

FEATHER RIVER DEMOCRATIC CLUB BYLAWS

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FEATHER RIVER DEMOCRATIC CLUB BYLAWS

Adopted January 22, 2009

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Feather River Democratic Club.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

A. The Feather River Democratic Club (hereinafter referred to as the Club) shall focus its efforts on advancing the goals of the Democratic Party (hereinafter called the Party) through public policy and political issue analysis, education, fund-raising, recruitment, voter registration, voter turn-out, coordination with other Democratic groups, and other activities to benefit the Party.

B. Giving special attention to fund-raising, recruitment, voter registration, and voter turnout to increase the number of Democratic candidates elected at the local, state, and federal elections, the Club shall develop an annual plan evaluated by the membership at least once every six months.

ARTICLE III. REGION

The Club's service area shall include Sutter County and surrounding areas as shall best serve the purposes of the Club.

ARTICLE IV. AFFILIATION

A. The Club is affiliated with the Sutter County Democratic Central Committee, duly chartered in 2009.

B. As a chartered and affiliate Club of the SCDCC, the Club shall comply with the Bylaws of the SCDCC and the California Democratic Party, as they apply to fully chartered local affiliates.

C. Whenever possible, the Club shall be represented at meetings of the California Democratic Party, 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.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

A. Qualifications: Any individual qualifies for Club membership if he or she

1. Is a registered Democrat, or
2. 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. This organization does not require or use any test of membership or oath of loyalty which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members to acquiesce in, condone, or support discrimination on the grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, physical ability, sex, age, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, or economic status.

C. Member in good standing: A qualified individual shall be considered a member in good standing if he or she

1. Qualifies for Club membership and voting as defined herein, and
2. Has paid all required dues or the dues have been waived per Article VI, Section C or D.

D. Voting: All members shall have one vote; votes by proxies are not allowed.

ARTICLE VI. DUES

A. Each member shall pay dues on an annual basis, as approved in November of each year for the following year. Annual dues are due on January 1 and payable by January 31 of each calendar year and shall be prorated semi-annually for members joining after June 1.

C. Members may request a waiver of dues, and if the majority of the Executive Committee grants the waiver, such members shall have voting rights.

D. Dues for all members in a given calendar year may be waived at the discretion of the Club's Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

A. Regular Meetings:

- 1 The Club shall hold regular monthly meetings on such day, time, and location as the membership may determine from time to time.
2. Regular meetings shall not be canceled more than three times within any calendar year, nor shall more than two regular meetings be cancelled in succession.

B. Special Meetings:

1. Special meetings 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, on notice as specified below.

C. Notice of Meetings:

1. Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm.
2. The agenda and meeting materials will be distributed by email at least four days in advance to all active members and volunteers via email.

D. Rules for Meetings

1. The Club shall use the most current edition of Roberts Rules of Order to govern parliamentary procedure at all official meetings of the organization, except as specifically noted in these Bylaws.
2. A quorum for any official meeting of the Club shall be 15 percent (15%) of the total membership, or ten members, whichever is smaller; the secretary shall determine the total membership as of 24 hours before the meeting.
3. Privilege of the floor may be granted by the Chair or presiding officer in the absence of the Chair.
4. Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, the Club may adopt events and conduct regular business with a vote of 50 percent plus one (50%+1) of the members present at any meeting.
5. The Club may pass resolutions not related to endorsements with a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting at any meeting.
6. A process to consider the endorsement of candidates and resolutions to endorse initiatives, propositions, and referendums must be approved prior to any suggestion of endorsements.
 - a. If the discussion of an endorsement process is noticed in the meeting agenda, such process must be approved by at least 2/3 (two-thirds) vote of those present and voting at any meeting.
 - b. 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.
 - c. Under no circumstances may the Club consider the endorsement of a candidate for public office who is not registered with the Democratic Party or who is running against an endorsed candidate of the Democratic Party
 - d. The minimum threshold for endorsement in a race with multiple Democratic candidates is two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting. "No Endorsement" shall be an option and shall be counted toward the total.
 - e. Resolutions to endorse or oppose any state ballot proposition, initiative, or referendum and resolutions to support or remain neutral in a recall election, shall require two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a meeting. "Remain Neutral" shall be an option and shall be counted toward the total.
7. The Club may suspend specific portions of these Bylaws and/or Roberts Rules of Order for the purpose of emergency business by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present at a meeting unless the item to be suspended calls for a higher percentage. In such a 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.

