**2016 DEMOCRATS ABROAD GLOBAL PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**

**VOTING CENTER RULES**

Kathryn Solon, International Chair, Democrats Abroad (Revised 12 February 2016)

1. The Voting Center Manager is in charge of the Voting Center and shall manage the site in accordance with the 2016 Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Plan (DSP) and these rules.
2. In keeping with Democratic Party rules, the Democrats Abroad 2016 Global Presidential Primary is a party election and shall not be conducted by secret ballot.
3. Voting Centers shall be open during the times previously notified to the International Chair or as modified by the International Chair pursuant to the 2016 Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Plan. Voters in line at a Voting Center at the notified local closing time shall be permitted to vote.
4. The presidential candidates whose names are on the ballot shall be allowed to have only one (1) official observer at any given time at each Voting Center, who shall be allowed to observe registration of voters and tabulation of presidential preferences, to challenge any aspect of the operation of the Voting Center, and to challenge voter eligibility.
5. The official observer need not be a registered voter or a member of the chapter or Country Committee the Voting Center is in and shall present herself or himself to the Voting Center Manager immediately upon her or his arrival at the Voting Center providing appropriate photo identification and written proof of appropriate authorization from the campaign of the presidential candidate he or she is representing. All official observers shall wear a name tag clearly indicating the presidential candidate they represent and their name.
6. Observers shall not hinder, delay or obstruct the operation of the Voting Center, shall not be involved in the operation of the Voting Center and shall not touch or handle any material necessary for the operation of the Voting Center. Observers shall not threaten or intimidate any voter nor shall voters threaten or intimidate observers. Observers may not observe the act of voting by a voter.
7. Challenges regarding Voting Center operations and voter eligibility shall be made using only official challenge forms, which Voting Center Managers shall make available to anyone upon request.
8. A challenge to a voter’s qualification may only be sustained if the challenger, in addition to submitting a valid challenge form, presents *positive proof,* that is, objective documentary evidence,that voter is not qualified. If the Voting Center Manager determines that a voter is not qualified, the voter may nevertheless cast a provisional ballot.

Positive proof may include, but would not be limited to, documents that indicate that a person attempting to vote is not a U.S. citizen, is not a member of Democrats Abroad, is a member of a Country Committee of Democrats Abroad other than the one in which the voter is seeking to participate, or records indicating that the person attempting to vote has already voted in another Country Committee, in another delegate-selection process, or in the corresponding elections of another political party.
9. After registering at the Voting Center, each eligible voter will be given a printed ballot to be completed and marked. All information requested on the ballot must be completed in ink. All ballots must be signed and dated in ink. Printed or illegible signatures shall be considered valid. A ballot will be considered invalid for the following reasons:
* the voter did not submit all of the information required on the ballot; or
* the voter voted for two or more different candidates (including uncommitted); or
* the voter did not sign and date the ballot declaration.
1. Presidential candidates or their representatives may campaign near Voting Centers. No candidate shall receive preferential treatment, and all candidates shall have equal access to all presidential preference primary voters for purposes of campaigning. Campaigning is not permitted within ten (10) meters of the entrance to the Voting Center or within the area devoted to voting in the Global Presidential Primary. Voting Center Managers and Voting Center Staff shall not campaign for or against any presidential candidate.
2. Remote voting by email attachment, mail, and fax closes on March 8, and remote ballots may not be collected at Voting Centers.
3. A voter may be assisted in voting and may ask Voting Center Staff to provide assistance.
4. Voting Centers must provide paper membership forms to accommodate new members of Democrats Abroad who wish to join at the Voting Center. New members can also join by using the on-line membership form on the Democrats Abroad website in Voting Centers where Internet access is available. Voting Centers are not obligated to provide Internet access to voters.
5. Following the closing of the Voting Center each day it is open, the ballots voted at the Voting Center shall be tallied by the Voting Center Manager and designated Tellers; the official observers representing the presidential campaigns may attend such tallying and may inspect cast ballots. Ballots cast at the Voting Center shall not be open to inspection other than by Voting Center Staff, any official observers present at the tallying at the Voting Center, tellers at the central tabulation in Germany, and any official observers present at the central tabulation. The results of voting shall be entered on to the official tally sheet and signed by the Voting Center Manager in the presence of one or more witnesses.
6. The official observers representing the presidential campaigns may review the tally sheet and take notes with respect to the results, but copies of the tally sheet should not be given to anyone except as provided in the following sentence. The results of the voting tally with the ballots and tally sheet shall promptly be sent to the International Chair as indicated in the Delegate Selection Plan. Any public announcement made of the tally taken at a Voting Center must include a notice that the results are provisional until certified by the International Chair of Democrats Abroad. Copies of the tally sheet should not be made publicly available.
7. With respect to the tallying of all ballots by the International Chair, such tallying shall be attended by at least two (2) other persons designated by the International Chair and may be attended by one (1) officially designated representative of each presidential campaign. The time and place of such final tally will be made known to the official representatives of the presidential campaigns by the International Chair or her designee 48 hours in advance of the beginning of such tallying. The final tally as certified by the International Chair shall be witnessed by at least two (2) of the persons who assisted in the tally.