



Beaufort County Republican Party
Keep Beaufort County Free by Electing Common Sense Conservatives

Rules

Of the

BEAUFORT COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Of

SOUTH CAROLINA

This is the Final copy of the
Beaufort County Republican Party RULES

Adopted at
County Convention on April 1, 2023

BEAUFORT COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
www.beaufortscgop.com

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PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Beaufort County Republican Party, dedicated to the sound principles fostered by that Party, conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, firm in our determination to support and to help perpetuate the American Way of Life, do hereby establish this governing instrument.

RULE I - NAME

The name of this political organization shall be:
The Beaufort County Republican Party or BCRP (referred to as “the Party”).

RULE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives and responsibilities of the Party shall be to:

- (1) Grow Republican Party Membership in Beaufort County;
- (2) Promote an informed electorate through political education;
- (3) Work for the election of the Party's nominees;
- (4) Facilitate cooperation with the State Party and foster loyalty to the ideals of the Republican Party; Be responsible for all official Republican relationships between Beaufort County and the State and National Republican parties; and
- (5) Promote the Republican philosophy, principles, and creed throughout the county.

RULE III - INTERPRETATION

These Rules shall be interpreted and applied to substantially accomplish their objectives. The spirit and not the letter of these Rules shall be controlling. Substantial compliance with the Rules shall be enough. Where points not covered, and/or where conflict does or might occur, The latest version of the Republican Party of South Carolina Rules (“SCGOP Rules”) shall supersede the rules of the Beaufort County Republican Party.

RULE IV - APPLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION

- (1) The State Executive Committee shall be the final arbiter of all disputes under these Rules or inferior rules adopted under the authority of these Rules.
- (2) Should any conflict exist or develop between these Rules and the South Carolina Code of Laws or SCGOP Rules, the latter shall govern except as to any portion of which has been judicially held to be constitutionally unenforceable or which is patently unconstitutional.
- (3) In matters or areas not covered by these Rules, the Rules of the National Republican Party may be followed as a guide.
- (4) The proceedings of all business, organizational, reorganizational, and committee meetings and all county and state conventions, not covered by these Rules or by enforceable provisions of the South Carolina Code of Laws, shall conform to the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
- (5) All elections to a party office at all levels of organization shall be decided by a majority vote unless otherwise directed by the rules; all delegates shall be elected by plurality vote. Candidates must be a member of a precinct or convention body to be eligible for election by the body at each respective level. Candidates for party office above the precinct level, as well as for delegate to the State and National Conventions must have voted in at least two (2) of the three (3) most recent statewide Republican primaries, either in this or any previous state of residence, provided they were old enough to have done so.
- (6) These Rules may be amended only by the County Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total number of delegates registered and approved for that convention or reconvened convention.
- (7) These Rules may be reproduced and distributed as the County Executive Committee may direct. Each County Officer and County Executive Committeeman shall receive a copy upon initial approval by the County Executive Committee. All members of the BCRP may have a copy upon request through their County Executive Committeeman. One copy shall be furnished to the Executive Secretary of SCGOP for his records. It shall be the duty of the Beaufort County Party Recording Secretary to maintain as a part of his official records a complete and accurate copy of these Rules, together with any changes, additions, or amendments and to produce such copies at all meetings of the Party.

RULE V - DEFINITIONS

- (1) Where used in these Rules, the male shall include the female unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- (2) “County Chairman” shall mean the duly elected Republican chairman of the Beaufort County Executive Committee.
- (3) “State Chairman” shall mean the duly elected Republican chairman of the State Executive Committee.
- (4) “State Executive Committeeman” shall mean the duly elected Republican committeeman from Beaufort County to the Republican state executive committee.
- (5) “County Executive Committeeman” shall mean the Republican committeeman duly elected by his Precinct Committee.
- (6) “Precinct Committee” shall mean the entity of an organized precinct per SCGOP Rules 4(c)(4).
- (7) “Party” shall mean the Beaufort County Republican Party, or BCRP.
- (8) “District Officer” shall mean any officer of the party at the Congressional District level, duly elected or appointed.
- (9) “County Officer” shall mean any officer of the BCRP, duly elected or appointed.
- (10) “Precinct Officer” shall mean any officer of the precinct elected by the precinct, which includes county committeemen.
- (11) “Clubs” and “Affiliates” are as defined in Rules XXI herein.

RULE VI - MEMBERSHIP

In South Carolina, a Republican is a registered voter having a current, valid voter registration certificate in his precinct, and either (1) the person having voted in the election designated for the purposes of County delegate allocation set forth in SCGOP Rules 4(c)(6) or (2) the person being elected to membership at his precinct meeting. Belief in the principles of the Republican Party and intending to support the Party’s nominees is required to be eligible as a member of a Precinct Committee.

