

Proposed Rules of the Executive Board  
34<sup>th</sup> District Democratic Organization  
Draft Version 3 – 21 April 2008

1. These rules are subject to the by-laws of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats, and the Washington State Democratic Central Committee and Washington state law, which supersede these rules in case of conflict.
2. These rules are effective when adopted by a majority vote of the Executive Board. These rules are subject to review by and a vote of the membership of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats at any regular meeting of the organization.
3. The Standing Committees of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats shall be:
  - 3.1 The Finance Committee which supports and assists the Treasurer in the preparation of an annual budget, audits the books of the organization, and generally oversees the finances of the organization.
  - 3.2 The Membership Committee, which recruits members for the organization and manages membership lists. The Chair of the Membership Committee shall also serve as the credentialing officer for regular and special meetings. In this capacity, the Chair of the Membership committee shall certify which members have voting rights at such meetings.
  - 3.3 The Nominating Committee, which shall seek responsible and able candidates for official positions in the organization, including candidates for vacant officer and committee chair positions.
  - 3.4 The Program Committee, which will seek speakers and topics for discussion at regular and special district meetings. The Program Committee will prepare an agenda for all such meetings to be published in advance in the newsletter and on the website.
  - 3.5 The Communications Committee, which is responsible to prepare, publish and mail the newsletter, the website and any other mailings or mass communications. The newsletter editor and webmaster will be members of the Communications Committee.
  - 3.6 The Garden Party Committee, which prepares for and conducts the Garden Party fundraiser each year.
  - 3.7 The Outreach Committee, which conducts outreach events, voter registration events, and other activities to increase the political awareness of the residents of the 34<sup>th</sup> District.
  - 3.8 The PCO Committee, which recruits, supports and assists Precinct Committee Officers in the discharge of their duties.
  - 3.9 The By-Laws Committee, which prepares and suggests modifications to the by-laws of the organization, and to these Executive Committee rules.
  - 3.10 The Legislative Action Committee, which informs the membership and the people of the 34<sup>th</sup> District regarding potential legislation placed before any legislative body of the State (State Legislature, County Council, City Councils, etc.)
  - 3.11 The Hospitality Committee, which supports the social life of the organization by making meetings a welcoming place for all Democrats, including staffing a welcoming table and refreshments.

**Comment [BS1]:** Should this be properly noticed on the agenda \*\*\*good grief \*\*needs structure here otherwise we'll be faced with good of the order motions each meeting by any member who chooses rightly or wrongly \* structural issue here \*\*

4. Each of the Chairs of the Standing Committees shall be voting members of the Executive Board. Appointment of Committee Chairs is specified in the 34<sup>th</sup> District By-Laws, which are repeated below:
  - 4.1 The chair of the organization shall appoint standing committee chairs, which shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.
  - 4.2 Regular elected organization officers can also chair a committee. That is, for example, the second vice-chair could be appointed to also serve as chair of the Program Committee.
  - 4.3 Members of the executive board shall serve beginning with their election or appointment and until the biennial reorganization meeting, resignation, or removal from office.
  - 4.4 Standing Committee chairs may be removed by the chair but that removal has to be confirmed by a majority of the membership at the next meeting.
5. The Special Officers of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats shall be:
  - 5.1 The Parliamentarian (as specified in the by-laws);
  - 5.2 The Newsletter Editor;
  - 5.3 The Webmaster;
  - 5.4 The Corresponding Secretary;
  - 5.5 The Sergeant-at-Arms;
6. Each of the Special Officers of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Chair. The Special Officers shall be voting members of the Executive Board.

**Comment [BS2]:** There is a potential problem here in that we could create a lot of standing committee chairs with a vote at the E-Board. That means, potentially, the E-Board could be "packed" with appointed, not elected, voting members.

**Comment [BS3]:** Same potential problem as under paragraph #4 above

### Rules for Resolutions

This section will contain rules for passing resolutions by the E-Board and Membership.

### Publications and Acceptable Use Policies

This section will contain acceptable use and publications policies governing the newsletter, websites and listserv's.

**Endorsement Rules**

Part of the Rules of the Executive Board

Adopted June, 2007

Remain in Force until Modified or Superseded

1. *Eligibility to Vote or to Speak at an Endorsement Meeting*

To be eligible to vote, or to speak at an endorsement meeting, you must be a member of the 34th District Democrats who votes in the 34th District by the close of the previous month's meeting. Membership in the 34th District Democrats is determined either by payment of annual dues or by being an elected, appointed, or acting Precinct Committee Officer (PCO).

2. *Endorsement Voting Requirements and Ballots*

Endorsements require a vote of 2/3 of the eligible voters present and voting. Abstentions are not considered votes, and will not be counted in determining the number of votes cast. Voting will be by a show of credentials issued to eligible voters before the vote.

3. *Endorsement Procedures – Candidates*

3.1 Consent/Block Nominations. To expedite the endorsement process, motions will be entertained to endorse a block of candidates where it is expected that the endorsement of such candidates is assured, such as candidates who have secured Democratic support in the past and are currently running unopposed, or who have insignificant opposition.

3.2 *Nominations*

3.2.1 The chair will entertain nominations and seconds for all races that apply to all or a portion of 34th District voters. A motion for sole endorsement or a motion to close nominations shall be out of order. A motion for "no endorsement" is admissible.

3.2.2 For each motion to endorse, a nomination speech of no more than two minutes and a seconding speech of not more than two minutes will be allowed, as will be two speeches of no more than two minutes duration against the motion. Speakers shall identify themselves before speaking on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate or ballot measure. Eligible voters may cede their time to candidates, but may NOT cede their time to anyone ineligible to vote at the meeting, such as nonresident, nonmember representatives of candidates or for or against ballot measures.

3.3 *Voting*. Each eligible voter will vote by show of credentials for or against one nominated candidate or "No endorsement." If any nominated candidate or "No endorsement" receives 2/3, then that vote passes. If a candidate fails to get 2/3 of the vote, there is no endorsement.

4. *Endorsement Procedures - Ballot Measures*

4.1 *Nominations*

4.1.1 Ballot Measures include all initiatives, referenda, levies, and other races without candidates. A Ballot Measure may be nominated for consideration only in the form it would appear on the ballot.

4.1.2 For each motion to consider a Ballot Measure, a speech of no more than two minutes and a seconding speech of not more than two minutes will be allowed for each of three positions: "Support," "Reject," and "Take no position." Eligible voters may NOT cede their time to anyone ineligible to vote at the meeting.

4.2 *Voting.* Each eligible voter will vote for "Support," "Reject" or "Take no position." If any of the three choices receives 2/3, then that vote passes. If no choice receives 2/3, there is no action.

5. *Primary Endorsement Meeting*

The general membership meeting held in June and (if held) July will consider endorsements for:

5.1 Races and ballot measures on the Primary Election Ballot, and

5.2 Ballot measures on the November General Election Ballot.

6. *General Election Endorsement Meeting*

The general membership meetings held in August and September will consider endorsements for races and ballot measures on the November General Election Ballot.