

GREEN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The “UNIFORM RULES OF THE GREEN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO” set forth in this document were adopted at a new party meeting of the Green Party of New Mexico on June 24, 2014, for the organization and governing of the Green Party, beginning thirty (30) days after the filing of this document with the Secretary of State of the State of New Mexico. These Rules were amended at the Green Party of New Mexico State Convention on April 30, 2017: IV B(ii) added.

I. VALUES AND PURPOSE

A. **Values:** The Ten Key Values embodied in the internal structure and process and public activities of the Green Party of New Mexico at all levels are the following:

- i. Grassroots Democracy
- ii. Social Justice and Equal Opportunity
- iii. Ecological Wisdom
- iv. Nonviolence
- v. Decentralization
- vi. Community-based Economics and Economic Justice
- vii. Feminism and Gender Equity
- viii. Respect for Diversity
- ix. Personal and Global Responsibility
- x. Future Focus and Sustainability

B. **Purpose:** The purposes of Green Party of New Mexico shall be to

- i. Establish, develop, and promote practices, movements, and organizations and develop and promote governmental legislation and regulations that accord with its Ten Key Values
- ii. Nominate, support, and elect candidates for public office committed to its Ten Key Values.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. **Organizational:** For purposes of conformity with New Mexico Election Code, the following definitions apply:

- i. State Central Committee: The State Convention is the State Central Committee.
- ii. County Party Organization: The Local with the largest number of Members in the county is the County Party Organization.
- iii. Governing Bodies: The Locals in the geographic area of each, the County Nominating Convention at the county level, and State Conventions and the Green Council at the state level.

B. **Herein**

- i. **Locals:** A Local is an organization approved by the Green Council or a State Convention for conducting Party activities within a contiguous group of complete voting precincts in one or more counties.
- ii. **Operating Guidelines:** The Operating Guidelines is a set of rules for the daily workings of the Party adopted and amended by the Green Council.
- iii. **State Platform:** The State Platform is a statement of Party values, principles, and positions on issues of concern from local to global adopted and amended by the State Convention.
- iv. **Statewide Ballot:** The general election ballot on which the office of President or Governor appears.

III. **NAMES AND EMBLEM**

- A. **Party Name:** The name of the Green Party organization shall be the "Green Party of New Mexico" also referred to herein as the "State Party."
- B. **Local Names:** The name of each Local in the State of New Mexico shall be the "Green Party of _____" with the appropriate name inserted.
- C. **Emblem:** The official emblem of the Green Party of New Mexico and of each Local shall be a Zia-inspired sun rising over a mountain range, as shown in Appendix A.

IV. **QUALIFICATION**

A. **Party Membership**

- i. **Persons Registered to Vote:** Any New Mexico voter whose properly registered Political Party affiliation is "Green" shall be considered a Member of the Green Party of New Mexico and of the Local in which area the voter is so registered and shall be eligible to participate in Green Party affairs in accordance with these Rules .
- ii. **Persons not Qualified to Register to Vote:** Individuals who are dedicated to supporting the Ten Key Values of the Green Party of New Mexico but are not qualified to register to vote may participate as full Party Members to the degree permitted by state legal requirements.

B. **Elective Party Office:**

- i. No person shall qualify to be elected to a Party office unless he or she is a Member or a person excepted by these Rules.
- ii. Any person elected to or holding a Party office must maintain Green Party membership throughout his or her term of office; failure to maintain Green Party membership will be recognized as a de facto resignation from that office. In the event a Party officer changes his or her party affiliation, that person is required to notify the State Steering Committee within five (5) days.

V. **ORGANIZATION**

A. **State Level**

- i. **State Conventions:** A State Convention shall consist of the following:
 - a) One delegate from each Local

b) One additional delegate from each Local for each percent of total Green Party voters in the State of New Mexico registered within its region

c) A Special State Convention shall consist of the delegates elected to the Annual State Convention, except that the number of delegates of Locals shall be changed to conform to a number recalculated by the Green Council in response to a timely petition by the Co-Chairs of any Local.

ii. **Green Council:** The Green Council shall consist of Representatives from each Local equal to the number of digits in the number of "Green" voters registered at an address within the area of the Local.

iii. **Steering Committee:** The State Officers shall constitute a State Steering Committee.

