



Point Loma Democratic Club  
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**Bylaws of the Point Loma Democratic Club  
 San Diego County Democratic Party Chartered Club**

**ARTICLE I THE CLUB**

The name of this organization shall be The Point Loma Democratic Club (PLDC). The Club is an organization chartered by the San Diego County Democratic Party and is closely affiliated with the California State Democratic Party.

As such, membership and full participation is open without regard to race, ethnic background, religion, gender, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, or disability.

**ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES**

Section I. The objective of this organization shall be to assist the Democratic Party by:

- Being informed on issues of interest to Democrats
- Helping to elect Democrats to public office and
- Providing a forum for Democratic speakers and the discussion of issues of interest to Democrats.

Section II. This organization, through its programs, shall encourage its members to be more active in the Democratic Party and to provide leadership for our Party.

**ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

Section I. While the primary focus of the Club is promoting the Democratic Party in the Point Loma/Ocean Beach area, membership shall be open to all registered Democrats in San Diego County, to members of the Club who move out of San Diego County and retain a public affiliation with the Democratic Party, and to residents of San Diego County who intend to register as Democrats when legally qualified to vote.

Section II: Membership Process. A person is considered a member upon a the receipt by the treasurer of dues outlined in Article IX and the executive board’s receipt of complete electronic or physical applications for each individual. A member has all the rights and responsibilities of a member in good standing as outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order with the exception

of the right to vote. Individuals shall become eligible to vote at the second meeting attended as a member.

Section III. Applications shall be provided by the executive board upon request. They may take the form of physical paper copies or a form provided electronically.

Section IV. Renewals. Members shall renew by January 1st annually. They shall update any information they provided on the application, and if renewing a voting membership, shall not experience a lapse in voting eligibility.

Section V. Delinquency. A member shall be considered delinquent if they have not paid dues and updated contact information by January 31st of a calendar year. A member of the executive board shall attempt to communicate via phone, e-mail, or mail that delinquent status is impending. Upon delinquent status, members shall lose voting rights, but shall retain other rights as members. If a member is delinquent beyond March 31 of the same calendar year, then PLDC shall infer they have resigned and strike them from the membership rolls.

Section VI. Membership List. The PLDC membership list will be available only to the president, vice president, communication officer, secretary and treasurer. Membership may be shared with a club member using it strictly for club business if agreed upon by a majority of the elected officers. The membership list will be shared with the county and state party as required for chartering and assignment of pre-endorsement representatives.

Section VII. Code of Conduct.

1. A member shall conduct oneself with civility and respect towards all other members and Democratic candidates while acting in an official capacity as a representative of the club.
2. A member shall not support or avow a preference for a non-Democratic candidate.
3. A member shall not create an intimidating, offensive, and/or abusive environment for club members.

Section VIII. Any member whose actions are judged to

be prejudicial, not in accordance with the Code of Conduct, and/or detrimental to the club by the Executive Board may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds vote at a General Meeting. The membership and the member in question must be notified 14 days in advance of the meeting of the proposed removal of the member.

## **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

Section I. The elected officers of this organization shall be:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Section II. The election of officers shall be held at the February meeting each year, with installation on the day of the meeting.

Section III. The Membership and the Executive Board may elect or appoint additional officers as needed. Vacancies among elected officers shall be filled at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section IV. Annual elections shall include a proposed slate of officers prepared by the Executive Board. Additional nominations may be made to the Executive Board before the election, or from the floor at the election meeting. Each officer elected must receive a majority vote of those members present, and more than one ballot may be taken if needed.

## **ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section I. The President shall:

Call and conduct all General and Executive Board meetings

Have the authority to create special committees as needed and be an ex-officio member of all committees

Authorize the expenditure of operating funds

Serve as the representative of the Club in meetings and contacts with Democratic Party and community organizations.

Section II. The Vice President shall:

Conduct all General and Executive Board meetings in the absence of the President

Assist the President in planning programs and scheduling speakers.

Section III. The Secretary shall be responsible for taking the minutes at General and Executive Board meetings, and handling all correspondence related to Club business.

Section IV. The Treasurer shall:

Be authorized to sign all bank checks and make other payments as necessary to meet Club expenses

Report to the Membership and Executive Board regarding the finances of the Club

Keep records of all income and expenditures, and make necessary reports to government agencies regarding Club business

Keep a record of the names and current addresses of Club members.

Section V. Should any member of the Executive Board decide to seek public office, she or he shall resign from the Executive Board immediately after the filing deadline for that office has passed. An Executive Board member running in a race in which the club or San Diego County Democratic Party may endorse shall immediately resign after announcing her or his candidacy.

Section VI. If an Officer fails to meet the attendance requirements, that officer may be removed by a majority of the voting members of the Executive Board. The vacancy created will be filled at the next properly noticed General Meeting. In the interim the President may appoint a replacement.

## **ARTICLE VI MEETINGS**

Section I. General meetings shall be held every one to three months as determined by the President and the Executive Board. The quorum shall be 12 members or one fourth of the total paid up membership, whichever is less, plus a at least one (1) of its elected club officers. A quorum for the Executive Board Meeting shall be a majority of the club officers and the elected chairperson(s).

Section II. Executive Board meetings will be called by the President.

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers and elected chairs of committee(s) who have been appointed by the President and who have agreed upon by the majority of the members of the Executive Board.

