

# 2025 Election Campaign Rules

Annual

## Post Election: Wed 14 May 2025

### Authorization and Governance - Post 291 Bylaws

Article 5.7., Election and Appointment of Post 291 Officers.

5.7.2. Campaign Rules and Election Voting and Process Rules.

5.7.3. Election Rules

### Specific Rules for 2025 Campaigning

Here are specific campaign rules that all candidates for Post 291 officer positions must follow and comply with this year. These rules are established to foster and ensure a fair, equitable, and civil campaign, and maintain the integrity of the election.

### Authorized Campaign Activities

1. Campaign Speech - Each candidate will be allowed three minutes at the General Membership Meeting on the evening of final nominations on Wednesday 9 April to speak to the membership about his/her qualifications and platform.
2. Campaign Materials.
  - Candidates may post only one (per candidate) flyer, handbill, or other printed campaign materials no larger than 8½ inches by 11 inches, on the Election Committee designated bulletin boards or display areas — but only after final nominations are closed on Wednesday 9 April 2025.
  - Candidates and their supporters may hand out campaign materials — e.g., flyers, handbills, business cards, trifolds, or other printed campaign materials no larger than 8½ inches by 11 inches — directly to interested and receptive members or guests at the Post.
  - Candidates and their supporters may wear campaign buttons or badges of no more than four inches in diameter on their clothing.

### Prohibited Actions and Restrictions — Campaigning

1. Campaign materials may be posted only on Election Committee designated bulletin boards or display areas outside the Main Building and only after the close of final nominations on Wednesday 9 April 2025. Each candidate may post no more than one flyer on the Election Committee designated bulletin boards or display areas, and the flyer shall be no larger than 8½ inches by 11 inches.
2. No other campaign materials are allowed to be posted on any boards, walls, glass, windows, mirrors, fences, or other surfaces in Post rooms and property — including but not limited to the Bar, View Room, Fireside Room, patios, kitchen, Front Office, restrooms, Hut, and marina, as well as on any boat in the marina.
3. No printed campaign materials, holders, or stacks (piles) of campaign materials are allowed to be left on tables, bars, or other horizontal surfaces in Post rooms and property — including but not limited to the Main Hall, Bar, View Room, Fireside Room, patios, kitchen, Front Office, restrooms, Hut, and marina.

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4. No campaign materials are allowed to be posted on any City or public property visible from the Post — including but not limited to Veterans Park, the public beach, the public dock, and the pump-out dock.
5. No one is allowed to move, remove, or deface a candidate's posted materials.
6. Flyers, handbills, and other printed campaign materials may be no larger than 8½ inches by 11 inches.
7. Negative campaigning is strictly prohibited. Candidates must run on their own merits and record at the Post or other American Legion offices or positions.
8. Although events and gatherings at the Post offer opportunities for candidates to campaign, candidates and their supporters must be sensitive to those members and guests who are not interested or do not wish to engage in political or campaign discussions — and not annoy nor be aggressive toward those individuals.
9. Other than the three-minute speech allowed on the night of final nomination of Wednesday 9 April, candidates will not use Post audio/visual equipment — e.g., microphones, display screen, etc. — for campaign-related statements or announcements.
10. Candidates will not use audio/visual equipment of Post-hired bands nor the Hootenanny — e.g., microphones, display screen, etc. — for campaign-related statements or announcements.
11. Election “tickets” or slates (exclusive list of candidates) are not allowed to be posted or distributed unless the Election Committee has received written permission from each slate candidate to use his/her name on the election slate for the candidate.
12. Written endorsements are not allowed to be used for a candidate or a candidate slate unless the endorsing person or endorsing organization has submitted a written statement of endorsement to the Election Committee. An endorsing organization must also include with its written statement a copy of the approved minutes of the organization showing the organization's approval of the endorsement.
13. All campaign materials must be removed from the Post, and specifically the designated bulletin boards or display areas, no later than 4:00 pm Tuesday 13 May, the day before the election.
14. On Election Day, Wednesday 14 May, no campaign materials are allowed to be handed out on Post property, including the Post parking lot and marina. Any campaigning must be conducted offsite — such as on the sidewalk in front of the Post on 15th Street or in the alley leading to the Post parking lot.
15. If any candidate is found in violation of any of the Election Rules or Campaign Rules by the Election Committee, the Election Committee Chair shall notify the candidate immediately in writing or verbally of the specific violations, with instructions to curtail or correct the violations immediately or no later than 24 hours of the notification.
16. If the candidate in violation complies with the Election Committee instructions within 24 hours of the notification, there shall be no disciplinary actions. If the candidate in violation does not comply within 24 hours of notification, the Election Committee Chair shall inform the Adjutant and the Post Commander in writing that the candidate

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is not in compliance and shall identify what further actions the Election Committee is taking or may take with respect to the candidate. Under the Election Rules, the Election Committee is authorized to remove a candidate from the ballot if that person refuses to comply with the Election Rules, the Campaign Rules, or instructions of the Election Committee.

### Rules for Voting on Election Day

1. The General Membership Meeting on Wednesday 14 May 2025 will convene at 2:00 pm and following the Officer rollcall, will be placed in recess during the voting time period.
2. Polls will be open and Post members may vote any time during the five-hour period 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm on the day of the election, Wednesday 14 May 2025.
3. Post members must be present to vote. Neither proxy voting nor absentee voting is permitted.
4. Current Post 291 Membership Cards must be presented to receive a voting ballot.
5. Ballots will be counted after the polls close at 7:00 pm Wednesday 14 May 2025. Preliminary counting of ballots may begin before 7:00 pm at the discretion of the Election Committee.
6. The vote tabulation form has been very effective and successfully used in previous elections and can be used in subsequent elections.
7. Special paper will be used for ballots to minimize the risk of duplication.
8. The area inside and outside the Post will be monitored for any non-legal campaign activity on Election Day while polls are open.
9. The Election Committee may appoint other Post 291 members in good standing who are not running for office to check membership cards, hand out ballots, and assist in counting and recording of ballots.
10. A Post member in good standing supporting a slate or candidate—but who is not a candidate—may request to observe the ballot counting in the closed ballot counting area(s). The Election Committee shall have the sole authority to accept or deny this request. Any observers admitted to the closed ballot counting area(s) shall not touch any ballots or equipment, shall remain well clear of the ballot counters and their equipment, and shall not in any way impede the ballot counting activity.