

The Rules of the Dallas County Young Democrats

Adopted on January 12, 2010.

Rule 1. Meetings.

Section 1. Regular business meetings of the Dallas County Young Democrats shall be held at Zubar at 2012 Greenville Avenue in Dallas. In the event that the organization is unable to meet at the specified location due to extenuating circumstances, the membership shall be informed of the temporary location.

Section 2. Regular business meetings of the Dallas County Young Democrats shall include a New Business section during which time new matters may be brought before the organization from the floor. The Board of Directors may waive this rule by simple majority vote, so long as such vote is held at least one day prior to the meeting.

Section 3. Except for reasons of safety, no person shall be barred from entry to a regular business meeting of the Dallas County Young Democrats.

Section 4. Except where superseded by the rules of the Democratic Party, the Young Democrats of America, the Texas Young Democrats, the Dallas County Young Democrats Constitution or this document, the Dallas County Young Democrats shall employ Roberts Rules of Order during all regular business and committee meetings.

Section 5. Advance notice of all meetings of the Dallas County Young Democrats, its Board of Directors or its committees, shall be posted on the Dallas County Young Democrats website at least one week prior to the meeting.

Section 6. At all regular business meetings of the Dallas County Young Democrats, minutes shall be recorded by the Secretary, and the previous month's minutes shall be considered and adopted.

Rule 2. Voting.

Section 1. There shall be no secret ballots used for voting in the Dallas County Young Democrats.

Section 2. Should more than two candidates or options be brought before the organization for a vote, and no majority emerges in the initial vote, then a run-off vote shall be held between the two top vote-getting candidates or options from the initial vote. Should it not be possible to determine the two top vote-getting candidates or options, then as many

candidates or options as can be recognized as leading in the initial vote shall be presented for the run-off vote and, if necessary, a subsequent run-off vote or votes may be held in conformity with this section of this rule.

Section 3. At the discretion of the President, voting cards may be produced and distributed to eligible members for voting at any regular business meeting.

Section 4. In all disputes regarding voting, the President shall be the final arbiter, unless a Parliamentarian has been appointed and the matter presented concerns Constitutional questions.

Section 5. The President shall preside over votes at regular business meetings of the Dallas County Young Democrats, unless he or she stands as a candidate in the vote in question, at which time the President shall pass the gavel to the next member of the order of succession, as specified by the Constitution, who is not a candidate in the vote. Should all officers be candidates in the same vote, the President shall be required to request the appointment of a Parliamentarian in the manner set forth in the Constitution.

Rule 3. Campaigns.

Section 1. When multiple nominated or announced candidates for office within the Dallas County Young Democrats exist, such candidates may be given, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, access to send no more than one mailing to the email list of the Dallas County Young Democrats.

Section 2. Candidates for office in the Dallas County Young Democrats will make every possible effort to avoid engaging in negative campaign tactics, including but not limited to attacks on the character of the opposing candidate(s) and his or her supporters.

Section 3. The Board of Directors of the Dallas County Young Democrats may establish limits on spending and campaign activity for campaigns for office within the Dallas County Young Democrats, which shall be appended as subsequent rules within this section, without the approval of the general membership, insofar as such rules do not conflict with already-established rules in this section.

Rule 4. The Board of Directors.

Section 1. This rule applies only to members of the Board of Directors, and may be revised by the Board of Directors without requiring approval from the general membership, insofar as such revisions do not conflict with already-established rules within this document.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly on the Tuesday immediately preceding the scheduled regular business meeting of the Dallas County Young Democrats. This meeting may be cancelled for cause by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The President shall be the final arbiter of whether a reason is "for cause."

Section 3. Failure by a member of the Board of Directors to attend four regular business or Board meetings within a span of six months shall result in the automatic removal of said member from the Board of Directors. This automatic removal may be appealed to the Board of Directors, who may reinstate the member with a majority vote. For cause absences by a member may be pre-approved by the President, and, if approved, shall not be considered an absence for the purposes of this rule.

Section 4. At meetings of the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall record attendance and minutes. Minutes from the prior meeting shall be considered and adopted at each meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Publicly expressed support for a candidate of a party other than the Democratic Party, in an election where a Democratic candidate has been nominated, by a member of the Board of Directors, shall result in the removal of that member from the Board.

Section 6. Any member of the Board of Directors holding a paid position with any candidate or campaign shall disclose said position to the Board.

Rule 5. Committees.

Section 1. Any member may join any Dallas County Young Democrats committee by attending a meeting of the committee and signing in as a new member, or by contacting in writing the chair of a committee to request membership, or by applying for membership to the committee through any instrument of application provided through the Dallas County Young Democrats website, except when the committee in question has been designated a "select" committee by the President. The chair of a select committee shall have discretion to accept requests to join the committee, subject to review and reversal by the President.

Section 2. The President shall be a voting member of all Dallas County Young Democrats committees.

