

Bylaws of the Ca23rd.org

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the California 23rd District Political Club, hereafter referred to as the CA23rd. The web site is <https://ca23rd.org>

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club shall be to foster political ideals by stimulating active interest in our government, the political process, and our local and federal politics. We will strive to become more politically aware, to work together as a group, and to influence local and federal politics.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Eligibility

All persons registered to vote in the California 23 congressional district are eligible voting membership in the CA23rd.

All persons that are registered to vote in California are eligible to become contributing members.

Those who are currently ineligible to vote due a correctable reason and are in the process of becoming eligible to vote and support the purpose of the Club as stated in Article II, above shall be eligible for contributing membership in the CA23rd.

This club can and will support candidates and measures regardless of national or local party affiliation. The club expected to support and to oppose selected candidates and selected policies of all the recognized parties.

The total number of non-voting members shall be less than 1/4 of the total membership.

Section 2 – Inclusivity

The CA23rd is and shall always be open to all persons regardless of religious preference, race, sexual orientation, and all other groupings that are or may be used to categories and pigeon hole people. This Section may be strengthened or clarified, but it shall not be weakened or removed from the bylaws under any condition.

Section 3 - Honorable Membership

Any person from outside the CA 23rd district, who is a member in good standing with any other recognized local or national organization, such as local and national Republican Party, Democratic Party, Libertarian Party, or other political parties, may request to be and on approval of the board of the CA23rd, may be considered a non-voting member in good standing. These members are encouraged to participate in all activities of the CA23rd.

Section 4 - Good Standing

All those who meet the above requirements and have requested membership, whose annual dues are currently paid, or had waived, shall be considered a member in good standing. Any member whose

actions are judged to be prejudicial or detrimental to the club by the Executive Board may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds vote of the board at any general meeting, at which a membership quorum exists and concurs.

Section 5 – Dues

Upon initial establishment of this club, and until there is an elected board, and until that board votes for membership dues, and how to manage all funds, this Section on dues is a place holder awaiting to be implemented.

Dues shall be reviewed mid-year and recommended by the Executive Board, for approval by the membership, to go into effect for the next membership year. Dues are due and payable upon joining the club, and annually at the beginning of every club calendar year thereafter.

The Executive Board, upon consideration of an individual's ability to pay, and consideration of the member's activities and non-financial contributions to the club and its goals, may exempt anyone from paying dues and consider them a member in good standing. The status of each such non dues paying members shall be reviewed by the Treasurer at least once per year and may be sustained or revoked by the board.

Section 6 - Voting

A member in good standing who has attended at least one prior meeting shall be eligible to vote. No proxy voting or absentee shall be permitted.

Exceptions may be granted by the board on a one by one basis, for one specific vote only, and attested to by a member of the board. Examples are official business or personal and family emergencies.

Section 6 – Non-Voting Members

In light of the current political landscape, and in particular, the extreme and unwanted polarization and enmity between the Democratic and Republican parties, the CA23rd specifically invites members of all parties to attend meetings of the CA23rd. Upon recognition by a member of the board during meetings, such persons are encouraged to present ideas and concepts to the CA23rd with the goal of establishing formal and cordial relationships between the CA23 and other parties. All participants are cautioned that such activities must be completely transparent to all.

Members of the CA23rd are encouraged to visit the meetings of other parties, are encouraged to be members of other clubs, but shall not conceal their CA23rd association. (Members of the CA23rd shall not "spy" upon anyone.) Only the CA23rd President or a duly authorized spokesperson may represent the CA23rd to any other organization.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1 - Elected Officers

Elected officers of this club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. All officers are members of the board with equal standing with regard to voting on club rules and activities.

All officers must be registered voters in the CA23rd Congressional district.

Each shall be elected at the general meeting in January and hold office for one year. An elected officer may be removed from office by resolution of a two-thirds vote of the members at a General Meeting for such causes as missing three unexcused consecutive meetings or non-performance of duties, providing the membership and the officer have been notified ten days in advance of the meeting of the proposed action against the officer.