Precinct Committee members who wishes to run for Precinct Officer, County Officer or county/state delegate must be members of the BCRP in Good Standing and Dues current. All Precinct Committee members are encouraged to join the BCRP and make an annual donation (“Dues”) to fund Party meetings, Party Office HQ, social media, campaign expenses, precinct organization, convention expenses and meeting room rental, Available Memberships are:

Individual Member – Individual membership - \$30
Family Membership – Includes spouse or partner - \$40

Sponsorships are also available and encouraged; this includes:

Bronze - \$50
Century - \$100
Silver - \$250
Gold - \$500
Palmetto - \$1000
Platinum - \$1500
Diamond - \$2500
Lifetime Member - \$5000

The BCRP fully supports “Joint” Memberships with Clubs and Affiliates and may offer discount to encourage Joint Memberships.

Membership Dues shall be set by the County Executive Committee and only be raised by recommendation from County Chairman, the Treasurer, and a majority vote of the County Executive Committee. Every effort will be made NOT to increase Dues and to establish reasonable Dues amounts to cover expenses approved by the County Executive Committee.

Membership Dues are due in November/December of the prior year. Dues are paid in advance to properly budget and plan for the upcoming year. The yearly budget shall be presented by the Treasurer in January at the County Executive Committee meeting.

All BCRP Officers, county delegates, state delegates, district delegates and Precinct Officers shall be members in good standing and annual membership Dues current.

RULE VII - OFFICERS

- (1) Elected officers of the Party shall be a Chairman, a First Vice Chair, a Vice Chair Operations and a Vice Chair for Outreach, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a State Executive Committeeman and three (3) Regional Directors. These 10 elected officers comprise the Chairman’s Committee or the BCRP Executive Board. This committee shall meet as needed and prior to BCRP Executive Committee meetings and establish an agenda for the meeting and address and deal with other issues as needed. A majority of the 10 elected officers present constitutes a quorum.
- (2) Additional officials appointed by the County Chairman, with the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee, shall be the Parliamentarian, Director of Communications, Chairman of the Issues & Resolutions Committee, Chairman of Finance Committee, Chairman of Operations, Chairman of Nominating Committee, Chairman of the Rules

Committee, Chairman of the Credentials Committee and Regional Area Managers (up to 3 per Region).

(3) Duties of Officers:

a. The Chairman Shall:

1. Preside at the meetings of the Party and the County Executive Committee
2. Be an ex-officio member (but not a chairman) of all committees except the Nominating Committee
3. Appoint all committee chairmen except the Chairman of the Nominating Committee
4. In consultation with the Vice Chairs and the chairs of the standing committees, prepare a program of action for the County Party as a whole, for presentation to the County Executive Committee
5. Issue the call for special meetings of the Party or the County Executive Committee
6. Represent the Party at meetings and events, when required
7. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
8. Attend and cast votes at State Executive Committee meeting in the absence of the State Executive Committeeman
9. Serve as the official spokesman of the Party or, if not able to do so, designate someone as spokesman
10. Direct the activities of all subordinate officers, whether elected or appointed. This specifically excludes the County Executive Committee when convened as a legislative body
11. Perform such other functions as he, in consultation with the First Vice Chair, deem necessary to maintain the operations of the Party, including signing checks

b. First Vice Chair Shall:

1. In the absence of the Chairman perform the duties of the Chairman
2. Coordinate special events, candidate events
3. Facilitate communications with SCGOP and Clubs
4. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
5. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
6. Coordinate with SCGOP on First Congressional District efforts
7. Plan and manage the County Convention with Vice Chair Operations
8. Be responsible for the operations of the BCRP Headquarters

c. The Vice Chair Outreach:

1. Responsible for "Outreach" to:
 - independent voters
 - young voters
 - disenfranchised Democrat voters
 - minority voters

2. Prepare a program of action for the County Party
 3. Undertake specific responsibilities assigned to him by the Chairman
 4. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 5. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
 6. Recruit candidates for public offices
 7. Young Republican Outreach
- d. Vice Chair Operations Shall:
1. In the absence of the Chairman and the First Vice Chair perform the duties of the Chairman
 2. Sustain and grow BCRP membership – recruitment and renewal
 3. Recruit and train volunteers
 4. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 5. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
 6. Coordinate with volunteers for activity assignments
 7. Plan and manage the County Convention with First Vice Chair
 8. Precinct Reorganization – Training (in conjunction with Regional Directors)
- e. The State Executive Committeeman Shall:
1. Represent the Party at the State level, but shall not hold any other elective office with the Party
 2. Present a report of his efforts at the State level to the County Executive Committee as requested by the Chairman.
 3. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 4. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
- f. The Recording Secretary Shall:
1. Keep and if asked by the Chairman, read the minutes of all meetings
 2. Send notices of all meetings
 3. be custodian of all records of the Party
 4. Maintain the Rules
 5. Maintain Resolutions passed by the County Executive Committee
 6. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 7. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
- g. A Regional Director shall:
1. Be responsible for recruiting, assisting, coordinating, and supervising the activities of all Area Managers within the respective Region:
 - South - Hilton Head and Daufuskie Island Precincts
 - Central - Bluffton, Chechessee and Sun City Precincts
 - North - All precincts north of the Broad River
 2. Be responsible for ongoing organization or reorganization of precincts in his Region
 3. Maintain voter database in his Region

