



**The
Libertarian
Party
Of
FLORIDA**

Standing Rules

THE STANDING RULES

ARTICLE I Membership

- **Section 1.** The LPF shall supervise the efforts to provide party registration under state and federal voting laws.
- **Section 2.** Members registered for the meetings have the privilege of delegate voting at the Annual Business Meeting, the right of appointment to committees, the right to attend committee meetings as observers or witnesses, the right to nomination and election to party office, and the right to nomination to an office for which they are qualified by law.
- **Section 3.** Membership shall be issued annually. This membership shall be credentials for all meetings and Annual Business Meetings of the LPF and for membership in local affiliates, subject to procedures adopted by the county affiliates.
- **Section 4.** All General (\$0), Associate (\$10), and Student (\$15) members are required to have a signed pledge card on file with the Secretary. All members having sixty (60) days tenure may vote at the State Annual Business Meeting. Associate members and above are entitled to the "Florida Liberty" newsletter. Effective July 1, 1996, the LPF adopts the Unified Membership with, and the fee schedule of, the National Libertarian Party, for those categories above student membership. (Amended by Executive Committee, 5-25-96)

ARTICLE II Fees and Donations

- **Section 1.** The membership fee may be set or changed by the general membership.
- **Section 2.** Donations should be made to the LPF in keeping with the laws governing donations to political parties and candidates. Such funds shall be expended at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III County Affiliates

- **Section 1.** Any county may call an organizational meeting to affiliate with the LPF.
- **Section 2.** The Constitution and By-Laws of the LPF must be approved by a majority vote.
- **Section 3.** An application for affiliation must be signed by the elected officers and filed with the LPF Secretary.
- **Section 4.** Any additional By-Laws or Standing Rules adopted by the county affiliate shall be filed with the LPF Secretary.

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- **Section 5.** The petition to affiliate should list members of the LPF paying dues.
- **Section 6.** No county affiliate shall endorse a candidate for state-wide office who has opposition by a candidate endorsed or nominated by the LPF.
- **Section 7.** The county affiliate may petition the LPF or its officers or committees on any political matter.

ARTICLE IV Election of Officers, Directors, Candidates

- **Section 1.** All candidates for office and political office may be asked to confirm certain basic principles before the convention. This may be delegated to the Nominating Committee for candidates for party office (including Delegates to the National Convention of the Libertarian Party and Presidential Electors) and to the Electoral Victory Committee for Candidates for political office, and includes confirming that they are members of the State Party and registered to vote in the state as Libertarians. (Passed by the Executive Committee 1-16-93, delineating 2 committees, Executive Committee, 7-10-93, amended by the Executive Committee 3-6-96 and 7-27-96)
- **Section 2.** All candidates for officers, directors, and political office shall file intention forms with the nominating committee or with the secretary as nominated from the floor. These will be provided by the committee.
- **Section 3.** Such forms should be on file before the Executive Committee names a person to fill the vacancy.
- **Section 4.** Candidates nominated must be able to serve if elected.
- **Section 5.** Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention of the Libertarian Party, not otherwise elected at an LPF convention, may be designated by a majority vote of those members of the LPF Executive Committee in attendance at the National Convention. (Passed by the Executive Committee, 6-5-96)

ARTICLE V Executive Committee Meetings

- **Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall meet at such time and place as directed by the Chairperson, or at the written request of one-third or more of the Executive Committee, or by the written request of a county affiliate. Notice shall be given in such manner to insure a quorum.

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- **Section 2.** The Executive Committee may without meeting, conduct business by communication, voting on questions put to them by or with the approval of the chairperson. Such vote shall be kept by the Secretary until the next meeting and then such vote shall be incorporated in the minutes. A majority vote of the committee shall prevail. If a majority of affirmative votes is not recorded within fifteen (15) days, the question will have failed to pass. (Amended by the Executive Committee, 7-10-93)
- **Section 3.** Proxy voting shall not be allowed, but members can vote on specific questions by written notice. Voting by telephone can be conducted if no objection is raised.
- **Section 4.** The Executive Committee, after review with the affiliate concerned, may, by a two thirds vote, suspend the affiliation of a county party, a member of the party, or an officer or director of the Executive Committee.
- **Section 5.** The immediate past Chairperson shall serve on the Executive Committee and be entitled to all due notices, but shall not have the right to vote unless entitled to vote because of election to another Executive committee position. (Amended by the Executive Committee, 7-10-93)
- **Section 6.** Nonattendance of a member at three (3) meetings per term can be construed by the Executive Committee as resignation of that member and grounds for replacement by the Executive Committee until the next annual meeting of the party. (Passed by the Executive Committee, 10-4-92)

