

These rules were approved by Ninth District Convention on April 18, 2009

NINTH DISTRICT REPUBLICAN PARTY RULES

April 18, 2009

1. Membership

1.1 Qualifications for Participation in Party Actions

All qualified voters under the laws of the State of Georgia who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, in its declaration of policy, and are in agreement with its aims and purposes may participate as members of the Republican Party in its conventions or mass meetings in their jurisdictions. All Chairmen and members of committees, delegates to conventions and voters in mass meetings, provided for in these rules, shall be members of the Republican Party, as defined, and must be qualified registered voters of the respective units which they represent as Chairman, members, delegates, or voters in mass meetings, except as provided for in State Rule 3.9.

1.2 Publication of Qualifications

The qualifications for such membership in the Georgia Republican Party shall be published in all official Calls for Mass Meetings and Conventions, as herein stated, and may hereafter be prescribed by the State Committee, and pursuant to the rules of the Republican National Convention.

2. District Committee

2.1 District Committee

- A.** There shall be a committee officially known as the “Ninth Congressional Republican Committee”, hereinafter designated as the “District Committee”, which shall be the governing body of the Republican Party of the Ninth Congressional District in the interim between District Conventions.
- B.** There shall be an Executive Committee of the District Committee, which shall have the power to transact the administrative business of the Ninth District Republican Party pursuant to these rules and the direction of the District Committee.
- C.** Meetings of the District Committee and the District Executive Committee shall be held upon written notice, mailed at least ten (10) days in advance on the call of the Chairman or on the call of one-third (1/3) of the members thereof. The District Committee shall meet at least four (4) times yearly.

2.2 District Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers and members.

A. Officers:

- 1. Ninth District Chairman who shall be the Chairman of the District Committee.
- 2. First Vice Chairman
- 3. Second Vice Chairman

4. Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Assistant Secretary
7. Assistant Treasurer

B. Members:

1. Officers designated above
2. Immediate Past District Chairman
3. The Republican Congressional Nominee of the Ninth District from the preceding general election who shall be a non-voting member
4. All County Chairmen or a duly elected or appointed representative by the individual county party at its biennial convention or by its executive committee. The county maintains its right to change its representative at any time by duly notifying the District Executive Committee through the District Chairman and District Secretary, however, any changes made after a meeting notice has been sent out will not become effective until that meeting has been held.
5. The Ninth District Communications Director
6. Northwest Regional Director
7. Central Regional Director
8. Mountain Regional Director
9. Southeast Regional Director
10. Parliamentarian (non-voting)
11. Sgt at Arms (non-voting)

C. Quorum:

A quorum for meetings of the above will include the Immediate Past Chairman and the Republican Nominee only when they are actually present.

2.3 The District Committee shall consist of the following:

1. Executive Committee as designated above
2. State Committee Members elected at the District Convention
3. Ninth District Director of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women
4. Ninth District Director of the Georgia Federation of Young Republicans
5. Republican members of the State Legislature residing in the Ninth District (counted for a quorum only when actually present)
6. Members of the State Executive Committee who reside in the Ninth District.

2.4 Election of Officers of the District Committee and Members of the State Committee

- A.** The officers of the Ninth District Committee (except the four Regional Directors and the Ninth District Communications Director) shall be elected by the District Convention.
- B.** They shall hold office for two (2) years or as otherwise provided by these Rules or call of the Georgia Republican Party and until their successors are duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed from office in accordance with these rules. The Four Regional Directors serve by the appointment and at the discretion of the District Chairman and are subject to serve two (2) years or until removed by the District Chairman, whichever comes first. The

Ninth District Communications Director serves by appointment of and at the discretion of The District Committee and is subject to serve two (2) years or until removed by the District Committee, whichever comes first.

- C. The members of the State Committee to be elected from the Ninth District as specified in the State Call shall be elected at the District Convention.

2.5 Vacancies

- A. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of any officer or member, according to Rule 2.6 of these Rules, the District Committee shall fill the vacancy by a majority vote of a quorum present at a duly called meeting of said committee, within sixty (60) days of the occurrence of such vacancy. The written notice of such meeting, pursuant to Rule 2.1 C of these Rules, shall disclose the existence of such vacancy and the purpose of the meeting.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of a member elected by a County Convention or a County Committee, the County Committee shall notify the District Committee of its action in writing within five (5) days after election. If such vacancy is not filled within ninety (90) days after it occurs, the District Committee may fill such vacancy by a majority vote of a quorum present at a duly called meeting on its own motion.

