

# **BYLAWS**

## **Seminole County Democratic Executive Committee**

We, the Democrats of Seminole County, Florida, united in common purpose; hereby dedicate ourselves to the principles which have historically sustained our Party. We recognize that a political party that wishes to lead must listen to those it would lead, that a party which asks for the people's trust must prove that it trusts the people, and that a party which hopes to call forth the best the state and nation can achieve must embody the best of the state's and nation's heritage and traditions.

The Florida Democratic Party, at all levels, shall encourage voter registration without discrimination on grounds of race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, military status, gender identity or expression, marital status, or any other characteristic covered by law.

What we seek for our state and nation we hope for all people: individual freedom in the framework of a just society; political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all citizens.

### **ARTICLE ONE: NAME, POLICY AND POWERS**

**Section 1. Name:** The name of this organization shall be the Seminole County Democratic Executive Committee (SCDEC). The organization may also be referred to as the Seminole County Democratic Party, the Democratic Party of Seminole County, the Democratic Executive Committee (DEC), and SemDems.

**Section 2. Policy:** The purpose of this organization shall be to further the interests of the Democratic Party as a political body and to perform such other functions and duties as may be prescribed by the FDP charter and bylaws.

**Section 3. Powers:** The SCDEC, except as otherwise provided by law or Florida Democratic Party rules, has supervisory power and jurisdiction over Democratic Party affairs in Seminole County, Florida, including DEC officers, committees, and chartered clubs.

### **ARTICLE TWO: MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1. Elected Members:**

**1.1 Eligibility:** The SCDEC shall be composed of Members Who shall be elected from each precinct within Seminole County. Each precinct shall

be represented on the SCDEC by two Elected Members, one man and one

woman, except as provided by Article V of the “Charter of the Florida Democratic Party”. Each elected Member shall reside in the precinct from which they were elected and if, during their term of office, they move from the precinct, a vacancy shall be declared to exist in such precinct.

Once a person is elected in a precinct, even if that person should move out of that precinct and be appointed an At-Large Member, or to fill a vacancy in the precinct into which they moved, for the purposes of eligibility to seek office, such person shall be classified as an Elected Member for the duration of their term. A Member may be referred to as Elected Member, Precinct Captain, Precinct Committeeman or Precinct Committeewoman.

**1.2 Responsibilities:** It shall be the duty of each Elected Member of the SCDEC to keep oneself advised of the needs of the Precinct that they represent and to do everything possible to further the policies and influence of the Democratic Party.

Each Elected Member is expected to make contact with all registered Democrats in their precinct at least once every calendar year. Contact may be made by mail, phone, canvassing, and social media.

Each Elected Member shall be obligated to serve on at least one SCDEC committee, club or local campaign each calendar year. Failure to fulfill these responsibilities may result in removal from office as outlined in Section 9.1.

**1.3 Terms of Office:** Elected Members of the SCDEC shall take office on the first day of the month following each presidential general election and shall serve for a term of four (4) years.

**1.4 Elected Office:** If an Elected Member of the SCDEC commences to hold elective office in the Federal, State, County or Municipal government in Seminole County, a vacancy shall be declared in that precinct and such Member shall continue to hold Membership in the SCDEC as an office-holder Elected Member under the terms of this section.

**1.5 Optional Precinct System:** In a county consisting of fewer than two hundred (200) precincts, the Elected Membership of the county Democratic Executive Committee shall consist of a man and a woman from each precinct who are registered Democrats, and who reside in, are registered to vote in, and are elected from the precinct they are to represent. Should the voter registration of any precinct total more than one thousand (1,000) as of January 1 of a year in which qualifying for election to county Democratic Executive Committee occurs, the county Democratic Executive Committee may, upon immediate notification to the Supervisor of Elections of that county by certified mail, and upon immediate notification to the State Chair

by certified mail, elect an additional one (1) man and one (1) woman to

represent all such precincts. They shall be elected by a plurality vote on the first primary ballot of each Presidential election year. At any time a precinct totals one thousand (1,000) or more registered voters or when new precincts are created, additional county Democratic Executive Committee positions may be created. Such positions shall be filled by the county Democratic Executive Committee according to its procedures for filling vacancies.