B. Locals

i. **Membership:** A Member of the Green Party of New Mexico is considered a member of the Local in which the person is registered to vote.

ii. **Accreditation:** Locals shall be accredited by the Green Council or by a State Convention. Locals having Green Council members as of the date of the adoption of these Rules are accredited at that time without having to apply.

iii. **Area:** The area a Local represents shall be a contiguous group of complete voting precincts in one or more counties as determined by the Green Council and may be changed when a new Local is approved.

iv. **Steering Committee:** The Officers of a Local and representatives from the Local to the Green Council shall constitute a Local Steering Committee.

v. **Convention:** A Local Convention shall consist of all Members of the Local.

C. **County:** A County Convention shall consist of all Members registered to vote in the county.

VI. GOVERNANCE

A. **Annual State Convention:** The Annual State Convention shall have the following powers and duties:

i. Duty to elect the officers of the State Party and representatives to the Green Party of the United States

ii. Power to adopt and amend the Operating Guidelines

iii. Power to adopt and amend State Party Rules

iv. Power to adopt and amend the New Mexico State Party Platform

v. Power to settle factional differences and to prevent damage to the Party welfare.

vi. Power to resolve disputes presented to it involving factional differences on any Local's election if the State Convention finds that the Local's election was improperly held

vii. Power to prescribe votes on the Green Party of the United States proposals.

viii. Power to conduct any other proper State Party business

ix. Power to delegate any part of its authority to the Green Council except for Rules and State Party Platform changes.

- x. Power to change the Party Name and Emblem.

B. **Special State Conventions:** Special State Conventions may be called by the Green Council when needed if pertinent business can not be deferred or delayed until the next Annual State Convention and have the following powers:

- i. Power to elect Presidential Electors
- ii. Power to conduct a Special Election to fill a vacancy on the statewide ballot or in Presidential Electors as provided by the New Mexico Election Code
- iii. Power to hold recall elections for State Officers
- iv. Power to conduct any proper State Party business.

C. **State Party Offices**

- i. **Officers:** The officers of the State Party organization shall be as follows:
 - a) Two co-Chairs, if possible
 - b) A Secretary
 - c) A Treasurer
 - d) Representatives to the Green Party of the United States as allocated to the State Party by the Green Party of the United States.
 - e) Alternate Representatives to the Green Party of the United States, if any, may be elected up to the number of Representatives.
- ii. **Election of Officers:** State Party Officers shall be elected at the Annual State Convention.
- iii. **Vacancies in Offices**
 - a) Any vacancy in the office of co-Chair shall be filled by nomination from the membership of the Green Council and approval by the Green Council.
 - b) A vacancy in any Office other than co-Chair shall be filled by nomination of a qualified replacement by the co-Chairs and approval by the Green Council.
 - c)
- iv. **Powers and Duties:** The officers shall have the following powers and duties:
 - a) **Co-Chairs**
 - Power to call, with proper notice, a State Convention at such times the co-Chairs deem as proper and shall have the duty to call such meetings when required by these Rules
 - Power to appoint spokespersons for specific issues
 - Duty to convene the Green Council at regular intervals or when requested to do so by five (5) or more Green Council members from three (3) or more Locals
 - Duty to appoint chairperson(s) and a secretary for each State Convention

- Duty to appoint one or more facilitators for each meeting of the Green Council
- Duty to perform the tasks in connection with State Conventions specified in Section 7
- Power to act as general spokespersons for the State Party and the duty to use this charge with great responsibility and sensitivity to the consensus of the State Party
- Duty to act in accordance with the decisions of the Green Council and State Conventions
- Duty to specify the week for Locals to hold meetings to elect officers and delegates

b) **Secretary**

- Duty to preserve all of the minutes of State Conventions and the Green Council in a form that can be effectively archived and shall pass such minutes along to his or her successor
- Duty to preserve an updated record of the Operating Guidelines and inform the Green Council when adoption of a proposal or decision would violate the then existing Operating Guidelines
- Duty to file all appropriate documents with the Secretary of State as required by any applicable laws of the State of New Mexico
- Duty to make notifications of Green Council meetings and of State Conventions as required in Section 7(A)(2).

