



BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Lake San Marcos Democratic Club, hereafter referred to as LSMDC.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club shall be to foster democratic ideals by stimulating active interest in the Democratic Party, to support the party platform, contribute to party leadership and responsibility, to provide a constructive role for the volunteer in Democratic Party politics, and to promote an activist base.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 - ELIGIBILITY

Membership shall be open to all Democrats regardless of race, religion, national origin, sex or sexual orientation, or gender identity. There shall be two categories of membership. Regular membership shall be for Registered Democrats 18 years of age and older. Associate Membership shall be anyone registered as Decline to State, or is a minor, or is a non-citizen, and shall not be eligible to vote in the LSMDC business. **At least two-thirds (2/3) of all those who make up the club shall be registered Democrats or individuals who have expressed the intention of becoming registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible.**

SECTION 2 - GOOD STANDING

Everyone eligible to be a regular member of this Club whose annual dues are currently paid shall be a member in good standing. Any student who has been granted a waiver of dues shall also be a member in good standing. Any member whose actions are judged to be prejudicial or detrimental to the club by the executive board may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds vote at any general meeting where a quorum exists.

SECTION 3 - DUES

Dues in an amount set by the Executive Board, with approval of the membership, shall be due and payable upon joining the Club, and annually at the beginning of every calendar year thereafter.

Anyone joining the club in November or December of any year does not need to pay renewal dues for the following year. Any high school, college, or vocational school student may request to volunteer for the Club in lieu of paying dues. Volunteer activities shall be determined by the President or his/her designee.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

SECTION 1 - ELECTED OFFICERS

Elected officers of this club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each shall be elected at the general meeting in January. Their term of office shall begin immediately upon being elected. They will hold office for one year. **Only registered Democrats may serve as club officers.**

SECTION 2 - DUTIES

A. President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the club. He/she shall preside over all meetings of the club and the executive board; make appointments to other positions as required; and act as sole spokesperson of the club. In addition, the President should stimulate active interest in the political process, provide a constructive role for the active volunteer; contribute to effective leadership and individual responsibility; promote harmony among the club membership, between other clubs and within the San Diego County Democratic Party. The President shall pre-approve any written correspondence on behalf of the club.

B. Vice-President

The Vice President shall serve at the direction of the President. He/she shall preside at meetings if the President is unable to do so, or as requested by the President to do so. The Vice-President shall take over the duties of President in the absence of that officer, and is responsible for the annual audit. In addition, the Vice-President shall be responsible, in collaboration with the President, to arrange speakers at the monthly meetings and notifying the news media about the speakers. The Vice-President will send a copy of the media notification to the President, the Newsletter Chair, and the Web Master. This duty may be delegated to any club member at the discretion of the Vice President with the agreement of the majority of the Executive Board.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the General meetings and Executive meetings, conduct correspondence, maintain the club's records, and be responsible for internal communications as requested by the President.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of dues, receive and deposit all club funds received into a LSMDC checking account; maintain an accurate record of club receipts and expenditures; sign all checks as authorized by the Executive Board; make the record of club receipts and expenditures available to any member when requested; provide a report of the club's financial status at board meetings as requested; provide an annual written report of club financial status; make the books and all other financial records of the club available to the audit committee each year in May. The Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring that the applicable Federal and State campaign disclosure reports are filed on time and such action shall be made a part of the Executive Board minutes. The Treasurer will not be held personally liable for monetary mistakes, with the approval of the majority of the Executive Board. The club's fiscal year will be from January 01 to December 31.

SECTION 3 - ELECTIONS

Election of officers shall be held annually at the general meeting in January. In September or October, the Executive Board shall appoint three to five regular members in good standing, to serve on the Nominating Committee, which shall select at least one qualified candidate for each elective office. The nominating committee shall report their selections to the Executive Board not later than the December Executive Board meeting and present the list of candidates to the membership at the January General Meeting. Notification of the election shall be given to all members as stated in Article V, Section 4. Nominations may then be taken from the floor. If, after all nominations are taken and there remains only one qualified candidate for each elective office, the candidate may be elected on a voice vote. If any elective office has more than one candidate, the election shall be held by show of hands, or standing vote. The candidate receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected. If no majority is received on the first ballot, the two candidates receiving the most votes shall compete in a runoff with the candidate receiving the most votes declared elected. A secret ballot will be conducted upon the request of 2/3 of the members present and eligible to vote.

SECTION 4 – VOTING

Only eligible members may vote in person, according to procedures established by the Executive Board. Associate Members shall not be eligible to vote.

