

# BYLAWS OF THE CITY OF ALAMEDA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Last Amended — MARCH 8, 2006

## Section 1: DUES

A. Basic membership dues shall be as follows per calendar year:

*Individual:* \$20.00

*Two in same household:* \$30.00 (\$10.00 for each person beyond two)

*Seniors/students:* \$15.00

*Senior Couples:* \$25.00

B. Persons joining the club and paying their dues in the month of November shall not have to pay again until the second January.

C. No person shall be denied membership due to inability to pay membership dues.

## Section 2: MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

The Membership Chair shall maintain a list of members who have paid their dues. This list will not be for public distribution or for sale.

## Section 3: Nominations and Elections for Club Officers

A. Procedures

At the annual September meeting the President(s) shall appoint a nominating committee, which shall prepare nominations for each of the elective positions as well as recommendations for chairpersons of the standing committees. At the October meeting, the committee will present the proposed slate with the approval of the nominee, and will accept nominations from the floor. The proposed slate will be printed in the November newsletter and mailed to members for receipt prior to the November meeting. At the November meeting nominations will again be taken from the floor and the elections will be held for club officers.

The votes of 50% + 1 of those present and qualified to vote will decide the election.

When there are two or more candidates for an office, voting shall be by secret ballot.

B. Qualifications for Voting

No member shall be allowed to vote in an election for club officers unless his/her membership dues have been paid for the current year and the member has attended at least two meetings (as defined in 6A) in the twelve months prior to the election.

#### Section 4: Standing Committees

The following shall be standing committees of this organization: (1) Membership, (2) Phone tree, (3) Publicity, (4) Hospitality, (5) Newsletter, (6) Issues, (7) Voter Registration, (8) Political Action Committee Chair.

After receiving the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, the incoming President(s) shall appoint the chairpersons of these committees. In making such appointments, the President(s) is not bound by the recommendations of the Nominating Committee.

#### Section 5: Endorsements

- A. The same qualifications for voting found in Section 3B apply to endorsements.
- B. Prior to a vote, notice of the proposed vote must be published in the newsletter that is mailed prior the general meeting where the matter will be considered.
- C. At the meeting, the President(s) will announce that a preliminary vote may be requested by a member as to whether the club wishes to make an endorsement for a particular race. If such a request is made, 60% of those present and voting must approve before an endorsement vote is taken.
- D. The club will use Instant Runoff Voting when there are more than two candidates.
- E. Endorsements in a single seat race require the vote of 60% of those present and voting. In multiseat races the 60% requirement is subject to the IRV counting rules.
- F. The club may endorse registered Democrats in any election, including a primary.
- G. The club may take a stand for or against ballot propositions, after presentation of arguments for both sides of the issues, by a vote of 60% or more of those present and voting.
- H. Process for counting the ballots:
  1. To count the ballots the President(s) shall appoint three members in good standing who are not affiliated with a campaign that is involved in the election.
  2. When calculating the number of votes necessary to secure an endorsement, the amount needed shall be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.
  3. Only ballots turned in will be counted as part of the total votes cast.
  4. Any ballot returned without a selection in a particular race will be considered as:
    - a. "Take no position" on a ballot measure;
    - b. "None of the above" regarding candidates

## Section 6: Meetings

General Meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month, except that any regular meeting may be changed to any other day of the month by a majority of the members of the Executive Board, followed by a written notice mailed to all members. Such notice will be given as soon as possible, but in no event later than three days in advance of the day on which the meeting is to be held. There will be a holiday brunch in December, and this brunch is considered a general meeting.

The Executive Board shall meet on a regularly scheduled day and time that is announced to the members. The Board may also meet on call of the President(s) or a majority of the Executive Board. All Executive Board members must be notified at least twenty-four hours in advance of any special meeting. If a majority of the Executive board is scheduling a special meeting, the President(s) must be notified prior to the scheduling of the meeting. Any members in good standing may attend and participate, but not vote, at any Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board will bring back all expenditures over \$250 for general membership approval.

Notice of any meeting shall be given in the regular Club newsletter that is mailed to all members who are listed on the current membership list that is maintained by the Membership Chairperson. All club positions, endorsements, and major expenditures shall be disclosed in the Club newsletter.

Proxies may not be used for any purpose.

In order to conduct business, three members at an Executive Board meeting constitutes a quorum and 50% + 1 of those present and qualified votes at a general membership meeting.

## Section 6: Delegates to Regional Democratic Organizations:

The President(s) shall head the delegation to all regional Democratic organizations of which the club is a member. All other delegates and alternates shall be designated by the President(s) with the approval of a majority of the Executive Board.

## Section 7: Parliamentary Rules:

The latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for this organization, except where such authority may conflict with the Constitution or Bylaws.