

**BYLAWS AND RULES OF THE
BERKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**
Last amended by a vote of the General Membership held on August 17, 2013

ARTICLE I NAME & PURPOSE

This organization, to be known as the Berks County Republican Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Organization"), shall officially represent, conduct business for, and be the governing body of the Republican Party in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

ARTICLE II MEMBERS

21 Members Members of the organization shall be:

1. Republican Committeemen and Committeewomen elected as hereinafter provided;
2. Bonus Committee Persons elected as hereinafter provided;
3. Committeemen, Committeewomen and Bonus Committee Persons appointed as hereinafter provided; and
4. Officers and Executive Committee Members who are not Committeemen, Committeewomen or Bonus Committee Persons.

2.2 Elections and Appointments

One Committeeman and one Committeewoman shall be elected from each precinct in Berks County by the registered Republican voters of such precinct during the primary election in even numbered calendar years commencing with the primary election of 2006 and every four years thereafter. Write-in candidates must receive a number of valid write-in votes at least equal to the number of signatures required on a nominating petition. In addition, one Bonus Committee Person shall be elected in the same manner from each precinct for every 500 registered Republican voters in such precinct.

The County Chair may appoint a person who is qualified for election to fill a vacancy in any of the above-mentioned positions. Such appointments shall be approved by the Executive Committee and the relevant Region.

All Committee Persons, Officers and Executive Committee Members (collectively referred to as the "General Membership" or "Members" of the Organization) must be and remain registered Republicans in Berks County (or in their precinct in the case of Committee Persons) to maintain their position.

23 Duties Duties of the Members shall include:

1. Registering Republican voters and encouraging them to vote;
2. Assisting Republican voters by providing information, absentee ballot applications and other services;
3. Assisting the Republican Party in finding, nominating, and electing well-qualified Republican Candidates for office;
4. Assisting candidates who are registered Republicans in election campaigns;
5. Protecting the interests of the Republican Party and of candidates who are registered Republicans at the polls;
6. Provision of up-to-date personal contact information, and
7. Otherwise advancing the interests of the Republican Party in Berks County.

2.4 Removal

Members may be removed for:

1. Not remaining a Republican;
2. Not maintaining official residence within the represented precinct (or, for Members who are not Committee Persons, within Berks County);
3. Campaigning against the Republican Party or its Candidates;
4. Consistent neglect of the duties of the office for a period of six consecutive months;
5. Medically certified mental incapacity, until such time as medical documents prove otherwise; or
6. Conviction of a serious criminal offense.

Charges for removal of a Member shall be directed to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall give each Member five days notice of the charges for removal and an opportunity to be heard by the Executive Committee. Removal requires a two-thirds vote of a quorum of the Executive Committee.

2.5 Term

An elected Committee Member's term begins upon certification of the results of the election; an appointed Committee Member's term begins upon appointment. Expiration of term occurs upon the certification of the results of the next election of Committee Members.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS

3.1 Officers

The Officers shall be: Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be members of the opposite sex.

3.2 Qualifications

At least one officer must be a duly elected Republican Committee Person as per Article II. [All officers must be members as per Article 6.2.]

3.3 Election: Term

The Officers shall be elected (by secret ballot) at an organizational meeting of the General Membership, which shall be held within thirty days of the certification of election results of the Spring Primary of each even-numbered calendar year (including those even-numbered years where there is no committee member election), and shall hold office until the next organizational meeting unless the officer resigns, is removed, or is otherwise unable to serve.

3.4 Chair

The Chair shall be the chief executive officer of the Organization. The Chair is an ex-officio member of all committees. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Organization and the Executive Committee. The Chair shall prepare an annual budget for the Organization.

3.5 Vice Chair

The Vice Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Organization and the Executive Committee in the absence of the Chair.

3.6 Recording Secretary

The secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Organization and the Executive Committee and shall maintain the minute books of the Organization.