SECTION 5 - VACANCIES

Should any officer resign or fail to attend three general meetings or Executive Board meetings in a row without cause approved by the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall declare that office vacant and appoint a successor to that office to complete the unexpired term. Any such appointment shall, however, be approved by the membership at the next general meeting. Notification of the election shall be given to all members as stated in Article V, Section 4. At that meeting, nominations to fill the vacancy shall also be accepted from the floor. If, after all nominations are taken and there remains only one qualified candidate for each elective office, the candidate may be elected on a voice vote. If

any elective office has more than one candidate, the election shall be held by show of hands, or standing vote. The candidate receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected. If no majority is received on the first ballot, the two candidates receiving the most votes shall compete in a runoff with the candidate receiving the most votes declared elected. A secret ballot will be conducted upon the request of 2/3 of the members present and voting.

SECTION 6 - APPOINTED OFFICERS

The President may appoint a Parliamentarian and any other Officers not otherwise specified by these bylaws as required for the general well-being of the club.

ARTICLE V- MEETINGS

SECTION 1 - GENERAL MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of six general meetings each year, at least one of which shall be in January. Other general meetings shall be held at such times and places as specified by a majority of the Executive Board. The goal of this club shall be to have monthly meetings. If a majority of the Executive Board feels action by the membership is needed prior to the next General Meeting, a Special Meeting Notice shall be sent by any means practical at least 24 hours in advance. Such a meeting notice shall specify the topic, time, place, and date of the meeting. **All meeting dates, times, and locations shall be provided to the SDCDP at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting for publication on the SDCDP website.**

SECTION 2 - QUORUM

A quorum at any general meeting shall be ten percent of the membership in good standing. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be a majority of the then currently serving members.

SECTION 3 – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

This Club shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised in all instances not covered by these bylaws or those of the San Diego County Democratic Party or the California State Democratic Party. The parliamentarian is not considered an “officer” of the organization and can be a non-member.

SECTION 4 – NOTICES

At least two weeks prior to a general meeting at which the following items will be discussed and voted upon, the Executive Board shall notify the full membership by email of the upcoming vote to be taken. Those members with no email will be notified by U.S. mail or telephone. The notice to the membership will include any topics to be discussed, including:

- Proposed resolutions
- Endorsements of candidates
- Endorsements of ballot measures
- Filling of any vacancies to the Executive Board
- Proposed amendments to these by-laws
- Annual election of officers

Such notice shall specify the time, place, and date of the general meeting and describe the event.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1 - FUNCTION

The Executive Board shall approve all expenditures and carry out the club business between general meetings in a manner consistent with actions taken at the general meetings, fix the hour and place of the General and Board Meetings, make recommendations to the club at the general meetings, and perform any other duties provided for in these bylaws.

SECTION 2 - MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Executive Board shall include all of the currently elected club officers, the then current Committee Chairs, and the Immediate Past President.

SECTION 3 - MEETINGS

The Board shall meet to carry out the business of the club at least 6 times per year or monthly at the discretion of the President. The President, or a majority of the Executive Board acting in the absence of the President, may call a Special Meeting with a twenty-four hour notice using any means practicable to notify the remaining members of the Executive Board. A report of actions taken at any Special Executive Board Meeting will be made at the next General Meeting

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees for the club are as follows: Political Action, Membership, Events, Historian, Hospitality, Technology Support/Data Management, Raffle, Phone Tree, Scholarship, Website, Newsletter, and Registration. The President shall appoint any other Chairs, or eliminate any Chairs specified by these bylaws as required for the general well-being of the club with the agreement of the majority of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII - CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS

A. All endorsements of candidates or resolutions concerning ballot measures or public issues must be in accordance 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 or our Club.

B. Only candidates who are registered Democrats are eligible for Club endorsement.

C. Non-Democrats may only be rated acceptable or unacceptable.

D. The Club shall notify the full membership by email of candidate endorsements, ballot measure endorsements, or a resolution proposal for consideration, at least two weeks prior to a club meeting. Those members with no email will be notified by U.S. mail or telephone.

E. The Club shall invite all prospective Democratic candidates to the endorsement meeting and notify those candidates at least five business days prior to the meeting and provide details on the club's endorsement process.

F. Club endorsements are not to be construed as SDCDP or CDP endorsements.

G. Any publication of endorsements shall delineate between endorsed and those rated as acceptable candidates.

H. A motion to endorse a candidate or take a position on a Proposition or public issue must receive the vote of a majority of the Club members present. The quorum necessary to adopt a motion shall be 10% of the regular members eligible to vote.

ARTICLE IX – CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

SECTION 1 – 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) twenty 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 2 – 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 3 and 4 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 3 – SELECTION

Club representatives to the CDP and SDCDP and any other official representative, delegate, and alternate from the club to conferences, caucuses, councils, conventions, and other meetings shall be selected by a vote of the Executive Board.

SECTION 4: 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.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the eligible voting members in good standing present at a general meeting. Notification of the amendment shall be given to all members as stated in Article V, Section 4.

Adoption of an amendment or revision to these Bylaws shall become effective immediately, unless otherwise stipulated by the amendment or revision.

General Meeting Approved 6/13/15

General Meeting Approved 1/9/16

General Meeting Approved 4/9/16

Executive Board Approved 2/6/18

General Meeting Approved 2/10/18