

CONSTITUTION OF THE KING COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS

As adopted February 10, 2013

We, the King County Young Democrats, in order to stimulate in young people an active interest in governmental affairs and promote their involvement at all levels in the Democratic Party, to promote the acquisition of political power by young people, to foster and perpetuate the ideals and principals of the highest degrees of justice and social welfare, do associate ourselves together and establish this constitution.

Article I – Name

1. This organization shall be known as King County Young Democrats.
2. The name, King County Young Democrats, KCYD or any combination, variation or shortening thereof, is a valuable asset belonging to the organization, and shall not be used for the purposes of publicity or sponsorship without proper authorization.

Article II – Membership

1. Regular Members
 - a. Shall be limited to persons who are permanent residents of King County, Washington.
 - b. Declare themselves as Democrats and who have not yet turned thirty-six years old.
 - c. No criteria other than age, residency or party preference shall be an acceptable reason for exclusion from regular membership.
2. Alumni Members
 - a. Shall be limited to persons who are permanent residents of King County, Washington.
 - b. Declare themselves as Democrats and, in general, have previously been regular members of the KCYD and under forty years of age.
 - c. Having paid the annual Alumni Membership due as set by a vote of the regular membership, shall be eligible to attend and participate in KCYD events and functions, but ineligible to vote or hold elected office.
 - d. No criteria other than residency or party preference shall be an acceptable reason for exclusion from alumni-membership.
3. Supporting Members
 - a. Shall be limited to persons who have paid the minimum Supporting Member dues as adopted by a vote of the regular membership.
 - b. Shall be eligible to attend KCYD events and functions, but ineligible to participate (voice rights) unless so granted by the regular membership, Executive Board, or Chair.
 - c. Shall be ineligible to vote or hold elected office.
4. Voting Rights
 - a. Voting rights shall be granted at the first duly called meeting following the meeting at which an individual eligible for regular membership attends and requests membership.
 - b. Voting rights continue until the next annual elections meeting, at which voting rights are continued without break if the member attends, if not, the member must re-petition for voting rights.
5. Dues
 - a. Regular voting members are required to pay an annual membership fee as set by a vote of the regular membership, except in the case of financial hardship, and to provide a mailing address, birthdate, email address and, when available, telephone number.
 - b. Dues are valid for the calendar year in which paid, ending at midnight on January 1.
 - c. Under no circumstances shall KCYD members, otherwise in good standing, be excluded or discouraged from full participation in the activities of King County Young Democrats on the basis of current status of dues payment.

Article III – Officers

1. The officers of this organization to be elected every year at the annual KCYD election meeting in February, and their term shall expire at the adjournment of the annual KCYD election meeting-
2. General duties of all officers
 - a. Attend all Executive Board and General Membership meetings unless otherwise excused by the chair.
 - b. Attend all KCYD county wide and regional events for the area within which they reside.
 - c. Any other duties assigned by the KCYD chair.