c) **Treasurer**

- Duty to keep the financial accounts of the State Party in a form that can be effectively archived and shall pass such records along to his or her successor
- Duty to prepare financial reports required to be filed with the Secretary of State
- Duty to assure tax reports are properly prepared and filed as needed

d) **Representatives to the Green Party of the United States**

- Duty to transmit official communications and other relevant information and concerns back and forth between the Green Party of the United States and the Green Council and State Conventions
- Duty for an Alternate Representative to act as an Officer in the absence of the Representative for whom he or she is an alternate

v. **Terms of Office:** The terms of all elected officers and delegates of governing bodies shall begin on the first day after election at an Annual State Convention and end at the conclusion of the following Annual State Convention. Any appointee to a vacancy will serve the remainder of the current term of the vacated office.

vi. **Recall of Officers :** If a State Party officer fails in the duties of office (VI.C.iv), the Green Council may initiate a recall process on the officer by placing a legal notice in the statewide newspaper of record calling for a recall election without specifying by name the member up for recall and notifying the officer by registered mail and by other forms of communication if necessary. Notification of the pending recall shall be made to the Membership, and reasonable attempts shall be made to hold a Special State Convention. A recall election shall be conducted in a Special State Convention or a Green Council meeting. Recall of an Officer shall require a 75% supermajority of the voting body.

D. **Green Council**

- i. **Executive Committee:** The Green Council shall serve as the executive committee of the Green Party of New Mexico
- ii. **Powers and Duties:** The Green Council shall have the following powers and duties:
 - a) Power to act as the State Convention in between State Convention meetings with the exception of Rules and State Party Platform changes, except to change the Rules to meet specific legal challenges. If decisions can not be made by consensus, actions can be approved by the following schedule:
 - 66 2/3% for approving endorsements or substantive proposals and motions to close or extend debate, table a topic, or send a topic to committee
 - 50% + 1 or a simple majority for meeting-specific process motions not already specified
 - b) Power to develop and amend a set of “Operating Guidelines” that establishes rules for the daily workings of the Green Party of New Mexico, all provisions of which shall remain in effect unless specifically amended by a 2/3 supermajority vote of the Green Council
 - c) Power to appoint non-voting delegates to State Conventions from areas not in an accredited Local
 - d) Power to establish qualifications and procedures for accrediting Locals and to accredit, withdraw accreditation, and restore accreditation to Locals
 - e) Power to establish standing committees and appoint chairs thereof
- iii. **Meetings:** The Green Council shall meet a minimum of four times each year, either in person or through electronic means. Meetings may be called by the Green Council or by the State Co-Chairs. The State Secretary shall notify each member of the Green Council of the date, time, and place of meetings, in writing, at least ten days prior to the meeting. When ten-day’s written notice has been properly executed, a quorum of the Green Council shall consist of at least one executive officer (Co-Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer) and the majority of other members.
- iv. **Votes**
 - a) **Allocation:** Votes at meetings of the Green Council shall be allotted one vote to each representative from the Locals and one each to the State Officers. No person shall have more than one vote.
 - b) **Alternate Representatives:** Any Alternate Representative from a Local shall act as a full voting member of the Council in the absence of the Representative.
 - c) **Electronic Media:** A formal electronic meeting may be held in lieu of meeting in person. Votes on important issues to be decided before the next Green Council meeting may be initiated by one-third of all current Green Council members submitting a request to the State co-Chairs, or by the State co-Chairs, and the process shall be carried out by the State co-Chairs.
 - d) **Proxies:** Proxy votes can be accepted under the following conditions:
 - The Green Council has written notification of the proxy prior to the meeting for which a Green Council member will be absent.
 - The member giving the proxy specifies whether the nature of the proxy is general or specific.

- A proxy held by a Council member from a Local other than that of the giver of the proxy is a specific proxy.
- Any Green Council member holds no more than one proxy.
- A proxy is not held by a non-Green Council member or an Alternate Representative of a Local.