Section 2 - Duties

A. President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the club. The President shall preside over all meetings of the club and the executive board; make appointments to other positions as required; act as official spokesperson of the club. In addition, the President should stimulate active interest in the political process, provide a constructive role for the active volunteer; contribute to effective leadership and individual responsibility; promote harmony among the club membership, between the CS23rd and all other political clubs and organizations.

In general, the prospective President should be among the more active members of the club.

The President shall be the sole spokesperson of the club. Any member may speak as to their personal interpretation of the club's position on any manner, but must be clear that it is their personal position.

If the need arises, the president may, IAW (In Accordance With) these bylaws, suggest the creation of an office for spokesperson for this club, or any other office deemed necessary.

If there is a tie vote the president may elect to cast the deciding vote or to defer the election until later.

B. Vice-President

The Vice President shall be elected by the membership. The VP shall preside at meetings if the President is unable to do so or is requested by the President to do so. The VP shall take over the duties of President in the absence of that officer and is responsible for the annual audit.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the general meetings, executive committee meetings, conduct correspondence, maintain the club's records, and is responsible for internal communications.

D. Treasurer

This section is held in abeyance until there is a need for it. The Treasurer shall be responsible for accomplishing the following:

- 1) The collection of dues.
- 2) Receive and deposit all club funds received.
- 3) Maintain an accurate record of club receipts and expenditures.
- 4) Sign all checks as authorized by the Executive Board.
- 5) Make the record of club receipts and expenditures available to any member when requested.
- 6) Provide a report of the club financial status at club meetings as requested.
- 7) Provide an annual written report of club financial status.
- 8) Make the books and all other financial records of the club available to the audit committee each year in May.

- 9) When it becomes appropriate, the Treasurer shall be responsible for filing all financial documents on time as required as may be required by law..

The office of Treasurer shall not exist until the club has become viable, has an elected board, and the membership votes to amend these bylaws as needed. When the initial board determines that the CA23rd is ready to make that step, the initial board may appoint a Treasurer who shall assume the responsibility to determining the steps necessary to implement and initiate financial activity.

The nominated Treasurer shall not have any financial authority for the CA23rd until the full behavior, authorizations, and limitations, of that office is defined and until these bylaws are amended, and approved by the executive board and by two thirds of the membership.

When the office of Treasurer becomes essential, the board and membership are strongly encouraged to provide remuneration for the efforts and responsibility of this office.

E. Additional Officers

As the need arises, the members of the board may propose new office positions and present them to the membership for approval.

Section 3 - Elections

Elections shall be held annually. A nominating committee shall be appointed of 3 to 5 volunteers from the membership. The nominating committee shall select at least one candidate for each elective office and report their selections at the general meeting one month prior to the election meeting.

At the election meeting the floor will be open for additional nominations. The election may be held by show of hands or voice vote for uncontested offices. A secret ballot will be used for any contested offices. Those nominees who receive a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If no person receives a majority of votes cast, a run-off shall be held between those two persons receiving the greatest number of votes. The person receiving the majority of the votes shall be declared elected.

Section 4 - Vacancies

Should any officer resign or fail to attend three general meetings or Executive Board meetings in a row without cause approved by the Executive Board, the Executive Board, led by the President or Vice President, shall declare that office vacant and appoint a successor to that office to complete the unexpired term. Any such appointment shall, however, be approved by the membership at the next general meeting. At that meeting, nominations to fill the vacancy shall also be accepted from the floor. Voting shall be by secret ballot with a majority of those members in good standing present required to elect.

Section 5 - Appointed Officers

The President, when the need arises, may nominate that additional officers be added to the board. Upon approval by the members present, the creation of that officer may be voted upon by the membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting. If approved at that second meeting, nomination for the position may be entertained and voting for the nominees shall be conducted.

In a likewise manner, officer positions may be removed from the club's roster.

Elections to add or remove officers shall require unanimous approval of the board and a 2/3rd majority of the voting membership.

The President shall appoint a parliamentarian and any other non-board member officers not otherwise specified by these bylaws as required for the general well-being of the club.

ARTICLE V- MEETINGS

Section 1 - General Meetings

There shall be a minimum of six general meetings each year, at least one of which shall be in January. Other general meetings shall be held at such times and places as specified by a majority of the Executive Board.

