

By-Laws of the

MARIPOSA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Adopted April 21, 1975

Revised 11-78, 12-80, 10-81, 3-84, 7-90,  
11-94, 1-12, 6-12, 3-13, 5-14, 6-14, 9-14, 1-15, 5-17, 10-18,1-19

**PREAMBLE**

**NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1** **Name:** The name of this organization shall be the Mariposa County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC), and it is the official Democratic Party of Mariposa County, authorized under the Election Code of the State of California.

**Section 2** **Purpose:** The purpose of the MCDCC shall be to:

- (a) Promote and support the California Democratic Party;
- (b) Represent the Democratic Party in and for Mariposa County;
- (c) Promote the development of the Democratic Party in Mariposa County;
- (d) Support and promote Democratic candidates;
- (e) Encourage Democratic Party voter registration and voting;
- (f) Raise funds for Party activities;
- (g) Perform Democratic Party functions as required by California State law and, as may be deemed appropriate, by State and National Democratic Parties and other official sources;
- (h) Charter and assist local Democratic Clubs;
- (i) Educate and inform voters;
- (j) Make the official Democratic endorsement in Mariposa County for local offices; and
- (k) Elect members to the Democratic State Central Committee of the California Democratic Party in a manner prescribed by the rules and procedures of the California Democratic Party.

**ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1** **Membership Requirements:**

- (a) All members of this committee must be registered Democrats (Article VII includes a definition of ‘Democrat’ and ‘registered Democrat’) and live in the district they represent. Residency and/or voter registration eligibility must be confirmed by the MCDCC Chair, MOE Administrator or Secretary prior to election or appointment to the MCDCC, where applicable.
- (b) No one person shall hold more than one type of membership concurrently at any given time.

**Section 2** **Types of Membership:** The MCDCC is composed of four (4) types of members: Regular Members, (whether “elected” or “appointed”), Ex-Officio Members, Alternate Members and Associates

**(a) Regular Members:**

1. Members of the MCDCC shall be elected at every direct Presidential Primary as prescribed by law or subsequently elected to fill vacancies.
2. All Regular Members shall have the privilege of the floor and voting rights.
3. Vacancies may be filled by appointment of the Committee, through motion and simple majority vote.
4. Notice of the filing deadline for candidacy for the MCDCC shall be sent to the appropriate media by the Secretary or other officer one (1) month prior to the filing deadline

**(b) Ex-Officio Members:**

1. Membership is also granted to applicable Ex-Officios, as defined in the California Elections Code. (See sections 7206 and 7207 of the code - [http://ca.regstoday.com/law/elec/ca.regstoday.com/laws/elec/calaw-elec\\_DIVISION7\\_PART2\\_CHAPTER4.aspx](http://ca.regstoday.com/law/elec/ca.regstoday.com/laws/elec/calaw-elec_DIVISION7_PART2_CHAPTER4.aspx) for details. Also included as Appendix, but best to check the most recent version of the code.)

**(c) Alternate Members:**

1. Each Regular or Ex-Officio Member of the MCDCC may designate one (1) Alternate who shall thereafter have all rights, duties, and privileges of the Member when the Member is absent.
2. When the Member is present, the designated Alternate, whether Regular or Ex-Officio, 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 and be qualified for membership in the MCDCC.
4. The appointment of an Alternate by an Ex-Officio Member shall be made in writing, by oral communication or in person by the Ex-Officio to the Secretary and shall remain in effect until the Alternate designation is rescinded by resignation of the Alternate or by notification from the Ex-Officio Member. Announcement of Ex-Officio Alternates shall be made by the Chair at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the MCDCC.

**(d) Associate Members**

1. Associate membership may be granted to any registered Democrat in Mariposa County who wishes to be affiliated with the MCDCC.
2. 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 and regular meeting attendance 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 MCDCC.

**(b) Member Disclosure:** All Members shall be required to provide full and ongoing written disclosure to the MCDCC 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 MCDCC.

