

## ABOUT VOTING

*\*Adapted from the [New Delegate Orientation](#) by Secretary of Convention Chuck Till*

How do we vote at Convention?

### VOICE VOTES

For most of the resolutions and parliamentary motions, it's as simple as "All those in favor, say 'aye', all those opposed say 'nay.'"

If the voice vote is too close to call, the presiding officer will ask for a show of hands. If it's still too close to call, we will resort to what are called green cards and red cards. As part of the credentials packet, everyone will receive a green card and a red card, and you're asked to hold those up and keep them up while they are counted by the Committee on Elections.

### VOTES BY ORDER

There is also a provision for something called a vote by orders.

This is when the lay and the clergy vote separately, and in order for the item to pass, it has to pass by a majority in both orders. Some things have to be done by votes by orders. For example, amendments to the constitution of the diocese, but on anything, a certain number of delegates can demand a vote by orders.

And usually we do that in the lay order first, and if it doesn't pass, there's no reason to have a vote in the clergy order.

### ELECTIONS & ELECTION RUNNER

Nominations for open positions are submitted forty days beforehand. At the 207th Annual Convention, we will be electing new members of Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, Trustee to the University of the South, and our deputies to the 81st General Convention.

That deadline for nominations has already passed, and [information on those nominated](#) is now available.

There is an opportunity, however, to make late nominations on the Friday morning of Convention. The rules for late nominations are a little different, so [follow the guidelines](#) on those.

Elections are determined by the majority of the votes cast. In other words, everybody's got to receive at least fifty percent of the vote.

In some of these elections, we are electing multiple offices, and you can vote for more than one person for that office. If there are three positions to be filled, for example, you can vote for three people out of the six or the eight or the ten who might be running.

It frequently it requires multiple ballots to reach the point where everyone is elected by a fifty percent vote.

**The ballot process this year is going to use the electronic system at ElectionRunner.com.** You can get access to that from any kind of a web browser, or you can install an app for Election Runner on your smartphone or on your tablet.

**Scroll to page 3 for all you need to know about Election Runner.**

**You need two things to log into Election Runner.**

**The first is your Voter ID.** That's specific to each individual lay delegate and member of the clergy, and those will be distributed by email about a week before Convention.

Please print your Voter ID and bring it with you to Convention. If you forget it, or if your Voter ID doesn't seem to be recognized when you try to vote, you can go to the credentials table for assistance.

If you have a problem with voting, you can go to the polling room, and the location of that polling room will be announced at Convention. There will be two laptops in the polling room, so if you don't have a computer or other device from which to vote, you can use one of the polling room computers to cast your vote.

If you've not used Election Runner before, don't worry. We are going to run a trial ballot on Friday afternoon, just to make sure that everybody's Voter ID works, and that you're familiar with the system before we begin balloting for real first thing on Saturday morning.

**The second thing that you will need** for Election Runner is something called a Voter Key. It's a number that is the same for everybody. We will announce that from the floor of Convention immediately prior to each ballot. This is why you've got to be at Convention in order to be able to vote, because the announcement of that Voter Key will not be carried on the livestream of Convention.

## **FINAL NOTES**

We do not allow absentee voting.

We do not allow proxy voting.

If you have questions about the voting process, we encourage you to attend the Q&A session with Secretary of Convention Chuck Till on Friday, November 18 at 9:15a.m. The session will take place in the lower-level conference room at the Benton Convention Center.

## Instructions for Balloting in Election Runner

### Step 1: Prepare!

- Have your Voter ID ready. It was emailed to you prior to Convention. Your Voter ID will stay the same throughout Convention. Do not share it with anyone; it is specifically yours. If you are a lay delegate and an alternate from your church replaces you, the alternate must go to the Credentials desk where he or she will receive a different Voter ID.
- For each ballot, you will need a "voter key" in addition to your Voter ID. The voter key for a given ballot is the same for everyone; however, each ballot will have a different voter key. We will announce the voter key for each ballot at Convention.
- Be sure that your laptop, tablet, or smart phone is connected to WiFi (unless your tablet or phone can connect directly through a mobile carrier like AT&T or Verizon). If you do not have such a device, go to the Polling Room where a device will be provided for your use temporarily.
- The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese ban proxy voting and absentee voting.

### Step 2: Stay alert!

- Immediately after lunch on the Friday of Convention, there will be a test ballot. Do not skip this! It is important for everyone to get experience with Election Runner in a more relaxed setting. The test ballot also allows us to resolve problems with Voter ID's in advance.
- On Saturday, there will be at least one ballot, probably two, and possibly three or more. These will start when Convention comes to order in the morning and occur sporadically through the day.
- The Secretary will announce when a ballot is open. Take note of the two-digit voter key that is announced at the same time. You must use the correct voter key for a given ballot. The voter key will not be published on the diocesan website or in Yapp.

### Step 3: Cast your ballot.

- Launch a browser on your laptop, tablet, or smart phone.
- Go to this website: **ednc.electionrunner.com**.
- You will see the diocesan seal at the top of the page.
- Ignore ballots that have already been completed, including the ones from last year (the 206th Convention).
- If the ballot has not opened yet, you will see it under "Scheduled Elections" with an indication of when the ballot will open.
- Look for the "Running Election" underway. Note the end time of the ballot. You must complete your transaction before this end time. It is not possible to extend the end time, once a ballot has been opened.
- Click on the ballot title.
- Enter your Voter ID and the voter key.
- Fill out your ballot by clicking the appropriate circles.
- Click Submit Ballot. Don't forget to submit!

### Need help?

- Don't have your Voter ID? Have a problem with your Voter ID? Visit the Credentials desk.
- Have difficulty casting your ballot that is not related to your Voter ID? Don't have a laptop, tablet, or smartphone that is connected to the Internet? Visit the Polling Room where the Elections Committee will assist you.