

# OHIO COMMON GROUND

## STATE CONVENTION RULES

Attorney Review Draft Version 1

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### PREAMBLE

The State Convention is the representative governing assembly of Ohio Common Ground (“OCG”).

The Convention exists to:

- Represent Voting Members between statewide votes;
- Preserve county representation;
- Protect organizational independence;
- Elect designated Directors;
- Consider governance reforms;
- Consider Constitutional amendments;
- Review organizational performance.

The Convention shall operate in a manner consistent with:

1. Applicable law;
  2. Articles of Incorporation;
  3. Constitutional Charter;
  4. Bylaws;
  5. Official OCG policies.
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### ARTICLE I

#### AUTHORITY OF THE CONVENTION

##### Section 1.01

The State Convention shall possess only those powers specifically granted by:

- The Constitutional Charter;
  - The Bylaws;
  - Applicable law.
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## Section 1.02

The Convention shall not exercise authority reserved to:

- Voting Members;
  - The Board of Directors;
  - The Ombudsman;
  - The Governance and Integrity Committee.
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## ARTICLE II

### DELEGATES

#### Section 2.01 — Delegate Representation

Delegates represent:

1. The members of their county chapter;
  2. The Constitutional Charter of OCG.
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#### Section 2.02 — Delegate Qualifications

Delegates must:

- Be Voting Members;
  - Remain in good standing;
  - Be properly elected or selected pursuant to Chapter procedures.
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#### Section 2.03 — Delegate Certification

Each County Chapter shall submit a certified Delegate List no later than thirty (30) days before Convention.

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## Section 2.04 — Delegate Credentials

Delegates shall be credentialed before participation.

Credential verification shall include:

- Membership status;
  - Eligibility;
  - Chapter certification.
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## Section 2.05 — Alternate Delegates

County Chapters may designate Alternate Delegates.

Alternates may vote only when replacing credentialed Delegates.

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# ARTICLE III

## CONVENTION OFFICERS

### Section 3.01

Convention Officers shall include:

- Convention Chair
  - Convention Vice Chair
  - Convention Secretary
  - Convention Parliamentarian
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### Section 3.02

Convention Officers may be appointed by the Board or elected by delegates pursuant to procedures established before Convention.

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### Section 3.03

Convention Officers serve only for the duration of the Convention unless otherwise specified.

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## ARTICLE IV

### CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

#### Section 4.01

A Credentials Committee shall be established.

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#### Section 4.02

Responsibilities include:

- Verifying delegates;
  - Verifying alternates;
  - Certifying attendance;
  - Recommending resolution of credential disputes.
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#### Section 4.03

The Committee shall publish a Credential Report before official business begins.

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## ARTICLE V

### RULES COMMITTEE

#### Section 5.01

A Rules Committee shall be appointed prior to Convention.

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#### Section 5.02

The Rules Committee shall recommend:

- Convention agenda;

- Debate procedures;
  - Voting procedures;
  - Operational rules.
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### Section 5.03

Convention delegates shall approve Convention Rules before official business is conducted.

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## ARTICLE VI

### RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

#### Section 6.01

A Resolutions Committee shall review all proposed resolutions.

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#### Section 6.02

The Committee may:

- Recommend adoption;
  - Recommend amendment;
  - Recommend rejection.
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#### Section 6.03

The Committee may not prevent delegates from considering properly submitted resolutions.

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# ARTICLE VII

## CONVENTION AGENDA

### Section 7.01

The agenda shall normally include:

- Call to Order;
  - Credential Report;
  - Rules Adoption;
  - Officer Reports;
  - Governance Reports;
  - Elections;
  - Constitutional Amendments;
  - Resolutions;
  - New Business;
  - Adjournment.
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### Section 7.02

The Convention may modify the agenda by majority vote.

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# ARTICLE VIII

## QUORUM

### Section 8.01

A quorum shall consist of Delegates representing at least fifty percent (50%) of authorized delegate positions.

