



# BYLAWS

## **ARTICLE I: Name**

The name of the organization shall be the Albany Democratic Club.

## **ARTICLE II: Principal Office**

The principal office for the transaction of the business of the association is as may be hereafter fixed and located in the City of Albany, State of California, by the Club Officers, which the Club Officers are hereby granted full power and authority to change said principal office from one location to another within said City.

## **ARTICLE III: Purpose**

**Section 1:** The Albany Democratic Club (herein after called the Club) shall promote and support the Democratic Party (hereinafter called the Party) by working to improve the quality of life for the people of Albany, Alameda County, California and the nation; by inspiring greater participation in the democratic process; and by educating members, candidates and the public of the Democratic ideals.

**Section 2:** The Albany Democratic Club shall support state and national Democratic Party platforms.

**Section 3:** The Albany Democratic Club shall support only registered Democrats for election for "non-partisan" offices.

**Section 4:** The Albany Democratic Club shall be a Democratic club and shall charter with the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.

**Section 5:** The Albany Democratic Club shall support only candidates registered as Democrats in primary, general, and special election campaigns.

## **ARTICLE IV: Affiliation**

**Section 1:** The Club is officially chartered with the Alameda County Democratic Party (hereinafter called Alameda County) and was duly chartered by the Committee on January 24, 2017.

**Section 2:** As a chartered and affiliated club of Alameda County, the Club shall comply with bylaws of the Alameda County and the California Democratic Party, as they apply to fully chartered local affiliates.

**Section 3:** The Club shall apply for membership as a full affiliate in the California Democratic Council. Membership shall be permitted if approved by a majority vote of the club, or 2/3 of its officers.

**ARTICLE V: Membership**

**Section 1:** Membership of the Albany Democratic Club shall be open to all persons, whether or not residents of the City of Albany, who subscribe to the statement of purpose and objects set forth in Article III.

**Section 2: Qualifications:** Any individual qualifies for Club membership if:

- A. The individual is a registered Democrat; or
- B. The individual is ineligible to vote (due to minority by age, non-residency, or other legal impediment), but pledges to register as a Democrat when eligibility is attained; and
- C. Supports the purpose of the Club as stated in Article III, above.
- D. The individual is minimum 16 years of age.

**Section 3: Active Membership:** A qualified individual shall be considered an active member only if:

- A. The member has attended at least one meeting prior to being eligible to vote and
- B. The member has paid all club dues.

**Section 4: Honorary Membership:** The Club Officers may designate individuals or classes of persons, such as elected Democratic officials, to be Honorary Members of the Club, but they shall have no right to vote unless they shall have paid all applicable dues or they represent a jurisdiction that represents all or part of Albany, CA.

**Section 5: Advisory Membership:** The Club officers may by resolution from time to time designate Advisory Members who shall be entitled to receive notice of meetings and to speak at such meetings, but without any vote. The Club President or any Club Officer may consult with any Advisory Member from time to time as they may deem appropriate and the Club Officers may assign such duties or responsibilities to Advisory Members as from time to time seem in the best interest of the Club.

**Section 6** This Club 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 identify, sexual orientation or economic status.

#### **Section 7: Membership Removal**

- A. A member is removed from the club roster for non-payment dues by the date required in these Bylaws.
- B. A member shall be removed from the Club for the unauthorized use or exploitation of the name of the Club.

#### **ARTICLE VI: Dues**

**Section 1:** Dues shall be recommended by the Club Officers and reviewed at the first meeting of each calendar year and presented to the General Membership for approval.

**Section 2:** Dues are due on July 1 and payable July 31 or each calendar year.

**Section 3:** Annual dues for new active Club members shall be prorated on a monthly basis.

**Section 4:** Membership is effective 30 days after receipt of dues.

**Section 5:** Payment of dues shall not be obligatory to anyone for whom it constitutes an economic hardship, and after due consideration with approval of the Club officers.

#### **ARTICLE VII: Meetings**

##### **Section 1: Regular Meetings**

- A. The Club shall hold regular meetings on such day as the membership may determine from time to time.
- B. Regular meetings shall not be canceled more than 3 times within any calendar year and in no event shall more than 2 regular meetings be cancelled in succession.
- C. Regular meetings shall not conflict with Albany City and Albany School Board meetings.

##### **Section 2: Special Meetings**

- A. Special meetings may be called by the President at any time, on notice as specified below.
- B. In the absence of the President, any two officers may call a special meeting, on notice as specified below.

##### **Section 3: Notice of Meetings**

- A. Notice of regular or special meetings shall be given at least two weeks in advance to all active members, in any manner as follows:
  - 1. Notice in writing by U.S. mail
  - 2. Notice in writing by e-mail
  - 3. Telephone message
- B. Meeting agendas shall be made available by 5pm, three days prior to the meeting date.
- C. Notice of the meeting shall be deemed sufficient by any manner specified above if such notice includes the date, time and place of the meeting and is calculated to be received at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: Procedure**

**Section 1:** The Club may pass resolutions not related to endorsements with a vote of 60% of those present and voting at any meeting, but not less than 25% of the membership or 5 members, whichever is greater.

**Section 2:** 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 agenda, such process must be approved by at least 60% of those present and voting at any meeting. If the discussion of an endorsement process is brought up from the floor as New Business, such process must be approved by at least 3/4 of those present and voting at any meeting. 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 60% of the members present and voting.

**Section 3:** Changes to the constitution and bylaws not specifically reference elsewhere must be notices to the membership at least one meeting before the vote in question, and must be approved by a vote of 60% of those present and voting.

**Section 4:** Details on endorsements and contributions can be found in the Albany Democratic Club Standing Rules on Endorsements Procedures.

#### **ARTICLE IX: Officers**

**Section 1:** Officers shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected in January to serve a one-year term of office. Officers may serve up to four consecutive years.

#### **Section 2: President**

- A. The President shall have general supervision, direction and control of the business and affairs of the Club.

- B. The President shall officiate at all meetings of the Club.
- C. The President may appoint members temporarily to fill un-expired terms of office, subject to election by the membership at the next Club meeting 30 days after the office is vacated.
- D. The President may appoint Club members to serve in other capacities as needed.
- E. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Club.

**Section 2: Vice President**

- A. If the President vacates office, the Vice President shall ascend to the position of President, until an election is held to fill the President's remaining term in office.
- B. In the temporary absence of the President, the Vice President shall serve as the President. If the position of Vice President is vacant, the Secretary or Treasurer shall serve as Vice President.

**Section 3: Secretary**

- A. The Secretary shall be responsible to ensure that all members are notified of Club meetings, maintain an updated Club roster, and shall maintain all written records of the Club.

**Section 4: Treasurer**

- A. The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records of the Club, be responsible for bank accounts (including deposits), ensure FPPC/FEC financial reports are submitted on time, and will provide a monthly financial report at Club meetings.

**Section 5:** The Executive Board shall be composed of the Club officers and Chairs of standing Committees, and shall be responsible for implementing the Club's goals and maintaining financial viability.

**Section 6:** The Club shall be represented at meetings of Alameda County and any Assembly District Committee meetings at which it may be entitled to membership. A person may serve as representative to more than one outside body if the Club membership approves.

**Section 7:** The Club may elect other officers as may be deemed necessary from time to time to conduct Club business.

**Section 8:** Club Officers shall receive no compensation for their services as Officers of the Club.

**Section 9:** An elected officer can be removed from the office by resolution of a 2/3 vote of the regular members at a general meeting for such causes as missing three unexcused consecutive meetings or non-performance of duties, providing the membership and the officer have been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting of the proposed action against the officer.

**ADOPTED:** Jan. 26, 2017  
**(Date)**

**CERTIFIED BY:** Erica Lee  
**Printed Name of Secretary**

*Erica Lee*  
**Signature of Secretary**