

Democratic Rural Conference of New York State

DRC STRAW POLL RULES

2010 Convention

1. The DRC does not endorse candidates. The straw poll is only an expression of the individual preferences of the DRC voting members (or their proxy holder) that happen to attend the convention.
2. Straw Polls will be conducted by secret ballot.
3. In order to vote, the 2010 dues of the DRC member must be paid. If the State Committee position is vacant, upon **written** proof from the County Chair that a person has been duly recommended by their county chair to fill that vacancy, they will become a voting member of the DRC for purposes of this convention, upon payment of their dues, even if the State Committee has not yet acted on the appointment.
4. No person may cast more than one straw poll weighted ballot for each office, except that a DRC County Chair who is also a State Committee member may cast two weighted ballots or may designate a proxy holder to cast their second weighted ballot. However, no proxy holder may cast more than one weighted ballot. All fractional weighted votes shall be rounded to the closest whole number. **All Proxy voting shall be done in strict accord with the By-laws and the Convention Rules. All Proxies must be registered with the Secretary before the commencement of nominations for the office in question.**
5. DRC voting members and proxy holders may be required to produce photo identification at the registration table to pick up their registration packets, and to pick-up their ballots. Any attendee may be required to present photo identification.
6. Straw polls will be conducted throughout the convention, so that once the candidates for a particular office have been nominated, seconded and heard, the straw poll for that office will be conducted. The results will be announced throughout the day.
7. All candidates will be included on the straw poll ballot at the sole discretion of the DRC Executive Committee.
8. Challenges to any straw poll ballot shall be addressed to the DRC Secretary, whose decision may be appealed to the DRC Chair, whose decision shall be final.
9. Each candidate will be entitled to one poll watcher to observe the tabulation of the ballots for the straw poll for the office that candidate is seeking.