



## **2021 Officer Election Rules and Procedures**

### **Election Date:**

- I. The election will be held remotely during the State Central Committee (SCC) **Meeting on March 6, 2021.**

### **Deadlines:**

- I. Filing for the 2021 election of Nevada State Democratic Party (NSDP) Chair, First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer will open on **Monday, February 8, 2021 at 9 AM PST.**
- II. Prior to the opening of the election, notice of the election and the filing deadline, along with the nomination form, shall be sent out to members of the SCC via e-mail no later than thirty days (30) prior to the election.
- III. Additionally, the nomination form shall be available on the NSDP website, [www.nvdems.com](http://www.nvdems.com).
- IV. In order to demonstrate a commitment to transparency and the office which the prospective candidate wishes to serve, applicants shall complete and submit their nomination form no later than **Friday, February 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM PST** to be considered a candidate for election.
- V. There shall not be an opportunity to run as a write-in candidate.
- VI. There shall not be an opportunity to be nominated from the floor except in situations where no one files for one of the open offices by the close of the filing deadline. In those cases, nominations for that office only shall be taken from the floor of the SCC Meeting on March 6, 2021.
- VII. All candidates who meet the eligibility criteria and filing deadline shall be considered nominated candidates.
- VIII. Nomination forms shall be submitted to the NSDP via email to [nominations@nvdems.com](mailto:nominations@nvdems.com).
- IX. In the event no person files for one of the offices 24 hours prior to the deadline, notice shall be sent out to the SCC members.



**Eligibility:**

- I. Candidates must be registered Democrats in the State of Nevada having voted in the last Nevada election.
- II. The First Vice-Chair must be someone from a different county and congressional district than the Chair.
- III. Any candidate who is not a current SCC member agrees to become a member of the SCC as soon as possible after their election and maintain their membership in the SCC for the duration of their term.
- IV. All candidates agree to uphold the Ethics Clause as cited in the NSDP Bylaws.

**Campaigning:**

- I. Candidate nomination forms shall be distributed to SCC members via email and posted on the NSDP website in the order they were received no later than **Monday, February 15, 2021 at 5:00 PM PST.**
- II. Candidates may send a maximum of three (3) campaign communications to SCC members. Candidates will not be provided with SCC member contact information so all campaign messages shall be sent by the NSDP on their behalf to SCC members via email.
- III. Candidate communications may be in pdf, Word, jpeg, or mp4 format so long as a single communication is no more than two minutes in length and/or 10 MB in size.
- IV. All three messages to be sent by NSDP must be sent to [nominations@nvdems.com](mailto:nominations@nvdems.com) and received by **Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 5:00 PM PST.** Messages should contain "Email communication to SCC" in the subject line.
- V. Candidate messages shall be distributed to SCC members and posted on the NSDP website as follows:
  - a. **Thursday, February 18, 2021**
  - b. **Monday, February 22, 2021**
  - c. **Wednesday, February 24, 2021**



- VI. The messages shall contain the candidate's name and the position the candidate is seeking. Campaign messages shall also clearly identify the source of the message. Each message shall contain the following statement at the bottom of each written communication or displayed at the end of any video: "This message produced and distributed by \_\_\_\_\_" followed by the candidate's email address, mailing address, and phone number.
- VII. Out of respect for speakers and SCC members, candidates shall not campaign once the meeting has been called to order. Once the election agenda item has been opened by the Chair, all campaigning must cease, except for candidate remarks.
- VIII. Candidates may not use the NSDP logo or other NSDP branded materials in their campaign literature.
- IX. Candidates shall refrain from harassment or intimidation of the members or disruption of the business of the SCC Meeting.

**Tellers Committee:**

- I. The highest-ranking Officer, not running for a position, shall conduct the election, appoint the Tellers Committee, and serve as Chair of the Teller's Committee. The officer ranking order is the Chair, 1st Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman.
- II. The Teller's Committee shall consist of five (5) members, all of whom shall be current SCC members in good standing, not running for a position.
- III. The Tellers Committee shall ensure the integrity of the election process.
- IV. The Tellers Committee shall review and confirm the results.
- V. The Tellers Committee may opt for a second count if a majority of the Tellers Committee decides it is in the best interest of the integrity of the results.
- VI. Staff shall provide assistance to the Teller's Committee as needed to execute their duties.



**Election Process:**

- I. There shall be no proxy voting.
- II. Only current members of the SCC in good standing and pre-registered for the meeting by the deadline set by the E-board may vote in the election. SCC members nominated at the March 6, 2021 meeting are not eligible to vote.
- III. The election shall be conducted by non-secret digital ballot, with the validity of each SCC member's vote verified by name and electronic credentialing or declared void.
- IV. Each candidate shall be given three minutes for candidate remarks. Each candidate may provide a 30 second nominating speech and a 15 second seconding speech, but this is optional and not required. In all instances, times shall be enforced. A candidate may self-nominate but shall have no more than a total of three (3) minutes to speak.
- V. The election of each position shall be conducted individually in the following order: Treasurer, Secretary, Second Vice-Chair, and Chair. After the final results of the Chair's election is announced, SCC members will vote for the office of First Vice-Chair. Only those candidates who meet the eligibility criteria for First Vice-Chair will be placed on the ballot.
- VI. A candidate must receive a majority vote (greater than 50%) of those members present and voting. If no candidate receives a majority vote, the top two vote getters will participate in a run-off.
- VII. In the case of a tie, a run-off election between the tied candidates shall be conducted. In all cases except the election of the First Vice-Chair, the run-off shall be conducted before proceeding to the election of the next office.
- VIII. Candidates in a run-off shall be given one minute for candidate remarks.
- IX. In the case of a tie after the run-off, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest). The Chair of the Teller's Committee shall call for the drawing of cards, in alphabetical order of the tied candidates.



- X. The officer running the election shall announce the results. Teller reports will be placed in the permanent record.

**First Vice-Chair Candidates:**

- I. The Chair and the First Vice-Chair represent Nevada on the DNC. The DNC requires that the Chair and First Vice-Chair be of different genders.
- II. Anyone meeting the eligibility criteria may run for the position of First Vice-Chair, however, should the successful candidate be the same gender as the Chair, their membership on the DNC will default to the next highest ranking, eligible officer.

**Challenges:**

- I. Challenges must be brought no later than March 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM PST.
- II. The Rules and Bylaws Committee of the NSDP, with the assistance of the Teller's Committee, shall determine the outcome of any challenge to the elections within 48 hours and take any necessary and appropriate action no less than thirty (30) days but not more than forty-five (45) days after the date of the challenge.
- III. In the absence of a challenge, results are final once they have been announced, and the ballots shall be destroyed after March 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM PST.