

AMERICA FIRST PARTY OF FLORIDA
RULES OF PROCEDURE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

RULE 1	Use of Party Name
RULE 2	Initial Party Organization
RULE 3	Use of Proxies
RULE 4	Vacancies - Public Office
RULE 5	Committee Members
RULE 6	Officers of County Committees
RULE 7	(Reserved)
RULE 8	Endorsements
RULE 9	Party Loyalty Oaths
RULE 10	Special Rules
RULE 11	Determination of County Representatives
RULE 12	Liabilities
RULE 13	Indemnifications
RULE 14	Borrowing or Lending of Funds
RULE 15	More than One County Position
RULE 16	County Constitution(s)
RULE 17	Chairman and Staff Salaries
RULE 18	Creation of State Party Committees
RULE 19	Budget Committee Presentations
RULE 20	Chair's Paid Expenses
RULE 21	Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings
RULE 22	Settlements of Grievances
RULE 23	Participation in Non-America First Party of Florida Organizations
RULE 24	Organizations Resolutions
RULE 25	Revisions

* With respect to this document, whenever the singular or plural number or masculine or feminine or neuter gender is used herein it shall equally include the others as the context may require.

AMERICA FIRST PARTY FLORIDA RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULE 1 – Use of Party Name

- A. No person or group of persons shall use the name, abbreviation or symbol of the America First Party of Florida in connection with any club, group, association or organization of any kind unless approval and permission have been given in writing by majority vote of the Florida Executive Committee Board of Trustees subject to reversal by majority vote of the Florida Executive Committee at the next organizational meeting. This rule shall not apply to: County Executive Committees of the Party or to Organizations that have been in existence and organized on a statewide basis for a period of ten (10) years in accordance with Florida law. The charter issued for any club, group, association or organization under this rule shall expire on March 31 of each odd-numbered year following the issuance of the charter. The expiration date shall be indicated on the charter certificate when issued.
- B. Renewal of existing charters shall be done by the following process: During the first week of February in each odd-numbered year, the AFPPF shall send charter renewal information, requirements and instructions to each existing club, group, association or organization chartered under this rule and include a deadline of March 31 (charter expiration date) for return of all completed requirements by the Club. Any club that does not meet this deadline will no longer be chartered, nor authorized to use the name “America First” until such time as the requirements are met and approval has been granted by the AFPPF.
- C. Each club, group, association or organization seeking to be chartered under this rule shall have adopted a constitution and/or by-laws not in conflict with the Florida Statutes, the Constitution of the Florida Executive Committee or the Rules of Procedure for the America First Party of Florida.
- D. A club or organization's charter may be revoked for just cause by the same voting procedure of county officials and state chair as outlined in paragraph 1 of this rule.

RULE 2 – Initial Party Organization

Any elector who registers as an America First Party of Florida voter by June 10, 2025 will be considered as having been registered as an America First Party of Florida voter for one consecutive year for the purposes of these rules and the constitution. Accordingly, founding FEC Officers and designated, founding Florida Executive Committeemen or women, will function as the Board of Trustees for the first year, or as necessary, to establish Party procedures and rules.

RULE 3 – Use of Proxies

Proxy voting is not permissible at any meeting held under the authority of the Executive Committee of the America First Party of Florida, County Executive Committees, or Clubs chartered under Rule 1 above.

RULE 4 – Vacancies - Public Office

The following procedure shall be used to fill vacancies in nominations as provided by this section.

- a) County Office: Vacancy in a county office shall be filled by majority vote of a quorum present at the duly called meeting of the County Executive Committee.
- b) State Office: Vacancy in a state or federal office shall be filled by a majority vote of a quorum present at the duly called meeting of the members of the Florida Executive Board.

RULE 5 – Committee Members

Each elector registered to vote in the minor political party in which he or she has so designated has a fundamental right to fully and meaningfully participate in the business and affairs of the minor political party without any monetary encumbrance.

