

## ***D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County***

### **Constitution And By-Laws**

#### ***Month Year***

#### **I. Name**

The name of this organization shall be the *D10 Dems of Santa Clara County*.

#### **II. Purpose**

The *D10 Dems of Santa Clara County* (hereinafter called the Club) shall focus its efforts within *Santa Clara County*; and shall seek to publicize activities, and to build its membership from registered Democrats within the county. The Club may become involved with activities outside of the county by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting at any Club meeting or conference call. The Club shall develop a work plan (including action items with evaluation criteria), which shall be evaluated by the membership at least once every six months. This work plan shall include a report on the number of registered Democrats within the county, a report on Democratic voter turnout in Santa Clara, and a comparison of local Democratic statistics to other political affiliations.

#### **III. Affiliation**

A. The Club is affiliated with the *Santa Clara County Central Committee* (hereinafter called the Central Committee) and was duly chartered by the Committee on *TBD*.

B. As a chartered and affiliated club of the Central Committee, the Club shall comply with bylaws of the Central Committee and the California Democratic Party, as they apply to fully chartered local affiliates.

C. The Club shall apply for membership in the California Democratic Council. Membership above the minimum affiliation level shall be permitted if approved by a majority vote of the club, or 2/3 of its officers.

D. The Club shall create an affiliated youth caucus club with members under the age of 36, which shall be called the *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County*..

1) Provided the Club has at least ten members under the age of 36, the *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County* shall apply each year for affiliation with the California Young Democrats, and the Club shall pay all necessary annual charter fees, or annual dues, on behalf of the *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County*.

2) The *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County* shall elect officers, provided that all members of the *Your Young Democrats* shall first be members of the Club.

3) Any member of the Club who is under the age of 36 automatically shall be a voting member of the *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County*, and may participate in any *Young D10 Democrats of Santa Clara County* meetings if desired.

#### **IV. Membership Requirements**

A. Qualifications: Any individual qualifies for Club membership if:

- 1) The individual is a registered Democrat; or
- 2) The individual is ineligible to vote (due to minority, non-residency, or other legal impediment), but pledges to register as a Democrat when eligibility is attained; and
- 3) Supports the purpose of the Club as stated in Article II, above.

B. Active Membership: A qualified individual shall be considered an active member only if

- 1) The member has attended at least one meeting or conference call prior to being eligible to vote and
- 2) The member has paid all club dues.

#### **V. Dues**

A. Each member shall pay dues on an annual basis, as follows:

Individual	\$5
Household	\$10
Senior (over age 60)	\$5
Student (Full time)	free(Must have working email)

B. Dues are due on January 1, and payable by January 31 of each calendar year.

C. Annual dues for new active Club members shall be prorated on a monthly basis.

#### **VI. Meetings or Conference Calls**

A. Regular Meetings or conference calls

- 1) The Club shall hold regular meetings or conference calls on such day as the membership may determine from time to time.

2) Regular meetings or conference calls shall not be canceled more than 3 times within any calendar year and in no event shall more than 2 regular meetings or conference calls be canceled in succession.

B. Special Meetings or conference calls

1) Special meetings or conference calls may be called by the chair at any time, on notice as specified below.

2) In the absence of the chair, any two officers may call a special meeting or conference calls, on notice as specified below.

C. Notice of Meeting or Conference Calls

1) Notice of regular or special meetings or conference calls shall be given at least 24 hours in advance to all active members, in any manner as follows:

a. Notice in writing by US mail

b. Notice in writing by e-mail

c. Telephone message

2) Notice of the meeting or conference calls shall be deemed sufficient by any manner specified above if such notice includes the date, time and place of the meeting or conference calls and is calculated to be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting or conference calls.

**VII. Rules for Meetings or conference calls**

A. The Club shall use the newly revised *Roberts Rules of Order* to govern parliamentary procedure at all official meetings or conference calls of the organization, except as specifically noted in these bylaws.

B. A quorum for any official meeting or conference call of the Club shall be 15 percent of the total organizational membership, or three members, whichever is smaller, as of 24 hours before the meeting or conference calls, as reported by the secretary.

C. Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, the Club may adopt events and conduct regular business with a vote of 50 percent plus one of the members present at any meeting or conference call.

D. The Club may pass resolutions not related to endorsements with a vote of 2/3 of those present and voting at any meeting or conference calls.

E. A process to consider the endorsement of candidates must be approved prior to any suggestion of endorsements. If the discussion of an endorsement process is noticed in the meeting or conference calls agenda, such process must be approved by at least 2/3 of those present and voting at any meeting or conference calls. If the discussion of an endorsement process is brought up from the floor as New Business, such process must be approved by at least three-fourths of those present and voting at any meeting or conference call. Under no circumstances may the Club consider the endorsement of a candidate for public office who is not registered with the Democratic Party. The minimum threshold for endorsement in a race with multiple Democratic candidates is two-thirds of the members present and voting.

F. The Club may suspend specific portions of these bylaws and/or *Roberts Rules of Order* for purpose of emergency business by a vote of two-thirds of the membership present at a meeting or conference call, unless the item to be suspended calls for a higher qualification. In such case, the percent specified in that portion of the bylaws shall be required to suspend that text. The motion to suspend shall call out the particular section of the bylaws proposed to be suspended.

G. Changes to the constitution and bylaws not specifically referenced elsewhere must be noticed to the membership at least 72 hours before the vote in question, and must be approved by a majority vote of the Club, or 2/3 of its officers.

### **VIII. Officers**

A. Club officers shall consist of chair, vice-chair and secretary/treasurer. They shall be elected to serve one-year terms of office.

B. Election of officers shall be held in June. If the chair vacates office, the vice-chair shall ascend to the position of chair, until an election is held to fill the chair's remaining term of office.

- C. In the temporary absence of the chair, the vice-chair shall serve as chair. If the position of vice-chair is vacant, the secretary/treasurer shall serve as vice-chair.
- D. The secretary/treasurer shall be responsible to ensure that all members are notified of Club meetings or conference calls. Additionally, the secretary/treasurer shall maintain all written and financial records of the Club.
- E. The chair shall officiate at all meetings or conference calls of the Club.
- F. The chair may appoint members temporarily to fill un-expired terms of office, subject to election by the membership at the next Club meeting or conference calls 90 days after the office is vacated.
- G. The Club shall be represented at meetings of the Central Committee and any Assembly District Committee meetings at which it may be entitled to membership, and at meetings of the California Democratic Council. A person may serve as representative to more than one outside body if the club membership approves.
- H. The Club is encouraged to appoint a publicity officer, who shall have the responsibility to develop and to implement a plan to increase the visibility of the Club among Democrats within the *Santa Clara County*.
- I. The chair may appoint Club members to serve in other capacities as needed.
- J. The Club may elect such other officers as may be deemed necessary from time to time to conduct Club business.

**ADOPTED THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July, Year 2012.**

**Certified by:**

**Larry Arias**  
**Secretary**