

Club Bylaws
for the
Republican Club of North Port, Florida

ARTICLE I - NAME

The Club's name shall be the North Port Area Republican Club, from now on referred to as the Club and is Chartered by the Republican Party of Florida.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of the Club shall be:

- (a) To promote the election of Republican Candidates.
- (b) To promote an informed public through political education and activity.
- (c) To foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its principles.
- (d) To increase Republican registration and membership.
- (e) To uphold the principles of freedom, equality, and justice on which the Republican Party and the government of this nation are founded, as set forth in the constitution of the United States of America and the State of Florida.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall consist of two categories – Regular and Associate. Regular membership is open to all registered Republicans within the boundaries of Sarasota County. Associate membership is open to Republicans registered outside of Sarasota County.

Section 2. Dues. The annual dues shall be paid by the first meeting of January of each year. Recommendations for dues changes shall come from the Executive Board and shall be approved by a simple majority of members present at a regular meeting. Currently, dues are \$20 for a single individual and \$35 for two family members.

Section 3. Regular Members in good standing may participate in discussions of issues presented at meetings, vote on matters presented to the membership, and vote in an election of officers and directors. Good standing is defined as any actively registered Republican residing in Sarasota County whose dues have been paid at least ninety (90) days before any meeting and who has maintained a good attendance record for at least half of the meetings with only one excused absence in the last twelve months.

Section 4. Visitors/prospective members are welcome to visit the Club. They are allowed two visits to the Club meetings; after that, the guest must join the Club to enjoy the benefits same as other members.

Section 5. Any member may be expelled from the Club, either with or without cause, at any time by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1. The Club officers shall be a President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms and Member at Large. Officers must be members in good standing with the Club. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the Club's general parliamentary authority.

- (a) At the regular meeting held in September, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President. It shall be the committee's duty to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the elections meeting, which is in November of odd-numbered years. The Nominating Committee shall report at the meeting before the elections meeting. Any member in good standing can make additional nominations from the floor before the election in the elections meeting.
- (b) The President shall conduct the election one office at a time.
- (c) Voting in the election shall be by secret ballot unless a candidate is unopposed, then a voice vote may then be taken.
- (d) The office's duration shall begin at the close of the elections meeting and shall be for two years or until successors are elected. There is no limit on the number of consecutive times a member may serve.
- (e) For a member to be nominated to hold office, they must have been a member of the Club for at least one year prior to nomination.
- (f) No member shall hold more than one office at a time.
- (g) An officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at any regular meeting. Officers who have three consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings shall be removed from office by the Executive Board.
- (h) Resignations by any officer can be in writing to the President or Executive Board.
- (i) All vacancies of officers who have resigned or otherwise been removed from office shall be filled in an election at the Club's next meeting after the vacancy becomes known. The officer in charge will hold a special election for the vacancy, and a majority vote will elect the new officer. Nominations of officers may be made from the floor. Only nominees who agree to serve if elected shall be placed on the ballot.
- (j) The President or the Executive Board may, at their discretion, appoint a member in good standing to fill the vacancy of the resigned officer until the election is held.
- (k) In the event of the President's resignation or removal, the Vice President shall serve as President until an election is held. If both positions are vacant, the Second Vice President shall serve as President until the election is held.

Section 2. The duties of the officers:

- (a) President shall preside over all meetings of the Club, its Executive Board and exercise general supervision over all Club activities. The President shall have the power to create all committees as needed, appoint all committee

chairpersons, and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, except for the Nominating Committee. At all meetings, the President shall only vote to break a tie on a motion.

- (b) Vice President shall assist the President in supervising the activities of the Club and preside at all meetings in the absence of the President.
- (c) Second Vice President shall perform the duties outlined in ARTICLE IV, Section 1-(k) and other duties as may be assigned.
- (d) Secretary shall be the recording officer, including meetings of the Club and Executive Board, and shall record the minutes of all such meetings, making those minutes available to the general membership in writing at regular meetings. Send out notice of meetings via electronic means, conduct the Club's correspondence when directed, and perform such duties as may be assigned.
- (e) Treasurer shall collect all funds paid to the Club or any of its committees and deposit same in accounts designated by the Club. The Treasurer shall be responsible for making all expenditures authorized by the Club and shall submit a written report at each regular meeting of the Club regarding receipts, expenses, and the financial status of the Club. The Treasurer shall keep a record of membership and is responsible for verifying a member's Republican registration upon application and at least annually. The Treasurer shall perform other duties as may be assigned.
- (f) Sergeant at Arms assists with the welcome and registration desk. They will maintain order and enforce standards for proper behavior and security for the event. With a courteous demeanor, the Sergeant-at-Arms calls for quiet and for meeting attendees to be seated when needed and will escort those who disrupt proceedings out of the room.
- (g) Member at Large is elected to represent the interest of the entire membership. They will attend all Executive Board meetings to gain an understanding of the board's direction. They serve as a liaison between the membership and the board of directors. The Member at Large shall perform other duties as may be assigned.