RULE 6 - Officers of County Committees

A. All officers of a County Executive Committee including but not limited to, the County Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the America First Party (of Florida), and shall be members of said county executive committee. This rule shall be included as a provision in the county committee's constitution and/or bylaws. All county party officers shall be elected for a one year term, with an automatic one year extension unless voted against by a majority of a quorum of the County Executive Committee. County officers must be nominated by at least one County Executive Committee Director. County officer elections will be held at the meeting following that meeting in which the Directors were elected. County officers will be elected by a simple majority with quorum. Officers may be removed from office at any time by formal written vote of a majority of all of that County Executive Committee's Directors with quorum (i.e. 9 member board, 7 members present: 5 vote for removal = removal, but if 4 vote for removal = no removal).

B. Florida Statutes and the Rules of the America First Party of Florida require that certain items be filed with the America First Party of Florida by the County Executive Committee. In the event that such filings are not timely made, the Chair of the America First Party of Florida shall notify the Florida Executive Committee Board of Trustees and the Chair of the County Executive Committee of the delinquency by any means available, but must include written notice. The County Chair shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of any written notification to file the appropriate materials. If the filing is not completed within thirty (30) days of any written notification, the Chair of the America First Party of Florida, at the direction of the Florida

Executive Committee Board of Trustees, shall remove from office the Chair of the County Executive Committee, and that office will devolve to the person in succession as defined by the constitution and/or by-laws of the County Executive Committee. Such person shall, within thirty (30) days, call a meeting for purposes of electing a new Chair in accordance with the election procedures set forth in the constitution and/or bylaws of the County Executive Committee. If the acting chair fails to timely call such an election, the Chair of the America First Party of Florida shall replace the acting Chair in accordance with succession as defined by the constitution and/or bylaws of the County Executive Committee and call for an election by the County Executive Committee. Members who have been removed from any office for cause (e.g. – failure to execute duties, failure to abide by the loyalty oath, self-dealing, mismanagement, breach of fiduciary duties, etc.) shall no longer be eligible to hold office or be a Director/Trustee in the party as provided for in the state party constitution.

C. Each County Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times during the calendar year, one meeting within each quarter with at least twenty-eight days between each meeting. The meeting shall be called by the Chair, with notice of the meeting to be sent to each member of the executive committee at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. This shall specifically be the duty of the County Chair, and in the event that the County Chair does not call such meetings when due, the Vice Chair shall call the meeting to occur not less than ten (10) days from the end of the quarter. If a County Chair and Vice Chair fail to hold a quarterly meeting without prior written permission from the FEC Board of Trustees, the State Chair shall remove the County Chair from office. In such event, the office of county chair shall devolve to the next person in succession as defined by the constitution and/or bylaws of the County Executive Committee. If the acting Chair fails to timely call such an election, the Chair of the America First Party of Florida shall replace the acting Chair in accordance with succession as defined by the constitution and/or bylaws of the County Executive Committee and call for an election by the County Executive Committee. Members who have been removed from any office for cause (e.g. – failure to execute duties, failure to abide by the loyalty oath, self-dealing, mismanagement, breach of fiduciary duties, etc.) shall no longer be eligible to hold office or be a Director/Trustee in the party as provided for in the state party constitution.

RULE 7 – RESERVED.

RULE 8 – Endorsements

A. The Florida Executive Committee (FEC) may endorse, certify or recommend candidates in contested America First primaries only upon unanimous approval of the Board of Trustees and the approval of 60% of the Florida Executive Committee at a meeting called for that purpose and at which a quorum is present. The FEC may not endorse any candidates which have not been previously approved by County Executive Committees. Candidates who are running for an office that is elected state wide, or elected to a federal office, must be previously approved by a majority vote from a majority of the County Executive Committees that are included as voting districts of such candidate.