2.6 Removal of Officers and Members

- A. Any officer or member may be removed from office for cause by the District Committee, subject to the terms and conditions prescribed herein, by a vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of a quorum present at a duly called meeting of the District Committee; provided however that such individual be given:
 - 1. Written notice of such meeting mailed at least thirty-two (32) days in advance thereof, setting forth the grounds therefore.
 - 2. An opportunity to be present at such meeting and to be heard in person and/or by any representative of his choice.
- B. "Cause" as used herein shall include:
 - 1. Continued failure to perform his duties or participate in the affairs of the party. Failure to attend in person or by proxy, three (3) consecutive meetings of the District Committee or State Committee if a State Committee member shall be prima facie evidence of failure to perform duties.
 - 2. Conduct detrimental to the Party. Public support of any candidate or nominee of an opposition party in a primary, runoff, or general election by any member of the District Committee shall be prima facie evidence of conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party. Public endorsement by a member of the committee, in his official capacity, of any Republican candidate in a contested primary prior to the election of the Party nominee in that contest shall be prima facie evidence of conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party.

- C. Any member or officer may resign by submitting his written resignation to the District Chairman or the District Committee. Such resignation shall be deemed to be completed upon a vote to accept by the District Committee.
- D. As soon as an officer qualifies to run for an elected public office for which at least one other Republican has also qualified, he shall be deemed to have resigned. An officer who qualifies as a candidate for elected public office for which no other Republican has also qualified shall be deemed to have resigned immediately upon being elected to that office. As soon as a member or officer qualifies as a candidate for any political party other than the Republican Party, he shall be deemed to have resigned all positions in the Georgia Republican Party.

2.7 Quorum

A. Ninth District Committee

A majority of the voting membership, with the exceptions mentioned in Rule 2.2 C and 2.3-5, of the Ninth District Committee, in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of said Committee.

B. Ninth District Executive Committee

A majority of the voting members, noting above exceptions, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of said Executive Committee.

2.8 Proxies

The members of the Ninth District Committee may be represented in all official matters by proxies, subject to the following conditions:

- A. Except as provided in Rule 2.8 C of these Rules, any member of the District Committee may direct his proxy only to another member of the District Committee. No District Committee member may hold more than three (3) proxies.
- B. Any member of the District Executive Committee may direct his proxy only to another member of the Executive Committee. No Executive Committee member may hold more than three (3) proxies.
- C. The District Director of the Ninth District of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women and the District Director of the Young Republican Clubs may direct their proxies to the District Committee or to any member of the governing body of their respective organizations who reside in the Ninth District.
- D. All proxies shall be in writing, shall specify the meeting for which they are given, and shall be assigned by the maker. Proxies transmitted by signed electronic means shall be acceptable. No verbal proxies allowed.

3. Duties of District Committee

3.1 Duties

The District Committee shall, in the interim between District Conventions, be invested with all the duties, powers, and privileges possessed by the District Convention, shall act as the Republican Party of and for the Ninth District in said period and shall be the governing body of said District.

- A.** The District Committee shall call all District Conventions according to the State Republican Party Call and make arrangements therefore and fix the time and place for holding of same. Each such call shall state the purpose of the convention, as well as the time and place of such convention, and shall notify each County Chairman of the number of delegates and alternates to which all units are entitled therein. It shall cooperate and assist with all District Campaigns. It shall cooperate with the State Committee in conducting all Statewide campaigns within its District boundaries, National and State causes and otherwise aid the State Committee in efforts where practical.
- B.** The District Committee shall decide all controversies within its jurisdiction, with the right to appeal by petition to the State Committee.
- C.** If a district officer or committee member is a party to an initial hearing, an appeal, or another controversy to be heard at the district level, the officer(s) or member(s) shall be recused from the Executive Session, and shall not be present at the Executive Session or participate in the actual vote regarding the issue or controversy.
- D.** The Executive Committee shall have the power to transact the administrative business of the District Committee and make recommendations to the District Committee for its consideration.

4. Duties of Officers

4.1 Chairman

The District Chairman shall issue and publish the Call for District Convention upon at least fifteen (15) days notice prior thereto, and shall preside until a temporary organization is completed. Each such call shall state the purpose of the District Convention and shall notify each County Chairman in said District of the number of Delegates and Alternates to which each county is entitled therein. The District Chairman shall convene the District Committee when the needs of the Party so demand, but in no event less than four (4) times yearly, and he shall preside at the meeting of said District Committee. He shall appoint four (4) Regional Directors and such additional committees as he deems advisable. The chairmen of said committees shall be members of District Committee. He shall also appoint interim convention committees prior to the District Convention and shall provide for the timely distribution of all convention-related notices required by these Rules and the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party. The Chairman may designate from anyone meeting the Qualifications for Participation in Party Actions to one or more standing committees as needed to promote the Ninth District Republican Party. Such committees shall fulfill such duties and exercise such powers as the Chairman shall request or delegate. In addition, the Chairman may appoint anyone meeting the Qualifications for Participation in Party to various individual positions as needed to promote the Ninth District Republican Party. Such positions shall fulfill such duties and exercise such powers as

the Chairman shall request or delegate. Appointed positions, standing committee chairs and members shall serve at the discretion of the Chairman. They may be appointed or removed at any time.

