



**Bylaws and Rules**  
**of the**  
**New Jersey**  
**Libertarian Party**

Amended July 11, 2009



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## Bylaws

### 1. Name

The name of this association shall be the New Jersey Libertarian Party, hereinafter referred to as “NJLP,” and the association shall be incorporated under Title 15A of the laws of the State of New Jersey. The NJLP is a membership corporation without capital stock and is incorporated for liability purposes.

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of the NJLP is to organize the means for promoting Libertarian ideas and institutions. Specifically, the NJLP is a political organization organized and operated primarily for the purpose of achieving or otherwise influencing the selection, nomination, election or appointment of Libertarian candidates to federal, state, county, municipal, or regional public or political office; the election of Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors; and the passage or defeat of public questions.

### 3. Fiscal Policy

The NJLP may directly and indirectly accept contributions and make expenditures, as defined by Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The NJLP may also engage in public education, member education and civic affairs and shall administer separate Segregated Funds for the purpose of engaging in exempt functions as defined by Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Funds operated for the purpose of influencing the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of Libertarians to public office of the state or of a New Jersey county, municipality or school district or to aid or propose passage or defeat of public questions in any New Jersey election shall be called the NJLP State Fund or State Fund.

Funds operated for the purpose of influencing the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of Libertarians to federal office or as electors for President and Vice-President shall be called the NJLP Federal Fund or Federal Fund.

Funds operated to indirectly support the activities of the State and Federal Funds in accordance with NJLP's exempt function under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code shall be called the General Fund.

The NJLP may establish a non-exempt fund for the purpose of raising and expending funds to engage in non-exempt secondary purposes. The non-exempt fund shall be called the NEF. NEF may not be commingled with the exempt funds of the NJLP.

The General Fund, the Federal Fund, and the State Fund shall be maintained separately. However, General Funds may be used to administer the Federal and State Fund in accordance with Federal and State Law (specifically but not limited to FEC and ELEC regulations) governing expenditure of Corporation funds for the administration of Segregated Funds.

#### **4. Statement of Principles and Platform**

- a. The Statement of Principles affirms that philosophy upon which the NJLP is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it and this sentence may be amended only by a seven-eighths vote at the State Convention.
- b. The NJLP Platform shall consist of the Preamble, the Statement of Principles and the implementation of those principles in the form of planks, and any appropriate additional material. The presentation of each Plank shall subscribe to the following subdivisions:
  1. ISSUE, which shall be a statement of the reason why this subject is presented – the existence of a problem for the general population of New Jersey for which we believe we have a solution.
  2. PRINCIPLE, which shall be a statement of the specific implication of the Statement of Principles as it pertains to this ISSUE.

3. SOLUTION, which shall be a summary presentation of the way this ISSUE should be addressed from a libertarian perspective.
  4. TRANSITION, which shall be a presentation of some possible measures that might serve to get us closer to the SOLUTION, would relieve the immediate oppression specified in the ISSUE, or might make it easier to implement the SOLUTION.
- c. Amending the Platform shall require the following support, depending on the subdivision:
    1. The Preamble, ISSUE, PRINCIPLE, and SOLUTION shall require two-thirds (2/3) majority.
    2. TRANSITION and the remaining “additional material” stipulated in (b) shall require a simple majority.
    3. Deletion of any plank in its entirety shall require two-thirds (2/3) majority.
  - d. Discarding the Platform shall require a seven-eighths (7/8) majority.

## **5. Membership**

- a. Membership is open to anyone who lives or works in the state of New Jersey who certifies in writing that he or she opposes the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals. Thereafter, such a person shall become a member upon payment of dues to the NJLP.
- b. Members shall be furnished, upon request of the Treasurer, a copy of the membership list at reasonable cost of reproduction, provided that the private list may be used only for official NJLP business and may not be disclosed to any other organization or non-member individual.
- c. No member may spend or commit NJLP funds except as authorized by the Steering Committee, State Board, General Meeting or a State Convention.
- d. All NJLP officers, Steering Committee and State Board members, and other NJLP officials shall be NJLP members.

## **6. Meetings and Committees**

### **a. General Meetings**

1. General Meetings may be called by the State Chair, Steering Committee, or State Board, or by 5% of the entire NJLP membership plus five members.
2. At least two (2) weeks written notice shall be given for a General Meeting. General Meetings may be called as often as the notice requirements are met.
3. Any decision made by the Steering Committee or State Board may be appealed to the next General Meeting, where it may be overturned by a majority vote, except that no valid financial commitment made by the Steering Committee or State Board shall be repudiated.
4. A 2/3 vote at any General Meeting may remove any person from office in the NJLP, provided that notice of consideration of the removal of that person from office was included in the written notice of the General Meeting.
5. Full authority shall be vested in every General Meeting.

