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Bylaws of the Woodlands Republican Women (Revised 2024)

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be: The Woodlands Republican Women ("TWRW"), hereinafter referred to as "Club." The Club is affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women ("TFRW") and with the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW).

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The Objectives of this Club shall be to:

- A. Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government;
- B. Inform the public through political education and activity:
- C. Foster loyalty to the Republican Party at all levels of government and to promote its principles and candidates in all elections including nonpartisans elections;
- D. Support the objectives and policies of the Republican Party and Republican National Committee:
- E. Facilitate cooperation among local Republican Women's Clubs;
- F. Disseminate information to all members; and
- G. Work for the election of the Republican nominees in all elections, within PAC guidelines

ARTICLE III - POLICIES

Section 1. Organization Membership: TWRW members shall be members of TFRW and NFRW, shall support their objectives and policies and shall pay annual per capita dues to said organizations.

Section 2. Other Organizations: The club shall not affiliate with any political organization which is not officially recognized as working in concert with the Texas Federation of Republican Women, NFRW, and the Republican National Committee.

Section 3. Registered Political Action Committee ("PAC"): TWRW shall be registered with the Texas Ethics Commission ("TEC") as a PAC.

Section 4. Endorsement Policy:

- 1. No one may endorse in the name of the NFRW, a State Federation or a local Club or in their official capacity thereof.
- 2. No endorsement or evidence of support by any member shall be issued using the NFRW affiliation, logo, or stationery without the approval of the NFRW.
- 3. NFRW Bylaws provide for the removal from membership of any member, local Club or State Federation who/which advocates a split party ticket or supports a candidate who is running on an opposition ticket.
- 4. In the case of contested Republican races, information and campaign announcements may be distributed on all candidates such as at events or fundraisers provided they are fairly and evenly distributed and, in order to prevent anyone from interpreting such communications as endorsements, each such communication shall be accompanied by the disclaimer: "This appears here for informational purposes only and does not represent or constitute an endorsement by this Club."

- **Section 5. Candidate Endorsement:** TWRW, its President, and its Campaign Activities Chair shall not publicly endorse any candidate for public office in contested Republican races (ie., primaries, runoff elections, special elections, and non-partisan elections, with the exception of the President and Campaign Activities Chair, may work for any candidate of their choice in contested Republican races, but not in the name of TWRW. No candidate shall use the TWRW, TFRW, or NFRW name or logo in any political advertising. All political advertising shall contain the following disclaimer: "This endorsement is given by the individual(s) only, NOT TWRW, TFRW or NFRW.
- **Section 6. Candidate Endorsement Exemption:** An officer of the Club who is a candidate or whose spouse or family member is a candidate, shall be exempt from this rule, however, they may not campaign or identify themselves in the name of the Club, the State Federation, or the NFRW or by utilizing the logo or stationery of the Club, the State Federation or the NFRW.
- **Section 7. Endorsement/Support for non-Republicans:** No member of TWRW shall endorse or work for any non-Republican candidate. Violation of this policy by any member shall be subject to removal from TWRW for a minimum period of one (1) fiscal year.
- **Section 8. Controversial Issues:** Neither the Club its Executive Board shall issue statements or pass resolution on controversial issues in the name of TWRW without first polling its primary members and obtaining a two-thirds (2/3) written vote of approval of the total membership.
- **Section 9. Split Ticket:** Neither the club, nor an individual member shall advocate a split ticket, support an opposition party candidate or act against the NFRW or TFRW policies and bylaws.
- **Section 10. Candidate Fairness:** After the end of the candidate filing period for any office and ending the day of after the final election for that office, it is the policy of TFRW than all candidates for that office be treated fairly and equitably. When one Republican candidate for an office is invited to speak at a Federation or local club meeting, then all Republican candidates for that office shall be offered equal presentation time at the time of the meeting or another meeting before the election. (This rule includes candidate fairness during primaries, run offs and special elections. It applies to candidates at all levels. Federated clubs are state and not Federal PAC's. Please see the TFRW Federal Candidate Policy for rules pertaining to working with federal candidates. There are limitations regarding what is permissible.)
- **Section 11. Lobbying:** There shall be no lobbying with Legislators using the name of Texas Federation of Republican Women by any federated local club or any individual member without the express permission of the Board of Directors of the Texas Federation of Republican Women. (*This permission reference is to the TFRW Board. Please do not change it to club Executive Committee.*)
- **Section 12. Delivery of Records:** All officers, committee chairs and vice chairs shall deliver all records, files, passwords, social media rights, administrative rights, and properties of TWRW to their successor before December 31st of the year in which she is retiring from office, or within three (3) days of leaving the position if earlier than December 31, unless otherwise directed by TWRW President or Executive Board. Failure to meet these guidelines may result in termination of her membership by TWRW.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility:

