



# Colorado Caucus

A Guide to the 2018 Colorado Caucus



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# Overview

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  - \* Do I need to attend?
- \* Why
  - \* Have a caucus at all?
- \* Who
  - \* Do we vote on?
  - \* Can attend a caucus?
- \* When
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- \* Where
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- \* Caucus Night Play by Play
- \* Fun with Delegate Math
- \* Where does the caucus fit in?



# What is a Caucus?

## Definition:

- \* A meeting in which local members of a political party register their preference among candidates running for office or select delegates to attend an assembly.

## Caucus in Colorado

- \* Originated 1910, abolished in 1992, restored 2004, abolished for Presidential post-'16.
- \* 3,010 precincts.
- \* Only D's and R's hold a caucus.



# What...

... Do I need to caucus?

- \* Party registration effective on or before 1/8/18.
- \* Have lived in precinct for at least 30 days.
- \* Have registered to vote in your precinct at least 29 days prior to caucus.
- \* Caucus location – Party Responsibility.
- \* Know your PRECINCT #!
  - \* [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com)
  - \* LOOK NOW!



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# Why...

... Even have a caucus?

- \* To give party members of all levels input in who we send to represent the party.
- \* Demonstrate support for candidates heading toward primary.
- \* Caucus is a chance to organize as a party, make your voice heard.
- \* Elect delegates who support your candidates or run yourself!

# Who...

## ... Do we vote on?

- \* In Colorado, we abolished presidential caucuses.
- \* Still need to vote on SO MUCH:
  - \* Gubernatorial
  - \* Delegates to County/State Assembly
  - \* Precinct Committee People
  - \* Platform

## ... Participates?

- \* Only D's registered BEFORE 1/8/18.
- \* U's can attend, they just can't vote.
- \* Residents of their specific precinct only.



# When...

... Do we caucus?

- \* First Tuesday in March, every even numbered year.
- \* Check in at 6:00pm, gavel at 7:00pm, done by 8:30pm.

REMEMBER THIS DATE:

MARCH 6, 2018



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# Where...

... Do I go to caucus?

- \* Depends on your precinct!
- \* Generally located in schools, churches, libraries, etc.
- \* Must be ADA compliant.

Check county or state party website for your specific precinct's voting location.



Now we know a little about the caucus...

But what actually happens the  
night of the caucus??



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# Caucus Night Play by Play

## 1) Call to Order

- \* Caucus is called to order at 7PM by PCP\* or Site Coordinator.

## 2) Reading of the rules

- \* PCP reads aloud the rules of the caucus for all to hear.

\* or any caucus goer in the room if no PCP or Site Coordinator is present or it is after 7PM

# Caucus Night Play by Play

## 3) Elect Chair and Secretary of Caucus

- \* They will follow instructions in the packets provided.
- \* Responsible for:
  - \* Filling out forms.
  - \* Conducting the caucus, counting votes, distributing delegates.
  - \* Return forms to coordinator/county party.

## 4) Elect Precinct Committee People (PCP)

- \* 2 for every precinct.
- \* **Strong PCP's = 3% better performance at the ballot box.**
- \* Responsible for:
  - \* Canvassing, calling, and organizing your neighbors.
  - \* Caucus preparation.
  - \* VOTING AT HOUSE DISTRICT AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.



# Caucus Night Play by Play

## 5) Straw Poll

- \* GUBERNATORIAL ONLY
  - \* No weight, simply show of hands and counting to show viability.
  - \* Uncommitted is an option.
  - \* 15% viability threshold.

## 6) Assembly Preference Poll

- \* GUBERNATORIAL ONLY
  - \* Has weight, votes counted.
  - \* 15% viability threshold.
  - \* Uncommitted is an option.
  - \* Secretary records votes.

## 7) Election Judge

- \* Be an Election Judge!
- \* Watch polling locations and help them run smoothly.
- \* Paid position.



# Delegate Math

When allocating the delegates, do not round up or down!

Each candidate receives delegates based on the whole number to the left of the decimal point. If there are additional delegates to award, look only at the number to the right of the decimal point and award the additional delegate to the candidate with the highest number.

Caucus Chair: John A. Doe

Signature: John A. Doe

Precinct Number 1350603129

# Of Allotted Delegates: 4

# Of Caucus Attendees: 8

Threshold (15% of attendees): 2  
(use chart at left)

Threshold Chart	
Total number of Caucus Attendees voting in the Preference poll.	Minimum number of votes a candidate MUST receive to get ANY delegates.
1-6	1
7-13	2
14-20	3
21-26	4
27-33	5
34-40	6

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Candidate Name	Candidate Votes in Preference Poll	Votes Meeting Threshold	Total of Votes in C	Percentage of Votes	Number Delegates	Number of Delegates to Elect
A	2	2	7	0.28	4	1.1 = 1
B	5	5	7	0.714	4	2.8 = 3
Uncommitted	1	0				
TOTAL		7				

A has 1 natural delegate, B has 2 natural delegates, and we have 1 left to assign. Since .8 is larger than .1 the last delegate goes to B. In the even of a tie the delegate is determined by lot.

