



Overview

- What is a Caucus?
- Caucus/Primary Advantages and Disadvantages
- Caucus Myths
- Presidential Preference Poll (aka: Caucus Voting)





What is a Caucus?

- A caucus is a gathering of neighbors and friends in any given precinct who:
 - Get together to discuss politics and the party platform
 - Elect delegates to the county convention
 - Cast their vote in the Nevada “First in the West” Presidential Preference Poll (aka: Caucus Voting)
- All Nevada caucuses will be held on February 8 at 5pm PST



WHY

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Caucus



Voter ID



Precinct Based Voting



Election Day Not Election Month



Paper Ballots



Transparent Tabulation



No Dark Money

Primary



**NEVADA
REPUBLICAN PARTY**

CHAIRMAN MICHAEL J MCDONALD



Caucus Advantages

Candidate, Voter Engagement, Cost

- **Active Campaigns:** Candidates are motivated to actively campaign, make appearances, and engage directly with voters to be successful rather than just jamming our radio, TV and social media with commercials.
- **Active Voters:** Voters actively participate in the election process by showing up for the Caucus.
- **Cost:** The cost for the Caucus is paid for by the candidates, not the taxpayers.



Caucus Advantages

Election Integrity

- ***100% Voter ID:*** All voters must show ID to participate
- ***No Universal Mail In Ballots:*** Absentee is allowed for military and families serving away from home
- ***PAPER BALLOTS!***
- ***Transparency:*** Tabulation and reporting happens in plain sight with a full chain of custody
- ***Same Day Results:*** Election Day, not Election Season



Primary (PPP) Advantages

Taxpayer Funded, State Run

- Zero cost to the Republican Party or candidate campaigns.
- Taxpayers fund the estimated expense of \$5,000,000
- No effort for the party – the state does all the work



Caucus Disadvantages

Participation Requires Effort

- In-person attendance
- No mail in voting, except for military
- Burden of responsibility is at the county level for:
volunteer recruiting – site managers, precinct
captains, etc.
- Proof of US Citizenship and NV residency required



Primary Disadvantages

Lack of Party Building Opportunity

- Cost to taxpayers - \$5 Million
- County parties will still need to hold precinct meetings to elect delegates to their county conventions, county central committees, and to create the 2024 party platform
- Without the Caucus voting, precinct meeting attendance is far lower, which gives counties less opportunity to recruit volunteers, gather data, and raise funds.



Caucus Myth 1: The Caucus takes too long!

- If a voter stays for the whole caucus and precinct meeting, usually the maximum time commitment is an hour, maybe an hour and a half.
- For those who don't want to invest that much time, the caucus offers a drop and go option for voting only.
- This makes the caucus much like the state run Presidential Primary, except that the caucus requires voter ID and uses paper ballots and the results are available that day.
- It is the most traditional form of democracy, where voters exchange ideas and decide on the best candidates.



Caucus Myth #2: State law prohibits the caucus

The Nevada Secretary of State and the Nevada Attorney General both argued in court that political parties have the right to use their own process to determine their nominee:

“The results of any PPP election are not binding on a major political party....throughout the entire PPP election process, no major political party is required to do anything or be bound by any results.”

NVGOP vs. Aguilar, State’s Opposition to Motion for Preliminary Injunction



Caucus Myth #3: Caucus Turnout is Much Lower than Primary Elections

- 75,485 Republicans, 17.8%, participated in the 2016 Caucus
- The June 2016 Primary Election had 18.5% total turnout
- Universal Mail-In Ballots have not increased turnout:
 - 2018 Midterm turnout was 62.4%; 2022 was 54.7%
 - 2016 General Election was 76.7%; in 2020 it was 77.2%
 - 2012 General Election turnout was over 80%



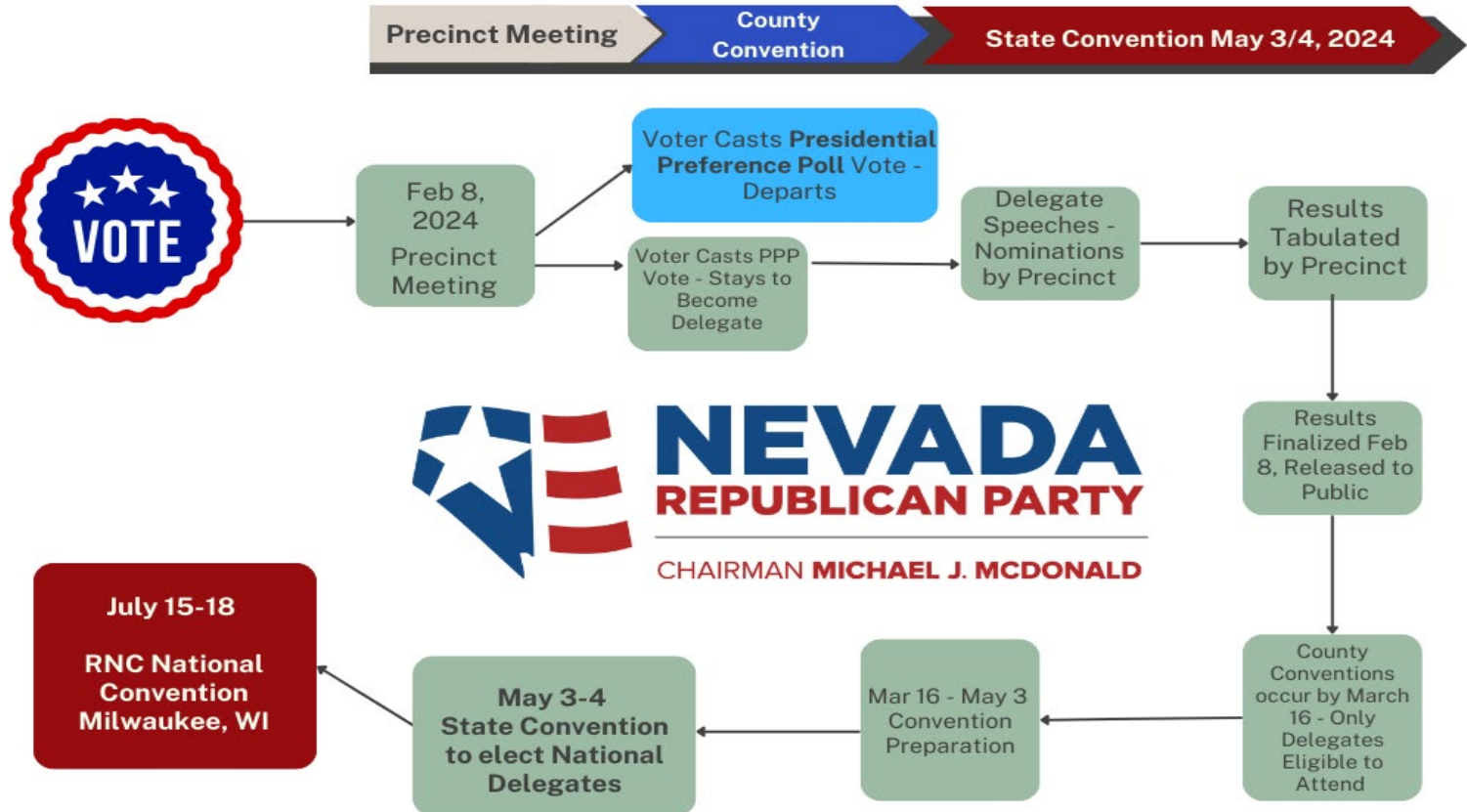
Caucus Myth #4: The Caucus Wastes Party Funds

- The State of Nevada estimated the costs of their primary at \$5 Million
- The Nevada GOP won't be using donor money to fund the caucus
- The caucus is paid for by the candidates who will benefit by winning delegates to the National GOP Convention
- A \$55,000 fee is reduced to \$35,000 if candidates work with the State GOP on a fundraiser
- Idaho requires \$50,000; South Carolina \$50,000; Iowa \$30,000
- Caucuses cost candidates much less than primaries as grassroots work costs far less than media advertising



Caucus Process

Nevada Caucus Process





Presidential Preference Poll (aka: Caucus Voting)

- Presidential preference polling (Caucus Voting) will be done by secret paper ballot during the caucus.
- The results of the presidential preference poll will bind Nevada's delegates to support certain candidates during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee in July.
- Nevada's delegates will be **bound proportionally** by the statewide results.
- Altogether, Nevada gets 26 Delegates and 23 Alternate Delegates to the National Convention. These Delegates will be elected at the Nevada GOP convention in May.



Caucus Mechanics

- **Absentee voting** is available to members of the military and their dependents who are stationed outside their home county.
- **Organization:**
 - The caucuses are run by the Nevada Republican Party and the county Republican parties.
 - A statewide Caucus Team coordinates the activities.
 - Location Captains are appointed for each caucus location. Typically, several precinct caucuses will be held at the same location.



Caucus Mechanics

- **Ballot Tabulation:**

- Once balloting ends, Precinct Chairs will count the results for their precinct in the presence of the attendees, record the results on an envelope, and then enclose the ballots in an envelope.
- Each location will have a Teller Committee who will collect the balloting envelopes from the Precinct Chairs, verify the count and sum up the results by location. Each candidate will be permitted to have official campaign observers during this process.
- Once ballot totals are verified, the Site Coordinators will report the results to the county Republican parties and the Nevada Republican Party.
- The Nevada Republican Party will publicly post results by county and precinct on the website so that all voters can confirm their vote was counted correctly.