

Bylaws and Rules of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

1. Name

- 1.1. The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire (hereinafter referred to as "LPNH").

2. Duration

- 2.1. The duration of LPNH shall be perpetual.

3. Purpose and Principles

- 3.1. LPNH is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: Moving culture and public policy in a more libertarian direction;
- 3.2. The Statement of Principles affirms that philosophy upon which the Libertarian Party is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it may be amended only by a vote of 7/8 of all registered delegates at a Regular Convention.
- 3.3. LPNH Platform shall include, but not be limited to, the Statement of Principles and the implementation of those principles in the form of planks.

4. Structure & Definitions

- 4.1. The primary governing power of LPNH shall be vested in the Executive Committee and the State Convention shall have the powers specified by these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by LPNH.

5. Membership

- 5.1. Requirements for Membership
 - 5.1.1. One must certify that they do not aggress.
 - 5.1.2. One must be current in their payment of membership dues (Dues-paying Member.)

- 5.2.** The Executive Committee shall set dues and dues frequency requirements in the Policy Manual.
- 5.3.** Delegate Eligibility
 - 5.3.1.** Delegate-eligible Members of LPNH shall be all Dues-paying members who have been dues-paying members in good standing for at least the immediately preceding 100 days and have been an inhabitant of New Hampshire for at least the preceding 35 days.
 - 5.3.1.1.** The Executive Committee may require evidence that supports one's inhabitant claim.
 - 5.3.1.2.** The Executive Committee may alleviate these requirements on a case-by-case basis under terms of their choosing.
 - 5.3.2.** Officer-Eligible Members of LPNH shall be all Delegate-Eligible members who have continually been a Dues-paying Member in good standing for at least the immediately preceding 182 days, and:
 - 5.3.2.1.** If the individual has been a dues-paying member for more than one year, a lapse of less than 10 days of dues-paying membership status shall not disqualify officer-eligible membership status.
 - 5.3.2.2.** If, after election for officers has ended, one or more officer position(s) remain vacant (including the case of "None of the Above" winning election for a position), the eligibility requirements under this section may be suspended by a 2/3 vote of all credentialed delegates to expand the pool of eligible nominees to include all delegate-eligible members present at convention, at which point a subsequent election for the still-vacant officer position(s) may be held.
- 5.4.** Membership Termination
 - 5.4.1.** The membership of any Member may be terminated by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee for cause.
 - 5.4.2.** Cause, for the purpose of this section, shall be limited to:
 - 5.4.2.1.** Calls for initiation of force, or the initiation of physical violence.
 - 5.4.2.2.** Theft or destruction of, or gross negligence regarding party assets.
 - 5.4.2.3.** Running in an election as a "Libertarian" without approval of the Executive Committee.
 - 5.4.3.** Prior to a vote, the Executive Committee shall perform due diligence regarding the cause(s) for termination including attempting to record a statement from the Member to be terminated.
 - 5.4.4.** The Executive Committee shall perform due diligence to notify the Member in writing, expeditiously, and at least 10 days before the Executive Committee is to vote on the matter.
 - 5.4.5.** Any Member terminated by this section shall have the right to appeal to the Judicial Committee within 21 days. The Judicial Committee shall set a

date for hearing the appeal between 14 and 30 days of receipt of the appeal and shall notify the appellant, who shall have the right to appear and present evidence and argument. If the Judicial Committee refuses to hear the appeal or does not rule on it within 60 days of the termination, the person whose membership was terminated shall be immediately reinstated as a Member.

- 5.4.6. No membership shall be terminated under this section in the 35-day period prior to a biennial or business convention.
- 5.4.7. The person who had their membership terminated may not rejoin LPNH unless by 7/8 vote at the following state convention.