# Caucus Night Play by Play

## 8) Elect Delegates

- \* County delegates apportioned based on % vote received and # allotted to precinct.
- \* NO alternates for State Assembly, and Multi-County District Assemblies (County Assembly, may vary).
- \* All those running for delegate get brief time to make their case.
- \* NO automatic delegates.
- \* Voting on delegates.

## Role of a Delegate

- \* Attend County Assembly
- \* As a county delegate, you will:
  1. Nominate candidates for county offices.
  2. Nominate candidates for House/Senate Districts.
  3. Elect delegates to State and/or Congressional District Assembly.  
(You can run!)



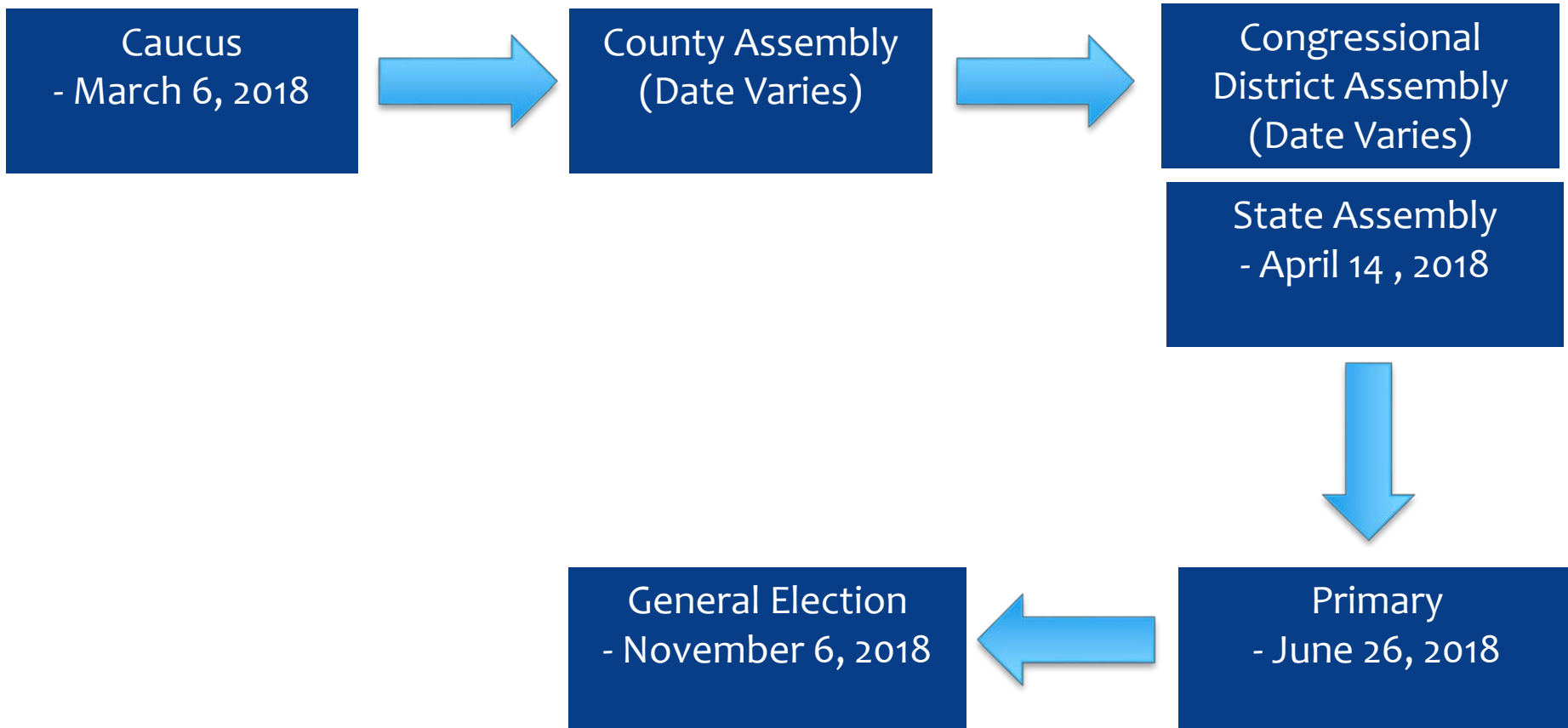
# Caucus Night Play by Play

## 9) Vote on Platform

- \* Vote on motions to amend the state party platform.
- \* Brought to County Assembly to be voted on again.
- \* If amendment passes County Assembly, goes to State Assembly.
- \* Voted on at State Assembly, if passes becomes part of Democratic Party Platform of Colorado.



# How does the caucus fit in to the election process?





# KNOW YOUR PRECINCT NUMBER!

One last thing...

Where do you go to check your precinct number?

[WWW.GOVOTECOLORADO.COM](http://WWW.GOVOTECOLORADO.COM)



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