4. Assume other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Chairman
 5. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 6. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
- h. The Treasurer Shall:
1. Receive and be custodian of all funds, including filing fees, of the Party
 2. Pay all bills
 3. Keep an account of all monies received and disbursed
 4. Report financial statements at the County Convention and at all regular meetings as required by the Chairman
 5. Sign checks
 6. Act as a standing delegate to the District and State Conventions
 7. Act as a standing member of the County Executive Committee
 8. Use available technologies to make financial transactions more efficient, transparent, and less expensive
 9. Audit controls will be maintained by having two of the three County Officers (Treasurer, County Chairman, First Vice Chair) with active access to the all accounts and the State Ethics Commission Reporting Website
- i. The Parliamentarian shall:
1. Be appointed by the County Chairman
 2. Aid in the interpretation of the rules and guidelines which are to be followed by the County Executive Committee and the County Convention.
 3. The most recent edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern all proceedings but are subservient to the stated Rules of the BCRP and/or SCGOP Rules and/or the South Carolina Code of Laws
- j. An Area Manager shall:
1. Be appointed by the County Chairman to serve under the Regional Director. Each region may have up to three (3) Area Managers
 2. Be responsible for recruiting, motivating, assisting, coordinating and supervising the activities of precincts within his area
 3. Provide assistance in biennial precinct reorganization in his area, including identifying, recruiting, motivating and guiding prospective Precinct Officers
 4. Maintain telephone bank in his area and help to arrange transportation to get voters to polling places during general elections
 5. Assume such other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Regional Director

Officers' Records: All officers shall keep records and deliver all such records, files and properties of the Party to their successors upon the election of new officers.

RULE VIII - COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (1) The precincts in the County shall be operated under the control of the County Executive Committee, the membership of which shall consist of one (1) duly elected County Committeeman from each precinct , the elected County Officers, and any Regional Directors or Area Managers who are not elected as County Committeemen. The following shall serve as ex-officio members of the County Executive Committee, having a voice but no vote: the President of the Hilton Head Republican Club, the President of the Beaufort Republican Women's Club (Federated),the President of the Beaufort Federation of Republican Men, the President of the First Monday Republican Club, the President Greater Bluffton Republican Club, the President of the Republican Women’s Club of Southern Beaufort County, the President of the Sun City Republican Club, the immediate past Chairman of the Party, the chairmen of the committees and the presidents of any other clubs hereafter sanctioned by the County Executive Committee.
- (2) The purpose of the County Executive Committee shall be to advise, authorize, review and/or endorse the actions of the County Chairman in transacting the daily business of the Party and to support the election of Republican nominees. The elected County Officers shall serve as the officers of the County Executive Committee. In case of a tie vote, the presiding officer shall be entitled to vote.
 - a. Under NO circumstances will any County or Precinct Officer, County Executive Committeeman, or a member of the BCRP divulge any personal information of any member of the BCRP, including but not limited to email addresses, phone numbers or home/work addresses.
 - b. All County and Precinct Officers and County Executive Committee members will sign an Non-disclosure Agreement before handling any personal information of BCRP members and Precinct Committee members.
 - c. Any violation of this policy shall be considered a serious breach of Good Standing and be dealt with by the County Executive Committee per these Rules.
- (3) The County Officers and the County Executive Committeemen shall be members of the BCRP in “Good Standing” and serve until the convening of the County Convention in each non-election year.
- (4) The Recording Secretary of the County Executive Committee shall keep an attendance record and the minutes of the committee's meetings. Minutes will be distributed to the County Executive Committee. Any written record that is kept shall be in triplicate; one copy for the County Chairman, one copy for the First Vice Chair and one to be retained by the Recording Secretary.
- (5) Resignation by a County Officer must be submitted in writing to the County Chairman. Resignation by a County Executive Committeeman shall be to the President of his precinct

and to the County Chairman. Resignation by the State Executive Committeeman shall be to the County Chairman, Recording Secretary, State Chairman and State Secretary.

- (6) Vacancies: The County Chairman may remove or fill vacancies among any appointed officer and/or committee chairman at any time on his own decision. He may also fill vacancies among any elected County or Precinct Officers, with a simple majority concurrence of the County Executive Committee in attendance.
 - a. Should the office of the County Chairman become vacant, the County Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy by electing an interim County Chairman for the unexpired term.
 - b. The First Vice Chair may succeed to the office of the County Chairman only on his election by a simple majority of the County Executive Committee in attendance. The County Executive Committee may appoint/elect an acting Chairman or Officer to maintain continuity while the Nominating Committee conducts search and interviews.

- (7) Meetings: Regular meetings of the County Executive Committee shall be not less than quarterly on a date set by the County Chairman at the first business meeting of the year. These dates can be changed to facilitate unexpected changes; the County Executive Committee will be given 30 days' notice of any change if possible. Email notice, at the discretion of the County Chairman, of all regular meetings of the County Executive Committee shall be sent to all committee members by email and posted on the Party website www.beaufortscgop.com and social media at least 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting. In the off-election year, the newly elected County Executive Committee shall be convened within sixty (60) days following the County Convention. Virtual meetings using video technologies are permitted when necessary. Voting in advance vis email is permitted when the County Executive Committeeman is unable to attend.

