

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD AREA DEMS

(revised 2023)

ARTICLE I: NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

This organization is known as the **Birmingham – Bloomfield Area Democratic Club (“BBA Dems”)**, a non-profit organization, and is the local unit of the Michigan Democratic Party (“MDP”) in:

- The City of Birmingham, Michigan
- The City of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
- The Township of Bloomfield, Michigan
- The Village of Beverly Hills, Michigan
- The Village of Bingham Farms, Michigan
- The Village of Franklin, Michigan

Upon its dissolution, all assets and real and personal property of the BB Area Dems shall revert to the benefit of the Michigan Democratic Party or to a charitable organization.

A member of the BB Area Dems shall be any legal resident of the above listed municipalities, age 16 or older. A financial contribution is not required to be and to remain a member of the BB Area Dems. Membership is effective the date the membership form is received by an officer of the BB Area Dems and shall be renewed annually. Membership is required to vote at any meeting.

Membership forms are accepted before and at any regular BB Area Dems meeting and via the BB Area Dems website: www.bbdems.org

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the BB Area Dems is to promote the philosophy of the Democratic Party and to help elect Democrats. This purpose is facilitated through the BB Area

Dems committees, precinct delegates and like-minded individuals that seek to advance the principles of the MDP at the local level.

ARTICLE III: FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Section 1: All public meetings of the BB Area Dems are open to the public regardless of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical appearance or disability. However, BB Area Dems may hold meetings limited to members in cases where confidential consideration of club strategy is necessary.

Section 2: No oaths of loyalty nor any tests for membership to the BB Area Dems shall be required or used, including those that have the effect of requiring prospective or current members to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, ethnic identity, ancestry, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical appearance or disability.

Section 3: The time and place for all public meetings of the BB Area Dems will be publicized to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings will be held in places that are accessible to all BB Area Dems and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.

Section 4: BB Area Dems will support the broadest participation possible without discrimination on grounds of race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance, or disability.

Section 5: BB Area Dems shall publicize all elections fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the procedures for BB Area Dems officers. Publication of these procedures will be done in a fashion that prospective and current members or applicants will be fully informed of the pertinent procedure in time to participate and compete for office.

Section 6: All members of the BB Area Dems may vote. No votes will be taken by secret ballot, the unit rule (the practice of a club reporting a unanimous vote when

the vote within the club was not unanimous but only a majority) is not prohibited. No rule may be adopted by the BB Area Dems that would require a member to vote contrary to the member's judgment.

Section 7: All rules and Bylaws of the BB Area Dems will be consistent with the Rules and Bylaws of the MDP. Copies of the BB Area Dems Bylaws are available upon request to a BB Area Dem Officer or via the website: www.bbdems.org

Section 8: All questions of procedure not resolved by the Bylaws of the MDP or BB Area Dems will be governed by the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The officers shall include:

- a. Chair: The duties of the chair shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Preside at all meetings of the BB Area Dems
 - b. Establish standing and special committees
 - c. Act as spokesperson of the BB Area Dems
 - d. All other duties as are needed and usual for the operation of the BB Area Dems
- b. Vice Chair: Shall be of a different gender pronoun than the chair and assume the duties of the chair in their absence.
- c. Recording Secretary: Keep an accurate record and minutes of the membership meetings. Maintain documents, correspondence, records, effects, and other BB Area Dems property. When a new recording secretary is elected the property shall be delivered/transferred within 10 days to the newly elected recording secretary.
- d. Corresponding secretary: Shall be responsible for providing proper notice for meetings as well as other events, via electronic mail, BB Area Dems website and social media.
- e. Treasurer: Shall be responsible for maintaining financial records, receipts and disbursements of the organization. The funds of the organization will be deposited in banks and drawn upon only by the approval of any two of the following officers: Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer. The treasurer will

deliver to a newly elected treasurer the funds and all records and documents maintained during their tenure within 10 days.

- f. Trustees: There will be two trustees that will ensure that the Officers comply with the Bylaws and that the operations of the BB Area Dems operations are continuing without disruption or irregularity.

Section 2: The election of the Officers will be by a majority vote of the membership at a duly noticed meeting. Elections will take place in November for the next calendar year. The term shall be one year.

Section 3: The Executive Committee shall consist of all of the Officers. Vacancies of officers will be appointed by the Chair and approved with a majority vote of the membership.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1: Full membership meetings are to be held at least eight (8) times per year. The Officers will report on BB Area Dems activities. At least five (5) days notice will be given of the date, time, and location of the meeting. Notice may be given by electronic mail, via the BB Area Dems website and/or social media.

Section 2: Meetings may be held electronically by a means and service selected by the Chair. The electronic meetings must support visible displays identifying those participating, identifying those seeking recognition to speak, and showing any voting that may occur. The electronic meetings shall be subject to the BB Area Dems Bylaws and will require the same notice and procedures as meetings conducted in person.

Section 3: Meetings of the Executive Committee will be held at the discretion of the Chair. Whether the meetings are held in person or electronically, 5-day notice is required. A quorum consists of a majority of the Executive Committee present.

Section 4: A quorum of 10 (ten) members in good standing must be present at a meeting for voting to occur.

Section 5: The business of the organization will proceed in the following order:

- a. Welcome and introductions.

- b. Reports of Officers
- c. Approval of agenda and minutes
- d. Old Business
- e. New Business
- f. Good and welfare
- g. Adjournment

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Chair, subject to the approval of the majority of the Executive Committee, will appoint committee chairs and any special committees necessary for the work and operation of the organization.

Section 2: Standing Committees:

- a. Precinct Delegates
- b. Issues and Action
- c. Social and Fundraising
- d. Membership and outreach

These committees may include appropriate subcommittees as necessary for the proper operation and discharge of duties. The Chair is an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE VII: ENDORSEMENTS

Section 1: Generally, BB Area Dems do not endorse in contested Democratic primary races. An endorsement in a contested Democratic primary will be considered only in extraordinary circumstances and require a majority vote of both the Executive Committee and membership.

Section 2: Notice of the endorsement process will be posted in a timely manner on the BB Area Dem website and publicly announced at regular membership meetings.

Section 3: Candidates must request an endorsement in writing. Candidates will be provided with a questionnaire to complete and be asked to attend a membership meeting and make an introduction and/or interviewed by the Executive Committee.

Section 4: The endorsement committee will include the BB Area Dems Executive Committee.

Section 5: All endorsements will be presented and approved by the membership.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Any member in good standing may submit proposed amendments to the Bylaws to the Chair. The proposed amendments will be presented to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Executive Committee will review the amendments and make a recommendation to the membership.

Section 2: There must be at least two (2) weeks notice of the amendments prior to being submitting them to the membership for consideration and voting. The proposed amendments will be available for review on the BB Area Dems website.

Section 3: The Bylaws may be amended with a 2/3 vote of the members present at the duly notice meeting.

Section 4: These Bylaws will be in full force upon their adoption.