

# The Bylaws

## By-laws of the York Township Democratic Organization

### Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be: The York Township Democratic Organization.

### Article II - Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be the advancement of better government through the selection of outstanding citizens for elective offices and the election of all candidates of the Democratic Party.

### Article III - Membership

1. All Democratic Precinct Committeepersons (PCs) of York Township, and any person qualified to vote in the Democratic Primary in York Township who supports the principles and programs of the Democratic Party, shall be eligible for membership in this organization.
2. All Democratic PCs in York Township shall be members of the York Township Democratic Central Committee whose prime purpose is the managing of the township caucus in compliance with the laws of the State of Illinois.

### Article IV - Voting Rights

1. All PCs have full voting rights.
2. All non-PCs shall have full voting rights after attending at least four meetings during the previous twelve months, except where otherwise stated, provided that they have taken a Democratic ballot in at least two of the last three primary elections. New voters are exempt from this requirement.

### Article V - Open Membership

All public meetings of the York Township Democratic Organization shall be open regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.

#### Article VI - Meetings

1. The time and place of all public meetings of this organization shall be publicized fully to the general public, including time, place, date, and other pertinent information.
2. Meetings shall be held each month unless otherwise ordered by the members.
3. Members shall be notified at least five days before said meetings.
4. All notices shall include, whenever possible, a statement of the business to be conducted.
5. Special meetings can be called by the Chair, by a majority of the Executive Board, or by 25% of members qualified to vote.

#### Article VII - Officers

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the Chair, First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, five members elected at large, and two members appointed by the Chair.
2. Eligibility: The Chair must be an elected PC. The First Vice-Chair and Second Vice-Chair must be PCs, either elected or appointed. The Chair and Vice-Chairs shall also be the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the York Township Democratic Central Committee.
3. The Secretary, Treasurer, and other members of the Executive Board must be members of the organization with voting rights, but need not be PCs.

#### Article VIII - Nomination and Election of Officers

1. Nomination and election of officers shall be held at the first monthly meeting after the DuPage Democratic Central Committee Convention. (No later than thirty days.)

2. The Chairman, First Vice-Chair, and Second Vice-Chair shall be elected by PCs by weighted vote. Other officers shall be elected by all members eligible to vote, one member — one vote.
3. All officers shall be elected for two-year terms.
4. In the event of a mid-term vacancy to the position of Chair, the First Vice-chair shall succeed the Chair until the Executive Board can arrange for a special election, giving the membership at least a thirty-day notice.
5. In case of a mid-term vacancy in any other office, the Chair with approval of the Executive Board may appoint an eligible person as a replacement to fill that office until the next regular election. Alternatively, the Chair may hold a special election for the office in question, giving the membership at least a thirty-day notice, with weighted votes applying if the position is a Vice-Chair as above.

#### Article IX - Duties of Officers

1. The Chair shall preside at all meetings, fill vacancies and nominate PCs to fill vacancies to the County Chair. The Chair is the chief executive officer of the organization and an ex-officio member of all committees. The Chair shall initiate committees with approval of the Executive Board and appoint Chair for same as necessary.
2. The First Vice-Chair shall exercise the power of the Chair in the absence of the Chair, and shall assist the Chair in his or her duties.
3. The Second Vice-Chair's duties shall be assigned by the Chair.
4. The Secretary shall be in charge of all files and records except those specifically required to be in the possession of the Treasurer. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare necessary documents and to preserve such files and records as may be necessary. The Secretary shall preserve all past records and transfer same to his or her successor. The Secretary shall take minutes of all meetings.
5. The Treasurer shall have custody of all the organization's funds. The Treasurer shall be responsible for any and all financial reports required by State and Federal law. The Treasurer shall submit records for audit by an Audit Committee in each odd-numbered year or at times decided by the Executive Board.

#### Article X: Recall of Officers

1. Any officer may be recalled for non-performance of duties.
2. Recall proceedings will be initiated upon a majority vote of the Executive Board, or upon the submission to the Board of a petition signed by members whose number at least equals 25% of current PCs.
3. The Executive Board will schedule a vote to take place at a meeting of the organization not less than thirty days but not more than sixty days after the initiation of recall. Notice shall be provided to the membership, specifying the meeting date and time and the officer(s) to be recalled.
4. Removing an officer requires a two-thirds majority, either of weighted vote of PCs present (if the officer is a chair or vice-chair) or un-weighted vote of all voting members present (for other officers). If such a vote succeeds, elections may be held immediately to replace the removed officer. If such replacement results in another vacancy (another officer resigns his or her current position in order to replace the removed officer) then elections may be held immediately to fill this vacancy as well.

#### Article XI - Allocation of Funds

1. The voting membership of YTDO may allocate funds by majority vote at a meeting of the organization.
2. Between meetings, the Chair may allocate funds with the approval of a majority of Executive Board members, not to exceed \$1000 in any calendar year. This does not include donations to candidates' campaigns which must be approved at a meeting of the full membership.

#### Article XII - Endorsements

1. For the organization to endorse a Democrat running against one or more other Democrats, a three-fifths majority vote is required. Notice of such a vote shall be provided to the membership, as well as to all Democratic candidates for the office in question, at least three weeks in advance.
2. Endorsement of a candidate in a non-partisan election, or endorsement of an independent or another party's candidate in a race for which there is no Democrat on the ballot, is also subject to the restrictions listed in section 1.
3. A Democrat who has already won the party primary or who is unopposed by any other Democrat may be endorsed by a simple majority vote with no notice required.
4. Any endorsement, once made, may be rescinded by a simple majority, but such a vote is subject to the same advance notice requirements, if any, that applied to the original vote.

5. For Democratic primaries in which the organization has not voted to endorse, the organization's leadership will treat all candidates running as Democrats fairly and equally.

#### Article XIII - Quorum

1. A quorum of the full organization shall consist of voting members in number at least equal to thirty percent of the current number of PCs.

2. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority of its members.

#### Article XIV - Code of Conduct

1. The organization may establish a Code of Conduct by a majority of eligible members present and voting.

2. A person who violates the Code of Conduct may be expelled from a meeting by a two-thirds majority of voting members present.

#### Article XV - Parliamentary Authority

Parliamentary authority shall be the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised), where not inconsistent with these rules.

#### Article XVI - Amendments

These By-Laws shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment has been given to the members at least one month in advance of the meeting.