

Election Rules

For the MPFFU's 56th Biennial Convention

1. The reading and the adoption of these Election Rules shall be done no later than 4 pm on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 5, 2026 and will be immediately followed by the nominations for the office of MPFFU President, Secretary-Treasurer, District Vice Presidents and Trustees.
2. For nominations for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Trustee, there will be one nominating speech per candidate of no more than three (3) minutes. No second is needed. If there is only one candidate for an office, that candidate will be declared elected, and his/her name will not appear on a ballot.
3. Individuals nominated for office must be a member in good standing of a Local Union which itself is an affiliated member in good standing of the MPFFU.
4. All Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union officers who are delegates at large by virtue of their offices are eligible to participate in the nomination of candidates and the election of officers for the positions of President and Secretary-Treasurer and for the positions of Vice President and Trustee for the district or region their home local is located.
5. If competing candidates are nominated for either the MPFFU President and/or the MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer position, each of the candidates will be permitted to address the Convention, at the conclusion of the nomination process, for fifteen (15) minutes with respect to their qualifications. Speaking order will be decided by lot. Candidates for the office of Secretary-Treasurer will speak first.
6. Candidates must notify the Secretary-Treasurer, in writing, by 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, if they wish to withdraw from the election process. After 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, ballots will be printed with the names of all duly nominated candidates appearing thereon, with a selection box next to the name of each candidate.
7. One (1) ballot will be printed for each office and distributed to all qualified delegates containing the names of all duly nominated candidates who are proposed for each office: President, Secretary-Treasurer, District Vice President, and Trustee.
8. The Election shall proceed under the direction of the Election Committee. The election shall be conducted by a secret ballot vote of duly accredited delegates, or alternates replacing delegates, whose names appear on the list certified by the Credentials Committee's and accepted by the convention delegates.

- 42 9. Candidates for a contested office shall be permitted to appoint an observer to witness the
43 balloting and an observer to witness the tabulation of ballots. The names of the observers
44 shall be submitted, in writing, to the Chairman of the Election Committee by 12pm on
45 Wednesday, May 6, 2026, in the Convention office.
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- 47 10. Election of all Officers shall be conducted on Wednesday, May 6, 2026. The exact time the
48 that the polls shall open, and close will be announced from the podium by the Election
49 Chairman. It is anticipated that voting will begin at approximately 4:00pm and the polls will
50 remain open until the closing time that is announced by the Elections Committee. Those
51 standing in line at the announced closing time will be permitted to vote.
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- 53 11. The official voting place will be in an area designated and announced by the Election
54 Committee. THERE SHALL BE NO CAMPAIGNING WITHIN 50 FEET OF THE VOTING AREA.
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- 56 12. Each delegate must identify him/herself with his/her convention badge to receive a ballot
57 from a member of the Election Committee. As each delegate is given their ballot, his/her
58 name shall be checked off the list of authorized delegates that was certified by the
59 Credentials Committee and given to the Elections Committee.
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- 61 13. Voting by proxy will only be permitted in accordance with Article 5, Section 5 of the
62 Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Constitution and By-laws and if they were
63 delivered to the MPFFU office or postmarked on or before midnight, April 28, 2026.
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- 65 14. Proxy votes may only be cast for election of Officers, Convention Site Selection, and any roll
66 call votes taken at the Convention.
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- 68 15. If a Local does not register the maximum number of delegates to which it is entitled, any
69 registered delegate from that Local shall be authorized to cast, in addition to their own
70 vote, the votes of any unregistered delegates the Local was entitled to. A registered
71 delegate shall also be permitted to cast the vote of any registered delegate from their Local
72 who has left the convention prior to voting. The Local President or his designee must
73 notify the Election Committee when a delegate is casting a vote on behalf of an absent
74 registered delegate. Once a ballot has been issued for an absent delegate to another
75 member of the delegation, that absent delegate shall not be eligible to receive a ballot if
76 they return while the polls remain open. **Alternates shall not be permitted to receive a
77 ballot unless they have officially replaced a delegate and present a delegate badge issued
78 in their name to the Elections Committee.**
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- 80 16. After each delegate has been handed his/her ballot, they shall mark it in private by placing
81 a mark in the box next to the name of the candidate of his/her choice for that office. A
82 delegate may not vote for more than one (1) nominee for each office. Only duly nominated
83 candidates printed on the ballot may be voted for. Any write-in candidate will invalidate
84 the vote of such delegate for the office under which the write-in candidate's name appears.
85 After marking his/her ballot, the delegate shall deposit their ballot in the designated ballot
86 box.

