

GPP VC Skit

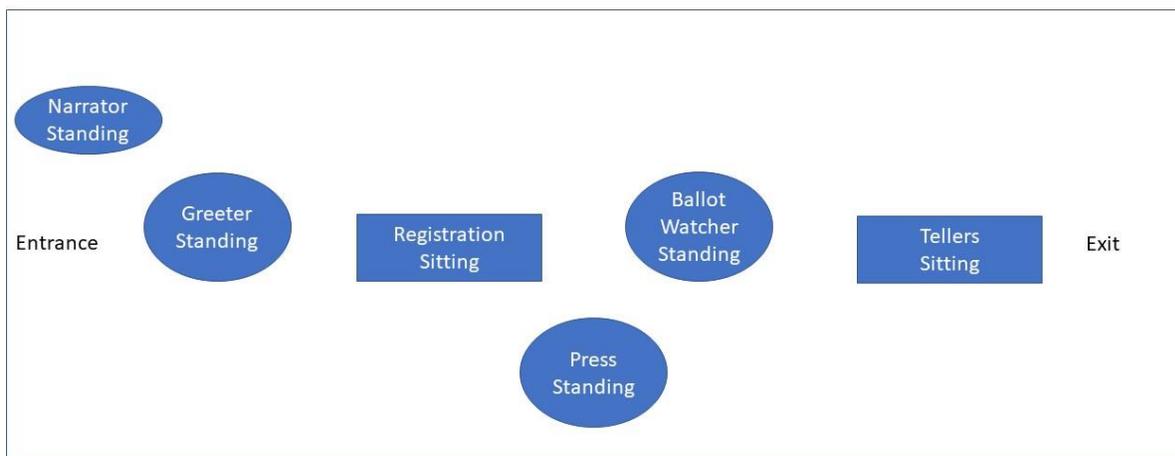
DAG 2020 AGM

Synopsis

This skit is designed to help your team walk through how to run a Global Presidential Primary Voting Center, with emphasis on some of the key rules that must be followed and the process.

It is very much a creation of DAG and particularly Shari Temple. We have adapted it a tiny bit for you to use, and hope it is a help as you work on your run through leading up to the Global Primary!

Scene Layout



Cast

Role	Played By	Scenes
Narrator		1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Greeter		1,2,10
Campaign T-Shirt Person		1
Journalist Person		2, 9
Photographer		2, 9
Communications Person		2, 9
Registration Person		3,4,5,6,7
New Member		3
Live in Another Country		4
Republican		5
German		6
Youth		7
Voted in US Person		8
Ballot Box Watcher		8, 9,10
No Signature Person		9
Teller 1		10
Teller 2		10
Observer		10

Possible Props

5 Badges for VC workers – Greeter, Registration, Ballot Watcher, 2 Teller

2 Journalist badges

1 Campaign Observer badge

Table and 1 chair for registration desk

Table and 2 chairs for tellers

Table for ballot box

Ballot Box

Campaign T-shirt and buttons

Sample Official Ballots

Sample Provisional Ballots

Sample Tally Sheet

Fake Registration list

GPP Skit

Prologue: Overview of GPP

Scene 1: No Campaigning within 10 meters of polling place

Scene 2: Handling of Journalist

Scene 3: New Member wants to vote

Scene 4: Out of Country Member

Scene 5: Republican wants to Vote

Scene 6: German wants to Vote

Scene 7: Too young to vote

Scene 8: Already voted in US primary

Scene 9: Did not sign ballot

Scene 10: Tallying the ballots

DAG AGM GPP VC Skit

Prologue

[Moderator]

Welcome. I'm hoping everyone has already heard about Democrats Abroad's Global Presidential Primary aka GPP. How many of you have voted in a prior global primary?

There are a few general rules about the Global Presidential Party

- It is only for the US presidential candidate
- A person can only vote for a presidential candidate once – you can vote in DA's GPP and down ballot candidates in your state primary. Note that if you vote for president in your state primary, you cannot vote in the GPP nor participate as an elector at the global convention nor run to be a delegate.
- You must be a member of Democrats Abroad to vote in the GPP – but can join at time of voting
- You can vote in person or remotely
- To vote in person, you need to go to a Voting Center in your country
- Voting Centers will be open in multiple cities at multiple times from March 3 (Super Tuesday) through March 10
- To vote remotely, you can request a ballot and return it via post, email or fax. It must be received by March 10 midnight PST – or 9AM CET on March 11.
- All ballots must have your name and contact information added along with your signature and date – otherwise it will not count
- No ID is required but you will be required to sign a legal Declaration that all information is correct – and anyone can challenge that a voter is legitimate

Scene 1: No Campaigning within 10 meters of voting center

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when someone tries to campaign within 10 meters of the voting center.