3.7 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be in charge of all funds of the Organization and shall deposit them and make payments from them at the direction of the Chair. The Treasurer shall keep records of receipts and expenses and shall file all required reports. The books shall be available for inspection by the Chair and shall be available for audit. All checks are to be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the Chair, or, in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair.

3.8 Vacancies

The Chair, or the Vice Chair, if the Chair becomes vacant, shall schedule a special meeting of the Organization for the purpose of electing a new officer to fill a vacancy, within thirty days of the creation of such vacancy.

3.9 Removal

Officers are subject to removal under 2.4 hereof. In addition, Officers may be removed (recalled) from their office by vote of two-thirds of the General Membership present and voting at a meeting of the Organization.

3.10

All Charter Committees shall report to their respective Regions on their activities. This shall be done on at least a quarterly basis. The Committee shall report to the Region in which a majority of their Charter Committee's population resides.

ARTICLE IV

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.1 Members The members of the Executive Committee shall be:

- 1 The Officers;
- 2 The Chairs of the Regions;
- 3 The members of the Republican State Committee from Berks County;
- 4 A member of the County Row Officers who is registered Republican (selected by the Republican County Row Officers within one week after the organization meeting to serve until the next organization meeting);
- 5 A member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly serving and residing in Berks County who is a registered Republican (selected by such members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly within one week after the organizational meeting to serve until the next organizational meeting);
- 6 The Chairman of the Reading Republican City Committee;
- 7 The Chairman of the Berks County Young Republicans;
- 8 The Chairperson of the Berks Republican Women; and
- 9 At-large members appointed by the Chair, who need not be Committee Persons, but who must be registered Republican voters residing in Berks County. At-large members, who are not Committee Persons may not be represented by proxy, and the number of at-large members may not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Executive Committee.

4.2 Term

The term of the members described in subparagraphs 1, 2, and 3 of 4.1 hereof shall be the duration of the term of the position that qualified them for membership on the Executive Committee.

At-large members serve at the discretion of the Chair; however, their terms expire when the Chair's term expires, or when the Chair resigns, is removed, or is otherwise unable to serve.

4.3 Purpose

The Executive Committee shall conduct the business of the Organization between meetings of the General Membership, and shall meet at least quarterly.

4.4 Quorum: Rules

Two-thirds of members present shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* Shall be used to determine procedure of all meetings of the Executive Committee.

4.5 Committees

The following shall be standing committees: Publicity, Finance, Special Events, Voter Registration, and Election Day.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS OF THE ORGANIZATION

5.1 Meetings

There shall be at least three meetings of the General Membership annually. The organizational meeting described in 3.3 hereof shall be one such meeting. The annual convention described in Article VII hereof shall be another such meeting. All other meetings shall be called by the Chair upon written notice to the General Membership. The preferred method of notice of all meetings shall be by electronic email at least ten days prior to the meeting. Anyone preferring another method must notify the secretary of his/her preferences for regular mail.

5.2 Special Meetings

By written petition signed by at least one hundred members, the Chair may be requested to call a meeting of the General Membership. The Chair must call said meeting within fifteen days of receipt of such petition, giving notice of the purpose for which such meeting is called, said purpose being the only business topic to be discussed at such meeting.

5.3 Quorum

A quorum shall be one-third of the General Membership present in person or by proxy.

5.4 Proxy

A member may appoint a proxy as that Member's representative at a meeting of the organization. Such person need not be a Member of the Organization, but must be a registered Republican residing in the Member's Region. Such person may not be appointed proxy by more than two Members at any given meeting. The form of proxy is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5.5 Rules

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be used to determine procedure at all meetings of the Organization.