## **Section 2. At-Large Members:**

**2.1 Eligibility:** The SCDEC, in addition to the Elected Membership herein provided, may include ten percent (10%) of the total elected Members as At-Large Members. These At-Large Members will be appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC and approved by a majority vote of the Membership of the SCDEC present and voting. Such At-Large Members shall be registered Democrats residing in the county and shall serve At-Large, enjoying the voting responsibilities and other privileges of Membership with the exceptions that they shall not serve as Officers of the SCDEC, shall not be counted as Members for determining a quorum, and shall be exempt from attendance requirements set forth in these Bylaws. The selection of the At-Large Members shall be made in such manner as to reflect political, minority, economic, or other necessary representation within the SCDEC.

**2.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for At-Large Members shall expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year of their appointment, except, however, it shall expire immediately prior to the commencement of the organizational meeting following each presidential general election, whichever is sooner.

## **Section 3. Associate Members:**

**3.1 Eligibility:** If no vacancies exist in a precinct already represented by an elected man and/or woman, other interested Democrats from that precinct may be eligible for Associate Membership. Additionally, if an Elected Member **and/or any registered Seminole County Democrat** is unable to actively and regularly participate in all SCDEC activities due to reasons of poor health or extensive family, school or career responsibilities, they may also be considered for Associate Membership. Associate Members are appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC and approved by a majority vote of the Membership of the SCDEC present and voting. Such Associate Members shall be registered Democrats residing in the county and precinct from which they were appointed. They neither vote nor serve as Officers of the SCDEC and shall be exempt from the attendance requirements set forth in these By-Laws.

**3.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Associate Members shall expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year except; however, it shall expire immediately prior to the commencement of the organizational meeting

following each presidential general election, whichever is sooner.

#### **Section 4. Automatic Members:**

**4.1 Eligibility:** Automatic Members shall be defined as those who are Members by virtue of Florida Statutes or those who are Members by virtue of county Democratic Executive Committee Bylaws provision naming presidents of duly chartered Democratic Clubs or presidents of chartered local Democratic caucuses whose chapters reside in Seminole County. Automatic Members of the SCDEC shall have full rights, privileges and responsibilities of Membership with the exceptions that such Members shall not serve as Officers of the SCDEC, shall not be counted as Members for determining a quorum, and shall be exempt from attendance requirements set forth in these Bylaws.

**4.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Automatic Members shall expire at the end of their term of office. If a duly-Chartered Democratic Club or Caucus should lose its charter for any reason, the president of that club or caucus would no longer have voting privileges in the SCDEC.

**4.3 Chartered Club Voting Rules:** For a president of a duly Chartered Democratic Club to vote at the SCDEC Organizational Meeting, the club must have been recertified or chartered by the FDP clubs and caucuses Organization committee by certification period in July of the odd year.

#### **Section 5. Democratic Office Holders:**

**5.1 Eligibility:** All persons who are registered Democrats who hold elective office in the Federal, State, County or Municipal government in Seminole County are Members of the SCDEC with full rights, privileges and responsibilities of Membership with the exceptions that such office holders shall not serve as Officers of the SCDEC, shall not be counted as Members for determining a quorum, and shall be exempt from attendance requirements as set forth in these Bylaws.

**5.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Democratic Office Holders shall expire at the end of their term of office.

#### **Section 6. Honorary Members:**

**6.1 Eligibility:** Honorary Members shall be defined as those registered Democrats who provide no less than \$3,000 a year financial support to the SCDEC and/or who are not otherwise qualified for Membership. Honorary Members of the SCDEC shall have full rights, privileges and

responsibilities of Membership with the exceptions that such Members shall not serve as Officers of the SCDEC, shall not be counted as Members for determining a quorum, and shall be exempt from attendance

requirements set forth in these Bylaws. Honorary members are appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC.

**6.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Honorary Members shall expire on December 31st of each calendar year except; however, it shall expire immediately prior to the commencement of the organizational meeting following each presidential general election, whichever is sooner.

### **Section 7. Student Members:**

**7.1 Eligibility:** Any minor under the age of 18 who shares the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party shall be considered for appointment as a Student Member of the SCDEC. Student Members are appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC and approved by a majority of the Membership of the SCDEC present and voting. Student Members shall be residents of Seminole County. They neither vote nor serve as Officers of the SCDEC and shall be exempt from the attendance requirements set forth in these Bylaws.

**7.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Student Members shall expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year or on the Student Member's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, whichever comes first.

