

SAN PEDRO DEMOCRATIC CLUB

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE

In order to manifest our interests in government affairs, to interpret and apply the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party and to be able to serve local, State, and Federal branches of our government, we do hereby associate ourselves together to establish this Democratic Club of San Pedro.

Article 1 - Policy

Section A

It shall be the aim of this organization in all its efforts to contribute to the advancement of the Democratic Party, to encourage its members in the development of leadership among themselves, to support the principles of the State and National platforms of the Democratic Party.

Section B

This organization shall participate in the making of endorsements through delegates to councils and/or conventions of the districts in which the club is located: for example, Assembly, Congressional, County, Board of Equalization, and California State Officers. The organization shall endorse and support with an aggressive campaign for the candidates endorsed by the party. Following a partisan primary, the organization shall support the nominees of the Democratic Party.

- A. This organization shall not endorse more candidates for an office than the number to be elected for that office.
- B. This organization shall make no form of endorsement and shall not support in any way a candidate who is not a Democrat.
- C. Endorsement procedures shall only take place when requested in writing by a candidate who has taken out papers for an office, or by a member of this organization. In all races, irrespective of any other consideration, where an endorsement procedure is instituted all candidates who are registered Democrats shall be notified of the date, time and place of all relevant meetings and of their right to consideration.
- D. No endorsement shall take place until the deadline for filing has passed.
- E. Any voting member may request a secret ballot at any stage in the proceedings.
- F. "No endorsement" shall be an option on each ballot and shall be counted toward the total. A 60% majority is required for endorsement. If no

endorsement is made succeeding ballots shall drop the name or names of candidates receiving less than 20% of the vote. Where there is no candidate who has less than 20% of the vote, or three ballots have been taken, it shall be deemed that this organization has made no endorsement.

- G. Person's eligible to vote in the endorsement procedures are members of the organization in good standing who have attended at least one meeting prior to the endorsement meeting within the previous 12 months. Exceptions to the above are elected officials and individuals who have been members in good standing for at least 3 years.

Article 2 - Membership

Section A

All members shall be registered Democrats with the following exceptions:

- A. A citizen who has not yet met residency or age qualifications but has stated intention to register as a Democrat upon fulfilling the requirements.
- B. A person in the process of naturalization who has stated his intention to register as a Democrat upon becoming a citizen.
- C. A member in good standing is defined as a member whose dues are paid.

Section B

Members may be expelled for cause by a two-thirds vote of the membership present and voting. Notice of intent to expel must be given at the meeting next preceding such action. Notice must also be given in writing to the membership at least two weeks prior to that meeting in which the action is sought.

Article 3 – Officers and Committees

The officers of this club shall be:

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Article 4 – Duties of Officers

President:

- A. The President shall preside over all meetings, and be responsible for the overall direction of the club's activities.
- B. Upon approval of a majority of the elected officers, the President shall be empowered to appoint chairmen for such special committees as the President and the other officers may determine to be necessary. :
 - Outreach
 - Fundraising
 - Publicity/Newsletter/Communications
 - Parliamentary
 - Campaigns (Precincts, Issues, Govt., etc)
- C. When able, the President shall automatically be a delegate or representative to any Council and/or Convention in which the club participates.

1st Vice-President:

- A. The 1st Vice-President shall assume the role of President in the case that the President can no longer serve.
- B. The 1st Vice-President shall assume the position of chair when the President is absent.
- C. The 1st Vice-President shall be in charge of programs.

2nd Vice-President:

- A. The 2nd Vice-President shall assume the role and duties of the 1st Vice President in the absence of the 1st Vice President.
- B. The 2nd Vice-President shall be in charge of Membership duties.

Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall keep a record of all the minutes of meetings of the club, a copy of the formal reports of all the officers and handle all correspondence of the organization, including notices of the general and special meetings.
- B. The Secretary shall produce the general membership meeting minutes at each general meeting, for the previous meeting to be approved by the membership.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the club under the direction of the Executive Board

Article 5 – Executive Board

- A. The elected officers shall constitute the Executive Board.
- B. The Executive Board shall meet once a month for the purpose of formulating plans, policies and overall direction of the club.
- C. These meetings are open to all members in good standing.

Article 6 – Elections

Section A

- A. The Nominating committee shall consist of 5 members all chosen by the general membership. This committee shall be responsible for identifying candidates for each office and overseeing the election process and procedures.
- B. Election of officers shall take place in January and the Nominating Committee shall be formed in October
- C. The nominating/election committee shall submit the names to the secretary and the secretary shall notify the membership in writing, one month prior to the election of the nominees. The assumption of officers will be immediately follow the election in January.

Section B

Voters' Qualifications: No person shall be eligible to vote in any election unless he or she is a member in good standing.

Article 7 - Amendments

Amendments to this constitution shall be made by a two-thirds vote of the membership present, providing the membership be informed in writing of the proposed constitutional amendment at least 3 weeks prior to voting on the amendments to the bylaws.

Article 8 - By-Laws

- A. Quorums:
 - Executive Board Quorum:
50% + 1 of the club officers.
 - General Membership Quorum:
Members present at a noticed meeting
- B. Bank Account: There shall be 3 signatories of the Executive Board required to set up a bank account. The Executive Board decides which bank to use.
- C. Membership Dues: Membership dues shall cover one year
- D. Proxies: No proxies are recognized in any membership or Executive Board meeting.
- E. Filling Vacancies: In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Board, the remaining Executive Board members shall fill the vacancy by appointment.