

## San Joaquin County Democratic Central Committee

## **BYLAWS**

Ratified: February 5, 2022

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION AND AUTHORITY		1
Section 1:	Name	1
Section 2:	Purpose	1
Section 3:	Composition	1
Section 4:	Parliamentary Authority	1
ARTICLE II MEN	ИBERSHIP	2
Section 1:	Membership Requirements	2
Section 2:	Types of Membership	2
	(a) Regular Members	2
	(b) Ex-Officio Members	2
	(c) Alternate Members	3
	(d) Chartered Organization Representatives	3
	(e) Youth Members	3
	(f) Associate Members	3
Section 3:	Duties of Membership	4
	(a) Relocation of Member Residence	4
	(b) Member Financial/Fiduciary Disclosure	4
Section 4:	Member Terms of Office	4
Section 5:	Seating of New Members	4
Section 6:	Membership Dues	4
	(a) Setting of Dues	4
	(b) Dues Payment	4
Section 7:	Removal or Censure of Members and Officers	5
	(a) Non-payment of Dues	5
	(b) Unexcused or Excessive Absences	5
	(c) For Cause	5
Section 8:	Membership Appointments, Resignations and Vacancies	5
ARTICLE III OFFI	CERS	5
Section 1:	Eligibility Requirements	6
Section 2:	Duties of Officers	6
Section 3:	Officer Terms of Office	6
Section 4:	Officer Elections	6
Section 5:	Officer Vacancies	6
ARTICLE IV: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		6
Section 1	Executive Committee Quorum	6
Section 2	Executive Committee Minutes and Reporting	6
Section 3	Executive Committee Meeting Rules	6
Section 4	Executive Committee Meeting Duties and Responsibilities	6

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS - Continued**

ARTICLE V: MEETIN	NGS	7
Section 1:	Types of Meetings	7
	(a) Organizational Meeting	7
	(b) DSCC Election Meeting	7
	(c) Regular Meetings	8
	(d) Executive Committee Meetings	8
	(e) Special Meetings	8
Section 2	Meeting Procedures	8
	(a) Quorum	8
	(b) Voting	8
	(c) Meeting Rules	8
Section 3	Notifications	8
	(a) Meeting Date or Location Notifications	8
	(b) Meeting Agenda, Minutes, and Treasurer's Report	9
ARTICLE VI: COMM	NITTEES	9
Section 1	Eligibility and Appointments	9
Section 2	Standing Committees of the SJCDCC	9
Section 3	Ad Hoc Committees	9
ARTICLE VII: CHAR	TERING/RECHARTERING	9
Section 1	General Description	9
Section 2	Conformity	10
Section 3	Requirements for Charter/Re-Charter	10
Section 4	Charter/Re-Charter Application Submission Process	10
Section 5	Denial and Revocation	10
ARTICLE VIII: ENDO	DRSEMENT PROCEDURE	10
Section 1	Definition – Candidate Endorsement	10
	(a) Partisan Endorsements	11
	(b) Non-Partisan Endorsements	11
Section 2	Candidate Endorsement Procedures	11
Section 3	SJCDCC Issue Advocacy	11
Section 4	Pre-Endorsement Conferences	11
ARTICLE IX: BYLAW	VS AMENDMENT AND RATIFICATION	11
Section 1	Bylaws Amendment Process	11
Section 2	Adoption/Ratification of Bylaws	12
Section 3	Initial Ratification and Subsequent Amendment Adoption History	12

# SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

#### **BYLAWS**

#### ARTICLE I ORGANIZATION AND AUTHORITY

- **Section 1**Name: The name of this organization shall be the San Joaquin County

