

FRISCO DEMOCRATIC CLUB BYLAWS

MISSION: To elect Democratic candidates to leadership positions throughout the greater Frisco area, throughout North Texas, throughout the State of Texas, and for President and Vice President of the United States.

The Frisco Democratic Club shall pursue ideals of Liberty, Justice, and Freedom for All regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical disability. We shall pursue these ideals through support of the Democratic Party and its platforms and candidates. We will support Democratic candidates, help find local candidates to run for office, engage volunteers, stay current on the issues facing our community, educate the voters, and get out the vote. With these thoughts, we establish this Club.

ARTICLE I Name

The name of this unincorporated organization will be the Frisco Democratic Club (hereafter in this document called “FDC” or “Club”).

ARTICLE II Purpose

FDC shall uphold the ideals set forth by the Democratic Party. FDC members will help elect Democratic candidates to leadership positions.

Section 1: Goals. FDC will promote the increased political activity and influence of Democrats in politics and government, educate voters about local Democratic political activities, work for the election and appointment of the best-qualified Democratic public officials at every level of government, and increase Democratic party participation.

Section 2: Community Impact. FDC will promote programs, legislation, constitutional amendments, bond elections, referendums, and the like, to contribute to the quality of life for all community members.

ARTICLE III Parliamentary Authority

The most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Club.

ARTICLE IV Amendments and Resolutions

Section 1: Amendments. Amendments to these Bylaws must be submitted in writing or via email to the President and/or Secretary at least 14 days prior to the Executive Board (hereinafter the “Board”) meeting at which the amendment will be considered. The President is obligated to place the amendment on the agenda for that meeting if submitted by a Board member in good standing. The amendment will be considered approved if two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Board members in good standing in attendance at the meeting vote in favor of the amendment.

Section 2: Notice. When Board members are given notice of meetings, they must be informed that an amendment is on the agenda for the amendment to be considered at that meeting.

Section 3: Provisional Rules. The Board, by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at that meeting, may adopt such provisional rules as it deems necessary in order to facilitate the running of the Club. Such provisional rules cannot be in conflict with, or in contravention of, the Bylaws of FDC.

ARTICLE V Membership

Section 1: Membership. FDC membership is open to anyone age 18 or older who pays the yearly membership dues and pledges to support Democratic candidates.

Section 2: Member Status. Member status shall not be affected by ethnicity, gender, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical disability.

Section 3: Voting Rights. Members will have full voting rights during General meetings so long as they meet age requirements and are current on their membership dues.

Section 4: Number of Meetings. FDC will have regular General or social meetings no less than four (4) to six (6) times during the course of the calendar year. Notice of meetings must be provided to the General membership at least seven (7) days before the scheduled meeting. Online General membership meetings or social events will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of FDC meetings requirements.

Section 5: Dues. Annual membership dues shall be set by the Board. All memberships run on a calendar-year basis.

Section 5 Removal. Membership in FDC is voluntary, and as such, any behavior deemed threatening or promoting non-Democratic values may constitute removal of membership. Revocation of membership must be brought to the Board by the President before being brought to the General members for a majority vote. A prorated refund of annual dues will be reimbursed to the removed member.

ARTICLE VI Executive Board

The FDC Executive Board ("Board") will be the chief policy-making body for the Club. The Board shall be elected by and from the General members.

Section 1: Board Positions. The Board shall consist of six (6) officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Collin County Democratic Party (CCDP)/ Other Club Liaison and Denton County Democratic Party (DCDP) Liaison. Standing Committees may be created by the Executive Officers as needed, and Committee Chairs will become voting members of the Board. Each Committee Chair does not serve as an elected position, but s/he is appointed by the Board as needed.

Section 2: Powers. The Board shall have all the powers necessary for the proper and legal execution of all duties of FDC. For the purposes of voting, a quorum shall consist of three (3) Executive Board members and fifty percent 50% of the Standing Committee Chairs.

Section 3: Length of Service. No Board member may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms without a unanimous vote of the Board.

Section 4: Restriction on Positions. No one person may hold more than one (1) office on the Board (except when a Board member serves as Interim Vice President due to Presidential vacancy as described in Article X).

Section 5: Board Meeting Requirements. The Board will meet no less than four (4) times during the course of a calendar year. Online Board meetings will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of Board business.

ARTICLE VII Officers and Officer Duties

Section 1: President. The President will be the Chief Executive Officer for the Club. S/he will preside over all Club meetings. The President will have the duties and powers outlined below. The absence of a specific power or duty from this list is not necessarily a denial of its existence.