ARTICLE VI

REGIONS

6.1 Structure

For organizational purposes, the Organization shall be subdivided into North, South, East, and West Regions approximately equal both in terms of population (according to the latest United States Census) and in total number of available Committee Person seats. The boundaries of the Regions, which shall be contiguous, shall be determined by a Realignment Committee, subject to the approval of at least three-fifths of the Members present and voting at a meeting of the Berks County Republican Committee. The Realignment Committee shall meet either at the call of the Chairman of the Organization or upon the written petition signed by at least one hundred Members of the Organization, in which case the Chairman must call said meeting within fifteen days of the receipt of such a petition. The Realignment Committee shall be named and chaired by the Chairman of the Organization. In addition to the Chairman, the Realignment Committee shall be composed of at least the following: one Officer, one Member of the Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania, one State Legislator, one Countywide Elected Official, the Chairman of the Reading Republican City Committee, and one Committee Person from each of the existing legislative districts of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives within Berks County.

6.1a

The Reading Republican City Committee shall be officially designated as a special entity within the Organization. Its boundaries shall be the same as those of the City of Reading, notwithstanding the creation of Regions that include all or parts of the City of Reading within their boundaries. Its Chairman shall be a member of the Executive Committee, as under Article IV Section 4.1 Clause 6 of these Bylaws as amended.

62 Members

All Committee Persons (and only such Committee Persons) from a Region are voting members of such Region. Members shall be any registered dues paying Republican residing in the Region. Dues shall be annual at the rate of \$5.00 per person.

6.3 Duties

The Committee shall be the social and political center for Republicans in the community and shall promote Republican Party candidates and events. They shall not support Democrats, including financial assistance.

6.4 Officers

Each Region shall elect a Chairman, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Additionally, the Members elected from within the boundaries of each legislative district of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives shall caucus separately and elect a Vice Chairman representing their particular legislative district. Officers must be members of such Region under 6.2 hereof. The Officers shall be elected (by secret ballot only) at an organizational meeting to be held within thirty calendar days of the Party Reorganization. Regions must notify committee members in writing at least ten days (postmarked) prior to the reorganization meeting. Notice must be sent via the U.S. Mail. Terms of officers of the Region expire at the next organization of such Region (whether or not such officer is re-elected as a Committee Person, but in the event that an officer is not re-elected as a Committee Person, such officer ceases to be a member of the organization under 2.1 hereof or of the Region under 6.2 hereof when that person's term as Committee Person expires for all purposes except to fulfill the term as officer of the Region).

65 Meetings

Each Region shall meet at least four times a year. These meetings shall include but are not limited to; Pre-Endorsement, Pre-Primary, Pre-General, plus one other. Each Region shall determine the procedures for conduct of its meetings; however, each Region shall abide by the County Bylaws. The Officers of the Organization described in Article III hereof shall be invited to all Region meetings, but shall not be a voting member of a Region

unless qualifying under 6.2 hereof. The Chair of the Region shall notify the Chair of the Organization of the time and place of all meetings of the Region.

ARTICLE VII

ENDORSEMENTS

7.1 Annual Convention

The organization may endorse candidates for the Republican Party who are registered Republicans in races involving multi-county districts (i.e., Sixth Congressional District and multi-county Senatorial and House Districts) at the annual convention of the Organization, which shall be held on the first Saturday after the petition deadline for the primary election.

7.2 Procedure

1. Prospective candidate contacts Committee Persons.
3. Prospective candidate contacts the Chair[.]. Prospective candidate meets with relevant Region(s).
4. Prospective candidate presents credentials to the Executive Committee; the Executive Committee votes on whether the prospective candidate is "qualified" or "not qualified" for the office sought.
5. Prospective candidate attends annual convention, and is given the floor to speak, with a time limit on candidate's speech to be set by the Chair[.]. The results of the vote of the Executive Committee are published to the General Membership. The General Membership casts its vote for endorsement on an office-by-office basis. A simple majority is required to proceed with the ballot process. Only those members who reside within the boundaries of the office that the prospective candidate seeks may vote for the endorsement. There shall be a maximum of three ballots:
 - a. Ballot One: All prospective candidates for the office are placed on the ballot. If a prospective candidate gets 60% of the votes cast, the candidate is endorsed; if not, the convention moves to the second ballot.
 - b. Ballot Two: Only the top two vote getters from ballot one advance to ballot two. If one receives 60% of the votes cast, that candidate receives the endorsement; if not, the convention moves to the third ballot.
 - c. Ballot Three: The prospective candidates from ballot two advance to ballot three. If neither receives 60% of the votes cast, neither is endorsed, but both are "recommended".