- B. A County Executive Committee may endorse, certify or recommend an America First candidate in a contested America First primary, or a registered America First candidate in a nonpartisan election (including judicial races where it is legally permissible), or a local Unitary Special/General Election, by either of the two following methods: (1) Upon the affirmative vote of not less than 60% of the County Executive Committee present and voting at a duly called meeting complying with notice requirements set forth below, provided that the number voting to endorse represents a majority of the full committee, or (2) upon the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting at such meeting, provided that a quorum is present at the time the vote is taken. Each announced candidate shall be likewise notified that a vote on endorsement is to be taken and that he or she will be allowed to speak at such meeting in support of or opposition to any proposed endorsement, certification, or recommendation for an office for which he or she is a candidate.
- C. There shall be no less than ten (10) days written notice to each member of the Executive Committee of any meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The written notice shall inform each member of the time, date, place of meeting, and that a vote will be taken to endorse, certify, screen or otherwise recommend one or more America First candidates for nomination for election. A copy of the notice of the meeting shall be mailed by the County Chair or other appropriate officer to: America First Party of Florida, [P.O. Box or other address will be posted on the America First Party of Florida website].

RULE 9 – Party Loyalty Oath

- A. Members of all political party committees, [and the National Committeeman and Committeewoman,] shall before taking office, establish by binding written Oath or Affirmation that during their tenure as America First Party of Florida county or state (FEC) executive committee member, that if there is a registered America First candidate running for any office, executive committee members (to include all Officers, Directors and Trustees) will not actively, publicly, or financially support the election of any candidate other than the America First candidate running for said office in a partisan unitary, general or special election, to include a registered America First candidate in a non-partisan election, to include School Board and Judicial elections. America First Party of Florida county and state (FEC) executive committee members are expected to support America First Party of Florida candidates financially (when able), and always through their words and deeds; and finally with their vote, to the exclusion of any other party's candidate.
- B. Members shall file their oath with the Chair of the County Executive Committee and the County Chair or his designee shall forward the signed oath to the State Chair. The oath or affirmation may be witnessed rather than notarized. Disloyalty to, or breaking of, the binding Oath or Affirmation to the America First Party of Florida is grounds for permanent removal from county and state (FEC) executive committees, to include positions as Officers, Directors or Trustees.

RULE 10 – Special Rules.

Trustee tie votes shall be decided by secret ballot re-vote to include a randomly selected Officer of the Florida Executive Committee as a voting member.

RULE 11 – Determination of County Representatives

- A. Up to three (3) County Executive Committee Directors may serve as County Representatives to the Florida Executive Committee from any one county and will serve two (2) year terms. If more than three (3) County Directors apply to be County Representatives to the Florida Executive Committee, the County Executive Committee will vote and the top three (3) vote getters will be County Representatives, and the remaining will be alternates in case of any County Representatives inability to perform their duties.
- B. The election shall be determined by votes cast at a regular meeting called within two (2) months prior to the month of December. The terms of those elected shall commence on the first day of the month of December following each Presidential and Mid-term general elections.
- C. FEC Officer Elections. The outgoing chair of each Florida Executive Committee shall hold an organizational meeting of all newly designated County Representatives to the Florida Executive Committee for the purpose of electing officers and said meeting shall take place within sixty (60) days of the date the new members take office.

RULE 12 – Liabilities

- A. That the members, officers, agents and members of the Executive Committee of the America First Party of Florida shall not be personally liable for any debt, liability, or obligation of the Party.
- B. That all persons, corporations, or other entities extending credit to, contracting with, or having any claim against, the America First Party of Florida may look only to the funds and property of any such contract or claim, or for the payment of any debt, damages, judgment, or decree, or any money that may otherwise become due or payable to them from the America First Party of Florida.