  Democratic Central Committee (SJCDCC), and is the official governing body of
  the Democratic Party of San Joaquin County, authorized under the Election Code
  of the State of California.
- **Section 2 Purpose**: The purpose of the SJCDCC shall be to:
  - 1. Foster and support Democratic Party campaigns in San Joaquin County in cooperation with the State and National Democratic Party and assist in raising money in support thereof.
  - 2. Build Party organization at the county level; register Democrats; turn-out Democratic voters; endorse and elect Democratic candidates for public office and all levels; and support initiatives and referendums endorsed by the State Party.
  - 3. Develop positions on local issues and communicate them to the public and to all officeholders and provide a forum for the discussion of public issues and Democratic values.
  - 4. Serve as the official voice of the Democratic Party in San Joaquin County on all questions and issues of public policy.
  - 5. Identify, recruit, develop, interview, endorse, support and elect Democratic candidates for local partisan and non-partisan public office.
  - 6. Charter and support Democratic clubs within San Joaquin County.
  - 7. Performs such other duties and services as seen fit to further the Democratic Party in San Joaquin County.
- **Section 3 Composition:** The central committee shall consist of members elected in accordance with California Elections Code sections 7200 et seq. or any succeeding code hereafter adopted by the Legislature or subsequently appointed to fill vacancies as described herein.

#### Section 4 Parliamentary Authority:

- (a) California Elections Code: Section 7200 et seq. of the California Elections Code, or successor statutes relating to the organization and function of County Central Committees of the Democratic Party, are incorporated herein by reference in these Bylaws are shall be the controlling authority, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws or SJCDCC Policies and Procedures notwithstanding.
- **(b)** Rosenberg's Rules of Order: The rules contained in the current edition of *Rosenberg's Rules of Order* shall govern the SJCDCC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or any SJCDCC Policies and Procedures the membership may adopt. When an area is silent in *Rosenberg's Rules of Order* and further clarification is required, we will refer to the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
- (c) Policies, procedures and rules for governance, finance and operation of the

SJCDCC not covered in these Bylaws shall be set forth in the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures. Where the Policies and Procedures conflict with the By-laws, the By-laws shall take precedence.

#### ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1 Membership Requirements:

- All Members of this committee must be registered Democrats or will become
  registered Democrats upon eligibility. When applicable, all Members must
  live in the district they represent. Residency and/or voter registration
  eligibility must be confirmed by the SJCDCC Chair, MOE Administrator or
  Secretary prior to election or appointment to the SJCDCC, where applicable.
- 2. All Members, excluding Ex-Officio Members, must submit a Membership Application, which includes the SJCDCC Code of Conduct, prior to being seated on this committee.
- 3. All Members of this committee, excluding Ex-Officio Members, before entering upon the duties of his or her office, shall take and subscribe to the Oath of Office as required by law. The Oath of Office required may be taken before any officer authorized to administer oaths and no fee shall be charged by any person before whom the oath is taken or subscribed.
- 4. No person shall hold more than one type of Membership concurrently at any given time.
- 5. Members who have complied with all the above requirements and whose dues are paid for the current membership year are considered Members in Good Standing. They are eligible to vote, to hold office, and to represent the SJCDCC in any capacity.
- **Types of Membership:** The SJCDCC is composed of six (6) types of Members: Regular Members, (whether "elected" or "appointed"), Ex-Officio Members, Alternate Members, Chartered Organization Representatives, Youth Members and Associate Members. The process for filling Regular Member vacancies, the appointment of Regular Member Alternates and recognizing Associate Members are described in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.

#### (a) Regular Members:

- Regular Members of the SJCDCC shall be elected at every direct Presidential Primary as prescribed by law or subsequently appointed per Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- 2. Holders of elected public office may not be Regular Members. Additionally, any Regular Member who is subsequently elected to public office, will resign their seat on the SJCDCC prior to being sworn into their elected public position. However, the Member may continue their participation on the SJCDCC as an Associate Member, until their term of public office expires.
- 3. All Regular Members shall have the privilege of the floor and voting rights.
- (b) Ex-Officio Members: Membership is also granted to applicable Ex-Officios, as defined in the California Elections Code sections 7200 et seq. The California Democratic Party (CDP) Regional Directors may serve as Ex-Officio member of the SJCDCC with the privilege of the floor and voting rights.

#### (c) Alternates Members:

- 1. Each Regular, Ex-Officio or Club Representative Member of the SJCDCC may designate one (1) Alternate who shall thereafter have all rights, duties, and privileges of the appointing Member when that Member is absent.
- 2. When the appointing Member is present, the designated Alternate shall have the privilege of the floor, but not voting rights.
- 3. The designated Regular Member Alternate must reside in the Supervisorial District of the Member they are representing; Club Representative Alternate Members must be members in good standing of their organization. All Alternate Members must meet the Membership Requirements above. The process for naming and appointing Regular Member and Club Representative Alternates is further described in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- 4. The appointment of an Ex-Officio Alternate shall be made in writing, by oral communication or in person by the Ex-Officio. Announcement of Ex-Officio Alternates shall be made by the Chair at the next Meeting of the SJCDCC.
- 5. All Alternate Member appointments remain in effect until the Alternate designation is rescinded by resignation of the Alternate, by written notification from the appointing Member, or when the appointing Member's seat is vacated (per Article II, Section 8 below). If membership dues have been paid, the former Alternate Member has the option of becoming an Associate Member.

#### (d) Chartered Organization Representatives:

- 1. Membership may be granted to a representative from each Democratic organization chartered by the SJCDCC, under Article VII. In accordance with Article II, Section 1.4 above, this representative cannot otherwise be a member of the SJCDCC.
- 2. Any Chartered Organization Representative must comply with all applicable Membership Requirements above.
- 3. Any Chartered Organization Representative may submit, in writing, an Alternate to the SJCDCC who is a Member in good standing of their chartered organization for consideration, as noted in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- 4. Chartered Organization Representatives and their Alternates shall have the privilege of the floor, but not voting rights.

#### (e) Youth Members

- 1. At the discretion of the SJCDCC, the designation "Youth Member" shall be conferred upon individuals under eighteen (18) years of age who have demonstrated an interest in, have served, and/or have supported the Democratic Party.
- 2. Youth Members shall have the privilege of the floor, but not voting rights.
- 3. Youth Members must comply with all applicable Membership Requirements above.

#### (f) Associate Members

1. Associate Membership may be granted to any registered Democrat in who wishes to be affiliated with the SJCDCC.

- Associate Members must comply with all applicable Membership
  Requirements above as well as the requirements noted in Section II of the
  SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- 3. Associates shall have the privilege of the floor, but not voting rights.
- **Section 3 Duties of Membership:** In addition to meeting the Membership Requirements above, Regular Meeting attendance, payment of dues, actively participating in at least one (1) Committee of the SJCDCC and any duties listed in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures, all members are required to:
  - (a) Relocation of Member Residence: All Members shall be required to notify the Chair and Secretary if they move from the district for which they were elected to serve on the SJCDCC. Upon such notification they are automatically removed from the SJCDCC roster.
  - (b) Member Financial/Fiduciary Disclosure: When applicable, all Members shall be required to provide full and ongoing written disclosure to the SJCDCC regarding the nature of any-and-all financial relationships with and/or fiduciary responsibilities to any political organization or private business or public entity collaborating with or pursuing a business relationship with the SJCDCC.
- **Section 4 Member Terms of Office:** The term of office for all elected Regular Members is four (4) years. Appointed Regular Members and Alternate Members shall fill out the remaining term of the position to which they were appointed. Club Representative Members may remain in office as long as the club is chartered by the SJCDCC. Youth and Associate Members remain members as long as their dues are current.

#### **Section 5 Seating of New Members:**

- 1. All newly elected Regular Members selected as a result of the California Presidential Primary Election shall be sworn in at the Organizational Meeting.
- Subsequently appointed Regular Members will be sworn in and seated immediately following their election to fill a vacancy, per Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures. The appointment action may take place at the Organizational Meeting, if candidates for appointment have been identified, or at any subsequent Regular Meeting.
- 3. Alternate, Club Representative, Youth and Associate Members are seated upon approval of the SJCDCC membership, per Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.

#### Section 6 Membership Dues:

(a) Setting of Dues: All dues of the SJCDCC shall be established at the January Organizational Meeting of the odd-numbered year. The amount of dues shall be set for Regular Members, Ex-officio Members, Alternate Members, Chartered Organization Representatives, Youth Members and Associate Members, pursuant to Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.

#### (b) Dues Payment:

1. Annual dues shall be payable within thirty (30) days of each January Meeting or within thirty (30) days of a new Regular Member, Alternate Member, Club Representative, Youth Member or Associate Member's appointment.

