

BYLAWS OF THE VENTURA COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

Article 1. Name and Affiliation

1. The name of this organization shall be the “Ventura County Young Republicans”, hereinafter referred to as the “VCYR” and the organization.
2. The officers and Executive Board shall ensure the organization’s name, marks, and communications are used only for activities authorized under these Bylaws and consistent with applicable law, including any endorsement, advocacy, or political activity approved in accordance with these Bylaws.
3. The Executive Board may adopt a different name for the organization by a 2/3 majority vote if required to do so by the California Republican Party, if such a change is necessary or advantageous under the laws of the state of California, or if it changes its affiliation.
4. The VCYR may choose to affiliate with any statewide volunteer organization recognized and chartered by the California Republican Party, and shall abide by rules of said party and the lawful directives of its Chairman and Executive Committee. At this time, it chooses to affiliate itself with the California Young Republican Federation (“CYRF”). The VCYR may also choose to not affiliate itself with any statewide organization by a 4/5 majority of regular members.
5. The Ventura County Young Republicans is organized as a California nonprofit public benefit corporation and is operated primarily for social welfare purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization is not organized for private profit, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private individual.

Article II. Objectives

1. The primary objectives of the VCYR shall be to promote social welfare by encouraging civic engagement, political participation, public policy education, leadership development, and community involvement among young adults, consistent with the principles of the Republican Party. The organization may engage in advocacy, issue education, and political activities as permitted by law, provided that such activities do not constitute the organization’s primary purpose.
2. Additional objectives of the VCYR shall be to encourage young people to engage with and participate in the Republican Party and the civic life of their communities; to provide opportunities for political expression, leadership development, and public service; to train future leaders for service in local, state, and federal government; to instill a sense of loyalty, civic responsibility, and patriotism toward the United States of America and the State of California; and to promote effective, ethical, and responsible government at all levels.

Article III. Membership

1. There shall be three types of members in the VCYR. These shall be the regular member, the associate member, and the honorary member.
 - a. Regular members must be United States citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty inclusive, and California residents registered in the state as Republicans. If not a registered California Republican at the time of application, a pledge to register within two days shall suffice.

- b. Regular members are those who meet the requirements set forth in Section III.1.A, who live, work, or attend college in Ventura County, and have paid full membership dues within the last twelve months. Regular members who meet the requirements set forth in the previous sentence shall be considered to be in good standing.
 - c. Associate members are those who do not meet all of the requirements set forth in Sections III.1.A and III.1.B, but who are interested in furthering the objectives of the organization. Associate members have all the rights and privileges of regular members, with the exception of voting rights.
 - d. Honorary members are those who, by unanimous consent of the Executive Board, are granted an honorary membership in the VCYR due to their accomplishments, status as an officeholder, or work on behalf of the VCYR and/or the YRFC. Honorary members who meet the requirements set forth in Sections III.1.A and III.1.B shall be considered regular members, those who do not will be considered associate members. No honorary member shall pay dues.
2. There are conditions of membership in VCYR, and members may be expelled for not meeting those conditions.
- a. Members of the VCYR who register with another political party or who act in a fashion willfully destructive to, or constituting a clear and present danger to, the well-being of the VCYR may be expelled from the organization.
 - b. Upon presentation of evidence to support the charges that would fulfill the foregoing conditions at an Executive Board meeting, of which notification was provided to the involved members at least ten days prior, at which both sides of the issue have an opportunity to speak, and where a 4/5 majority vote of Executive Board members in favor of expulsion takes place, the member shall be deemed permanently expelled.
 - c. Members who let their memberships lapse due to non-payment of dues shall be considered “dormant”, with only the payment of dues keeping them from returning to regular status.

Article IV. Organization

1. The officers of the VCYR are the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Immediate Past Chairman, the Communications Director, the Membership Director, the Political Director, and the Events Director.
- a. The Chairman shall serve as chief executive of the organization, preside over all general and Executive Board meetings of the organization, supervise activities of the Executive Board and provide them the guidance and latitude necessary for them to do their jobs, and shall supervise and guide all programs of the organization from development to implementation and bear ultimate responsibility for their failure.
 - i. The Chairman has the discretion to create additional positions on the Executive Board by outlining the duties and responsibilities of the position, putting up a member for appointment, and seeing that the member be confirmed by a 2/3rds majority vote of the Board. The Chairman may only appoint voting members of the Executive Board equal to one less than the number of elected members of the Board.

- ii. The Chairman may, under the procedures set forth in Section IV.1.A.1, appoint additional County representatives to the YRFC Board as addressed in the YRFC Constitution. Unless the Chairman specifies otherwise, and 2/3rds of the Executive Board agrees, the representatives will not have voting rights on the Executive Board.
- b. The Vice-Chairman shall serve on the ad hoc credentialing committee during elections, chair general membership and Executive Board meetings in the absence of the Chairman, and serve as Acting Chairman between occurrence of a vacancy in the Chair and a successor being elected by a meeting of the general membership.
- c. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial activities of the VCYR. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all funds received by the organization, disburse funds as directed by the Executive Board in accordance with these bylaws, submit a Treasurer's Report at each general membership meeting, keep and maintain all financial records of the organization, and serve on the ad hoc credentialing committee.
 - i. No amount over \$500 shall be authorized for an expenditure or reimbursement without a majority vote of the Executive Board. Each year, 3/4 of the Executive Board may change this amount.
 - ii. All claims for reimbursements of club expenses must be submitted to the Treasurer within 14 days of the event or the day the expense was incurred, whichever is the later. The Treasurer has thirty days to accept the expense and reimburse the member or reject the expense.
 - iii. At general membership meetings, the Treasurer shall report on all expenditures and deposits.
 - iv. The Treasurer shall ensure that all organizational funds are held in accounts titled in the name of the organization and under its Employer Identification Number, shall oversee compliance with applicable federal and state tax and reporting requirements, and shall ensure that no funds are used for private benefit.
- d. The Secretary shall print the agendas for and take minutes at all general membership and Executive Board meetings; maintain all archival, membership, attendance, and other records (with the exception of finance) of the organization; distribute the prescribed notices for all Executive Board meetings; serve on the ad hoc credentialing committee during elections and shall be responsible for the bylaws, governing documents, and corporate records, having them available at all meetings and providing them to the new Executive Board upon transition.
- e. The Immediate Past Chairman is an ex officio officer who is the Chairman elected prior to the currently elected Chairman. If the term was not completed, or if the sitting Chairman is reelected, this position shall be deemed vacant. The Immediate Past Chairman shall have a vote on the Executive Board and serve as officer at large and goodwill ambassador for the VCYR.
- f. The Communications Director shall oversee all member communication within the organization. This includes maintaining the VCYR website, email database of members, and other online communication tools.
- g. The Membership Director shall oversee recruitment and outreach to new members of the Club.

- c. Regular members of VCYR in good standing thirty days before the election, or dormant members who need only pay their dues to be in good standing, and who have attended two general membership meetings past twelve months, are eligible to run for office and to vote. Candidates must declare their candidacy to the Secretary not less than 96 hours prior to the election.
 - i. Dues for the current calendar year must have been paid by all members wishing to vote at the January elections meeting prior to the start of the meeting in order to be eligible voters.
 - ii. A dormant member who satisfies the attendance requirement may restore good standing by paying dues prior to the start of the elections meeting.
- d. Lists of eligible voters and candidates shall be prepared by the ad hoc credentialing committee thirty days prior to the election. This ad hoc credentialing committee shall be made up of the Secretary, Treasurer, and the Vice Chair. Members who were removed for cause from the Executive Board in accordance with any section of these bylaws shall be ineligible to be candidates or appointees to the Executive Board.
- e. Like all meetings of the VCYR, the elections meeting shall be held under these bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. Proxy voting in elections is allowed. Proxy votes must be given in writing to the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.
- f. If the Chairman is running for reelection in a contested election, an Acting Chairman shall be chosen by the regular members present at the start of the meeting. An Acting Chairman shall be chosen if the Chairman does not immediately proceed to the elections, and the replaced Chairman may not run for office that evening. The Acting Chairman shall not be a candidate for office that evening.
- g. Members may hold only one elected office at a time.
- h. All outgoing officers have fourteen days to turn over all VCYR property to their successors.

Article V. Resolutions and Endorsements

1. The VCYR may pass resolutions representing the views and positions on any specific political or social issue. Resolutions must be presented and read aloud and distributed in writing to all members present, prior to a vote for passage. Passage of resolutions shall require a majority of regular members present.
2. VCYR may endorse candidates in any race occurring in Ventura County, as well as state and local referenda, provided that such endorsements and related activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws governing social welfare organizations under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.
3. Candidates wishing the endorsement of VCYR for a partisan race must be registered Republicans at the time of the endorsement. In a nonpartisan race, candidates not registered as Republicans may still receive an endorsement, provided they are not running against a viable Republican candidate in the same race.
4. Endorsements must be made by the regular members present at a general membership meeting. No endorsements may be made at the January elections meeting.

Article VI. Parliamentary Authority, Amendments, and Ratification

1. At a VCYR general membership meeting, quorum shall be deemed to have been attained upon the presence of a majority of the Executive Board including the Chairman (or Vice Chair in the absence of the chair).
 - a. All meetings of the VCYR shall be held in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. Proxy voting in all votes and elections of the VCYR shall be permitted.
2. Ratification of these bylaws shall require 2/3rds vote of the regular members present, including proxies, at a general membership meeting. Once ratified, these bylaws shall supersede all previous Constitutions, Bylaws, Policies and Working Rules, if any with immediate effect.
3. Amendments to these bylaws shall be presented at an Executive Board meeting in written resolution form and approved by simple majority vote. It then shall be presented at the next general membership meeting, and discussion on the amendment may occur at that meeting. At the next general membership meeting, to be held not more than three months later, 3/4ths of the regular members present must vote for the amendment to be ratified.
 - a. Any Bylaw Amendment which would alter the qualifications for voting membership, abolish any non-vacant office, alter the term of office, change the voting status of any member of the Executive Board, or change this section shall not take effect until the end of the current term.
4. Each term, the Executive Board may wish to adopt Working Rules, which shall last solely for the length of their own term. These Bylaws supersede any Working Rules in cases of conflict.

Article VII. Compliance and Dissolution

1. Compliance with Law. The organization shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to campaign finance, election, and tax laws.
2. Non-Deductibility of Contributions. Contributions, dues, and sponsorships made to the organization are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal or state income tax purposes.
3. Dissolution. Upon the dissolution of the organization, all remaining assets shall be distributed to one or more organizations organized and operated exclusively for social welfare purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to a governmental entity for a public purpose, as determined by the Executive Board.

These amended governing documents shall take effect on January 1, 2026, and shall supersede all prior constitutions, bylaws, policies, and working rules of the organization as of that date.

Approved on December 22, 2025, effective January 1, 2026.

Kathryn Ehret, Chair

Secretary certifies this is a true copy: