

## Conducting Grange Elections

Each Grange is encouraged to select its officers and committees very carefully. All members should have an opportunity to serve as an officer or on a committee. Good leadership is essential to the progress of each Grange. The fundamentals of the Grange officer elections are:

- The election of officers in a Subordinate/Community Grange can be done either annually or biannually; this is determined by the bylaws of your Grange.
- Nominations are never closed, which allows members to vote for whomever they desire.
- Members vote by paper ballot to preserve their right to a secret ballot. An officer is elected if he/she receives 50% plus one or more of the total votes cast.
- No nominating speeches are allowed, which includes campaigning for office. Members should never state who any member should vote for nor make any disparaging statement about any candidate.
- Any member may decline an office for which they have been nominated.
- Nominations will be called for by the Master/President for the first office in rank. However, a Grange may choose to amend their By-Laws or by motion elect officers in any order. At the appropriate time in the meeting the chair will open the floor for nominations for the office of Master/President by saying “Are there any nominations for the office of Master/President.” It is customary, although not required, for the chair to call for nominations three times for each office.
- An election is declared when a nominee has received a majority (50% + 1 vote) of ballots cast (Table 1)
  - If no candidate receives a majority of votes cast, then the vote is retaken. Granges may make the determination that if a majority is not attained, then a run-off election may be held between the top two vote getters.
  - If a member wishes to not vote for any of the nominees, but wants their vote for that office counted, they must write “BLANK” on the ballot. Ballots that are turned in with no marking on them are not counted in determining the majority
- Members may hold office only in the Grange in which they hold membership. Affiliate members may not be Master of two Subordinate/Community or Pomona Granges at the same time.
- Instructions for the voting process are found in the “pink” Floorwork Handbook under “Paper Ballot.”

Table 1. Majority Vote Calculations

<b>NUMBER OF VOTES CAST</b>	<b>MAJORITY VOTE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF VOTES CAST</b>	<b>MAJORITY VOTE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF VOTES CAST</b>	<b>MAJORITY VOTE</b>
7	4	45	23	83	42
8	5	46	24	84	43
9	5	47	24	85	43
10	6	48	25	86	44
11	6	49	25	87	44
12	7	50	26	88	45
13	7	51	26	89	45
14	8	52	27	90	46
15	8	53	27	91	46
16	9	54	28	92	47
17	9	55	28	93	47
18	10	56	29	94	48
19	10	57	29	95	48
20	11	58	30	96	49
21	11	59	30	97	49
22	12	60	31	98	50
23	12	61	31	99	50
24	13	62	32	100	51
25	13	63	32	101	51
26	14	64	33	102	52
27	14	65	33	103	52
28	15	66	34	104	53
29	15	67	34	105	53
30	16	68	35	106	54
31	16	69	35	107	54
32	17	70	36	108	55
33	17	71	36	109	55
34	18	72	37	110	56
35	18	73	37	111	56
36	19	74	38	112	57
37	19	75	38	113	57
38	20	76	39	114	58
39	20	77	39	115	58
40	21	78	40	116	59
41	21	79	40	117	59
42	22	80	41	118	60
43	22	81	41	119	60
44	23	82	42	120	61