### **b. State Convention**

1. The State Convention is a special General Meeting with the sole power to set dues; to adopt, amend, or discard the NJLP Platform; and to elect the officers and three Steering Committee At-Large members. It shall be held once a year, no earlier than February 1 nor later than March 31, at the call of the Steering Committee or State Board.

If required by changes in New Jersey election law, the NJLP State Convention may be held up to five months early if summoned by the Steering Committee or State Board.

2. Delegates to the State Convention shall be chosen in accordance with written procedures which have been approved, without modification, by a 2/3 vote at two consecutive General Meetings. In the absence of such procedures, each member shall be deemed to be his or her own delegate without privilege of proxy.
3. There shall be no charge to members for participating in the business session of the State Convention.



4. Candidates for statewide office shall be nominated at the State Convention. In the absence of approved procedures for selecting candidates for other offices, such candidates may be nominated by the delegates.

**c. State Board**

1. The State Board shall consist of the Steering Committee and County Representatives.

2. The State Board shall have the authority to fill any offices or at-large Steering Committee vacancies.

3. The State Board shall meet at the call of the State Chair or 25% of its members at least four (4) times a year, some of which may be joint meetings with the Steering Committee. At least ten (10) days notice shall be given for each meeting, but lesser notice shall suffice if all members agree.

4. County members can select a Representative by any ballot procedure they choose and report the results to the NJLP Secretary, after which the elected Representative can take office. No election shall take place without 15 days prior notice having been made to all members in the county.

a. Only NJLP members residing or working in a county shall be eligible for their county's office of County Representative. Only NJLP members residing or working in a county may vote for their county's County Representative or serve as an alternate.

b. Each county may elect one County Representative.

c. The term of office for a County Representative shall be until the conclusion of the next State Convention or when the successors are elected.

d. A County Representative may be removed and replaced at any time, provided that only those individuals qualified to select the County Representative may participate in the decision to remove and replace the County Representative. The procedure for removal and replacement shall be as determined by the State Board. Replacement shall be for the duration of the unexpired term.

- e. Vacancies otherwise created shall be filled in a manner to be determined by the State Board. The replacement shall be for the duration of the unexpired term.
- f. The County Representative office for a county is not vacant if no County Representative has been elected to the position during annual elections.
- g. Representatives are expected to serve their counties by attending State Board meetings regularly. A Representative may designate in writing an alternate for a meeting in which the Representative cannot attend, and the designee shall count toward the quorum and be allowed to vote. Failure to attend two (2) Board meetings by a Representative or alternate during a term shall result in the Representative's seat being declared vacant. Vacancy takes effect upon the call of the roll at the beginning of the second missed State Board meeting.

5. State Board resolution(s) shall supersede conflicting Steering Committee resolution(s) when all material circumstances remain the same. When a quorum of the State Board is not met, a Steering Committee meeting may be held. Except where otherwise noted herein, the State Board and Steering Committee have equal authority to act for the NJLP between General Meetings. Wherever Steering Committee approval is specified, State Board approval shall suffice.

6. Each member of the State Board shall have one vote.

**d. Steering Committee**

1. The Steering Committee shall consist of the NJLP Officers and three at-large members elected by the State Convention for a term to expire at the conclusion of the next State Convention or when their successors are elected, plus any additional members chosen by petition.

2. The Steering Committee shall have full authority to act for the NJLP between General Meetings. The Steering Committee may approve expenditures, draft positions, and select candidates after the annual State Convention. It shall also approve the appoint-

ments made by the State Chair as provided herein. The Steering Committee shall prepare a non-binding budget for the NJLP for presentation at the State Convention. A financial review of the NJLP shall be conducted at least bi-annually under the direction of the Steering Committee and the results distributed at the subsequent State Convention.

3. The Steering Committee shall meet at the call of the State Chair or 25% of its members. At least 10 meetings per year shall be held, some of which may be joint meetings with the State Board.

4. At least ten (10) days notice shall be given for all meetings, but lesser notice shall suffice if all members agree.

5. Each voting member or delegate at the State Convention shall cast one vote for one, two, or three candidates for At-Large member. The three candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected with ties broken by run-off elections among those tied.

