

**NSD BYLAWS**  
**RECOMMENDED AMENDMENT**  
**To Change Membership Renewal Cycle from Calendar Year Basis**  
**to Rolling Twelve Month Window**  
**To Be Approved by NSD Voting Members**  
**February 28, 2024**

The Executive Committee of North Scottsdale Democrats is recommending that the the method for determining Annual NSD Membership Renewal Dates be changed from **Calendar Year Basis** to **Rolling Twelve Month Window**. In accordance with this recommendation, the following document presents an amended version of **Article VII- Membership**. Yellow highlighted text indicates where the original language has been altered to implement the Executive Committee’s recommendation. Pink highlighted text indicates additional wording changes made to simplify and clarify unrelated portions of Article VII, without altering the meaning or substance of the original text.

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**MOTION:** It is moved that **Article VII- Membership** of the NSD Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

**Article VII- Members**

**Section 1: NSD Membership:** There shall be two main classes of NSD membership: Non-Voting and Voting.

- A. **Non-Voting General Members** shall be anyone vetted by the Membership Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and/or Chair, who supports the mission of NSD.
  - a. General Members shall be welcome to participate in all NSD general meetings and other programming open to the public.
  - b. General Members shall not have NSD voting rights and shall not be eligible to serve as NSD Officer, Executive Committee Member, or Standing Committee Member.
  - c. General Member names and contact information shall be maintained in organizational lists for general communication purposes.
- B. **Voting Members** shall be either of two types: Basic Voting Member and Sustaining Member.
  - a. **Basic Voting Member** - anyone whose Basic Annual Membership Dues are paid and up to date ([Article VII Section 2A](#)).
    - i. Voting Membership must be renewed every twelve months.
    - ii. Voting Membership shall commence only when the NSD Treasurer has received both a completed membership application and dues payment.
    - iii. Once Voting Membership has been established, the NSD Member shall have full voting rights and be eligible to serve as an NSD Officer, Executive Committee Member, and/or Standing Committee Member for the duration of the Member’s twelve month membership term.
  - b. **Sustaining Member** - anyone who has paid the Annual Sustaining Member Dues ([Article VII Section 2B](#).)

- i. A Sustaining Member shall be a Voting Member with all the same voting rights and membership privileges as the Basic Voting Member.
- ii. In addition, Sustaining Members shall be afforded additional exclusive benefits throughout their term of membership as determined by the Executive Committee.

## Section 2: Annual Dues Amounts:

- A. **Basic Voting Member Annual Dues.** The Basic Annual Membership Dues amount to be a Basic Voting Member shall be at least \$25 per person per year, paid in a single lump sum transaction.
  - a. The Basic Annual Membership Dues payment shall be made online through the ActBlue donation process, or by NSD Contribution Envelope containing BOTH completed membership application as well as the full Basic Annual Membership Dues payment itself in the form of cash, check, or credit card information.
  - b. In order to vote and run for Elected Office in the Biennial Reorganization Meeting ([Article IX](#)), the Basic Annual Membership Dues must be previously paid and up to date before the Biennial Reorganization meeting is called to order.
  - c. Payment of the Basic Annual Dues Amount, whenever it occurs, shall count toward satisfaction of the Annual Sustaining Dues requirement ([Article VII, Section 2B](#)) in the event of a membership upgrade.
- B. **Sustaining Member Annual Dues.** The annual dues amount for Sustaining Members shall be \$300 or more per person per year. The annual Sustaining Member Dues shall be paid in either of two ways:
  - a. In one lump sum payment of at least \$300, or
  - b. In the form of recurring contributions of at least \$25 per month scheduled and paid through ActBlue online donation process.
  - c. If the monthly recurring payment method is used, NSD Sustaining Membership shall continue as long as the monthly recurring dues payments continue.
  - d. In the event of a membership upgrade, prior payment of the Basic Annual Membership Dues ([Article VII, Section 2A](#)) shall count toward satisfaction of the Annual Sustaining Membership Dues requirement for the same twelve month period.
- C. **Change in Dues Amounts.**
  - a. The Basic Annual Membership Dues and/or the Annual Sustaining Member Dues amounts may be changed at any time by majority vote of the NSD Executive Committee.
  - b. But any changes in dues amount(s) shall not become effective until the beginning of the individual member's next twelve month membership cycle.

## Section 3: Evidence of Voting Membership.

- A. **Voting Members in Good Standing.** Voting Members in Good Standing shall be all NSD Members, regardless of member type, whose Annual Membership Dues are paid and up to date.

- B. **Voting Member Records.** The Treasurer shall maintain a complete, accurate and up to date listing of all Voting Members in Good Standing, including mailing address, email address and membership type (Basic or Sustaining).
- C. **Proof of Membership.** The Executive Committee of NSD shall determine, in its sole discretion, the form of Voting Membership proof to be required and the Elections Standing Committee shall be responsible for providing this proof to all Voting Members in Good Standing.
- D. **Not Transferable.** Voting Membership in Good Standing shall not be transferable.
- E. **No Proxies.** Voting proxies shall not be permitted.
- F. **Must be Present.** To vote, a Voting Member in Good Standing shall be present in person (or online, if that option is offered), when votes are taken.
- G. Members of the Elections Standing Committee ([Article VIII, Section 6.c](#)) shall be responsible for determining who is attending a voting event and shall be responsible jointly for counting and confirming the validity of all votes cast.

#### **Section 4: Duties of Membership.**

It is expected that NSD Members, whether dues paying or not, shall be actively involved in the business of NSD, including reading NSD Newsletters and other communications, attending NSD General Meetings, volunteering to help with NSD events and initiatives, voting in NSD elections and generally supporting the mission and objectives of the NSD organization.

#### **Section 5: Equity.**

Discrimination in regard to membership – or the conduct of any other aspect of NSD affairs – on the basis of sex, gender identity, sexual preference, race, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, or disability, shall be strictly prohibited.