- Section 4**      **Member Terms of Office:** The term of office for all Regular members, elected and appointed, is four (4) years or until the next organizational meeting following the presidential election cycle.
- Section 5**      **Seating of New Members:** All newly elected Members selected as a result of the California Presidential Primary Election shall be sworn in at the first organizational meeting of the new year following the Presidential election cycle. Subsequently appointed members will be sworn in and seated immediately following their appointment to fill a vacancy.
- Section 6**      **Membership Dues:**
- (a)**      **Setting of Dues:** All dues (if any) of the MCDCC shall be established at the first Meeting of the odd-numbered year. The amount of dues shall be set for Regular Members, Ex-officio Members, Alternate Members and Associate Members.
- (b)**      **Dues Payment:**
1. Annual dues shall be payable within thirty (30) days of the meeting where the dues are set or within thirty (30) days of the subsequent appointment.
  2. Associates shall pay dues within thirty (30) days of the first regular meeting in attendance.
  3. All dues are non-refundable and are not pro-rated.
  4. All dues shall be considered delinquent after ninety (90) days.
- Section 7**      **Membership Resignations and Vacancies:** Any resignation presented in writing (including email) to the Chair-or the Secretary shall be final. Additionally, the seat of any member who publicly endorses a candidate of any other party at any election where a Democrat, endorsed by the MCDCC or the state party, is also a candidate, shall be subject to the Removal for Cause procedure described in Section 8(c) below. Vacancies may be filled by appointment of the Committee, through motion and simple majority vote
- Section 8**      **Removal or Censure of Members and Officers:** Any member, other than an Ex-Officio member, may be removed from the central committee or censured by the central committee (for cause) by vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members present, for the following reasons:
- (a)**      **Non-payment of Dues:** Following written notice from the Treasurer to a Member for failure to pay dues within ninety (90) days of the beginning of the January meeting month or within ninety (90) days of a new Member's subsequent appointment to the MCDCC, a Member may be removed at the next regular meeting of the MCDCC by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members present.
- (b)**      **Unexcused Absences:** In compliance with California Elections Code, any member, other than an ex-officio member, of a County Central Committee who misses more than three consecutive regularly called meetings may be removed by a vote of the Committee, unless such absence is caused by illness or temporary absence from the County on the date of the meeting or other reasons acceptable to the Committee. Following recommendation from the Chair written

notice shall be sent to a Member that he/she may be removed at the next regular meeting of the MCDCC by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members.

- (c) **For Cause:** Members or Officers may be censured and/or removed from office for cause by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members of the MCDCC for misconduct, neglect of duties, for disloyalty or for publicly endorsing a candidate of another party at an election in which an endorsed candidate is running (see Section 7 above).

The procedure shall be as follows:

1. A majority of the members of the MCDCC may initiate proceedings by filing a signed petition for censure or removal of a member or of an Officer with the Secretary of the MCDCC, with a copy furnished at the same time to the member involved in the petition.
2. The petition shall set forth specifically the manner and degree to which duties have not been performed satisfactorily, judged on the description of the duties in these bylaws.
3. The petition shall be read, for informational purposes, at the next Meeting of the MCDCC following the filing of the petition with the Secretary.
4. At the Meeting following the reading of the petition, the action shall be voted upon.
5. The member or Officer involved in the action shall have at least twenty minutes for rebuttal.
6. A two-thirds vote of those present and voting shall be required for action.

**Section 9** **Quorum:** A quorum for the transaction of business by the County Central Committee shall consist of 51% of current members.

- (a) A quorum may be established by the physical presence of sufficient members as outlined above, through the combination of physical and electronic presence established during a meeting conducted in real time, or during an electronic assembly of members established under the terms of Article III, Section 3, below - Electronic Meetings.
- (b) Electronic presence is defined as the participation of a member established through the use of technology such as telephones, the internet or other technology for the duration of the meeting so conducted.

## ARTICLE II

### OFFICERS

The officers of the MCDCC shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, in order of succession. The Chair and the Vice Chair must be elected or appointed Members of the MCDCC; the Chair can also be an ex-officio member. The Secretary and Treasurer may be Regular Members or Alternates of the MCDCC.

The Chair may appoint a Member, Alternate, Ex-Officio Member or Associate to serve as Parliamentarian. This person must be knowledgeable in and able to interpret parliamentary procedures, the MCDCC Bylaws, and Robert's Rules of Order. The Parliamentarian shall serve at the pleasure of the Chair.

