



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

57<sup>TH</sup> IAFF CONVENTION

**ELECTION RULES**  
**57th CONVENTION**  
**OF THE**  
**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS**  
**AFL-CIO-CLC**  
**AUGUST 26-30, 2024**

1. Nomination of all officers shall be conducted as a special order of business on Wednesday, August 28, 2024.
2. Nominations shall proceed under the direction of and pursuant to procedures explained by the Chairpersons of the Elections Committee.

All International Officers who are delegates-at-large by virtue of their offices are not eligible to participate in the nomination or election of International Officers.

All delegates or alternates representing state or provincial associations or joint councils who have been elected by the local union delegates to such state or provincial associations or joint councils are not eligible to participate in the nomination or election of any International Officer.

This is a requirement of law which the International Association of Fire Fighters is bound to observe and is also a requirement of our Constitution and By-Laws. (Article IV, Section 4).

3. Nominations for the Office of Regional Trustee shall be the first order of business to be followed by nominations for General Secretary-Treasurer and General President.
4. Following the nominations of the Trustees and the principal officers, nominations for the Office of Vice President will take place at special caucuses of the 16 Districts in their caucus rooms. An Election Committee representative will chair the District caucuses for the purpose of receiving nominations. No nominations for the Office of Vice President shall be made unless and until a representative of the Elections Committee calls the District caucus to order. This caucus break shall be for a period of forty-five (45) minutes, after which delegates shall return to the convention floor for the continuation of the day's business.



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5. In nominations for General President and General Secretary-Treasurer, there will be three nominating speeches, one of three minutes in length and two speeches of two minutes in length. The order of these speeches will be determined by the nominator, and he/she shall indicate their time allotment prior to beginning their speech. No unused time from one nominator shall be available for use by another nominator. Acceptance speeches shall be allowed for principal officer candidates only and shall not exceed five minutes. In nominations for Vice President and Trustee candidates, there will be one nominating speech of two minutes followed by one seconding speech of one minute.

Nominators and candidates shall at all times conduct themselves with dignity and decorum. Speeches will be delivered in a manner so that the rights of others are respected. Statements in speeches that defame, slander or personally attack another union sister or brother are not permitted and shall be considered out of order.

6. Elections of all officers shall be conducted on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 7 a.m. and continuing until 11:30 a.m. Any eligible delegate in line to vote at or prior to 11:30 a.m. shall be allowed to vote.
7. The time and manner in which run-off elections will be conducted will be determined by the Elections Committee and announced to the Convention prior to balloting of the run-off elections.
8. The election shall be conducted by secret ballot vote of duly accredited delegates whose names appear on the Credentials Committee's list accepted by the Convention and certified to the Elections Committee. In voting for all officers, each local union and other subordinate body of this Association shall have the same number of votes to which it is entitled on a roll call vote. Proxy voting is governed by the Constitution and By-Laws; there will be no voting by proxy except by the delegates who carry the proxy vote of a local.

If an affiliate desires to vote by bloc during the election or any runoff elections, the Chair of the delegation shall obtain the printed names and signatures of each member of their delegation on the authorization forms furnished for this purpose for each election or runoff election to permit the unit vote during such elections. **All bloc voting forms must be turned in to the Elections Committee between 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm. on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, in Room 155 BCEC. Bloc Voting forms will not be accepted after 4:00 pm on August 28.** Bloc voting authorization forms will be made available at District caucuses.

When bloc voting forms have been properly filled out and timely submitted, the ballots cast by the Chair of the delegation shall reflect the full voting strength to which the affiliate is entitled as shown by the list prepared by the General Secretary-Treasurer and the Committee on Credentials. If the Chair of the delegation should leave the Convention before the run-off elections are completed, the remaining delegates shall elect a new Chair and execute a



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new authorization form. If the delegation is divided, the voting strength of the affiliate shall be allocated to the individual delegates during the election and any run-off elections.

9. Ballots will be printed with the names of all duly nominated candidates for the following offices: General President, General Secretary-Treasurer, Trustee for the region where your local is located and the Vice President for your District, with a circle opposite the name of each candidate. A delegate may vote for not more than one nominee for each office. Only duly nominated candidates printed on the ballot may be voted for and any write-in candidate will invalidate the ballot of such delegate for the office under which the write-in candidate's name appears. Any signatures, initials, affiliate references or other markings on the ballot which identify the voter will invalidate such ballot.

Each delegate voting will receive denominational ballots totaling the number of votes the delegate is entitled to cast, and must sign a sheet acknowledging that that delegate has received ballots totaling that number. If there is only one candidate for an office, however, that candidate's name will not appear on the ballot and that person will be declared elected.