ARTICLE VIII. SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP) PRE-ENDORSING CONFERENCES

A. Selection of Representatives to California Democratic Party (CDP) Pre-Endorsing Conference

1. Club representatives shall be allocated as follows: one representative, resident in the Assembly District and duly registered as a member of the Democratic Party of California, for each full (not a fraction thereof) 20 members in good standing registered to vote in the Assembly District who were listed on the roster submitted to Sutter County Democratic Central Committee, the appropriate Regional Director and the CADEM Secretary no later than the date announced by the CDP in accordance with the CDP bylaws.

B. For purposes of this Section:

1. Only members in good standing, who are registered Democrats, as of the date announced by the CDP in accordance with the CDP bylaws, shall be included on the roster;
2. "Member in Good Standing" shall mean a member whose dues are current, or have been waived according to Article VI;
3. The status of such members shall be certified by the Club's President, Secretary, or Treasurer;
4. The Club's representatives to any particular pre-endorsing conference shall be from the roster described above and the overall list of representatives to all conferences adheres to the Equal Division Rule, to the extent possible, and:
5. A Club member who is a pre-endorsement conference delegate as a result of a County Democratic Central Committee membership, may not be a Club representative.
6. Said representatives shall be selected at a duly-noticed meeting of the Club, affirmed by a vote of those members present.

ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

A. Club officers shall consist of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian.

1. Officers shall be elected annually and serve a one-year term of office.
2. Nominations and elections of officers shall be held in November of each year. Every member of good standing shall have the right to nominate and vote. No member shall be nominated if not present unless ill or having an emergency.
3. Elections shall be held during the November meeting by secret ballot. All officers shall be installed at the January meeting.

B. The Chair shall

1. Officiate at all meetings of the Club and Executive Committee;
2. Serve as ex-officio member of all committees;
3. Appoint Committee Chairs in January and as needed;
4. Coordinate activities in keeping with the decisions of the Executive Committee and Regular Meetings;
5. Notify members of time and place of meetings as well as set the agenda;
6. Appoint liaison to Democratic Central Committee (DCC);
7. May appoint Club members to serve in other capacities as needed.

C. The Vice-Chair shall

1. Assist the Chair in all of his/her duties;

2. Perform the duties of the Chair in his/her absence;
3. Chair the Membership Committee;
4. Contact potential new members and give them membership applications;
5. Collect completed membership applications and the new members' dues;
6. Give new members a New Member Orientation presentation;
7. Manage club elections as the chair of the Membership Committee.

D The Secretary shall

1. Keep the minutes of all Regular and Executive Committee meetings and distribute the minutes to the members at the Club's next Regular Meeting;
2. Maintain membership roll;
3. Maintain a file of all Club correspondence and the formal reports of committees.

E. The Treasurer shall

1. Receive, record, and deposit all funds into the Club's bank account; if circumstances prevent the Treasurer from receiving, recording, and depositing funds into the Club's bank account, another Officer shall perform this task; money deposited into this account may be withdrawn only by signed checks or debit card;
2. Disburse funds, as authorized, and keep permanent records of receipts and disbursements;
3. Receive and maintain banking records and reconcile Club accounts with bank records;
4. Present a Treasurer's report monthly at the Regular Meeting;
5. Make records available for audit when requested by a vote of the membership or Executive Committee;
6. Be responsible for preparing, filing, and maintaining financial records and reports required by the Federal Elections Commission, the California Fair Political Practices Commission, the Internal Revenue Service, and any other reports required by law.

F. The Parliamentarian shall

1. Have those duties usually performed by such officer and such other duties as the Chair, the Executive Board, or the Feather River Democratic Club may assign;
2. At the request of the Chair or a member, render an opinion on all questions pertaining to these Bylaws and the procedures of this club when requested;
3. Keep a current copy of the Bylaws, update any revisions of and additions to the Bylaws, and distribute copies of the revised Bylaws to the members as needed.

G. The Executive Committee shall consist of all the Officers of the Club and shall meet monthly as needed prior to the Regular Meeting to discuss items to present to the membership, prepare the agenda, and appoint committee chairs as needed.