E. **State Steering Committee:** The State steering Committee shall have the following powers:

- i. Conduct business on matters arising between meetings of the Green Council and matters referred to it by the Green Council
- ii. Place items on a Green Council meeting agenda

F. **Local Offices**

- i. **Officers:** The Officers of the Local shall include the following:
 - a) Two co-Chairs, if possible
 - b) A Secretary
 - c) A Treasurer
 - d) Such Chairs of local standing committees as may be elected by the Local
 - e) Representatives to the Green Council as allocated by the Green Council
 - f) Alternate Representatives to the Green Council, if any, up to the number of Representatives.
- ii. **Delegates to the State Convention:**
 - a) The Local shall have the number of Delegates to State Conventions assigned to it by the Green Council.
 - b) The local may elect Alternate Delegates up to the number of Delegates.
- iii. **Election of Officers:** Officers of Locals shall be elected at a Local Convention in accordance with Section VIII and following election of Delegates to the State Convention.
- iv. **Vacancies of Offices:** A vacancy occurring in the office of a Local shall be filled by the nomination of a qualified replacement by the Co-Chairs and approval by the Local Steering Committee.
- v. **Recall of Officers:** A Local shall establish a rule for recall of Local Officers.
- vi. **Powers and Duties**
 - a) **Co-Chairs**
 - Power to act as general spokespersons for the Local
 - Power to appoint spokesperson for specific issues
 - Duty to call meetings of the Local
 - Duty to set, with proper notice, the date of the election of Local officers

- Duty to appoint one or more facilitators for each meeting of the Local
- Duty to act in accordance with the decisions and consensus of the Local
- Duty to file petitions as required by any applicable laws of the State of New Mexico and the county or counties in which the Local operates

b) **Secretary**

- Duty to record and maintain all of the minutes of the Local in a form that can be effectively archived and to pass such minutes to the successor
- Duty to preserve an up-to-date record of all supplementary rules and regulations for the operation of the Local, and inform the Local when adoption of a proposal or decision would violate the Supplementary Rules and Regulations
- Duty to file all appropriate documents with the County Clerk and Secretary of State as required by any applicable laws of the State of New Mexico and the county or counties in which the Local operates
- Duty to submit to the State Secretary the name(s) of the Local's elected Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) to the Annual State Convention prior to the Annual State Convention

c) **Treasurer:** Duty to keep the financial accounts of the Local in a form that can be effectively archived and to pass records of such accounts to the successor.

d) **Representatives and Alternates to the Green Council**

- Duty to inform themselves of the views and positions of the Local
- Duty to vote as directed by the Local on proposals before the Green Council
- Duty to accurately communicate official matters and other relevant information back and forth between the Local and the Green Council

e) **State Convention Delegates and Alternates**

- Duty to inform themselves of the views and positions of the Local
- Duty to vote as directed by the Local on proposals before the State Convention
- Duty to accurately communicate official matters and other relevant information back and forth between the Local and the State Convention

vii. **Terms of Office:** The terms of all elected Local officers and delegates shall begin on the first day after election at an Annual Local Convention and end at the conclusion of the following Annual Local Convention. Any appointee to a vacancy will serve the remainder of the current term of the vacated office.

G. **Local Steering Committee:** The powers and duties of the Local Steering Committee shall be as follows:

i. Power to conduct the business of the Local between meetings of the Local and matter referred to it by the Local

- ii. Place items on a Local meeting agenda.

VII. STATE CONVENTIONS

A. **Specification:**

- i. At least sixty (60) days prior to a State Convention, the co-Chairs of the State Party shall fix the date for holding the State Convention.
- ii. At least thirty (30) days prior to a State Convention, the co-chairs of the State Party shall perform the following duties:
 - a) Fix the time and place for holding the State Convention
 - b) Announce the number of Delegates to the State convention from each Local
 - c) Place for consideration proper business and approve the agenda of the Convention
- iii. A Member shall be registered "Green" continuously from 30 days prior to the date of the State Convention through the date of the State Convention to be able to vote at the State Convention.

B. **Notification**

- i. Promptly after fixing the date of a State Convention, the State Secretary shall notify in writing the Co-Chairs of all Locals and all current Green Council Members of the Convention specifications of Section VII(A) for the Convention
- ii. At least fourteen days prior to a State Convention the Co-Chairs of the Locals shall publish notice of the Convention in a newspaper of general circulation or on the World Wide Web specifying the time, public place, and date for holding the Convention.