6. A Steering Committee member may designate in writing an alternate for a meeting in which the member cannot attend, and this designee shall count toward the quorum. The alternate may vote if the other Steering Committee members approve.

7. Steering Committee members chosen by petition shall be NJLP members who assume their posts by filing with the Secretary, a dated petition of appointment signed by at least 5% of the entire NJLP membership plus five (5) members. No member may sign more than one such petition at one time, and the member may remove his or her name at any time. Any Steering Committee member by petition whose support falls below the level noted above, whether by loss of signatures or growth of the NJLP, shall be notified and have until the next General Meeting to obtain sufficient signatures or else cease to be on the NJLP Steering Committee. In any event, such term will expire one year from the date of the petition or at the conclusion of the next State Convention, whichever comes last.

#### **e. Openness Policy**

All NJLP meetings are open to NJLP members, and such attendees may offer their comments on business of the meeting, if time permits.

On rare occasions when a meeting must deal with confidential matters, PART of a meeting may be closed for cause by a three-fourths vote. Members excluded by such an executive session shall be provided with an explanation for the exclusion, and the remaining meeting participants will provide a summary of actions decided to those excluded after the executive session is concluded.

Members of the public are usually welcomed to attend NJLP meetings as guests of NJLP members. Such guests may speak, if the members of the meeting by majority vote wish to hear the guest.

## **7. Officers**

The NJLP officers shall consist of the State Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. They shall be elected at the State Convention for a term to expire at the conclusion of the next State Convention or when their successors are elected. Any member of the NJLP eighteen years of age or older may be elected an Officer.

- a.** The State Chair, who shall be the President in accordance with Title 15A of the laws of the State of New Jersey, shall preside over all NJLP meetings; be general spokesperson for the NJLP; execute all resolutions by the Steering Committee, State Board and General Meetings; create and appoint standing and special committees (subject to the approval of the NJLP Steering Committee); and appoint or remove the Party Counsel and Newsletter Editor, both actions subject to the approval of the Steering Committee.
- b.** The Vice Chair shall assume the duties of the State Chair in that person's absence and generally assist the State Chair.
- c.** The Secretary shall maintain, record, and report minutes of all meetings, including the State Convention; carry out other duties as directed by the State Chair; and assume the duties of the Chair if that person and the Vice Chair are both unavailable.
- d.** The Treasurer shall maintain and make available proper financial records and report them to all meetings; prepare and submit any government or other financial or tax reports as required; maintain the NJLP membership list; and prepare and mail renewal notices.

## **8. Trustees**

The Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer together shall be the Trustees, and in that capacity shall have only that authority which is granted to the trustees of corporations not for profit under the laws of the State of New Jersey. Meetings of the Trustees may be called, with seven days' notice, by any Trustee. Two Trustees constitute a quorum.

## **9. Other Officials**

- a. Party Counsel, who shall be an attorney in New Jersey.
- b. Newsletter Editor, who must be a member of the NJLP.
- c. Webmaster, who must be a member of the NJLP.
- d. Announce e-list moderator, who must be a member of the NJLP.
- e. Activists e-list moderator, who must be a member of the NJLP.
- f. Candidates e-list moderator, who must be a member of the NJLP.
- g. Membership coordinator, who must be a member of the NJLP.

## **10. Affiliations**

- a. The NJLP shall be affiliated with the Libertarian Party.
- b. Any officer or NJLP official shall be deemed to have resigned if he or she is a candidate for office representing any political group other than the Libertarian Party in a partisan election.
- c. All candidates must be NJLP members and run under the designation of "Libertarian Party" in partisan elections. The NJLP Secretary shall provide written certification to pertinent election officials that approved NJLP candidates are authorized to run under that designation.
- d. Except as provided in Section 10, the NJLP has no affiliation with any organization designating itself as a Libertarian Party of a particular county or counties or of a particular municipality or municipalities. The NJLP may otherwise transact business with such Parties consistent with its Purpose.

## **11. County Organizations**

### **a. Composition**

There shall be twenty-one County Committees, corresponding to the twenty-one New Jersey counties. Each NJLP member in good standing shall be a member of the County Committee for the county of his or her residence. Voting shall be restricted to NJLP members.

### **b. Selection of Candidates Entirely Within the Jurisdiction of a County Committee**

During the county caucus at the State Convention, the county organization may nominate candidates for offices entirely within the jurisdiction of that county organization. The selected nominees shall be announced by the NJLP Secretary after the county officers have been announced. "None of the Above" may be nominated by affirmative action of the county caucus. Any affirmative nomination by a county caucus may be overturned only by that county organization. Failure to nominate a candidate for an office entirely within the jurisdiction of a county organization will leave such nomination open to be filled by the county organization or the NJLP Steering Committee at a later date. Any post-Convention nomination made by a county organization shall be ineffective until the county organization reports the candidates' names and public offices sought to the NJLP Steering Committee.

