

**PROPOSED RULES**  
**2016 DFL SENATE DISTRICT 64 CONVENTION**  
**April 3, 2016 – Central High School**

**GOVERNING AUTHORITY AND AGENDA**

1. Upon all matters not governed by the State DFL Party Constitution and Bylaws, Official Call, the Senate District Constitution, and these Rules, *Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised* shall govern. Provisions of the Official Call shall take precedence over any other party rules at any level wherever a conflict exists.

2. A majority vote of the convention is required to adopt these rules and the agenda. Once adopted, these rules and the agenda shall govern unless suspended or modified by a two-thirds vote of the convention.

3. The quorum for conducting any business of the convention is a majority of the registered delegates (including upgraded alternates).

**SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

4. Registration of delegates and alternates to the convention shall continue until adjournment. Newly registered delegates and upgraded alternates may not enter while the floor is frozen.

5. Each precinct delegation shall elect one or more delegation chairs for purposes of alternate seating, roll calls and ballot voting. The Convention Chair shall instruct the convention as to the duties each delegation chair will be expected to perform during the convention. The name of each delegation chair shall be reported promptly to the Convention Chair. Any delegate shall be eligible for election as delegation chair.

6. The seating of delegates and alternates shall be governed by the following:

- a. All registered delegates (not alternates) on the temporary roll shall be seated.
- b. The convention shall hear and resolve any challenges regarding delegate or alternate seating pursuant to the Official Call.
- c. Any delegates or alternates entitled to be seated after all challenges have been resolved shall go to the registration table with their delegation chair so that proper seating can be

arranged. As soon as practical after verification of a quorum, the registration staff shall function inside the convention hall so as to permit its members to maintain a consistent and accurate delegate count by precincts while participating as convention delegates.

- d. Alternates elected at large shall be upgraded to delegate status according to their numerical ranking on the precinct report. Alternates cannot be upgraded outside of their precinct.
- e. Three (3) floor passes for candidates for endorsement for elected office to be elected this cycle shall be issued.
- f. A temporary delegate badge shall be issued to an appropriate alternate when the alternate is raised to delegate status. There shall be no upgrading of alternates during any voting process. If the upgraded alternate is subsequently returned to alternate status, the alternate's delegate badge shall be immediately surrendered.
- g. Non-upgraded alternates and visitors shall be seated separately from delegates and shall not be allowed on the convention floor during the convention.
- h. Special floor passes shall be issued for an interpreter or other personal care assistant for any delegate or upgraded alternate who submits a request to the credentials committee. Such persons may be seated in close proximity to the delegate or alternate they are assisting, but shall play no role in the convention.

**GENERAL CONVENTION RULES**

7. The convention shall not adjourn until the following conditions have been met:

- a. Elections for Party Officers as enumerated in the DFL SD 64 Constitution to be elected at this convention.
- b. Elections for State Central Committee Delegates and Alternates.
- c. Elections for State Convention Delegates and Alternates.

8. Two (2) Convention Chairs, with gender balance, shall be elected by a plurality vote of the convention.

9. The Convention Chairs shall appoint a convention secretary and may appoint parliamentarians, timekeepers, tellers, sergeants-at-arms, and other assistants as they deem necessary to conduct convention business.

10. Candidates for election to a party office shall be nominated by name only, but each candidate may have one (1) minute to use as they wish.

11. Convention tellers shall distribute ballots to the chair of each precinct delegation on matters to be determined by written ballot. Ballots shall be distributed only to delegates and upgraded alternates seated under the rules of this convention. These ballots shall be returned by the precinct delegation chair to the tellers.

#### 12. Signs and Campaign Literature

- a. The Arrangements Committee shall designate an equal portion of wall space behind the stage assigned by lot for the exclusive use of each campaign for DFL endorsement that requests such space from the Arrangements Committee. Campaigns may also post signs on their tables and in their hospitality rooms. These are the only places signs may be posted indoors.
- b. All signs and other materials must comply with the rules of the convention facility, and with any additional rules and procedures established by the Arrangements Committee.
- c. No stickers shall be worn, distributed, or posted.
- d. Campaign literature may only be placed on candidate tables or given directly to willing delegates.
- e. No moving demonstrations are permitted during balloting. There shall be no disruptive demonstrations in the galleries.
- f. Each delegation will be responsible for collecting materials and garbage.
- g. Whistles, air horns, bull horns, and strobe lights or other similar devices will not be allowed during the convention in the convention hall.

13. The nominations committee shall place in nomination the committee's recommendations.

Other nominations shall be made from the floor without speeches or seconds.

### **SPEECH AND DEBATE RULES**

14. No delegate may speak until recognized by the Convention Chair. Speakers will first state their name and precinct. No person may speak more than once on an item of business until all others on that side who wish to do so have had an opportunity.

15. Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, no delegate shall speak for more than one (1) minute on any item. The chair will rotate speaking privileges among floor microphones and between proponents and opponents of a measure to the extent possible. Debate will terminate when three (3) speakers have been heard on each side.

16. With respect to credentials challenges to delegations, prior to the floor debate, speakers on behalf of both the challenged delegation and the challenging delegation shall each be allowed 5 minutes in total to present their positions, with the challenged delegation speaking last.

17. Any motion to table shall be considered as though it were a motion to postpone indefinitely. A motion to postpone indefinitely does not preclude amendments to the main motion. The motions "to reconsider and enter on the minutes" and "to object to consideration" are not in order. The motion to reconsider is in order and will require a two-thirds vote.