C. **Annual Convention:** The Annual Convention shall be held generally in early Spring, for the purpose of electing State Party officers and representatives to the Green Party of the United States and conducting business properly placed for consideration. The date shall be appropriately set in accordance with the New Mexico Election Code with regard to nomination and filing deadlines when applicable.

D. **Special Conventions:** A special State Convention may be called for only two purposes:

- i. To fill a vacancy on the statewide ballot or the position of a Presidential Elector as provided by the New Mexico Election Code
- ii. To consider any proper State Party business requiring action by a State Convention.

VIII. LOCAL CONVENTIONS

A. **Specification**

- i. At least thirty (30) days prior to a Local Convention, the Co-Chairs of the Local shall fix the time, date, and public place for holding the Local Convention
- ii. A Member of the Local shall be registered "Green" with the County Clerk continuously from 30 days prior to the next State Convention to be eligible to vote in the Local Convention.

B. Notification

i. At least fourteen (14) days prior to a Local Convention the Co-Chairs of the Local shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation or on the World Wide Web specifying the time, public place, and date for holding the Local Convention.

ii. The Secretary of each Local shall make reasonable efforts to notify all Members of the Local of the time, date, location, and agenda of the Local Convention.

C. Annual Local Convention

i. A Local shall call an Annual Local Convention during the time period set in the State Co-chairs' Specification for the purpose of electing Local Officers and Delegates to the Annual State Convention and conducting business properly placed for consideration.

ii. A Member of a Local shall be registered "Green" with the county clerk 30 days prior to the Local Annual Convention to be a candidate for nomination or election or be eligible to vote in Local and County conventions.

D. Special Local Conventions: A special Local Convention may be called only for the purposes of considering any proper Local business requiring action at a Local convention.

IX. COUNTY NOMINATING CONVENTIONS

A. Determination: In each county, the Local with the greatest number of members in the county as determined by the Green Council (VI.D.ii) shall call a County Nominating Convention during the time period set in the State co-chair Specification for the purpose of nominating candidates for public office and conducting business properly placed for consideration.

B. Specification

i. At least thirty (30) days prior to a County Nominating Convention, the co-Chairs of the Local (IX.A) shall perform the following duties:

- a) Fix the time, date, and public place for holding the Nominating Convention
- b) Approve the agenda of the Convention
- c) Appoint one or more chairpersons and a secretary for the Convention.

ii. A person shall be registered to vote in the county and registered "Green" with the County Clerk continuously from 30 days prior to the next State Convention to be eligible to vote in the County Nominating Convention.

C. Notification: At least fourteen (14) days prior to a Nominating Convention the co-Chairs of the Local shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation or on the World Wide Web specifying the time, public place, and date for holding the County Nominating Convention.

X. NOMINATIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

A. Regular State Biennial Pre-Primary

i. Regular Biennial State Pre-Primary nominations shall be made during the Annual State Convention in election cycles when the State Party is qualified as a major party under New Mexico Statutes.

ii. Regular Biennial State Pre-Primary nominations shall be made in even-numbered years.

iii. Nominations of candidates for public office shall be made in accordance with the New Mexico Election Code and Primary Election Law. The New Mexico Election Code and Primary Election Law is hereby incorporated into this Section.

B. Minor Party Non-Primary

i. In election cycles when Green Party of New Mexico is qualified as a minor party, nominations of candidates for public office shall be made using the following procedure and according to the provisions of the New Mexico Election Code. The New Mexico Election Code is hereby incorporated into this Section.

ii. At least one week prior to the date fixed for the Annual State Convention, candidates for offices other than those wholly contained within the boundaries of a single county shall provide to the Secretary of the Convention a notice of intent to be a candidate, and an affidavit that the candidate is not seeking any other office in this election.

C. County and Municipal

i. Nominations for public office wholly contained in a county shall be made at a County Nominating Convention.

ii. At least one week prior to a County Nominating Convention, candidates for a public office wholly contained in that county shall submit to the Secretary of the Convention a statement of intent to be a candidate.

iii. The Chairperson(s) and Secretary of the Convention shall certify to the County Clerk the names of Party nominees as per state statute. No candidate shall be certified to an office if "None of the Above" won the election.