- 2. All dues shall be considered delinquent after forty-five (45) days, at which point the member is subject to removal from the SJCDCC, per Section 7, (a) below.
- Section 7 Removal or Censure of Members and Officers: Notwithstanding Article II,
  Section 4, any member, other than an Ex-Officio Member, may be removed or
  censured by the committee for the following reasons:
  - (a) Non-payment of Dues: Following written notice from the Treasurer to a Member for failure to pay dues within forty-five (45) days of the beginning of the January meeting or within forty-five (45) days of a new Member's subsequent appointment to the SJCDCC, a Member may be removed at the next Regular Meeting of the SJCDCC. The specific process for removal for non-payment of dues is described in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
  - (b) Unexcused or Excessive Absences: Any Regular Member of the SJCDCC, within a rolling twelve (12) month period who has three (3) unexcused absences from Regular SJCDCC Meetings has failed to meet the minimum level of attendance and is deemed to have resigned. Furthermore, any Regular Member who has a total of five (5) absences for any reason within any rolling twelve (12) month period will be cause for review by the Executive Committee, with a possible recommendation to the membership for the removal of said Regular Member-Attendance requirements for each type of member, definition of excused absences and the specific processes for removal for attendance are described in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
  - (c) For Cause: Members or Officers may be censured and/or removed from office for misconduct as defined in the SJCDCC Code of Conduct, for neglect of duties, or for disloyalty. A further definition of "for cause" as well as the procedure for censuring or removing an Officer from their position and/or a Member of the Committee for Cause, are addressed in Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- Section 8 Membership Appointments, Resignations and Vacancies: In the event of a vacancy caused by relocation, death, resignation, incapacitation, an insufficient number of Regular Members following the Presidential Primary in any Supervisorial district, removal, or other ineligibility of a committee member, etc., that vacancy shall be filled by approval of the membership, pursuant to Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures. Additionally, when the appointing Member's seat is vacated, the associated Alternate Member seat is nullified and vacant, though the former Alternate Member has the option of becoming an Associate Member, per Article II, Section 2 (c) 5 above.

#### ARTICLE III OFFICERS

The officers of the SJCDCC shall be Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, in order of succession. The Chair may appoint a Regular, Alternate, Ex-Officio or Associate Member to serve as the SJCDCC Parliamentarian. This person must be knowledgeable in and able to interpret parliamentary procedures, the SJCDCC Bylaws, and *Rosenberg's Rules of Order*. The Parliamentarian shall serve at the pleasure of the Chair.

- **Section 1 Eligibility Requirements:** Any Member is eligible to run for office on the SJCDCC. However, any voting restrictions on the Member by virtue of Membership Type, see Article II, Section 2 above, remain in effect during Regular Meetings. Any person running for election must also be a member in good standing, as described in Article II, Membership above.
- **Section 2 Duties of Officers:** The specific duties and responsibilities of the officers listed above are described in Section III of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- **Section 3 Officer Terms of Office:** The terms of office for Officers of the SJCDCC shall be two (2) year terms. All officers' terms end on the day of the next Organizational Meeting, following the election of new officers.
- **Section 4 Officer Elections:** The process for electing officers, whether at the Organizational Meeting or subsequently, because of mid-term vacancies, is covered in Section III of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- Section 5 Officer Vacancies: In event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice Chair shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair until the election of a new Chair. In the event of a vacancy in any office the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the Membership at the meeting that follows the notification of vacancy, pursuant to Section II of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.

#### ARTICLE IV THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The SJCDCC Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.

- **Section 1 Executive Committee Quorum:** A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be at least 51% of the number of the members of the Executive Committee, as defined above.
- Section 2 Executive Committee Minutes and Reporting: All official actions of the Executive Committee shall be properly documented and be reported at the next Regular Meeting by the Secretary.
- **Section 3 Executive Committee Meeting Rules:** The date and location of each Executive Committee Meeting shall be made available to all Members via the DCC Google Group. The Executive Committee meetings are open to all Members. These attendees shall have the privilege of the floor but not voting rights.
- **Section 4 Executive Committee Meeting Duties and Responsibilities**: In addition to the preliminary discussion of and/or the development of recommendations to be brought before the membership for final approval, the Executive Committee shall:
  - 1. Review and prepare the agenda for the next Regular SJCDCC Meeting.
  - 2. Authorize expenditures under one hundred dollars (\$100), as provided in the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
  - 3. Act on behalf of the SJCDCC in order to comply with State Party deadlines and requests for information.
  - 4. Participate in the removal process of Members and Officers per Article II of these Bylaws.