(NOTE: The President and Vice President will preferably be of opposite genders as currently demonstrated by the State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) of the Texas Democratic Party.)

- A. Establish administrative procedures not otherwise provided for by the Bylaws of this Club.
- B. Act for and on behalf of FDC when not in session.
- C. Establish the Agenda for each meeting of the Club (General and Board).
- D. Appoint Chairs of all committees, standing and adjunct, with the approval of the Board.
- E. Be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- F. Remove anyone from any appointed position, with the approval of the Board.

Section 2: Vice President. The Vice President will have the following duties:

(NOTE: The President and Vice President will preferably be of opposite genders as currently demonstrated by the State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) of the Texas Democratic Party.)

- A. Act as President Pro-Tempore in the absence of the President.
- B. Assist the President.

Section 3: Secretary. The Secretary shall have the following duties and powers:

- A. Keep accurate minutes of all Club meetings (General and Board).
- B. Maintain an accurate roster of members in good standing with the assistance of the Treasurer and the Membership Chair.
- C. See to all Club correspondence, as directed by the President.
- D. When the Secretary is unavailable, the President and/or Vice President shall designate another Officer, Chair, or General member to take meeting minutes.

Section 4: Treasurer. The Treasurer will be the Chief Financial Officer of the organization and shall have the following duties:

- A. Maintain accurate financial records for the organization.
- B. Advise the President and the Board of the financial condition of the Club.
- C. The Treasurer will file any reports for the State Democratic Party or the State Ethics Commission in a timely manner as required by the Texas Election Code and/or any other relevant statute or regulation.
- D. Schedule a meeting with the Board President and Vice President during the months of October or November to set the budget for the next calendar year. This budget must be approved by the Board prior to the month of December (or the last meeting of the calendar year).

Section 5: CCDP / Other Club Liaison. The CCDP Liaison must be a current-term CCDP precinct chair and will be responsible for being the liaison between CCDP activities and FDC Board and General membership. This position shall have all the following duties:

- A. Be an active precinct chair.
- B. Coordinate with the County Party and other Clubs as needed/requested.
- C. Attend coordinated campaign, field team, and leadership team meetings as necessary and/or requested by CCDP.

Section 6: DCDP Liaison. The DCDP Liaison must be a current-term DCDP precinct chair and will be responsible for being the liaison between DCDP activities and FDC Board and General membership. This position shall have all the following duties:

- A. Be an active precinct chair.
- B. Coordinate with the County Party and other Clubs as needed/requested.
- C. Attend coordinated campaign, field team, and leadership team meetings as necessary and/or requested by DCDP.

Article VIII - Finances

Section 1: Financial Authority. The Board shall, through majority vote of the Board members present and eligible to vote at a particular meeting, have the power to establish such fundraising events as are deemed necessary. FDC shall expend its financial assets in a manner consistent with the goals and principles stated in the Bylaws.

Section 2: Official Empowerment. The President and the Treasurer shall establish such bank and/or investment accounts as deemed necessary by the Board.

Section 3: Disbursement of Funds. Any checks issued by FDC shall bear the signature of the President, Vice President, or Treasurer.

Section 4: Financial Disposition Upon Dissolution. In the event that the Club is disbanded or dissolved, all assets and real property of FDC and its committees shall be donated to the Democratic Party of Collin County.

Section 5: Prohibited Contributions. The following restrictions apply to all contributions received by the Club:

- A. No contribution will be accepted from any corporation, labor organization, or any other entity that is prohibited from making contributions or expenditures in connection with Texas state or local elections.
- B. No contribution will be accepted, and no expenditure will be made, by or on behalf of the Club, at a time when there is a vacancy in the office of its Chief Financial Officer or when there is not a campaign treasurer appointment for the Club in effect at the Texas Ethics Commission.
- C. No contribution will be accepted unless the contributor supplies information sufficient to enable the Club to comply with the record-keeping and reporting requirements of the Texas Election Code or other applicable law.
- D. No contribution will be accepted if such acceptance would in any way cause the Club to be in violation of the Texas Election Code or other applicable law.
- E. The Board, in its sole and absolute discretion, may refuse to accept any contribution made to the Club.

Section 6: Physical Address FDC will obtain and pay for both a P.O. Box and a storage facility for club business.

ARTICLE IX Elections

Section 1: Officer Elections. Elections of Executive Officers will be held at the February meeting. All terms are for one year and will run from February to February of the following year.

Section 2: Order of Elections. The order of elections will be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, CCDP / Club Liaison and DCDP Liaison.

