

AMENDMENTS TO ATA BYLAWS - 2016

[Words deleted are ~~crossed off~~. Words added are in ***bold italics***.]

Article III - Officers and Board of Directors, Section 3 - Eligibility

Any Regular, Family, Life, or Honorary member of the Association in good standing ***who is eighteen (18) years of age or over*** shall be eligible to hold any office or to serve on any committee....

...the Board of Directors who shall have the right to fill any vacancy whether by resignation, death, or expulsion until the next ~~biennial~~ election...., except that succession to the office of President shall be filled by the First Vice President, then by the Second Vice President, and then by the Board of Directors until the next ~~biennial~~ election.

The second part of this amendment brings this section in line with the amendment adopted in January, changing terms of office from two to three years. See next entry.

ARTICLE III. Officers and Board of Directors, Section 4 - Election

The officers of the Association shall be elected by a mail ***or electronic*** ballot of the entire Regular, Family, Life, and Honorary membership for ~~two~~ ***three*** year terms ~~with elections held biennially~~ as prescribed by the Board of Directors. ***The terms of office shall be staggered so that approximately one-third of the terms of office shall expire each year. No member shall serve more than twelve consecutive years.***

The terms of office shall commence at the conclusion of the Association's annual meeting ~~on an even numbered year~~ and shall continue to the conclusion of the Association's annual meeting at the ~~next even numbered year~~, ***end of the member's term.*** ~~or until their successor is duly elected.~~

Nominations may be made by an Association Chapter ~~or by ten~~ ***or Study Unit, or by five*** Regular, Family, Life, or Honorary members in good standing.

This amendment is intended to help avoid many members going off the Board at the same time. For the 2016 election, five of the 13 Board members chose not to be nominated. It is not healthy to have such a major turnover at one time. Staggered terms of office would discourage this.

The previous term of two years is quite short. By the time new members become accustomed to the Board's procedures and practices, their term is up. For that reason, three-year terms are the standard for many other boards.

Returning Board members can provide valuable history, perspective and experience, but long-term Board members can prevent the Board from receiving the originality, creativity, fresh ideas, enthusiasm and passion of new members. A limit of twelve consecutive years of service on the Board will help foster a good balance of old and new.

...Nominations must be received by the Executive Director in such form and by such date as the Board of Directors may prescribe. ***The president shall appoint a Nominating Team to coordinate the process, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. If the nominations received in the above manner do not result in at least one person nominated for each position, the Nominating Team shall make the additional nominations needed and present them to the Board and then to the Association members by ballot.*** Ballots shall be published in *Topical Time*, ***online***, or mailed separately....

This amendment reflects the way nominations have been made in recent years. It also eliminates the practice of requiring names of nominees (that are not determined by petition) to be submitted to a chapter for nomination. By tradition, the Johnstown (PA) Chapter has performed the formality of submitting those nominations.

CLARIFICATIONS AND EDITORIAL CHANGES

- a. Article III, Section 4; Article III, Section 5

Change “chairman” to “**chairperson**”

- b. Change “Topical Time” and “TOPICAL TIME” to “**Topical Time**” wherever those words appear.

[Article III, Section 4; Article IV, Section 1; Article VI, Sections 1 and 2; Article X, Section 2]

- c. Add the words “**or electronic**” between the words “mail” and “ballot” each time those words appear.

[Article III, Section 4; Article X, Sections 1 and 2]

- d. Article III - Officers and Board of Directors, Section 9 – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the custody of all securities and funds of the Association subject to the supervision of the Board of Directors; and shall, **with the Executive Director**, present to each annual meeting a complete financial report of the Association.

This is what now occurs.

- e. Article III - Officers and Board of Directors, Section 11 - Executive Director

Remove “central” before “office.”

The ATA Office is no longer called the “central” office.

- f. Article V – Committees, Section 2 - Quorum and Tenure

...Tenure of all committees shall be **two years – the dates shall be decided by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors**, ~~the term~~

~~for which officers of the Association are elected or until the committee is~~

~~discharged~~, except that any committee member may be removed from an appointment at anytime, with or without cause, by a two-thirds affirmative vote of all members of the Board of Directors....

This amendment reflects current practice.

CHAPTERS AND STUDY UNITS

- Article VII – Chapters, Sections 1 and 2

Change “Director” of Chapters to “**Coordinator**” of Chapters

“Coordinator” is more descriptive of this position and cannot be confused with “Board Director.”

Section 2 - Dues, Reports and Representatives

Each Chapter shall pay dues as determined by the Board of Directors, and such dues shall accompany the application. **Bylaws shall be required of each Chapter.** Each Chapter shall submit an annual report...

- ARTICLE VIII - Units, Sections 1 and 2

Change “Director” of Units to “**Coordinator**” of Units

Section 2. Reports and Representatives

Dues to the Association, if any, shall be paid as determined by the Board of Directors. **Bylaws shall be required of each Unit.** Each Unit shall submit one copy of each publication and an annual report...