### **c. Selection of Officers of County Committees**

At a designated time during each State Convention, each committee shall caucus and elect a chair and a State Board representative, together with any other officers it may choose, from its membership, for terms to expire at the next State Convention. A person may be selected to hold more than one office, and need not be present at the State Convention in order to be elected, provided his or her consent is obtained.

By the close of the caucuses and resumption of regular State Convention business, the newly elected county chairs shall file with the NJLP Secretary the names and positions of those elected. Any County Committee not making such a filing shall be deemed to have chosen to remain inactive.

At a designated time, the NJLP Secretary shall report to the State Convention each County Committee which made a filing, the offices established and the officers selected. After the report, the NJLP chair shall ask the assembly for any objections to approval of the County Committees as reported. In the absence of an objection, the County Committees reported shall be approved as active County Committees. If there is objection, the counties not objected to shall be approved as active, and the approval of the remaining County Committees shall be debated and brought to a vote.

At every General Meeting that is not a State Convention, there shall be a time designated for inactive County Committees to caucus and elect officers. The caucusing, reporting, and approval procedures shall be done in the same manner as at a State Convention. The terms of any county officers elected shall expire at the next State Convention.

**d. Deactivation of County Committees**

At any General Meeting, any County Committee may be deactivated by a two-thirds vote, provided that prior notice of the intent to deactivate that county is included in the call of the meeting.

**e. Meetings of County Committees**

Unless and until an active County Committee adopts bylaws to the contrary, a County Committee shall i.) meet at the call of its chair, or upon petition of five percent, but no less than three, of its members; ii.) give prior notice of each meeting to each member of the County Committee; and iii.) govern its meetings according to the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order*. In no event shall the bylaws of any County Committee be inconsistent with those of the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

**f. Joint County Committees**

Two or more County Committees may caucus together at the State Convention, or meet together thereafter, and upon the separate resolution of each County Committee to be joined, may join together as a single County Committee. The members of each county within such joined County Committee shall nonetheless separately elect their own State Board representative. A county

may separate from a Joint Committee and be represented independently upon passage of a resolution to do so by the county members, election of county officers, and notification of the NJLP Secretary.

Any counties joined shall become separated at the next State Convention, unless those counties again resolve to be joined together.

**g. Powers of County Committees**

An active County Committee is authorized and encouraged to engage in any type of activity and hold any types of function that will foster and promote the tenets of the Libertarian Party. Specifically, an active County Committee --

- (1) shall be authorized to use the name "Libertarian Party" within its geographic region;
- (2) may issue and publicize official positions and statements of the Libertarian Party as they relate to issues and concerns within its geographic region; and
- (3) may select candidates for public office for political districts which lie entirely within its geographic region. County Committees may jointly select candidates by consent of the adjoining counties when districts encompass more than one county. Disputes between counties will be mediated by a member of the Steering Committee and, if necessary, resolved by vote of the Steering Committee. Candidates whose election districts have all or part of their area within counties lacking active County Committees must be approved at the State Convention.

A statement containing the name of each candidate and corresponding public office sought must be filed with the NJLP Secretary upon the selection being made. Upon confirmation that the candidate meets the selection conditions [sections 10.f(3) and 9.c], the NJLP Secretary shall certify that the candidate is authorized to run under the designation "Libertarian Party."

**12. Implementation**

- a. The Steering Committee shall have the authority to adopt rules to implement these Bylaws and the Certificate of Incorporation.



Such rules may be adopted, amended, or abolished by any General Meeting.

- b. Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws and the Certificate of Incorporation, the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern all NJLP meetings.

### **13. Quorum**

- a. Unless otherwise specified, a majority of the members of any NJLP committee or board constitute a quorum for that committee or board.
- b. A quorum for the State Convention shall be 15 delegates.
- c. A quorum for any other General Meeting shall be 15 NJLP members.
- d. County Committees may set their own quorum requirements.

### **14. Vote**

Unless otherwise specified, the number of votes required (such as two-thirds, majority, *etc.*) to carry a motion is determined by those voting with abstentions not counted.