### **Section 8. Emeritus Members:**

**8.1 Eligibility:** Any elected Precinct Captain in good standing for any reason who can no longer perform their duties, may be appointed by the Chair of the Party to serve as an Emeritus Member. Such members neither vote nor serve as officers of the SCDEC and shall be exempt from the attendance requirements set forth by these Bylaws.

**8.2 Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for Emeritus Members shall be in perpetuity.

### **Section 9. Removal, Termination and Vacancies:**

**9.1 Removal from Office:** Any member may be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Membership at any regular or special meeting after ten (10) days' notice to the Membership by electronic mail or by U.S. mail that a motion for the purpose of removal of said Member will be considered at the regular or special meeting. The removal may be caused by, but not limited to, the following: malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent/inability to perform official duties, bullying, violation of loyalty oath, defamation of the organization or its members in a public forum or Social Media and conviction of a felony involving, murder, rape or moral turpitude.

**9.2 Termination:** SCDEC Membership is automatically terminated if an

Elected Member, SCDEC Committee chair, or SCDEC Officer accumulates three (3) unexcused absences in one calendar year, or moves outside the county.

**9.2.1 Excused Absences:** An absence is excused for reason of illness, business, out-of-town or other reasonable excuse, with prior notification to the Credentials Committee Chair.

**9.3 Vacancies:** Vacancies on a county Democratic Executive Committee shall be filled by action of the county Democratic Executive Committee within sixty (60) Days in accordance with Florida Statutes. Those persons appointed or elected to fill precinct vacancies must be registered Democrats residing within the precinct that they are appointed or elected to represent.

## **ARTICLE THREE: OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Section 1. Elected Officers:** The administration of this organization shall rest with its Officers duly elected from its Membership or appointed by the Chair.

**1.1 Chair:** It shall be the duty of the Chair to preside at every meeting of the SCDEC. The Chair shall preserve order and decorum, sign all acts, resolutions, memorials, writs, authorizations for payment, or other papers issued by the SCDEC, and decide all questions of order, subject to appeal by any Member.

**1.2 Vice Chair:** In the absence or inability of the Chair to serve, the Vice Chair shall act as Chair. The Vice Chair shall also have such other duties and responsibilities as may be conferred upon the Office by the Chair.

**1.3 Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep a careful and authentic record of the proceedings of the SCDEC and carry on all official correspondence for the SCDEC.

**1.4 Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall have custody of the SCDEC's funds, including the collection and disbursement of all monies approved for expenditure by the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate and up-to-date records reflecting all financial transactions of the SCDEC and shall make such records and receipts available for inspection by any Member of the SCDEC upon request. The Treasurer shall give bond for the performance of their duties; the cost of such bond shall be paid out of the funds of the SCDEC. The Treasurer shall be prepared to render a financial statement or Treasurer's report at each regular or specially called meeting of the SCDEC. The Treasurer shall initiate proceedings for an annual audit as provided in Article IV, Section 6 of the Charter of the Florida Democratic Party. The disbursement of county DEC funds among Members is forbidden except to reimburse expenses pre-approved by the Executive Board.

**1.5 Deputy Treasurer:** The Deputy Treasurer shall be appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC and approved by a majority vote of the Membership of the SCDEC present and voting. The Deputy Treasurer shall work with the Treasurer in maintaining accurate and up-to-date records reflecting all financial transactions of the SCDEC. The Deputy Treasurer shall give bond for the performance of their duties; the cost of such bond shall be paid out of the funds of the SCDEC. In the absence or inability of the Treasurer to serve, the Deputy Treasurer shall act as Treasurer until an election can be held.

**1.6 State Committee Members Committeeman and State Committeewoman:** Committeeman and State Committeewoman shall act as liaison between the Florida Democratic Party and the SCDEC. They shall act as liaison between the SCDEC and the Democratic Clubs in Seminole County. They also serve on the State Executive Committee, and serve as members of the other SCDEC committees as designated by these Bylaws. Provide guidance and support to the Ombudsman activities.

**1.7 Parliamentarian:** The parliamentarian shall be the SCDEC's official arbiter regarding questions and/or disputes relating to motions, charter, By-Laws, all procedural matters and/or Robert's Rules of Order.

**1.7.1 Deputy Parliamentarian:** The Deputy Parliamentarian shall support the Parliamentarian in research of complex questions relating to DEC and FDP charter, By-Laws, and/or Robert's Rules of Order. Will serve as the Parliamentarian in the absence of the Parliamentarian.