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1. The officers and specific duties shall be as follows:
 - a. **Chair**
 - i. Chief administrative officer of KCYD
 - ii. Encourage & coordinate participation of members in local and statewide senior Democratic Party activities
 - iii. Direct the implementation of policies adopted and authorized by the KCYD Executive Board
 - iv. Represent KCYD on the Young Democrats of Washington (YDWA) Executive Board
 - v. Attend all general and chairs meetings of the KCDCC and represent the interests of KCYD in voice and vote
 - vi. Represent the KCYD organization in public and report on his/her activities at each KCYD meeting
 - b. **Vice Chair**
 - i. Assist the Chair in the performance of the Chair's duties and serve as Acting Chair in the event of his/her temporary absence.
 - c. **Finance Director**
 - i. Maintain records of all receipts and disbursements of funds of the organization in accordance with all KCYD, local, state and federal laws and regulations
 - ii. Report financial activity at each KCYD meeting
 - iii. Keep all organizational financial records in order
 - iv. Shall be responsible for the presentation of new revenue enhancement projects
 - d. **Communications Director**
 - i. Record and distribute minutes of all regular and executive board meetings
 - ii. Send notification of regular and special general membership and executive board meetings
 - iii. Maintain all organizational files and records in a safe and orderly manner
 - iv. Issue press releases prior to KCYD events
 - v. Serve as Editor-In-Chief for the KCYD newsletter
 - e. **Legislative Director**
 - i. Keep members informed of issues facing federal, state, and county elected officials
 - ii. Coordinate with YDWA for the annual Lobby Day
 - f. **Political Director**
 - i. Plan the political program of the meetings
 - ii. Organize the Endorsements process for the meetings for KCYD
 - g. **Events Director**
 - i. Plan and coordinate KCYD events
such as: 1. Fundraising Events
2. Annual Picnic
3. Annual Holiday Party
 - ii. Coordinate KCYD attendance at YDWA events such as Lobby Day and Convention
 - h. **IT Director**
 - i. Maintain the underlying infrastructure for the KCYD website and email system
 - ii. Assist the other officers with updates to the KCYD website
 - iii. Ensure the accuracy of internal mailing lists and KCYD email addresses
 - i. **Membership Director(s) (West, East, South, North)**
 - i. Target and acquire new diverse members for the organization.
 - ii. Keep current members active.
 - iii. Coordinate social functions for members.
 - iv. Coordinate outreach events for KCYD to grow members of the community.
 - v. The regions for the three Membership Directors are as defined:
 1. West (Seattle) - Primarily Seattle and areas immediately adjacent areas
 2. East (Eastside) – Primarily Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland and immediately adjacent areas
 - 3.-South – South of Seattle and the Eastside
 4. North – North of Seattle and the Eastside

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4. Terms of office for elected officers are one year, with such officers being elected in February of each year. Terms of office for elected officers shall expire at adjournment of the annual KCYD election meeting.
5. If any KCYD officer fails to attend two consecutive KCYD meetings without being properly excused, the office shall be considered vacant.
6. A vacancy in the office of Chair shall be filled on an interim basis by the senior most officer available from Article III, Section 3 till a special election can be held at the meeting immediately following the confirmation of the vacancy.
7. Vacancies in all other officer positions shall be filled by appointment by the KCYD Chair with the confirmation of the Executive Board.

Article IV – Executive Board

1. The voting members of the KCYD Executive board shall consist of:
 - a. The officers listed in Article III, section 3.
 - b. King County Democratic Central Committee (KCDCC) Representatives
 - i. There shall be two KCDCC representatives of opposite gender per the KCDCC representation rules.
 - ii. These representatives shall be nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Executive board from the KCYD membership in good standing at any time.
 - iii. Nothing will preclude these representatives from holding other positions in the organization simultaneously.
 - iv. They shall attend all general meetings of the KCDCC and represent the interests of KCYD in voice and vote unless excused by the Chair.
 - v. They shall report back to the KCYD general membership and executive board the activities of the KCDCC in a concise fashion.
2. The non-voting members of KCYD Executive board shall consist of:
 - a. The immediate past Chair of the King County Young Democrats
 - b. Any member in good standing of KCYD holding a position on the YDWA Executive Board, or the YDA National Committee.
 - c. Any KCYD member in good standing so appointed by the chair with confirmation by the Executive Board.
 - d. The chair of the Alumni Committee, as appointed by the chair with confirmation by the Executive Board.
3. No member of the Executive Board shall be eligible to cast more than one vote.
4. A quorum shall consist of 2/3 of the non vacant voting member positions.
5. The Executive Board will meet at the call of the Chair at least once a quarter.
6. The Chair will notify the Executive Board by e-mail at least 7 days prior to the date, time and location of the meeting.
7. The principle power and decision making authority of the organization shall be vested in the Executive Board of the King County Young Democrats except in such matters reserved for the membership.