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### Section 8.02

No official business may be conducted without a quorum.

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# ARTICLE IX

## DEBATE PROCEDURES

### Section 9.01

The Convention shall encourage vigorous but respectful discussion.

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### Section 9.02

Delegates shall be treated equally during debate.

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### Section 9.03

The Convention Chair may establish reasonable speaking limits.

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### Section 9.04

Personal attacks, harassment, intimidation, or disruptive conduct shall not be permitted.

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# ARTICLE X

## RESOLUTIONS

### Section 10.01

Resolutions may be submitted by:

- County Chapters;
  - Convention Committees;
  - The Board;
  - Member Initiative procedures.
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## Section 10.02

Resolutions shall normally be submitted at least thirty (30) days before Convention.

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## Section 10.03

Emergency resolutions may be considered upon approval of two-thirds of delegates present.

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# ARTICLE XI

## ELECTIONS

### Section 11.01

Convention elections shall be conducted by secret ballot whenever practical.

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### Section 11.02

The Election Administration Committee shall supervise elections.

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### Section 11.03

Candidates shall be provided equal opportunity to address delegates.

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### Section 11.04

Election results shall be certified before adjournment whenever practical.

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## ARTICLE XII

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

#### Section 12.01

Proposed Constitutional Amendments shall be distributed to Delegates no later than sixty (60) days before Convention.

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#### Section 12.02

Amendments require approval by at least seventy-five percent (75%) of Delegates voting.

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#### Section 12.03

Convention approval shall not constitute ratification.

Membership ratification shall be required pursuant to the Constitutional Charter.

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## ARTICLE XIII

### GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

#### Section 13.01

The Convention shall receive reports from:

- Board of Directors;
  - Ombudsman;
  - Governance and Integrity Committee;
  - Treasurer.
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#### Section 13.02

Delegates may question officers and committee representatives.

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## Section 13.03

The Convention may adopt recommendations for Board consideration.

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# ARTICLE XIV

## MEMBER INITIATIVE CONSIDERATION

### Section 14.01

Certified Member Initiatives shall receive Convention consideration pursuant to the Bylaws.

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### Section 14.02

The Convention may:

- Adopt;
- Reject;
- Amend;
- Refer;

such proposals.

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# ARTICLE XV

## APPEALS

### Section 15.01

Delegates may appeal rulings of the Convention Chair.

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### Section 15.02

Appeals shall be decided by majority vote of Delegates present.

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## ARTICLE XVI

### TRANSPARENCY

#### Section 16.01

Convention proceedings shall generally be open to members.

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#### Section 16.02

Convention minutes shall be published.

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#### Section 16.03

Election results, resolutions, and amendment outcomes shall be published.

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## ARTICLE XVII

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### Section 17.01

The Convention may enter Executive Session only for:

- Legal matters;
  - Personnel matters;
  - Security matters.
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#### Section 17.02

Executive Session requires approval by two-thirds of Delegates present.

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## ARTICLE XVIII

### CODE OF CONDUCT

All Delegates shall comply with:

- The Code of Conduct;
- Convention Rules;
- Directions of the Convention Chair.

Violations may result in loss of speaking privileges, removal from the floor, or other disciplinary measures.

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## ARTICLE XIX

### ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT

Following Convention, a report shall be published summarizing:

- Attendance;
  - Elections;
  - Resolutions;
  - Governance actions;
  - Constitutional actions.
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## ARTICLE XX

### AMENDMENT OF CONVENTION RULES

These Rules may be amended by the Board provided such amendments remain consistent with:

- Articles of Incorporation;
- Constitutional Charter;
- Bylaws.

Notice of amendments shall be provided to County Chapters.

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## CERTIFICATION

These State Convention Rules are adopted pursuant to the governing documents of Ohio Common Ground.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

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Convention Chair

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Secretary

Ohio Common Ground

DRAFT