**1.8 Ombudsman:** The ombudsman shall be appointed by the Chair of the SCDEC and approved by a majority vote of the Membership of the SCDEC present and voting. The ombudsman shall act as the initial arbiter for any grievance actions. They shall have authority to conduct preliminary investigations into grievance and other disciplinary matters and shall always conduct investigations confidentially. The ombudsman shall not have the duty to report any investigations to the DEC State Committee Members until such time a recommendation for action is made. Upon completion of the initial and confidential investigation, the ombudsman shall report their findings to the DEC State Committee Members with a recommendation for how to proceed.

**Section 2. Executive Board:** The Executive Board shall be composed of the Elected Officers and Standing Committee Chairs. It shall meet at least monthly and manage and control all policies, patronage and activities of the SCDEC, and report back to the Membership. By majority vote, it shall approve disbursements of SCDEC funds exceeding \$200 and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to it from time to time. The chair shall have discretionary authority to spend up to \$400 per month without seeking board or membership approval. In addition, the Executive Board shall be required to get approval by a majority vote

of the General Membership of the SCDEC present and voting for any and all expenditures that exceed \$2,000 for any single purpose. The only exception being that the Executive Board may approve expenditures over \$2,000 for candidates' campaigns within 90 days of their elections.

**Section 3. Terms of Office:** Terms of Office for elected Officers are for a two (2) year term with an optional additional two (2) year term, provided the Officer gives a notice of intent to extend their term the additional two (2) years a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the end of the first two (2) year term, or until the first day of the month following the next presidential general election.

**Section 4: Vacancies:** In the event of a vacancy in the office of DEC Chair, a meeting shall be held within forty-five (45) days, notification to the membership shall be by electronic mail or U.S. mail, at least fifteen (15) days, to elect a new chair. Notice of vacancy shall be sent by certified mail to the State Chair within ten (10) days of said vacancy. In the event that a vacancy in the office of county Democratic Executive Committee Chair is filled by a person of the same sex as the county Democratic Executive Committee Vice Chair, or Vice Versa, the requirement that they be of the **other** sex shall be waived for the unexpired term.

## **ARTICLE FOUR: MEETINGS AND VOTING**

### **Section 1. Meetings:**

**1.1 Organizational Meeting:** The SCDEC organizational meeting shall be held at the direction of the FDP following the presidential general election. It shall be called to order by the Chair or other Officer of the SCDEC. The order of business shall then be as shown in 1.1.1 below. If the Chair wishes to run for re-election, they shall appoint a temporary chair before having their name placed in nomination according to the election process. The temporary chair shall preside until the election of the new chair who shall assume the Chair.

**1.1.1 Agenda:** The agenda for the organizational meeting shall be set as follows:

- Moment of Silence
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call
- Reports of Credentials Committee

- Election of Seminole County Chair
- Election of State Committeewoman
- Election of State Committeeman
- Election of Vice Chair
- Election of Secretary
- Election of Treasurer
- Election of Parliamentarian

**1.1.2 Voting:** Each Elected Member shall have one (1) vote. A



majority of those voting shall determine the election of all Officers. In the event no person receives a majority on the first vote, then the person receiving the smallest number of votes shall be eliminated and the voting shall proceed. On each subsequent vote, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be eliminated until one candidate achieves a majority.

**1.2 Regular Meetings:** The regular meetings of the Seminole County Democratic Executive Committee (SCDEC) shall be held on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Thursday of each month at a time and place designated by the Chair. In the event a Federal or State holiday is on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Thursday of the month, the Chair may designate an alternative meeting date or cancel the meeting.

**1.3 Special Meetings:** The SCDEC may hold special meetings at any place and date designated by the SCDEC Chair, provided the entire SCDEC Membership is furnished ten (10) days notice by electronic mail or by U.S. mail. At the discretion of the SCDEC Chair, or upon receipt of a written request from at least 10% of Elected Members, may call a special meeting of the SCDEC.

**1.4 Executive Board Meetings:** The Executive Board shall meet on the First (1<sup>st</sup>) Thursday of each month at a time and place designated by the Chair. Meetings shall be flexible and can be changed at the discretion of the Chair with Board Approval.

**1.5 Quorum:** At all meetings of the SCDEC, a quorum shall be at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the current Members.

