**Tips for Conducting Forums and Programs**

Clubs can help other organizations in Federal Candidate forums but cannot sponsor Federal Candidate Forums.  For example, they can support a forum hosted by the County GOP Chair and County Executive Committee. Our clubs are State PACs and follow the guidelines established by the Texas Ethics Commission. They are not Federal PACS which follow Federal Election rules.

Federal candidates cannot speak at clubs. They can introduce themselves and state the position they are seeking. The current Congressional Representative can speak at club meetings and provide a report on what is going on in Congress. However, the Representative cannot talk about their campaign or competitors.

Invite all Republican candidates in a particular race, especially during the primary and run off period. If they cannot attend, at least the invitation has been extended. It is not necessary to adjust the club meeting schedule to accommodate their schedule.

Only Republican candidates are invited at federated clubs.

When allowing candidates to speak at meetings, establish time limits and have a Timekeeper.

Do notbe afraid to interrupt a speaker whose speech has veered into inappropriate territory.  The president and program chairman should “control the microphone” and stop the presentation at that point.

TFRW clubs expect civility during club meetings. If attendees are disruptive, the President can ask the person to leave. If the conduct continues, the Sergeant at Arms can remove the person from the remove.

Do not have programs or speakers criticizing our Republican elected officials or candidates.  We are here to foster loyalty to the Republican party and its candidates.  (One of the objectives of TFRW is fostering loyalty to the Republican party, its candidates, and its principles.)

Research the speaker and the organization the speaker represents to make sure that there is no controversy that would bring negative publicity to your club.

TFRW does not recommend having forums for non-partisan races. There are too many unknowns about political affiliation and voting records for example.