18. Any amendment to a motion or resolution which removes, changes, or adds five (5) or more words must be submitted in writing to the Convention Chair before being considered. When the motion to amend is made, it must be seconded. Amendments take a majority vote for adoption.

19. Incumbent DFL office holders, declared DFL candidates, and other party dignitaries may address the convention at the discretion of the Convention Chair. Such visitors will limit their remarks to no more than two (2) minutes.

### **PARTY OFFICER ELECTIONS**

20. If none of the nominees for an office receives a majority vote on a ballot, the nominee with the least number of votes will be dropped on the next ballot, provided that at least two candidates remain on that ballot.

## **STATE LEGISLATIVE ENDORSEMENT RULES**

21. The Senate District Convention shall recess into House District Conventions. All Senate District Convention Officials shall continue in office. The business of each House District Convention shall be the endorsement of a candidate for the State House of Representatives from that House District, and any other business authorized by the Senate District constitution. The Senate District Convention shall reconvene upon completion of the House District Conventions.

22. Endorsement of a candidate requires a sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote of that Convention.

- a. Each candidate and/or their representative(s) shall be allowed no more than seven (7) minutes to address the convention. If unopposed, they may use this time after endorsement.
- b. No others may speak on behalf of or against the candidate.
- c. Candidates receiving less than 10% will be dropped after the first ballot. On subsequent ballots, the drop-off percentage will be raised by 5% each ballot. However, in no case will this drop-off rule be used to reduce the number of candidates remaining on the next ballot to less than two.
- d. A motion for no endorsement shall not be in order.

## **STATE CONVENTION & 4<sup>th</sup> CD/RAMSEY COUNTY DELEGATE ELECTIONS**

23. The Convention shall elect 28 delegates and 28 alternates to both the State Convention and the 4<sup>th</sup> CD/Ramsey County Convention.

24. If proportional voting is used, the convention will use the Walking Subcaucus system provided in the Official Call. Ten (10) minutes each will be allowed for the first and second counts.

## **PLATFORM RESOLUTIONS**

25. The resolutions to be forwarded by the Organizing Unit must be selected from among those resolutions adopted by the precinct caucuses from precincts wholly or partially within the Organizing Unit.

26. There will be no time specifically devoted to the resolutions balloting process. The Convention Chair may open the floor to one (1) minute speeches for or against any resolution on the ballot. No more than 20 minutes total shall be allotted to such speeches. No delegate may speak to more than one resolution until all other delegates have had a chance to speak.

27. The procedure for selecting the resolutions to be forwarded to the State Platform Commission is as follows:

Ballots shall be distributed to delegates and upgraded alternates at registration. Ballots can be delivered for tabulation to the ballot box at the Resolutions desk. To be adopted, a resolution must receive at least a 60% affirmative vote of the convention. Abstentions shall not be counted as part of the vote (in effect making them "no" votes). If more than 56 resolutions receive the necessary 60% vote, the resolutions that received the highest percentage vote (with any ties for last place decided by lot) will be the resolutions forwarded to the State Platform Commission.

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**DFL SENATE DISTRICT 64 CONVENTION**  
**April 3, 2014 – Central High School**

1. Call to Order by the Senate District 64 Chair (Tentatively at 1 P.M.)
2. Flag ceremony
3. Reading of Affirmative Action Statement
4. Credentials Committee First Report - Resolution of any credentials challenges
5. Election of Convention Chair(s)
6. Rules Committee Report - Adoption of Rules
7. Resolutions Committee First Report
  - a. Reading of the Platform Resolutions Statement
  - b. Explanation of Voting Process
8. Senate District Officer reports, if any
9. Nominations Committee Report - Election of Party Officers
  - a. Chair
  - b. Vice Chair
  - c. Outreach Officer
  - d. Secretary
  - e. Treasurer
  - f. Fundraising Chair
  - g. 17 Directors /7 Alternates
10. Nominations Committee Report - DFL State Central Committee (SCC):
  - a. 7 DFL SCC Delegates/ 7 DFL SCC Alternates
  - b. 2 DFL SCC Alternates for SD 64 DFL Chair and Vice Chair (who are ex officio Delegates)
11. Nominations Committee Report – 4<sup>th</sup> CD DFL
  - a. 2 - 4<sup>th</sup> CD DFL Executive Committee Members/ 2 Alternates
  - b. 14 – 4<sup>th</sup> CD DFL Central Committee Delegates/ 14 Alternates
12. Nominations Committee Report - Ratification of Senate District Central Committee members
13. Endorsement of Candidate for SD 64
14. Endorsement of Candidate for HD 64A
15. Endorsement of Candidate for HD 64B
16. Resolutions Committee Second Report
17. Credentials Committee Second Report
18. Election of 28 DFL State Convention Delegates and 28 State Alternates /56 - 4<sup>th</sup> CD & Ramsey County Convention Delegates. (State Alternates serve as 4<sup>th</sup> CD & Ramsey County Delegates, no Alternates are elected to this Convention)
19. State Convention Delegation Elections
  - a. State DFL Convention Delegation Co-Chairs
  - b. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Rules Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
  - c. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Credentials Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
  - d. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Candidate Information Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
  - e. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Arrangements Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Nominations Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
  - g. 4<sup>th</sup> CD/ Ramsey County Resolutions Pre-Convention Committee - 2 Members/2 Alternates
20. Other Business
21. Adjournment

\* Speakers may address the body throughout at the Chair's discretion

4<sup>th</sup> CD/Ramsey Co. DFL Convention tentatively scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>, noon, Carpenter's Union Hall, 710 Olive St., St. Paul

Minnesota State DFL Convention tentatively scheduled for June 4th, 2016 at Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis