

North Carolina Democratic Party

Proposed Amendment to the Plan of Organization

Short Title: PROTOCOL No.1 Permanent Standing Rules of Order

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Rule 1. Presiding Officer:

The elected chair shall preside throughout the meeting if in attendance. When the elected chair is not in attendance, the elected first vice chair shall preside throughout the meeting. At no time shall anyone acting as parliamentarian or making a report preside with the exception of the case where the elected chair or first vice chair, if presiding, makes a report.

Rule 2. Guest Speakers:

One keynote speaker shall be recognized for remarks not exceeding fifteen minutes. The chair shall have the prerogative of recognizing an additional two guests or public officials for remarks not exceeding five minutes each. Other guests or public officials may be recognized without their having an opportunity to make remarks.

Rule 3. Reports:

Minutes of previous meetings are not to be read, however, an opportunity shall be given the membership of the group for which the minutes have been prepared to make corrections and additions. There will be a presumption that those making a report, including those of the secretary and treasurer, move the adoption of their report upon the making thereof. Upon completion of each report, the chair shall ask if there are any questions and following the questions shall put the adoption of the report to a vote.

Rule 4. Motions:

Motions shall be made from the floor by persons duly recognized by the chair after such persons have stated their name and purpose for seeking the chair's recognition. Those seconding a motion shall also first gain the recognition of the chair and shall state their name before offering their second.

Rule 5. Debate:

The maker of a motion shall have at least three minutes to explain any motion of substance. The time offered others to speak shall be governed by the body. Upon the adoption of a motion closing debate, the person offering the motion of substance shall have at least two minutes to respond to the previous debate if there have been any opposing positions set forth. The maker of a motion of a procedural nature shall not speak to the motion.

Rule 6. Nominations:

No nomination shall require a second. When there are more nominees for any position than are to be elected, the candidates shall have two minutes to speak. Elections for positions where there are uncontested candidates shall be by voice vote. All other election votes shall be by written ballots.

Rule 7. Voting:

Voting, other than for elections, shall be by voice or standing vote upon the discretion of the chair unless the voting is in a situation where there are weighted votes to be cast, in which case there may

be a voice or standing vote unless the chair or ten persons call for a written ballot. Only persons actually in attendance shall be permitted to vote.

Rule 8. Quorum:

There shall be no quorum requirements for any meeting of a county or state executive committee meeting or convention where notice of the meeting has been sent to the membership thirty days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Rule 9. Adjournment:

There shall be no pre-set adjournment time for any meeting of a county or state executive committee meeting or convention. Adjournment shall occur upon a majority vote of those in attendance.

Rule 10. Supplemental Rules.

Supplemental rules may be adopted where otherwise authorized provided they do not change or conflict with those set forth above.

Submitted by John C. Brooks
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