

BY-LAWS

NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATS

I. NAME

The name of the club shall be the “Northeast Tarrant County Democrats” (including “Northeast Democrats”, “NE Dems”, “NET Dems”, “NETCDems” and “NETCD”).

II. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northeast Tarrant County Democrats is to increase Democratic voter turnout and to promote the Democratic Party, its candidates and issues in Northeast Tarrant County, Texas, and surrounding area.

III. PURPOSE

- To support Democratic candidates at the national, state and local level.
- To recruit precinct chairs and provide them with the information necessary for their training and technical support.
- To provide voters with information on issues that will enable them to make informed decisions.
- To collaborate with the Tarrant County Democratic Party (TCDP) in identifying and supporting candidates.
- To increase the visibility of the Northeast Tarrant County Democrats for the purpose of expanding the club’s impact.
- To raise money for selected candidates for office.

IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Membership in the Northeast Tarrant County Democrats is open to any person interested in working to advance the Mission Statement and Purpose of the Northeast Tarrant County Democrats (NET Dems) and to advance the goals and ideals of the Tarrant County Democratic Party (TCDP) and the Texas Democratic Party (TDP).

The annual dues amount is set by the Board with approval by the membership.

Dues payment are accepted at any time and are effective for one year.

Young adults (under 25 years old) and those with financial hardship may have their annual dues waived upon approval of the Board.

Any member whose annual dues are current shall be considered a “member in good standing,” and shall be eligible to vote in the second (2nd) month following the initial payment of their dues.

V. MEETINGS

General Membership Meetings are planned to occur monthly, unless changed by the Executive Board. The meetings are chaired by the President, the Vice President, or their designee. Examples of exceptions to a monthly meeting include fundraising events, coordinated meetings with other organizations, and similar.

30% of the paid membership shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business at general membership meetings called within forty-eight (48) hours' notice.

Executive Board Meetings generally occur monthly, prior to the general membership meeting, at a time and place to be determined by the Board. Four (4) Board members, which must include the President and/or Vice President, shall be considered a quorum for purposes of conducting business. Any voting Board member may invite non-board members for special topics.

VI. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Members of the Executive Board (Board) shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee chairs. The aforementioned shall comprise the voting members of the Board.

The Executive Board shall have the power to act on club business between general membership meetings; establish the agenda for general membership meetings; plan fundraising and volunteer activities; consider for approval actions recommended by both standing and special committees for consideration of the general membership; and other actions as necessary to fulfill the NET Dems Mission Statement and Purpose.

Any voting Board member may call a special meeting of the Executive Board for discussion of a specific issue with the concurrence of at least three (3) other Executive Board members, who will form the required quorum.

In the interest of time a telephone conference call or email exchange may take the place of a face-to-face special meeting.

Whenever possible, financial contributions or other spending is proposed by the board to the general membership for approval. The Executive Board can spend up to \$500 or 25% of the balance available in the NET Democrats' bank account, whichever is less, without approval from the general membership.

Each elected officer and standing committee chairperson shall be limited to two (2) one-year consecutive terms in the same position, those terms commencing on January 1 and concluding on December 31, of each year. Exceptions may be made with approval of the Executive Board if no qualified member in good standing is willing to serve in the office.

In the event that an elected officer becomes unable to fulfill his/her term of office the Executive Board, at its discretion, shall immediately so advise the membership.

- If the resigning officer is the President, the Vice President shall serve as President for the remaining term of office, with the approval of the general membership. Executive Board members will nominate an individual to fill the remaining Vice-Presidential term subject to approval of the general membership at the next general membership meeting;
- If the Vice President is unable to fill the remaining Presidential term, the Elections Committee will convene in order to select a nominee for the approval of the Executive Board and of the general membership.
- If the resigning officer is the Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer the Elections Committee will convene and select a candidate to fill the unexpired term with the approval of the Executive Board and the general membership. The President may appoint a member in good standing to fill a vacant office until a new officer is elected.

Officer Responsibilities:

President: The President will set the agenda and preside over general membership and Executive Board meetings; nominate committee chairpersons for the approval of the Board; represent the NET Dems at meetings of other organizations; actively ensure the visibility of the NET Dems; exercise the discretion to expand the responsibilities of the elected officers and committee chairs as needed to support the Mission Statement and Purpose of the NET Dems; other duties as necessary and appropriate.

Vice President: In the absence of the President the Vice President shall perform the President's duties as outlined above; chair all special committees; coordinate the activities of all committees and special projects; introduce speakers for general membership meetings; work with the President to plan the agendas and compose the newsletter.

Secretary: The Secretary shall take minutes of all general membership and Executive Board meetings and maintain them in an orderly manner as a written history of NET Dems and its activities; record/document all NET Dem activities (e.g., fundraising activities, community service activities, print and broadcast news coverage, etc.); perform all NET Dem correspondence, including sending appropriate cards to members in good standing who have experienced an illness or death in their family; perform other duties as necessary and appropriate.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall maintain all NET Dem financial accounts; prepare a monthly financial report detailing all revenues and expenditures; reconcile monthly bank statements; comply with all Texas Ethics Commission reporting requirements; perform any other necessary financial reporting; perform other duties as necessary and appropriate.

Executive Board members are expected to attend at least two-thirds (2/3) of all general membership and Board meetings held during their term of office.

VII. COMMITTEES

The NET Dems President shall appoint committee chairpersons, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, and the committee chairpersons shall select members in good standing to serve on their committees.

VIII. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any time as determined by the Board with the approval of the general membership. Approval is considered given through a majority of voting members in attendance at the general meeting, indicating agreement when the amendment is voted for approval or rejection.

Proposed amendments may be suggested by any member in good standing and will, then, be reviewed by the Board for presentation to the general membership. Proposed amendments may be presented to the general membership through either email or at a general membership meeting. Members in good standing will vote on a proposed amendment at the general membership meeting following the meeting of its initial presentation. All proposed amendments will be published in the NET Dems newsletter prior to being voted on by the members in good standing.

IX. RULES OF THE TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Northeast Tarrant County Democrats will operate under the rules of the Texas Democratic Party and will follow basic Roberts Rules of Order.