4.2 First Vice Chairman

The First Vice Chairman shall act for the District Chairman in his absence, and assume the office of Chairman temporarily until a replacement can be made according to Rule 2.5 A if the office becomes vacant and shall perform other duties assigned by the District Chairman or the District Committee.

4.3 Second Vice Chairman

The Second Vice Chairman shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the District Chairman or the District Committee, and shall perform the duties of the First Vice-Chairman in his absence.

4.4 Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the District Committee and the District Executive Committee. He shall serve as secretary of the District Convention until a temporary organization is completed and shall keep a record of the proceeding of each District Convention and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Chairman, the District Committee, or the Executive Committee. The District Secretary shall keep a roster of the names and addresses of all County Chairmen and District Committee members. He shall notify each member of a committee of meetings of said committees at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting upon request by the Chairman of that committee. The Secretary shall furnish copies of all minutes of the Executive and/or District Committee meetings within thirty (30) days after said meeting to all members of the respective committees.

4.5 Assistant Secretary

The Assistant Secretary shall perform all duties assigned to him by the District Chairman or the District Secretary.

4.6 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have custody of and responsibility for the funds of the Ninth District Republican Party, shall deposit said funds in a bank or banks selected by the District Executive Committee, which said funds may be drawn against as prescribed by the District Executive Committee. The said Executive Committee shall annually secure an audit and same shall be presented to the Committee at the first meeting following the audits completion. The Treasurer shall present at each District Executive Committee meeting a financial report summarizing income, expense, assets, and liabilities of the Ninth District Republican Party.

4.7 Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant Treasurer shall perform all such duties assigned to him by the District Chairman or by the District Treasurer.

4.8 Regional Directors

There shall be four (4) Regional Directors appointed by and serving at the discretion of the District Chairman for the purpose of representing and being the liaison for the District Chairman in smaller and more manageable groupings of counties within the Ninth District. Their terms coincide with that of the Chairman, and shall be appointed at the Biennial Convention or the first District meeting following the election or reelection of the District Chairman. The grouping of counties may be amended as necessary from time to time, but at this reading shall be:

<u>Northwest</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Mountain</u>	<u>Southeast</u>
Catoosa	Fannin	Union	Hall
Dade	Gilmer	White	Forsyth
Walker	Pickens	Lumpkin	
Whitfield	Murray	Dawson	
	Gordon		

4.9 Ninth District Communications Director

There shall be a Ninth District Communications Director who shall oversee the various media functions of the District including but not limited to *The Elephant's Ear* newsletter and The Ninth District Web Page. The Ninth District Communications Director shall be appointed by the District Committee at the first called meeting of said committee following the biennial District Convention.

4.10 Endorsements

No elected officer of the Ninth District Republican Committee as provided for in Rule 2.2 A of these Rules shall publicly endorse any Republican candidate in a contested Primary prior to the Primary Election on behalf of or in the name of the Ninth District Republican Committee or in his capacity as an officer any Republican candidate in a contested primary prior to the Primary Election.

4.11 Delivery of Records

The outgoing officers shall deliver to the new office holders the records pertinent to their office within one (1) week after retiring from office.

5. Conventions

5.1 Conventions

There shall be held in each odd numbered year, District Conventions for the purpose of reorganizing the Republican Party in the District and for the purpose of transacting all necessary and proper business of the District Party. In Presidential Election years, District Conventions shall be held for the purpose of electing Delegates and Alternates to the Republican National Convention and for the transacting all necessary and proper business of the Party. Said Convention shall be held in a building suitable for public use.

5.2 Official Business

All District Conventions shall be open to the public. No official business shall be transacted at any Convention while any of its committees are in session. Only Delegates and Alternates elected by the

various County Conventions may participate in the official business of the District Convention provided, however, that the then existing Chairman of the District, if not elected as a Delegate or Alternate thereto, may participate in the District Convention, but in such event said Chairman shall have no vote.