[Greeter] Welcome to the Global Presidential Primary. You will go to the check-in table first to sign-in and receive your ballot.

[Campaign Person] Thank you. Where can I hang my jacket. (removes jacket and is wearing a t-shirt for one of the candidates, plus pulls out a sign and starts flashing it about vigorously)

[Greeter] I'm sorry sir but no campaigning is allowed this close to the polling. You will need to put away your sign until you have completed voting and moved to the post voting area.

[Campaign Person] What?? But I'm a huge Minnie Mouse fan and I want everyone to know it and vote for her!

[Greeter] I'm sorry sir but no campaigning is allowed. You will need to stop or, I'm sorry, but I will need to have to ask you to leave.

[Campaign Person] Humph – well OK, I'll put away my poster and vote fast so I can go out onto the street and advertise!!

[Greeter] Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

[Campaign Person] (walks to registration desk, gets ballot, fills out ballot, puts ballot in ballot box, goes to exit, pulls out poster as he exits –and smiles at the audience)

Scene 2: Handling Journalist questions

[Narrator] In this scene, we'll look at how to deal with the Journalist.

[Greeter] Welcome to the DA Germany Munich Voting Center. Can I help you?

[Journalist] (has camera hanging around neck) Yes, I'm from CNN and want to talk to someone about what you are doing.

[Greeter] Hi – I'm Emily Greeter. And you are?

[Journalist] My name is John Journalist.

[Greeter] Thanks John for being here. I will need you to wear this Journalist badge while you are here. (hands over a Journalist badge)

[Journalist] Sure – thanks. (puts on badge)

[Greeter] I'll need your Photographer to as well.

[Photographer] No problem – thanks. (puts on badge)

[Greeter] John, this is Connie Communications. Connie, this is John Journalist from CNN. He'd like to ask you a few questions.

[Communications Person] I'm pleased to meet you. How can I help you?

[Journalist] I have several questions. First of all, how can you be having a presidential primary outside to US?

[Communications Person] Democrats Abroad is officially part of the Democratic National Committee. We represent the estimated 9 million Americans that live outside of the USA. We have 21 Delegates at the Democratic National Convention based on the results of our global presidential primary.

[Journalist] Really? But why do you care about the US president if you don't live in the US.

[Communications Person] Well, first of all, we are all US citizens. And even though we do not currently live in the US, we care about US politics and policies. The US President has an impact not only on the US but also on the rest of the world. We also have family and friends back in the USA and many of us plan to return.

[Journalist] So what does DA think about Angela Merkel.

[Communications Person] Our DA policy is to only discuss US policies and politics.

[Journalist] But off the record, what do you think about Merkel?

[Communications Person] I'm happy to answer any questions about DA and our GPP.

[Journalist] OK, I get it. Who do you expect to win in your primary?

[Communications Person] We will know the official results by March 23.

[Journalist] Can we have a picture of you?

[Communications Person] Sure – no problem.

[Journalist] Thank you. Just stand by the ballot box.

(Photographer takes photo of Communications Person in front of the ballot box.)

Scene 3: New Member wants to vote

[Narrator] In this scene, we will look at what happens when a person shows up who is not yet a DA member.

[Registration Person] What is your name?

[New Member] My name is Nancy Newby.

[Registration Person] (Looks at membership list) I'm sorry, I don't show you on our membership list. You must be a member of Democrats Abroad to vote in our primary. If you'd like to join today, you can join and still vote. You just need to verbally confirm plus sign an affirmation about a few things:

Please confirm that you will be 18 by Nov 3, 2020, that you are a U.S. citizen, that you live in {this country}, and support the principles of the US Democrats.

[New Member] I'm old enough and definitely a life-long Democrat. I even moved to {this country} just to get away from Trumpland.

[Registration Person] Great. If you have a smart phone, just go to www.democratsabroad.org/join and fill out the info. Once you do, come back and give me your new membership number.

[New Member] OK – I can do that now. (pulls out phone and clicks away)

[Narrator] There will also be a computer for people without a smart phone and if internet problems, there will be a back-up paper form to use

[New Member] (goes back to desk) My number is 654321.

[Registration Person] Great – and your name was Nancy Newby. Is that correct? I just need to log you as a new member.

