**CONSTITUTION**

of the

Young Americans For Liberty at De Anza College

**PREAMBLE:**

We are the Young Americans for Liberty (YAL). As Americans we recognize the natural rights of life, liberty, and property set forth by our Founding Fathers. Our country was created to protect the freedoms of the individual and directed by we the people.

We recognize that freedom deserves responsibility and therefore we hold ourselves to a high moral character and conduct. Integrity emphasizes our stance towards action. Principle defines our outlook towards government. Peace and prosperity drives our ambitions towards our countrymen.

We inherit a corrupt, coercive world that has lost respect for voluntary action. Our government has failed and dragged our country into moral decay. The political class dominates the agenda with a violent, callous, controlling grip. And, for this we do not stand.

We welcome all those who trust in the creed we set forth.

**WE,** as Young Americans for Liberty believe:

**THAT** government is the negation of liberty;

**THAT** voluntary action is the only ethical behavior;

**THAT** respect for the individual's property is fundamental to a peaceful society;

**THAT** violent action is only warranted in defense of one's property;

**THAT** the individual owns his/her body and is therefore responsible for his/her actions;

**THAT** society is a responsibility of the people, not the government.

**Mission Statement**

 The Young Americans for Liberty’s (YAL) mission is to train, educate, and mobilize youth activists committed to “winning on principle”. Our goal is to cast the leaders of tomorrow and reclaim the policies, candidates, and direction of our government.

**ARTICLE I – Young Americans For Liberty**

The name of this club shall be Young Americans for Liberty at De Anza College hereinafter referred to as “the YAL chapter”, "the organization", or "the club."

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE OF CLUB**

The purposes of the Club are as follows:

Section I

To research, study, inform and educate the public, concerning public policy issues, including but not limited to those listed in the Preamble.

Section II

To assist in the recruitment and training of students as preparation for future service as leaders in the local community, state, and nation.

Section III

To hold and host regular campus and community meetings, forums, lectures, films, conferences, debates, rallies, protests, or other such events to promote the ideals of the Club.

Section IV

To distribute literature and materials that promotes the ideals of the Club and raises money to promote the ideals of the Club.

Section V

To participate in student government elections, local political campaigns, and initiatives.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Any DASB cardholder who carries a minimum of 1/2 unit is eligible to join this club. Club members may not be on academic or social probation.

Section I Voting Members

Membership in the club shall be open to all full-time and part-time De Anza College students who remain in good standing with the national organization and university. Members must attend at least two consecutive meetings a quarter to be considered a member in that quarter. Members may take part in all activities and privileges of the club. All membership shall be determined without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, veteran status, handicap status, disability or sexual orientation. Membership with the national organization is recommended but not necessary to vote in club affairs.

**ARTICLE IV – QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1

Club officers must be currently enrolled, have a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA), must maintain 4 units, have a current DASB card, and must not be on academic or social probation.

Section 2

The election of the Club Officers shall be held during the Sixth (6th) week of the Spring Quarter.

Club Officers shall be elected by a simple majority vote of active Club Members present at that Club Meeting. In the event that there are three (3) or more candidates and no one person receives a simple majority of votes then the top two (2) candidates will participate in a run-off election. New officers will be sworn in upon completion 8th week of the Spring or Fall Quarter.

Section 3

The election will be done by secret ballot by club members who have attended at least two meetings.

**ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

Section 1 – President

1. Preside over all meetings.
2. Call special meetings.
3. Carry out the provisions of the constitution.
4. Appoint committees and chairpersons.
5. Oversee all committee activities.

Section 2 – Vice President/ICC Rep

1. Assume the duties of the president in his/her absence.
2. Perform any duties delegated by the president.
3. Attend all Inter Club Council meetings.
4. Report the results of ICC meetings at club meetings.

Section 3 – Secretary

1. Record and keep accurate minutes of all meetings.
2. Act as correspondence clerk.
3. Print and distribute agenda for all meetings.

Section 4 – Treasurer

1. Handle funds and finances for club.
2. Keep financial records and collect dues.
3. Pay bills and release funds as voted by the general membership.
4. Make financial reports at least once a month at the meeting.

**ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Section 1

The Executive Council will consist of the President, Vice President/ICC Representative, Secretary, and Treasurer (or list the different officer titles) who shall meet as often as necessary.

Section 2 – Duties of the Executive Council

1. To formulate policy of the club between regular meetings and in case of emergencies, subject to approval of the general membership.
2. To execute policies determined by the general membership.
3. To govern activities of the club.
4. To compile agenda for general meetings.

**ARTICLE VII – IMPEACHMENT/REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT**

**OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

Section V. Removal of Officers

Officers may be removed from their position by a majority vote of the remaining officers AND a 3/4 vote by voting members in the Club. In the event of an officer removal or resignation, the vacancy shall be filled by an appointment made by the remaining officers.

Section 1

All elected officers and club members may be subjected to impeachment and removal by a two-thirds majority vote of the total membership.

Section 2

Grounds for impeachment are negligence and any form of misconduct which is damaging to the club. An officer/member may be impeached/removed only under the following conditions: there must be a quorum present during impeachment/removal; two-thirds of the membership must vote; prior to impeachment/removal there must be one week's notice of intent publicized.

Section 3

Any officer vacancies shall be filled by an election held within two weeks.

**ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS**

Section IV. Meetings.

The Club shall have meetings no less than once a month and more often as the Club officers deem necessary.

Section 1

There must be public notice of club meetings on the club board at least five (5) school days in advance.

Section 2

There must be a meeting at least once a month held at De Anza College.

Section 3

There must be a quorum (a quorum is 50 percent plus 1 of the active or dues paying membership) present in order to take care of financial action.

Section 4

Minutes must be kept of all financial action with the club secretary.

Section 5

The treasurer will need to make a written and oral report at least once a month at the meeting.

**ARTICLE IV - BOOKS AND RECORDS**

Section I. Books and Records

The Club shall keep correct and complete books and records of financial accounts, and also shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its membership meetings.

**ARTICLE X – ADVISOR**

Section 1 – The role of the advisor is to:

1. Serve as the official staff representative of the college.
2. Work closely with the club to ensure a cooperative relationship between the advisor, and the club membership.
3. Assist each officer of the club in understanding their duties.
4. Give particular attention to the financial activities of the group in order to prevent the incurring of organizational debts for succeeding members to pay.
5. Assist students to understand and apply democratic principles within their own organizations, and in working with others.
6. Be present for all official club/organization meetings and activities (business and social), and to advise students of the policies and procedures which they must follow as a club/organization.
7. Be familiar with the ICC Code, ICC Financial Code, ICC Concessions Code, and club financial process.
8. Ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure the safety, and welfare of club members.
9. Ensure that appropriate college policies are upheld.
10. To sign all club/organization requisitions for the club/organizations, and to make sure that 1) their student treasurer or president or vice president signs it and 2) that the expenditure is correct within all existing policies.

**ARTICLE XI – RESPONSIBILITIES**

Section 1

This club accepts full financial responsibility for all activities that bear its name as official sponsor, and will adhere to college regulations. All publicity for an event must bear the name of the sponsoring club.

**ARTICLE XII – RIGHT TO ACT**

Section 1

Any club officer, club member does not have the right to incur any debt or become involved in any business under the title or by implying the title of a club in any way unless given full authority to do so by the club.

**ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Section 1

Any amendment change requires a two-thirds vote at a general club meeting and must then be approved at the ICC Agenda Meeting.

**ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments to Constitution

This Constitution may be altered, or amended and new Bylaws may be adopted by the affirmative vote of 67% or higher of the officers and 75% or higher of all voting members in attendance. Officers wishing to amend the Constitution must inform all members of a vote no less than two weeks prior to the vote.

Section II. Club Requirements

Regardless of changes to the Constitution, the following must remain:

* At least three officer positions, comprised of President, Treasurer, and Vice President must exist.
* Officer elections must be held between December 1st and January 31st of each calendar year with officers serving for one year.
* The chapter shall operate independently but maintain good standing with the national Young Americans for Liberty organization.