

By-Laws
of the
Prohibition
National Committee

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The 21 June 1973 text, as provided by then-chairman Earl F. Dodge. Several minor changes were approved by the National Committee at their 2001 Mid-Term Conference; these are included. The changes were circulated by Dodge as part of pre-Conference publicity, and he later confirmed that they were approved by placing the following comment in *The National Statesman*: [68(3-4):2, May-June 2001] “Minor changes were made in the PNC By-Laws.”

Executive Secretary James Hedges was instructed at the 2003 Convention to select a By-Laws Revision Committee and to bring its report to the 2007 Convention.

Article I – Nature and Purpose

The Prohibition National Committee is a political body, the function of which is to organize, promote, and direct the political activity of that body of persons ordinarily known as the Prohibition Party.

Article II – Membership and Service

Section 1.

Membership: The Prohibition National Committee shall consist of two representatives from each of the states and territories of The United States, and from the District of Columbia,

Section 2

Election: These representatives shall be nominated by the delegates of each of the respective political units at the quadrennial nominating convention of the Prohibition Party and elected by the convention body.

However, when no state affiliate of the Prohibition National Committee, recognized as such by the National Committee, shall exist, members to represent those states shall be chosen directly by the Prohibition National Committee.

Section 3

Period of Service:

- a. Membership on the National Committee is for a period of four years, or until the next ensuing nominating convention.
- b. National Committee members who fail to maintain good standing in the Party by paying annual dues (or the equivalent in goods/services) shall be reminded to do so twice, in the first- and second months following expiration of their dues.
- c. Members who fail to renew by the third month shall be stricken from the roster.
- d. The Secretary shall enforce this policy.

Section 4

Filling of Vacancies: In the event of a vacancy on the Committee, such vacancy shall be filled in one of the following ways: the procedure used shall comply with the order given:

- a. Nomination by state convention.
- b. Nomination by state committee.
- c. Nomination by state chairman.
- d. Nomination by the National Chairman or by the Executive Secretary

In each instance, the nomination must be confirmed by the National Committee or the Executive Committee.

Section 5

Cancellation of Membership: A member of the National Committee may be removed from the Committee only by action of the National Committee on recommendation by his state convention or state committee, with such recommendation accompanied by a bill of particulars. In case of such action, the state may also submit proposed replacements.

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When no state party organization exists, a motion for removal of a member may be offered by six members of the National Committee. Such a motion must be accompanied by a bill of particulars.

Notice of any proposed removal of a member must be filed with the Secretary and by the Chairman of the National Committee at least 6 weeks prior to such consideration, and those whose removal is sought shall be notified by return-receipt registered mail.

Article III – Officers and Committees

Section 1.

Officers: The officers of the Prohibition National Committee shall be a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer. An executive secretary may be selected by the Committee or appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2.

Executive Committee: There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of 9 members – the officers and 4 other members (5 other members, if there is no Executive Secretary) The officers and other members shall be selected by the membership of the National Committee.

Section 3.

Duties of Officers: The duties and functions of the officers shall be those normally performed by the respective officers of similar organizations.

Section 4.

Vacancies: Any vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Committee, subject to approval by members of the National Committee at its next regular meeting.

Section 5.

Period of Service: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Secretary (if one is chosen), and members of the Executive Committee shall serve for a period of 4 years, or until the next ensuing nominating convention.

Section 6.

Removal from Office: Any of the officers enumerated in Section 5 and members of the Executive Committee may be removed from office only by vote of a majority of the members of the Prohibition National Committee present and voting at a duly called meeting of the National Committee, providing the following conditions are met:

a. Notice of the proposed removal and a bill of particulars shall be submitted to the Chairman and Secretary of the National Committee at least weeks prior to such consideration.

b. The Secretary shall then promptly notify the person(s) whose removal is proposed by return-receipt registered mail of the proposed action, enclosing a copy of the bill of particulars. The person(s) so notified may issue a brief rebuttal within seven (7) days *[sic]* and send it to the Secretary.

c. The Secretary shall then promptly send copies of (1) the proposed removal, (2) the bill of particulars, and (3) the rebuttal(s) of the affected persons to all members of the Nat-

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ional Committee. This material shall reach them no later than three weeks prior to consideration of the matter.

d. The removal of an officer of Executive Committee member must be proposed by no less than 6 members, or one-fourth of the total membership of the Prohibition National Committee, and these names must be signed to the bill of particulars.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1.

Biennial Meeting: There shall be a biennial meeting of the entire membership of the National Committee.

Section 2.

Additional Meetings: Additional meetings of the National Committee shall be held on call of the National Chairman, or by order of the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

Call of Committee: A formal petition, signed by 10 members of the National Committee, circulated among all members of the Committee, and specifying a place, date, and time, shall constitute a call for a meeting of the National Committee.

Article V – Financial Controls and Limitations

Section 1.

Administration: The administration of the funds of the Prohibition National Committee shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee.

Section 2.

Special Expenditures: No officer or employee of the Prohibition National Committee shall incur any special obligation, in amount above \$1,250.00, without the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

Current Operating Expenditures: No officer or employee of the Prohibition National Committee shall accumulate operational obligations in excess of \$2,500.00, without the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4.

Loans: No officer or employee of the Prohibition National Committee shall borrow money on behalf of the Committee without the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 5.

Bonds: Any officer or employee of the Prohibition National Committee who regularly handles funds of the Committee may be placed under bond in amount to be determined by the Executive Committee. The bond charge shall be paid from funds of the National Committee.

Article VI – Proxy Service

Section 1.

Appointment of Proxies: Any member of the Prohibition National Committee who is unable to attend a meeting of the Committee is authorized to appoint some person to represent him and to issue a proxy form giving such authorization.

Section 2.

Residence of Proxies: So far as possible, proxy credentials shall be given to persons who are residents of the state which the Committee member represents.

Article VII – Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a duly called meeting of the Prohibition National Committee, provided that:

- a. Notice of the proposed amendment(s) is given at least 6 weeks prior to its (their) consideration by the Committee to the Chairman and Secretary;
- b. Notice of the proposed amendment(s) is sent to all National Committee members at least 4 weeks prior to its consideration; and
- c. The proposed amendment(s) is (are) offered by a member of the National Committee or Executive Committee.

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