- 5. Act on behalf of the SJCDCC in an emergency as provided in Section IV of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- 6. Take any other action authorized by these Bylaws and/or the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.

#### ARTICLE V MEETINGS

#### Section 1 Types of Meetings:

- (a) Organizational Meeting: The Organizational Meeting of the SJCDCC shall be held at the first Regular Meeting in January, of odd-numbered years. The January meeting following the Direct Presidential Primary Election will include the seating of new members and officers. The Organizational Meeting not following the Direct Presidential Primary Election is for the purposes of electing and seating new officers.
  - 1. The Chair shall call the Organizational Meeting and to ensure that notices informing duly elected Members and Ex-Officio Members of the date and time of the Organizational Meeting and/or of the election of new Officers.
  - 2. In the event that a Chair is not elected at the Organizational Meeting, the past Chair may remain as interim Chair until a new Chair is duly elected in accordance with these Bylaws.
- (b) DSCC Election Meeting: Unless otherwise required by the California Democratic Party (CDP), based on when the annual CDP convention is held, the election of delegates to the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) will be held at the Organizational Meeting, above, following the seating of new members and the election of officers.

#### 1. Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Members:

- a. Members of the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) shall be elected as prescribed by the CDP at the January Organizational Meeting.
- b. Written notice of holding elections for positions on the DSCC shall be sent to all SJCDCC voting Members and known Alternates.
- c. All efforts will be made to ensure gender equality in the elected membership.
- d. DSCC Member seats left vacant following the election may be filled by appointment by the Chair.

# 2. Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Executive Committee Representatives:

- a. Members of the State Executive Committee of the DSCC shall be elected as prescribed by the CDP, from among the DSCC delegates elected above. This election may take place at the January Organizational Meeting, but must be held no later than the month following the annual CDP convention.
- b. Written notice of holding elections to the State Executive Committee shall be sent to all SJCDCC voting Members and Alternates when the election is not held at the January Organizational Meeting.
- c. Seat(s) on the State Executive Committee left vacant following the election may be filled by appointment by the Chair.

- (c) Regular Meetings: The SJCDCC shall meet monthly. The time and location shall be chosen by a majority of the voting Members present.
- (d) Executive Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee of the SJCDCC shall meet monthly, at least five (5) days preceding the Regular monthly Meeting above, for the purposes of finalizing the upcoming meeting agenda and to discuss in detail issues to be brought before the entire membership. See Article IV for additional details. Meetings of the Executive Committee of the SJCDCC may also be called as needed by the Chair or any two (2) Executive Committee members. The Executive Committee is authorized to hold emergency meetings pursuant to Section V of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures and vote-by-email or phone, when necessary.
- (d) Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the SJCDCC may be called by the Chair, the Executive Committee, or a majority vote of the SJCDCC membership when deemed necessary on seventy-two (72) hours' notice.

#### Section 2 Meeting Procedures

- (a) Quorum: A quorum for the transaction of business at a Regular or Special Meeting shall be at least one third (1/3) of the recognized Regular Members at the time of the meeting or, in the case of absence, their designated Alternate. A quorum shall be maintained at all times for transaction of all business during meetings.
- **(b) Voting:** Once a meeting quorum has been met, all eligible voters as defined in Article II, Membership, may vote, provided:
  - A member shall be present at a meeting in order to vote. In the event that a
    member cannot be present at a meeting, he/she may only be represented by
    his/her Committee approved Alternate Member.
  - 2. Voting by proxy is not permitted except as specified in California Elections Code section 7208 or any succeeding section adopted by the Legislature.
  - 3. A member must be in good standing, dues current, to be eligible to vote.
- (c) Meeting Rules: In all cases not provided for by law or these bylaws, the authority for parliamentary procedure of this organization and its Committees shall be the current edition of *Rosenberg's Rules of Order*. The SJCDCC shall provide the Chair with a copy of *Rosenberg's Rules of Order*, which shall be available to any Member during meetings. All meetings of the SJCDCC shall be held in quarters accessible to the physically handicapped.

#### **Section 3 Notifications:**

(a) Meeting Date or Meeting Location Change Notification: Any changes to the date or location of the Regular Meetings of the SJCDCC, Section 1, (c) and (d) above, must be noticed with at least five (5) days advance notice, mailed and/or emailed to all Members via the SJCDCC Membership Google Group. Subsequent change notification, following the initial notice of change by the Committee will be noticed as soon as possible. Special Meetings are noticed at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting.

