

## **TRI-VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB BY-LAWS as amended January 21 2008**

### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

**Section I:** The name of this organization shall be the Tri-Valley Democratic Club, hereinafter referred to as the "organization".

### **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

**Section I:** It shall be the purpose of this organization to promote the maximum participation in the election of

Democratic candidates for public office at the local, state, and national levels, and to promote the general goals of the Democratic Party among all citizens of the district.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section I:** Membership shall be open to all registered Democrats and likewise, to young people (sixteen to eighteen years of age) whose intention is to register Democratic. Such membership shall be upon recommendation

of a regular Club member and member so recommended shall be seated upon payment of dues and by acceptance

of a majority vote of the membership present and voting at a regular meeting of the organization.

#### **Section II: Dues:**

The dues of this organization shall be determined by a vote of the membership. A plurality at a meeting where a

quorum is present is required to change the dues. Members must be informed 30 days prior to any vote that

changes the dues. Dues are paid upon receipt of application for membership in accordance with Section I of this

Article, and shall thereafter become due and payable no later than January 31, of each year.

Dues not received

before February 1, of each year, shall be considered delinquent.

**Section III: Removal of Members:** Any member who publicly supports a person of any other party for public office

against a registered Democrat in any partisan election, or who authorizes his/her Democratic affiliation in any

partisan election in support of a candidate other than that of the Democratic Party shall be immediately removed

from this organization for no less than two years in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article VI, Section IV

of these By-Laws.

**Section IV:** The Secretary of this organization shall, upon request of the Chair, ascertain the qualifications of those

present to vote on any issue brought before this organization. Those found to be disqualified shall be requested to

abstain from voting, and their votes shall not be included in the tally of votes cast.

### **ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS**

**Section I:** General meetings of this organization shall be held at least once every three months in odd numbered

years, and at least bimonthly in even numbered years. Such date and time of the regular scheduled meetings shall

be set by the Executive Committee of this organization. Notice of said meeting, including agenda, shall be sent by

first call mail to the membership no later than 5 days prior to such meeting.

**Section II:** Special meetings of this organization shall be called by the President, or on written request of at least

five voting members. Such reason for special meetings shall be included as the agenda items and must be

submitted to the membership at least 5 days before the date of such meeting.

**Section III:** Whenever there are more than 40 voting members in the club, a quorum shall be declared to exist at any general or special meeting at which 10 voting members are present. If the voting membership falls below 40 members, a quorum shall be declared when one-fourth of the voting is present. In determining the quorum, no proxies will be permitted. Voting shall be done in person, and no proxy voting shall be allowed.

**ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section I:** The officers of this organization and their duties shall be:

**(A) PRESIDENT:** The President shall: Preside at all meetings of this organization and the Executive Committee; co-sign with the Treasurer, all orders on the Treasury of this organization; with the Secretary, prepare the agenda and call for meetings; appoint the members of the Standing Committees and Special Committees; be an ex-officio member of all Committees except the Nominating Committee; perform all other duties assigned by the Executive Committee and those duties which are inherent in the Office in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (Revised Edition).

**(B) VICE-PRESIDENT:** The Vice-President shall: In the absence or disability of the President, assume all the powers and duties of that office; perform such other duties that may be assigned by the President or the Executive Committee; in the absence of the President co-sign with the Treasurer all orders on the Treasury; serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; perform all other duties inherent in the Office.

**(C) SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall: Keep all minutes of the meetings of this organization and that of the Executive Committee; with the President, prepare all agendas for such meetings; give notice of all special and regular meetings; perform all other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Committee; perform such other duties which are inherent to the Office.

**(D) TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall: Keep lists of the paid membership and make such lists available to the Secretary when requested; send or cause to be sent dues notices to members at the beginning of the financial year.

**Section II: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The Executive Committee shall be comprised of all the elected officers of this organization, along with the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees. The meetings of this Committee will be on call of the President or on the request of three members of the Executive Committee and shall be open to all members of this organization. The Executive Committee shall act to carry out the duties of the organization in an emergency or time limit situation, other than endorsements. A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be three members thereof. The Executive Committee shall disburse only those funds needed for the general operation of this organization. All other such disbursements shall be approved by the Membership.

**ARTICLE VI: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Section I: NOMINATIONS:** Nominations shall be held at the October general meeting. Such nominations shall be

made by the Nominating Committee, which shall consist of five members appointed by the President upon approval of the Executive Committee. Nominations will then be taken from the floor prior to voting for that particular office.

Terms of office shall be for one year.

**Section II: ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS:** The election of officers shall be held at the January meeting of this organization. Such election shall be held by ballot unless there is only one name for that office. If no other names

are placed in nomination, the Secretary may be requested to declare that person elected.

**Section III: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS:** Any officer of this organization shall be removed, for reasons such as inability to perform such duties, conduct unbecoming a member, failure to attend meetings, and those reasons as

described in Article III, Section III of these by-laws. Such removal shall be as prescribed in Roberts Rules of Order

(Revised Edition). Such proceedings to remove an Officer or Member must be initiated by a petition signed by at

least ten members in good standing with this organization. Upon a 2/3 affirmative vote of those present and voting,

the member or officer shall be expelled from the organization.

#### **ARTICLE VII: ENDORSEMENTS**

**Section I:** The membership of this organization may endorse or withhold the endorsement of any candidate who is

a registered Democrat or any issue in any election.

**Section II:** All voting held under the provisions of this Article require a majority vote, by secret ballot of members

eligible to vote, present at a meeting where as an agenda item, endorsement is requested.

Members eligible to vote

are those defined as those members who have complied with Sections I-IV of Article III membership, and have

been members of the organization for a minimum of thirty days. If a candidate or issue fails to receive the majority

vote in the case of two or more candidates or issues, then a second ballot will be taken with the winner of that ballot

being the one to receive the majority vote. If, on that ballot, no one receives the majority of votes cast, then there is

no endorsement.

**Section III:** With a 2/3 vote of the membership of the organization in attendance at the meeting, the Club may

choose to endorse a Democrat in a non-partisan race and may endorse a non-partisan issue.

**Section IV:** No Officer or Member of this organization shall, in the name of the organization, endorse a candidate

or an issue without the prior consent of the members of the organization as prescribed in Section II of this Article.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: By Law Changes:**

**Section I:** These by laws may be changed by a vote during a membership meeting where a quorum (*ARTICLE IV*

Section III) is present. 2/3 of the vote count is required to make the change to the by laws. The membership must

be given 30 days notice before the change is considered during the membership meeting.