1. The Executive Committee shall have all the powers and duties of the Club membership when it is not in session.

2. A special session of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair or two or more members of the Executive Committee giving 24 hours advance notice of time and place.

H. Whenever possible, the Club shall be represented at meetings of the SCDCC, any Assembly District Committee or regional group the Club may join, and the California Democratic Council.

I. Officer Vacancy

1. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair until the office is filled by an election. The vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the Membership at the next meeting for which due notice can be given and the Chair installed immediately upon election.

2. In the event of a vacancy in any office other than Chair, the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the Membership at the next meeting for which due notice can be given and the officer installed immediately upon election.

3. In the case of an Officer removed by a two-thirds vote of the members, the members shall immediately nominate candidates and vote to fill the vacancy during the same meeting the removal vote was decided.

ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES

A. The following will be Permanent Standing Committees of the Club: Budget and Finance, Community and Service, Fundraising, Membership, Publicity, and Voter Registration/Get Out the Vote (GOTV).

B. The Budget and Finance Committee: All Club officers are members of the Budget and Finance Committee. It shall advise the Club on all matters relating to raising and expending funds. The Budget and Finance Committee shall propose an annual budget to the Club at the February meeting.

C. Community and Service Committee: This committee assists members of the Community, if possible, and identifies areas and organizations worthy of support. These organizations must comply with Democratic values.

D. Fundraising Committee: This committee shall plan, organize, and hold events or other activities to raise money to support the Club and its activities.

E. The Membership Committee: This committee shall maintain and increase the membership of the Club and facilitate new and existing members' participation. The Vice-Chair shall be the Chair of this committee.

G. The Publicity Committee: This committee shall publicize Club news and events in local outlets.

H. The Voter Registration (GOTV) Committee: This committee shall schedule and coordinate voter registration drives.

I. The Chair may establish Ad Hoc Committees from time to time as necessary to carry out the Club's purposes.

ARTICLE XI. BUDGET AND FINANCE

A. Budget:

1. The Budget and Finance Committee shall prepare an annual budget to the Club for approval in February.
2. Each Standing Committee shall submit a projection of its expenses to the Budget and Finance Committee in January.

B. Expenditures:

1. The Treasurer shall pay all approved budgeted bills and appropriations without further authorization. The Treasurer shall report all such expenditures at the next Club meeting.
2. No expenditures shall be made from Club funds except as provided in the budget. Any unbudgeted expenditures must be approved by Club membership prior to payment.
3. The Chair, Treasurer, Vice-Chair, and Secretary, shall be signatories on the Club bank account;
4. No member of the Club shall make any financial commitment involving the expenditure of this Club's funds other than those provided herein unless such person has been so authorized by a motion made and passed by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members specifically authorizing such expenditure or commitment. Violation of this provision shall constitute grounds for termination of the member's membership. Any member of the Club may file the charges.
5. On a vote of fifty percent plus 1 (50%+1), the Executive Committee may approve an expenditure that is \$100 or less for a Club activity, item, or event.

C. Receipts: All funds received from membership fees, donations, sale of tickets, or other items in connection with the activities of any committee or member of the Club shall be deposited into the Club's bank account.

ARTICLE XII. TERMINATION AND REMOVAL

A. Voluntary Termination: Members and Officers may terminate their membership voluntarily.

B. Termination for Failure to Pay Dues:

1. The Treasurer shall notify the Executive Committee of a member's non payment of dues after delinquent 60 days.

C. Termination of Membership and Removal from Office for Additional Cause:

1. Additional causes for termination of membership and removal of an officer include the following:
 - a. Ceases to be a registered Democrat and is not exempted by Article V, Section A-2;

