested of all participants to the Spokane County Convention/Legislative District Caucuses/Sub-Caucuses to defray the expenses of location rental, copies of documents, and other supplies at the door. Payment of this fee shall not be a condition of participation or election as a delegate or alternate.
4. The Spokane County Chair or the Chair's designee shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the Spokane County Convention. The chair of each legislative district (or their designee) shall serve as the Temporary Chair of their respective Legislative District Caucus/Sub-Caucus.
5. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee no earlier than 11:00 am, which shall include the following:
  - a. The total number of individuals who are registered voters who have registered with the Credentials Committee at the time the report is given,

reported both by the county as a whole and each legislative district within or partially within Spokane County; and

- b. Recommendations from the Credentials Committee with respect to challenged voters. Challenged voters wishing to be seated shall be voted upon by the County Convention as a whole, proceeding in alpha-numeric order until all challenges are resolved. If a challenged voter is not sustained, they shall be ineligible to vote or be elected as a State Delegate or Alternate. A challenged voter may not vote on the question of their own challenge.
6. The Credentials Committee may seat unchallenged voters arriving after the Initial Credentials Committee report and such individuals shall be eligible to vote on all pending matters at the County Convention and/or their Legislative Caucus/Sub-Caucus.
  7. The Chair of the Rules Committee shall present the report of the Rules Committee.
  8. For both the County Convention and Legislative District Caucuses/Sub-Caucuses, any voting member of the Convention or Caucus/Sub-Caucus may nominate themselves or be nominated by another voting member for the position of Permanent Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches and speeches by the candidate on their own behalf shall not total more than two (2) minutes per nominee. A majority of those voting is required to elect. If no person has a majority, the candidate receiving the least votes is dropped and balloting shall be repeated using the remaining names. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of those voting. In case of a tie vote, the tie shall be broken by lot or coin toss.
  9. A Permanent Chair shall appoint a Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Time Keeper, Tally Committee Chair, and Parliamentarian. Assistants or Committees may be appointed to assist these officers in their work, as volume dictates.
  10. Rules with respect to the election of State Convention delegates and alternates at the Legislative District Caucuses/Sub-Caucuses:
    - a. The election of State Convention delegates and alternates shall be as follows:
      - i. The 3rd Legislative District Caucus shall elect seven (7) delegates and three (3) alternates.
      - ii. The 4th Legislative District Caucus shall elect six (6) delegates and three (3) alternates.
      - iii. The 6th Legislative District Caucus shall elect eight (8) delegates and four (4) alternates.
      - iv. The 7th Legislative District Sub-Caucus shall elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate.

- v. The 9th Legislative District Sub-Caucus shall elect an individual who will have the voting status of one-half (0.5) delegate and no (0) alternates.
- b. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate must be a resident registered voter, as defined in Section 2 of these rules, in the respective Legislative District.
- c. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate shall be nominated individually. No second is required. A candidate who is not present must signify in advance, in writing individually or by email to the County Chair or a Legislative District Chair, or their designee, that they will serve if elected and that they are a Democrat and are willing to be known as such. The letter of any absent candidate shall be read by the Caucus/Sub-Caucus Chair and shall constitute a nomination, no second required. All other nominations shall be made by signing the nomination list at the registration table. Each candidate shall have up to one minute (including the time spent by the Chair reading an absent candidate's nomination letter) for speech on their behalf. The Chair, at their sole discretion, may reduce the amount of speaking time, as long as all candidates are provided the same amount of time, based upon number of candidates and any other pertinent factors.
- d. Voting for the election of State Convention delegates shall be by written ballot and a ballot to be counted must have all potential positions filled, contain only the names of persons nominated, and have no duplications. The ballot must not differ by more than one in the number of men and women selected. (These requirements prevent a candidate for delegate from skewing the vote by only voting for themselves and leaving the other positions blank). A plurality of those present and voting is required to elect. In case of a tie vote, the assignment of a delegate position shall be by coin toss.
- e. State Convention alternates shall be selected from the same set of ballots used for the election of delegates. The candidate for delegate receiving the most votes after all delegate slots are filled shall become alternate number one, and the alternate receiving the next most votes shall be alternate number two, and so forth. (Voting for alternates is done at the same time as voting for delegates).
- f. The delegation elected shall differ by no more than one (disregarding any positions won by non-binary gender persons) between the number of women and number of men in both the delegate and alternate categories unless there are an insufficient number of nominees from one gender to fill the available positions. (If a legislative district caucus or sub-caucus can elect 10 delegates but 3 men and 7 women are running then the women can take the delegates spots that the men are unable to fill and the delegation will consist of 3 men and 7 women). The process to adjust for gender differences shall be as enumerated in the

State Party document "Proposed Process for Determining Delegates under 2018 Gender Rules" (attached).