6. Officers

- 6.1. The Officers of LPNH shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. All officers shall be voting members of the Executive Committee.
 - 6.1.1. Any references to “Chair” refer to the President and “Vice Chair” to the Vice President in these bylaws, national bylaws, or other equivalent or relevant documents.
- 6.2. Officers must meet the criteria for Officer-Eligible Member at the time of election or appointment and during their entire time in office.
- 6.3. Officers shall be elected at the biennial convention and shall take office at the adjournment of that convention. The term of office for each officer shall begin upon adjournment of the biennial convention at which the officer is elected and shall continue until that officer’s successor is elected or appointed, qualified, and assumes office. Failure of a convention to achieve quorum, complete officer elections, or elect a successor shall not terminate an incumbent officer’s term or create a vacancy. Elections for officers shall follow the procedure for single winner elections as specified in the Convention Rules.
- 6.4. Any officer who has been elected or appointed to fill a vacancy for the remainder of a term shall take office immediately and shall hold that position until the adjournment of the following biennial convention or until the officer’s successor is selected and qualified.
- 6.5. No offices shall be combined or held by the same individual.
- 6.6. Duties of Officers
 - 6.6.1. President
 - 6.6.1.1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of LPNH, holding the powers of administration pertaining to the ordinary business affairs of LPNH and such other powers as may be delegated by the State Convention. The President shall serve as presiding officer for meetings of the Executive Committee and the State Convention.
 - 6.6.1.2. The President shall have the power to appoint persons to

leadership roles within LPNH.

- 6.6.1.3.** The President shall be responsible for ensuring the completion of any tasks assigned to the Executive Committee by the State Convention.

6.6.2. Vice President

- 6.6.2.1.** The Vice President shall act as the President in any meetings or manners in which the President is not present or available.

6.6.3. Secretary

- 6.6.3.1.** The Secretary shall be the recording officer of LPNH. The Secretary shall maintain all official records of LPNH and shall disseminate records and notices as may be required by these bylaws or the rules of LPNH.
- 6.6.3.2.** The Secretary shall provide, or make provisions for, legal services to LPNH, and shall ensure that LPNH maintains compliance with any legal mandates regarding official records and communications.

6.6.4. Treasurer

- 6.6.4.1.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of all income and expenses associated with the operation of LPNH and shall present a summary of all income and expenses incurred at the regular meetings of the Executive Committee and the State Convention. The income and expense summary may be limited to activity since the last regular meeting of the body for which the report is being presented.

- 6.6.5.** Whenever an Officer has a personal or financial interest in any matter coming before the Executive Committee, the affected person shall fully disclose the nature of the interest. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, any abstention or recusal, rationale for approval, and a roll call of the votes

- 6.7.** The Executive Committee may, for cause, suspend any officer by a vote of 2/3 of the entire Executive Committee. The suspended officer may challenge the suspension by an appeal in writing to the Judicial Committee within seven days of receipt of notice of suspension. Failure to appeal within seven days shall confirm the suspension and bar any later challenge or appeal. The Judicial Committee shall set a date for hearing the appeal between 21 and 35 days of receipt of the appeal and shall notify all interested persons, which persons shall have the right to appear and present evidence and argument. At the hearing the burden of persuasion shall rest upon the appellant. The Judicial Committee shall either affirm the Executive Committee's suspension of the officer or order the officer's reinstatement within 28 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 28 days shall constitute a reinstatement of the officer. At such time as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.

6.8. Vacancies

- 6.8.1.** If there is a vacancy in any officer position, the Executive Committee may appoint an Officer-Eligible Member to serve as Interim Officer until a successor is elected and qualified at a convention or business convention at which quorum is present. An Interim Officer shall carry out the duties of the vacant office but shall not have a vote on the Executive Committee unless separately elected by the delegates to that office.
 - 6.8.2.** Interim members of the Executive Committee shall carry out the duties of their position, but they shall not have a vote on the Executive Committee.
 - 6.8.3.** If there is a vacancy in the position of President, the Vice President shall become the interim President of LPNH.
 - 6.8.4.** The interim-President shall ensure a business meeting is scheduled expeditiously within the rules of these bylaws for the purpose of voting in a new President. If another officer is voted in as president, the business meeting shall include voting in an officer to fill the vacancy.
- 6.9.** Officers shall have all powers delegated to them by these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by LPNH. Officers shall have whatever additional duties are specified by these bylaws, any special rules of order adopted by LPNH, and at the direction of the State Convention.

