

Resolution: Rules of Order for Episcopal Election

SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER FOR THE CONVENTION TO ELECT THE 9th BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA

1. The 142nd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina, convening in Goldsboro, North Carolina, will proceed in two Sessions: A Business Session on Friday, November 14, 2025, during which regular business will be conducted, and an Electing Session on Saturday, November 15, 2025, during which the 9th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina will be elected.
2. The 142nd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina adopts the following Special Rules of Order for the election of the 9th Bishop of the Diocese during the Electing Session of the Annual Convention convening in Goldsboro, North Carolina on Saturday, November 15, 2025.
3. These Special Rules of Order take precedence over any provision of the Rules of Order for Convention with which the Special Rules conflict. The Rules of Order not in conflict with the Special Rules remain in effect. The Constitution and Canons of this Diocese and of the Episcopal Church take precedence over these Special Rules of Order.
4. The Annual Convention will adopt the Special Rules for Electing a Bishop by a simple majority vote of the delegates present and voting during the Business Session. A two-thirds majority of those present and voting is required to suspend or amend the Special Rules once adopted. The Special Rules will expire upon the adjournment of the 142nd Annual Convention.
5. An atmosphere of reverence shall be maintained throughout the Electing Session.
6. All Clergy who are canonically resident in this Diocese are entitled to seat and vote in the 142nd Convention. Only those Clergy who are certified as eligible to vote and have registered as Clergy delegates in the 142nd Annual Convention not later than October 31, 2025 will be permitted to vote in the Convention. (EDEC Const. Art. IV.2)
7. Qualified Lay delegates selected to represent a congregation or a recognized college ministry who are so certified and registered as Lay delegates to the 142nd Annual Convention not later than October 31, 2025 will be permitted to vote in the Electing Session. Should a certified Lay delegate become unable to attend the Electing Session, the congregation may certify and register an alternate delegate through the established registration process not later than November 10, 2025. (EDEC Const. Art. IV.3)
8. A vote by Orders and Parishes is required in the election of a Bishop. (EDEC Const. Art. VII (C)) A quorum for voting by Orders and Parishes is established by the presence of a majority of the certified Clergy delegates, excluding non-parochial clergy, and the presence of Lay delegates representing two-thirds of the congregations entitled to representation and vote.

9. Proxy voting and absentee ballots are prohibited. However, a Clergy delegate who is also a nominee on the ballot may cast her or his vote from a designated location in the Convention Center away from the floor of the Convention or in close proximity thereto.
10. Nominations from the floor are not in order.
11. Voting shall proceed by ballot cast by means of the authorized electronic voting system. Following a period of silence for prayer and reflection, the Secretary of Convention shall open the balloting and review the voting instructions. Before announcing the results of each ballot, the Secretary shall announce the number of votes cast in each order and the number required for election on that ballot. Each ballot will be numbered sequentially and announced by ballot number.
12. An election shall occur when a nominee receives the required number of votes in each order on the same ballot. In the Clergy order, a majority is one-half plus one of the number of eligible Clergy present and voting on that ballot. In the Lay order, a majority is one-half plus one of the eligible Lay delegates present and voting on that ballot.
13. A nominee may withdraw her or his name from further consideration before the opening of the next ballot is announced.
14. After an election has occurred and before the election is announced, the President of the Standing Committee shall notify the Bishop-elect who will confirm whether she or he accepts election. Following election, acceptance of election, and announcement of the election, all delegates must sign the required Certificates of Election and return to their seats in the Convention Hall until the Presiding Officer adjourns the 142nd Annual Convention.

Adopted the 14th day of November, 2025 by the 142nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina.

Shurley Ray Weddle

Secretary of Convention