

Instructions for New Delegates



Perhaps this is the first time you are representing your lodge as a delegate to a District 2 Convention. If so, the following paragraphs may answer some of your questions about convention procedures and help you to be a more effective delegate.

To receive your Delegate Information Packet at the convention site registration desk, you must present your current Sons of Norway membership card and a driver's license or other form of ID.

The convention will convene at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 28, 2026.

Many first-time delegates to a District 2 Convention ask us what is appropriate attire for this type of event. This is a time when SON members congregate to conduct important business that impacts us all. It is not a recreational event although there are some activities that are more relaxed and informal, such as hospitality rooms. So, as a form of respect to the role all our delegates play, clothing worn during the sessions should reflect the seriousness of the position and their representation of their lodges.

Convention dress code:

- Delegates and Committee members - business casual
 - District Officers - business attire
 - President's Reception and Evening Banquet - bunads or semi-formal dress
- Regalia is to be worn by District Officers during all convention sessions.

Shorts, t-shirts and other casual attire are not to be worn during convention sessions.

Please follow the "Dress for Success" business casual model. This is a classic look - clean-cut, office-type casual. A full suit or shirts and ties are not required. Slacks, khakis, skirts, blouses, polo shirts and sweaters are appropriate. Norwegian sweaters are appreciated! Please no flip-flops, jeans or athletic wear. If you wear it to the gym, beach or bar, don't wear it at convention!

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER governs all business conducted. A motion must be presented in the positive mode, even if the committee presenting it has recommended rejection.

It is important to note that any change in the District Bylaws **MUST BE APPROVED BY A 2/3 MAJORITY** and receive subsequent approval by the International Lodge Board.

Amendments to the Charter & Constitutions of the entire Order may be approved by a **MAJORITY** of delegates in attendance and voting.

Some time during the convention, delegates from your Zone will hold a caucus to elect their Zone Director and consider qualifications of candidates for other District offices. This is where your homework studying the District Bylaws will pay off. You will need to know how these officers are elected, their term of office and duties. You should also know which officers are elected at large (from any area of the district) and how many officers may be elected from any one Zone.

The last function requiring the delegates' attendance is the Installation of New Officers. It is important to attend this ceremony as you may find it inspiring and helpful in conducting installations in your own lodge. Since your lodge has chosen you to be its representative and perhaps gone to some expense in sending you to this convention, the members of your lodge will wish to be informed

of the important actions which took place. You should, with the other delegates from your lodge, be prepared to report back to your lodge meeting the items that were acted upon. It is hoped you will enjoy representing your lodge as a delegate and return to your lodge a well-informed member.

2026 District Lodge Meeting Rules

1. The Regular Meeting of the District Lodge shall be one meeting, recessing from session-to-session within the meeting.
2. Delegate badges and voting materials will be issued at the Registration Desk upon proof of membership. ONLY duly authorized delegates may vote. ONE vote per delegate.
3. Delegates and members shall be seated at least FIVE (5) minutes before the scheduled session time. Doors will be closed when each session begins but may be opened for those awaiting admission at the direction of the chair.
4. The right to raise a point of order shall be reserved for delegates ONLY. The Chair will decide its validity.
5. Any motion made at the convention must be put in writing and delivered by the Marshal to the Secretary.
6. Any delegate may speak to any motion before the Lodge. Any delegate who desires to speak shall address the chair by going to the microphone with an identification paddle raised and state their name and lodge.
7. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of THREE (3) MINUTES. No delegate shall speak to the motion more than once, unless allowed otherwise by the Chair.
8. Any messages to delegates shall be relayed by the Greeter, Marshall or Assistant Marshall.
9. If the previous question is moved, seconded and carried, delegates who are in line at the microphone at the time the motion is passed will be permitted to speak.
10. Zone Directors are elected at their zone caucus. All other Officers are elected at large from the District Lodge. Ballots shall be used in cases where there are two or more candidates for any office, otherwise, election shall be by acclamation.
11. No smoking shall be permitted in any meeting room.
12. Any Lodge bidding to host the District Convention shall present its bid in writing to the District President no later than Thursday. Representatives of the bidding Lodges shall be permitted ten (10) minutes to present their proposal. The vote on convention site selection shall take place at the last session of the District Lodge.
13. Candidate applications for District Officers must be submitted to the District Nominating Committee for vetting no later than 30 days prior to the District 2 Convention. The deadline is May 1st, 2026.
14. If a board office is not filled, the District Board shall fill the position from among the District Lodge delegates.