

DEMOS DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF HAYWARD

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE: In order to stimulate an active interest in governmental affairs, to increase the efficiency of popular government, to foster and perpetuate democratic ideals and principles, and to promote the highest degree of justice and social welfare for all people; we do associate ourselves to establish the DEMOS DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF HAYWARD.

Article I - Policy and Purpose

Section 1. A primary purpose of this organization shall be to propose, discuss and act on issues, with particular attention to local political action.

Section 2. This organization shall aim to contribute to the growth and influence of the Democratic Party and to increase Party participation.

Section 3. This organization shall maintain membership in the California Democratic Council (CDC) *and shall affiliate with the California Democratic Party by chartering with the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.*

Section 4. This organization shall develop and encourage a grass-roots voice within the California Democratic Party and to foster continuing adherence to Democratic ideals with the Party.

Section 5. This organization shall work in political education, including with young people and new citizens, to secure the future of the Democratic Party and its ideals in our community.

Article II - Membership, Meetings and Dues

Section 1. Membership in this club shall be open to all persons, *including those under the age of voting registration*, who subscribe to our policies and purposes, who wish to give assistance to the advancement of our principles and who pay one year's annual dues. *Club members are strongly encouraged not to support any person not a registered Democrat in any partisan election; nor to authorize the publication of her or his Democratic Party affiliation in support of any partisan candidate not a Democrat in any race.*

Section 2. Annual dues shall be paid at the time of joining and shall then be payable in January of each year in an amount determined by the membership.

Section 3. Only those members whose dues are paid for the current year shall be eligible to vote, to hold office or to be named as delegates to other bodies. Others including visitors may participate in discussion or may address the club at the discretion of the chair. Anyone joining in one meeting shall not be eligible to vote until the next regular membership meeting.

Section 4. A membership meeting (shall) *change to: "may"* be held monthly. All members shall be given notice in advance as to the date, time and place of each regular or special meeting.

Article III - Officers

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Coordinator.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected and installed (in) *change to: "at"* the January general meeting and shall hold office for one year or until their successors have been elected and installed.

Section 3. A nominating committee of at least three members, shall be designated in November, by the Executive Board.

Section 4. The nominating committee shall propose at least one candidate for each office and report the recommendations in the December meeting, at which time further nominations may be made by any member present.

Section 5. The notice of the January meeting shall include the names of all candidates nominated to date, and in the January meeting the floor shall still be held open for further nominations prior to the election of officers.

(Delete old Section 6. Now Contained in New Section 7.)

Section 6. Any vacancy among the officers occurring between election dates shall be filled by the Executive Board.

Section 6. An executive officer or delegate of this club may be removed from office for cause, such as: misconduct in the exercise of their duties as an officer or delegate or, neglect of duties in office. A petition for removal must be in writing, signed by at least twenty (20) members in good standing, stating the grounds for proposed removal and be delivered to either the President or Secretary and the accused officer or delegate at least four (4) weeks prior to the next Club meeting. Upon receipt of such a petition, the members of the Club shall be informed of the petition and the petition placed on the agenda of the next Club meeting. At said Club meeting, the accused officer or delegate shall be afforded an opportunity to respond to the charges. Removal of any officer or delegate shall require a two-thirds vote of the eligible members present and voting.

Section 7. In the event that any officer or delegate resigns or is removed, the remaining Executive Board members shall elect an acting replacement, by majority vote, at the next Executive Board meeting. Such elections shall be effective until the next Club meeting, at which meeting the selection of the new officer or delegate shall either be confirmed by majority vote of the eligible members present and voting; or, a new replacement shall be elected by secret ballot, to fill the remainder of the term of the person who resigned or was removed.

Article IV - Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of all the elected officers, the Chairs of committees, and others appointed by the board.

Section 2. The Executive Board (shall) *change to: "may"* meet monthly to plan the membership meeting and to prepare proposals for policies and activities of the club. The meeting shall be held on an appropriate date to allow time for mailing notices to the members.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have power to act for the membership between membership meetings, making necessary decisions. All official actions so taken shall be reported at the next membership meeting. The Executive Board can spend no more than \$100.00 per item per meeting.

Article V - Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside (over) *delete and replace with: "at all Club" meeting(s) add the following: "and Executive Board meetings"*, and shall be responsible for the overall direction of club activities.

Section 2. The Vice President shall act to assist the President in every way, and shall assume the chair in the absence of the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall be responsible for handling all correspondence under the direction of the President. The Secretary shall keep a record of all official actions of the club, *delete comma and replace with "and"* a copy of all formal reports, *(delete comma and replace with a period and delete remaining wording (and a up to date role of the members.)*

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse the funds of the organization, keeping a record of all receipts and disbursements. Routine and recurring expenditures may be authorized in advance and paid by the Treasurer upon presentation. When a club project has been approved in principle by the membership, and a budget for the project has been approved by the Executive Board, the Board may authorize the Treasurer to make payments within the limits of the budget amount, upon the presentation of bills. Special expenditures, including contributions to candidates or causes, must be approved by the membership in regular or executive meetings.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall disperse the clubs funds, *delete comma and replace with a semi-colon*) however the signatures of two of the clubs executive officers shall be required for checks over (\$200.00) *change to: \$300.00*.

Section 6. The Membership Coordinator shall keep an accurate list of the membership, and recruit new members.

Article VI - Delegates

Section 1. Delegates to represent this organization shall be elected at a regular membership meeting. Those with the greatest number of votes shall be delegates in the authorized number. Other candidates shall be alternates, eligible to fill any vacancy among delegates, in the order of their standing in the number of votes received. If an election cannot be held, delegates and alternates may be appointed by the President with the approval of a majority of the elected officers.

Article VII - Quorum

Section 1. A quorum for conducting official business at any membership meeting shall be 10% of the current number of paid-up members.

Section 2. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be the President or the Vice President, *delete words: (and two) change to: "one" other elected officers delete "s" and add: "and three other board members."*

Article VIII - Miscellaneous

Section 1. All dues collected shall be apportioned between the club and the C.D.C. in portions as determined by the Executive Board.

Section 2. Unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, all questions of parliamentary procedure shall be as determined by Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 3. No proxy *add: "or absentee"* voting shall be permitted *delete the following* (and no proxies shall be recognized) in any meeting of this organization.

Article IX - Endorsements

Section 1. The membership of this organization may endorse any issue. The club may endorse candidates for any office. To be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat.

Section 2. All endorsements must get 50% plus 1 *add: vote of the eligible members present and voting on the office or issue in question.*” *and delete remaining wording:* (of all members eligible to vote in attendance.) *No more candidates will be endorsed than there are offices available to be filled. Candidates will be ranked in the order of their standing of their eligible votes received as determined by the members voting. Additionally, all ballots shall contain spaces for eligible members to vote for “No Endorsement” or to “Abstain”.*

Article X - Amendments

Section 1. Proposed amendments to these bylaws shall be presented at a regular membership meeting, and may be discussed by the members present if desired, but shall not be put to a vote until the following membership meeting.

Section 2. All members shall be notified, in connection with the notice of the second meeting, as to the nature and effect of the proposed meeting.

Section 3. Adoption of amendments shall require a two-thirds vote of the eligible members present and voting.

Section 4. Amendments adopted shall be effective immediately upon tallying of the required vote, unless otherwise specified in the proposal for the amendment.

Constitution and Bylaws originally
adopted on December 16, 1966.

This revision duly adopted on *delete*
(September 20, 1996) *and add (June _____, 2001).*