RULE 13 – Indemnification

- A. The Florida Executive Committee of the America First Party of Florida (the "committee") may, upon the affirmative vote of the majority of the FEC, to the extent legally permissible, indemnify each person serving or who has served as a member of the Committee or of the Board of Trustees against all liabilities and expenses, including amounts paid in satisfaction

of judgments, in compromise or as fines and penalties, and counsel fees reasonably incurred by him or her, in connection with the defense or disposition of any action, suit, or other proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, in which he or she may be involved or with which he or she may be threatened, while in office or thereafter, by reason of his or her being or having been such a member or by reason of his or her serving or having served the Committee in any capacity referred to in the next paragraph.

- B. County Executive Committees - each County Executive Committee of the America First Party of Florida may provide indemnification to the same extent and on the same terms as is provided by the Florida Executive Committee of the America First Party of Florida to its members, pursuant to paragraph A above.
- C. That indemnification of other persons serving or who have served as officers, employees, or other agents of the Committee, or, at its request, as members, directors, trustees, officers, employees, fiduciaries, or other agents of a corporation, trust, or other organization in which the Committee has an interest may be provided by the Committee whenever and to the extent authorized by a disinterested majority of the members of the Board of Trustees. Any such indemnification may include payment of the Committee of expenses incurred in defending any such action, suit, or other proceeding in advance of the final disposition thereof, upon receipt of an undertaking by the person indemnified to employ counsel satisfactory to the Committee and to repay such payment if it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is not entitled to indemnification under this rule.
- D. Further, that notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Rule, no indemnification shall be provided for any person with respect to any matter: (a) as to which he or she shall have been adjudicated in any proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his or her action was in the best interests of the Committee; or (b) disposed of by a compromise payment, pursuant to consent decree or otherwise, unless he or she shall have been determined to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his or her action was in the best interest of the Committee, such determination to be made by a disinterested two-thirds (2/3) majority of all members of the Florida Executive Committee Board of Trustees.
- E. Further, that the Committee may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a member of the Committee, a member of the Board of Trustees or an officer, employee, or other agent of the Committee, or who is or was serving at the request of the Committee as a member, director, trustee, officer, employee, fiduciary, or other agent of the corporation, trust, or other organization in which the committee has an interest, against any liability incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the Committee would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability.
- F. This rule shall not limit any right of indemnification existing independently of this rule.
Definition: As used in this rule, the terms "member", "director", "trustee", "officer",

"employee", and "agent" shall include their respective heirs, executors, and administrators, and a "disinterested" person is one against whom the proceedings in question, or another proceeding of the same or similar grounds, are not then and had not been pending or threatened.

RULE 14 – Borrowing or Lending of Funds

The America First Party of Florida, without the expressed approval of the Board of Trustees, is prohibited from borrowing, giving, or lending money for any purpose.

RULE 15 – More Than One County Position

A person can hold only one position as a County or State Officer except that the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the same organization may be combined. Directors and Trustees cannot concurrently hold positions as Officers at any level.¹ If a County Executive Committee Director/County Representative seeks, is nominated, and is elected to Florida Executive Committee Office, that Director has, when assuming office, resigned by default as a County Executive Committee's Director and County Representative to the Florida Executive Committee.

RULE 16 – County Constitution

A constitution may be adopted by each County Executive Committee. In the event that no such constitution is adopted, the model constitution developed by the America First Party of Florida will prevail until a County Constitution which is not in conflict with the Florida Statutes, the Constitution of the America First State Executive Committee, the Rules of Procedure for the America First Party of Florida or the Model Constitution is adopted and filed with the America First Party of Florida.

RULE 17 – Chairman and Staff Salaries

The Chair's salary will be fixed by the Board of Trustees and employee's salary will be proffered to the Board by the Chairman, and approved, denied or modified by the Board of Trustees, subject to budget limitations. All positions are unpaid volunteer positions until otherwise proposed by the Board of Trustees and approved by a majority vote of the Florida Executive Committee.

RULE 18 – Creation of State Party Committees

¹ The exception to this rule is the founding Officers and Trustees during the first twenty (20) months of the party's existence.