XI. VOTING PROCEDURES

A. General Rule: All non-elective decisions by governing bodies shall be reached by consensus if possible. If consensus is not reached on an urgent matter, simple majority may be used except as otherwise noted in this document. For non-urgent matters, decisions may be tabled.

B. Officer and Nomination Elections Other than Federal Office when a Major Party: All elections for officers, including the election of officers of the Green Party of New Mexico and the election of officers of Locals, and candidates for public office shall, if there is more than one candidate, be Ranked Choice/Instant Runoff Vote pursuant to which each voter shall rank in order of preference as many of the candidates as the voter desires.

i. **Single Seat Contests:** For single seat contests, the vote shall be counted as follows:

a) Each vote is assigned to the voter's first preference candidate, and the votes are tallied. If any candidate has a majority, the candidate is elected.

b) If no candidate has a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes is declared defeated. Each of that candidate's votes is assigned to the candidate who is each voter's next preference, if any, that has not been declared defeated. The votes are tallied again. If any candidate has a majority, the candidate is elected. Step (b) is repeated until one candidate has a majority or only one candidate remains.

c) Ties are resolved by declaring defeated the candidate having the lowest assigned random number.

ii. **Multi-Seat Contests:** For multi-seat contests, the vote shall be counted as follows:

a) Each vote is assigned to the voter's first preference candidate and the votes are tallied.

b) Any candidate(s) who has as much or more than the number of votes equal to the total votes divided by one plus the number of seats, plus one vote, are declared elected. If all seats have not been filled, Section (c) is performed.

c) Each vote for each elected candidate elected in the last tally is multiplied by the ratio of candidate's number of votes in excess of the number needed to be elected divided by the number needed to be elected and assigned to the candidate that is each voter's next preference, if any, who has neither been declared defeated nor elected.

d) The votes are tallied again. If any additional candidate(s) have satisfied the criterion of section (b), they are declared elected. If candidates have not been elected to all seats, section (c) is repeated. If no additional candidate has satisfied the criterion of section (b), the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Each of that candidate's votes (which may be non-integer) is assigned to the candidate who is each voter's next preference, if any, who has neither been declared defeated nor elected.

e) The votes are tallied again and section (b) is repeated.

f) Ties are resolved by declaring defeated the candidate having the lowest assigned random number.

iii. **"None of the Above" Voting Option:**

a) Pre-Primary Ballot: For each office on the Pre-Primary Convention ballot, other than federal office, the ballot option "None of the Above" shall be placed after the last candidate's name. Notwithstanding the number of votes for "None of the Above," candidates who receive at least 20% of the pre-primary convention's vote shall be certified for the primary ballot as per state statute.

b) Non-Primary Ballot: For each office on the State and County Nominating Convention ballots, the ballot option "None of the Above" shall be placed after the last candidate's name. If "None of the Above" receives the greatest number of votes cast for an office, no candidate shall be certified for that office.

c) Primary Ballot: For each office on the Primary ballot, the option "None of the Above" shall be placed after the last candidate's name. If "None of the Above" receives the greatest number of votes cast for an office, no candidate shall be nominated for that office.

C. **Pre-Primary Nomination for Federal Office:** Elections for nomination to federal office when the Green Party is a major party shall be by plurality vote and, if no candidate has a majority, by a runoff election of the top two vote getters.

D. **Voting Percentage Calculations:** Abstentions shall not be included in calculating voting percentages.

XII. SUSPENSION OF RULES

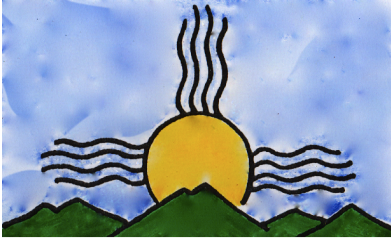
Any procedural provisions of these Rules may be suspended by a two-thirds majority vote of Members present at a duly called meeting of of Green Council, a Local, or a Convention.

XIII. AMENDMENT

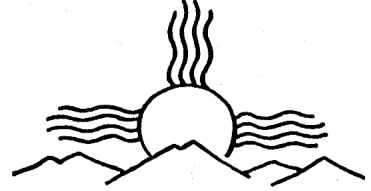
These Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the representatives voting at any State Convention.

APPENDIX A

EMBLEM



GREEN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO



GREEN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO