

Bylaws of the Green Party of Nevada

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization is Green Party of Nevada.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. These bylaws shall govern the organization, operation, and functions of that political party known as the Green Party of Nevada.

Section 2. The goals of the Green Party of Nevada are to actively promote in every appropriate way the "Ten Key Values" that are the core of Green philosophy, those being: Grassroots democracy, Ecological wisdom, Nonviolence, Future focus, Respect for diversity, Decentralization, Personal and global responsibility, Post-patriarchal values, Social justice, and Community-based economics.

Section 3.

The mission of the Green Party of Nevada is to place before the voters candidates who affirm the ten key values.

ARTICLE III: STRUCTURE

Section 1. Locals.

- A. Each local group may create its own bylaws for making local decisions based on the Green Party of Nevada bylaws.
- B. Each local is responsible for interacting with organizations within the county, for making press releases, organizing actions, and generally building the party at the county level.

Section 2. The affairs of the Green Party of Nevada shall be determined by the General Meeting and the Executive Council. The General Meeting of the Green Party of Nevada is the supreme decision-making body.

A. General Meetings:

1. Membership at General Meetings. One is considered to be a member of the Green Party of Nevada at the General Meetings if one is an:
 - a. Individual who has registered to vote and has indicated Green Party affiliation as per NRS 293.518 or an
 - b. Individual living within Nevada who wishes to participate regardless of political affiliation and registration status and who has:
 - i. Lived in Nevada for a period longer than one year immediately prior to a General Meeting and
 - ii. Declared the desire for affiliation and confirmed their commitment to the "Ten Key Values" of the Green Party in writing at least three months prior to a General Meeting or an
 - c. Individual who has been approved to vote by a consensus of the Executive Council at an Executive Council meeting.
 - d. Individual who has been approved to vote by a consensus of the General Meeting.

2. Responsibility and Authority. Each General Meeting accepts the responsibility, but is not limited to:
 - a. Approve or modify the agenda proposed by the Executive Council
 - b. Approve or modify the means proposed for its conduct by the Executive Council
 - c. Elect new members of the Executive Council
 - d. Amend the Bylaws
 - e. Delegate to the Executive Council and other individuals, either personally present or through a suitable means of communication, who freely accept responsibility for the actions to be made as a result of the decisions of the General Meeting
 - f. Make no decision which will create a responsibility for any other Green Party of Nevada member or individual who has not participated in the decision.
3. Timing of General Meeting. There will be a General Meeting:
 - a. At least once per quarter and
 - b. At such other times as determined by the Executive Council or Green party of Nevada members at a General Meeting.
4. Date and Location. The date and location for the next General Meeting will be determined before the close of each meeting or by the Executive Council with 30 days prior notice to registered Greens in Nevada.

B. Executive Council.

1. The Executive Council shall be the officers of the Green party of Nevada as those terms are used in NRS 293.171 (b) and (c), the Secretary is designated to make filings with the Secretary of State as per NRS 293.171 (d).
2. Composition & Duties: The Executive Council shall be composed of
 - a. Two Co-Chairs, one of each gender if possible otherwise only one Chairperson:
 - i. Facilitate General Meetings
 - ii. Media contact
 - iii. Create proposed agenda for General Meetings
 - iv. Assists other Executive Council members with their work
 - b. One Secretary
 - i. Files certificate of Existence, List of Candidates
 - ii. Communicates with Secretary of State and Federal Election Commission
 - iii. Keeps information current with Green Party US
 - iv. Forwards to the correct contact person or answers inquiries from the public via email, phone.
 - v. Records and publishes State General Meeting minutes and State Executive Council Meeting minutes
 - vi. Coordinates Green Party of Nevada website and database maintenance
 - c. One Treasurer
 - i. Communicates with financial institutions on behalf of the Green Party of Nevada
 - ii. Files and presents Treasurer's Report

- iii. Files financial fundraising reports with the Secretary of State and the Federal Election Commission
 - iv. Maintains credit card, Paypal account
 - v. Maintains budget
 - vi. Handles any other financial responsibilities pertaining to the Green Party of Nevada.
 - d. Four at-large members
 - i. Assists other Executive Council members with work
 - ii. Committee work
3. Election of Executive Council. The election of the Executive council is done:
 - a. Two Co-Chairs (one Chairperson), Treasurer, Secretary, and At-Large positions shall be filled by a 75% vote of Green Party of Nevada members present at the General Meeting following each spring equinox using instant runoff voting.
 - b. Attempts shall be made to ensure that the Executive Council reflects the diversity of the population of Nevada.
4. Eligibility. Any Green Party of Nevada member may be nominated to serve on the Executive Council who:
 - a. Is in attendance at the first General Meeting following each spring equinox and
 - b. Has declared her/his candidacy in writing at least two weeks prior to that meeting and
 - c. Submits a brief personal statement detailing skills and pertinent background information relating to serving on the Executive Council.
5. Terms. Members of the Executive Council shall serve
 - a. Terms of two years, commencing the day after their election
 - b. The terms of the Co-chairs shall be staggered
 - c. The terms of at-large members shall also be staggered, two being elected per year.
 - d. The number of full terms any Executive Council member may serve on the Executive Council shall be two terms.
 - e. In no circumstances shall any current member of the Executive Council serve in more than one position.
6. Vacancy. The Executive Council may fill any vacancy by instant runoff voting at its next scheduled meeting.
 - a. The term of an Executive Council Member elected to fill a vacancy shall last until the first General Meeting following each spring equinox, at which point Green Party of Nevada members will elect a replacement.
 - b. In the event the Executive Council Member elected to fill a vacancy is re-elected to the Executive Council, the partial term served shall not count as a “term” for the purposes of the term-limit provisions of Article III, Section 2.B.5.
7. Compensation. The Executive Council members shall be Green Party of Nevada members and shall serve without pay.
8. Affiliation. The Executive Council shall be empowered to affiliate with the Green Party of the United States.

9. Meetings. Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held
 - a. At least once per month, separate from the General Meetings or
 - b. As necessary as determined by the Co-Chairs (or the Chairperson)
 - c. An Executive Council Meeting may be called by request of a majority of the Executive Council
 - d. The Executive Council shall strive to meet in person but may also meet by telephone or Internet
 - e. Co-Chairs (or the Chairperson) shall notify all Council members of meetings at least one week in advance
 - f. The presence in person, by telephone, or by Internet of at least a majority of Executive Council members shall constitute a quorum
 - g. The Executive Council shall seek consensus on all decisions. In the event unanimous consensus is not reached, a 2/3 vote of those present is required for adoption of any proposal
 - h. Minutes of the discussion and decisions made by the Executive Council shall be:
 - i. Disseminated as widely as practicable to Green Party of Nevada members and
 - ii. Posted to the Green Party of Nevada, County Group e-mail lists, and the Green Party of Nevada website.

10. Duties: The Executive Council shall be the administrative body of the Green Party of Nevada and shall have responsibility to manage and conduct the day-to-day business and operations of the Green Party of Nevada between General Meetings. Specific duties shall be:
 - a. To coordinate statewide actions, events, and meetings, including the General Meetings
 - b. To prepare for state and national conventions
 - c. To make public statements regarding Green Party of Nevada positions on issues
 - d. To create standing and ad hoc committees

ARTICLE IV: NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Candidate “Search” Councils may be established by the General Meeting, the Executive Council, and the Locals.

1. A Statewide candidate search council will be formed of not less than three participating members of the Green Party of Nevada.
2. Each Local may form a search council, or the statewide search council may act to form County and District or other local search councils by random selection of up to fifteen Green Party registered voters from each district in which there is to be an election. The selected voters would be invited to meet and select candidates for local office. These councils will have the assistance of a statewide search council member or other person familiar with the nominating process.

Each search council is charged with:

1. Preparing a list of possible candidates for local offices and other offices and conveying lists of any possible candidates not in their jurisdiction to the appropriate search council;
2. Contacting the prospective candidates, advising the candidates of the Green Party of Nevada candidate qualifications requirements, and interviewing all potential candidates who might appear on the local ballot by a group of three search council members, if possible;
3. Meeting again to review, evaluate and draft a recommendation for one or more candidates for each position;
4. Holding a candidates presentation meeting and inviting all aspiring Green candidates who might appear on the ballot;

The local search councils will hold nominating conventions for the selection of local candidates to assure that no more than one Green Party candidate is to appear for each office.

The statewide search council will make their recommendations and introduce the potential candidates to the Green Party of Nevada Nominating Convention to be held in March or April of each General Election year.

All selections of candidates will be by ballot which will have as a binding option “None of the Above” (NOTA) and a means of identifying preference so that Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) is supported. We will seek unanimity in our choice of candidates, and provide all suitable opportunity to members to voice concerns and take blocking positions on the selection of candidates. If anyone should present reasons to prevent an individual’s candidacy the Convention may choose to uphold the proposed block by a ballot vote of not less than 50%.

Voting at local nominating conventions will be by Green Party members.

Voting at the statewide nominating conventions will be by registered Green Party members who have been participants in Green Party activities and selected, and certified, by Locals or by the state party where Locals are not active.

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended by a regular or special meeting of the Green Party of Nevada. The Bylaws of the Green Party of Nevada may be amended by a General Meeting for which a possible bylaws amendment has been announced. The decision to amend requires consensus or, if consensus is not achieved and more than half of the members present determines that a vote must be taken, a two thirds majority.

Modified and Adopted: March 26, 2006