- g. If there are the same number of candidates seeking election to the State Convention as the number of positions available or fewer, they may be elected by acclamation.
11. At the discretion of the Permanent Convention Chair, consideration of the platform or resolutions may commence without suspension of the rules.
  12. Any resolution not considered by the Convention shall be referred to the next meeting of the Spokane County Democratic Central Committee.
  13. The motion "to table" shall be out of order at all times.
  14. A quorum shall consist of 30% of the number eligible to vote as shown on the Credentials report, as most recently amended. Once a quorum is established, it may not be challenged until the election of delegates has been completed.
    - a. The Tally Chair, in consultation with the Permanent Caucus Chair, may suspend counting of State Convention delegates and alternates ballots and inform the Caucus about where and when it will resume counting.
    - b. If this option is implemented, ballots and ballot documentation shall be sealed securely in an envelope or box, the seal signed by the Permanent Caucus Chair, the Tally Chair, and a third selected member, and not re-opened until the count resumes with the seal inspected beforehand.
  15. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall appoint a representative tally committee to serve under the Tally Chair. All ballots shall be returned to the Permanent Caucus Chair and thereupon provided for safekeeping to the elected Legislative District Chair if that person is a different individual from the Caucus Chair. The ballots shall be retained by the Legislative District Chair until the State Convention has adjourned.
  16. The Unit Rule shall not be permitted at any time.
  17. Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
  18. All possible efforts shall be made to insure maximum participation of African Americans, Hispanic/Latinos, Enrolled Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans, and People with Disabilities. Other Constituencies of Concern include but are not limited to women, youth (considered separately to include both those between the ages of 17 and 24 and those between 17 and 36), persons over 65 years of age, LGBTQ+, and persons of economic disadvantage.

19. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in other matters not specifically covered herein or hereinafter or in the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.
20. Nothing in these rules shall be inconsistent with the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.

### **Rules Relating to the Consideration of Resolutions and the County Platform**

1. Priority shall be given by the Convention to the consideration of resolutions to be forwarded to the State Convention in June.
2. Once resolutions have been considered by the Convention, the Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall call upon the Chair (or co-chairs) of the Platform Committee to place the Platform before the body for adoption.
3. The process and priority for the Convention in reviewing the Platform shall be as follows:
  - a. First, the Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall call upon the Chair (or co-chairs) of the Platform Committee to highlight those sections of the existing Platform for which there are no recommendations from the Platform Committee for change. Members of the Convention will be asked to flag any bulleted items within these sections for change. Any sections for which there are no flags from members for change shall be placed on a "Do Pass" list and existing language in those sections may not be further considered by the Convention, except on a final vote to approve "Do Pass" items or sections.
  - b. Second, the Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall call upon the Chair (or co-chairs) of the Platform Committee to review the recommended changes for change from the Platform Committee. Members of the Convention will be asked to flag any bulleted items within these sections for change. Any sections for which there are no flags from members for change shall be placed on a "Do Pass" list and the recommended changes from the Platform Committee may not be further considered by the Convention, except on a final vote to approve "Do Pass" items or sections.
  - c. Third, the Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall review the sections of the Platform which have been flagged for change.
    - i. Debate shall alternate pro and con, limited to a maximum of three speakers for and three speakers against the issue, with a maximum of one minute speaking time for each speaker.

- ii. The Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall reduce the amount of per-speaker speaking time to thirty seconds per speaker at any point in time if in their opinion there will be insufficient time for all flagged sections to be considered by the Convention by the time the Convention's rental of the building is to conclude.
  - iii. After the speaking time period has concluded for each flagged item, the Convention shall vote on whether the change should be adopted. If the vote is in the affirmative, the changed item shall be added to the "Do Pass" list and may not be further considered by the Convention, except on a final vote to approve the "Do Pass" items or sections. If the vote is in the negative, the original item shall be added to the "Do Pass" list and may not be further considered by the Convention, except on a final vote to approve "Do Pass" items or sections.
- d. Lastly, the Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall ask members of the Convention as to whether new items should be added to the Platform. Motions to add new bulleted item(s) or section(s) to the Platform require five (5) seconds for the item(s) or section(s) to be considered by the Convention.
- i. The Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall review with the Convention the item(s) or section(s) of the Platform for which additions have been moved and seconded.
    - 1. Debate shall alternate pro and con, limited to a maximum of three speakers for and three speakers against the issue, with a maximum of one minute speaking time for each speaker.
    - 2. The Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) shall reduce the amount of per-speaker speaking time to thirty seconds per speaker at any point in time if in their opinion there will be insufficient time for all added items or sections to be considered by the Convention by the time the Convention's rental of the building is to conclude.
    - 3. After the speaking time period has concluded for each new item or section, the Convention shall vote on whether the new item or section should be adopted. If the vote is in the affirmative, the new item or section item shall be added to the "Do Pass" list and may not be further considered by the Convention, except on a final vote to approve "Do Pass" items or sections.
4. At any point after asking members to flag bulleted items for change (Rule 3 (b) of these Convention rules), the Permanent Convention Chair (or their

