



MEDIA *Fest* 22

Delegates Meeting Schedule

Opening Business Meeting: Thursday, October 27, 4:30 p.m. EDT

Closing Business Meeting: Saturday, October 29, 3:30 p.m. EDT

Grand Hyatt, Washington D.C.

Standing Rules of Convention

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATES

Each chapter and region can designate voting delegate(s) to represent its chapter or region at the national convention. Any voting delegate must have been a member of the national Society of Professional Journalists for a minimum of 30 days prior to the national convention (in 2022 this means membership must have been active by Sept. 27, 2022). Associate members are not eligible to serve as delegates. Delegates need to be on-site to participate and cast a vote. Should an emergency, health or otherwise, cause the delegate to miss the session, an accredited alternate can attend in their place. Delegates are encouraged to be registered attendees for MediaFest22, but if not, can attend the business sessions only and no other activities.

If a chapter/region has four votes, it can have four delegates; or it can designate one delegate to cast all votes. The number of members in a chapter/region determines the number of votes. For every 50 members, or fraction thereof, as determined by a count of members at national headquarters, a chapter/region is eligible for one vote. If a chapter/region designates fewer delegates than the number of votes that are authorized, the votes will be apportioned among the designated delegates. Once a delegate is assigned a certain number of votes, the delegate must cast that same number of votes throughout the session.

Each delegate may have an accredited alternate delegate (verified in the same way as the designated delegate) to vote in the absence of the designated delegate. The alternate delegates are made known to headquarters in advance of the convention. An alternate delegate will vote with the same number of votes as the delegate represented. An accredited delegate from the chapter may, in the absence of another delegate, serve as an alternate for that delegate. Annual reports to qualify a chapter for voting will NOT BE accepted at convention.

VOTING PROCEDURES

Only accredited delegates and alternates voting in place of accredited delegates may enter the delegates seating area. Others will be asked to leave.

Votes are cast by each delegate holding up the voting card that indicates the number of votes he or she has. A delegate may cast a split vote, dividing the number of votes held by the delegate, but only by leaving the seating area and moving to a microphone in the aisle before votes are counted.

In the event of ambiguity regarding the will of the convention, a roll call vote may be called. Chapter/ regional delegates will reply to the call by holding up their voting card to cast their votes or announcing verbally the options of “yes,” “no,” or “abstain.”

Per the SPJ Bylaws: *“Delegates cannot vote by proxy. National officers and members of the board of directors who are not delegates may not vote. In case of a tie, the presiding officer shall cast the deciding vote. Representatives of chapters/regions who are not accredited as delegates may not vote.”*

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

The president runs the meeting. The sergeant-at-arms is deputized by the president to keep order on the floor. Volunteers will assist in tallying votes. Only registered delegates and national board members may address business sessions of the convention. Others may speak only by permission of the convention. To guarantee accuracy, all main motions and motions to amend must be submitted in writing to the presiding officer (the national president) prior to the main business session.

Delegates may leave the meeting and re-enter but will only be allowed back in once the confirmation process is completed again.

The meeting will be live streamed on SPJ’s YouTube channel so anyone who is not a delegate may watch. Those non-delegates on site in Washington, D.C., will be able to watch the meeting from a designated gallery.

Convention Resolutions Information

RESOLUTIONS REVIEW

Resolutions may be submitted by a delegate or chapter in good standing with the national organization, or by a national SPJ committee.

All resolutions must be submitted to Resolutions Committee Chairman Michael Savino by 8 p.m. EDT on Oct. 27, via email to michael.a.savino@gmail.com. Delegates will receive information shortly after informing them when copies of resolutions will be available to download, and a URL to retrieve them.

RESOLUTIONS REVIEW

Resolutions reviewed and submitted by the Resolutions Committee for consideration by Convention delegates will be available for review after noon EDT Oct. 29. Stop by the Registration Desk to pick up a copy of the resolutions in advance of Saturday afternoon’s Business Meeting, which will include voting on resolutions. Resolutions are also available via the MediaFest22 app.

VOTING INFORMATION

Resolutions will be considered by the delegates during the Closing Business Meeting at 3:30 p.m. EDT Oct. 29.

By-Laws Amendments

[Read this year's proposed bylaws amendments.](#)