

Understanding The *Democratic* Party *Structure*

Presentation by Jess Durfee



The Democratic National
Committee



The California Democratic
Party



The San Diego County
Democratic Party



The Local Democratic Club



Democratic National Committee

- Has general responsibility for the affairs of the Party between National Conventions.
- Issuing the Call to the National Convention.
- Writing and adopting rules for the delegate selection process.
- Conducting the Party's Presidential campaign.
- Formulating & disseminating statements of Party policies.
- Electing DNC officers.
- All other actions needed to carry out



Democratic National Committee

Membership^{ip}:

- 323 State elected members
 - Chair/Vice Chair + 2 or more elected per state
- 75 At Large (nominated by chair)
- 40 Democratic association representatives
- 9 Officers
- 447 Total

Committees: Resolutions, Rules & Bylaws, Credentials, Budget or Finance, and Platform.



Democratic National Committee

Affiliate organizations:

DCCC

Democratic Congressional Campaign
Committee

DSCC

Democratic Senatorial Campaign
Committee

DGA

Democratic Governors Association
& more



California Democratic Party

- ★AKA Democratic State Central Committee
- ★Established under the California Elections Code
- ★Establishes the Rules and Bylaws of the Party
- ★Conducts the “California Coordinated Campaign”
- ★Provides Strategic, Technical, Organizational Support
- ★Organizes & Conducts Annual Conventions



California Democratic Party

- ★ Conducts Endorsements for State and Federal Offices
- ★ Adopts State Democratic Platform, Resolutions, Positions
- ★ Works to Promote and Build the Party
- ★ Works in Collaboration with County Central Committees
- ★ Charters Area and Statewide Organizations
- ★ Ongoing Governance by Executive Board



California Democratic State Central Committee

- ★ Assembly District Election Meetings (ADEM - 14 per AD)
- ★ County Central Committee Members - 4 plus 1 for each 10,000 registered Dems in each County
- ★ Democratic Nominees for State and Federal Office - Nominees appoint from 2 to 6 members each
- ★ Appointees of the Leaders of the Assembly, State Senate, CA Congressional Delegation, and CDP Officers
- ★ DNC Member
 - ★ Total DSCC Membership Approximately 3100



CDP EXECUTIVE Board

Conducts the business of the Party
between conventions.

- ★ Party Officers, Regional Directors, DNC Members
 - ★ Constitutional Officers, 2 from Legislative bodies
 - ★ Standing Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs, Caucus Chairs & Chairs of Chartered Statewide Organizations
 - ★ County Central Committee Representatives
 - *(Approximately 1 member for each 100,000 registered Dems)*
 - ★ Assembly District Representatives
- Total E-Board Membership Approximately



CDP Standing Committees

- ★ Credentials
- ★ Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- ★ Finance
- ★ Legislation
- ★ Organizing
- ★ Platform
- ★ Resolutions
- ★ Rules



County Democratic Party

- ★AKA San Diego County Democratic Central Committee
- ★Established under California Elections Code
- ★Establishes the Rules and Bylaws for the SDCDP
- ★Works Collaboratively with CDP on Campaigns
- ★Works to Build the Party & Register Voters
- ★Elects Members to DSCC and CDP E-Board
- ★Divided into five Areas: North Coast, North Inland, East, Metro West & South



County Democratic Party

Central Committee Members:

- ★ Six members elected from each Assembly District*
- ★ Directors of Clubs & Grassroots Organizing*
- ★ Endorsed Candidates for Partisan offices*
- ★ CDP E-Board Members*
- ★ CDP Officers*
- ★ CDP Caucus Chairs*
- ★ DNC Member*
- ★ Honorary Lifetime Members
- ★ Associate Members

*appoints an alternate member



County Democratic Party

- ★Adopts Resolutions, Platform
- ★Works to Educate and Motivate Voters
- ★Coordinates & supports the GO Team
- ★Recruits, trains & supports local candidates
- ★Endorses candidates in local non-partisan races
- ★Charterers Democratic Clubs
- ★Provides support to Chartered Clubs



County Democratic

Officers: *Chair, Five Area Vice Chairs, Secretary, Controller,
Past-Chair, Directors of Administration, Grassroots Organizing, & Clubs.*

Area Structure:

- ★ Vice Chair for Each Area.
- ★ Makes endorsement recommendations.
- ★ Associates, Alternates & full Members have equal voting rights.



Democratic Clubs

- ★The Ultimate Small-D Democratic Organization
- ★Chartered by County Central Committee
- ★May be Registered with FPPC and FEC
- ★Independent Organizations Associated with Party
- ★Limited Regulation by State and National Party
- ★Establishes Bylaws to Reflect their Members and Purpose
- ★Endorse & Support Democratic Candidates
- ★Participate in GO Team & Voter Registration efforts
- ★Entitled to Appoint Delegates to CDP Endorsing Caucuses
- ★Have Associate votes at SDCDP Area level meetings

Recap of the level to level representation through delegates and representatives:

Local: Clubs & GO Team have associate votes at Central Committee Area meetings. DCC members elected on ballot.

County/ADEM/Ex-O's: All elect or appoint delegates to CDP.

County/ADEM - E-Board Reps

State: Sends delegates to the National Convention and elects 20 DNC members +2

The End
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