**1.6 Quorum requirements for the Executive Board:** 40% of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

## **Section 2. Voting:**

**2.1 Voting:** Each Member with voting rights as provided in these Bylaws, and who legally reside within Seminole County at the time of casting a ballot shall have one (1) vote. Those Members unable to attend a physical meeting who obtain an excused absence and indicate their intent may vote electronically at the time of voting. The method of vote tabulation must be verified by two Members in physical attendance of the meeting. Electronic voting is not counted as part of quorum, which must still be met.

**2.2 Proxies:** Any Member who, for any reason, is unable to attend any meeting of any election for an SCDEC officer may execute a written proxy. The Member shall designate another DEC member or, in the alternative, a Democrat residing in the same precinct or district as said member. Automatic or appointed Members shall designate a Democrat

within Seminole County. Such proxies shall be sworn to before a notary public, or in the alternative, may be validated by two (2) registered Democrats signing as witnesses. Any proxy which is incomplete in any way shall be returned to the Member issuing the proxy. The Member sending the incomplete proxy shall be notified as soon as practical by mail, phone, email, or facsimile transmission that the proxy is incomplete.

**Section 3. Points of Order:** Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws or in the Charter or Bylaws of the Florida Democratic Party, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern.

**Section 4. Endorsements and Resolutions:**

**4.1** All debatable political issues brought to the floor by Members requesting an endorsement or resolution concerning any political issue or referendum by the Seminole County Democratic Executive Committee must first be submitted to the Executive Board for study and recommendations.

**4.2** The Executive Board is required to report its recommendation to the Membership at the next meeting of the full SCDEC for consideration. A majority of the SCDEC present and voting shall determine the official position of the SCDEC on all such matters.

**ARTICLE FIVE: COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. Requirements and Duties:**

**1.1** Committees shall be established as necessary to perform the duties as assigned by the Chair. Establishment of a Standing Committee not otherwise outlined as a Standing Committee in these Bylaws must be approved by a majority vote of the SCDEC. The SCDEC Chair shall appoint chairs to each committee, standing or otherwise, with the exception of the Bylaws Committee and the Grievance Committee, see Section 2: 2.2.10 and 2.2.11. The Standing or Special Committee Chair shall be responsible for the functioning and activities of their assigned committee and is the liaison between the SCDEC and their assigned Committee.

**1.2** Each Standing Committee shall transact such business as is delegated to it in these Bylaws and such additional business as may be referred to it by either the SCDEC or the SCDEC Chair.

**1.3** A Committee Chair may appoint a designee to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee. Upon the inability of the Chair to serve, the designee Vice Chair will act as the Standing Committee Chair for the duration of the Chair's absence or until the SCDEC Chair appoints a new Committee Chair.

**1.4** The SCDEC chair may replace and/or reappoint Committee Chairs, Standing or otherwise, as deemed necessary, with the exception of the Grievance Committee.

**1.5** The SCDEC Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be ex officio members of all Committees; however, their participation shall not count in determining a quorum for any committee meeting.

## **Section 2. Standing Committees**

**2.1** These Committees shall be and act as directed by the Executive Board. It shall be the responsibility of these Committee Chairs to report to the Executive Board and to the Membership at each meeting. All Committees shall coordinate and support efforts as appropriate.

**2.2** The following committees are deemed necessary and required to function as an integral part of the SCDEC:

**2.2.1** Budget and Finance: A Budget and Finance Committee, with the treasurer as an ex-officio member, shall advise the SCDEC and the SCDEC Chair in the creation of a yearly budget, in the raising of funds, in the expenditure of the approved budget, and in other financial matters as requested by the SCDEC or its Chair. The proposed budget shall be subject to SCDEC approval.

**2.2.1.1** Fundraising Subcommittee: This subcommittee shall be responsible for assisting the Chair of Budget and Finance with the raising of funds.

**2.2.2** Young Democrats: The Young Democrats Committee shall work with the Florida Young Democrats to encourage youth participation in the Democratic Party functions.

**2.2.3** Diversity and Inclusion: The SCDEC Diversity & Inclusion Committee shall work in conjunction with the Florida Democratic Party Diversity & Inclusion Committee in developing diversity inclusion and outreach goals and programs for achieving full participation by such groups within SCDEC and among SCDEC Committee People. Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall monitor and concern itself with the participatory leadership and assignment of roles of minorities and women in government positions, as well as within the Democratic Party. This Committee shall report to the SCDEC and make recommendations that will contribute to party growth, to include scheduled updating of policy and procedure, as well as reporting to FDP pursuant to Article 5 section 5 of the FDP bylaws.

