



## SUPREME CONVENTION INDIANA DELEGATE NOMINATING CAUCUS

Gil Spisak, State Advocate – Indiana State Council

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Diocesan caucus is to elect FIVE (5) delegates to represent the Indiana Jurisdiction at the Supreme Convention. Indiana is entitled to ten (10) delegates to the Supreme Convention. This is the maximum number permitted from any jurisdiction. The State Deputy and Immediate Past State Deputy are delegates by virtue of their office. The State Secretary will be a delegate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of his term to prepare him for his State Deputy Duties. One delegate will be selected by our Financial Secretaries Association at their meeting on Saturday of the State Convention.

Indiana has been divided into the FIVE DIOCESE areas with all councils assigned to one of the areas for the purpose of selecting the FIVE (5) diocesan delegates. Delegates elected by their Diocesan Caucus or Financial Secretaries meeting will be representing the Knights of Columbus Indiana Jurisdiction at the Supreme Convention and NOT as a delegate of their Diocese or the Financial Secretaries Association that elected them. There will not be an “At-Large” election or an election for alternates.

The State Deputy and Immediate State Officers (IPSD, SS, ST, SA, and SW) will select an outstanding District Deputy (DD) to be a Delegate for the Indiana Jurisdiction to the Supreme Convention. To qualify as a DD selection, the DD must attain 100% of his Districts membership goal by April 1<sup>st</sup> and have met expectations required as a DD. The DD must prove a reliable leader and dedicated Knight and should have his councils up-to-date on required duties, responsibilities, and paperwork.

In the off years of the State Secretary not required to attend as a Supreme Convention delegate (1<sup>st</sup> year of term), the State Directors and State Chairmen will have a caucus to select an outstanding Chairman or Director to be a delegate to the Supreme Convention to represent the Indiana Jurisdiction.

If any delegate is unable to attend the Supreme Convention, the State Deputy and Immediate State Officers will select the alternate replacement(s). Eligible alternate / replacement selection(s) can be made from any of the following: the Diocesan caucus candidates, FS candidates, Director/Chairmen candidates, and any other State Officers not already attending. Each caucus Chairman will submit their “Confidential” list of candidates in order of votes cast from their election, of their top 2 candidates, but without totals of votes to the State Executive Secretary immediately after their caucus.

**NOTE:** Once elected, Delegates to the Supreme Convention are Delegates representing the State of Indiana Knights of Columbus and not their Diocesan Caucus group or the Financial Secretaries Association that elected them. A replacement, if needed, can be from another group.

The purpose of the area caucus is to ensure two important factors: (1) That each area of the State is given an opportunity to be represented and (2) That members who have given outstanding service to the Order be selected to represent Indiana at the Supreme Convention.

The purpose of this system is to select a man in a given area who has done an outstanding job. Where a member has been extraordinarily successful in promoting Columbianism, the delegates to the convention will be anxious to recognize such a member and give him the honor of representing Indiana at the Supreme Convention.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

- These rules are not debatable and may not be amended.
- Those wishing to be candidates or nominators at the caucus must complete the entry form and submit it to the Caucus Chairman before the start of the Caucus. They must be a candidate in their proper caucus – based on either their diocese, or position as a FS, or position as a Director/Chairman.
- The meeting is called to order by the Caucus Chairman appointed by the State Deputy.
- The Caucus Chairman will appoint a recording secretary and two tellers. Non-delegates may fill these positions. Attendance – All voting delegates must sign-in.
- The recording secretary will call the roll of voting delegates present. The tellers will organize a supply of ballots equal to the number of voting delegates present (Max of 2 per council in good standing). Only registered State Convention voting delegates are eligible to vote. State Convention general attendees are NOT eligible to vote, voters must be a registered voting delegate from their council with proper credentials at the State Convention registration. A council's alternate delegate is only allowed to vote if they have properly replaced one of the voting delegates from their home council at the State Convention.
- The Candidate for nomination at the Diocesan Caucus does not have to be a voting delegate from his home council, but must be registered at the State Convention and be present at the meeting to acknowledge/accept the nomination and to receive the required materials to the Supreme Convention if elected. The Candidate must be a full (3<sup>rd</sup> degree) member in good standing and should be an Insurance member.
- State Convention registered voting delegates wanting to nominate a candidate for delegate to the Supreme Council meeting shall contact the Caucus Chairman at the start of the caucus. Only voting delegates may nominate or second the nomination of a candidate for Supreme Convention delegate. Nominating speeches will be limited to five (5) minutes each. The order of nominating speeches shall be determined by the drawing of lots. Voting delegates wanting to second a nomination will limit their remarks to stating their name and council number.
- Once all nominations are made, there will be no need for a motion to close nominations.
- Each Active Council in good standing is entitled to two caucus delegates. The councils assigned to each caucus are attached. A roll call will be taken to determine the number of ballots distributed. Votes will be cast by secret ballot. The tellers will collect the ballots and they will be counted in front of the caucus. All elections will be decided by a majority of votes cast. Blank ballots will not be counted.
- The candidate receiving the most votes will be the caucus nominee for delegate to Supreme Convention. **In the case of three or more candidates, and no one receives a clear majority, then a run-off election will be held for the two candidates receiving the most votes.** After the second set of ballots is counted, the candidate receiving the most votes will be the delegate to the Supreme Convention.
- The caucus nominee for delegate shall complete the **Nomination of Delegate** form for their Diocesan caucus. After adjournment of the caucus meeting, the caucus chairman will return the forms, from his caucus of the selected caucus nominee for delegate, to the Indiana State Council Executive Secretary.
- If a Diocesan Caucus fails to have any candidates enter to be a delegate for the Supreme Convention, the positions for that Diocese shall be filled with a selection by the State Deputy and Immediate State Officers at the State Convention.