10. Only valid ballots shall be counted as ballots cast. A majority of all valid ballots cast shall be necessary for election to each office.
11. In the case of each Vice President, only those duly accredited delegates from the District to be represented by such Vice President shall be entitled to vote. Election to such office shall be by a majority of all valid votes cast.
12. In the case of all officers, including Vice Presidents, if more than three candidates are nominated for the same office, none of whom receives a majority of the votes on the first ballot, all candidates other than the three leading candidates shall be dropped and the balloting shall continue, dropping the candidate with the least number of votes until one candidate receives a majority.
13. The elections shall proceed under the direction of the Elections Committee.
14. Procedure for receiving ballots and voting:

During the specified election period, each voting delegate must present their IAFF delegate badge with bar code to individuals who will be stationed at tables inside of the Election Room. The badge will then be scanned to confirm both the identity of the delegate and the number of votes that delegate is entitled to cast. The delegate will be asked to confirm that the number appearing in the elections database is accurate. At that time, the elections worker will print denominational ballots totaling that number, and the delegate will be required to sign, acknowledging receipt of the correct total number of ballots.



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The delegate will then be shown to an available voting booth containing a privacy shield and a marking pen. The delegate must then fill in the circle opposite the desired candidate's name **on each of the denominational ballot sheets**. After the delegate has filled in the appropriate circles on each ballot sheet, the delegate will be directed to place the completed ballots into one of the sealed ballot boxes. At that point, the delegate will have completed the voting process and is required to exit the Elections Room.

15. Each candidate running in a contested race shall be permitted to appoint an observer to witness the balloting and the tabulation of ballots. To ensure the secrecy of the ballot process, observers will be kept a reasonable distance from the balloting and during the tabulation of ballots. In addition, for the same purpose, observers will not be permitted to have recording devices, cameras, pads, paper, writing utensils, cell phones, electronic devices (etc.) that might compromise the secret ballot process. The names of the observers shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the Elections Committee by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, in Room 155 BCEC.
16. Any challenged ballots will be handled as follows: the delegate is given an unmarked envelope and a larger envelope on which has been written the voter's name, signature, affiliate number, District, and the reason for the challenge. The voter should then be instructed to go to the voting booth, mark the denominational ballots in the manner specified in Paragraph 14 of these Election Rules, seal them in the small envelope (but not to sign or mark the small envelope in any way) and then seal the small envelope inside the larger envelope and drop the whole package in the ballot box. A record will be kept of the names of all individuals who vote by challenged ballot, with the number of affected votes and the other information that appears on the outside of the larger envelope.
17. Immediately prior to the end of the balloting, the Chair of the Elections Committee shall inquire from the observers present whether there is any objection or claimed irregularity, other than a challenged ballot, occurring prior to or during the balloting to be made. If any such claim is made, it shall immediately be presented to and ruled upon by the Elections Committee prior to tabulation of the ballots. Any objection or claim of irregularity should be raised at this time.
18. Upon the closing of the balloting and hearing of objections, if any, the ballots shall be tabulated.
19. Procedure for tabulating ballots:

The Elections Committee and personnel shall have exclusive control over the tabulation process. Only the Elections Committee, appointed observers, the General Counsel of the IAFF and other persons authorized by the Elections Committee shall be permitted to be present while the tabulation is taking place.



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20. Ballots that are challenged or clearly void or questionable shall not be tabulated and shall be placed in a separate receptacle for consideration and decision by the Elections Committee immediately following the close of balloting. The individual who asserted the challenge, the Delegate who cast the challenged ballot, the affected candidates' observers, and any other individuals requested by the Elections Committee to be present shall appear before the Elections Committee at that time. Ballots that are finally declared void shall be kept separated from the valid ballots and shall be retained with the election records.
21. Upon completion of the tabulation, the total vote of each candidate and percentage of same shall be placed opposite their name.
22. Any objection or claim of irregularity following tabulation of the ballots shall be made to the Chair of the Elections Committee and ruled upon by the Elections Committee prior to the announcement of the results of the election.
23. The Chair of the Elections Committee shall make the report on the election and its results, and on any objections or claims of irregularity that have been raised and decided, to the presiding officer of the Convention. The presiding officer shall announce the results as official, and the results shall be final and conclusive after any timely raised objections have been heard and considered.
24. All ballots and other election records shall be turned over by the Chair of the Elections Committee to the International General Secretary-Treasurer and retained in the custody or control of the General Secretary-Treasurer for a period of one year.
25. The official voting place shall be held in Exhibit Hall A at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, 415 Summer St, Boston, MA 02210.