- **A.** Any woman or man concurring with the philosophy of the Republican Party and in the objectives of TWRW shall be eligible for membership.
- **B.** They shall be a registered voter.
- **C.** Dues must be paid for at least three months prior to the privilege of voting on TWRW matters, and must have attended two meeting prior to the privilege of voting.

Section 2. Membership Classification:

- **A. Primary** A primary member may be counted in only one Republican Women's club for the purpose of delegate representation to TFRW and NFRW Conventions, and this will be the only Republican Women's club in which she may hold office. Her dues and name shall be submitted to TFRW from her primary Republican Women's club only.
- **B.** Associate A Republican Woman who is a Primary member of another federated Republican Women's club and wishes to support TWRW shall be eligible for Associate membership upon payment of required dues. She cannot hold elected office, chair a committee, vote, have voice, or be counted for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to TFRW and NFRW meetings and conventions.
- **C. Young Affiliate** A young affiliate is a teenage woman, age 13-17, who wishes to affiliate with a local Republican Women's club by paying the required annual dues. She may not hold elected office, chair a committee, vote, have voice, or be counted for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to TFRW or NFRW meetings or conventions. A Young Affiliate may not be listed on the roster of TFRW. Her name and dues shall not be sent to TFRW headquarters.
- **D.** Associate Men Republican men are eligible for Associate membership upon payment of the required annual dues. They cannot hold elected office, chair a committee, vote, have voice, or be counted for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to TFRW or NFRW meetings and conventions. They do not become members of TFRW or NFRW.
- **E. Associate dues remain with the club.** Associate members are not reported to the state federal NFRW
- **F. Submission of Officers:** Local member clubs shall elect officers and send lists of their names, addresses, zip codes, telephone numbers and email addresses to the Texas Federation of Republican Women Headquarters by January 1 of each year, and to the District Director. (This is a particularly important deadline. Please ask your Executive Committee to mark it on their club calendar.)

Section 3. ELIGIBILITY DOES NOT ASSUME MEMBERSHIP CONFERRED

A. Eligibility for membership does not guarantee, and one cannot assume, automatic grant of membership.

ARTICLE V - DUES

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be from January 1st through December 31st. **Section 2. Membership Dues** Annual dues shall be defined in the TWRW Standing Rules, paid no later than December 31st and shall be delinquent March 1st. Dues collected in November and December may applied to the following year's membership.

Section 3. Service Charges. Club shall pay Texas Federation of Republican Women dues and NFRW per capita dues, and the annual service charges on behalf of its members, with the first payment of the year to be made no later than December 31st of each year.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. Elected Officers: The elected officers of TWRW shall be President, First(1st) Vice President - Programs, Second (2nd) Vice President - Membership, Third (3rd) Vice President - Ways and Means, Secretary, PAC Treasurer and Treasurer.

PAC Treasurer and Treasurer positions may be combined into a single position

Section 2. Qualifications of Officers: Nominees for elected office shall be Primary members of TWRW for one (1) year prior to nomination in September and be current with dues. Nominees for the office of President shall have served previously on the executive Board of TWRW or another Republican Women's Club affiliated with NFRW.

Section 3. **Vacancy:** Vacancies in elected office shall be filled by election by a majority of the Executive Committee members present and voting at the first meeting following the creation of the vacancy provided an announcement is sent to all Club members stating the existence of the vacancy and the process by which eligible Primary members in good standing may submit their name to the Executive Committee to be considered to fill the vacancy before the Executive Committee meets to fill the vacancy.

