RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION REFERENDUM

Prepared by Alex Tackett, President
Reviewed by J.L. Hamilton, Secretary

SECTION ONE: Introduction

At the time of the preparation of the Referendum, approximately 10:00 AM Central Time, the membership roster recorded 2,708 members in good standing. The roster contained a total of 2,628 emails, with a total of 2,585 emails were sent out through Survey Monkey, our delivery provider. One email of that number had to be resent due to an initial typo in the email address. The difference in the email count and the membership count is due to lost emails from previous periods of overly strict information security policies, scripting errors, and Survey Monkey declining to send to particular email addresses due to opt outs, black lists, and previous bounces.

Announcements to the national communication platforms and the chapter organizers were made to attempt to catch members who wished to participate but did not receive emails. At least three members needed to opt-in to Survey Monkey emails to receive their ballots, but Survey Monkey automatically resent these emails after the opt-ins without the need for human intervention.

The breakdown of the turnout and send rate, as provided by Survey Monkey, is as follows:

**Emails:**

Total emails sent: 2,585  
Total emails opened: 1,341  
Total emails unopened: 1,239  
Total emails bounced: 2  
Total emails clicked through: 669  
Total emails opted out of Survey Monkey: 3

**Responses:**

Complete responses (clicked “done” at the end): 597  
Partial responses (began ballot, did not click “done”): 0  
Total responses: 597

**Turnout percentages:**

(All percentages as a percentage of total membership at time of ballot release)

Membership: 2,708 (100.00%)  
Unique ballots sent (total emails sent minus changed emails): 2584 (95.42%)  
Total responses: 597 (22.04%)
SECTION TWO: RESULTS

(Percentages may not add up to 100.00% due to rounding errors)

QUESTION ONE: Shall the Madison, Wisconsin Chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association be granted a Chapter Delegate, to be elected in the October 2019 General Election?

Answered: 590
Skipped: 7

Yes: 584 (95.82%)
No: 6 (1.01%)
Skipped: 7 (1.17%)

QUESTION TWO: Shall the San Francisco Bay, California Chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association be granted a Chapter Delegate, to be elected in the October 2019 General Election?

Answered: 590
Skipped: 7

Yes: 580 (97.15%)
No: 10 (1.67%)
Skipped: 7 (1.17%)

QUESTION THREE: Shall the Southern New England Chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association be granted a Chapter Delegate, to be elected in the October 2019 General Election?

Answered: 589
Skipped: 8

Yes: 580 (97.15%)
No: 9 (1.50%)
Skipped: 8 (1.34%)

QUESTION FOUR: Shall the St. Louis, Missouri Chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association be granted a Chapter Delegate, to be elected in the October 2019 General Election?

Answered: 589
Skipped: 8

Yes: 583 (97.65%)
No: 6 (1.00%)
Skipped: 8 (1.34%)
QUESTION FIVE: Shall the Front Range, Colorado Chapter of the Socialist Rifle Association be granted a Chapter Delegate, to be elected in the October 2019 General Election?

Answered: 587  
Skipped: 10  
Yes: 578 (96.81%)  
No: 9 (1.50%)  
Skipped: 10 (1.67%)

QUESTION SIX: Shall the Bylaws of the Socialist Rifle Association be amended to allow for lack of confidence as a reason to expel a member of the Central Committee, and to additionally add that petitions and votes to remove a Chapter Delegate from their position to only require the quorum of their represented members?

Answered: 588  
Skipped: 9  
Yes: 555 (92.96%)  
No: 33 (5.52%)  
Skipped: 9 (1.50%)

QUESTION SEVEN: Shall the Bylaws of the Socialist Rifle Association be amended to establish a process concerning the data retention and grace period given after a member voluntarily resigns their membership?

Answered: 592  
Skipped: 5  
Yes: 568 (95.14%)  
No: 24 (4.02%)  
Skipped: 5 (0.83%)

SECTION THREE: CORRECTIONS

• 1 email that was not on the initial send list at all (i.e. there was no incorrect email to correct) was added during the course of the referendum by member request.
• 1 email was updated from an address with a typo in it.
• 3 emails were reported by members who moved from ‘opt-out’ to ‘opt-in’.
• 1 member did not receive a ballot, requested a ballot prior to the expiration of the referendum, but was not able to receive it before the conclusion of the referendum.
SECTION FOUR: CONCLUSION

Turnout for this election was 22%, nine percentage points lower than the electoral referendum, which was 31%. Low turnout can likely be attributed to the October general election overshadowing the referendum, and the relative lack of controversy surrounding the questions presented. Every question presented, nonetheless, won by overwhelming majority.

The rate of errors was lower this time around, which can be attributed to both the clean up of the roster from the previous referendum, improved roster technology, and a generally lower interest in the referendum. It has also provided a trial run in the lead up to the October general election, which is anticipated to generate a far greater turnout.

A number of members reached out stating that they didn’t receive a ballot, but were able to find it in their spam folders. Extra emphasis on checking spam and promotion folders, as well as providing search terms for members to use, would be wise for future elections.

SECTION FIVE: CERTIFICATION

I, Jason Hamilton, in my role as Secretary of the Socialist Rifle Association, certify the results listed on this report as true and accurate to the best of my professional knowledge and expertise, and hereby submit this report to the permanent record of the Socialist Rifle Association, with all questions binding to the Bylaws. I will incorporate the language provided on the ballot into the Bylaws, and allow for the election of the Chapter Delegate positions approved in my role as Recording Officer.


Signature

09/25/2019

Date

I, Alex Tackett, in my role as President of the Socialist Rifle Association, certify the results listed on this report as true and accurate to the best of my professional knowledge and expertise, and hereby submit this report to the permanent record of the Socialist Rifle Association, with all questions binding to the Bylaws. I will approve the incorporation the language provided on the ballot into the Bylaws, and second the election of the Chapter Delegate positions approved in my role as Supervisory Officer.


Signature

9/25/19

Date

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