

Bylaws Template for Prospective County Affiliates

This template provides a standardized structure for a new or reactivated county affiliate, drawing from LPO bylaws where applicable. It ensures compliance while allowing local customization. Use this as a fillable outline when drafting county-specific governing documents (which must be submitted to the LPO Secretary and LPO Chair per Article VI, Sec. 7).

1. Preamble and Basics

- **Name:** Libertarian Party of [County Name], Oregon (LPCO-[County]).
- **Purpose:** Align with LPO Article II—elect libertarians to office and advocate for liberty/limiting government/minimizing force. Explicitly reference LPO Statement of Principles (Article III).
- **Affiliation:** Subsidiary of LPO (Article V, Sec. 1-2). Activities limited to [County Name].
- **Governing Authority:** Subject to LPO bylaws, standing rules, and Oregon election laws (Article XVI).

2. Membership

- **Classes:** Mirror LPO (Article IV): Registered (voters affiliated with LP in county), Regular (dues-paying, aged 15+, agreeing to non-aggression statement), Honorary Lifetime (conferred by county or LPO Exec Comm).
- **Requirements:** Regular members must pay local dues (\$50/year). Aim for at least 5 regular members to qualify for LPO Exec Comm representation (Article VII, Sec. 2).
- **Rights/Duties:** Voting in local nominations (if delegated per Article V, Sec. 2), attending meetings. Resignation/termination procedures per LPO Article IV, Sec. 6-7.
- **Recruitment Goal:** Target 10-20 initial members to ensure sustainability.

3. Officers and Leadership

- **Positions:** Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer (mirroring LPO Article VI, Sec. 1). Optional: At-large directors or committee chairs (e.g., for outreach, events).
- **Eligibility:** Must be regular LPO members and registered LP voters (Article VI, Sec. 2; Article VII, Sec. 4). No dual office-holding with LPO state roles (Article VI, Sec. 4; Article IX, Sec. 2).

- **Election/Terms:** Elected annually by members at county convention/meeting (ballot voting per Article XII). Terms: 1 year, with limits on consecutive terms (adapt from Article VI, Sec. 4).
- **Duties:**
 - Chairperson: Lead meetings, represent the county.
 - Vice-Chairperson: Assist with member outreach.
 - Secretary: Maintain records, submit to LPO Secretary (Article VI, Sec. 7).
 - Treasurer: Handle finances (double-entry bookkeeping per Article VI, Sec. 8; budget/debt limits per Article VIII).
- **Executive Committee:** Officers plus 2-4 at-large members. Quorum: Majority of committee. Meetings: Quarterly minimum.

4. Committees and Operations

- **Standing Committees:** Outreach (recruitment), Nominating (if delegated), Finance/Audit (annual review per Article VIII, Sec. 3 analog).
- **Meetings/Conventions:** Hold annual county convention for elections/nominations (if delegated per Article V, Sec. 2 and Article XI). Quorum: 5 members (align with Article X, Sec. 4). Use Robert's Rules (Article XIX).
- **Finances:** Annual budget (2/3 vote to adopt). No debt over \$200 without approval. Annual audit by non-officers.
- **Nominations:** If delegated by LPO Exec Comm, hold special conventions for local offices (Article XI). Use approval voting (Article XII).

5. Amendments and Compliance

- **Amendments:** 2/3 vote at county convention, submitted to LPO Secretary.
- **Dispute Resolution:** Refer to LPO Judicial Committee (Article IX).
- **Dissolution:** By majority vote; assets to LPO.

6. Attachments/Forms

- Membership application (with non-aggression pledge).
- Petition for chartering (e.g., signatures from 5+ prospective members).
- Initial budget template.