5.3 Interim Convention Committees

- A.** The District Chairman shall appoint, subject to the qualifications of these Rules, all interim committees no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the District Convention. The Chairman must appoint an interim Rules, interim Nominating Committee, and Interim Credentials Committee and may appoint such other committees as he deems appropriate. The appointments to the Interim Nominating Committee are subject to the approval by a majority vote of the District Committee. At least one representative of each county should be appointed to the Interim Credentials Committee.
- B.** If any member of the Interim Rules, Interim Nominating, or Interim Credentials Committee is not elected as a Delegate or Alternate to the District Convention, a vacancy shall be declared by the Chairman and the Chairman shall appoint a Delegate or Alternate to fill the vacancy.
- C.** The Chairman of each Convention Committee must provide notice to the District Chairman and all Convention Committee members reflecting the meeting schedule for their respective committees. The District Chairman shall notify by written notice mailed ten (10) days in advance thereof, all Delegates and Alternates and County Chairmen of time, place, and date of the District and Interim Convention Committee meetings and appointments.
- D.** The Interim Rules Committee shall prepare the Rules and Order of Business for the conduct of each District Convention in advance thereof, which Rules and Order of Business shall be submitted to the official Committee on Rules of each Convention for its consideration and report to the convention in session. This committee shall provide a full copy of the existing Rules to each county chairman and a summary of the rules to be change and the proposed changes to each rule to be changed to all Delegates and Alternates upon their registration at the convention.
- E.** The Interim and Permanent Nominating Committee shall nominate one eligible candidate for each position to be filled at the District Convention. If any member of the Interim or permanent Nominating Committee decides to seek a party office or State Committee position or as a Delegate or Alternate to The National Convention in an election that they are serving as Nominating Committee for, that member must inform the District Chairman so that the District Chairman may appoint a replacement. No member of the Nominating Committee can stand for party office and remain on the Nominating Committee.
- F.** All Interim Committees shall meet at least once at a common place, date, and time, which common meeting be at a place within the District which shall be set by the District Chairman at least seven (7) days prior to convening of District Convention. Each Interim Committee may have additional meetings as deemed necessary by the committee chairman.

6. Election of Officers

- 6.1** The election of officers (see Rule 2.2 A of these Rules) by a Ninth District Convention shall be conducted in the following manner.

- A. First, the entire report of the Nominating Committee shall be made. Then individual elections of the officers shall be conducted in the following order: Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, State Committee Members. In each election process, the Nominating Committee's nominee shall first be placed in nomination, then nominations for that position shall be accepted from the floor. If more than two (2) candidates are nominated for the same position and no candidate receives a majority of votes cast, there shall be a runoff election between the two (2) candidates receiving the largest number of votes. In each election, debate shall be permitted. Debate may be limited, although no candidate in a contested District officer's race shall be limited to less than five (5) minutes of total time (including nominating speeches).

7. Election of State Committee Members

7.1 The election of Ninth District members of the State Committee shall be conducted in the following manner:

- A. First, the entire report of the Nominating Committee shall be made. Then, if there is a minority report of the Nominating Committee, the minority report shall be made. The Nominating Committee's slate of nominees and the minority report's slate, if any, shall be placed in nomination. A majority vote of the convention shall determine which slate of nominees shall be considered the final report of the Nominating Committee.
- B. After the Nominating Committee's report, there shall be granted a ten (10) minute Convention recess. The report shall then be open to amendments from the floor of the Convention. No speeches or debates shall be allowed on such amendments. Such amendments shall be limited to the proposal of the different nominee for a membership position. In the event that the report, as it may have been amended shall fail to pass, then individual elections shall be held for each position.

8. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention

8.1 The election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention by the Ninth District Convention shall be conducted in the following manner:

- A. First, the entire report of the Nominating Committee shall be made. Then individual elections of Delegates shall be conducted, followed by individual elections of Alternates. In each election process, the Nominating Committee's Nominee shall first be placed in nomination and then nominations for that position shall be accepted from the floor. If more than two (2) candidates are nominated for the same position and no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, there shall be a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the first and second largest votes. Debate shall be permitted, but limited in the following manner.
 - 1. Each nominee shall be permitted to speak for not more than three (3) minutes; provided that if a nominee has spoken in one (1) election, he shall not be permitted to speak as a nominee in any subsequent election. One (1) nominating speech and one (1) seconding speech for each person nominated shall be permitted, each speech not to exceed two (2) minutes.

9. Miscellaneous

9.1 Amendments to these Rules

These Rules may be amended at any Ninth District Republican Convention by a majority vote or by the District Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum present at any properly constituted meeting, after due notice of such intention has been served on all members thereof in the Call for such a meeting.

9.2 Consistency Priority

These Rules as adopted by the Ninth District shall not be inconsistent with the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party and the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party shall prevail when in conflict with these Rules.

9.3 Effective Date

These Rules shall become effective upon their adoption.

9.4 Rules for Meetings

Except as modified by these Rules or State Rules, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, shall govern the conduct of meetings and conventions.

Approved at Convention – April 21, 2004

Amended August 21, 2004

Amended June 18, 2005

Amended December 10, 2005

Approved at Convention April 21, 2007

Amended May 19, 2007

Amended August 4, 2007

Approved at Convention April 18, 2009

_____ Kevin Harris, Chairman

_____ Sally Forest, Secretary

_____ Judy Grammer, Chairman, Rules Committee