Section 4. Removal from Office or Membership:

Pursuant to the NFRW Bylaws, NFRW requires following the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, for the removal of an officer from office or a member from membership. Cause for such removal shall include, with limitation,

- A. Non-payment of dues
- B. The failure or refusal to support the policies and objectives of the NFRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the Club as stated in their bylaws
- C. Any act or omission intended to cause or having the effect of causing damage to the NFRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the Club or their reputation or financial stability
- D. Failure to support the Republican Party ticket, advocating a split ticket, supporting a candidate on an opposition ticket
- E. Actions which are in conflict with the NFRW Bylaws, the Texas Federation of Republican Women Bylaws or the Club Bylaws
- F. Failure to comply with the NFRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the Club membership rules
- G. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the initiation of litigation or any other adversary proceeding against the NFRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the Club or in which the NFRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the Club is a named defendant or respondent
- H. A member who has been removed from membership may request readmission to the same body which voted on the removal

Section 5. Duties Of The Officers:

- A. The President shall:
 - A. Call and Preside over all meetings of TWRW and the Executive Committee
 - B. Represent the organization at all times or designate someone as representative/ proxy in her absence or inability to do so;
 - C. Make Committee Chair appointments as necessary to conduct the business of the club, except the Nominating Committee, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
 - D. Prepare a program of action in consultation with the Chairmen of the Standing Committees for presentation and approval by the Executive Committee;

- E. Submit and annual budget for review by Executive Committee and approval by the membership:
- F. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Financial Review and Nominating Committees;
- G. Cosign checks as one of two authorized signatures namely President and Treasurer;
- H. Represent the Club in all Republican Party activities;
- I. Appoint the Financial Review Committee in November with the exception of a change of treasurer at which time a complete review will be done;
- J. Accept resignation by written letter or email of any member wanting to resign from a position, chairmanship or the club;
- K. Call meetings of the Executive Committee; and shall call a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee upon receipt of the written request of three members of the Executive Committee:
- L. Appoint a Parliamentarian;
- M. Review non-budgeted committee expenditures in excess of \$50.00 for approval;
- N. Present the slate of officers selected by the Nominating Committee at the TWRW October Regular Meeting; and
- O. Preside over the election of officers at the TWRW November Regular Meeting.

B. The First Vice President of Programs shall:

- * Perform the duties of the President in the event of her absence or inability to serve until such time as a new President is elected;
- * Be responsible for all monthly program arrangements, including securing speakers, obtaining speaker gift as appropriate, and providing all details on the meeting program to the Executive Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the program date;
- * Be responsible for the picture and biography of program speaker to newsletter chair Forty-five (45) days prior to the program date; and
- * Perform such other duties the President the Executive Committee or the Club may designate.

C. The Second Vice President - Membership shall:

- * Maintain the membership roster;
- * Update TFRW with membership information;
 - Ensure that all membership information is shared with the Treasurer and others as deemed necessary and shall ensure all membership data is submitted to the State and National Federations according to deadlines:
- * Actively recruit members, including holding at least two membership events per Year: and
- * Perform such other duties as the President the Executive Committee or the Club may designate.

D. The Third Vice President - Ways and Means shall:

- * Coordinate all fundraising events:
- * Form necessary committee(s) to coordinate any special events as determined by the President;
- * Form a committee including the PAC Treasurer to assist in fundraising and events.
- * Provide a budget for the fundraiser prior to the event for Executive Board approval.
- * Hold at least one major fundraiser a year;
- * Notify the Treasurer of all fundraising committee meetings and Treasurer may attend each one;
- * Provide all financial information requested by the PAC Treasurer; and
- * Perform such other duties as the President the Executive Committee or the Club may designate.

E. The Secretary shall:

- * Keep a factual and unbiased record of the proceedings of all meetings of TWRW.
- * Maintain a current Club membership roster;
- * Keep a current inventory of Club property;
- * Maintain all Club records and historical items
- * Conduct the correspondence of the Club under the supervision of the President;
- * Preserve in a permanent file all letters and papers of value to the Club; and Perform such other duties as the President the Executive Committee or the Club may designate.

F. The Treasurer shall:

- Serve as custodian of all Club funds and deposit them in a bank(s) approved by the Executive Committee:
- Co-sign checks as one of two authorized signatures, namely President and Treasurer;
- * Disburse funds as directed by the Executive Committee or the membership;
- * Bring written financial report(s) to regular Club and Executive Committee meetings;
- * Submit dues, annual service fees, and reports to Texas Federation of Republican Women as required;
- * Submit all financial records to the Financial Review committee for an annual review to be completed by and reported at the first Executive Committee and membership meeting of the fiscal year;
- * Comply with all IRS and State election reporting requirements;
- * Perform other duties as assigned by the President, the Executive Committee or the Club.