### **15. Amendments**

- a. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of any General Meeting provided notice of the proposed amendments has been given in the notice for the meeting.
- b. Except for the Statement of Principles, as defined elsewhere, the NJLP Platform may be amended by a two-thirds vote at the State Convention. Written notice of the modifications proposed must be given to all members in accordance with notice requirements stated elsewhere in these Bylaws.
- c. The Certificate of Incorporation may be amended by 2/3 vote of the entire membership at any General Meeting.
- d. Written notice of the proposed amendments to these Bylaws, the Statement of Principles, or the NJLP Platform planks shall include the proposed text deletions, insertions, and additions.

## **16. Dissolution**

The Steering Committee has the authority to propose to dissolve the NJLP, and following such proposal to present to the membership a plan of dissolution in accordance with Title 15A of the laws of the State of New Jersey. Such presentation shall be made at a General Meeting.

## **17. Ratification**

These Bylaws shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Additional resolution to allow clerical adjustments:

**Resolved**, that the NJLP Secretary be authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the NJLP Convention in connection with any amendments.

Certified by the Secretary (at the General Meeting of March 31, 2009), April 10, 2009.



## Convention Rules

### 1. Definition of Delegate to State Convention

Delegates to the NJLP State Convention shall consist of all NJLP members attending who were members on the first day of the month preceding the month when the Convention is held.

### 2. Convention Business Protocol

#### a. Preparation

To expedite the annual NJLP Convention business session, NJLP officers and committee Chairs will present or by the Convention will have transmitted printed materials to all State Convention participants about these items:

Description	Author
Minutes of prior meeting	NJLP Secretary
Treasurer's report & NJLP Annual Budget	NJLP Treasurer
Proposed NJLP Bylaws or Platform amendments and other proposals for member action	As indicated

#### b. No formal readings

Given the availability of written documents to all members, there will be no formal reading of any of the above items. Members are expected to have read and reviewed their handouts upon receipt and any member's questions will be welcome afterwards. No item of business scheduled for discussion at the Convention will have escaped thorough review and evaluation by NJLP committees and usually more than one review cycle will have occurred.

#### c. Discussion limits

Because excessive discussion will impede reasonable progress in the meeting, members should confine their comments to items being debated. Each speaker is limited to one minute (60 seconds) to comment on a motion. No speaker will comment again when other members who have not spoken desire the floor. Nonmembers may

attend the meeting as members' guests, but they may not participate in discussion. (Members present may by two-thirds [2/3] affirmative vote permit brief informative comment from guests.)

**d. Agenda priorities and timetable**

The Agenda constitutes Standing Orders for the day's business. Any member may "Call for the Orders of the Day" to enforce the Agenda timetable whenever it is not being followed. Upon this action, all outstanding motions must immediately be voted on in pending order, unless the membership by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote decides to continue debate or modify the Agenda.

Times designated on the Agenda are considered "on or before" designation, except for the Call to Order and Adjournment. That is, any item may be acted upon prior to its time if the previous business is completed, but pending business must be completed by vote (previous paragraph) when the next agenda item's time to begin is reached.

**e. Amendment of Convention Rules**

An NJLP Convention Rule or portion thereof may only be suspended by a 2/3 vote of the delegates, except Convention Rule 1 (Definition of Delegate to State Convention), which shall not be suspended.

**3. Election Procedure for Filling Identical Positions (Steering Committee Members At-Large, Delegates to National Convention, for example)**

- a. Qualification for election and service: NJLP members only.
- b. On a given ballot, a member shall cast one vote for any number of candidates up to the total number left to be elected. Any ballot containing more candidates than allowed is **invalid** and disqualified. Ranking vote totals for each candidate decides election.
- c. None of the Above (NOTA) means rejection of **all** candidates only. If a ballot contains **NOTA** plus candidate name(s), **NOTA** is ignored.
- d. Ties for lowest position(s) will be decided by another vote on remaining candidates. This step will be repeated until all position(s) are decided.

#### 4. Delegate/Alternate Seating Procedure for National LP Convention

- a. **First Alternates:** Candidates for delegate who were not elected delegates shall lead the list of alternates.
- b. **Additional Alternates:** Shall be selected according to written notices by eligible volunteers received at or before (30 days before national LP deadline) NJLP meeting. Upon reaching national LP limit of 50 total alternates, earliest postmark of candidate's letter will be used to end listings.
- c. At any time when the total NJLP delegates and alternates present on the National Convention floor does not exceed the total NJLP delegate allotment, all alternates so present shall be deemed properly designated to function as delegates.
- d. When the number does exceed the allotment, the total number of alternates sufficient to raise the delegation to its allotment shall automatically be designated in accordance with the "Order of Alternates" (below).
- e. **Order of Alternates:** First Alternates shall be seated in order of rank in votes received in the final NJLP Convention vote for delegates with tie votes resolved by lot. Additional Alternates shall be seated as voted by the delegates and alternates already then seated.
- f. The NJLP Convention gives full authority to the NJLP delegation to decide procedural matters at the national LP Convention.