Article V- Removal of Officers

1. The process for removal of any officer or regional board member, either elected or appointed, shall be as follows:
 - a. Grounds for removal shall be misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance in the performance of their duties.
 - b. A motion for removal must be made at a regular or special meeting of the KCYD. Charges demanding removal shall be referred to the Executive Board to ascertain, by majority vote, whether or not said charges are proper grounds for removal.
 - c. If the Executive Board cannot determine by majority vote within fourteen (14) days of the motion for removal that the charges are proper grounds for removal, said charges shall be dropped and stricken from the record.
 - d. If removal charges pass Executive Board by a majority vote, the motion for removal shall be placed on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled general membership meeting to take place no more than thirty (30) days following the original filing of removal charges.
 - e. Parties calling for the removal of the officer must be present at the KCYD meeting at which the removal motion is considered. The accused officer may attend the meeting or send a representative.
 - f. The officer subject to removal must be given the opportunity to respond at or before the meeting at which removal is considered.
2. Only KCYD members on the official membership rolls before charges were brought to the Executive Board shall be

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eligible to vote on the motion for removal.

3. A two-thirds (67%) affirmative vote of those present and eligible to vote shall be required for the removal of an officer.

Article VI – Meetings

1. The King County Young Democrats shall meet at the call of the Chair or three of the other elected KCYD officers, at least four (4) times per calendar year. This is a minimum standard, and greater frequency is encouraged.
2. Notification of membership meetings will be sent via email at least seven (7) days in advance and will include, date, time, and location.
3. A quorum of a general membership meeting shall consist of at least seven (7) KCYD members in good standing, including, at minimum, two elected KCYD officers.
4. Communications Director is in charge of maintaining sign-in sheets.
5. No proxy voting shall be allowed.

Article VII – Amendment Procedure

1. Amendments to this constitution shall be adopted only by three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of members attending the general board meeting.
2. Amendments to this constitution shall become effective immediately after adjournment of the meeting.

Article VII – Endorsement Procedure

1. To receive the KCYD endorsement, candidates must either complete the endorsements questionnaire prepared by the Executive Board with the direction of the Political/Legislative Director, or at the discretion of the KCYD Executive Board, the KCDCC (King County Democratic Central Committee) Questionnaire.
2. Endorsements will be considered on a rolling basis at the general membership meetings; members credentials will only be issued upon a call of division with three seconds or if the chair deems it necessary.
3. Only regular members may make motions, or speak to any motions. Non regular member speakers maybe permitted if the chair deems it in the interest of the general membership, or bby a majority vote of the general membership.
4. Only candidates having territory, or initiatives having effect within King County are eligible for endorsement.
5. Endorsements require a two-thirds (2/3) super majority of members present and voting.
6. Endorsement may be rescinded or withdrawn by a three quarters (3/4) super majority of members present and voting.
7. Motions for sole endorsement shall be out of order at all times.
8. The Chair or his/her designee will notify the candidates of their endorsement status.
9. Endorsements can be tabled for the following meeting or indefinitely depending on the will of the body present.

Article IX - Policy

1. It shall be the policy of this organization to endeavor to uphold all ideals set forth in this constitution and by the Democratic Party.
2. This organization will charter and become a part of the Young Democrats of Washington each chartering period, and endeavor to carry on the work of that organization within King County, Washington.
3. This organization seeks a cooperative relationship with the Washington State and King County Democratic Central Committees and shall be guided by the actions of the Democratic Party assembled in county, state, or national convention.

Article X – Parliamentary Authority

1. The rules contained in the *Henry M. Robert III and others, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 10th ed. (Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Publishing, 2000)*, shall govern actions of this organization in all cases in which they do not conflict with this constitution or with the charter of the Young Democrats of America, or with any local, state, or national law.

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STANDING RULES OF THE KING COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS

Endorsement Rules:

1. All provisions from the Endorsement Procedure Article of the King County Young Democrats Constitution
2. Discussion on all endorsement motions shall be limited to two speakers for, two against alternating
3. Speakers shall be limited to two minutes for each candidate position, and there will be no ceding of speaking time.

Member Dues:

1. Regular Members: \$20
2. Alumni Members: \$40