- b. Affiliates with or publicly avows preference for another political party;
 - c. Publicly advocates that voters should not vote for nominees of the Democratic Party or publicly avows a preference for a candidate who opposes a nominee of the Democratic Party;
 - d. Affiliates with an organization that the Club or Democratic Party finds is repugnant to the principles of the Democratic Party;
 - e. Acts in violation of local, state, or federal laws or regulations;
 - f. Knowingly enrolls a person registered as anything other than a member of the Democratic Party as a voting member of the Club;
 - g. Transfers funds from the Club's bank account into an account of a nonDemocratic candidate running for an elective office;
 - h. Fails to perform his or duties as an Officer of the Club.
 - i. Fails to comply with the Club's code of conduct as outlined in Article XIII.
2. A petition for termination of membership or removal of an Officer must be in writing, signed by at least five members in good standing, state the alleged grounds for termination or removal, and be delivered to either the Chair or Secretary and the member or Officer at least two weeks prior to the next Regular Meeting.
 3. Upon receipt of such a petition, the members of the Club shall be informed and the petition placed on the agenda of the next Regular Meeting.
 4. At said Regular Meeting, the member or Officer shall be afforded an opportunity to respond to the alleged charges.
 5. Removal of any member or Officer shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present by secret ballot.
 6. If an Officer is approved for removal, the nomination of candidates and election of an Officer to fill the vacant position shall commence immediately after the vote for removal at the meeting as per Article VIII, Section I Vacancies, Sub-section 3.

ARTICLE XIII. CODE OF CONDUCT

A. Expected Behavior

1. The FRDC is committed to providing a welcoming, respectful, friendly, safe, supportive, and harassment-free environment for members, volunteers, and all others associated with the Club.
2. The FRDC expects all leaders, members, volunteers, and others associated with the FRDC to act professionally, respecting the personal rights and dignities of all individuals involved with the Club so as to create a productive, inclusive environment for everyone. The FRDC also expects all such individuals to alert Club leaders of a perceived violation of this Code and to cooperate in an investigation of a potential violation.
3. The FRDC's expectations are not limited to Club meetings or other gatherings. Conduct in violation of this Code will not be tolerated at any and all events sponsored by or having an official connection with the FRDC, as well as in any call, text, or email, or on any digital communication platform or social media, that occurs in the context of conducting FRDC business.

B. Harassment Prohibited

1. All individuals should feel welcome and safe within the FRDC, regardless of their sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy/reproductive status, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, caste, creed, age, disability, health status, marital status, military or veteran status, body size, physical appearance, domestic violence victim status, social or economic status, or any legally protected classification or characteristic.
2. The FRDC prohibits the creation of hostile conditions — that is, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct — based on any of the aforementioned categories. The manner of any such prohibited behavior includes verbal conduct, whether spoken or written (such as slurs, jokes, insults, epithets, foul or profane language, emails, posters, leaflets, internet posting, slander, etc.), visual conduct (such as the wearing, posting, or distributing of offensive symbols, pictures, cartoons, drawings, and computer displays, etc.), and physical conduct (such as gestures, blocking someone's way, assault, invading someone's space, unwelcome touching, etc.).
3. The FRDC emphasizes that it will not tolerate sexual harassment, that is, conduct based on sex or of a sexual nature. Prohibited sexual harassment may include the actions described above, as well as other unwelcome sex-based conduct, such as unsolicited sexual advances or unwanted contact, conversations regarding sexual activities, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct or contact of a sexual or sexually suggestive nature.
4. The FRDC prohibits quid pro quo sexual harassment, such as when submission to sexual conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's membership in the FRDC or an appointment to an FRDC committee, to FRDC leadership, or to another role within the FRDC.
5. The examples above are just that—examples. In general, any conduct that is based on one or more of the protected classifications listed above that could interfere with an individual's participation in the FRDC or could create an offensive, unsafe environment will be considered harassment in violation of this Code of Conduct. This is the case even if the offending individual did not mean to be offensive. It is essential that we all are sensitive to the feelings of others.

C. Retaliation Prohibited

1. Retaliation for good faith reporting of behavior that may violate this Code of Conduct, or for participating in an investigation into a potential violation, is prohibited.
2. Retaliation may include, but is not limited to, exclusion from meetings, committees, or opportunities for full participation, ostracism, or other conduct that may discourage engagement with the FRDC or that would be reasonably likely to deter a reasonable person from reporting a violation of this Code or participating in an investigation of a potential violation.

D. Consequences for a Violation

1. A violation of this Code of Conduct may result in sanctions including but not limited to private censure, public censure, being prohibited from attending FRDC events, and removal from an FRDC office and/or delegate status.

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS

A. These Bylaws may be amended by the members in any Regular Meeting, provided that such amendments be placed on the agenda at least thirty days prior to such meeting to allow for notice to all members.

B. A proposal for amendment shall be in writing, signed by at least three members in good standing and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in attendance to be approved. An approved amendment shall take force immediately.

AMENDED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025

CERTIFIED BY:
SECRETARY, CLUB