designee) may call for a vote on then-existing “Do Pass” items or sections of the Platform, which omits flagged item(s) or section(s) still to be considered by the Convention.

- a. There shall be no debate by members of the Convention on items or sections placed on the “Do Pass” list.
  - b. Votes may be taken on “Do Pass” items or sections as the list may exist from time to time.
5. The Permanent Convention Chair (or their designee) retains the prerogative to bring up flagged bulleted items or proposed new items for debate and action at the time and manner of their choosing.
6. In the event the Platform is not passed in its entirety at the Convention, the remaining items or sections duly placed before the Convention which were not considered at the Convention due to time constraints may be considered by the Spokane County Democratic Central Committee at its next quarterly meeting, provided, however, that no items or sections of the Platform approved at the Convention may be changed or altered until the next Convention duly called and constituted.
  - a. In the event that the Convention adjourns before it is able to consider new items or sections (Rule 3 (d)), then those new items or sections shall not be considered until the next Convention duly called and constituted.



# Proposed Process for Determining Delegates Under 2018 Gender Rules

## 2018 Washington State Democrats Caucus and Convention Cycle

Step 1: All voters cast ballots for a number of candidates equal to the number of delegates to be elected. For this example we'll say we are electing ten (10) delegates. All voters would cast votes for ten candidates, regardless of gender.

Step 2: Rank all candidates, regardless of gender, by votes received.

Preliminary  
Cutoff – Total  
number of  
allotted delegates

	Candidate	Gender	Votes
1	Donna	F	51
2	Brian L.	M	47
3	Belinda	F	40
4	Daniel	M	39
5	Diana	N	38
6	Brian W.	M	35
7	Jason	M	28
8	Javier	M	28
9	Adeline	F	28
10	Daniel	M	25
11	Taylor	N	24
12	Catherine	F	21

Step 3: Count the number of men and women in the preliminary delegate list.

	Candidate	Gender	Votes	
→	Donna	F	51	
	Brian L.	M	47	←
→	Belinda	F	40	
	Daniel	M	39	←
	Diana	N	38	
	Brian W.	M	35	←
	Jason	M	28	←
	Javier	M	28	←
→	Adeline	F	28	
	Daniel	M	25	←
	Taylor	N	24	
	Catherine	F	21	

There are 3 women and 6 men.

$$6 - 3 = 3.$$

3 is greater than 1, so this doesn't work. **X**



# Proposed Process for Determining Delegates Under 2018 Gender Rules

2018 Washington State Democrats Caucus and Convention Cycle

Step 4: Replace members of the advantaged gender (starting with the people who got the fewest votes) with members of the disadvantaged gender (starting with the people who got the most votes) until the gap between men and women is no more than one (1).

Candidate	Gender	Votes
Donna	F	51
Brian L.	M	47
Belinda	F	40
Daniel	M	39
Diana	N	38
Brian W.	M	35
Jason	M	28
Javier	M	28
Adeline	F	28
<b>Daniel</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>25</b>
Taylor	N	24
<b>Catherine</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>21</b>

Remove Daniel

Add Catherine

There are now 4 women and 5 men.

$$5 - 4 = 1.$$

1 is less than or equal to 1, so this works! ✓

The final delegate list is

Men	Women	Non-Binary
Brian L.	Donna	Diana
Daniel	Belinda	
Brian W.	Adeline	
Jason	Catherine	
Javier		

Step 5: Remove the elected delegates from the list, and repeat the process to find the alternates.

Note 1: If the total number of men and women are odd in both the delegate and alternate categories, the disadvantaged gender for delegates must be advantaged for alternates. If you have more delegate men than delegate women (as in this example), you can't also have more alternate men than alternate women.

Note 2: All ties, at any point in this process, are broken by lot or coin flip.