7. Executive Committee

7.1. Purpose and Structure

- 7.1.1.** The purpose of the Executive Committee shall be to oversee and act in respect to all matters pertaining to the organization, maintenance, conduct, affairs, and interests of LPNH consistent with law, these bylaws, and any rules of LPNH.
- 7.1.2. Membership**
 - 7.1.2.1.** The committee shall consist of:
 - 7.1.2.1.1.** The Officers of LPNH; and
 - 7.1.2.1.2.** The most recent previous President of LPNH that is not an officer of LPNH and is an officer-eligible member shall be a non-voting member of the committee and shall not be considered in determining a quorum.
 - 7.1.2.1.3.** The term of Executive Committee members shall be from the time they assume office until the adjournment of the next biennial convention, or until their successors are selected and qualified, unless specified differently elsewhere in this article.
- 7.1.3.** The committee shall manage the day-to-day operations of LPNH and shall have the control and management of all the affairs, properties, and funds of

LPNH consistent with law, these bylaws and the rules of LPNH.

7.2. Meetings

- 7.2.1.** Meetings shall be at the call of the President or at the call of any two other members of the committee.
- 7.2.2.** The committee may conduct meetings with some or all of the members of the meeting participating via electronic methods of communication.
- 7.2.3.** The committee shall, as part of the agenda of every meeting, set a date, time, and place for the next meeting. A notice reminding the members of the meeting schedule shall be provided to all Executive Committee members via electronic methods of communication by the Secretary at least seven days prior to the start of the meeting.
- 7.2.4.** The President may call for an emergency meeting if circumstances require it.
- 7.2.5.** A majority of the Officers of LPNH shall constitute a quorum.

7.3. General Provisions

- 7.3.1.** Members of the Committee shall have access to the current and past records of LPNH.
- 7.3.2.** The Committee shall have the power to go into executive session for any matters for which they determine it is necessary. Any discussion related to discipline regarding any member shall automatically be considered to be in executive session.
- 7.3.3.** The Executive Committee shall maintain a Policy Manual. The manual shall include all rules that govern the Executive Committee not specified within the Bylaws or Rules of Order; The Party's standard operating Procedures; and any other information deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

7.4. Recall

- 7.4.1.** A petition to remove a member of the Executive Committee may be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Judicial Committee, provided that the petition:
 - 7.4.1.1.** Contains a statement providing specific reasons why the Executive Committee member should be removed;
 - 7.4.1.2.** Contains the signatures of at least 50% of the delegates who attended the most recent convention who certify that they agree with the statement;
 - 7.4.1.3.** Specifies at least one representative from the signatories who may be contacted by the Judicial Committee for additional information regarding the petition.
- 7.4.2.** If a recall petition is submitted, the Judicial Committee shall verify its authenticity, investigate the matter, and render a decision no later than 30 days after the verification of the petition. A 2/3 vote of all Judicial Committee members is required to remove an Executive Committee

member.

8. State Convention

8.1. Delegates

- 8.1.1.** A Delegate-Eligible Member shall become an official delegate for a convention if the member registers for the convention no later than seven days prior to the first day of the convention.
- 8.1.2.** A Prospective Delegate shall be any Delegate-eligible Member who wishes to become an official convention delegate and has not registered at least seven days prior to the first day of the convention. A Prospective Delegate shall become an Official Delegate if the convention delegates approve by a majority vote.
 - 8.1.2.1.** The Credentials Committee may make a motion to approve the Prospective Delegates for inclusion as official delegates of the convention. This motion shall have priority to the floor over all other main motions, and shall happen no more frequently than 15 minutes since the last such motion.
 - 8.1.2.2.** If a meeting has been called to order without quorum, and accepting the Prospective Delegates as official delegates would create quorum, then all Prospective Delegates shall become official delegates.

8.2. Conventions

- 8.2.1.** LPNH shall meet in convention at least once every two years.
- 8.2.2.** The biennial Convention shall begin no earlier than the first Friday of January and shall end no later than the last day of April.
- 8.2.3.** Notification of the date or dates of the biennial convention must be delivered by electronic methods of communication to LPNH members no later than 91 days prior to the first day of the convention. A detailed notice of the biennial convention must be sent to Dues-paying Members no later than 35 days prior to the first day of the convention. If there is to be a Consent Calendar, all Delegate-eligible Members must receive a copy no later than 8 days prior to the first day of convention.
- 8.2.4.** The Executive Committee shall have the power to change the date of the biennial convention to a date outside of the date range specified in this section if it becomes necessary due to unforeseen circumstances. If the calling of a Business Convention will resolve the problem, then the Executive Committee shall not change the dates of the convention in question and shall instead schedule a Business Convention.
- 8.2.5.** The biennial Convention shall include (but not be limited to) the following items on the agenda:

- 8.2.5.1. Reports from all standing committees;
 - 8.2.5.2. Consideration of proposals for changes to the bylaws, special rules of order, and the party platform;
 - 8.2.5.3. Officer elections;
 - 8.2.5.4. Elections for the members of committees that are selected by the State Convention;
 - 8.2.6. Bylaws, Rules, and Platform Changes
 - 8.2.6.1. See [Amendments](#)
 - 8.2.7. Business Conventions
 - 8.2.7.1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to call for a Business Convention to conduct LPNH business.
 - 8.2.7.2. Notification of the date or dates of any business convention must be delivered by electronic methods of communication to all LPNH members no later than 21 days prior to the first day of the convention. The notice shall include an agenda of all items of business scheduled for the meeting.
 - 8.2.7.3. The Executive Committee may, by a 2/3 vote, determine that no new business shall be introduced during the meeting by delegates. The delegates may overrule this decision, but that shall require a 7/8 vote, and under no circumstances may new business be introduced at a business convention prior to the completion of the business on the agenda prepared by the Executive Committee.
 - 8.2.8. A quorum at any convention shall consist of 10% of all Delegate-Eligible Members, or majority of all of the delegates who have registered for that convention, whichever is greater.
 - 8.2.9. A motion to adjourn any convention shall require a 2/3 vote of all credentialed delegates if the business scheduled for the convention is incomplete.

9. Standing Committees

- 9.1. The Standing Committees of LPNH shall be:
 - 9.1.1. Judicial Committee
 - 9.1.2. Credentials Committee
- 9.2. These committees shall be governed by these bylaws.
- 9.3. General Provisions
 - 9.3.1. All committee members must be Delegate-eligible Members of LPNH for the duration of their term.
 - 9.3.2. The chair of each committee must be an officer-eligible member of LPNH for the duration of their term.
 - 9.3.3. Each committee shall have a minimum of three members.

- 9.3.4. The Committee shall be member-nominated and elected at a state convention.
 - 9.3.5. Additional requirements for a specific committee may be specified in these bylaws.
 - 9.4. Committee Operations
 - 9.4.1. Each committee shall have a chair, a secretary, and an at-large. Unless specified otherwise in these bylaws each committee shall select their own chair and secretary. If the chair or secretary seat becomes vacant, the remaining committee members shall fill such seat within 14 days of the vacancy occurring. If the committee does not fill the vacancy as prescribed, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy within 14 days.
 - 9.4.2. The chair of each committee shall:
 - 9.4.2.1. Provide a report to the Executive Committee at least once per quarter, unless exempted by the Executive Committee;
 - 9.4.2.2. Present the committee's reports to the State Convention at any convention that includes the committee's report as part of the agenda.
 - 9.4.2.3. The secretary of each committee shall:
 - 9.4.2.3.1. Send a copy of any approved minutes to the Secretary of LPNH within four days of their approval;
 - 9.4.2.3.2. Notify the Secretary of LPNH of any vacancies on the committee within 48 hours of the vacancy;
 - 9.4.2.3.3. Send all official reports produced by the committee to the Secretary of LPNH;
 - 9.4.2.3.4. Notify all committee members and all members of the Executive Committee at least ten days prior to any scheduled meeting;
 - 9.4.3. The terms of members of Standing Committees shall begin at the adjournment of the biennial convention and shall end at the adjournment of the following biennial convention or until their successors are selected, unless otherwise specified in these bylaws or the rules of LPNH.
 - 9.4.4. Members of standing committees may be removed from a committee by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. A motion to remove a member of a standing committee shall require prior notice.
 - 9.4.5. Vacancies
 - 9.4.5.1. Members who choose to voluntarily resign from the committee should notify the secretary of the committee.
 - 9.4.5.2. A member of a committee shall be deemed to have resigned if the member:
 - 9.4.5.2.1. Fails to attend two out of three consecutive meetings and does not provide an adequate explanation for the member's