**Section 1 Duties of Officers:**

**(a) The Chair shall:**

1. Preside at all meetings;
2. Appoint Standing Committee chairs and approve members of those Standing Committees;
3. Conduct official business as required by law;
4. Facilitate the purposes of the MCDCC;
5. Be the official spokesperson for the MCDCC;
6. Notify the CDP of the names of the elected DSCC delegates and the Executive Board Representative(s), and
7. Serve as a member of all Standing Committees, except Nominating Committee.

**(b) The Vice Chair shall:**

1. Assist the Chair in performance of his/her duties;
2. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall preside at all meetings.
3. Exercise all powers of the Chair in event of absence or vacancy of the Chair; and
4. Serve as member of all Standing Committees, as directed by the Chair.

**(c) The Secretary shall:**

1. Keep written records of the proceedings of all (regular, special and Executive Board) meetings and submit to Chair for approval;
2. Assist in the verification of eligibility for membership on the MCDCC;
3. Keep and maintain a current roster of Members, Ex-Officio, Alternate and Associate Members of the MCDCC;
4. Keep written records of attendance at all meetings; serve as the point-of-contact for members when they are unable to attend regularly scheduled meetings. The Secretary shall also notify the Chair when a member has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences for further action by the body.
5. Keep written record of the ratified Bylaws and standing rules; and
6. Maintain a copy of all supporting documentation related to officially chartered and re-chartered clubs within Mariposa County.
7. Be the holder of all official records of the MCDCC.
8. Carry on the correspondence pertaining to the MCDCC as directed by the Chair, the Executive Committee or action by the body;
9. Be responsible for sending out of all (regular, special and/or Executive) meeting minutes of the MCDCC, along with upcoming regular meeting agendas prior to the upcoming meeting, as well as any other announcements concerning the MCDCC, to the Members, Ex-Officio Members, Alternates and Associate Members;
10. Will handle activities around special meetings – notifying and scheduling.;
11. Notify the appropriate media of regular meetings of the MCDCC and other noteworthy business of the MCDCC as directed by the Chair or by action of the body;
12. Notify the appropriate print media of vacancies in the Supervisorial Districts as per the "Membership" Article; and
13. Serve as a member of Standing Committee(s) as directed by the Chair.

**(d) The Treasurer shall:**

1. Receive and disburse all funds belonging to the MCDCC and be responsible for their safekeeping and accounting;
2. Deposit all MCDCC funds into a financial institution approved by the Committee or the officers;
3. Ensure that monies are deposited into the appropriate bank accounts and properly disbursed, in accordance with FPPC/FEC guidelines;
4. Collect receipts before making reimbursements;
5. Coordinate with outside accountant if one is contracted with by the MCDCC;
6. Disburse MCDCC funds in amounts up to \$100.00 upon request of the Chair. All disbursements above \$100.00 require the prior approval of the body;
7. Disburse MCDCC expenditures required by action of the body;
8. Provide a written report of all financial transactions and the financial status of the MCDCC prior to or at each regular meeting;
9. Notify the Chair and Secretary of any Member, Ex-Officio, Alternate or Associate whose dues are delinquent;
10. File all financial reports as required by law in a timely fashion with the appropriate local, state and federal agencies;
11. Conduct all MCDCC treasury business in accordance with Government Code Sections 81004 and 84100 or ensure that codes are followed; and
12. Serve as a member of Standing Committee(s) as directed by the Chair.

**Section 2 Officer Terms of Office:**

The terms of office for Officers of the MCDCC shall be a one (1) year term. All officers' terms end immediately following the next election for their office the first organizational meeting of the year.

**Section 3 Officer Elections:**

- (a) Officers shall be elected the first Organizational Meeting of the year. Only duly elected Members, who are officially recognized by the Registrar of Voters through the Primary Election; qualifying Ex-Officio members or their designated alternates; and appointed members shall be allowed to nominate, be nominated and to vote to elect officers at this meeting.
- (b) All officers shall be nominated from the floor.
- (c) A ballot shall be used in all elections of officers, except in the absence of a contest.
- (d) All new officers shall be seated immediately following their election.
- (e) In the event that an officer vacancy exists after the Organizational Meeting, any person who is eligible to vote on the MCDCC may then be nominated to run for that office at a regular meeting.

**Section 4 Officer Vacancies:**

In event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice Chair shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the Membership at a future regular meeting.