- (8) Additional meetings of the County Executive Committee may be called by the Chairman at such time and place as he may designate, but no meeting shall be held without each member having been given at least forty-eight (48) hours' notice. The County Executive Committee members are required to provide the office of the County Chairman with their current home address, email address and phone numbers.
 - a. Special meetings of the County Executive Committee may also be called upon written request by 20% of Executive Committee members or 15 whichever is less. tee. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call and no other business may be transacted. Notice of special meetings called must comply with the same notification requirements as additional meetings.
 - b. To better manage the BCRP, any resolution or motion which involves the use of Party funds not included in approved budget, affects or meaningfully alters the current Party operating process, commits the Party to public support of ideas or programs, commits the use of manpower, must be approved by the County Executive Committee. Specific

procedure to be followed for resolutions, motions or endorsements is included in Rule XX.

RULE IX - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

- (1) All organized precincts shall be reorganized in non-general election years as specified by the SCGOP Rules and South Carolina Code of Laws. Meetings shall be held at a time and date set by the County Executive Committee. Meeting locations shall be selected to facilitate increased participation and cost efficiency. Precincts undergoing initial organization may be organized at any time under the direction of the County Chairman and shall be immediately recognized by the County Executive Committee without a make-up meeting.
- (2) In South Carolina, a “Republican” is a registered voter having a current, valid voter registration certificate in his precinct, and either:
 - a. having voted in the election designated for the purposes of county delegate allocation set forth in SCGOP Rules 4(c)(6) or
 - b. is elected as a Precinct Member at a precinct meeting. Only qualified members of the Precinct Committee can vote on this matter, and
 - c. having stated their belief in the principles of the Republican Party and their intent to support the Party’s nominees.
- (3) Any person deemed “NOT a Member in Good Standing” as defined by these Rules herein, shall NOT be eligible to be a member of a Precinct Committee.
- (4) Precinct Officers to be elected at the precinct organizational meetings shall be elected from among the members of the precinct in attendance at the reorganization meeting. and shall be BCRP members in Good Standing. Precinct shall elect a President, County Executive Committeeman and a Secretary. Precincts may also elect first and second vice presidents and a treasurer if needed. Elections of Precinct Officers shall be decided by a majority vote unless otherwise directed by these Rules.
- (5) Delegates and alternates to the County Convention shall be elected from among the members of the precinct in attendance at the reorganization meeting and shall be BCRP members in Good Standing. Elections of county delegates shall be decided in accordance of SCGOP Rules 4(5). No delegates may be chosen after the precinct reorganization meeting is adjourned except in the case of a second (2nd) call for precincts with no attendance in the originally schedule reorganization meeting or at the make-up meeting per SCGOP Rules 4(11). All meetings shall be duly communicated.

- (6) Candidates for County Officers and delegates to State and National Conventions must have voted in at least two (2) of the three (3) most recent statewide Republican primaries (NOT run-off elections), either in this or any previous state of residence, provided they were old enough to have done so, AND must have been elected as a delegate to the County Convention and be a member of the BCRP in Good Standing.
- (7) Everyone wanting to join their Precinct Committee must complete a SCGOP Form-1 at the reorganization meeting. Online registration for attending Precinct Committee meetings is allowed. All forms MUST be signed as required at the meeting.
- (8) DUTIES
 - a. The Precinct President or the County Executive Committeeman may conduct the precinct meeting if the precinct is already organized. In case of a new precinct organization, the Regional Director, Area Manager, or any other qualified County Officer may arrange the meeting, call the meeting to order and conduct the elections. The Precinct President shall have the primary responsibility for organizing his precinct for Election Day activities. Each Precinct President shall report to his Area Manager. The Precinct President is encouraged to attend County Executive Committee meetings but will vote only if his County Executive Committeeman is not present. No proxy is required.
 - b. The County Executive Committeeman shall represent his precinct at all meetings of the County Executive Committee and shall be the voting member of his precinct. In the event that he and the Precinct President are not available, the County Executive Committeeman can authorize a proxy. The person having a signed proxy from the County Executive Committeeman must sign in to be eligible to vote and to be recorded as having attended said meeting.
 - c. The Secretary of the precinct shall be responsible for completing all required forms regarding the precinct organization and shall forward to the Party Chairman within the time specified. He shall also keep minutes of the meeting(s) and an attendance record.

RULE X - CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS

In every non-general election year, a County Convention shall be called by the County Executive Committee. The Committee will set the date and select a meeting site in or proximate to Beaufort County. The County Convention must be held at least ten (10) days before the District Convention and at least twenty (20) days before the State Convention.

The purpose of the Beaufort County Convention is for duly elected county delegates at the precinct reorganization meetings to elect County Officers and delegates to the SCGOP Convention.

State Delegate Candidates MUST “Check the box” and state their intention on the Form-1. Potential state convention candidates must be elected a delegate to the County Convention to be qualified as a candidate to the SCGOP Convention.