Section 2 Location

At this writing a meeting location has not been selected. When there are sufficient members the members will determine a meeting location. The meeting location may be changed by the board as needed.

Section 3 - Quorum

A quorum at any general meeting shall be the number of officers plus at least ten percent (10%) of those whose membership is in good standing. A quorum at an endorsing/electing meeting shall be the number of officers plus twenty percent (20%) of those whose membership is in good standing. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be a majority of its elected members.

Note: the ten percent rule may change as membership increases.

Section 4 - Parliamentary Authority

The parliamentary authority is the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 5 - Notices

At least two (2) weeks prior to a general meeting at which the following items will be discussed and voted upon, meeting notices shall be emailed to each member of the club in good standing:

- Club elections and filling of vacancies.
- Proposed amendments to bylaws.
- Proposed resolutions.
- Endorsements of candidates and/or ballot measures.

Such notice shall specify the time, place and date of the general meeting and describe the event.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 - Function

The Executive Board shall approve all expenditures and carry out the club business between general meetings in a manner consistent with actions taken at the general meetings, and perform any other duties provided for in these bylaws. The President shall pre-approve any written correspondence to and from this club.

Section 2 – Finances

Upon initial creation the CA23rd shall have no financial arrangements or authorizations of any type. No person or group of persons is authorized to obligate the club for any type of financial arrangement or any type of obligation in the name of the CA23rd.

When the CA23rd becomes a financially viable organization, the board may recommend that a legal entity be created and finances be established. That recommendation shall include the appropriate changes to these bylaws. The treasurer or a selected board member must have completed the research and documented the legal steps necessary to complete this change to the club. After all such steps have been documented in writing, the entirety of such documentation and recommendations is to be formally presented to the membership with all members being notified. The notification shall include the specifics of when and where these changes will be presented to the membership with a minimum of two weeks' notice. These changes must be approved by a two thirds majority of the membership.

Section 3 - Membership

Membership of the Executive Board shall include all of the currently elected club officers, and the then current Committee Chairs.

Section 4 - Meetings

The President shall call a meeting, with advance notice, of the Executive Board as needed. Special meetings may be called by a majority of the currently elected members of the Executive Board at any time. A majority of the then currently elected members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

The President and board shall determine a regular meeting schedule and location. Once established it may be changed only with a majority of the voting members.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees for the club are as follows shall include both Audit and Nominating committees. Other committee suggestions include:

- Political Action
- Membership
- Fund Raising
- Program
- Special Events
- Communications
- Hospitality
- And others as identified by the President and ratified by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII - ENDORSEMENTS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Section 1. Endorsements

The following are guidelines and restrictions on endorsements by the CA23rd.

A motion to endorse a candidate or take a position on a Proposition or public issue must receive the vote of a seventy percent (70%) of the Club members in good standing who are present and voting.

Section 2. Representatives

During initial establishment the president shall be the only person to publicly represent the CA23rd to the public and to any other organizations. When the CA23rd is formally established the following sections become effective.

Club representatives to any and all other organizations and for any official representation, shall be selected by a vote of members in good standing at a duly noticed club meeting or, if that cannot occur at a regular or special meeting, by designation of the President.

Section 3. Adherence to Club Positions

Club representatives described in this Article, when participating in voting and discussion in that capacity, shall adhere to and represent the club's official positions on endorsements and other matters wherever applicable, and shall agree to do so prior to their selection.

Section 4. Other CA23rd Activities

A. The Executive Board will designate a GR Team Liaison. (Grass-roots Organization)

B. The Executive Board will designate a Voter Registration Liaison.

ARTICLE IX - AFFILIATION

The CA23rd shall begin with no specific affiliations. As the club progress and gains membership, this is subject to change by the board as voted upon by the membership.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote at a general meeting after such amendment has been presented at the preceding general meeting and notice has been provided as specified in Article V, Section 4 of these bylaws.

ARTICLE XI - ADOPTION

These bylaws are presumed effective upon the initial creation of the club by its founders with the originator assuming the Presidency. As members join and volunteer to be office holders the President shall appoint them until such time as there are sufficient members to hold a proper election.

End of Bylaws

Established on this date: 26 May 2019, in the city of Rosamond California.

M.B. Kelly, Last update: 24 November 2019