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17. Only valid ballots shall be counted as ballots cast. A majority of all valid ballots cast shall be necessary for election to office. Write-in candidates will not be permitted and will void the ballot.
18. Prior to opening the polls, the Chairman of the Election Committee shall inquire from the observers present whether there is any objection or claimed irregularity regarding the election up to this point. If any such claim is made, it shall immediately be presented to and ruled upon by the Election Committee **prior** to opening the polls.
19. If there is any objection or claimed irregularity occurring **during the balloting process**, it must be made directly to the Chairman of the Election Committee who shall immediately suspend the voting process, clear the room, and present the claim to the Election Committee for an immediate ruling. Any challenged ballots shall be placed in a separate ballot box until the election committee rules on their validity. After the committee makes its ruling, voting will then resume.
20. Immediately upon the closing of the balloting, the Chairman of the Election Committee shall inquire from the observers present whether there is any objection or claimed irregularity occurring prior to or during the balloting. If any such claim is made, it shall immediately be presented to and ruled upon by the Election Committee **prior** to the tabulation of the ballots. **Objections or claims of irregularity that occurred prior to or during the balloting will not be considered once the tabulation of the ballots begins.**
21. Upon the closing of the balloting and having ruled on all objections, if any, the Election Committee will proceed with tabulation of the ballots.
22. The Election Committee shall have exclusive control over the tabulation of ballots and only the Election Committee and appointed observers shall be permitted to be present while the tabulation is taking place. **All Election Committee members and observers shall remain in the room until the time of the announcement of the results of the election to the delegates. All Election Committee members and observers are prohibited from using their cell phones or other electronic devices until the announcement of the results has been made to the delegates.**
23. Ballots which are clearly void, or are questionable, shall not be tabulated and shall be placed in a separate receptacle for consideration and decision by the Election Committee. Ballots which are finally declared void shall be kept separate from the valid ballots and shall be tabulated separately as invalid ballots.
24. Upon completion of the tabulation, the total vote for each candidate shall be placed next to his/her name on the pre-printed tabulation form for recording the tabulation of ballots.
25. **Any objection or claim of irregularity following tabulation of the ballots shall be made to the Chairman of the Election Committee and ruled upon prior to the announcement of**

132 the results of the election.

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134 26. If there is a tie vote or if no candidate receives a majority of valid ballots cast on the first
135 ballot, all but the three leading candidates shall be dropped, and the balloting shall
136 continue. If there were only three candidates on the first ballot and none received a
137 majority of the ballots cast, the lowest candidate shall be dropped, and the balloting will
138 continue until one (1) candidate receives a majority of valid ballots cast. There will be a
139 minimum of thirty-minutes between each balloting. Additional time may be required in
140 order to complete the process of printing and copying new ballots and delegate checkoff
141 lists. If a tie vote occurs in the final ballot for any office, one additional vote will take place.
142 If a tie remains, the winning candidate will be selected by the drawing of lots in the
143 presence of both candidates.

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145 27. Prior to announcing the voting results, the Chairman of the Election Committee shall make
146 his/her report on any objections or claims of irregularity which have been raised. Any
147 appeals to decisions made by the Election Committee must be made at this time. The
148 Chairman of the Elections Committee shall then announce the results of the election. The
149 presiding officer of the Convention shall then announce the results as official, final, and
150 conclusive.

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152 28. The Chairman of the Election Committee shall give all ballots and other election records to
153 the MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer who shall retain them for one year and then destroy them
154 by shredding them.

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156 Submitted by: Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Executive Board

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158 Presented by: Chairman of the Election Committee

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160 Convention Action: