

BYLAWS

San Diego Labor DEMOCRATIC CLUB

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the San Diego Labor Democratic Club, hereafter referred to as "Labor Democratic Club".

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club shall be to foster democratic ideals by stimulating active interest in Organized Labor, policies that help working families, and the Democratic Party. The club shall support the party platform, contribute to party leadership and responsibility, provide a constructive role for the volunteers in Democratic politics, endorse candidates who support Organized Labor, and promote an activist base.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 - ELIGIBILITY

Anyone registered as a Democrat, or is ineligible to vote (due to age, non-residency or other legal impediment) but pledges to register as a Democrat when eligible, and supports the purpose of the Club as stated in Article II, above shall be eligible for membership in this club. Independents/non-partisan voters may join as associate/non-voting members and are encouraged to do so.

- SECTION 2 - GOOD STANDING

Democrats and pledged Democrats, whose annual dues are currently paid, or have been waived, shall be considered a member in good standing. Any member whose actions are judged to be prejudicial or detrimental to the club by the Executive Board may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds vote at any general meeting, at which a quorum exists.

- SECTION 3 – DUES

Annual dues shall be proposed by a majority vote of the Executive Board and approved by a majority vote of club members in good standing who are present and voting at a general business meeting for which a quorum exists. Dues must be paid upon joining the club, and annually at the beginning of every club calendar year thereafter. Dues waivers can be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board on a case by case basis. **Dues paid from November 1st through December 31st are good through the end of the following calendar year.**

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- **SECTION 4 - RENEWALS**

Effective January 1, 2019, Membership renewal is due in January. Members who renew within 90 days of the January meeting will be considered members in good standing. If a member fails to renew within 90 days of the January meeting, their membership shall lapse and they will have to apply again as a new member.

- **SECTION 5 – VOTING**

A member in good standing who has attended at least one prior meeting since completing the application and has completed the application at least sixty (60) days prior, shall be eligible to vote. No proxy voting or absentee shall be permitted. Voting shall be limited to registered Democrats and members intended to register as Democrat.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

- **SECTION 1 - ELECTED OFFICERS**

Elected officers of this club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. All officers are preferred to be current members in good standing of a Labor Union. The President and Treasurer shall be elected at the general meeting in January of odd-numbered years and hold office for one two years. The Vice President and Secretary shall be elected at the general meeting in January of even-numbered years and hold office for two years, except that in 2021 the Vice President and Secretary shall be elected at the January general meeting and hold office for one year. An elected officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the members at a General Meeting for such causes as non-performance of duties, providing the membership and the officer have been notified ten days in advance of the meeting of the proposed action against the officer.

- **SECTION 2 - DUTIES**

A. President

The President shall preside over all meetings of the club and the executive board; make appointments to other positions as required, and act as official spokesperson of the club. In addition, the President should stimulate active interest in the political process, provide a constructive role for active volunteers; contribute to effective leadership and individual responsibility; promote harmony among the club membership, between other clubs and within the San Diego County Democratic Party.

B. Vice-President

The Vice President shall serve at the direction of the President. He/she shall preside at meetings if the President is unable to do so, or is requested by the President to do so. The

Vice-President shall take over the duties of President in the absence of that officer, and is responsible for the annual audit.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the general meetings, executive committee meetings, conduct correspondence, maintain the club's records, maintain an accurate membership list, and is responsible for internal communications.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of dues, maintain a list of members in good standing, receive and deposit all club funds; maintain an accurate record of club receipts and expenditures; sign all checks as authorized by the Executive Board; make the record of club receipts and expenditures available to any member when requested; provide a report of the club financial status at club meetings as requested; provide an annual written report of club financial status; make the books and all other financial records of the club available to the audit committee each year. In addition, the Treasurer shall be responsible for filing FPPC/FEC financial report on time as required.

- SECTION 3 - ELECTIONS

Elections shall be held annually. At the election meeting the floor will be open for nominations. The election may be held by show of hands or voice vote for. A secret ballot will be used if requested. Those nominees who receive a majority vote shall be declared elected. If no person receives a majority of votes cast, a run-off shall be held between those two persons receiving the greatest number of votes. The person receiving the majority of the votes shall be declared elected.

- SECTION 4 - VACANCIES

Should any officer **or executive board member** resign or fail to attend three general meetings **and/or Executive Board meetings in a row and/or four general meetings or Executive Board meetings in a calendar year** without cause approved by the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall declare that office vacant and appoint a successor to that office to complete the unexpired term. Any such appointment shall, however, be approved by the membership at the next general meeting. At that meeting, nominations to fill the vacancy shall also be accepted from the floor. Voting shall be by secret ballot with a majority of those members in good standing present required to elect.

- SECTION 5 - APPOINTED OFFICERS

The President shall appoint a parliamentarian and any other officers not otherwise specified by these bylaws as required for the general well-being of the club.

ARTICLE V- MEETINGS

- SECTION 1 - GENERAL MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of six general meetings each year, at least one of which shall be in January. Other general meetings shall be held at such times and places as specified by a majority of the Executive Board.

- SECTION 2 - QUORUM

A quorum at any general meeting shall be 10 members in good standing. A quorum at an endorsing/electing meeting shall be 13. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be a majority of its elected members.

- SECTION 3 - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The parliamentary authority is the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

- SECTION 4 - NOTICES

At least (3) three days prior to a general meeting at which the following items will be discussed and voted upon, meeting notices shall be emailed to each member of the club in good standing. Upon request, notices shall be mailed or communicated by phone:

Proposed resolutions
Addition of action item on the agenda

All action items must be agendaized and proper notice sent with at least (3) three days' notice to the members.

