

Bylaws of the Upson County Republican Party

Article I. Name, Purpose, and Function.

NAME: This organization shall be known and referred to as the Upson County Republican Party or Upson GOP.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Upson County Republican Party shall be to develop, foster, advance, and perpetuate the principles of the Republican Party, to support and otherwise do all within its power to ensure the election of all Republican nominees for public office whose name appear on the general election and any special election or other regular election ballots in Upson County.

FUNCTION: The Upson County Republican Party, consisting of its members shall serve as the central and unified authority and representative body of the Republican platform and policies within Upson County. It shall function to assist and endeavor to develop, implement, encourage, educate, and create Republican principles within Upson County, and it shall strive to recruit and elect qualified Republican candidates to every available public office.

Article II. Statement of Principles

1. We believe that America is an exceptional nation, founded on the Judeo-Christian principles of life, liberty, property rights, hard work and personal responsibility and accountability.
2. We believe that the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights should be interpreted literally as handed down by the Founding Fathers.
3. We believe that Americans should value and preserve their feelings of national strength and pride in our history to promote a brighter future.
4. We believe the role of the government should be limited to those activities and/or powers expressly delegate by the people as specifically listed within the state and federal constitutions.
5. We believe that good government is based on the individual and that each person's ability, dignity, freedom and responsibility must be recognized and honored.
6. We believe in the right of every child to be born.
7. We believe in the right of life from conception to natural death.
8. We believe marriage is a sacred institution established by God and not Government.
9. We believe that free enterprise and individual initiative have given this nation an economic system second to none in the world and that this concept of free enterprise and initiative is the only thing that can continue to maintain this economic system.

10. We believe that sound fiscally conservative policy based upon a balanced budget should be our goal.
11. We believe that to be prepared for war is the most effective means of preserving peace, and that it is through example and strength that we can best share with people everywhere the blessings of peace, freedom, and human rights.
12. We believe in equal rights and equal justice for all, regardless of race, creed, age, sex, disability or national origin.
13. We believe we must retain those principles that have made this county great, yet always be receptive to new ideas with an outlook broad enough to accommodate thoughtful change and varying points of view.
14. Finally we believe that the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these beliefs into positive and successful principles of government.

Article III: Party Membership

Section 1. Qualifications

Membership in the party shall be open to all legal and qualified voters residing within Upson County who subscribe to the principles of the Republican party.

Section 2. Dues and Rights

The Upson County Committee shall establish membership fees and terms for membership in the Upson County Republican Party.

- A. These annual dues shall be remitted during the period of 1-31 January each year in the amount as determined by the Upson County Committee.
- B. Any member in arrears of thirty (30) days or more beyond the membership period shall have all privileges of membership suspended and shall not be considered active until the arrears in dues is eliminated.
- C. Party membership shall be defined as any person who is current on their dues.
- D. Only Party members may participate in mass meetings, conventions, and other Party activities.
- E. Only Party members may be appointed to or elected to any position within the mass meetings, or county, district, or state conventions.
- F. During the term of appointment or election to any position, any person who falls from "active membership" status shall have thirty (30) days to correct the status or they shall be considered to have resigned from any position they held.
- G. Members are encouraged to participate and fulfill the duty as Republicans, to exercise their right to vote in primary, local, special and general elections held within Upson County.

Article V: Organization of the County Committee

The Upson County Committee shall be the governing body (except while the Upson County Convention of the Upson County Republican Party is in session) of the Upson County Republican Party, which is a political organization and political party as defined by Georgia law. The Upson County Committee shall, in the interim between County Conventions, be vested with all duties and privileges possessed by the County Convention and shall act for the Upson County Republican Party. It shall decide all controversies within its jurisdiction with the right of appeal by petition to the District Committee. It shall have such other functions as placed thereon by the District and State Committees.