Section 3: Online Elections Meetings. Online Board or General membership meetings will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of officer elections.

ARTICLE X Officer Vacancies/Removal of Officers

Section 1: Grounds for Removal. Grounds for removal are gross misconduct, malfeasance, or lack of attendance at meetings (any Officer or Chair who misses a combination of three (3) consecutive Board meetings without approval from the President is eligible for removal).

Section 2: Timing of Removal. The Board must be notified at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Board meeting in which removal will be considered. The Officer or Chair in question will be given the opportunity to speak on his/her behalf at such a meeting. A two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote is

required by attending Board members in good standing to remove any Officer or Chair from the Board.

Section 3: Replacement of Officer. Upon removal of an Executive Officer, the President or most senior Executive Officer must call a General meeting to notify the General membership that an election will be held. At least 14 days' notice is required before holding the meeting. Following an Executive Officer vacancy within FDC, nominations to fill such vacancy must be taken at the next General meeting after a vacancy has occurred. The election to fill such vacancy must be held immediately after nominations are taken (any member in good standing may be nominated and does NOT need to be present). ONLY Executive Officers must be elected by the General membership. Committee Chairs can be appointed or removed by the Board. (See Article VI, Section 2.)

Section 4: Interim Service. If a vacancy for President occurs, the Vice President shall serve as Interim President until an election is held to fill the vacancy. The duties of Vice President shall fall to the most senior Officer of the Board until a new President is elected (the President can also appoint an interim Vice President at her/his sole discretion). If a vacancy for Vice President occurs, the President shall appoint a General member in good standing until a new Vice President can be elected.

Section 5: Notice to Membership. The President must give membership at least fourteen (14) days' notice via email to announce any meetings for nominations and/or to elect new Executive Officers to fill vacancies.

ARTICLE XI Committee Formation

The President or Board may (by majority vote) form standing and/or adjunct committees at any time, for any reason deemed necessary. Standing Committee Chairs are eligible to vote at Board meetings, but are not subject to election by the General membership. (See Article VI, Section 2)

ARTICLE XII Supporting Candidates

Section 1: Endorsement Committee. At the sole discretion of the Board, an endorsement committee may be formed in order to consider candidate qualifications. This committee may recommend endorsements or support to the Board. The Board has the sole discretion to accept or reject such endorsements or support, following the procedures set forth in Sections 2-3 below.

Section 2: Endorsement of Candidates in Partisan Races. FDC will never oppose a Democratic candidate for political office in a race in which both Democrats and other parties are running, either by supporting non-Democratic candidates or by not supporting all Democratic candidates in a primary, unless the following occurs: FDC may choose to endorse candidates in a primary race wherein multiple Democrats are seeking the same elected position, but the endorsement must be with the support of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Board members present at a Board meeting. If, during a Board meeting, two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Board members do not approve the endorsement and the vote fails, FDC will not endorse any candidate but will continue providing support to all Democratic candidates in the race under consideration. Online Board meetings or endorsement

committee meetings (if a committee is appointed) will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of endorsement approvals.

The Club may support a non-Democratic candidate in a partisan race if said candidate does not have a Democratic opponent. Support of a non-Democratic candidate will not be considered to be an endorsement, but rather a statement of preference between non-Democratic candidates. The statement of support must be approved by a majority of the Board members at a Board meeting. If, during a Board meeting, a majority of the Board members do not approve the statement of support and the vote fails, FDC will not support any candidate in the race under consideration. Online Board meetings or endorsement committee meetings (if a committee is appointed) will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of endorsement/support approvals.

Section 3: Endorsement of Candidates in Nonpartisan Races. FDC may endorse or support preferred candidates in nonpartisan elections such as city council and school board. However, if a candidate is in a nonpartisan race wherein multiple Democrats are seeking the same elected position, the endorsement vote must be with the support of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Board members present at a Board meeting. If the vote fails, FDC will not endorse any candidate. In the event no Democratic candidate is running in a nonpartisan race, support of a non-Democratic candidate will not be considered to be an endorsement, but rather a statement of preference between non-Democratic candidates. A majority of the Board members at a Board meeting must vote to approve such support. Online Board meetings or endorsement committee meetings (if a committee is appointed) will be considered to be as valid as in-person meetings for the purpose of endorsement and support approvals.

APPENDIX A: Proposed Committee Chairs

- Fundraising & Events
- Volunteers
- Leadership Accountability
- Communications Team
- Membership & Data
- Frisco Family & Community Outreach