G. The PAC Treasurer shall:

- * Be registered with the TEC and submit all reports required by the TEC in a timely manner.
- * Be obligated to pay any required penalty in the event the reports required by the TEC are filed late, unless otherwise specified by the TEC.
- * Perform such other duties as the President the Executive Committee or the Club may designate.

Section 6. Term of Office: The term of office for officers and chairs shall be one year (January 1 - December 31), or until their successor is elected or appointed. No officer or chair may serve in the same position for more than two consecutive terms. Notwithstanding the above, the PAC Treasurer may serve without time limitations.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, if an officer or chair is elected or appointed after January 1, her term shall end on December 31st, of the same year or until her successor is elected or appointed. The timeframe shall count as a full term.

Section 7. - Delivery of Records

ARTICLE VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Members:

- A. The voting body of the Executive Committee of this Club shall consist of:
 - 1. The elected officers:
- B. The non-voting members of the Executive Committee shall be

- 1. The Parliamentarian; and
- 2. Immediate Past President

Section 2. Executive Committee Authority

The Executive Committee shall:

- 1. Advise the President.
- 2. Transact any necessary business between meetings at the direction of the President.
- 3. Direct the Treasurer's disbursement of funds;
- 4. Approve appointed officer and committee appointments made by the President;
- 5. Fill vacancies in office; and
- 6. Perform other duties as assigned by the Club

Section 3. Voting Procedures Between Meetings. A vote may be conducted between meetings of the Executive Committee by telephone, email, video chat or app. A decision may be rendered only after written/electronic documentation has been received from a majority of the Executive Committee. Results of any vote shall be presented to the Executive Committee by the President and filed and recorded with the Secretary.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Meetings: Regular meeting of TWRW General Membership:

- * Regular meetings shall be held monthly.
- * These meetings shall be held as decided by the Executive Committee.
- * A quorum at Club meeting shall be 25% of the total number of Primary members in good standing.
- * A minimum of five regular meetings per annum shall be held.
- * If there is any change in a monthly meeting location or schedule, notice of the change shall be provided to the membership no less than seven (7) days prior.

Section 2. Special Meetings:

- A. Special meetings of TWRW General Membership:
 - * Special meetings may be called by the President and shall be called by the President upon receipt of the written request of three members of the Executive Committee or by 30% members of the Club.
 - * The Purpose of the Special Meeting shall be stated in the call, with no other business to be transacted at the meeting.
 - * At least a five day notice shall be given to members for any Special Meeting.

Section 3. Annual Meeting. The November meeting will be designated as the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Electronic Voting Between Meetings. A vote of the Club membership or Executive Committee may be conducted by mail, telephone, fax, email or other approved electronic means between meetings, provided there is participation by a quorum of the body. The vote shall be ratified and entered into the minutes at the body's next regular meeting.

Section 5. Notice. Notice for all meetings may be mailed or sent electronically.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees:

- A. Standing Committees shall include:
 - * Americanism
 - * Awards

- * Bylaws (Refer to Article IX Section 1, C)
- Campaign/Political Activities
- * Caring for America
- * Chaplain
- * Community Outreach
- * Literacy
- * Scholarship and High School Young Republican Club
- * Events
- * Hospitality
- * Legislation
- *. Leadership
- * Newsletter/Publicity
- B. The Chairs of the standing committees shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. The committees shall outline programs for action in their respective fields for consideration and adoption by the Executive Board and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the President.
- C. Bylaws Committee: The Bylaws Committee shall convene at least every two (2) years to review TWRW Bylaws for any necessary revisions and to revise bylaws as mandated by TFRW and NFRW following their respective conventions. The Bylaws Committee shall edit, combine or reject edits and submit bylaws to the Executive Committee for review, and make recommendations to the general membership for a final vote. The Bylaws Committee may choose to convene as necessary to review TWRW Code of Conduct and TWRW Standing Rules. The Bylaws Committee shall furnish the TFRW Bylaws Committee with a complete set of Club bylaws for review and approval. Any subsequent Club revision of Bylaws shall be sent to the Texas Federation of Republican Women Bylaws Committee for approval.

Section 2. Standing Committee Term of Office:

The term of office for standing committee chairs shall be one (1) year (January 1 - December 31), or until their successor is appointed. No chair may serve in the same position for more than two consecutive terms with the exception of the Newsletter Chair.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, if a chair is appointed after January 1, her term shall end on December 31st of the same year, or until her successor is appointed. This time frame shall count as a full term.