A. Membership of the County Committee

The County Committee shall be the governing body of the Upson County Republican Party and shall consist of the following:

1. County Chair
2. Vice Chair
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Immediate Past Chair
6. Precinct Chairmen
7. District Committee Members (residing in Upson County)
8. State Committee Members (residing in Upson County)
9. All Republican State, County and City elected officials residing in Upson County, including both official elected as Republicans and members of the Upson County Republican Party elected to non-partisan positions.
10. General Council
11. Parliamentarian

B. Removal from office

1. Any member of the County Committee may be removed from the Upson County Committee for cause by the majority vote of a quorum present at any duly called meeting of the Upson county Committee. However, such individuals must be given written notice of such meeting, sent at least twenty (20) days in advance thereof, setting forth the grounds and such individual must be given the opportunity to be present, and to be heard in person and/or by any representative of his choice. "Cause" as used herein shall include:
 - a. Failure to perform duties of his office for a period of three (3) consecutive duly called meetings.
 - b. Failure to participate in the affairs of the Party.
 - c. Conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Party.
 - a. All members of the Executive Committee are expected to support the official qualified candidates of the Republican Party in all contested General Elections and non-contested Republican Party elections. Public service of any candidate in opposition to the official Republican candidate in the general election by an

elected committee officer shall constitute conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Party.

- b. Any other causes may be determined by the Executive Committee.
- c. Failure to pay annual dues, if applicable.
- 1. Appeals on removal from any office may be addressed to the District Committee if the County lies totally within one (1) Congressional District. If the County is split among more than one (1) Congressional District, the appeal must be made to the State Executive committee.
- A. Vacancies: Any vacancies caused by death, resignation, continued failure to perform or termination of residence in Upson County, shall be filled by the County Committee. The Chairman or acting Chairman shall call a meeting of the County Committee within thirty (30) days to enact a nominating committee to authenticate any person (s) desiring to run for office to replace any officer who has been removed or has resigned. The officer will be elected by a majority vote of all Party members during the monthly meeting held for the election. The term of any replacement officer shall be to fill the remaining term of the officer they are replacing.
- B. Organization of the Executive Committee:
 - 1. County Chairman (vote)
 - 2. Vice Chairman (vote)
 - 3. Secretary (vote)
 - 4. Treasurer (vote)
 - 5. Precinct Chairmen (vote)
 - 6. District Committee Members (if reside in County) (vote)
 - 7. State Committee Members (if reside in County) (vote)
 - 8. General Counsel (no vote)
 - 9. Parliamentarian (no vote)

Article VI: Duties of Officer

County Chair

- A. The County Chair shall preside at all meetings of the County Committee. The Chair shall perform all duties assigned by the Rules of the Republican Party of Georgia (referred to hereinafter as the State Rules). The Chair shall call for the establishment of temporary committees and their chairman as the Chair deems necessary and desirable, or as mandated by State Rules, and may dissolve such committees when their purpose has been achieved. The County Chairman shall direct the issuance and publication of the notice of the Mass Meeting and County Convention at least thirty (30) days prior thereto as directed by State Rules. The Chairman shall act as the Convention chair until a temporary County Convention Chairman is elected by the majority vote of the convention. The County Chair shall organize the program for each county monthly meeting. If another individual is designated to perform

the task of program organization, the responsibility for the task shall remain with the Chairman.

- B. In the event that replacement of this office becomes necessary, the Vice Chair shall fill the position until replacement elections can be held to permanently fill the position for the remainder of the term of this office.

Vice Chair

- A. The Vice Chair shall act as and for the County Chair in the Chair's absence from any meeting. The Vice Chair shall perform other duties as directed by the County Chair.
- B. If replacement of this officer becomes necessary, a temporary officer shall be named by a majority vote of the County Committee quorum and shall fill the position until replacement elections can be held to fill the position for the remainder of the term of this office.

Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall perform the correspondence of the County Committee and shall keep minutes, to their satisfaction, of all legally constituted meetings of the Party. Minutes of these meetings, including the attendance roster, shall be included with the meeting notice for the next County Committee Meeting. The Secretary shall maintain a record of how each Committee member was notified for each meeting. The Secretary shall maintain a database of contact information of all members of the Upson County Republican Party as well as a database showing membership status of all members of the Upson County Republican Party.
- B. If replacement of this officer becomes necessary, a temporary officer shall be named by a majority vote of the County Committee quorum and shall fill the position until replacement elections can be held to fill the position for the remainder of the term of this office.

Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer shall keep a full and accurate account of all money and property received and dispersed. The Treasurer shall use his/her discretion for purchase of unexpected or routine expected expenses up to \$50.00. The Treasurer shall disperse other funds only as directed by a recorded vote of the County Committee or The Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall surrender all records to the audit committee prior too each County Convention. A financial report shall be presented summarizing income, assets and liabilities at each regular monthly meeting.
- B. In the event that replacement of this officer becomes necessary, a temporary officer shall be named by a majority vote of the County Committee quorum and shall fill the position

until replacement elections can be held to fill the position for the remainder of the term of this office.

Precinct Chairman

- A. The Precinct Chairman (one from each voting precinct) shall be elected biennially at the Mass Meeting (aka Precinct Caucus) and shall represent their respective precinct at all County Committee Meetings. This chairman is the point of contact for all grass roots efforts for recruitment, canvassing of the precinct area, and other duties to support the Party.
- B. If replacement of this officer becomes necessary, a temporary officer shall be named by a majority vote of the County Committee quorum and shall fill the position until replacement elections can be held to fill the position for the remainder of the term of this office.
- C. In this case only the members of the effected precinct shall have voting rights.

Parliamentarian

- A. The Parliamentarian (Roberts Rules of order) shall be elected as needed by the County Committee by majority vote of the County Committee quorum present at the meeting where the nomination is presented. The Parliamentarian's term of office shall be at the pleasure of the County Committee.
- B. The parliamentarian shall be responsible for the interpretation of all rules governing the Upson County Committee, including Roberts Rules of Order.
- C. The Parliamentarian shall see that a copy of these County Rules, the District Rules, and the State Rules are present at each constituted meeting. He shall keep proceedings of the meeting within the bounds of said rules, with order of precedence as listed above.

Article VII: Meetings

Mass Meeting

A mass meeting or Precinct Caucus is held every odd year or in each Presidential election year as directed by the State Call (State Rule 9.1). This meeting shall be held as stipulated by public notice by the County Chairman and is the initial organizational meeting of the Upson County Republican Party. During this meeting County Delegates, Precinct Chairmen and Precinct Secretaries will be elected.

County Convention

- A. A County Convention held every odd year or in each Presidential election year as directed by State Call (State rule 9.1). This meeting shall be held as stipulated by public notice by the County Chairman as directed by State Call, and is the secondary organizational meeting of the Upson County Republican Party. During this meeting

Officers of the County Committee will be elected. In addition, District and State Republican Convention Delegates and their alternates shall be elected.

- B. Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the County Convention shall be elected at Mass Meeting held in accordance with the Call of the Georgia Republican State Committee. In conformity with the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party only Delegates and Alternate Delegates elected at a Precinct Mass Meeting may participate in a County convention.
- C. No official business may be transacted at any Conventions and Mass Meetings while any of its temporary or permanent committees are in session.

Regular Party Meetings

- A. A regular Party meeting will be held, after proper notification, on a monthly basis to conduct the normal business of the Party under direction of the County Committee. This meeting is held from the benefit of Party Members to provide information and education for matters that would be of interest to the Party with presentations by various speakers as organized by the County Chairman. This meeting is open to all Party members as well as visitors who are not members.
- B. During this meeting each active member will have the right to vote upon motions brought forth during the meeting. Visitors who are not Party members shall not be counted as legal votes when tabulating results of any votes upon motions.
- C. An exception to this meeting schedule may occur during periods of local, state or national emergency.

County Committee Meeting

- A. A meeting of the County Committee will be held, after proper notification, on an as needed basis to conduct the normal business of the County Committee. At a minimum the County Committee must meet two (2) times each year, but may meet more often as needed.
- B. During this meeting each member of the County Committee will have the right to vote upon motions brought forth during the meeting as long as there is a quorum present.
- C. The County Committee meeting shall be open to all active Party members but their attendance shall not grant the Party members the right to vote upon business brought before the County Committee.
- D. Persons who are not active Party members shall not attend this meeting unless specifically requested by the County Chairman.

Rules of Order: Robert's Rule of Order shall govern all deliberations of Upson County Republican Party meetings except to the extent that they are modified by the Georgia Republican Party rules.

Article VII: Candidate Qualification

Republican Oath: Any Candidate who wishes to qualify as a Republican in Upson County must sign the following oath: "I do hereby swear or affirm my allegiance to the Georgia Republican Party."

Procedural Rules:

- A. The Upson County Republican Party, pursuant to O.C.G.A.21-2-153 shall be the exclusive body to conduct qualifying for the Republican Party in Upson County or, more broadly, for seeking office as a publically elected official as a Republican in Upson County.
- B. In order to qualify for office as a Republican, a potential candidate must be approved by the Upson County Republican Party County Committee by a majority vote within twelve (12) months prior to the date he or she attempts to qualify.
- C. In order to qualify for office as a Republican in Upson County, a potential candidate must present, at the time of qualifying, a signed affidavit from the Upson County Republican Party Chairman or Secretary that the Upson County Republican Party County Committee voted to allow the proposed candidate to qualify for office as a Republican.
- D. Any Upson County Republican officer, volunteer, Committee member, or employee who takes any step toward qualifying someone not approved by a majority vote of the Upson County Republican Party County Committee or assist them in doing so through action or inaction, shall be deemed to have automatically and immediately resigned from the Upson County GOP, and their actions shall be considered void and without authority.
- E. These rules shall be included in the publish notification for candidate qualifying.
- F. Candidate Qualification Procedures:
 - a. At least ninety (90) days prior to the deadline date of qualification (qualifying date) for any county primary or general election, the Upson County Republican Party qualifying committee shall direct the reporting secretary to give notice to all Upson County Republican Party members and to advertise to the public in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, an announcement that anyone wishing to qualify to run as a Republican candidate in any upcoming primary or general election shall apply for County Qualifying Committee approval by a date not less than thirty (30) prior to qualifying start date, by time, location for the County Qualifying Committee meeting at which interviews, vote and approval shall be considered. All perspective candidates can attend and be assigned slot for interviews on the assigned date and time advertised.
 - b. The County Qualifying Committee meeting shall be called for the date set in the announcement, which shall be a date at least thirty (30) days before the qualifying start date.
 - c. At the Qualifying Committee meeting a reasonable period not to exceed 45 minutes will be allotted by the Committee to hear from each perspective candidate who desires approval by the Upson County Republican Qualifying Committee.

- d. After all perspective candidates desiring to be heard have been interviewed and have spoken, the Upson County Republican Party Qualifying Committee shall vote on each candidate by secret ballot, and the perspective candidate shall stand as approved if at least a majority of the number of Qualifying Committee members present vote to approve such candidate. Abstentions shall not be counted as disapproval.
- e. A candidate's failure to obtain the approval of the Upson County Republican Party Qualifying Committee shall disqualify the candidate from running as a Republican Party Candidate in the election at issue but shall not disqualify an unsuccessful candidate from running for office in another election for any other office, nor the same office in any future election.

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Appendixes

Appendix A: Standing Rules

Standing Rules may be added to or changed by a majority vote of all active members present at any regular meeting as long as notification of the intent to make the change shall be included with notification of the County Meeting. The notification will include copies of the existing Standing Rules and any proposed changes or additions.

Standing Rule #01: Membership dues, terms of membership, rights of membership

As defined by the County Committee the membership dues for membership in the Upson County Republican Party shall be: \$20.00 for single membership; \$30.00 for family membership per calendar year, January 1 thru December 31. Renewal of membership may occur within the last two (2) calendar months of the year and shall not shorten the term of membership by early payment thereof. Dues must however be remitted by January 31 of each year to prevent a membership lapse.

Standing Rule #02: County meetings to be held

Upson County Party meetings shall be held at 6:00pm on the 4th Thursday of each month unless other notification is made to all active members at least the (10) days prior to the meeting or unless date is changed by members.

The undersigned officers hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Rules of the Upson County Republican Party as adopted this 25th day of September, 2025.

Officers:

Chairman: [Signature] Date: 9/25/25
Secretary: [Signature] Date: 9/25/25

The undersigned member of the Board of Elections certifies that the above is a true and correct copy of the Rules of the Upson County Republican Party as adopted this 21st day of Jan., 2026, Upson County, Georgia.

Officers:

Board of Elections Representative: [Signature]

Signed in the Presence of: [Signature]
Notary Public

