

# **BYLAWS OF THE CORONADO DEMOCRATIC CLUB**

Approved by Membership October 30, 2021

## **ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE**

### **Section 1**

The name of this organization shall be the **CORONADO DEMOCRATIC CLUB**.

### **Section 2**

The purposes of this organization are

- A. to unite the Democrats of Coronado in an organization.
- B. to promote Democratic principles.
- C. to encourage increased understanding of the Democratic Party objectives.
- D. to support the Democratic platform and nominees for office.

## **ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP, QUALIFICATIONS, AND VOTING**

### **Section 1**

Membership is open to all who support the purposes of the organization and abide by these bylaws. Registered Democrats shall never constitute less than 85 percent of the membership.

### **Section 2**

Every person who is eligible to be a member of the Coronado Democratic Club (the Club) and has paid the annual dues shall be a member in good standing.

### **Section 3**

Club voting members are those who are registered Democrats in San Diego County or have expressed the intention to become registered Democrats in San Diego County as soon as they are eligible to vote. Only voting members who are in good standing (having paid annual dues) and who have been members of the Club for at least thirty (30) calendar days are allowed to vote. No proxy voting is permitted. Absentee ballots will be accepted on all proposed resolutions, endorsements, elections, and changes in the bylaws.

Those who are registered as other than Democrats are Club non-voting members.

## **ARTICLE III - DUES**

Dues shall be set by a majority vote of the members and paid annually.

## **ARTICLE IV – GENERAL MEETINGS AND QUORUMS**

### **Section 1**

Regular Club meetings shall be held every other month, the time and place to be determined by the Program Chair.

### **Section 2**

Special Club meetings may be called by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, or when requested in writing by any five (5) members in good standing.

### **Section 3**

Members shall be notified by mail, e-mail, newsletter, telephone or public notice of all regular and special meetings at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the dates of such meetings.

### **Section 4**

No official business of this organization shall be transacted at any meeting in the absence of a quorum.

### **Section 5**

Ten (10) members in good standing or ten percent (10%) of the members in good standing, whichever is greater, shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1**

The Board of Directors (the Board) shall be composed of the Club's four (4) elected officers and one Member-at-Large (appointed by the elected officers). The Board shall meet at least six (6) times a year. The Board's meetings shall precede regular Club meetings by at least ten (10) calendar days. The President or a majority of the Board may call additional meetings at any time.

## **Section 2**

A majority of the members of the Board constitutes a quorum. No official business of the Board shall be conducted in the absence of a quorum.

## **Section 3**

All members of the Board shall have an equal vote on matters that come before the Board. Issues are decided by a majority vote of the Board members who are present at the Board meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

### **Section 1**

The officers of this organization shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, each elected to serve a two-year term.

### **Section 2**

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

A. The **President** shall preside at all meetings except on subjects which concern the President's tenure or actions as President; shall be the official representative and spokesperson for the organization unless otherwise designated; shall appoint the Chair of each Standing Committee; and may appoint an auditor. The President, with the approval of the Board, may appoint any other officers not otherwise specified by these bylaws, when required for the well-being of the Club.

B. The **Vice-President** shall act in the absence or disability of the President; shall serve as Parliamentarian; and shall attend monthly meetings of the Council of Clubs.

C. The **Secretary** shall take minutes at all meetings and distribute copies to the appropriate group (either Board members for Board meetings or general membership for general meetings); shall read the minutes when necessary; shall keep a permanent file of the minutes; shall maintain a reference file of correspondence; shall act as Club Historian; and shall perform other duties as requested.

D. The **Treasurer** shall keep the books on all money transactions of the Club; shall receive all monies from any source; shall bank all monies in the name of the Coronado Democratic Club; shall issue all checks, which must be signed by two (2) of the four (4) elected officers if exceeding \$500; and shall report at each Board and general meeting as to the monies received and expended since the previous report and as to the financial condition of the Club.

## **ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1**

The Standing Committees of the Club shall be as follows:

A. The **Membership Committee** shall meet throughout the year to promote new membership in the Club and to maintain a current roster, communicate with and welcome new members, oversee voter registration, and serve as liaison to Coronado High School.

B. The **Program Committee** shall arrange programs and meeting places for the Club, notify the members and the general public of the time and place of meetings, and arrange for set up and tear down of the meeting room.

C. The **Hospitality Committee** shall host in-person meetings, be responsible for taking and recording attendance at all meetings, and arrange for refreshments when so desired.

D. The **Legislative Committee** shall study local, state, and federal legislation, both existing and proposed, analyze ballot measures, and report to the Board with any recommendations.

E. The **GO Team Committee** (Grassroots Organizing Team Committee) shall work with the San Diego County Democratic Party (SDCDP) to create and organize a team for precinct canvassing, and utilize the SDCCDP's recommended voter and campaign software (e.g., VoteBuilder).

F. The **Communications Committee** shall build and maintain an interactive web platform for the Club, foster community involvement and conversation through web tools, market the Club through e-mail and social media, monitor and update the Club website, and supervise all Club communications, including the newsletter, press releases, e-blasts, and outreach opportunities.

G. The **Scholarship Committee** shall provide scholarship opportunities for all Coronado High School seniors and college students residing in the South Bay. The Board shall determine the number of scholarships and the amount per scholarship at the September Board meeting each year.

### **Section 2**

The Standing Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the club President. Each Chair shall serve a two-year term and shall be responsible for recruiting Committee members.

### **Section 3**

At any time, a Special Committee may be formed. The duties of the Committee shall be specified in writing by the President with the approval of the Board. The President, with the approval of the Board, may discontinue the Committee at any time.

## **ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, TERMS, REPLACEMENTS, AND REMOVALS**

### **Section 1**

- A. There shall be a Nominating Committee of five (5) members in good standing, appointed by the Board each January. The Committee shall develop a slate of officers for the coming term. The Committee may designate one of its members to be its Chair. If the Committee finds that it wishes to nominate one of its own members, that member must step off the committee for nomination of that particular office.
- B. All officers and the Member-at-Large shall serve a two-year term. The election of the President and Vice-President shall occur in even-numbered years; the election of the Secretary and Treasurer shall occur in odd-numbered years.
- C. Only members of the Club in good standing who are registered Democrats and are willing to serve shall be eligible for nomination and election to any office. The Nominating Committee shall make its report to the Board each February.
- D. The slate of candidates for office shall be announced to the membership at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of the March meeting.

### **Section 2**

- A. Election of officers shall be at the annual March meeting.
- B. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall read the list of candidates. The President shall call for any additional nominations (for each office) from the floor.
- C. When there is more than one candidate for any office, the election shall be by paper ballot. When there is only one candidate for any office, the election may be held by voice vote. A majority vote of the members present, providing there is a quorum, shall be required for a candidate to be elected.

### **Section 3**

Should any officer fail to attend three (3) regularly scheduled consecutive general meetings or Board meetings without reasonable cause, the office may be declared vacant by the Board.

### **Section 4**

Any officer may be suspended from office by a simple majority vote of no confidence of the membership present and voting at any meeting. After a thirty (30) calendar day waiting period, a second vote of no confidence shall be taken. If the first vote of no confidence is repeated, the officer is removed from office.

## **Section 5**

Any vacant elective office, for whatever reason, shall be filled by appointment of the Board, subject to ratification by the membership. Membership is to be notified at least five (5) calendar days in advance of the meeting at which ratification is to be sought. If the Club does not ratify the choice of the Board, then nominations shall be accepted from the floor at the meeting. If there is more than one person nominated, the election shall be by paper ballot, and the person receiving the most votes shall be declared elected.

## **ARTICLE IX - AFFILIATIONS**

The Club shall be chartered by the San Diego County Democratic Central Committee, paying all fees and renewing its charter as may be required.

## **ARTICLE X - CANDIDATE AND BALLOT MEASURE ENDORSEMENTS**

### **Section 1**

The Club may only call for candidate endorsement votes or take positions on ballot measures if notice is given as specified in Article IV, Section 3, of these bylaws.

### **Section 2**

In order to be eligible for the Club's endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. In non-partisan elections, only those candidates who request an endorsement in writing are eligible.

### **Section 3**

In elections where the number of Democratic candidates does not exceed the number of open seats, the Club may endorse Democratic candidate(s) by a majority vote cast at a general meeting.

### **Section 4**

The Club may also endorse Democratic candidate(s) in elections where the number of Democratic candidates exceeds the number of open seats. The winning candidate(s) must receive at least 60% of the votes cast by members in good standing present at a general meeting, with a minimum affirmative vote of thirty (30) members or 20% of the total Club membership, whichever is larger.

## **Section 5**

The Club may take positions on ballot measures in an upcoming election. Any position taken must receive at least 60% of the votes cast at a general meeting, with a minimum affirmative vote of thirty (30) members or 20% of the total Club membership, whichever is larger.

## **Article XI - CLUB REPRESENTATIVES TO CALIFORNIA PARTY ENDORSEMENTS**

### **Section 1 - California Democratic Party**

Club representatives to the California Democratic Party's (CDP) Pre-Endorsement Conferences shall be allocated as follows: one (1) representative, residing in the Assembly District, for each full (not fraction thereof) twenty (20) registered Democratic Club members in good standing in the Assembly District, who are listed on a roster submitted to both the SDCDP and the appropriate CDP Regional Director(s), each odd-numbered year by the deadline provided by the CDP. The roster shall be certified by the Club's President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Representatives should be equally apportioned between men and women to the extent possible.

### **Section 2 - San Diego County Democratic Party**

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 thirty (30) calendar 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/or alternates from the Club to conferences, caucuses, councils, conventions, and other such meetings) shall be selected by a majority vote cast at a duly noticed Club meeting or, if that cannot occur, at a regular or special meeting, designated by 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.

## **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS AND RULES OF ORDER**

### **Section 1**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote cast at any regular or special meeting of the Club. Notice of the proposed amendments shall be included in the announcement of the meeting at which the proposed amendments will be presented. The proposed amendments will be presented at the meeting and immediately after the presentation, a vote on the proposed amendments shall be held.

### **Section 2**

This organization shall be ruled by *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*, when they are not in conflict with these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XIII - ADOPTION**

These bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption and shall supersede any other constitution, bylaws, or any other document of this Club.