



WEST FRESNO DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Constitution and Bylaws

Original Adopted at the Club Organization
Meeting 2002

Bylaws Amended at Membership Meeting of
December 16, 2017

Bylaws Amended at Membership Meeting of
June 16th, 2018

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PREAMBLE

To stimulate an active interest in governmental affairs, to increase the efficiency of popular government, to foster and perpetuate the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party and to provide for all people through its administration the highest degree of justice and social welfare, we do associate ourselves together to establish the West Fresno Democratic Club.

ARTICLE I – NAME AND GOVERNANCE

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the West Fresno Democratic Club.

Section 2. The service area for the club shall be the West Fresno area of Fresno, California.

Section 3. These Bylaws shall govern the operation and functions of the West Fresno Democratic Club in compliance with and subject to the Bylaws of the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee and the California Democratic Party.³

Section 4. The club shall operate based on a calendar year.

Section 5. The club shall maintain adequate reserves in the treasury at the end of each year as may be deemed sufficient by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Develop policies consistent with support for the platform of the Democratic Party and to be responsible for their implementation.

Section 2. Consistently increase membership, further the political education of members and encourage political participation.

Section 3. Encourage qualified members to run for elective office and recommend and support them for public appointments.

Section 4. Promote the election of outstanding Democratic candidates for public endorsement when authorized and provide campaign assistance.

Section 5. Cooperate with other Democratic organizations in preserving, strengthening and advancing the principles of the Democratic Party.

Section 6. Cooperate with the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC), the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) and the California Democratic Council (CDC).

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all registered Democrats in the general area serviced by this club. Members must be registered as a Democrat in their county of residence.

Section 2. The dues for regular members shall be \$15.00 per year, payable in January of each year and delinquent after 90 days. Dues may be increased on recommendation of the Executive Board, subject to approval of the general membership, to become effective at the beginning of the next calendar year.

1. *Associate members* qualifying under the provisions of Section 4 of this Article may have their membership dues waived.
2. *Members attending college as full-time students* and otherwise meeting membership qualifications listed in this Article may receive the benefits of regular membership upon remittance of not less than 50% of the amount listed in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 3. Associate membership may be held by a person not of voting age but attaining the age of 16, provided that she/he declares, in writing, his/her intention to register as a Democrat upon attaining voting age.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The elected officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Members-at-Large.

Section 2. Officers shall be nominated at the November meeting each year, elected at the December meeting and installed at the first meeting in January of the following year. Only members in good standing may vote.

Section 3. Candidates for elective office shall be dues-paying members in good standing.

Section 4. The Executive Board shall be composed of the elected officers.

Section 5. The President may appoint Ad Hoc Committees for specific projects as may be deemed necessary and the Chairs of such committees shall serve as members of the Executive Board. The President shall appoint committee Chairs subject to approval of the Executive Board. Members and Chairs of all Committees must be appointed or reappointed at the beginning of each calendar year.

Section 6. *Removal of an Elected Officer.* An elected officer may be removed for cause by resolution of 2/3 vote of the Regular Members attending at a General Meeting provided that the membership and the officer have been notified fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting and the proposed action.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the general membership and the Executive Board. The President recommends meeting agendas with the approval of the Executive Board. The agenda for general membership meetings is subject to approval by the membership.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and perform such other duties as directed by the President. The Vice-President shall serve as Chair of the

Program Committee, arranging for speakers and special presentations of interest to the general membership and respecting the principles of this club.

Section 3. The Secretary shall properly record the minutes for all membership and Executive Board meetings and shall execute all official correspondence of the club as may be directed by the President and/or Executive Board.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall establish a club checking account at a convenient banking location with the approval of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall conduct the banking and check disbursements for the club and shall maintain accurate records of all transaction and account balances.

1. A. Upon election of a new Treasurer, the President shall appoint an audit committee of at least three (3) members to review and verify the accuracy of the account records from the outgoing Treasurer.

Section 5. Current elected officers shall remain in office until their respective successors are duly installed.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1. General membership meetings shall be held monthly on dates and times as designated by the Executive Board.

Section 2. Executive Board meetings shall be held monthly, at a designated time and location, between general membership meetings, preferably a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the next general meeting.

1. *The purpose of the monthly Executive Board meeting* includes, but is not limited to, confirming details for the next general membership meeting and assuring that proper notice of the general membership meeting is communicated to all club members.
2. *Any elected officer may also call a meeting of the Executive Board for due cause. Executive Board meetings may also be called upon request by any three (3) members of the Executive Board.*

ARTICLE VII – QUORUM

Section 1. Eight (8) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at a general membership meeting.

Section 2. Three (3) members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum at Executive Board meetings.

ARTICLE VIII – SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Section 1. Delegates and Alternates to affiliated Democratic organizations shall be selected by the Executive Board subject to approval by the membership at a general meeting.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 1. Upon recommendations of the Bylaws Committee and approval by the Executive Board, these Bylaws may be amended as needed at any general meeting by a simple majority vote of the members present, having satisfied a quorum, provided that proper notice has been given.

Section 2. All members must be advised, in writing, of any proposed Bylaws amendments a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to a vote by the general membership.

1. *Proposed Bylaws changes must be communicated*, in writing, to the general membership at least fifteen (15) days prior to a vote at the following general membership meeting.
2. *Proper advance notice*, including proposed and deleted language, if any, shall be deemed in compliance with this section by publication in the club's newsletter or via e-mail communication prior to the meeting at which a vote for adoption is called.

ARTICLE X – STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing committees shall be established as follows:

(1) Bylaws;

(5) Program Committee

(2) Legislation;

(3) Resolutions;

(4) Membership and Outreach.

Ad Hoc Committees may be appointed in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Section 5, of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Unless stated otherwise in these Bylaws, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall regulate the conduct of all meetings.

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