**ARTICLE III**

**MEETINGS**

**Section 1**

**Types of Meetings:**

- (a) **Organizational Meeting:** The Organizational Meeting of the MCDCC shall be held at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year. Officers will be elected at each organizational meeting (see Articles I and II.)
  - 1. The Chair shall call the Organizational Meeting and ensure that notices informing duly elected and appointed Members and Ex-Officio Members of the date and time of the Organizational Meeting are sent in advance as specified in Article III, Section 4.
  - 2. In the event that a Chair is not elected at the Organizational Meeting or proper election procedure is not followed, 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 following the presidential election year, following the seating of new members and the election of officers. On vote of the membership, the MCDCC can postpone this to a following meeting.
  - 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 Organizational Meeting or at a following meeting if the membership decides it is appropriate.
    - b. All efforts will be made to ensure gender equality in the elected membership.
    - c. DSCC Member seats left vacant following the election may be filled by appointment by the Chair.
  - 2. **Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Executive Board Representatives:**
    - a. Members of the State Executive Board of the DSCC shall be elected as prescribed by the CDP. This election can take place at the Organization Meeting, but must be held no later than the month following the annual CDP convention.
    - b. Seats on the State Executive Board left vacant following the election may be filled by appointment by the Chair.
- (c) **Regular Meetings:** The Regular Meetings of MCDCC shall be held at least quarterly. The advance notice requirement for agendas and meetings shall be consistent with the requirements specified in Article III, Section 4.
- (d) **Executive Board Meetings:** If there is an executive board, the Executive Board of the MCDCC shall meet at least five (5) days preceding the Regular Meeting above for the purposes of finalizing the upcoming meeting agenda and to discuss in detail issues to be brought before the entire membership.
- (e) **Special Meetings:** Special meetings may be called by the MCDCC Chair-when deemed necessary. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to be stated. A

special Meeting shall also be called within ten (10) days when requested in writing by any five (5) members of the MCDCC. The request should be submitted to the Secretary; the secretary will notify the membership and schedule the meeting. Notice of all special meetings of MCDCC must be sent to all members of MCDCC as required by Article III, Section 4. Such notice shall contain the time, place, and business being considered.

**Section 2 Meeting Procedures:**

- (a) **Voting:** Once a quorum has been met, all eligible voters as defined in Article I Membership may vote. No vote shall be by secret ballot.
- (b) **Quorum:** A quorum for the transaction of business by the MCDCC shall consist of 50% plus 1 of current members.
- (c) **Meeting Rules:** The California Elections Code, the California Democratic Party (CDP) Bylaws, the MCDCC Bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings, as interpreted by the Chair or Parliamentarian.

**Section 3 Electronic Meetings**

- (a) **Definition:** An electronic meeting is any meeting convened by the membership in which an exclusively electronic method of communication is used such as email, online survey, or other such technology.
- (b) Any member may call for an electronic meeting by notifying the Secretary and Chair of a motion on a single subject they wish to present to the membership. The Secretary or Chair shall in turn notify the membership of the motion and call for a second from the members.
- (c) Should a second be received, the Chair shall set the duration of the electronic discussion to be conducted by an electronic means, as defined in paragraph "a" of this section, via email or similar means, calling the matter to an electronic vote at the end of the discussion period. The Chair shall send meeting notice to all members of MCDCC as required by Article III, Section 4 and shall also post a notice of the electronic meeting on the MCDCC website, calling for interested parties to provide their email address (or other access information, if appropriate) should they wish to participate in the electronic meeting.
- (d) Under no circumstances shall a discussion period be more than seven (7) or less than four (4) days in duration, nor shall a voting period be longer than three (3) or shorter than two (2) days unless otherwise agreed by a majority of officers serving at the time.
- (e) A quorum of members must vote during the voting period or the matter shall be tabled until the next regular meeting of the membership

**Section 4 Meeting Notifications**

All required notices shall be at least seven (7) days written notice by first class mail, or five (5) days personal notice, actually received and acknowledged, or five (5) days email notice. Notice via email will be considered valid if:



- (a) The sender and receiver have both consented, in writing, to sending and receiving notice in this manner,
- (b) The notice was sent to or from the email address specified when giving consent, or most recent email address specified on a subsequent notice of change of address by sender or receiver,
- (c) The obligation to inform and procedure for informing of any change in email address has been specified in writing, and
- (d) There is an opportunity to opt out of such consent at an appropriate time.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **ENDORSEMENT POLICY**

It shall be the policy of the MCDCC to inform the people of Mariposa County of those candidates who uphold the principles and practices of the Democratic Party. This policy may include endorsements of candidates in non-partisan races, but shall be subject to the provisions of the State Party Bylaws.

