

# PROPOSED STANDING RULES AND PROCEDURES

## 1. Rules

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Delegate Body in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Act and these Standing Rules. No delegate shall speak in debate more than twice on the same question on the same day, or longer than two minutes each time, without permission of the assembly Chair. Voting delegates shall be given preference in debate, but the Chair may also recognize National Pork Board (NPB) members, past national presidents, other producers and other industry participants to participate in discussion.

## 2. Voting, Elections Committee, Tellers

The Chair of the National Pork Producers Delegate Body shall appoint an Elections Committee of pork producers or importers to conduct elections and authenticate results. Since the Committee is actively involved in voting tabulation and validation while the delegate meeting is in session, Committee members must be chosen from a list of producers who neither are delegates nor involved in other producer activities during the actual meeting time.

### Role and Authority of the Elections Committee

- A. Oversee all Pork Act Delegate voting activities (including voice votes, standing votes and shares votes).
- B. Be responsible for the integrity of the computerized voting system.
- C. Be responsible for validating all voting results.
- D. Shall disqualify a ballot vote containing over 20% (of votes cast) spoiled or invalid individual ballots, and require a re-vote.
- E. May disqualify a ballot vote containing over 10% (of votes cast) spoiled or invalid individual ballots, and require a re-vote.
- F. Be responsible for making any 12-State Rule ranking order changes in validating the NPB nominees list.
- G. Handle all questions and issues concerning the overall voting process.
  - Validate appointed delegates.

Tellers: The Chair shall appoint Tellers to assist in voting procedures. The Tellers shall serve under the direction of the Chair and the Elections Committee. Tellers will also be available to assist individual delegates during any voting process if requested.

## 3. Delegate Badges

For admission to Pork Act Delegate activities and to facilitate identification and seating, delegates and others shall be required to wear the badge issued by the Elections Committee upon registration.

## 4. Resolutions and Advisements

For proposed resolutions and advisements to be considered by the Resolutions/Advisement Committee, they shall:

- A. Be proposed by a state pork producer association, NPB, a NPB standing or program committee or an individual pork producer.
- B. Be submitted in writing to the Resolutions/Advisement Committee by a date established by the Committee to allow for review.
- C. Resolutions received by this deadline require a majority of shares present, voting to be introduced, as well as a majority of shares present and voting for adoption.
- D. Resolutions received after the deadline shall require a 2/3 vote to be placed on the floor and a 3/4 vote of shares present and voting for adoption.
- E. For 2025, Feb. 19 was the date established by the Committee for any relevant resolution or advisement to be considered timely

## 5. Candidate Nominations

Following the NPB Nominating Committee report, the Chair will ask the voting delegates if there are any nominations from the floor. Once the Chair declares the nominations closed, no further nominations will be accepted.

## 6. General Voting

On those issues not requiring shares voting, voting may be by voice, standing or shares voting. The method of voting may be determined by the Chair, or by any Pork Act delegate. Any delegate may call for an uncounted standing vote when a voice vote has been chosen or used. Any delegate may call for a shares vote when either a voice or standing vote has been chosen or used.

A standing or shares vote must be requested by the Chair or any Pork Act delegate either before a vote is taken or immediately following the announcement of the voting results by the Chair.

## 7. Election Information

### A. Definitions

**12-State Rule (also referred to as the duplicate state rule):** The Pork Act requires that the list of nominees (submitted to the Secretary each year for appointment to the National Pork Board) plus NPB members not up for election, represent at least 12 states plus importers.

**1½ Rule:** The Pork Act specifies that one and one-half (1½) nominees shall be submitted to the Secretary for each vacant/expiring NPB member seat.

**Top-6 List:** Pork Act Delegate policy is to submit to the Secretary a list of nominees ranked by delegate preference. This list must be structured so that there are no impediments, such as the 12-State Rule, to the Secretary's ability to appoint the top six ranked nominees without altering their ranked order.

**Voting within Pork Events app:** The Pork Events app will be used for all elections. If there is only one candidate, a voice vote or standing vote will suffice, although the app may be used. An improperly executed voting process by any delegate may result in disqualification of their ballot by the Elections Committee. All votes submitted within the app prior to the Delegate Session opening will be considered valid as long as the quorum rules have been met.

### B. Pork Act Requirements — Nominated Candidate Submission (1½ Rule):

The Pork Act specifies that one and one-half (1½) nominees shall be submitted to the Secretary for each vacant/expiring Pork Board member seat. In 2025 there are six seats open, and thus nine nominees must be submitted to the Secretary for appointment.