ARTICLE VIII

VACANCIES

8.1 Ballot Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs on the Republican ballot for a state legislative, county, or judicial (including magisterial district judge) office, the Chair shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee within three days after the deadline for the withdrawal of nominees, to vote for a replacement candidate. If the Executive Committee cannot fill the vacancy within three days after being convened for that purpose, the Officers shall promptly meet to select a replacement candidate.

If the Republican ballot vacancy involves a multi-county district office (i.e.: Congress, State Legislator, Delegate or Alternate Delegate), then the vacancy shall be filled by a convention of delegates from the impacted counties as prescribed by the Bylaws of the Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania.

If the Republican ballot vacancy is for a local municipal (i.e.: township, borough or school director) office, then the Committee Members of the applicable region residing in the office boundaries pertaining to the vacancy, along with the officers of the region, shall, at a meeting called and presided over by the regional chair within three days after the deadline for withdrawal of nominees, choose a candidate and report the same to the Chairman of the Organization. If this meeting fails to produce a nominee within three days after being convened for that purpose, then the Officers of the County Committee and the Chair of the Region shall promptly meet to select a replacement candidate.

If the vacancy on the ballot is for a local municipal office involving more than one Region, then both Regions must agree on the choice, at a meeting called as specified above and presided over by the Regional Chair with the greatest number of committee people effected. If they are unable to agree to a candidate within three days of being convened for that purpose, then the Officers of the County Committee and the Chairs of the Regions impacted shall promptly meet to select a replacement candidate.

When the ballot vacancy occurs in the City of Reading for a mayoral, city council, or school director candidate, then the Reading Republican City Committee shall, at a meeting called and presided over by the Chair of the Reading Republican City Committee within three days after the deadline for withdrawal of nominees, choose a candidate and report the same to the Chairman of the Organization. If the City Committee is unable to fill the vacancy within three days of being convened for that purpose, then the Officers of the County Committee and the Chair of the Reading Republican City Committee shall promptly meet to select a replacement candidate.

The Chairman of the Organization shall be an ex officio member of any body convened for the purpose of filling a ballot vacancy when the vacancy is to be filled by a Region or the Reading Republican City Committee, and shall preside at any meeting convened for the purpose of filling a vacancy whenever a replacement candidate is to be chosen by the Officers of the County Committee and other officials as enumerated above.

8.2 State Committee Vacancies

The Chair shall fill any vacancy in the office of State Committee Member from Berks County by appointing a Republican elector who meets the requirements for election to that office, that appointee to complete the term.

ARTICLE IX

MISCELLANEOUS

9.1 Adoption

These rules shall be adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of Members of the Organization. These rules shall be effective immediately upon their adoption.

9.2 Amendment

1. Any proposed Amendment shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee for review. The proposed Amendment, along with Executive Committee comment, will then be sent to all Committee People at least ten days prior (Postmarked) to the next scheduled County Convention.
2. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the General Membership present at a meeting of the Organization.

*Adopted by a vote of the General Membership at a meeting held on October 23, 1993
Amended by a vote of the General Membership at a meeting held on June 18, 1994
Amended by a vote of the General Membership at a meeting held on February 9, 1995
Amended by a vote of the General Membership at a meeting held on February 17, 1996
Amended by a vote of the General Membership at a meeting held on February 26, 1997
Amended by a vote of the General Membership held on March 16, 2002
Amended by a vote of the General Membership held on August 31, 2005
Amended by a vote of the General Membership held on August 17, 2013*