**2.2.4** Campaign Activities: The Campaign Activities Committee

shall assist in the coordination of the general election campaigns of the Democratic Party nominees. This Committee shall be responsible for new voter registration, get out the vote (GOTV), absentee ballot drives, candidate recruitment and advisement, opposition and issue research, voter file updates and input, and organizing and marshalling campaign resources.

**2.2.5 Precinct Activities:** The Precinct Activities Committee shall be responsible for training Precinct Captains, guiding them, communicating with them, and responding to their questions and concerns. This Committee will also organize targeted precinct activities.

**2.2.6 Membership:** The Membership Committee shall be responsible for recruitment of members for various levels of membership.

**2.2.7 Credentials:** The Credentials Committee shall, on convening the first meeting following the general election in which Members of the SCDEC are elected, verify the credentials of all Elected Members of the SCDEC and shall report its finding to the SCDEC. Thereafter, this Committee shall check and verify the credentials of each person submitted to fill vacancies on the SCDEC and shall certify its report to the SCDEC. This Committee will maintain attendance records of Members. This Committee shall confirm a quorum at the meetings.

**2.2.8 Communications:** The Communications Committee shall be responsible for internal and external communications, including writing content for the SCDEC website, writing press releases, creating and/or updating the SCDEC media kit, sending announcements to the SCDEC membership, and other communications activities as directed by the Chair of the SCDEC.

**2.2.9 Events Committee:** The Events Committee shall seek out and coordinate community and SCDEC events for visibility at least bi-monthly

**2.2.10 Bylaws Committee:** The SCDEC shall accept nomination of candidates from the membership for election to the Bylaws Committee. The five (5) candidates with the most votes will be elected to the Bylaws Committee. The 5 elected members will vote amongst themselves to elect the Chair of the Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall revise the Bylaws and will be convened upon a Majority vote of the General Membership that revisions are needed.

**2.2.11 Grievance Committee:** The Chair shall appoint gender balanced co-chairs for this committee. In the event that a grievance

is presented to the committee for action by the State Committee members, as recommended by the Ombudsman, the Chair will present to the DEC at the next meeting the need to form the full grievance committee. At that time a vote will be taken by the members to confirm that the current co-chairs should lead this effort. The Parliamentarian will select 3 additional members of the committee and one alternate from those in the DEC not a party to the grievance. If one or more co-chairs is not approved by the DEC vote the State Committee member of like gender will be selected to replace that co-chair. If that member must recuse themselves then the remaining State Committee member will serve. The responsibility of the committee shall be to exercise jurisdiction over the disputes or complaints arising within the D.E.C. from alleged violations of the DEC policies or bylaws, the Florida Democratic Party Charter or By-Laws, or applicable Florida Statutes.

## **ARTICLE SIX: IMPLEMENTATION AND AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1. Implementation:** The implementation of these Bylaws shall be immediate after the SCDEC voting Members approve the document and its changes. The foregoing rules are ordained and established by the SCDEC as its permanent and continuing Bylaws, wholly superseding and amending all previously adopted Bylaws, rules and regulations. The foregoing Bylaws shall continue in effect until rescinded or changed.

### **Section 2. Amendments:**

**2.1** No amendment to these Bylaws may be voted upon unless ten (10) days notice by electronic mail or by U.S. mail to all Members of the SCDEC prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered or, if proposed at a meeting, the same shall lay over at least ten (10) days by electronic mail or by U.S. mail.

**2.2** These By-Laws may be amended or repealed by sixty percent (60%) roll call vote of the SCDEC Members present and voting.

## **ARTICLE VII – ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PROVISION**

The club/caucus hereby adopts and shall enforce the following anti-discrimination provisions:

1. No Democratic Loyalty Oath should be used which has the effect of requiring members of the Democratic Party to condone or support discrimination on the grounds of race, color, creed, sex, age, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.
2. The time and place for all public meetings of Democratic Party clubs/caucuses should be publicized fully in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all

interested persons, and should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

3. In order to fully and adequately inform prospective and current members of a full description of the legal, practical and pertinent procedures for selection of all Democratic club/caucus representatives and officers, the club/caucus should publicize fully, and in such a manner, as to assure notice to all interested Democrats in time to have adequate opportunity to participate.

**Amended By-Laws Committee May 9, 2024**  
**Approved by the SCDEC May 9, 2024**