

Texas Democratic Women Bylaws

Adopted February 24, 2001

Adopted February 26, 2006

Adopted February 25, 2012

Adopted February

Article I Name and Principal Office

Sec. 1 The organization shall be known as Texas Democratic Women (TDW)

Sec. 2 The principal office shall be in Austin, Texas, or at such place to be Determined by the Executive Board (Board)

Article II Purpose

TDW will promote the increased political activity and influence of Democratic women in Texas politics and government.

Article III Membership

Sec. 1 Any Democrat who supports Article II of TDW's bylaws is eligible to join TDW.

Sec. 2 A TDW member shall be an individual whose dues are current (in good standing).

Article IV Dues

Sec. 1 Dues shall be set by a vote of the general membership.

Sec. 2 Membership dues are payable at the beginning of the calendar year (January 1).

Sec. 3 Renewing members must pay dues each year to be considered a member in good standing.

Sec. 4 Only members in good standing are eligible to vote on decisions before the organization.

Article V Affiliation of Local Clubs

Sec. 1 Local Clubs (Clubs) shall become affiliated with TDW by approval of the TDW Board.

Sec. 2 To obtain approval, a Club shall send the following to TDW:

- a) the Club's bylaws which should be consistent with those of TDW and should contain the Club's official name. The Club's name should include "Texas Democratic Women" unless exempted by the TDW Board;
- b) a list of elected Club officers including phone numbers, mailing and email addresses;
- c) the Club's application fee made payable to TDW.

Sec. 3 Annual Club dues shall be due at the beginning of the calendar year (January 1).

Sec. 4 The Club shall collect membership dues in accordance with TDW Bylaws and Policies. TDW's portion of the Club member's dues should be sent to TDW as soon as they are collected along with the member's name, mailing address, email address, phone number, fax number and level of membership.

Sec. 5 All Club members shall also be members of TDW.

Sec. 6 For a Club to remain in good standing it shall:

- a) keep the Club's annual dues current with TDW;
- b) ensure that the Club's bylaws are current and not in conflict with TDW bylaws and Policies.

Sec. 7 A Club that fails to remain in good standing shall be removed from TDW organizational rolls. A Club removed from TDW organizational rolls is not permitted to use the name "Texas Democratic Women" or use the TDW logo.

Sec. 8 If a Club's actions or operations are in conflict with the Bylaws or Policies of TDW, the TDW Board has the right to rescind the Club's affiliation with TDW at any Board meeting. Members of a Club whose affiliation with TDW has been rescinded become TDW members-at-large.

Article VI Officers

Sec. 1 The officers shall be President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Board Members.

Sec. 2 A term of office shall be one year for President and President-Elect. All other officers shall serve a term of two years or until a successor is elected. The term begins the day after election.

Sec. 3 Officers may not serve for more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Article VII Nominations and Elections

Sec. 1 Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

Sec. 2 Only members in good standing shall be eligible to run for office.

Sec. 3 A member must have served for at least one term on the Board to be eligible to run for President-Elect.

Sec. 4 There shall be no proxy voting.

Article VIII Executive Board

Sec. 1 The Board shall consist of nine members: President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Members-at-large. Members-at-large should be from three different Clubs.

Sec. 2 The Board shall set the Policies and Procedures for TDW, determine its programs, and take all actions authorized or required by TDW Bylaws.

Sec. 3 No Board member shall have more than one vote and no voting by proxy shall be allowed.

Sec. 4 A quorum shall consist of five (5) Board members. A Board member may participate by telephone. A Board member participating by telephone shall be included in determining the existence of a quorum.

Article IX Meetings

Sec. 1 The Board shall meet quarterly with at least thirty (30) days written notice given to all Board members. The written notice shall include the date, time and location of the meeting.

Sec. 2 A meeting of the entire TDW membership shall be held during the annual TDW State Convention. TDW business requiring a vote of the membership is taken at the annual meeting.

- a) written notice of the date, time, and location of the annual meeting shall be mailed to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance;
- b) a quorum shall consist of a majority of members attending the annual convention.

Article X Committees

Sec. 1 The Standing Committees for TDW shall include Audit, Awards, Bylaws and Policies, Elections, Finance, Legacy, Membership and Communications/Public Relations.

Sec. 2 The functions of the Standing Committees shall be to plan and to recommend to the Board policies and programs within their area of responsibility. Committees shall perform other duties assigned by the Board.

Sec. 3 The Committee chairs shall be appointed by the President, with the exception of the Elections Committee and the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board at the first quarterly meeting. The Elections Committee shall consist of three (3) members from three (3) different Clubs appointed by the Board at its second quarterly meeting.

Sec. 4 Committee chairs shall serve for two (2) years.

Article XI Finances

Sec. 1 The fiscal year shall begin January 1.

Sec. 2 The financial statement, financial reports and the budget shall be presented to the membership at the annual meeting.

Article XII Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern TDW in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order that TDW may adopt.

Article XIII Dissolution

Should TDW be dissolved by appropriate action of its membership, the funds and other assets shall be given to the Texas Democratic Party.

Article IX Amendments to the Bylaws

Sec. 1 The bylaws of TDW may be amended at the annual meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present at the business meeting, a quorum having been determined. Written notice of a by-laws change shall be sent to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

Sec. 2 Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by the Bylaws and Policies Committee, the Board, a Club, or by a written petition signed by five (5) members in good standing.

Sec. 3 Proposed bylaws amendments must be received by the Bylaws and Policies Committee at least sixty (60) days in advance of the annual meeting.

Sec. 4 The Bylaws and Policies Committee shall be responsible for reporting the effect of any proposed bylaw change to the membership.