Section 3. Motions for new rules, Constitutional amendments, resolutions, events or other Dallas County Young Democrats activities approved by majority vote of any committee shall be presented to the President and the Secretary in written form for addition to the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The standing committees of the Dallas County Young Democrats shall be:

Section 4.1. The Campaign and Party Relations Committee shall organize the Dallas County Young Democrats' involvement in external political campaigns, the organization's candidate endorsement process and other matters directly connected to political campaigning. The Director of Political Affairs shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.2. The Events committee shall organize the non-meeting, regularly occurring and special events of the Dallas County Young Democrats. The Vice President shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.3. The Finance Committee shall maintain and improve the Dallas County Young Democrats' fundraising operations and monitor the receipt and disbursement of the organization's funds. The Finance Director shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.4. The Membership Committee shall organize outreach to potential members, organize new member materials, membership forms and maintain our membership database. The Vice President shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.5. The Communications Committee shall organize, prepare and distribute the Dallas County Young Democrats' print and online communications materials. The Vice President shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.6. The Community Service Committee shall organize the Dallas County Young Democrats' involvement in community service activities. The Director of Community Service shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 4.7. The Information and Technology Committee shall organize the Dallas County Young Democrats' website, database and online presence, and shall designate a member of the committee to serve as the Organization Webmaster. The Vice President shall have oversight of this committee.

Section 5. The duration of a temporary committee created by the Board of Directors shall be from the time of its creation until the end of the project or activity it has been established to oversee. The President shall have oversight over all temporary committees.

Section 6. The President shall appoint all committee chairs. The members of a committee shall elect a vice chair, a secretary and chairs to any sub-committees created within the committee.

Section 7. Committee chairs shall inform the officer who possesses oversight of the committee of upcoming meetings of the committee not less than one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Minutes from meetings of a committee shall be provided to the officer

who possesses oversight of the committee not more than one week after the meeting that the minutes record.

Section 8. Each committee of the Dallas County Young Democrats shall meet monthly, with dates posted on the organization website not less than one week before such meetings. No later than one week prior to a scheduled meeting date, a committee chair may cancel a meeting with the approval of the President. Such cancellations shall also be noted on the organization website.

Section 9. Prior to the end of a term to which he or she has been appointed, the chair of every organization committee shall deliver to the officer to whom he or she reports, in written form, all information necessary to continue the operations of the committee into the next officer term. Any officer receiving such report(s) shall deliver said report(s) to his or her successors no later than one week after the election of new officers has occurred.

Rule 6. Endorsements.

Section 1. The Dallas County Young Democrats may offer endorsements in any election.

Section 2. The Dallas County Young Democrats may not endorse any candidate who is not a Democrat who is running in a partisan election in which there is a Democratic candidate, nor a candidate who publicly identifies his or herself either in communication with the Dallas County Young Democrats or their campaign materials as being of a party other than the Democratic Party while running in a non-partisan election in which a candidate who publicly identifies as being a Democrat is running.

Section 3. Prior to the consideration of candidates for endorsement, the Campaign and Party Relations Committee shall present to the Board of Directors a proposed method for reviewing the candidates, which must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Board. The method employed shall be the same for all candidates in any particular race, but need not be the same for all races on the ballot.

Section 4. After conducting the review in the manner approved by the Board of Directors, the members of the Campaign and Party Relations Committee shall vote to recommend an endorsement in each race. This endorsement shall be voted upon in the manner specified in Rule 2, Section 2 of this document.

Section 5. Any member of the Committee who is a candidate, a paid or unpaid campaign staff member or family member of a candidate may not vote on the endorsement for the race in which said candidate is running. Members of the committee must make their connection to any candidate known to the Committee Chair and the Director of Political Affairs prior to the review of candidates for office.

Section 6. Upon receipt of the recommendation of the Campaign and Party Relations Committee, the Board of Directors may approve the endorsement recommendations through a majority vote, or amend the recommendations through a two-thirds vote. The slate of endorsements may be divided and considered individually at the request of any one member of the Board.

Section 7. The final slate of recommendations approved by the Board of Directors shall be presented to the membership, which may approve the endorsements by a majority vote. When presented to the membership, the slate of endorsed candidates may be divided and voted upon individually at the request of a simple majority of members voting at the meeting at which the slate is presented. Upon the division of the slate, the membership may, by majority vote, amend any of the recommended endorsements.

Rule 7. Organizational Matters.

Section 1. The Vice President shall keep an up-to-date copy of the rules of the Dallas County Young Democrats available to all members. The rules shall also be published on the organization website.

Section 2. At every regular business meeting or meeting of the Board of Directors an up-to-date copy, printed or digital, of the Constitution and the rules shall be on hand. This rule may be waived for meetings of committees if said documents are available in an up-to-date form from the Dallas County Young Democrats website, and the website is easily accessible from the meeting location. For the purposes of this rule, a digital copy must be in an uneditable format.

Section 3. When officer positions or committees of temporary duration are created, the descriptive language passed by the membership shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the language was passed, and attached to the Constitution or this document, as appropriate, as an addendum. For purposes of establishing spheres of authority and duties, the attached text shall be considered co-equal to the Constitution or this document, respectively. Upon the expiration of the office or committee, the attached text shall be removed.

Rule 8. Revisions to the Rules.

Section 1. Revisions to the rules of the Dallas County Young Democrats shall be submitted for consideration in written form, indicating the section of this document to be added or revised and the rule number to be added or revised, to the Board of Directors and the general membership prior to a vote being held on the proposed revision.

Section 2. Proposals for revisions to the rules shall address no more than one subject matter. The President shall have the power to divide proposals that address more than one subject matter into two or more proposals.

Section 3. Once approved by the membership of the organization, any revision to the rules shall take effect immediately, unless a delay in the date of effectiveness is specified in the written submission of the proposed revision.