

Young Democrats at SRJC

Constitution

Preamble

The purpose of the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College is to serve the campus community through cultivating political literacy and encouraging civic engagement on campus. With the increasingly intertwined influence of corporate and rising fascist groups in American politics, it is essential that there are students who resist and espouse progressive beliefs. Those most engaged students ought to make their peers aware of how these groups may target and try to take advantage of them, and assure that students are given the tools necessary to protect themselves from these groups' deceptive tactics. As well, it is important that we bridge the growing political divide between average Americans, not further it. We believe that respectful and open conversations are essential to the health of our nation, and community— political division rarely serves the people's best interest. It is through education, open conversation, and proactive engagement by the student body that the club seeks to achieve its express goal of protecting democratic ideals, and protecting our tomorrow.

Article I

Name

The name of this organization is the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College

Section 1: The Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College will be affiliated with the California Young Democrats, the California College Democrats, and the Young Democrats of America.

Section 2: The Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College will be chartered with the California Young Democrats and work as closely as possible with all levels of the Democratic Party.

Article II

Membership

Section 1: Membership in the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College shall be open to all those regularly enrolled Santa Rosa Junior College students who are age 14-35, and a registered Democrat as per the California Young Democrats rules for membership. Non-citizens may be members. There shall be no other requirements for admission to regular membership. Each regular member has equal rights and privileges.

Section 2: Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College shall have associated members who are non-Santa Rosa Junior College students. Associated members shall have all membership privileges except for the right to vote or hold office.

Section 3: Eligibility for membership or appointed or elected student officer positions shall not be limited based on race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, color, age, gender, gender identity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or disability. Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College shall have no rules or policies that discriminate based on race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, color, age, gender, gender identity, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or disability.

Section 4: Faculty, staff, and alumni of SRJC, as well as non-students may be considered for non-voting membership in the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College. Only currently enrolled or continuing students of SRJC may be voting members.

Section 5: To be considered a “member in good standing,” a member must have attended at least three club meetings in the school year, and attend two events per month to retain “member in good standing” status.

Article III **Officers**

The Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College will be composed of the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College Executive Board and the remaining members. The Executive Board will consist of the officers of the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College. The organization shall have three (3) officers and a faculty advisor. The advisor shall be non-voting except in the case of impeachment or constitutional amendments.

Section 1: The voting officers will be the entirety of the Executive Board. All officers will be elected by organization members.

Section 2: An officer may be impeached and removed from their position with a unanimous minus 1 vote of the Executive Board. In case of an impeachment vote, Executive Board members may not abstain.

Section 3: Should an office become vacant at any time, for any reason, the Executive Board shall hold an election decided by a majority vote on a replacement who has been nominated by an organization member.

Section 4: Person on trial can not vote. Unanimous -1, Advisor is the tie breaking vote

Section 5: Organization presidents and treasurers must be enrolled at SRJC and enrolled in atleast 9 credits.

Article IV **Officer Duties**

Section 1: The President will be the chief executive officer for the organization. He or she will preside over all chapter meetings. The President will have all of the following duties and powers. The absence of a specific power of duty from this list is not necessarily a denial of its existence.

- A. Establish administrative procedures not otherwise provided for by the Constitution or By-Laws of this chapter.
- B. Act for and on behalf of the Young Democrats when they are not in session.
- C. Establish the agenda for each meeting of the chapter (general and executive).
- D. Investigate and research any local races and target Democratic and/or liberal candidates.
- E. Setup and appoint club members to work on selected local campaigns.
- F. Serve as delegation chair to the California Young Democrats state convention.
- G. Act as an ambassador for the club in the CYD, CCD, CADEM, YDA, and DNC.
- H. Primary handler of social media, and website management
- I. Keep an accurate mailing list and phone directory of all members.
- J. Assure publicity for all upcoming events and meetings through the use of posters.

Section 2: The Vice-President will have all of the following duties:

- A. Act as President Pro-Tempore in the absence of the President. In a case where the President's office becomes vacant, the Vice-President will become the President automatically and will assume all powers, duties and responsibilities associated with that position until a special election is held for the office.
- B. Assist and work closely with the President in the performance of their duties.
- C. Primary delegate to Associated Students for organizing events.
- D. Act as ambassador for the club in the CYD, CCD, CADEM, YDA, and DNC.
- F. Should the Executive Board decide, hold role of President with Inter-Club Council and be the Representative for college affairs.

Section 4: The chapter Treasurer will be the chief financial officer of the organization and shall have all the following duties:

- A. Be responsible for developing fund-raising ideas and soliciting donations.
- B. Maintain accurate financial records for the organization.
- C. Advise the President and the Executive Board of the financial condition of the chapter.
- D. If deemed necessary by the Executive Board, the Treasurer will file any reports for the State Democratic Party or the State Ethics Commission in a timely manner.