### C. The 12-State Rule (also referred to as the “duplicate state rule”):

1. The Pork Act requires that the number of states within the list of nominees submitted to the Secretary, coupled with the number of states represented by NPB Members who are not up for election, total at least 12 states plus importers.
  - Under this Rule, there cannot be more than three states having two members each on the Pork Board, plus nine states with one member each.
  - Or, one state with three members and one state with two members, plus 10 states with one member each.
2. Pork Act Delegate policy is to submit to the Secretary a list of nominees ranked by delegate preference and structured so that there are no impediments, such as the 12-State Rule, to the Secretary's ability to appoint the top-six ranked nominees without altering their ranked order (the “Top-six List”). While the above is Delegate policy, it is understood that the Secretary has the authority to appoint any six of the 10 candidates in any order from the submitted list of nominees.

## 8. Election Procedures

**Ranking:** During voting, ALL candidates on the ballot must be ranked in order of preference. A majority vote (more than half) is necessary for each elected nominee. Delegates will be notified through the Pork Events app of the ballot results. The ranking and shares-total of candidates not elected on a ballot will not be announced.

Delegates will vote as many times as necessary to develop a ranked nominee list of 10 to submit to the Secretary to fill the vacant/expiring NPB member terms. Nominees will be ranked by shares received within each vote/ballot. Those receiving a majority on the first ballot will be ranked higher than those receiving a majority on a subsequent ballot, assuming the 12-State Rule is met.

When 10 candidates have received a majority shares vote, the 1½ Rule will be satisfied and further voting to gain a majority for all candidates may not be required. At this time, the Elections Committee will review the final list to ensure that the 10 selected nominees meet the 12-State Rule and the top-six can be appointed in the order ranked by delegates without change. Five of these selected nominees shall serve a three-year term and one will serve a two-year term.

## Validating the National Pork Board Nominees List

**Step 1:** If the 12-State requirement has not been met within the Top-six list of nominees, plus the NPB members not up for election, then the Committee will do the following:

- A. Remove the lowest ranking “duplicate state” nominee or importer nominee from the Top-six list.
- B. Add the next available “new state” nominee (from the previous ballot or current ballot) to the Top-six list, if that person had a majority vote. If the most current ballot had no “new state” nominee with a majority vote, then another ballot would be necessary.
- C. Insert the previously removed “duplicate state” nominee in the first available slot where the 12-State Rule is no longer a relevant issue.

**Step 2:** The Elections Committee will give this revised list of nominees to the Delegate Body Chair and explain all rank order changes to the Delegate Body. The delegates will then be asked to approve this revised list. Any such adjustment to the list must have final approval by Pork Act Delegates through adoption of the final slate, in proper order, upon a majority vote. Upon adoption of the final slate by the Delegate Body by a majority vote, all candidates will be submitted as having been elected by a majority vote.

Computer records must be preserved by the Recording Secretary for a period of at least 60 days after the close of the Annual Meeting.

### 9. Voting Procedures

- A. A computing system will be utilized to count and tabulate voting shares.
- B. Each delegate will have the opportunity to download the Pork Events app from the respective app stores on their smart device. Any delegate who would like a device assigned to them for the purpose of voting may visit the registration desk and a device will be assigned.
- C. For each ballot, a slate of candidates will be listed, including the candidate’s name and state (or importer representation).
- D. Delegates must rank all candidates presented on each respective ballot in order of that Delegate’s preference.
  1. Voting on candidates: Delegates will be notified through the Pork Events app when voting opens. Delegates will submit ballots during the open voting period and may change their ranking up until the time voting closes as notified through the Pork Events app.
  2. The following steps will be completed for the vote:
    - a. First, delegates will be notified through the Pork Events app that voting is open.
    - b. Delegates will access the ballot(s) by selecting the Vote icon within the app.
    - c. Delegates will select a ballot from the list of ballots currently open.
    - d. Delegates will identify their preferred ranking by selecting a desired rank number for each candidate. A rank number can be selected by using the drop-down box to the right of the candidate’s name, or by pressing, holding and dragging to the left of the candidate’s name.
    - e. Delegates may change their submitted ranking up until the time the ballot closes.
    - f. Voting will close at the designated time for the ballot as previously communicated to delegates.
    - g. Delegates will be notified within the Pork Events app of the ballot results.
  3. Voting on issues using the Pork Events app: A question will be presented which will require a YES or NO vote.
    - a. Similar to a candidate vote, delegates will be instructed to use the Vote icon within the Pork Events app.
    - b. Delegates will see a list of open ballots and will select the ballot indicating a YES/NO.
    - c. Delegates will select either YES or NO and then use the Submit button to make their vote count.
    - d. The Chair will declare the vote closed.