Section III. Meeting notices shall be emailed to members who provide an email address.

Section IV. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern Club business meetings unless they are inconsistent with other provisions of these bylaws.

Section V. All audio or video recording of PLDC meetings, including endorsement meetings, are strictly prohibited without prior written approval from the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE VII. ENDORSEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Section I. All endorsements of candidates or resolutions concerning ballot measures or public issues must be in accord with the standards established by the California State Democratic Party and the San Diego County Democratic Party. It is also the tradition and stated goal of the Club not to make endorsements or to pass resolutions which will adversely affect the unity of the Democratic Party.

Section II. Only candidates who are registered Democrats are eligible for Club endorsement.

Section III. The club may issue an endorsement after receiving the vote of 60% of its members in attendance at a General Meeting.

Section IV. During membership discussion of any candidate, the candidates, individuals associated with/related to the candidates or their election campaign must exit the room.

Section V. At least fourteen (14) calendar days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which the PLDC considers an endorsement for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.

At least five (5) business days' notice to the candidate shall be given prior to the meeting in which PLDC considers a recommendation for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.

Section VI. The PLDC shall allow for, on a limited and exceptional basis, suspension of the club bylaws in order to consider a resolution without prior notification. Any member of good standing at a general meeting where there is a quorum present, may make a motion to suspend the bylaw requiring notice for consideration of a resolution. If said motion has been seconded, and the motion receives two-thirds of members present to voting in the affirmative for the motion, then the requirement for notice is considered suspended.

In order to suspend the bylaws, a member, who has been recognized by the presiding officer, must first state the reason/purpose of the business before the PLDC that requires a suspension of the bylaws. If the presiding officer determines that stated business warrants a suspension of the bylaw for notice regarding a resolution, then a motion to suspend the bylaw requiring notice may be allowed. If the motion to suspend the bylaw requiring notice of a resolution passes and once the stated business has been completed before the body, the President shall rule that the bylaw of notice has been reinstated.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CLUB REPRESENTATIVES**

Section I. California Democratic Party

Club representatives to the California Democratic Party's Pre-Endorsement Conferences shall be allocated as follows:

One representative, resident in the Assembly District, for each full (not fraction thereof) 20 registered Democratic members in good standing in the Assembly District who are listed on a roster submitted, by July 1 of each odd-numbered year, to both the San Diego County Democratic Party and the appropriate CDP Regional Director(s). 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 II. San Diego County Democratic Party

Under the club's charter with the San Diego County Democratic Party, 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 III and IV of this Article. An Associate Member application, for the President or any other representative, must be submitted to the SDCDP within 30 days of his or her selection by the club.

Section III. Selection

Club representatives to the CDP and SDCDP – and any other official representatives, delegates, and alternates from the club to conferences, caucuses, councils, conventions, and other meetings – shall be selected by a vote of members in good standing at a duly noticed club meeting or, if that cannot occur at a regular or special meeting, by designation of the President.

Section IV. 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.

Section V. Grassroots Organizing Team Liaison: The Grassroots Organizing Team Liaison is responsible to attend GO Team events and to report back to the Executive Board and General Meetings on GO Team activities.

## **ARTICLE IX. FINANCES**

Section I. Dues.

For the calendar year 2019, dues levels are provided in Appendix A.

For the membership, all individuals must submit a signed application form.

Dues levels shall be set for ensuing calendar years by the Executive Board, who shall issue notice to the members regarding the following year's dues at a regularly scheduled meeting before September 30th. Section II. New memberships and renewals between January 1st and October 31st are valid for the same calendar year. Renewals and new memberships paid after November 1st are valid through December 31st the following calendar year.

Section III. With the majority of the Executive Board's approval, PLDC may offer special pricing for membership at events such as the annual barbecue.

Individuals may also petition the President for a hardship dues waiver.

Section IV. The only dues accepted for memberships is on the individual level. Mass membership registration payments shall not be accepted.

Section V. Funds shall be deposited in a PLDC account. Funds and payments are maintained by the Treasurer. Section VI. All expenditures exceeding \$500 must be approved by the Membership at a General Meeting.

## **ARTICLE X. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE**

Amendments or revisions to these bylaws must be approved by two-thirds of Club members at a General Meeting where a quorum is present.

Approved by the Point Loma Democratic Club, *Marcus Weersching, President, March 30, 1978*

Revisions approved by the Point Loma Democratic Club, *Nancy Witt, President, December 5, 1999.*

Amended Article VI Meeting, Section III Notice to include email notice. *Ruth Rollins, President, April 22, 2012*

Amended Article III Membership, added Section II to define member in good standing. Added Article VIII Club Representatives to comply with State requirements for attending early endorsement conferences. Amended Article IX Finances to reflect dues structure for 2015. *Susan Peinado, President, May 17, 2015*

Amended Article III Membership Section II and added

Sections III, IV and V. Amended Article IX Section I and inserted Sections II, III and IV renumbering V and VI. *Jonathan Wubbolding, Chair Bylaws Committee, October 25, 2015*

Amended Article III added Sections VI and VII.

Amended Article V added Sections V and VI.

Amended Article VI, Sections I and II and added Section V. Amended Article VII, Section III and added Sections IV, V and VI. Amended Article VIII added Section V. Amended Article IX Sections I and V. *Dave Furlano, Chair Bylaws Committee, September 23, 2018.*