ARTICLE V - MEETING

Section 1. All regular Club meetings shall be held at the date, time, and location as determined by a majority vote of the Club. The Club shall have a minimum of six regular meetings each year. The Secretary shall give all Club members at least ten days' notice of, and the agenda of, each regular meeting.

Section 2. During November, the regular meeting shall be known as the Annual Meeting of the Club and shall be for, but not limited to, the officer's election.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Executive Board, or by written request of ten Club members. The Secretary must give all Club members at least ten days' notice of, and the purpose of, the special meeting.

Section 4. Only members in good standing, as defined in Article III, Section 3, shall be allowed to vote in meetings of the Club. According to the Republican Party of Florida Rules of Procedure, proxy voting shall not be permitted in any meetings.

Section 5. Those members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. If any non-member wishes to speak at one of our monthly meetings other than the guest speaker, they must submit a request to talk in writing to the president and vice-president 48 hours before the meeting. This request must include printed materials that they wish to hand out on the topic and a written outline as to the context of their presentation and position of what they plan to address. It will be at the president's or the vice-president's discretion to allow the speaker to make the presentation to the meeting.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The officers of the Club and all committee chairmen shall constitute the Executive Board. Only the officers of the Club shall be voting members of the Board. Any persons in good standing as a member of the Club may attend Executive Board meetings as a non-voting observer.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of Club affairs between regular meetings of the Club and fix the time and place for meetings of the Board. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Club.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or upon written request of three Board members.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall promptly appoint a Finance Committee composed of the Treasurer and up to two other members after each annual meeting. It shall be the committee's duty to prepare a budget for the Club to be submitted to the membership for approval at the meeting in February, at which time the committee is dissolved.

Section 2. The President shall promptly appoint a Programs and Projects Committee of members after the annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to plan the programs and any Club's special projects throughout the year.

Section 3. The President shall appoint an Auditing Committee of up to three members at the annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to audit the Treasurer's account at the close of the fiscal year and report at the next regular meeting following the annual meeting at which time the committee is dissolved.

Section 4. Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as deemed necessary to carry on the Club's work and be formed only for the duration of their service. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE VIII - ENDORSEMENTS & INTRA-PARTY DIFFERENCES

Section 1. Pursuant to the Republican Party of Florida Rules of Procedure, no chartered club or organization using the name Republican shall participate in intra-party differences, nor shall it, as an organization, seek to influence the nomination or election of any Republican over another Republican unless the County Executive Committee has endorsed one Republican over another. Then the Club may seek to influence the election of the candidate endorsed by the County Executive Committee. Chartered clubs shall not entertain motions to adopt platform positions on issues or endorse candidates except that they may entertain such motions to take the same position or endorse the same candidate as the County Executive Committee has taken. Under no circumstances shall a chartered club invite a non-Republican to be a guest speaker at a club meeting or function without prior approval of the County Republican Executive Board. The Chairman of the Republican Party of Florida shall be the authority with respect to internal disputes referred by any Club or member of a Club chartered under this rule in regards to said disputes.

ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION

Procedure: If in the event this Club wishes to disband or dissolve formally:

- (a) The Executive Board shall present a resolution stating the reasons for dissolution.
- (b) Resolutions shall also be offered, stating how the assets shall be disposed of and other administrative details.
- (c) The Secretary must send the resolutions by mail or email to all Club members of record.
- (d) Creditors with proof of claims shall be fully paid or shall be paid on an agreed-upon settlement.
- (e) The final disposition of all remaining assets shall be assigned to the Florida State Republican Party within six months.

Upon dissolution, the Secretary shall send all records and monies to the Republican Party of Florida, 420 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Phone (850) 222-7920

ARTICLE X- PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Republican Party of Florida Constitution, the Republican Party of Florida Rules of Procedure, and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

ARTICLE XI- AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

Issued on _____
Date

President _____
Mark Frandsen, President

Secretary _____
Alexandra Smith, Secretary

An official signed copy of these bylaws is on file with the Sarasota County Republican Executive Committee.