[New Member] Yes – I'm Nancy Newby. And so happy to join Democrats Abroad.

[Registration Person] Here's your ballot – you're all set.

[New Member] (takes ballot, fills out, puts in ballot box, and exits)

Scene 4: Out of Country Member

[Narrator] In this scene, we will look at what happens when a person shows up that is a member from another country.

[Registration Person] Hi Will

[Out of Country Person] Hi Dona – I happen to be in Munich today so would like to vote here.

[Registration Person] Hopefully as the EMEA RVC you know you can only vote at a voting center in your country of residence. Will you be back in Luxembourg for one of the voting center days there?

[Out of Country Person] I will but it would be so much easier to just do it now.

[Registration Person] What we are doing is encouraging any out-of-country members to vote remotely. If you lived in another part of Germany, you could still vote in our voting center but since you live in another country, you cannot. Remote votes can be done via an email attachment, fax or postal mail – but must be received by March 10 midnight Vancouver time.

[Out of Country Person] OK. (laughs) I was just testing you to see if you would let me get by with it.

[Registration Person] Be assured we know the rules. Hope to see you in the party area after the voting center closes.

[Out of Country Person] I plan to go in there now. I hope they have some good dance music. See you later.

[Out of Country Person] (smiles and goes to the exit/party area)

Scene 5: Republican wants to Vote

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when someone shows up thinking it is also a Republican primary.

[Registration Person] What is your name?

[Republican] My name is Rob Republican

[Registration Person] (Looks at membership list) I'm sorry sir, I don't show you on our membership list. You must be a member of Democrats Abroad to vote in our primary. If you'd like to join today, you can and still vote.

[Republican] I don't want to join Democrats Abroad. I'm a Republican. I came here today to vote for Donald Trump.

[Registration Person] I'm sorry but this is the primary for Democrats, not Republicans.

[Republican] What! You must be kidding. I drove 60 kilometers to vote. I saw on the internet that US citizens could vote in the presidential primary today. And that's what I want to do.

[Registration Person] I'm sorry you did not notice that the primary was for Democratic presidential candidates. We only have Democrats on our ballot today and only Democrats Abroad members can vote.

[Republican] Hmmmph – well I'm never voting for any Democrat.

[Republican] (Stomps out of room yelling) Those DAMN Democrats! I fear they are so well organized that they are going to beat Trump!

Scene 6: German wants to Vote

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when someone shows up that is not a US citizen.

[Registration Person] Hi Manfred

[German] Hi Dona. I'd like a ballot.

[Registration Person] You must be a member of Democrats Abroad to vote in our primary. You don't have dual citizenship, do you? You're not a US citizen, are you?

[German] No I'm Bavarian! But I do know a lot about US politics and that Trump is a disaster for the WHOLE world. I thought this was just a straw poll where anyone could vote.

[Registration Person] I'm sorry you can't vote today since this is an official US election.

[German] Are you sure I can't have a ballot. I'm Shari's husband and have had to put up with all her DA work. She even recruits me to help her at times. I know all about Nation Builder. I'm even wearing an ERA button. (points to button)

[Registration Person] Sorry you can't vote but you can tell all your American friends to vote. The voting center is open until 8PM today and again on Saturday.

[German] OK – I have lots of American friends, I even see a lot of them here. But (in loud voice) SCHEISSE– I wanted to vote to throw out Trump.

Scene 7: Too young to vote

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when a 17-year-old shows to vote.

[Registration Person] What is your name?

[Youth] My name is Susan Seventeen.

[Registration Person] (Looks at membership list) I'm sorry, I don't show you on our membership list. You must be a member of Democrats Abroad to vote in our primary. If you'd like to join today, you can and still vote. You just need to be a US citizen living abroad, that will be 18 by the General Election Day which is November 3 this year.

[Youth] It was thought it was Nov 6. That's what they told in during the midterms in 2018. I'll be 18 on November 4.

[Registration Person] Unfortunately, to vote, you must be 18 by the General Election Day – which is the first Tuesday in November and is November 3 this year.

[Youth] Can't you make an exception. Maybe with time zones, it could be considered Nov 3. I know I was born just after midnight. Please – this would be my first time to vote and it is so important to me.

[Registration Person] I wish I could make an exception. Please join Democrats Abroad as soon as you turn 18 so we can keep you informed about all upcoming elections. And do ask any of your American friends that will be 18 by Nov 3 that they can vote.

[Youth] Okay (walks away looking rejected)

[Registration Person] (calls out) You are welcome to go into the party area.