Committee Chairs and members shall be appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees. To the maximum extent possible committee members are to be equally divided between men and women. The permanent standing committees will be as follows:

- a) Constitution and Rules
- b) Budget
- c) Ethics
- d) Grievance
- e) Election Integrity
- f) Candidate Recruitment
- g) Campaign Coordination

Upon direction or approval by the Board of Trustees, the Chair of the Party shall have the responsibility to appoint and select (ad hoc) committees as may be necessary.

RULE 19 – Budget Committee Presentation

The Budget Committee is to submit a budget to the Board for the following year at the fourth quarter board meeting.

RULE 20 – Chairman's Paid Expenses

The America First Party of Florida is authorized to pay, as individually specified line items, in the annual budget, membership dues and a portion of the salary of a personal secretary located in the Chair's personal office, subject to budget limitations. All positions are unpaid volunteer positions until otherwise proposed by the Board of Trustees and approved by a majority vote of the Florida Executive Committee.

RULE 21 – Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings

- A. There shall be an annual meeting of the Florida Executive Committee held between December 1 and January 31, at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may determine. The location shall not be within fifty miles of the previous annual meeting, and should be a location capable of accommodating attending membership. There may be a biennial meeting of the Florida Executive Committee held between April 1 and June 1, at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may determine. The location should be a location capable of accommodating attending membership or organized online.
- B. Only members of the Florida Executive Committee in good standing shall be eligible to vote at such meetings. Any challenges as to the membership status of an individual must be made in writing to the Secretary of the Florida Executive Committee so as to be received by 9:00 a.m. at least three (3) working days prior to the date of the meeting to allow the Secretary to investigate that challenge. Challenges not received in this timely manner shall not be heard.

- C. At this meeting in the odd number years, new officers will be elected. There shall be a minimum of four quarterly spaced meetings of the Board of Trustees each year. The date, location and time will be proposed by the Chair and approved by the Board of Trustees at the preceding Board meeting.

RULE 22 – Settlement of Grievances

- A. The Board of Trustees of the America First Party of Florida shall appoint as a standing Committee, a Grievance Committee, consisting of seven members, including the Chair. The Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair of the Committee.
- B. In the event a dispute arises among the members of any America First Party of Florida County Executive Committee, America First Club, America First group, or group subject to the rules and regulations of the America First Party of Florida, or between such parties and such dispute cannot be resolved by the members of said committee, club or group, then the resolution of the dispute may, at the request of any one of the parties involved, be referred to the Chair of the America First Party of Florida. The Chair shall promptly refer the dispute to the Grievance Committee for recommendations for resolution.
- C. Upon referral of a dispute, the Committee shall notify all parties to a dispute no later than thirty (30) days in advance of a hearing, therein inviting all parties to the dispute hearing. The Grievance Committee may invite others whose testimony may be of help to the Committee's understanding of the facts, law, or situation. The Committee shall establish rules for the conduct of the hearing and copies of such rules shall be made available to the parties in advance of the hearing.
- D. The Grievance Committee will ensure that due process is provided. Committees, Clubs, and individuals shall not be subjected to the arbitrary exercise of AFPP Florida Executive Committee statewide party power, but shall enjoy due process to ensure fair and expeditious outcomes of disputes.
- E. All parties have the right: (a) to be heard in person (or via electronic means), and (b) to present evidence and testimony in support of their claim or defense.
- F. An entity or member at risk of losing party privileges, office, or position has a right: (a) to written notice of the accusations made against them at least thirty (30) days before any scheduled hearing, (b) to know and face their accuser (anonymous accusations and evidence are not allowed), (c) to legal counsel provided at the accused individual's expense, (d) to the presumption of innocence until proven otherwise by a preponderance of the evidence, (e) to not be subjected to disproportionate penalties and that such penalties are substantially equivalent to similar past cases.