## Business Rules

(This section parallels the Bylaws. Not every Bylaws sub-section has a corresponding Rule. The date printed with each rule identifies the original date of adoption.)

### 1. Name

### 2. Purpose

The Party will not challenge any candidate's nomination petitions. (04/10/88)

It is not generally within the purpose of the NJLP to judge the legal activities of its members or officers, provided that such activities do not directly affect the Party. (01/16/94)

Any candidate for public office (except President or Vice-President) who identifies himself or herself as a Libertarian on the ballot and/or who receives the endorsement of the NJLP must be a current member of the NJLP. (03/22/97)

The NJLP welcomes candidates of all 3 levels of commitment – Trademark, Impact, and Challenge – defined as follows:

- Trademark: on the ballot only with no commitment by the candidate to campaign or spend money.
- Impact: Candidate involvement and campaign expected to make a noticeable vote difference in the election (more than the typical third party [ $<1\%$ ] and possibly of the magnitude of the difference between old party votes.)
- Challenge: Major election effort expended to defeat at least one of the "major" party rivals. At a minimum, the LP candidate's campaign expects to spend more money, organize more volunteers, or make more appearances than his opponents.

The purposes of each of these three levels of candidacy are:

- Trademark: Get the Libertarian Party name on the ballot to bolster party recognition and to assist ballot position where there is a slate of NJLP candidates.
- Impact: Procure a "wedge" of votes (goal of 3% or more) to shake up the Demopublican establishment and to develop "our" issues for disenfranchised voters to record their disaffection with the

status quo. Also useful to foster individual candidate development, and promote county party activism and develop local contacts and issues.

- Challenge: Notable election achievement where “minor” local party bests “major” rival and may even win office. Superior NJLP candidate and campaign organization may lead to greater success in the future. (12/19/98)

Pursuant to New Jersey Election Law, no candidate for state or local office may participate in the management or control of the NJLP State Fund. (07/9/05)

### **3. Fiscal Policy**

NJLP Expense Reimbursement Policy:

The NJLP will reimburse the reasonable and necessary expenses of its members when they undertake activities authorized by the Steering Committee, the State Board, or a General Meeting. Expenses must be documented.

Minor expenses not exceeding \$100.00 may be authorized by the Chair.

Examples of reasonable and necessary expenses include the following items:

- Photocopying, printing, tolls, postage, parking, phone calls, and faxes.
- Mileage: per IRS rules.
- Meals: up to \$10 per person for lunch and breakfast, \$20 for dinner.

Examples of items not normally reimbursed include (coverage for the following may be granted for some of the items on a case by case basis through prior review and approval):

- Auto fuel: already included in the standard mileage allowance.
- Insurance (auto and personal liability), parking tickets and other violations are the responsibility of the individual.
- Time: “volunteer: is assumed, unless prior agreement is made.
- Car rental.



- Alcoholic beverages.
- Legal expenses.
- Lodging.
- Political campaign expenses: campaign expenses must pay for these, not NJLP General Funds.
- NJLP committee meeting expenses: National LP and NJLP Convention charges, meals, and travel costs are covered by the individual member.

The reimbursement policy should not be interpreted as requiring NJLP volunteers to submit their expenses for reimbursement. (12/12/99, amended 06/16/01 to increase the Chair's approval amount from \$40 to \$100.)

#### **4. Statement of Principles and Platform**

#### **5. Membership**

"Opposes" and "Does not believe in or advocate" are equivalent as they relate to the membership certification requirement. (05/23/92)

No language intending to represent the certification for membership shall be used on NJLP membership forms unless it is first approved by the Steering Committee. (07/03/92)

Prospect list shall be archived every six months and prospects shall receive three months of newsletter mailings. A list of archived prospects to be sorted by county is to be distributed to the respective County Committees. (08/08/92)

Only Libertarians may receive State Funds disbursements. (04/08/95)

The NJLP will provide a regular one-year NJLP membership to candidates who achieve ballot status. (6/12/05)

#### **6. Meetings and Committees**

#### **7. Officers**

- a. These Standing Rules shall be published and maintained by the Secretary in the same manner as the Bylaws. (11/09/03)

- b. For every party office voted upon by the membership, “None of the Above (NOTA)” shall be a choice on the ballot. (03/23/85)
- c. The Treasurer shall mail renewal notices annually to each member and shall annually provide notice of renewal dates to the County Committees. (03/29/92)
- d. The membership coordinator is authorized to receive and deposit membership and newsletter remittance checks, for the purpose of keeping the NJLP database current. (03/22/97)

## 8. Trustees

## 9. Other Officials

- a. Party Counsel.
- b. Newsletter Editor.

The newsletter shall not publish personal attacks. (12/12/81)

The Roster of State Representatives and County chairs shall be published in the newsletter four times per year. (03/28/92)

Budget members will receive their 4 newsletter issues in January, March, June, and October. (04/25/92)

- c. Webmaster.
- d. Postings to [Announce@njlp.org](mailto:Announce@njlp.org) are open to NJLP members only. Subscriptions are automatically approved. [Announce@njlp.org](mailto:Announce@njlp.org) is intended to be the NJLP’s conduit to the online community. It is not a place for discussion of the items posted there. It would be appropriate, however, to post corrections to them. The following items would be considered acceptable on this list:
  - Announcements of meetings of the NJLP, County organizations, or other events that would be of interest to NJLP members.
  - Press releases from NJLP.
  - Requests for assistance or donations to NJLP projects. (04/18/99)
- e. [Activists@njlp.org](mailto:Activists@njlp.org) is open to NJLP members, and to non-members by invitation. The list moderator must approve subscriptions. [Activists@njlp.org](mailto:Activists@njlp.org) is intended as a place to coordinate and discuss the activities of the activists in the NJLP. (04/18/99)
- f. [Candidates@njlp.org](mailto:Candidates@njlp.org) is open to NJLP members who are candidates for public office and their supporters. The list moderator must approve

subscriptions. The candidate should submit supporter's subscriptions. [Candidates@njlp.org](mailto:Candidates@njlp.org) is intended to be a place for the various campaigns to coordinate their activities and assist one another in campaign-related activities. (04/18/99)

## **10. Affiliations**

## **11. County Organizations**

County Dues Share: the NJLP allocates \$5 per member per year to active county organizations that have a treasurer and bank account, membership figures to be based on those who were members on the first day of the month preceding the month when the State Convention is held, and paid before the end of the month following the State Convention. (02/18/01)

## **12. Implementation**

## **13. Quorum**

## **14. Vote**

## **15. Amendments**

These Standing Business Rules can be suspended, rescinded, or amended, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, by the State Board, Steering Committee, or the membership, regardless of which body initially enacted them. (11/09/03)

## **16. Dissolution**

## **17. Ratification**



## Revision History

(References are updated to reflect current article, section, and sub-section numbers.)

Date	Action
July 11, 2009	Amended at General Meeting, South River  Move reimbursement policy from Officers Business Rule to Fiscal Policy Business Rule.
March 31, 2009	Amended at General Meeting, Plainsboro, NJ  1. Remove "Inc." from name 2. Create new Article 3: Fiscal Policy 3. Enhance protection of Statement of Principles (Article 4, Section a).
March 15, 2008	Amended at General Meeting, Malvern, PA:  1. Bylaws 6.d.7 sunset provision for at-large by petition members. 2. Rule 2 changed to exempt Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates from membership requirement. 3. Rule 5 changed to count time length of prospect newsletters rather than count.
March 24, 2007	Amended at General Meeting, Atlantic City:  1. Bylaws 4b enhanced for Reformatted Platform, 4c and 4d added to specify amendment mechanism.
November 20, 2005	Amended at General Meeting, New Brunswick:  1. 5.a Eliminate adoption of National members. 2. Convention Rule 2e added: Allow suspension of Convention Rules except definition of Delegates to Annual Convention.
July 9, 2005	Amended at General Meeting, South River:  1. 6.c.4.c, 6.d.1, 7: clarify length of terms of officers and other Steering Committee members. 2. Business Rule 9: Remove the specific assignment of the current e-list moderator. 3. 6.d.2: correct inconsistency "give advice and consent to" -> "approve" appointments made by the Chair. 4. Business Rule 2: pursuant to NJ law, exclude state and local candidates from control of State Fund. 5. 6.c.5: clarify that State Board approval will suffice where Steering Committee approval is required. 6. New 6.e: incorporate explicit statement of Openness Policy. 7. 9: list additional officials and limitation (to NJLP members). 8. 6.d.2: require regular financial review with report to Convention.
June 12, 2005	Steering Committee (Marlboro) added rule providing a 1-year membership (extension) to candidates who achieve ballot status.