- **(b)** Meeting Agenda, Minutes and Treasurer's Report: All documents should be printed by the Members, as only limited copies shall be available at meetings.
  - 1. Meeting agendas (whether Regular or Special Meetings) shall be set by the Chair. A suggested agenda may be found in Section V A of the Policies and Procedures. Agendas as well as prior meeting minutes, shall be provided to the membership at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled meeting. Meeting minutes shall also include a list of allmembers in attendance at the meeting, as well as the excused and unexcused members not in attendance.
  - 2. Notwithstanding any provision of the agenda suggested by the Policies and Procedures, any Treasurer's Report and/or Minutes not previously presented and accepted shall be included in the Regular Meeting agenda. Treasurer's Reports for Regular Meetings shall be provided to the membershipprior to any scheduled meeting, pending receipt from the Controller. When no written report has been provided, a verbal report by the Treasurer or the Chair shall be provided at the meeting along with a status report on delinquentdues.

#### ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Committees, either Standing or Ad Hoc, may be appointed by the Executive Committee as needed. Committees shall perform such duties and services as seen to be of benefit to the SJCDCC. Standing Committees shall continue to function and exist until the next Organizational Meeting.

#### **Section 1** Eligibility and Appointments:

- All Members of the SJCDCC are eligible to serve on Standing or Ad Hoc Committees. However, should any member of the PAC Committee become a candidate for public office, upon filing for that office, they would not be eligible to serve on the PAC Committee nor would they be eligible to participate on the Endorsement Committee for that election cycle or until their term of office expires.
- 2. All Members of the SJCDCC are expected to serve on at least one (1) but no more than three (3) Standing or Ad Hoc Committees.
- 3. The Chair shall appoint all Committee Chairs.
- 4. Members of all Committees shall be approved by and shall serve at the pleasure of the Chair.
- 5. Vacancies that occur on any Committee shall be filled by the Chair of the SJCDCC and shall be announced by the Chair at the next Regular Meeting.
- Section 2 Standing Committees of the SJCDCC: The current SJCDCC Standing Committees, as well as their duties, responsibilities and requirements, are defined in Section VI of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- **Section 3** Ad Hoc Committees. The Chair of the SJCDCC may appoint Ad Hoc Committees as needed to perform specific short-term duties.

#### ARTICLE VII CHARTERING/RECHARTERING

**Section 1 General Description:** In order to encourage organized participation in political activities by Democrats in San Joaquin County, the SJCDCC may charter any

group meeting the requirements cited below. Such charter authorizes the use of the term "Democrat" or "Democratic" in the chartered organization's name and/or activities, including the ability to raise funds of behalf of their "Democratic" organization.

**Section 2 Conformity**: The constitution and/or bylaws of chartered groups shall conform to the policies for chartering established by the CDP, the SJCDCC and any applicable state codes and laws. Refer to Section VII of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures for specific language and/or application requirements.

#### Section 3 Requirements for Charter and Re-Charter:

- 1. All Chartered Organization Members shall be registered Democrats, except minors and/or residents applying for citizenship who declare they will be registering as a Democrat when eligible;
- 2. Membership roster that consist of at least twenty (20) registered Democrats in good standing;
- 3. Hold at least four (4) Regular Meetings each calendar year;
- 4. Designate an Organizational Representative to report on the chartered organization's activities to the SJCDCC on a monthly basis;
- 5. Support only Democrats who are running for public office;
- 6. Have the right to seek SJCDCC endorsement and support for local Democratic candidates and pertinent issues; and
- 7. Annually provide the information listed in Section VII of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures along with the applicable chartering fee.
- 8. **February 28**<sup>th</sup> of each year is the recommended deadline for submission of re-charter applications from those organizations that were chartered the previous year. Applications for charter from organizations who have never been chartered by the SJCDCC or whose chartered has expired will be accepted at any time.
- Section 4 Charter/Re-Charter Application Submission Process: In order for a Democratic Club in San Joaquin County to be chartered and then subsequently re-chartered by the SJCDCC, all conditions of the submission process above and in Section VII of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures must be met.
- Section 5 Denial and Revocation: The SJCDCC may reject an application for charter or revoke an existing charter for an organization's failure to comply with the rules and procedures contained in these Bylaws or the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures. In the event of a rejected chartering application or revocation of an existing charter, the affected organization shall be notified in writing. The affected organization may appeal this action in writing up to sixty (60) days after notification or by appearance before the SJCDCC.