Section 3. Special Committees:

Special committees shall include: Internal Review and Nominating Chairs shall be appointed by the President, except that of the Nominating Committee. Other special committees may be appointed by the President.

- 1) Internal Review Committee: An Internal Review Committee shall be selected by the President on or before October 31st to conduct an internal review of the books by December 31st of the fiscal year and shall submit its report to the Executive Board prior to the regular meeting in January. Additional audit(s) may be required if the Executive Board and/or President deems necessary. The Treasurer shall be present at the internal review of the books for the purpose of responding to committee questions but shall not be an official committee member.
- 2) Nominating Committee: Refer to Article X, Section 1.

ARTICLE X - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee:

- **A.** A Nominating Committee of 5 Primary members in good standing, and one alternate, shall be elected by the Club no later than September of each election year. The Committee shall elect its own chairman. The Parliamentarian will instruct the Committee as to proper procedure and will be available for further counsel if required.
- **B.** The Nominating Committee shall report a slate of one candidate for each office at the general meeting in October of each year as the term of office is one year, which shall be at least thirty days prior to the election meeting taking place in November. All Nominees for election shall be Primary Members in good standing in the Club, and shall give consent to serve. Nominations from the floor shall be in order prior to the vote in November.
 - C. Nominating Committee members shall not succeed themselves.
 - **D.** The current TWRW President may not serve on the committee.
 - **E.** The Nominating Committee shall report one nominee for each elected office at the Executive Board and Regular October meetings. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed at the November meeting, provided with consent of each nominee is obtained, and the qualifications for Officer are previously met as stated in Article VI, Section 2. A brief biographical sketch of each officer nominee may be included in the newsletter prior to the November election. Printed copies of a biographical sketch may also be available at the November meeting.
 - **F.** The Nominating Committee, nor any individual member thereof, may not serve on The Nominating Committee during the following year.
 - **G.** Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the authority for Nominating Committee Proceedings as follows:
 - * Elect chair as first order of business, who shall moderate the meeting.
 - * One candidate for each elected office shall be added to the slate of officers.
 - * Slate shall consist of President, 1st Vice President Programs, 2nd Vice President Membership, 3rd Vice President Ways and Means, Secretary, PAC Treasurer and Treasurer

Section 2. Elections:

- **A**. Elections shall be held at the November meeting and elected officers shall serve a term of one year or until their successor is elected, and are able to run for one consecutive term (or second year).
- **B.** Where there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by voice vote.
- C. Where there is more than one candidate for an office, election shall be by ballot. A plurality vote shall elect.
- **D.** No absentee or proxy voting shall be allowed.
- **E.** Only TWRW Primary members in good standing may vote in this election.
- **F.** No officer may simultaneously run for more than one office.
- **G.** Officers may not run for a second consecutive term (or third year).

Section 3. Installation: Officers shall be installed at the December meeting.

ARTICLE XI - CONVENTIONS

Section 1. TFRW Biennial Convention:

For the Texas Federation of Republican Women biennial convention, the Club shall elect representation to the convention in the method set forth in the Texas Federation of Republican Women Bylaws.

Section 2. NFRW Biennial Convention:

Election of delegates and alternates shall take place at a general meeting before convention to conform to the date of the Texas Federation of Republican Women certification deadline.

ARTICLE XII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Newly Revised*, shall govern TWRW in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any rules of order TWRW, the Texas Federation of Republican Women or the NFRW may adopt.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular (general) meeting or Special Meeting of TWRW by a two-thirds vote, provided that notice of the proposed amendment(s) shall have been sent to each member in no less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the general or Special Meeting.

ARTICLE XIV - DISSOLUTION

TWRW may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote at any regular or Special Meeting of the Club, if notice of the dissolution has been submitted in writing at least thirty (30) days prior and has been sent to all members of TWRW. In the event of dissolution, the Executive Committee shall, after payment of all liabilities of TWRW, distribute any remaining assets to the Texas Federation of Republican Women. No funds shall be distributed to any member or officer TWRW. The right to use the name TWRW shall revert to the Texas Federation of Republican Women.

These bylaws approved and adopted by The Woodlands Republican Women on
(DATE OF ORIGINAL APPROVAL OF Texas Federation of Republican
Nomen)

1. Have void meeting unle	ce is defined as: Mess invited to do so	lay not express o _l by the Executive	pinions or debate Board member l	issues at a regula nolding the floor at	r or specia that time.