#### **Section 1 Candidate Endorsement:**

The MCDCC has the legal right to endorse, not endorse or take no position on any Mariposa County office or any office in a local jurisdiction, including special districts, entirely within Mariposa County. Endorsement can be in the form of use of MCDCC's name, use of human resources, monetary contributions or any combination thereof. All MCDCC contributions must be made in accordance with state law.

- (a) The endorsement of partisan (see Article VII for a definition of 'partisan') candidates shall be subject to the provisions of the State Party Bylaws governing such endorsements. The MCDCC may vote a recommended position for its delegates to local endorsing conventions of the State Party and to the State Convention on endorsements related to statewide races. Such a vote shall not constitute an official endorsement of the MCDCC and shall not be binding on any delegate. Such votes shall require a one week notice to membership, 60% of those members present and voting, for approval.
- (b) For the endorsement of non-partisan candidates, only registered Democrats may be endorsed. The MCDCC will not endorse more Democrats than there are seats to be filled. There shall be no obligation to make any endorsement. No endorsement can be made until after the filing deadline for that race has closed.
- (c) A public vote of sixty percent of the MCDCC members present at the meeting shall be required to grant an endorsement. No vote for endorsement shall be by secret ballot.

#### **Section 2 Candidate Endorsement Procedure**

The MCDCC may not make any candidate endorsement until after close of filing for the office(s) under consideration for endorsement.

- (a) Endorsement voting for a single office shall include all eligible candidates who have expressed an interest in receiving the MCDCC's endorsement.
- (b) If there are more than two eligible candidates and no candidate receives an endorsement on the first round, a runoff election shall be conducted immediately between the two candidates receiving the most votes.
- (c) If the office under consideration has multiple positions, the voting shall include all eligible candidates and each voting member may only vote for as many candidates as there are open seats.
  - 1. No voter may cast more than one vote for any one candidate.

2. There shall be no runoffs for multiple position races.
3. Candidates wishing to be considered for MCDCC endorsement should provide the following to the MCDCC in writing no later than seven (7) days prior to the candidate's scheduled interview:
  - A. The office sought by the candidate.
  - B. A position paper (see Article VII for a definition of 'position paper')
  - C. A statement telling why the candidate is seeking the endorsement of the MCDCC and the type of support requested from the MCDCC.

**Section 3 Candidate Interviews:**

All candidates applying for endorsement who have complied with the stated application requirements shall be interviewed by a quorum of the MCDCC at a regular or special meeting. This must be a noticed agenda item. The final decisions on endorsement will be made by a majority vote of the Members present.

**Section 4 Notification:**

- (a) The MCDCC Chair or designee shall promptly notify all identified potential Democratic candidates and all registered Democratic candidates who have qualified to be on the ballot for the office(s) which the MCDCC intends to consider for endorsement, that the MCDCC will be holding an endorsement vote, and also notify the candidates or candidate campaigns of the endorsement process and candidate interviews for their respective races. Notice may be sent to the candidate's address on file with the County Elections Office, if available. An email will be considered acceptable for communication if a response is received. If a response to an email inquiry is not received from a candidate or an individual representing the candidate's campaign, then the committee must make every effort to communicate with the candidate or candidate's campaign by phone or postal mail.
- (b) Any MCDCC meeting where official endorsements will be voted on must have this item properly placed on the agenda, and the agenda must be postmarked or sent by email (if consented to in writing) to all MCDCC members and to the candidates applying for MCDCC endorsement at least 10 days before the meeting is held and posted on the MCDCC public website.
- (c) All candidates applying for MCDCC endorsement shall be notified of the decisions of the MCDCC in a timely manner.
- (d) A candidate is not endorsed until he/she has accepted in writing the endorsement of the MCDCC.