- G. Hearings should be held within (30) thirty days of such referral, unless otherwise determined by the Committee Chair, at a location, preferably in the geographic area where the dispute has arisen, with at least five members of the Committee present. The Committee shall within (30) thirty days after the hearing make a report to the Chair, setting forth its findings and recommendations as to settling the dispute. The Chair will report the recommendations to the Board of Trustees for approval, modification or rejection within seven (7) days. The Chair may also provide the Board of Trustees with a written executive summary of the recommendations.
- H. If the Board of Trustees of the AFPF approves the recommendations, they are adopted and become final. If the Board of Trustees does not approve the recommendations, they may (a) refer the matter back to the Grievance Committee for further consideration with or without recommended modifications or (b) vacate the grievance. Further consideration by the Grievance Committee as to a course of action shall be made within fifteen (15) days of the referral from the Board of Trustees, and the Chair will resubmit the Grievance Committees revised recommendations to the Board of Trustees for approval or vacatur within seven (7) days.
- I. As final authority in all America First matters as granted under Article VII of the Constitution of the America First Party of Florida, the action of the Board of Trustees of the America First Party of Florida independently or based on the recommendations of the Review Committee may include, but not be limited to the following:
 - a) Removal or suspension of a Club Charter or an officer of a chartered Club;
 - b) suspension of any county level committee other than the County Executive Committee;
 - c) suspension of a County Executive Committee Director from the Board of Directors, or Officer from office;
 - d) revocation of a prior action or election by a Club, County Executive Committee or other committee; or
 - e) ordering new elections by such clubs, committees or County Executive Committees.
- J. Additional actions are available by the FEC under Rule 6B and 6C. To the maximum extent possible, the responsibility to remove members from a club or county executive committee shall rest with that club or county executive committee through club or county rules; however, if the FEC Board of Trustees makes the decision it is final.

RULE 23 – Participation in Non-America First Party of Florida Organizations

No America First County Executive Committee, as defined by Florida Statute, or any Club or Organization chartered under Rule 1 of these Rules of Procedure shall, as an organization, endorse, monetarily support or join any non-partisan or bi-partisan private group, committee or organization established for the purpose of monitoring or regulating political campaigns.

RULE 24 – Resolutions

All Resolutions shall be reviewed for form and clarity but may not be rejected based on substance or subject matter.

- A. Resolutions with Prior Notice: A proposed resolution shall be submitted in writing to the Chair of the America First Party of Florida 15 days prior to submission to the Florida Executive Committee Board of Trustees. The proposed resolution shall be referred to the Constitution and Rules Committee for review and upon approval by a majority of that Committee, it shall be submitted to members of the Florida Executive Committee in writing in connection with the agenda for such meeting.
- B. Resolutions without Prior Notice: A proposed resolution may be submitted in writing to the Chair of the America First Party of Florida without the above 15 day notice provided it is received at least 24 hours prior to the Florida Executive Committee. Such resolution shall be reviewed by the Constitution and Rules Committee and upon the approval of 2/3 of the members in attendance at a meeting of the Constitution and Rules Committee shall be forwarded to such State Committee meeting or Executive Board meeting for addition to the agenda and consideration by that committee. Resolutions shall be adopted by 60% of the County Executive Committees prior to being considered for adoption from the State Party.
- C. Required Vote for Passage: Passage of any proposed resolution shall require the vote of 2/3rds of those present and voting at any State Executive Committee meeting or Executive Board meeting.

RULE 25 – Revisions

These Rules and Procedures may be revised by the Board of Trustees and take effect upon publication. Changes may be vetoed at an annual meeting of the Florida Executive Committee by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the full membership thereof. Any proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure from outside the FEC Board of Trustees shall be furnished in writing to the FEC Board of Trustees, Chair and General Counsel of the Florida Executive Committee, and circulated to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which such proposed revisions are to be considered.

Original: May 28, 2025

Revisions: