

**GALLOWAY-PORT REPUBLIC DEMOCRATIC CLUB  
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**Preamble - Original Form**

Resolved, that we, the members of the Galloway-Port Republic Democratic Club do resolve and pledge to foster and perpetuate the principles of the Democratic Party, of the community, state and nation, and to elect candidates for public office who will serve for the best interest of the taxpayers and citizens of Galloway Township, Port Republic, Atlantic County, the State of New Jersey, and the United States; and to always participate in and encourage any civic movement that tends towards the betterment and general welfare of our community, state and nation. The Galloway-Port Republic Democratic Club recognizes the basic worth of all people and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, physical handicap, ethnic background or cultural heritage.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the Galloway-Port Republic Democratic Club is to provide the ongoing structure to ensure election of Democrats to both partisan and nonpartisan offices; to provide our membership with a forum on matters of political interest; and to retain and recruit Democrats, and encourage potential candidates for public office. The intention of the Galloway-Port Republic Democratic Club is to approach its tasks with integrity and honor and to involved as many people as possible. The goal of the Galloway-Port Republic Democratic Club (hereinafter referred to as “Club”) is to build a Party whose strength is in its solidarity. In addition, the Club shall perpetuate the principles of the Democratic Party of the Galloway community, state, and nation.

**ARTICLE I - ORGANIZATION**

Section 1 - NAME: This organization shall be known and designated as the GALLOWAY-PORT REPUBLIC DEMOCRATIC CLUB, herein referred to as the “Club.”

Section 2 - MISSION: The mission of the Club is to create, foster and perpetuate the principles of the Democratic Party of the community, state and union.

**ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1 - This Club shall be composed of members who are residents of Galloway Township or Port Republic and who are interested in the principles of the Democratic Party.

Section 2 - All members must be dues-paid, registered Democrats for participation in all nominations,

voting matters and Club activities. This rule shall apply anywhere in the Constitution and Bylaws where the word “member” or “membership” appears.

Section 3 - APPLICATION: Application for membership must be presented to the President, then the application shall be voted upon by the membership present at a regular meeting of the Club. A majority vote of the members present shall either accept or reject the applicant as a member. Dues for new members must be paid immediately upon acceptance of the membership. A new member’s right to nominate a candidate for office or to vote on any matter brought for a vote at a meeting will not begin until 60 days after acceptance of membership and payment of dues (Also see Article III, Sections 1 and 2).

Section 4 - CENSURE, SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION: Any Club member may file a written complaint against another club member if he/she believes that person is acting against the best interests of the club. Any member shall file such written charges concerning the conduct of the member with the Secretary of the Club. A fee of \$25.00 shall be submitted along with said complaint. The member facing said charges shall be given a hearing upon seven days written notice by the Secretary of the date of said hearing at which time the member may appear to show cause why he/she should not be subject to sanctions. The members hearing the case of the charged member shall be the members of the Executive Committee of the Club. A two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee of the Club present at the meeting is required to determine whether to take sanctions against a club member. Sanctions may include censure, temporary suspension or expulsion from the club, to be determined by the Executive Committee. Any Executive Committee member who is charged will not be a part of the hearing and the President shall appoint an alternate club member to sit in the charged person’s place.

### **ARTICLE III - DUES**

Section 1 - The dues of this Club shall be \$10.00 per year for club members who are ages 18 to 21 and over age 62, for all others dues will be \$15.00. Dues must be paid at the annual January Reorganization meeting in order for a member to participate in the nomination or voting for candidates for office in the Primary Election of each year. The amount of annual dues may be adjusted from time to time by a majority vote of the membership present at a duly-called regular or special meeting of the Club.

Section 2 - Dues must be paid by members and new members 60 days prior to being allowed to nominate or vote for candidates for any Primary election, General election or special election that the Club may vote on.

### **ARTICLE IV - ADMINISTRATION**

Section 1 - The administration of this Club is composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, 2 Trustees and Port Republic Representative. The President shall have the authority to appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms and Second Vice President. The Executive Board shall consist of these officers, the Municipal Chairperson and any past Presidents in good standing.

Section 2 - The nomination of officers shall be held at the regular meeting of the month of December of each year.

Section 3 - The Officers and Trustees shall be elected for a term of one year, to serve from the January Reorganization election to the next January Reorganization election.

Section 4 - Installations of newly-elected officers shall be held at the January Reorganization meeting. A special installation function may also be held at another date.

Section 5 - In the event that the December meeting is canceled, nominations shall be held at the next meeting with the Reorganization election held at the following meeting.

Section 6 - Members shall be given notice of regular meetings seven (7) days in advance by phone, post card, letter or best means. Special meetings may be held on twenty-four (24) hour notice when needed.