## RULES

- The Nominating Committee for Supreme delegates shall consist of the five chairmen from the five Diocesan caucus areas established by the State Officers. Each of the five caucus areas shall nominate one delegate only to the Supreme Convention. The nominations for Supreme Delegates shall be limited to the nominations of one delegate made by each of the five caucuses. Upon presentation of the nominations by the Nominating Committee of the five delegates nominated by the caucuses, the nominations shall be closed and no further nominations be accepted, The five delegates shall be elected by acclamation at the State Convention business meeting.
- The rules contained in the 2011 / 11<sup>th</sup> edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the caucus in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Indiana State Council's Bylaws and the Charter Constitution Laws of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and these standing rules.
- The delegates for the nomination MUST be present at the State Convention to accept the nomination and to receive the required information regarding the Supreme Convention.
- The diocesan caucus delegate for the Supreme Convention does not need to be a State Convention delegate from his council, but must be registered and present at the State Convention and his council must be active and in good standing.
- The caucus Diocesan delegate MUST be a Full (3<sup>rd</sup> degree) Knights of Columbus Member in good standing and should be an insurance member of the Order.
- Each Diocesan Caucus shall be held in a professional and Knightly manner.
- Each delegate nominated to the Supreme Convention must adhere to all rules and requirements set forth by Supreme.
- The rules in the Officers Desk Reference regarding “Guidelines for Local Elections” should be followed regarding each candidate as an example. Council GK’s & FS’s have access to Officers Online and should provide this information to their candidates and delegate members.
- The State Convention rules regarding candidates, solicitation and promotions and postings must be followed.

**Caucus Meetings** – These are conducted as official convention business and it is considered a part of the "Order of Business" and voting delegates are required to attend. This is a reminder and reference to our Indiana State Council Bylaws Article II which can be found in the State Directory. **Attendance will be taken at the Diocesan Caucus Nomination Meetings.**

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT – CHANGES – Updated Information for Virtual Business Meeting \*\*\***  
**Caucus for Supreme Convention Delegate Elections to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2020**

**DELEGATE / VOTING CHANGES for Supreme Convention Delegates!**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the caucuses for each Diocese and the Chairmen/Directors will be a virtual caucus meeting and will take place 2 weeks before the State Virtual Business meeting.

**NOTE:** Due to the current pandemic, depending on the situation of the Covid-19 virus, the Supreme Convention could become a Virtual Meeting!

Anyone wanting to be a candidate for their diocesan caucus MUST submit a candidate election/nomination form with all the required information.

A diocesan caucus candidate may ONLY participate in the diocese of their home council – NO EXCEPTIONS!

Only State Council Chairmen and Directors (and State Officers) may participate in the Chairman/Directors caucus and candidates must submit a candidate nomination form for the Chairmen/Directors Caucus to be eligible to be a candidate.

Candidate entries must be received by the requested date before the Caucus meetings. Candidates will then be listed with their info on the state website for the delegates to review.

Please submit a “brief” information sheet listing for the delegates to review for the voting.

Some suggestions are listed below:

Family & personal info & picture of yourself

Church activities and fundraisers and programs

Knights activities and programs involved in

Offices held as a Knight

How many years you have been a Knight

Hobbies and interests

**Required info:** – Have you attended a Supreme Convention previously, and if so, how many times.

If 3 or more candidates are running in a caucus and a majority of 50% or greater is not achieved by a candidate in the voting, then a run-off election will be held between the 2 candidates receiving the highest vote totals and the candidates receiving the lower vote totals must drop out of the election. This is an agreement to be a caucus candidate.

Only registered State Convention Delegates along with State Officers will be allowed in the virtual meeting.

All Candidates must have their Nomination Form submitted electronically in PDF format along with their information sheet for the delegates to reference.

NOTE – The candidates’ information sheet CANNOT request, ask for support or solicit votes in any way, since this is campaigning and those lines will be deleted by the State.

The candidates must submit the entry form and information in advance, to the State Secretary – Craig Hanusin, [statesecretary@indianakofc.org](mailto:statesecretary@indianakofc.org), so the State can verify the information and place the candidate’s information sheet on the State Website for the delegates to reference.  
All entries MUST be sent/received by this Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon Central Time (1pm Eastern) in pdf format to the State Secretary.

**Indiana Supreme Delegate Caucus – Virtual Meeting Schedule – Saturday, May 16, 2020**

*(Each caucus will be separate and only registered State Convention Delegates for their diocese will be allowed to attend the virtual meeting)*

Indianapolis Archdiocese Caucus and Chairmen/Directors Caucus: 10am to 12pm Eastern Time  
Fort Wayne / South Bend Diocese Caucus and Lafayette Diocese Caucus: Noon to 2pm Eastern Time  
Gary Diocese Caucus and Evansville Caucus: 2pm to 4pm Eastern Time (1pm-3pm Central)

Vivat Jesus!

Gil Spisak  
State Advocate  
Indiana State Council  
[stateadvocate@indianakofc.org](mailto:stateadvocate@indianakofc.org)