**Section 5 MCDCC Issue Advocacy:**

By MCDCC action, positions, including endorsements, may be taken on pending legislation, propositions and other issues of importance by a majority vote of the Members present. Propositions include, but are not limited to, Advisories, Bonds, Initiatives, and Measures put before the voters of Mariposa County. All positions must be in line with CDP bylaws. Proponents and opponents on all such matters shall be invited to provide oral or written position statements. Advance written notice of votes on such matters shall be provided to members and the public via the MCDCC website.

**Section 6 Pre-Endorsement Caucus:**

In addition to elected DSCC delegates and Executive Board Representative(s), (whether elected through the MCDCC, at Assembly District Election Meetings or appointment to the DSCC by Ex-Officios), all voting Regular Members of the MCDCC, are also eligible to vote at the Pre-Endorsement Caucus, 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 V**

**BYLAWS AMENDMENT AND RATIFICATION PROCESS**

The MCDCC 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 to the Chair and the Secretary of the Bylaws/Charter Review Committee. Proposed amendments may be submitted by any member or alternate to the MCDCC in good standing. If no Bylaws/Charter Review Committee is currently formed, the proposed amendments can be submitted to the Chair and Secretary of the MCDCC.
- (b) The Bylaws Committee (or Chair/Secretary) shall review all proposed amendments to the bylaws or those that are deemed appropriate, e.g., due to changes in the California Elections Code and shall recommend approval or disapproval to the MCDCC within sixty (60) days.

**Section 2 Adoption/Ratification of Bylaws:**

Following the recommendation of the reviewers, any proposed amendments shall be voted on at the next regular meeting of the MCDCC. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of voting Members present shall be required for adoption. Upon ratification, these bylaws will be considered legal and binding.

**Section 3 Reference:** For state laws governing County Central Committees and the DSCC, refer to relevant sections of the California Election Code.

**Article VI**

**CHARTERING/RECHARTERING DEMOCRATIC CLUBS**

**Section 1 General Description:**

Only the MCDCC or the Organizational Development (Standing) Committee of the CDP can and may charter Democratic Clubs in Mariposa County. 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 on 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 MCDCC and any applicable state codes and laws.

**Section 3 Requirements for charter and re-charter:**

For a Democratic Club in Mariposa County to be chartered by the MCDCC the following conditions in this section and the next must be met:

- (a) All Chartered Organization Members shall be registered Democrats, except minors and/or legal residents applying for citizenship who declare that they will be registering as a Democratic when eligible;
- (b) Membership Rosters must consist of at least five (5) paid members. Because these members must be verified as being registered Democrats, the names, as registered to vote, and residential addresses must be provided. Email and phone numbers are requested.
- (c) Hold at least four (4) regular meetings each calendar year.
- (d) May designate an Organizational Representative to report on the chartered organization's activities to the MCDCC;
- (e) Follow endorsement guidelines designated by the state party and by the MCDCC
- (f) Have the right to seek MCDCC endorsement and support for local Democratic candidates and pertinent issues; and
- (g) Annually provide, by July 31st:
  - a. A current membership roster
  - b. A current list of Officers
- (h) New applications for charter and re-charter shall be submitted in writing to the Chair and the Secretary of the MCDCC
- (i) The MCDCC shall provide a copy of their bylaws to existing clubs annually, as well as to newly chartered clubs. MCDCC shall also provide a copy to all chartered clubs when there are revisions to the bylaws.

**Section 4 New Charter Application Submission Process:**

- (a) An application for a charter must include:
  - a. The name of the Club
  - b. The names and addresses of at least five (5) members who are registered Democrats.
  - c. The name and title of the club officers.
  - d. A brief statement regarding the purpose of the club.
  - e. The applications shall be accompanied by a \$10 Charter fee.
- (b) The MCDCC shall approve or disapprove the chartering request by a majority vote of the Members present, and so record such action in the MCDCC meeting minutes.
- (c) Charters may be revoked for non-compliance with established policy. Such revocation may take place following appropriate action and duly recorded in the minutes of a regular or special meeting of the MCDCC. In 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 MCDCC.

## **Article VII DEFINITIONS**

'DEMOCRAT' / 'REGISTERED DEMOCRAT' All references in these By-Laws to 'Democrat' or 'registered Democrat' shall mean a voter who disclosed a preference for the Democratic Party on their voter registration card.

