

RPBC 2024 DEBATE GROUND RULES, FORMAT AND LOGISTICS

JANUARY 16, 2024

GROUND RULES:

- Questions and or issues will be provided at least by January 24th.
- Surrogates will not be allowed to participate in the debate in place of a candidate.
- No placards, posters, stickers, or other such campaign materials may be displayed by the candidates during the debate.
- Water will be provided; therefore, no outside food or drink is permitted.
- The candidate may not have access to any person during the debate other than the moderator, and, in the case of an emergency, a member of the production crew or staff.
- Candidates may not use technology during the debate. Campaigns are permitted to film the debate independently.
- The producers and moderator will determine which questions are asked, by whom, and when during the debate.
- Time limits on statements, answers, rebuttals, and responses will be enforced by the moderator during the debate.
- The studio crew will display timecards indicating 15 seconds remaining and when time expired.
- The moderator may interrupt any candidate if the moderator believes the candidate is straying from the subject matter.
- The candidates may not interrupt one another. It is the moderator's responsibility and discretion – not the candidates' – to enforce this rule.
- No participant in the debate (neither candidates nor questioners) may be allowed to use props or visuals of any kind.
- Candidates and the moderator will remain in their designated position for the duration of the debate.
- Candidates may refer to written or typed notes.

FORMAT:

The State Representative District 121 and County Commissioner Precinct 3 debates will last 45 minutes each. The Congressional District 23 debate will last 90 minutes.

Two-minute opening statements by all candidates with the order of speaking determined by lots.

The moderator will address questions to the candidates and each candidate will be given 1 minute to respond to each question. In the County Commissioner debate each candidate will be given 2 minutes to answer. Questions will address varying policy issues and Republican Party Platform principles.

If the moderator desires additional debate on a particular topic, they may allow up to 3 minutes for discussion following each candidate being allowed to answer the question.

The order in which the candidates respond will vary.

Two-minute closing statements will be given in reverse order from opening statements

A timekeeper will hold up a sign indicating when the candidate has 15 seconds remaining. If any candidate consistently runs over time, the microphone may be turned off when their 1 minute expires.

Candidates are encouraged to debate and hold each other to account rather than having this role assumed by the moderator.

May we all learn and grow through civil discourse.

Jeff.

Jeffrey R. McManus

Chairman Republican Party Bexar County