



By-laws of the El Paso Young Democrats

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization shall be El Paso Young Democrats, hereinafter referred to as EPYD.

ARTICLE II. Purpose

The purpose of this group is to foster and perpetuate the ideals of the Democratic Party in El Paso County, TX, to stimulate an active interest in the political process, and to promote the involvement of young people in all aspects of the political arena.

ARTICLE III. Members

Section 1. **Members.** There shall be two classes of membership:

a) **Voting Members.** Democrats having attained the age of fourteen (14) years, and not having attained the age of forty-one (41) years who live, work, or are enrolled in school in El Paso County, Texas shall be eligible for membership.

b) **Non-Voting Members.** Any individual who is not eligible for voting membership may join as a non-voting member.

c) **Honorary Members.** Honorary members are made up of those running for public office that aren't eligible to be a voting member of our organization.

d) **Life Members.** Life Members can be nominated by any member of our organization in the form of a resolution. In order to become a Life Member nominations must pass with a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of active members.

Section 2. **Application.**

An applicant for membership must submit their full name, date of birth, full address [street address, city, county, state, zip code], phone number, email address, and an indication that the member agrees to support the Democratic Party to the Secretary or their designee.

Section 3. **Moving.**
Any member who moves outside the eligible area will retain their voting privileges through the end of the current term.

Section 4. **Resignation.**
Any member desiring to resign from the chapter shall present a resignation to a member of the Executive Board.

Section 5. **Dues.**
The annual dues shall be free for members under age 18, \$5 for college students 18 and up, and \$10 for all other voting members. Dues are payable to the Treasurer or their designee. The membership year shall run with the calendar year. Renewing voting members retain their voting status for 30 days. Those whose dues are not paid by January 31st will become non-voting members until receipt of dues.

The annual dues for an honorary member shall be \$50 .The membership year shall run with the calendar year. Renewing voting members retain their voting status for 30 days. Those whose dues are not paid by January 31st will become non-voting members until receipt of dues.

Section 6. **Waiver of Dues.**
Any person who feels they are unable to pay the dues may request a waiver of dues by submitting a written request to the Secretary. The Secretary shall bring this to the Executive Board, who will take a vote on the request.

ARTICLE IV. Officers

Section 1. **Elected Officers.**
The elected officers of the chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, **membership director** and a Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the society.

Section 2. **Nominations.**
Nominations shall open November 1st and shall remain open until closed by the presiding officer at the December meeting. Nominations not made during a meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary. Campaigning for office shall not begin until the candidate has successfully filed for election.

Section 3. **Election.**

All elected officers shall be elected at the December regular meeting. Officers shall serve, starting January 1st, for a term of one year or until their successors are elected.

Section 4. **Appointed Officers.**

Appointed officers shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board. All elected officer positions must be filled prior to the President making appointments.

Section 5. **Eligibility for Office.**

Only voting members are eligible to run for elected office. The Parliamentarian may be a non-member.

Section 6. **Removal from Office.**

All elected and appointed positions of the EPYD may be subject to removal from office for misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance of assigned duties as per these governing documents; or, for violations of the governing documents of the Texas Young Democrats; or, for committing a felony under the laws of the State of Texas or the United States of America while in office; or, for failure to maintain decorum while acting in a capacity as an officer of EPYD.

Section 7. **Ethics Reporting.**

The Treasurer is responsible for filing all required documents and reports with the Texas Ethics Commission. The Treasurer is responsible for filing all reports whose reporting periods correspond to their term.

ARTICLE V. Meetings

Section 1. **Regular Meetings.**

Business meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of the month. Regular meetings may be canceled with a 24-hour notice.

Section 2. **Special Meetings.**

Special meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the Executive Board. Special meetings shall be called with no less than 24 hours notice.

Section 3. **Electronic Meetings.**

Meetings shall be held by any means, including electronic, which allows for all members to hear and participate in all proceedings in real time.

Section 4. **Quorum.**

Quorum consists of at least 5 members of EPYD, with a minimum of 2 members who do not hold appointed or elected office in EPYD.

ARTICLE VI. Executive Board

Section 1. The Board.

The elected officers of the chapter shall constitute the Executive Board.

Section 2. Duties of the Board.

The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, fix the location, hour and date of meetings, and perform such duties as are specified in these bylaws. It is subject to the orders of the chapter and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the assembly.

ARTICLE VII. Committees

Section 1. Establishment.

Any committees shall be created by the assembly or the President. Any committee may be dissolved by the assembly with a majority vote.

Section 2. Membership.

Committee membership is voluntary and open to all members.

Section 3. Committee Leadership.

Committees will elect their own chairs, unless otherwise specified in a motion passed by the assembly or appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VIII. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the chapter may adopt.

ARTICLE IX. Amendment

These bylaws may be amended at any regular business meeting of the chapter by a two-thirds vote, provided the amendment has been submitted to the Secretary two weeks prior to consideration. The Secretary shall send notice of the proposed amendment within 48 hours of receipt.