(1) Candidates for County Party Office

- a. Candidates for County Officer MUST be a member of the BCRP in “Good Standing”.
- b. Candidates for County Office MUST have voted in at least two (2) of the three (3) most recent statewide Republican primaries (NOT run-off elections), either in this or any previous state of residence, provided they were old enough to have done so.
- c. Candidates for County Officers MUST communicate their intention to the Party Nominating Committee by: March 15 or the Monday if the 15th falls on a Sunday.
- d. Candidates MUST submit their intention to run via email. The Nominating Committee Chair will communicate receipt of the email. Nominations from the floor at the County Convention will NOT be permitted. Calls for Candidates application shall begin on February 1.
- e. Candidates for County Party Office Shall submit a short biography and a Letter of Intent to Run. These documents will be included in the Convention Packet for County delegates to review.
- f. The Nominating Committee may schedule interviews with Candidates via phone or in person.
- g. The Nominating Committee will make a Report at the County Convention and may include a recommended “slate” of County Officers. All eligible candidates will be on the ballot.
- h. The Nominating Committee shall disqualify any candidate who is NOT a member of BCRP in Good Standing. Candidates reprimanded or censured by the County Executive Committee are NOT eligible to run.
- i. Any County Office position with more than one candidate will be decided by a vote with a colored paper ballot. County delegates will receive a ballot printed on a designated color for each contested office in the Convention Packet. Uncontested Offices will be decided by a voice vote. Only County delegates elected at the precinct reorganization

meeting will receive a ballot. Any question on County delegate status will be decided by a review of the Form-1. There will be NO exceptions.

- j. Candidates for County Party Office MUST be members of BCRP in “Good Standing” and be current on annual membership Dues. All candidates must have been elected as a delegate to the Beaufort County Convention.
- k. The County Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee shall call a meeting at least two (2) weeks prior to the County Convention. The purpose of the meeting is for the County Executive committee to receive the names of nominees for County Officers and the County Convention officers and any resolutions or motions from the Issues and Resolutions Committee. This meeting can be virtual or in-person.

(2) Convention Notifications

- a. A notice shall be published by the County Executive Committee once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks, not more than three (3) weeks prior to the actual date of the County Convention. Electronic Notification is the preferred method to advertise the County Convention. This includes email, posts on BCRP website and social media.
- b. The County Chairman shall cause a copy of such notice to be forwarded to the State Party Chairman prior to the County Convention. In addition, the County Chairman shall draw up an agenda for the convention, and the Recording Secretary may email or mail it together with a copy of any proposed resolutions or changes to the Party platform to the county delegates. The list of county delegates certified by the President and Secretary of each precinct shall constitute the temporary roll of the County Convention and will be submitted to the Credentials Committee at least one (1) week prior to the County Convention. Delegate names not submitted to the Credentials Committee at least one (1) week prior to the Convention will not be certified as delegates.

(3) Proceedings

- a. In the County Convention, business shall be conducted as follows:
 - 1. The convention shall be called to order by the County Chairman, or the First Vice Chair, if the County Chairman is not present.
 - 2. A Temporary Convention President, a Temporary Convention Secretary, and a committee on credentials for the purpose of organizing shall be nominated by the County Chairman and elected by the county delegates.
 - 3. The Credentials Committee shall make its report to the County Convention body. Any appeals regarding the report shall be made by way of amendment to the County Convention. Further appeals may be made to the State Executive

Committee at its next meeting thereafter and, if necessary, to the next regular State Committee meeting.

4. The county delegates shall elect the County Chairman, First Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, three Regional Directors, State Executive Committeeman, and other such officers as the County Convention deems necessary, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected.
 - i Candidates for County Officers shall follow the procedure detailed in BCRP Rule X – Candidates for County Party Office.
 - ii Nominations from the floor of the County Convention are NOT permitted.
5. The County Convention shall also elect delegates to the State Convention and in Presidential Election Years, the District Convention in accordance with SCGOP Rules 5(c)(5) and (6).
6. The County Chairman, all Vice Chairs, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Regional Directors and State Executive Committeeman shall be designated delegates to the District and State Conventions. Other delegates to the District and State Conventions shall be nominated from the floor and elected at the County Convention by county delegates from their respective BCRP Regions. Potential nominees shall be members of the BCRP in Good Standing. The allocated number of State or District Convention delegates in each Region shall be apportioned to the number of votes in each Region in the most recent Republican primary election, relative to the total number of Republican votes cast County-wide in the same primary. Nominations shall be called at the County Convention, one Region at a time, and only delegates from the Region being voted upon may nominate, second, or vote upon the nominees for that Region.
 - i Persons not elected as State Delegates during the County Convention can be assigned to the Alternate Delegate List for their Region in the order of votes received during the election of delegates. The number of Alternates assigned shall equal the number of delegates for the Region and under no circumstances exceed the number of delegates for that Region. The County Chairman or his designated representative shall fill all State Delegate vacancies, starting at the top of each Regions Alternate Delegate List. Should a Region exhaust their available Alternates they may borrow Alternate Delegates from another Region.
 - ii The County Chairman will designate one of the elected State Delegates to serve as a member of the State Credentials Committee.
 - iii If a delegate to any convention is not able to attend the convention or must abstain from a vote, he must notify the County Chairman immediately and turn in the delegate badge. The County Chairman shall call up an alternate to attend the convention.