Urgency Clause: Noticing requirement may be overridden by a vote of 2/3 of the members present at the meeting in which the action item is to be introduced and acted on. This clause shall be limited to: action items, proposed resolutions, and endorsements of legislation.

At least two (2) weeks prior to a general meeting at which the following items will be discussed and voted upon, meeting notices shall be emailed to each member of the club in good standing. Upon request, notices shall be mailed or communicated by phone:

Club elections and filling of vacancies
Proposed amendments to bylaws
Endorsements of candidates and/or ballot measures

All notices shall specify the time, place and date of the general meeting and describe the event.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

- **SECTION 1 - MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Executive Board shall include all of the elected club officers, and three (3) members at large elected yearly.

- **SECTION 2 - FUNCTION**

The Executive Board shall approve all expenditures and carry out the club business between general meetings in a manner consistent with actions taken at the general meetings, and perform any other duties provided for in these bylaws. The President shall pre-approve any written correspondence on behalf of the club. The President shall be the spokesperson of the club.

- **SECTION 3 - MEETINGS**

The President shall call a meeting, with advance notice, of the Executive Board as needed. Special meetings may be called by a majority of the members of the Executive Board at any time. A majority of the elected members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Committees may include, but are not limited to: Endorsements, Political Action, Membership, Fund Raising, Program, Special Events, Communications, Audit, Hospitality and others as identified by the President and ratified by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII - CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS

A. Only candidates who are registered Democrats are eligible for Club endorsement.

B. All endorsements of candidates or resolutions concerning ballot measures or public issues must be in accordance with the standards established by the California State Democratic Party and the San Diego County Democratic Party. The club shall notify all members and the San Diego Democratic Party at least 14 days before any endorsement meeting.

C. A motion to endorse a candidate or take a position on a Proposition or public issue must receive the vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Club members in good standing who are present and voting. If an endorsement threshold is not reached, the club may rate the candidate either "acceptable" or "unacceptable". A vote of sixty percent (60%) of Club members in good standing who are present and voting shall be required for an "acceptable" rating. A vote of two-thirds of Club members in good standing who are present and voting shall be required for an "unacceptable" rating.

D. Each candidate being considered for endorsement must leave the room during the deliberation and vote for their race. Candidate's who are members in good standing of the club will be able to cast their vote before leaving the room.

E. The Executive Board shall make a good-faith effort to send club questionnaires to all registered Democrats running in each race for which the club is endorsing. Candidates must return the club questionnaire at least 72 hours before the endorsement meeting in which their race is to be considered in order to be eligible for endorsement.

F. Questionnaires may be printed and made available for limited review by club members in good standing prior and during the endorsement meetings.

G. Voting on any endorsement shall be by secret ballot when requested by any member in good standing.

ARTICLE IX – CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

- SECTION 1. California Democratic Party (CDP)

In order to be eligible to participate in CDP pre-endorsing conferences, the Club's President, Secretary, or Treasurer will ratify the roster of Democratic members in good standing by July 1 of each odd-numbered year identifying the legislative districts and representatives for each district and submit it to the CDP and SDCDP. Representatives should be equally apportioned between men and women to the extent possible.

- SECTION 2. San Diego County Democratic Party (SDCDP) Associate Member

Under the club's charter with the SDCDP, its President is a representative to the SDCDP Central Committee as an Associate Member. If the President is already a Central Committee member or chooses not to serve, a different representative may be selected to serve his or her term according to the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Article. An Associate Member application, for the President or any other representative, must be submitted to the SDCDP within 30 days of his or her selection by the club.

- SECTION 3. Selection

Club representatives to the CDP and SDCDP – and any other official representatives, delegates, and alternates from the club to conferences, caucuses, councils, conventions, and other meetings – shall be selected by a vote of members in good standing at a duly noticed club meeting or, if that cannot occur at a regular or special meeting, by designation of the President

- SECTION 4. Adherence to Club Positions

Club representatives described in this Article, when participating in voting and discussion in that capacity, shall adhere to and represent the club's official positions on endorsements and other matters wherever applicable, and shall agree to do so prior to their selection.

- SECTION 5. Other SDCDP Representatives

The Executive Board will designate a GO Team Liaison and a SDCDP Voter Registration Liaison.

ARTICLE X - AFFILIATION

The club shall affiliate as an associate member of the County Democratic Central Committee and pay the current annual chartering fee.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Club members in good standing who are present and voting at a general meeting after such amendment has been presented at the preceding general meeting and notice has been provided as specified in Article V, Section 4 of these by-laws

ARTICLE XII - ADOPTION

These bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption and shall be the governing rules of the club.



SAN DIEGO

Amendments

- Article V, Sec 4 – Notices *Amended on Sunday, June 25th 2017.*
- Article III, Sec 3 – Dues *Amended on Sunday, December 9th, 2018.*
- Article V, Sec 2 – Quorum *Amended on Sunday, December 9th, 2018.*
- Article VIII – Candidate Endorsements *Amended on Sunday, December 9th, 2018.*
- Article III, Sec 4 – Renewals *Amended on Sunday, February 10th, 2019.*
- Article III -Sec 3 – Dues..... *Amended on Sunday, January 24th, 2021*
- Article III Sec 5 – Voting..... *Amended on Sunday, January 24th, 2021*
- Article IV -Sec 1 –Elected Officers *Amended on Sunday, January 24th, 2021*
- Article IV Sec 4 – Vacancies *Amended on Sunday, January 24th, 2021*