[Youth] Thanks! (and walks to the exit)

Scene 8: Already voted in US primary

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when someone shows that voted in another US primary.

[Already Voted] (walks over to ballot box with ballot)

[Already Voted] I have a question about this Declaration that I did not or will not participate in any other presidential elections. I vote in Iowa and happened to be there for the Iowa caucus so participated in it. Does that mean I cannot vote today?

[Ballot Box Watcher] Yes, that is correct. You can only vote once for a presidential candidate during the primaries.

[Already Voted] But the person I voted for in Iowa lost big time and withdrew. Now that they are not a candidate, why can't I vote for my second choice.

[Ballot Box Watcher] Unfortunately, that would be breaking the rules. You can only vote once for a presidential primary candidate. I'm sorry but rules are rules.

[Already Voted] That's disappointing but I understand. Thanks.

[Ballot Box Watcher] You are still welcome to join the party next door.

[Already Voted] Sure – it sounds like they are having fun in there.

[Already Voted] (exits the room)

Scene 9: Does not want to sign ballot

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens when someone does not sign their ballot.

[Ballot Box Watcher] Would you like me to review your ballot?

[Not Signed] Why would I want you to do that?

[Ballot Box Watcher] Lots of people make mistakes and we are offering to review it to make sure it is counted and not spoiled. For example, some people forget to sign it.

[Not Signed] (looks at ballot) Oh, my. I hadn't even noticed that I needed to sign it. By the way, why do we have to have our name on the ballot. Shouldn't this be anonymous?

[Ballot Box Watcher] That is one of the requirements from the Democratic National Committee – that no voting is completely anonymous. However, within DA, only a handful of people will see how you voted. Be assured that we will not be publishing anything on how anyone voted.

[Not Signed] OK – I don't care if anyone knows how I voted but know some people might. I would like you to review the ballot now that I signed it and make sure it looks ok.

[Ballot Box Watcher] Looks good to me. And thanks for writing so legibly.

[Not Signed] And thank you for making sure I filled out the ballot correctly.

[Journalist] (walks over with Photographer) Could I get a photo of you two?

[Ballot Box Watcher] Ok with me

[Not Signed] Sure

[Journalist] (to Not Signed) Could I get you to hold up your ballot to be in the photo?

[Not Signed] No, I'm not comfortable with that.

[Journalist] Oh come on, you can show the world how you voted.

[Ballot Box Watcher] She said NO.

[Journalist] OK then, how about I take a photo with you dropping in the ballot and we'll make sure the contents of the ballot do not show.

[Ballot Box Watcher and Not Signed] (pose for photo dropping the ballot in)

[Photographer] Takes photo

[Journalist] And now can I get both your names and some info about you

(end of scene as they talk and then Not Signed exits)

Scene 10: Tallying the Ballots

[Narrator] In this scene we will look at what happens during the tallying of the ballots.

[Teller1] Can we start counting ballots yet? We already have quite a few so could get a head start.

[Teller2] No – we cannot open the ballot box until after the closing time and the voting is complete.

[Teller1] OK.

[Greeter] (in a loud voice) It's now 8PM and time to close the voting. We will let anyone already in line complete the process. Please make sure if you have voted that you have put your ballot in the ballot box. Please move on to the party room if you are through voting.

[Ballot Box Watcher] (in a loud voice) Last call for your ballots.

[Teller2] Looks like we can start now. (to Ballot Box Watch) Would you please bring us the ballots?

[Ballot Box Watcher] (carries ballot box over to Tellers)

[Observer] (to Tellers) I'm here as the official observer for my Candidate Mickey Mouse (shows badge) and I want to look at every single ballot as you count it.

[Teller1] Welcome – sure, you can watch the process and you are welcome to examine any ballot you wish to view.

[Teller 2] We need to secure the unused ballots and determine the number of ballots distributed before we begin counting.

[Narrator] TELLERS pack up the unused ballots and set them aside. TELLERS look at check-in list and count the numbers of ballots distributed. They note the number.

[Teller2] We need to sort the ballots by candidate and then we can count them.

[Teller1] That's a good idea.

(Teller1 and Teller2 start going through ballots and sorting by candidate)

[Teller1] What do we do with this one – they didn't check any candidate name despite filling out everything else on the ballot.

[Teller2] Write "Spoiled" on it – we need a new stack for the spoiled ballots.

[Teller1] There's no signature on this one. Should I go try to find the person?

[Teller2] No, we'll need to write "Spoiled" since the voting center is now closed.

