

EAST LANSING DEMOCRATIC CLUB BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

This organization shall be known as the East Lansing Democratic Club. Its membership shall consist of persons residing within the City of East Lansing, all of whom must also be members of the Michigan Democratic Party.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purposes of the East Lansing Democratic Club are to coordinate and improve relations between local Democrats; increase membership in the Michigan Democratic Party; increase civic engagement and voter turnout within the City of East Lansing and on Michigan State University Campus amongst Democrats; to provide an intellectual forum for guest speakers and members discussion of Democratic Party principles and to educate and inform members and the public of matters of interest; and to elect Democrats to office.

ARTICLE III. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Section 1. All public meetings of the East Lansing Democratic Club shall be open to attendance by all members of the Democratic Party regardless of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 2. No tests for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the East Lansing Democratic Club shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current member of the Club to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the East Lansing Democratic Club on all levels shall be publicized fully and in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Club members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.

Section 4. The East Lansing Democratic Club shall support the broadest possible participation without discrimination on grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 5. The East Lansing Democratic Club shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of East Lansing Democratic Club officers and representatives. Publication of those procedures shall be done in such a fashion that all prospective and current members of the East Lansing Democratic Club will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedure in time to participate in each selection procedure of the East Lansing Democratic Club.

Section 6. The East Lansing Democratic Club shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications for all officers and representatives of the East Lansing Democratic Club. Such publication shall be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the East Lansing Democratic Club will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office.

Section 7. Majority voting shall be used in the election of the Officers and Executive Committee of the East Lansing Democratic Club. Each Officer position shall be open to all members, who shall be nominated by another member or a person can nominate him or herself. Whichever nominee receives the most votes for the position shall be elected to the position.

Section 8. All rules and bylaws of the East Lansing Democratic Club at all levels shall be consistent with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and shall be available on request in writing to any member of the East Lansing Democratic Club.

Section 9. The unit rule is prohibited in the East Lansing Democratic Club.

Section 10. No rule shall be adopted by the East Lansing Democratic Club which would require a person to cast a vote or be recorded a voting contrary to that person's judgment.

Section 11. On all questions of procedure not resolved by the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party or these Bylaws, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used.

Section 12. Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any meeting of the East Lansing Democratic Club at any level.

Section 13. The East Lansing Democratic Club will not endorse in contested primaries between two or more Democratic candidates.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Officers shall be a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson of the opposite sex of the Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer and other Officers as they may hereinafter be appointed or elected. They shall have two (2) year terms and be elected at a regular meeting of the Club by consensus, or if consensus cannot be reached, by majority vote. Vacancies among the Officers shall be filled by appointment until the next regular election or the Club may call an election with adequate notice to members.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers and three (3) elected members. The elected members shall serve two (2) year terms and be elected [by consensus, or if consensus cannot be reached, by majority vote. Vacancies among the elected members of the Executive Committee shall be filled by appointment until the next regular election or the Club may call an election with adequate notice to members.

Section 3. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings and have such other duties as are usual to the office of Chairperson, or that may be required by this organization.

Section 4. The Vice-Chairperson shall be a member of the opposite sex from the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in the discharge of his/her

duties, and shall temporarily assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in his/her absence.

Section 5. The Secretary of this organization shall keep an accurate record and minutes of the proceedings of all meetings. He/She shall keep and preserve all the books, documents, correspondence, records, minutes, effects, and any other property of this organization, and when a new secretary is elected the past secretary shall forthwith deliver to the newly elected secretary all the aforesaid items kept and preserved during his/her tenure of office. He/She shall see that proper notification is given of all meetings.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial receipts and disbursements of this organization subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The funds of this organization shall be deposited in banks and shall be drawn upon only by checks signed by any two of the following officers: Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall make financial reports to the Executive Committee and Club. When a new Treasurer is elected, the past Treasurer shall forthwith deliver to the new Treasurer the funds and all the books and records kept during his/her tenure in office.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

Section 1. At least once per quarter there shall be a full membership meeting of the East Lansing Democratic Club where the Officers and Executive Committee shall report on Club activities. At least five (5) days' notice shall be given of the date, place and time of the meeting. Notice may be given by mail, telegram, fax or email.

Section 2. The regular meetings of the East Lansing Democratic Club Executive Committee shall be on the date and at the location and time set forth in the meeting notice. At least five (5) days' notice shall be given of the date, time and place of the meeting. Notice may be given by mail, telegram, fax or email. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Executive Committee or full membership may be called by a majority of the Executive Committee or full membership, respectively. At least five (5) days' notice shall be given of the date, place, time and purpose of the special meeting. Notice may be given by mail, telegram, fax or email.

Section 4. Subject to the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and these Bylaws, all meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition).

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chairperson, subject to the approval of the majority of the Executive Committee, shall appoint the committees and committee chairpersons necessary for the work of the organization.

Section 2. Standing Committees shall include the following:

1. Rules and Bylaws Committee
2. Finance Committee
3. Political Organizing Committee

4. Communications Committee
5. Policy and Resolutions Committee

These committees shall include the appropriate subcommittees. The Chairperson of the Club shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees. A member of the Club may be a member of more than one committee.

ARTICLE VII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

At meetings the business of the organization shall proceed in the following order:

1. Roll call of officers
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. Reports of officers
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Treasurer (financial report)
 - d. Secretary (correspondence)
4. Reports of committees
5. Unfinished business
6. Postponed business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposals for changes or amendments to these bylaws shall first be referred to the Rules and Bylaws Committee which shall report its recommendations to the next regular Club meeting or special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members of the East Lansing Democratic Club present at a meeting, provided that written notice setting forth the proposed amendment has been given to all Club members at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 3. These bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon their adoption and shall supersede all bylaws, rules, motions and policies of a contrary nature with the exception the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.