



GUBERNATORIAL STRAW BALLOT

Minnesota does have statutory requirements governing the conduct of a gubernatorial straw ballot (preference ballot) at precinct caucuses, including some basic procedural mandates, but most of the detailed mechanics are left to party rules and the Secretary of State's reporting forms.

State Statutory Requirements

1. Statutory Requirement for a Governor Preference Ballot

Under Minnesota law, in any year when the office of governor appears on the general election ballot, a preference ballot **must be distributed at each precinct caucus** before other business (specifically before nominations for permanent offices and delegates). This ballot allows caucus participants to indicate their preference for governor. [MN Revisor's Office](#)

2. Secret Ballot Required

All voting in the caucus — including the gubernatorial preference ballot — is **required to be by secret ballot**. [MN Revisor's Office](#)

3. Reporting Results

The results of the preference voting **must be reported to the Minnesota Secretary of State immediately upon conclusion of the voting**, using the form(s) provided by the Secretary of State. In this instance, each BPOU/precinct will upload data to the MNGOP who will be responsible for the reporting. Each BPOU/Precinct can report at the following website: **MNGOPPOLLREPORTER.COM**