

Constitution of the McHenry County Young Democrats

Preamble: Just and responsive government is the result of a virtuous and active citizenry. In order to enhance the spirit of virtue and active citizenship we, the McHenry County Young Democrats, strive to give a voice to the young voters of McHenry County with good works, political information, and campaign support within our community.

Article I: Name

1.1 This organization shall be known as the McHenry County Young Democrats (MCYD).

Article II: Fiscal Year

2.1 Each fiscal year of the MCYD shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th.

Article III: Membership

3.1 The MCYD shall be composed of people who are between the ages of 18-35; reside in McHenry County, Illinois; have politically identified themselves as a Democrat or wish to incorporate democratic ideals into their lives.

3.2 Proof of membership will consist of a signed MCYD pledge. If an individual wishes to be a voting member of the MCYD and included in the count for a meeting quorum they must have a signed MCYD pledge on file with the MCYD Secretary.

3.3 Each member has a single non-weighted vote on all matters brought before the MCYD.

Article VI: Executive Board

4.1 The Executive Board of the MCYD shall be comprised of all the MCYD officers.

4.2 The MCYD Executive Board meetings shall be called to order by the Chair Person or the Vice-chair, if the Chair is unable to attend the meeting; at some time after a quorum, simple (50 + 1) majority, of MCYD members are present.

4.3 The Executive Board shall be responsible for determining, with individual MCYD member input, on the agenda for each months MCYD meeting.

4.4 The Executive Board may invite the McHenry County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC) liaison officer to any MCYD meeting if desired.

4.5 A member of the Executive Board must bring all motions to remove an officer to the floor of a MCYD meeting.

Article V: Officers

- 5.1 Any member of the MCYD is eligible to run for an officer position.
- 5.2 No officer may hold more than one office at any given time.
- 5.3 The officers of the MCYD are Chair Person, Vice-chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 5.4 Officers are elected by receiving a simple, fifty plus one (50 + 1), majority or more vote of all MCYD members present at a special election MCYD meeting.
- 5.5 Officer terms of office are one year, beginning the election on the second Monday of December and ending with the December meeting 1 year later.
- 5.6 The Chair Person shall be the chief executive officer of the MCYD, chair of all MCYD meetings, and make officer appointments in the event of a vacancy.
- 5.7 The Vice-chair shall fill in for the Chair Person when the chair is absent or unable to perform their duties. The Vice-chair shall also perform all other duties delegated by the chair.
- 5.8 The Secretary, or their agent if they are unable to attend a MCYD meeting, is responsible for recording the minutes for all MCYD meetings. The Secretary must make sure that all MCYD members receive a copy of the minutes and present a report of the previous month's minutes at the next MCYD meeting. The Secretary will also maintain all membership and contact information.
- 5.9 The Treasurer is responsible for keeping all MCYD financial records, presenting an annual budget, and submitting all records for audit. The Treasurer, or their agent if they are unable to attend a MCYD meeting, must also present a financial report at each MCYD meeting.
- 5.10 A vacancy in any officer position can be created voluntarily or involuntary.
- 5.11 A voluntary vacancy may be created by resignation communicated to a member of the Executive Board and/or to the group as a whole, or upon any other disqualification provided by law. Any voluntary vacancy shall be deemed to have been created on the last day of the month in which the event creating the vacancy occurred.
- 5.12 An involuntary vacancy, is when an officer is not fulfilling their responsibilities and they are removed from office with a super, two-thirds

(2/3), majority or more vote of all MCYD members present at the special election MCYD meeting. Any involuntary vacancy shall be effective immediately after the vote.

5.13 There is to be a special election at the next MCYD meeting to fill any vacated officer position. All members may vote in the special election provided that it is not their first meeting.

5.14 When a vacancy is created that position will temporarily be filled by an appointment by the Chair, or by the Vice-chair in the event it is the Chair who has created the vacancy, until the special election can be held.

Article VI: Meetings

6.1 MCYD shall officially meet collectively, at least, on the first Wednesday of every month.

6.2 MCYD meetings are open only to MCYD members, prospective members, and invited guests of the MCYD.

6.3 MCYD meetings shall be called to order by the Chair Person, Vice-chair, another officer, or their agent if all other officers are unable to attend the meeting; at some time after a quorum, simple (50 + 1) majority, of MCYD members are present.

6.4 MCYD meetings will end with a motion to end the meeting, by a MCYD member, that must be seconded, by another MYCD member.

Article VII: Endorsements

7.1 MCYD will endorse political candidates/groups and charity organizations.

a. Political candidates/groups are anyone who is running for public office, and any group created with the sole purpose of supporting someone running for public office.

b. Charity organizations are trusts, companies, or unincorporated associations recognized by the state for their work in promoting the public good.

7.2 MCYD political endorsements may include an open invitation to MCYD meetings for the candidate/ candidate's representative(s) or group/ group's representative(s) that will last from the primary election until the general election with the purpose of recruiting campaign volunteers, display of the candidate's activities on our media sources, and financial campaign contributions to the candidates Political Action Committee (PAC).

7.3 MCYD will not endorse, as a group, any candidate in a primary.

7.4 MCYD will only endorse a candidate in a general election if a super, two-thirds (2/3), majority or more of all MCYD members present vote to endorse the candidate at a MCYD meeting.

7.5 MCYD charity endorsements may include an open invitation to MCYD meetings for the charity's representative(s), a request to all MCYD members to volunteer for the charity's activities, display of the charity's activities on our media sources, and financial contributions to the charity.

7.6 MCYD will only endorse a charity if a super, two-thirds (2/3), majority or more of all MCYD members present vote to endorse the charity at a MCYD meeting.

Article VIII: Amendments

8.1 The Constitution of the McHenry County Young Democrats may be amended by a super, two-thirds (2/3), majority vote of MCYD members present at a MCYD meeting.

Article IX: Savings Clause

9.1 When any provision found in this Constitution is found to be contrary to state or federal law, the failure of that provision shall not act to invalidate the document as a whole.