

Proposed Changes Summary

The NFDA Board of Directors has approved the following proposed changes to the Bylaws to be submitted to the Membership for consideration and a vote during the 2024 voting period. The purpose of each of the proposed changes is detailed below.

(Changes are in red and a complete redline version of the proposed, revised Bylaws may be found [HERE](#).)

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I. Addition and Clarification of a “School Member”

- Insertion of the definition of “School Member” at Article II, Definitions, Subsection S:

“School Member” shall have the meaning set forth in Section H of Article V.

- Insertion of the definition of “School Member” at Article V, Members and Categories, Subsection H:

School Members

A school of mortuary science that is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education or school of mortuary science in an area other than a State which is duly accredited as required by that jurisdiction, and its employees, may become a School Member of NFDA by making written application to NFDA. School Member shall be entitled to only those membership privileges of NFDA that are made available to School Members by the Board of Directors. School Members may not vote for or serve as an Officer or member of the Board of Directors of NFDA.

- Explanation of Changes:

This change is not a policy change. It is simply a publication of existing NFDA policy to clarify the difference between a School Member and a Firm Member as some schools also operate one or more Funeral Home Facilities. If a school operates one or more Funeral Home Facilities, it may elect to be a Firm Member or a School Member. The proposed language mirrors the definition of Student Members found in Article V: Members and Categories, Subsection F.

II. Changing of Specific Date Deadlines to a Prescribed Timeframe Before Relevant Event

- Revisions to Article VIII, Officers, Section C2:

The Leadership Development Committee shall review the officer candidate applications it receives and interview the officer candidates. ~~On or before March 1,~~ ~~†~~The Leadership Development Committee shall issue a list of those candidates it finds qualified for each office **at least 30 days before officer elections.**

- Revisions to Article VIII, Officers, Section C3:

Any Individual Member who has completed the candidate application and interview

process with the Leadership Development Committee and who was not on the list of qualified candidates issued by the Leadership Development Committee for the particular office he or she is seeking, will be added to the ballot if he or she submits to the NFDA Secretary ~~prior to April 1~~ **at least 21 days before voting begins for that position** a petition signed by a minimum of 250 Individual Members nominating the Individual Member as a candidate.

- Revisions to Article IX, Board of Directors, Section E2:

The Leadership Development Committee shall review the At-large Representative candidate applications and interview the At-large Representative candidates. ~~On or before March 1,~~ **The Leadership Development Committee shall issue a list of those candidates it finds qualified for the At-large Representative positions at least 30 days before the at-Large representative elections.**

- Revisions to Article IX, Board of Directors, Section E3:

Any Individual Member who has completed the At-large Representative candidate application process and interview with the Leadership Development Committee and who was not on the list of qualified candidates issued by the Leadership Development Committee for an At-large Representative position will be added to the ballot if he or she submits to the NFDA Secretary **at least 21 days before voting begins for that position** ~~prior to April 1~~ a petition signed by a minimum of 250 Individual Members nominating the Individual Member as a candidate.

- Revisions to Article IX, Board of Directors, Section E5(a):

At-large Representatives shall be elected by the State Associations. ~~Prior to May 1~~ **At least two months prior to the Leadership Conference** of each year, each State Association shall notify the NFDA Secretary of the name and address of the State Association Representative, and one alternate should the primary designee be unavailable, who is designated to cast the vote for that State Association in the election of the At-large Representatives...

- Explanation of Change:

This change is being made to allow NFDA to change the dates of elections based on that year's calendar of events while ensuring that the necessary timeframes are established to ensure candidates and the membership have sufficient time to complete the relevant actions.

III. Removal of Previously Approved and Obsolete Language

- Removal of Article X, Committees, Section B1(a):

~~As an interim provision and notwithstanding any provisions in these Bylaws to the contrary, the composition of the Leadership Development Committee shall be comprised of the outgoing Immediate Past President whose term on the Board of Directors ended as of October 19, 2021, and nine (9) individuals who served on the Policy Board anytime during the calendar years of 2020 or 2021. Those nine (9) new members shall be elected to the Leadership Development Committee by the Policy Board at its October 16, 2021 meeting. The former or current Policy Board members elected to the Leadership Development Committee shall be those nine (9) members receiving the most votes. The NFDA President shall assign three (3) of the elected~~

~~members a three (3) year term, three (3) of the elected members a three (3) year term, three (3) of the elected members a two (2) year term, and three (3) of the elected members a one (1) year term. The terms of these elected members of the Leadership Development Committee shall begin at the conclusion of the 2021 Annual Convention and terminate at the conclusion of the Annual Convention in the year that their respective term ends. Following the initial election of the nine (9) Policy Board members to the Leadership Development Committee, Subsection B(1)(b) below shall be used to appoint all subsequent members of the Leadership Development Committee and this Subsection B(1)(a) shall be null and void and shall, without any formal action to further amend these Bylaws, be stricken from the Bylaws.~~

IV. Removal of Article XIV: Interim Provisions:

~~Notwithstanding any provision of the Bylaws to the contrary, the provisions set out in this Article XV shall be controlling over any conflicting or contradictory term or condition in the Bylaws for the interim periods noted below. Following the expiration of such designated interim periods, the provisions of this Article XIV shall be null and void, and shall, without any formal action on the part of NFDA members, be stricken from the Bylaws.~~

A. ~~Officers and Immediate Past President~~

~~The term of the current Officers and Immediate Past President of NFDA shall be extended for an additional one (1) year and will now terminate at the Annual Convention in 2021. At the Annual Convention in 2021, the current President-elect shall succeed to the office of the President, and those individuals who were elected by acclamation in 2020 to the offices of President-elect, Treasurer, and Secretary shall assume those offices to serve until the Annual Convention in 2022.~~

B. ~~At Large Representatives~~

~~The terms of the At Large Representatives John Wenig and Christopher Robinson shall be extended for one (1) additional year and shall terminate at the conclusion of the Annual Convention in 2021. The terms of At Large Representatives Linda Allan and Daniel Ford shall be extended for one (1) additional year and shall terminate at the conclusion of the Annual Convention in 2022. The terms of the two (2) candidates elected by the Policy Board in August, 2020 to the position of At Large Representative shall commence at the conclusion of the Annual Convention in 2021. In the meantime, these two (2) At Large Representatives-elect shall attend meetings of the Board of Directors, but shall not be a voting member of the Board of Directors until their term commences.~~

C. ~~Election~~

~~In 2021, there shall not be an election for At Large Representatives unless there is then a vacancy.~~

- Explanation of Change:

This change is to remove null and void provisions and does not require a vote as it has already been approved by NFDA Membership.

More information on these proposed changes may be found [HERE](#).

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