[Observer] Hey, I think this ballot is wrong. I talked with this person and she told me she voted for Mickey. I think she must have checked Minnie Mouse by mistake. She probably was off by a row. Can we change it?

[Teller2] I'm sorry but NO – she checked a box and signed it.

[Greeter] (to Tellers) How's it going? Who's winning?

[Teller2] We are still counting. In fact, it would be helpful if you could keep people from coming up and asking us. They are welcome to observe but if they ask us questions, that just distracts us and takes us even longer to finish.

[Greeter] Sure – happy to do that.

[Teller1] What do we do with this ballot? He wrote in a name on the ballot.

[Teller2] We need to mark it as Spoiled. We do not support any candidates not on the ballot. He could have selected Uncommitted if he did not want to vote for one of the candidates on the ballot. Of course, there's little chance that Uncommitted would get 15% or more of the votes.

[Teller1] What do you mean by the 15%?

[Teller2] DA will award delegates to the Democratic National Convention only to candidates who receive 15% or more of the vote **globally**. Uncommitted “could” have delegates but that's extremely unlikely.

[Teller1] WOW – that's interesting. I didn't realize that. And I skimmed the Delegate Selection Plan.

[Teller2] Yes, it's hard to remember everything in the 210 pages of our DSP. For details, you do need to read every word!

[Teller1] Can we post the results after we finish counting?

[Teller2] Per the Election Rules, we can and should – to be transparent -- but we must say they are preliminary and only for today's Voting Center.

T1: Wow, look at all these ballots! Now we've got a pile of valid ballots, AND a pile of provisional ballots for each candidate.

T2: First we have to take the PROVISIONAL ballots marked “SPOILED IN BOX” and find the regular ballots they replace, and staple those together with the Provisional one on top. And we have to staple the challenge forms to the PROVISIONAL ballots, Provisional on top. Now each candidate has a provisional pile with supporting documentation.

T1; Great! NOW we just have to count the two piles and we can go home, right?

T2: Not so fast, Swiftly. We have to take all the spoiled ballots we just marked because they're missing information, signature, or were double-marked, and make a note on the membership lists that the ballot cast by the member was spoiled.

T1: NOW we can count the ballots for the candidates?

T2: NOPE! Not yet eager beaver. Now we take all the spoiled ballots that aren't stapled to challenge forms or provisional ballots, both the ones that were put aside during the voting and

the ones that came out of the ballot box and were invalid or incomplete, and we count them as one group regardless of any candidate preferences, seal them in an envelope, with the number, date and location, and I keep that envelope until any recounts are finished and the global results are certified. And then...

T1: Ooh! OOH! I know, NOW we get to count the votes!!!

T2: yes, ballot-breath, for each candidate and for uncommitted, we count the number of provisional ballots and the number of valid regular ballots cast.

(Tellers quietly count out the stacks in groups of 5, while narrator continues)

[Narrator] The Tellers complete the count of all the ballots ; They make sure that all ballots are accounted for – that the number of ballots distributed matches the number of ballots voted and/or spoiled. And they mark the tally sheet with the number of regular and provisional ballots for each candidate and uncommitted. They and the Voting Center manager sign the tally sheet. The Voting Center Manager emails a photo of the tally sheet to Global , and telephones to report the tally results.

T1: Okey dokey, party time.

T2: Patience, patience . The individual photos come next, for uploading to Global , in case we cannot mail these ballots to Prague in time for the official count or any machine recount there. I'll use my camera to snap each one as you move each pile, one at a time.

T1: Phew, NOW we go to the party?

T2: No, Not yet! I' m just uploading the ballots files, takes a minute. . Nope, Now we put each type of ballot into its own sealed envelope or sealed folder section

Provisional for Mickey, Regular for Mickey, Provisional for Uncommitted, Regular for Uncommitted, etc., with numbers, date and place of our Voting Center.

Narrator : They pack up and clearly label the ballot packages with the tally sheet, and secure them until mailing. And the Voting Center manager announces the preliminary results, stressing that the results are for just that Voting Center. The Voting Center Manager also has to skip the tenth beer, or in Canada or Uruguay, the third reefer, because tomorrow, Voting Center Managers and their helpers still have to ship the ballots, enter the new paper joining members, and record from the membership list at the Voting Center into the database which members have now voted, if the list wasn't updated live during the ballot distribution.

T1: NOW we party?

T2 and VCM: YES YES YES! Hooray! Congratulations and thank you all volunteers for a GREAT GPP !