- iv A list certified by the Temporary Convention Secretary and signed by the Temporary Convention President and/or the newly elected County Chairman, of all officers, delegates, and alternates elected by the County Convention, shall be forwarded by the County Chairman or the Temporary Convention Secretary to the State Chairman not later than five (5) days following the County Convention. Such list shall include the name of the state delegate chosen to serve on the State Credentials Committee.

RULE XI - ATTENDANCE

- (1) The County Executive Committee may declare vacant the office of any County Officer or County Committeeman who is absent from three (3) or more business meetings in any twelve (12) month period AND such officer has not authorized his respective proxy to attend in his place. The officer so removed shall be notified by the County Chairman, or by the Recording Secretary in case of removal of the County Chairman.
- (2) If an elected County Officer or County Committeeman becomes disabled and cannot act or serve, or if he abandons his office by refusing to serve, he shall be notified by the County Chairman, upon concurrence of a quorum of the County Executive Committee in attendance when the vote is taken, that his office will be declared vacant effective thirty (30) days from the date of the notice, unless that person gives earlier notice of his resignation or unless, within that time, he resumes the full duties of his office or furnishes a reason acceptable to the County Executive Committee as to why his office should not be declared vacant.
- (3) A vacancy shall occur immediately if any elected or appointed officer or committeeman moves his residence outside the geographical area his office encompasses. Such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of these Rules herein.

RULE XII - PROXIES

- (1) A proxy shall be a person with written authorization to act on behalf of any County Executive Committeeman. To be valid, the authorization must be in writing, dated and signed by the author, giving the full name and address of the person designated as proxy and specifying the meeting for which the authorization is given. One executed copy of the authorization shall be given to the County Chairman or Recording Secretary. An authorization shall also contain a signature endorsement thereon by the proxy that he consents to the appointment. A County Executive Committeeman may appoint a proxy only from his own precinct.

- (2) If a County Executive Committeeman does not attend a scheduled meeting, the Precinct President shall be considered an “automatic proxy” at such meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committeeman to notify the Precinct President in advance, of his anticipated absence from the meeting. Only in the event of absence of both the Executive Committeeman and the Precinct President shall a written proxy be required.
- (3) No proxy shall be authorized to designate a substitute or successor proxy. However, an author of a written authorization may designate successor proxies in the event the proxy designated cannot attend.

RULE XIII - QUORUM

- (1) The quorum for all business of the County Executive Committee shall be not less than 30% percent of the County Executive Committee.
- (2) A quorum at all County Conventions shall be not less than 66.3% of the county delegates elected thereto.
- (3) A quorum of all standing committees shall be a majority of all members thereof.
- (4) These Rules may be amended only by the County Convention by a two-third (2/3) vote of the total number of delegates registered and approved for that convention or reconvened convention.

RULE XIV - FINANCES

- (1) No one is empowered to incur indebtedness or financial obligations for the Party unless expressly authorized to do so by the County Convention or the County Executive Committee. Prior to any such authorization, funds must be on hand and available for the purpose authorized.
- (2) The County Chairman may authorize the expenditures of available funds for necessary activities, the payment of bills or the reimbursement of expenses incurred by an individual on Party business, but there shall be no obligation to do so. Any person incurring expenses does so on his own responsibility and he shall promptly make payment therefore personally, regardless of whether or not reimbursement is expected.
- (3) The BCRP will NOT reimburse any personal expenses for travel, meals, or incidentals. The BCRP will NOT reimburse any expense for electronic or computer equipment. The only exceptions to these Rules are expenses approved in advance by the County Executive

Committee or computer electronic equipment bought for Party use; in this case the equipment shall remain the property of the Party.

- (4) All transactions by and for the Party will be by the most reasonable means. Audit Controls will be maintained by having two of the three Officers (Treasurer, Chairman, First Vice Chair) with active access to all accounts and to the State Ethics Commission Reporting Website.

RULE XV - COMMITTEES

The following are Standing Committees of the Party: Issues and Resolutions, Finance, and Operations. The County Executive Committee may establish the following Ad Hoc Committees from time to time: Credentials, Nominating, and Rules or such other additional committees as the County Executive Committee deems proper.

The Standing Committees' respective duties are as follows:

- (1) **Issues and Resolutions**
This committee shall research issues, advise the County Chairman and First Vice Chair on positions that shall be taken by the Party and prepare statements to be approved by the County Executive Committee for the news media. Any formal resolutions on matters of interest to the Party shall be prepared and presented by the committee chairman to the County Executive Committee for approval. A County Executive Committee member in Good Standing can present an issue for review to this committee, but it is the committee's decision whether to take upon the issue for further review or approval, by majority vote.
- (2) **Finance**
This committee shall turn over to the Treasurer in a timely manner all monies received and shall submit a monthly report in detail. The Treasurer shall be a member of this committee and handle all Party funds and monies. This committee shall submit a budget to the BCRP Executive Board at the beginning of every fiscal year for approval by the County Executive Committee. The Party's fiscal year shall be the calendar year.
- (3) **Operations**
This committee shall assist the County Chairman or Vice Chairs in the maintenance of BCRP membership list and contact information, in the operation of the Party headquarters, and in preparation of the County Convention and all Party business meetings.

The Ad Hoc Committees' respective duties are as follows:

(1) Credentials
This committee shall specify the form of official delegate credentials submitted by all precinct Presidents in advance of the County Convention. Examination and approval of credentials by the Credentials Committee must occur prior to the seating of said delegates at the County Convention.

(2) Nominating
This committee shall be elected by the County Executive Committee a minimum of 180 days prior to the County Convention. It shall consist of not less than two (2) members from each of the three (3) Regions, all to be elected by the County Executive Committee. The members shall elect a Chairman from among the members of this committee.

As a courtesy, this committee shall formally present the slate of nominees to the County Executive Committee prior to presenting said slate at the County Convention.

(3) Rules
This committee shall be responsible for a biennial review of the Party Rules, making amendments as may be deemed appropriate, and submit such amendments for approval by the County Executive Committee 30 days prior to the date of the County Convention for formal approval and adoption.

RULE XVI - GENERAL RULES FOR ALL COMMITTEES

- (1) The membership of each committee shall be selected in the following manner:
- a. The County Chairman shall appoint a chairman for each committee except the Nominating Committee as deemed necessary.
 - b. Each appointed chairman shall, within fifteen (15) days of his appointment, recommend to the County Chairman at least two (2) but no more than four (4) persons to serve on his committee.
- (2) The terms of office of all said committee members shall be for two (2) years, with the terms to expire when their successors are duly elected or selected or when the committee is formally dissolved.
- a. Vacancies in committees during terms of office shall be filled by the same procedure specified in paragraph (1)b. above.
 - b. Any committee may appoint additional non-voting members to assist it in the performance of its duties.

- c. The failure of a committee member to attend two (2) consecutive meetings or any three (3) meetings during his term of service shall constitute resignation from such committee.
- (3) The County Chairman may appoint special committees from time to time as, in his judgment and discretion, shall be deemed to be proper.

RULE XVII - PARTY OFFICIALS AS CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

At levels above the precinct level, an officer—but not a delegate to any Republican conventions—shall resign such office if (a) such officer files as a candidate in a Republican Party primary and, (b) at the close of filing and certification of candidates, more than one candidate is certified as seeking the Republican nomination.

A person who holds an elected or appointed party office at any level must immediately resign from such office upon announcing for federal or statewide office.

RULE XVIII - CANDIDACY FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

In addition to all candidate pledges and/or affidavits required by the South Carolina Code of Laws, all Republican candidates for non-judicial public offices in partisan elections will be required to submit a disclosure form at the time of filing for such office. The BCRP shall prepare and make available the candidate disclosure form at least 30 days prior to the official filing deadline on its website www.beaufortscgop.com.

The County Chairman may also distribute a copy of such form to each candidate along with all other candidate application papers 30 days prior to the official filing deadline. Candidates' responses shall be collected and recorded by the BCRP and may be published on its website prior to the primary.

RULE XIX - CANDIDATE FINANCIAL AND SUPPORT POLICY

- (1) The BCRP will not fund any candidate's political campaigns in a contested or uncontested Republican primary.

- (2) The BCRP will support the entire slate of Republican nominees (with exceptions as stated in (4) below) with media advertisements and campaign events. However, no funds will be provided to cover personal salaries, travel, or entertainment expenses.
- (3) The BCRP will NOT make donations to any individual candidate or his campaign committees.
- (4) The BCRP will NOT support any Republican nominee who is NOT a Party member in Good Standing, or who has been censured or reprimanded by the Party.

RULE XX - CANDIDATE OR MEASURE ENDORSEMENT POLICY

- (1) It is the policy of the BCRP that the County Executive Committee NOT endorse any candidate in any Republican primary where two or more Republicans are contesting a nomination for a public office, or to endorse or cause to endorse any measure such as a referendum except for non-partisan or unaligned candidates as specified in the process below.

Persons holding official positions within the BCRP, including Precinct Officers making any statements for or against candidate in a contested Republican primary in their personal capacity, are responsible to adhere to the following protocols to avoid any appearance of an official endorsement from the BCRP:

- a. There shall be NO use of the Party name, logo, insignias, Party issued business cards, badges, letterhead or title of his Party office;
 - b. In the event that one of the Chairman's Committee members wishes to make a personal endorsement in a contested Republican primary, that officer shall inform the County Chairman, in writing, of the same. The County Chairman will inform the County Executive Committee; and
 - c. If the County Chairman is the officer wishing to make a personal endorsement, he shall inform the State Executive Committeeman.
- (2) It is the policy of the BCRP to endorse a Republican nominee in general elections where the nominee is a member of the Party in "Good Standing." The Party shall NOT consider endorsing a nominee if doing so would contradict the Republican Party principals, or embarrass the Republican Party or damage the reputation of the Republican Party. A Party Censure or Reprimand will disqualify a nominee from any support by the Beaufort County Republican Party.

- (3) It is the policy of the BCRP to consider endorsing the best candidate – one only - in non-partisan or unaligned elections. The process of endorsing non-partisan or unaligned candidates or to endorse measures is as follows:
 - a. A non-partisan or unaligned candidate or measure leaders may request a BCRP endorsement.
 - b. To gain endorsement, a candidate or measure must be presented in writing to the County Chairman and be voted on at the next County Executive Committee meeting and receive a favorable majority of votes from the County Executive Committee members in attendance.
 - c. Should there be no County Executive Committee meeting scheduled within a reasonable time, the County Chairman, First Vice Chair and three others elected BCRP officials selected by the County Chairman shall constitute the endorsement committee and be empowered to endorse.
 - d. The full County Executive Committee must ratify any endorsement, made by the endorsement committee, at the next County Executive Committee meeting. If more than one qualified Republican files as a candidate for nomination to the same elected office in the same election period, it shall be the policy of the Beaufort County Republican Party, throughout said primary election process not to endorse or support any candidate.
 - e. If any Club or an Affiliate decide to make an endorsement, it is their responsibility to declare that the said endorsement is not made on behalf of the BCRP.

RULE XXI – PARTY DESIGNATION

- (1) All existing entities engaged in activities within Beaufort County, including the BCRP, the Clubs and Affiliates listed below, that utilize the name "Republican" or the letters "G.O.P." or "GOP" or any generally recognized Republican symbols or other identifying material, which have been copyrighted and/or registered by the Republican National Committee (the "Party Designation"), for its official title, must comply with the FEC Financial Reporting Requirements to report all campaign contributions.
- (2) Any entities wish to utilize the Party Designation shall obtain authorization from the County Executive Committee. Such authorization shall only be extended to organizations with valid incorporation or organization under the laws of the State of South Carolina for purposes consistent with the ideals, principles and objectives of the Republican Party of Beaufort County and the State of South Carolina.
- (3) An organization or club seeking such authorization shall submit its Certificate of Incorporation, rules or statement of its purposes and objectives, a list of its forming

members and such other documents as the County Chairman shall reasonably request, together with its request to use the Party Designation symbols.

- (4) Such request and the accompanying documents shall be submitted for consideration at a meeting of the County Executive Committee and by a majority vote of its members present to approve or deny the said request.
- (5) The following are a list of current Clubs and Affiliates within Beaufort County. The list may change from time to time:
 - a. Club:
 - The Hilton Head Island Republican Club
 - The Sun City Republican Club
 - The First Monday Republican Club
 - The Greater Bluffton Republican Club
 - b. Affiliates (chartered under state or national organizations):
 - The Beaufort County Young Republicans Club
 - Beaufort Republican Women's Club
 - Republican Women of Southern Beaufort County
 - The Beaufort Federation of Republican Men's Club

The said Clubs or Affiliates are independent from the BCRP or the SCGOP and are free to have their own boards, governing rules, dues and meetings schedules. There is NO parent-child relationship between the State Party/County Party and any Club or Affiliate and the Party bears NO responsibilities for the Clubs or the Affiliates policies or actions.

RULE XXII - AMENDMENTS

These Rules may be reviewed and updated every 2 years by following the process below:

- (1) When deemed necessary to amend the BCRP Rules, the County Chairman shall convene the Rules Committee at least 90 days before the County Convention. The Rules Committee shall amend the Rules and submit such changes for approval by the County Executive Committee 30 days prior to the date of the County Convention.
- (2) If approved by a majority of County Executive Committee members in attendance, the revised Rules shall be presented at the County Convention and may only be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total number of delegates registered and approved for that convention or reconvened convention.

RULE XXIII - CODE OF CONDUCT

- (1) In addition to following SCGOP Rule 16 on Code of Conduct, any BCRP member shall:
 - a. Act consistently to protect and promote the best interests of the BCRP, including its mission and reputation.
 - b. Endeavor to protect against unethical practices or misrepresentations related to the BCRP or the Republican Party or any of its members.
 - c. Deal fairly, honestly, and with integrity with other BCRP members.
 - d. Cooperate with the County Officers and the Precinct Officers in fulfilling their responsibilities.
 - e. Adhere to the confidentiality Rules stipulated in BCRP Rule VIII (2) b.
 - f. Make NO statement nor participate in the creation of any written or social media material in regard to the BCRP, its Officers, members, or activities that are known to be misleading or false or speculative.
 - g. Make NO slanderous or negative comments about other BCRP members based on their race, sex, ethnical background, country of origin or religious beliefs.
 - h. Not participate in or condone any prejudice against any person while acting in the capacity of a member of the BCRP.
 - i. Not participate in membership or the activities of any formal or informal anti-Republican organization.
 - j. Follow the decorum and meeting rules as stipulated by the BCRP.
- (2) Those in compliance with these Rules herein are said to be “Members in Good Standing.” Those who violate the said Rules shall be deemed “Members Not in Good Standing,” and may be subject to disciplinary actions by the County Executive Committee with two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire membership of the County Executive Committee, including reprimand, suspension, or removal.

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