

Bylaws

Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club

A chartered club of the Democratic Party of Orange County

March 2019

Executive Summary - Bylaw Revisions

Respectfully submitted on March 28, 2019 by the Bylaws Committee:

- Co-Chairs: Maureen Rust & Lori Karaguezian
- At Large Members: Tara Steele & Karen Tringali

The main purpose for this Bylaws revision is to ensure we have clearly identified our Members in Good Standing (“MIGS”) which is the basis for both our DPOC Charter Renewal and CADEM Pre-Endorsement delegate allocation determination.

The Bylaw Committee has also taken the opportunity to update some of the language for consistence with current practices.

Only the significant revisions will be addressed in this summary. These significant changes will be highlighted in the draft bylaws presented for your vote to approve.

Who we can endorse

The CDP/DPOC are very clear about endorsing any democratic candidate that is not also endorsed by them. We added language in Sections 2, 4, 5, 6 and 10 to specify “partisan races/elections” to give the club some latitude when no democratic candidates are running in nonpartisan races, like Newport Beach City Council.

Membership

Recognizing the confusion between membership types (Regular, Associate, etc.) and “members in good standing” and “members who can run for office”, we developed new language to clarify the definition of these terms.

Member Types: Self-identified women who are registered Democrats are “Regular” members; anyone (any gender, any party affiliation) can be an “Associate” member; Students can be either a Regular or Associate member, the only difference is their dues are lower.

Member in Good Standing: Registered Democrats only who are either an Associate or Regular member AND whose dues for the year have been paid as of the cut-off date(s) dictated by CDP/DPOC. For 2019, that date is May 1. MIGS, regardless of gender, would also be able to serve on our committees as either a Chair or at-large member.

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Vote Entitlement

We wanted to make a clear distinction between “members” counted for purposes of CDP/DPOC charter/pre-endorsement delegate requirements vs. “members” who can vote on NBWDC motions and “members” who can run for NBWDC office.

Essentially, the difference is that NOW both Regular and Associate MIGS can vote on any motion that comes to a vote at Club meetings, so long as they meet the new timing requirements

1. a member for at least three months AND
2. has attended at least one meeting before they can vote

ONLY WOMEN MIGS can hold office in the NBWDC so long as they meet the timing requirement for the officer position.

CDP Pre-Endorsing Conferences: Delegate Qualifications & Voting Instructions

We recommend you read this brand new section in its entirety. Section 16 sets out requirements and qualifications for being a representative. The NBWDC Executive Board will make the selection from the list of qualified members. Section 16.4 outlines the club voting process we will follow to give the representatives their instructions.