

Article I: Organization; Purpose; Policy

Section 1: Mission and Management

A primary mission of the Young Democrats of _____ County shall be the promotion of the Democratic Party, its nominees for elective offices and its elected officials. Young Democrats of _____ County shall not take any action which is in conflict with the Bylaws of the Young Democrats of Wisconsin, the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, with the Constitution of the United States or of the State of Wisconsin, or with any national, state or local law.

Section 2: Endorsement of Party Nominees

This organization and its members shall support actively and by appropriate means the nominees of the Democratic Party in national, state, and local elections. This organization shall not endorse or support the candidacy of any person for public office prior to nomination by the Democratic Party; however, individual members may support candidates prior to nomination but may not use their title or affiliation with Young Democrats of _____ County as part of their support.

Section 3: Cooperation with YDW Executive Committee

The Young Democrats of _____ County organization shall seek in all of its operations the advice and consent of the Young Democrats of Wisconsin Executive Committee.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Membership Classes

Membership shall be open to all current members of the Democratic Party residing in _____ County and membership shall be divided into the following classification:

A. Active

Any member of the Democratic Party age eighteen (18) to forty (40) shall be eligible for Active membership.

B. Associate

Any member of the Democratic Party who has attained the age of forty-one (41) shall be eligible for Associate membership, provided however that Associate members shall not enjoy voting privileges and shall not be eligible to hold office within the organization.

C. Honorary

Any person who is not an Active, At-Large or Associate member of this organization, who professes and demonstrates allegiance with the principles of the Democratic Party, shall be eligible for honorary membership, provided however that Honorary members shall not enjoy voting privileges and shall not be eligible to hold office within the organization.

No person shall be an Active member of more than one chapter. No member shall be registered as both an Active and At-Large member.

Section 2: Membership Fee

The Executive Committee of the Young Democrats of Wisconsin have the authority to set a fee for each Active, At-Large, Associate and Honorary member at their discretion.

Article III: Executive Board

Section 1: Composition

The Executive Board shall consist of a Chair, Immediately Previous Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. These elected officers shall collectively constitute the "Board" of the Young Democrats of _____ County. The Chair and Vice Chair must be of different gender identities.

Section 2: Duties of Officers

Chair:

The duties of the State Chair shall be to uphold and enforce the provisions of the Young Democrats of ____ County Charter, Bylaws, and adopted Rules; to organize and administer the organization; to appoint chairpersons and members of standing and select committees; to represent the organization at official functions; to preside over all meetings; to present an annual report on the functions and activities of the organization to the YDW Chair; to serve on the Executive Committee of YDW; and to Chair the Executive Committee of Young Democrats of ____ County.

Vice Chair:

The duties of the Vice Chair shall be to advise and assist the Chair in the administration of the organization and to assume the duties of the executive office in the temporary absence of the Chair. The Vice Chair shall chair the Young Democrats of ____ County Membership Committee; shall actively recruit and assist in the development of new members; and shall serve on the YDW Executive Committee.

Secretary:

The duties of the Secretary shall be to conduct the official correspondence of the organization; maintain an updated and accurate membership list of the organization; verify chartering and memberships; send bylaws copies of the county and affiliate organization to the bylaws committee chair; and submit all official records to the state archives.

Section 3: Eligibility

Any candidate for elected office must have been a member of a chartered chapter, or a registered At-Large member current on their dues (if applicable), for a minimum of one year prior to the state convention at which elections are held.

Section 4: Term

All officers shall be elected at the Young Democrats of ____ County organizing meeting in April of each year. Officers serve for a period of one year following their election or until their successors are elected and installed. There are no term limits.

Section 5: Election

Officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast at the annual organizing meeting in accordance with the rules adopted at such convention.

Section 6: Removal

Officers may be removed from office upon a vote approving such removal by more than 3/4th of the members of the Executive Committee present and actually voting at a duly called meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 7: Vacancy

Any vacancy among the officers shall be filled by the Executive Board; provided, however, that the Vice Chair shall succeed the Chair and the Executive Board shall then select a successor to the office of Vice Chair.

Section 8: Duties

The affairs of this organization shall be conducted between monthly meetings by the Executive Board.

A. Chair. Executive Board meetings may be called by the Chair, the time and place for such meetings shall be set by the Chair.

B. Petition. Executive Board meetings may be called upon written request of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Executive Board; the time and place of such meetings shall be set forth in the request.

C. Board. The Executive Board meetings may be called by a majority vote of the YDW Board. The time and place for such meetings shall be set by the Board.

D. Executive Board. The Executive Board, while in session, may designate the time and place of its next meeting.

Section 4: Quorum and Voting

Quorum shall exist at any meeting of the Executive Board when 50% or more of the members of the Executive Board are present.

Any member may designate an Active or At-Large Young Democrat from the group he or she represents to serve as his or her alternate for an Executive Board meeting by notifying, in writing, the presiding officer prior to the call to order. No person may serve as an alternate for more than one member at any meeting, and no one may cast more than one vote.

Section 5: Removal of Members

Members of the Executive Board may be removed from office under the following provisions:

A. Inactive. The member is no longer an Active or At-Large member of the Young Democrats of Wisconsin; or,

B. State Chair removal. The State Chair may recommend to the Executive Board that any member be removed from office. The State Chair shall state the nature of the charges in writing to the Executive Committee at least twenty (20) days prior to any Executive Committee meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at the Executive Committee shall be necessary to remove any member from officer; or,

C. Truant. The member misses two (2) Executive Board meetings without sending a proxy vote.

D. Put Up or Shut Up. The Executive Board on a two-thirds (2/3) vote may remove any member who does not have verifiable results in relation to commitments made by the member and recorded by the Vice Chair of the Young Democrats of _____ for a period of two (2) consecutive Executive Committee meetings.

The Chair shall inform the removed party of their removal and their appeal rights within three (3) business days by certified letter. Documentation of the removal shall be forwarded to the YDW State Vice Chair for safekeeping and a copy shall be sent to the DPW Chair. Any individual who has been removed from office may appeal to the Executive Committee for reinstatement. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present at the Committee meeting shall be necessary for reinstatement

Section 6: Vacancy

Any vacancy occurring in the Executive Board may be filled upon nomination of the Chair and approved by majority vote of the YDW Executive Board.

Article IV: Committees

Section 1: Committees

Committees may be created at the pleasure of the Executive Board whose purpose and function shall be clearly outlined by the Chair. The Chair shall, subject to the approval of the Executive Board, appoint the chairpersons and committee members of all committees. Possible committees of the organization include the Convention Committee, Platform & Resolutions Committee, Finance Committee, Membership Committee, and the Charter & Bylaws Committee.

Article V: State Convention

Section 1: Any member in good standing of the Young Democrats of _____ County shall be entitled to delegate status at the YDW State Convention.

Article VI: Fundraising

The Young Democrats of _____ county will not raise funds into any account other than such account(s) designated by the Young Democrats of Wisconsin's Executive Board.

Article VII: General Provisions

Section 1: Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Charter, the YDW Bylaws, and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

Section 2: Amendment

The Bylaws of the Young Democrats of _____ County may be amended by a three-fifths vote of any duly noticed meeting of the Young Democrats of _____ County, provided:

- i. Amendments to the Bylaws are submitted, in writing, and distributed to the members of the Young Democrats of _____ county no less than 14 days before the meeting.
- ii. Amendments to the Bylaws must be approved by a majority vote of the YDW Executive Committee within 45 days of adoption by the Young Democrats of _____ County. Absent such approval, the prior Bylaws shall remain in force.

Section 3: Interpretation

These Bylaws should be interpreted with a broad construction. Any actions of YDW not specifically disallowed in the Charter, Bylaws, or adopted Rules of the Executive Committee, are, by definition, allowed.

These Bylaws have been adopted by a properly called and convened meeting of the Young Democrats of _____ County on ____, ____, ____