November 9, 2003	Amended at General Meeting, New Brunswick: Outstanding resolutions formally incorporated as Business Rules
April 8, 2003	Clerical corrections approved by Steering Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11.g, at the end of paragraph enumerated (3), the term "NJLP Convention" changed to "State Convention," which is the term applied everywhere else in the Bylaws for that event.</li> <li>Rule for Delegate/Alternate Seating Procedure for National LP Convention, paragraph (3): inserted "NJLP" after "total" in both instances (clarification), and changed "State Convention" to "National Convention" (correct term).</li> </ol>
March 9, 2002	Amended in Convention, Hightstown: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.b.1 – enabling the Nominating Convention – removed, undoing change #1 of September 19, 1999.</li> <li>Completely rewrote 8 to appoint Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer as Trustees.</li> <li>11.b added to define priority of county organizations in selecting county candidates.</li> <li>6.a.5 added; 6.b.1 amended to recognize State Convention as a General Meeting with reserved powers; removed 6.b.3 and 6.b.4; 6.c and 6.d swapped, to define State Board before Steering Committee; and 5.c, 7.a, 15.a, 15.c, and 16 amended to refer to General Meetings rather than State Convention and General Meetings.</li> </ol>
September 19, 1999	Amended at General Meeting, New Brunswick: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.b.1 amended to enable nominating convention, and scheduling of State Convention up to five months early.</li> <li>Rule adopted defining State Convention delegates.</li> </ol>
March 27, 1999	Amended in Convention, Hightstown:  Section 10 County Committees added to improve accountability and operations of County organizations; 13d added and 8d revised; 12c, 12d, 12e deleted as obsolete.
March 15, 1998	Amended in Convention, Somerset: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replacement of 6.c.4 by section allowing County members to use any method they choose to select their Representative to the State Board, rather than having the Steering Committee stipulate written ballot procedures; and</li> <li>Adoption of Standing Convention Rules.</li> </ol>
July 12, 1997	Amended at General Meeting, Morganville:

		6.c.4.g added to explain what is expected of the County Representative; 6.c.4.a amended to specify eligibility to serve as alternate.
March 16, 1996		Amended in Convention, Woodbridge: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Addition of Section 3: Statement of Principles and Platform;</li> <li>2. 15.b: Addition of stipulation of procedure for amending Statement of Principles and Platform; and</li> <li>3. 6.a.4: Modification of the determination of relation between State Board and Steering Committee, reduction of majority needed for General Meeting to overturn a decision of the Steering Committee or State Board from 2/3.</li> </ol>
February 1994	27,	Amended in Convention, Trenton: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2: Bring Bylaws in line with current (tax) law;</li> <li>2. 16: Reword section defining dissolution procedure to recognize authority for dissolution in membership;</li> <li>3. 6.c.4: Impose greater autonomy on county organizations; and</li> <li>4. 6.c: Change State Committee to State Board, reflective of greater county autonomy.</li> </ol>
July 5, 1993		Amended at General Meeting, Morganville: <p>6.d.7: Reduce the number of signatures required to elect an At-Large member of the Steering Committee by petition from (10%+10) to (5%+5).</p>
July 3, 1992		Amended at General Meeting, Morganville: <p>5.a: Reword the certification requirement to match National LP wording.</p>
March 7, 1992		Amended in Convention, Edison: <p>5.a: Adopt National LP members as NJLP Budget members.</p>
July 6, 1991		Amended at General Meeting, Morganville: <p>13.b,c: Reduce General Meeting quorum from 5% to 15 members.</p>
March 9, 1991		Amended in Convention, New Brunswick: <p>6.a.1: Reduce number required to call a General Meeting from (10%+5) to (5%+5).</p>
November 1988	8,	Amended at General Meeting, New Brunswick: <p>Addition to 6.d.2: Require Steering Committee to submit an annual budget at the Convention.</p>
March 13, 1982		Adopted in Convention, Point Pleasant Beach: <p>Re-arrangement of the Bylaws of 1980.</p>



## Notes



## **New Jersey Libertarian Party**

P. O. Box 56  
Tennent, New Jersey 07763  
(800) 201-NJLP

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Dan Karlan  
97 Manhattan Ave.  
Waldwick, New Jersey 07463-2228