absence to the chair of the committee; or

9.4.5.2.2. Fails to attend three out of five consecutive meetings.

9.4.5.3. The secretary of the committee, or another committee member when necessary, shall immediately notify the Secretary of LPNH of any change in membership.

9.4.5.4. The Executive Committee shall ensure that all positions of each standing committee are filled by making appointments as necessary.

9.4.6. Members of the Executive Committee shall have the right to attend any meetings of any Standing Committee and participate in deliberations but shall not have a vote on any matter before the committee unless they have been elected or appointed to be a member of the committee.

9.4.7. A Standing Committee may meet entirely in person, or with some or all of the members utilizing electronic methods of communication to attend. Meetings shall conform to the procedures and rules specified in the rules of LPNH and, if applicable, as directed by the Executive Committee.

9.4.8. Each Committee shall determine its own meeting schedule in consultation with the Executive Committee.

9.4.9. Judicial Committee

9.4.9.1. A member of LPNH who is eligible to become a member of the Judicial Committee (hereinafter referred to as "Judicial-Eligible Member") shall meet the following:

9.4.9.1.1. Has been a dues-paying member of LPNH in good standing for at least one year;

9.4.9.1.2. Be a current inhabitant of the state of New Hampshire and have been an inhabitant of the state of New Hampshire for at least the immediately preceding 365 days;

9.4.9.1.3. A member of the Judicial Committee shall not be a member of the Executive Committee.

9.4.9.2. The committee shall meet as is needed to carry out its duties, as called for by the chair of the committee or by the Executive Committee.

9.4.10. Credentials Committee

9.4.10.1. A member of the Judicial Committee shall not be a member of the Executive Committee.

9.4.10.2. The committee shall meet as is needed to complete all tasks necessary to verify the membership status of all persons wishing to fulfill various roles within LPNH and any related tasks, as specified in these bylaws, the rules of LPNH, and as directed by the Executive Committee.

9.4.10.3. The committee shall verify which Members of LPNH are qualified

as:

- 9.4.10.3.1.** Current dues-paying members of LPNH;
- 9.4.10.3.2.** Delegate-Eligible Members;
- 9.4.10.3.3.** Officer-Eligible Members;
- 9.4.10.3.4.** Judicial-Eligible Members;
- 9.4.10.3.5.** All standard classes of membership;
- 9.4.10.3.6.** Any other subgroup of members for which special qualifications exist; e.g. Process the registration of delegates at conventions;
- 9.4.10.3.7.** Verify that a quorum exists at conventions;
- 9.4.10.3.8.** Verify that any member nominated at a convention for a position in LPNH is eligible for the position and immediately inform the presiding officer if a nominated member is not qualified;
- 9.4.10.3.9.** Present reports at conventions required by these bylaws, the rules of LPNH, the Executive Committee or the State Convention.

9.4.10.4. Meetings

- 9.4.10.4.1.** The committee shall meet at least once no later than three weeks prior to the convention, at which the chair of the committee shall ensure that all members understand their roles for the upcoming convention.
- 9.4.10.4.2.** The committee shall meet in the hour immediately preceding the opening of registration for the convention, beginning no later than 20 minutes prior to the opening of registration on the first day of the convention.

- 9.5.** The committee members shall carry out tasks assigned to the committee by the rules of LPNH or the Executive Committee selected.

10. Libertarian National Convention

- 10.1.** No person shall be seated with LPNH delegation to a National Convention who is not a dues paying member of LPNH.
- 10.2.** If the President is unavailable to serve as delegation chair, the Executive Committee shall choose another option by 2/3 vote.
- 10.3.** Within 45 days of the start of a national convention, if any elected delegates have confirmed in writing they will not be able to attend, resulting in unfilled seats for the delegation, the Executive Committee may appoint additional alternate delegates with a 2/3 vote of the entire Executive Committee.
 - 10.3.1.** Delegates shall be appointed in rank order after any convention-elected alternate delegates.

- 10.3.2. The names of new alternates shall be sent to the existing delegates.
- 10.3.3. The relevant details for these new alternates shall be sent to the national convention credentialing process as soon as possible.
- 10.4.** The Executive Committee may, no later than three days before the start of the national convention, empower the convention delegation to add additional alternate delegates.
 - 10.4.1. The potential delegate must be properly registered for the convention and be a dues-paying member of LPNH.
 - 10.4.2. The delegation chair shall inform the Executive Committee of any potential new delegate before any vote by the delegation. The Executive Committee may reject the potential delegate with a majority vote and shall inform the entire delegation of such a decision.
 - 10.4.3. Adding a new delegate shall require at least a majority vote of the entire delegation.
 - 10.4.4. The Executive Committee may impose additional requirements or a voting process. These shall be sent to all delegates before the start of the national convention.
 - 10.4.5. Contact details for any new delegate shall be sent to the Executive Committee.

11. Parliamentary Authority

- 11.1.** The rules contained in the 10th edition of Democratic Rules of Order shall govern LPNH in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order LPNH may adopt.

12. Amendments

- 12.1.** Changes to bylaws and special rules of order by the State Convention
 - 12.1.1.** Proposed amendments to the bylaws, convention rules, and modifications to existing special rules of order may be enacted at a convention and must follow the procedures specified in these bylaws, and any related rules adopted by LPNH.
 - 12.1.2.** Proposed amendments to the bylaws, convention rules, and special rules of order must be approved by a 4/5 vote.
 - 12.1.3.** No part of this Article, shall be amended by a vote of less than 7/8 of all registered delegates at a regular convention.
 - 12.1.4.** If a proposal passes, it shall take effect immediately, unless otherwise specified in the proposal.
- 12.2.** Platform changes by the State Convention
 - 12.2.1.** Proposed modifications to the Platform must follow the procedures

specified in these bylaws and any additional related rules adopted by LPNH.

12.2.2. The Platform may be only modified at a convention. Any change must be approved by a 2/3 vote of all credentialed delegates.

12.2.3. Platform changes shall take effect at the close of the convention at which they are adopted.

12.3. Regular and Consent Calendars

12.3.1. The President may place resolutions on the Consent Calendar. Members wishing to place a resolution item on the calendar shall submit the item in writing to the President at least 35 days prior to the opening of the convention.

12.3.2. Upon the written request of at least three delegates, the President may remove an item from the Consent Calendar and place it at the top of the Regular Calendar, prior to a vote on that item.

12.3.3. Items on the Consent Calendar shall be voted on as prescribed in these Bylaws, Convention Rules, and Special Rules of Order.

12.3.4. The President shall read the title and summary content of each Consent Calendar item immediately before the delegates vote on the item. The delegates shall vote on the consent calendar item without debate or amendment.

12.3.5. Delegates may reconsider any Consent Calendar item that fails to pass, placing it at the end of the Regular Calendar, only if 2/3 of all credentialed delegates vote to reconsider. If the vote to reconsider is taken after the Report has been completed, the item shall be reconsidered during New Business.

12.3.6. Proposals on the Regular Calendar shall have an initial period of debate during which no amendments to the proposal are permitted. After this period of debate has concluded, the delegates shall vote on the proposal. If the proposal fails, the proposal shall again come to the floor and shall be open to debate and amendment.

12.4. The Executive Committee is authorized to make grammatical, spelling, orthographic, and/or editorial modifications to the Bylaws, Rules, and Platform provided it does not change the meaning or intent of the item edited. Documentation of any such changes shall be noted in the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting immediately following the changes being made.