#### **ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1 - PRESIDENT: He/she shall be the chief executive official of the Club, he/she shall president at all meetings, he/she shall appoint all standing committees of the Club and shall perform such other duties, which are within his/her province. He/she shall be an ex-officio member at-large of all committees and a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, except in a tie.

Section 2 - VICE PRESIDENT: He/she shall president at all meetings in the absence of the President and shall perform any duty that the President may request.

Section 3 - SECRETARY: He/she shall keep all records of the Club, keep written minutes of all meetings and will answer all correspondence and communications. All records must be returned to the Club when he/she is no longer serving in the position.

Section 4 - TREASURER: He/she shall be the custodian of all funds of the Club and shall pay all bills authorized by the Executive Committee. Funds shall be kept at a bank agreed upon by the Executive Committee. All Club checks shall require the signatures of 2 out of 4 authorized signers: President, Treasurer, Vice President. All records must be returned to the Club when he/she is no longer serving in the position.

Section 5 - TRUSTEES: Two (2) Trustees shall help plan activities for the Club and recommend same to the Club membership. The Trustees shall sit at the hearings of the sanctioning of members (Article II, Section 3) and also shall participate in the selection of candidates for political offices to be endorsed by this Club (Article VII, Section 1). The Club President is an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee and shall have no vote unless there is a tie. The Trustee shall be voted upon at the January Reorganization Meeting.

Section 6 - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: The Sergeant-at-Arms shall maintain order during the meetings of the Club and perform all other duties that may be delegated to him/her by the President.

Section 7 - PORT REPUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE: The Port Republic Representative shall be elected amongst the members of the Club from Port Republic. The Port Republic Representative shall lead outreach and political efforts in Port Republic. The Port Republic Representative shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee except during the screening or endorsement of candidates for Galloway Township Council.

#### **ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

Section 1 - The regular meetings of this Club shall be scheduled at the January Reorganization meeting. The Executive Committee will schedule these dates in December for the following year. The meeting schedule will be mailed by the Secretary to all dues-paying club members prior to the January meeting.

Section 2 - The President or a majority of the Executive Committee may call any special meeting of the Club, or Executive Committee, as they deem advisable.

Section 3 - Five members of the Club shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Club.

Section 4 - Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

Section 1 - ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES: Candidates for any political office in the Township, County, State and Nation shall be endorsed by this Club in the manner herein provided: The name of the candidate for any political office shall be submitted to the Executive Committee. The said Executive Committee shall submit the names of candidates selected by them at any meeting of the Club called for the endorsement of candidates and the members at said meeting shall have the right to nominate any other candidates which are to be added to the list selected by the Executive Committee.

After the nominations are closed for the selection of candidates the entire membership shall vote for endorsement of the candidates for the various political offices. A majority vote of the dues-paid registered Democrats (as outlined in Article II, Sections 1, 2 and 3 and Article III) present at said meeting shall carry the endorsement of candidate for the designated political office. Members from Port Republic are prohibited from voting for the endorsement of Galloway Township Council.

Section 2 - Candidates shall establish separate campaign fund accounts for elections and are subject to all required Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) rules or laws covered in Title 19 or Administrative Codes of the State of New Jersey. The Club shall accept no responsibility for improper actions or ELEC reporting violations by endorsed candidates.

Section 3 - Endorsed candidates may be required to file a complete listing of expenditures for Club funds that were used during any campaign. This listing may be requested by a majority vote of the Executive Committee or a two-thirds majority vote of the Club members present at a Club meeting.

Section 4 - Club policy is not to spend Club funds on Primary elections. If Club funds are authorized in the Primary election by the Executive Committee, there will be a cap of \$1,000.00 maximum per endorsed candidate. Authorization of funds for endorsed Primary candidates must receive a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee or the Club will not contribute to Primary election campaigns unless all membership and voting procedures were properly adhered to by the Club members and candidates.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - COUNTY COMMITTEE AND LOCAL BOARD OF ELECTION MEMBERS**

Section 1 - Members of the Atlantic County Democratic Committee shall be endorsed by the Club and shall be dues paying Club members. They are subject to the rules of Title 19 of the State of New Jersey and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Atlantic County Democratic Committee.

Section 2- Local Board of Election workers shall be dues-paying Club members for consideration for appointment by the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

Section 1 - This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Club, provided that the proposed amendment is presented in writing at any regular meeting and that the Secretary shall send written notice to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting for final adoption thereof.

**ARTICLE X**

Section 1 - Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedures are hereby adopted as the rules governing the Club when not otherwise provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XI**

Section 1 - This Constitution and Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon final adoption.

**Adopted Monday, April 14, 2014.**