'DECLINE TO STATE' -- All references in these By-Laws to 'Decline-to-state' shall mean a voter who disclosed no preference for a political party on their voter registration card.

'NOMINEE' -- All references to 'nominee' shall refer to that registered Democrat in a voter-nominated election who received the highest number of votes in the general election. Should there be no registered Democrat among the 'top-two' in the general election, 'nominee' shall refer to that registered Democrat who received the highest number of votes in the top-two open primary

'PARTISAN PRIMARY' -- All references to 'partisan primary' shall refer to mean voter-nominated top-two open primary.

'POSITION PAPER' / 'POSITION STATEMENT' A position paper is an essay that presents information about a candidate or an issue that is sufficient for the reader to evaluate whether the candidate's positions or the espoused position(s) on an issue are consistent with principals of the California Democratic Party and/or the Mariposa County Democratic Central Committee.

'NON-PARTISAN' -- Based on, influenced by, affiliated with, or supporting the interests or policies of no single political party:

'PARTISAN' -- an adherent or supporter of a person, group, political **party**, or cause.

## **CHANGE RECORD**

1-12: The MCDCC approved a change to Article I, Section 1 to increase the length of the term members may serve from two to four years.

6-12: The MCDCC approved a change to Article I, Section 3 (now Section 2 to change the definition of 'quorum' from five (5) members to 51% of current members.

3-13: The MCDCC approved three changes (1) Article II, Section 1, paragraph 3 -- change the terms of officers from four years to one year; (2) Article II, Section 1, paragraph 3 -- deletion of the sentence authorizing the chair to appoint officers; and (3) Article II, Section 3 -- removed last three sentences which committed the MCDCC to pay CDP dues for delegates and registration fees and expense for the E-Board representative

5-14: Added electronic voting and electronic participation language (under quorum and under Article III -- meetings); rewrote first two sections -- preamble and members

6-14: Revised articles II and III (Officers, Meetings); added article 7 (chartering clubs)

9-14: Revision of Articles 4 (endorsement procedure), 5 (membership), 6 (bylaws ratification), 7 (chartering). Article 5 (resignations and recalls) removed because included in Membership article. Renumbered article 6 to be article 5, and article 7 to be article 6

1-15: Added the endorsements will not be done by secret ballot; that secretary or chair can start email voting; and also to notify both secretary and chair to start the process.

5-17: Modifications to conform to recommendations and requirements identified by the CPD Rules Committee in a memo to the MCDCC dated January 30, 2016.

10-18: Remove secret ballot provisions in general: add provision to prohibit endorsement of more candidates than there are seats open; clarification of candidate endorsement process including method of and notification of process to candidates; specify notice of agendas and meetings and advance notice of agendas and meetings; add definition of partisan and non-partisan.

1-19: Corrected Article 1, section 2(a) Regular Member vacancies, deleting reference to Section 7.

APPENDIX A  
Sections 7206 and 7207 of the Election Code –  
Ex-Officio Members  
(Always consult current code in a dispute)

**Section 7206.**

In each county the nominee (see Article VII for a definition of 'Nominee') of this party for Senator or the incumbent Senator, the nominees of this party for the Assembly, and any person elected to either the Senate or Assembly at a special election to fill a vacancy in that house, and the nominee of this party for Representative in Congress, and any person elected at a special election to fill a vacancy in the House of Representatives, shall be ex officio members of this committee. If the person elected from one party at the special election for an Assembly or Senate seat, or for the House of Representatives, shall be other than the nominee of that party for the same office at the prior election, the ex officio membership of the nominee shall expire immediately upon certification by the Secretary of State of the election. Ex officio members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges, including the right to vote, and shall have the same standing in every way as other members of this committee, except they shall not be entitled to a ballot designation of incumbent upon seeking election to this committee in the next direct primary.

**Section 7207.**

The incumbent or nominee of each of the following offices shall be an ex officio member of the committee in the county in which he or she resides:

- (a) Governor.
- (b) Lieutenant Governor.
- (c) Secretary of State.
- (d) Controller.
- (e) Treasurer.
- (f) Attorney General.
- (g) Member of the State Board of Equalization.
- (h) United States Senator from California. His or her rights and privileges shall be the same as those prescribed for other ex officio members in Section 7206.