#### ARTICLE VII ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE

It shall be the policy of the SJCDCC to inform the people of San Joaquin County of those candidates who uphold the principles and practices of the Democratic Party. This policy includes endorsements of candidates in both partisan and non-partisan races, propositions and local measures, but shall be subject to the provisions of the CDP Bylaws.

**Section 1 Definition – Candidate Endorsement:** The SJCDCC has the legal right to endorse,

not endorse or take no position on candidates running for public office. Endorsement can be in the form of use of SJCDCC's name, use of human resources, monetary contributions or any combination thereof. All contributions must be made in accordance with state law.

- (a) Partisan Endorsements: For all partisan races, the SJCDCC shall support only candidates who have received the official endorsement of the California Democratic Party
- (b) Non-Partisan Endorsements: Direct SJCDCC endorsements of non-partisan candidates shall be limited to county-wide and local special districts races as the SJCDCC retains primary jurisdiction in all local non-partisan endorsements. All such endorsements shall be ratified by a majority of SJCDCC before they are deemed official endorsements of the CDP Party. Only registered Democrats will be considered for such endorsements.
- **Section 2 Candidate Endorsement Procedures:** Prior to the filing deadline of any upcoming election, the Chair shall appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to be responsible for seeking out and reviewing requests for endorsement. For specific details, refer to Section VIII of the SJCDCC Policies and Procedures.
- **Section 3 SJCDCC Issue Advocacy:** By SJCDCC action, positions may be taken on pending legislation, proposition, and any other social issues of importance to the Democratic philosophy by a majority vote of the eligible voting Members present.
- **Section 4**Pre-Endorsement Conferences: In addition to elected DSCC delegates and Executive Board Representative(s), (whether elected through the SJCDCC, at Assembly District Election Meetings or appointment to the DSCC by Ex-Officios), all voting Regular Members of the SJCDCC, are also eligible to vote at the Pre-Endorsement Conference, which precedes the annual CDP convention each even-numbered year. Alternates and Associate Members are not eligible to vote, unless they are already DSCC delegates.

#### ARTICLE IX BYLAWS AMENDMENT AND RATIFICATION

The SJCDCC shall provide a copy of the current Bylaws to the newly elected and Ex-Officio Members at the Organizational Meeting, as well as to those members elected after the Organizational Meeting.

#### Section 1 Bylaws Amendment Process:

- (a) Proposed amendments to the Bylaws\_shall be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Bylaws/Charter Review Committee and the Chair of the SJCDCC for consideration. Proposed amendments may be submitted by any member or alternate to the SJCDCC in good standing.
- (b) The Bylaws Committee shall review all proposed amendments to the bylaws as well as those deemed appropriate, e.g., due to changes CDP Bylaws and/or California Elections Code, and submit to the Executive Committee for review and discussion. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the Bylaws Committee shall recommend approval or disapproval to the SJCDCC membership at the next Regular Meeting. Upon presentation to the membership, this period may be extended upon motion by a majority vote of the eligible voting members

present.

- (c) Following the approval above by the Executive Committee, the Secretary will provide each voting member of the SJCDCC an electronic copy of the proposed amendment(s) to be voted upon at least five (5) days prior to the next RegularMeeting.
- Adoption/Ratification of Bylaws: Following a motion, duly seconded and any discussion, proposed amendments shall be voted on by the SJCDCC. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the eligible voting Members present shall be required for adoption. Upon ratification, these bylaws will be considered legal and binding and will be forwarded to the California Democratic Party and current Regional Director.
- Section 3 Initial Ratification and Subsequent Amendment Adoption History:

Initial Ratification July 9, 1996
Subsequently amended March, 2005
Subsequently amended March 3, 2007
Subsequently amended July 11, 2009
Subsequently amended October 11, 2011
Subsequently amended October 5, 2013
Subsequently amended on July 11, 2015
Subsequently amended on February 5, 2022