Article V **Executive Board**

The Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College Executive Board will be the chief policy-making body for the chapter.

Section 1: The Executive Board will have all of the powers necessary for the proper and legal execution of all duties of the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College

Section 2: The Executive Board will meet no less than five (5) times during the course of one (1) year.

Article VII **General Body**

The Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College general body will determine meeting times at the beginning of each semester. The body will meet once a week at a time 70% of the body can agree to.

Article VIII **Elections**

Section 1: The election of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer will be held in the 3rd week returning from Spring Break, with a transitional period the week before finals in that defined order. Elections for Committee Chairs will be held in the 3rd week of Fall Semester, officer positions voted on here will change hands immediately. All terms are for one year.

Section 2: Only currently enrolled or continuing students in good standing at Santa Rosa Junior College may serve as Officers of this organization. The Officers shall be: President, Vice President, Treasurer and additional "Ad Hoc" committee officers.

Section 3: The elections will be decided by a rank choice voting method. When a position is vacant, a candidate will be nominated by the president, and an election will be held amongst the officers. The nominee must reach a super majority to win.

Section 4: If there is a tie, then a run-off election will be held. After 2 runoff elections, if there is still a tie, the Club Advisor will be the tie breaker

Section 5: The transitional period prior to spring finals week involves newly elected officers meeting with the former officers (President, Vice President, and Treasurer) to exchange: club passwords to social media, email accounts, websites, etc; knowledge pertaining to the given officer position; club expectations; club materials; and broader club goals.

Article IX **Constitutional Amendments**

Section 1: Amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to the President and Vice President at least two weeks (14 days) prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be considered.

Section 2: The President is obligated to place the amendment on the agenda for that meeting.

Section 3: The amendment will be considered approved if four-fifths (4/5) of the Executive Board, including the vote of the advisor, and two-thirds (2/3) of the general body vote in favor of the amendment.

Section 4: In order for a vote to be considered on a constitutional amendment there must be a minimum of 50% of the total membership.

Section 5: The amended constitution/bylaws must be approved by and kept in file with the Student Involvement.

Article X **Number of Offices**

No one person may hold more than one office in the Young Democrats organization.

Article XI **Member Discipline**

“All complaints alleging violations of the Student Conduct Code, Title 5, section 41301, et seq., shall be investigated pursuant to Executive Order 1073 and/or 1074 (in cases involving allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation based on protected status). Investigations and other proceedings under Executive Orders 1073 and 1074 shall be conducted by campus administration, not student organizations, and this organization shall refer any complaints alleging subject matters covered by Executive Orders 1073 and 1074 to the campus Vice President for Student Affairs or other designee for investigation and resolution.”

Article XII **Advisor**

A faculty member will have already been selected by the President to act as an advisor. The advisor will aid in the running of the chapter and serve as a liaison between the chapter and the school administration. In the event that the advisor is prevented from upholding these duties, another faculty member will be selected by the general body.

Article XIII **Committees**

Section 1: Committees will be task forces made up of members dedicated to pursuing specific club goals.

Section 2: There will be one committee with its own specific task.

Section 3: The committee will have a committee Chair who will be a member of the Young Democrats at Santa Rosa Junior College's executive board.

Section 4: Any member may join the committee

Section 5: The Committee Chair is responsible for organizing and spearheading their committee's campaigns

Section 6: When the committee would like to use club funds for an event, they must receive permission from the Treasurer and President before drawing on club funds.

Section 7: The committee's task will be put to a vote for the general members in good standing.

Article XIV Endorsements

Section 1: Early endorsements can be sought at the discretion of the club.

Section 2: If the club chooses not to early endorse in a race, all propositions and candidates will be considered together after the filing deadline.

Section 3: The Vice President will take input from the club regarding questions for the club's questionnaire.

Section 4: All proposition questionnaires will be designed by the Vice President, and reviewed by interested club members, prior to the filing deadline or early endorsement.

Section 5: Propositions and candidates interested in the Santa Rosa Junior College Young Democrats must answer the questionnaires within 21 days of receipt of the questionnaire unless otherwise specified on the questionnaire. If the questionnaire is late, an endorsement cannot be considered for that particular respondent.

Section 6: The questionnaires will be public documents.

Section 7: Propositions and candidates may come to interview with the club, though it will not be required for an endorsement. All races will be provided an opportunity to address the club.

Section 8: If the club chooses to early endorse, other endorsements may still be considered at a later date.

Section 9: An endorsement vote will be held by the members in good standing of the Santa Rosa Junior College Young Democrats. A proposition that receives a simple majority of the club's vote shall be granted the rights to the use of the club logo and the Santa Rosa Junior College Young Democrats may be listed on public endorsement materials.

Section 10: An endorsement may be rescinded by a super majority (2/3rds) vote of the SRJC general membership.

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