ARTICLE VI Convention Rules

- **Section 1.** A minority report may be made by two members or 10% of the committee on any plank of the platform or changes under the Rules Committee. There shall be a limit of two minority reports on any one of the items. The highest number of votes shall determine the rank of the reports.
- **Section 2.** The Chairperson of the committee shall decide the order of business and the appearance of persons before the committee.

ARTICLE VII Statement of Principles, Platform and Policy

- **Section 1.** The Statement of Principles of the party and Platform of the Libertarian Party may be ratified by the LPF.
- **Section 2.** A supplement party platform for Florida politics may be presented to any annual convention.
- **Section 3.** The LPF may adopt resolutions to present to the National Libertarian Party convention.

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- **Section 4.** The affiliates reserve the right to adopt local platforms.
- **Section 5.** A vote of two-thirds of the general membership shall be required to veto the Statement of Principles and subject the LPF to suspension from the National Party.
- **Section 6.** A vote of two-thirds of the general membership shall be required before the LPF will not actively support the National platform or candidate.

ARTICLE VIII Spokesmanship

- **Section 1.** The Chairperson shall speak for and at the direction of the Executive Committee and the Party.
- **Section 2.** Persons speaking for the LPF shall have the express approval of the Chairperson or reserve their comments to personal comments.
- **Section 3.** Candidates may only publicly label themselves as Libertarian candidates after being nominated by the convention or after receiving conditional approval from the appropriate state or county Executive Committee. (Approved by the Executive Committee, 1-12-92)

ARTICLE IX Annual Convention Agenda

- **Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall manage all conventions.
- **Section 2.** Any members may request the Executive Committee to include on the agenda any item. Such request shall be in writing to the Chairperson thirty (30) days prior to the convention, or within seven (7) days following the announced date and place of the convention, whichever is closest to the convention date.
- **Section 3.** The agenda must include all items required by the By-Laws and Standing Rules.
- **Section 4.** The Rules Committee may establish and publish convention rules to supplement existing requirements and Standing Rules. The Chairperson may exercise this right unless one third of the delegates object.

ARTICLE X Annual Convention Dates

- **Section 1.** Unless the Executive Committee sets a different date, the annual convention of the LPF shall be held in the fall of each year. (Amended by the Executive Committee, 8-19-00)
- **Section 2.** Special meetings of the LPF may be called by the Executive Committee or by two (2) county affiliates, or by twenty-five percent (25%) of the county affiliates, whichever is the largest.

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ARTICLE XI Annual Convention Delegates and Procedures

- **Section 1.** Motions to be offered in the business meetings should be reduced to writing, signed by the maker and seconded, and filed with the Secretary; except for routine matters, agenda items or short wording, or with leave of the Chairperson to omit written motions.
- **Section 2.** The Annual Meeting Minutes (after approval by the Executive Committee) as well as any Committee reports to the Annual Meeting, including amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall be printed and distributed at the next Annual Meeting. (Passed by the Executive Committee, 1-16-93; amended 3-25-95)

ARTICLE XII Nomination of Political Candidates

- **Section 1.** Nominees for political office must be members of the LPF.
- **Section 2.** Endorsement of political candidates may be made regardless of party affiliation, unless said candidate is opposed by a nominee of the LPF.
- **Section 3.** The LPF will refund to each candidate for political office all party assessment fees paid to the LPF by the state from that candidate's qualifying fees, provided the candidate has been endorsed by the LPF in accordance with its By-Laws and Standing Rules to run as a Libertarian. (Passed by the Executive Committee, 3-13-99)

ARTICLE XIII Amendments To the Standing Rules

- **Section 1.** Adoption of the Standing Rules will be consistent with the adoption of the Constitution.
- **Section 2.** The Standing Rules may be changed by a majority vote of the delegates to the annual convention or by two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee.