

AMENDMENT TO OHFAMA BYLAWS

PROPOSITION B-20: MULTIPLE BYLAWS CHANGES

PURPOSE: To update bylaws in compliance with recent APMA bylaws changes and to update bylaws in multiple other areas.

BACKGROUND: Occasionally an update to association bylaws are necessary for a variety of reasons which may include:

- Compliance with APMA bylaws changes.
- Compliance with local, state and federal statutes.
- Common sense updates and edits.
- Recommended changes by elected officials and general membership.

Although the research presented by the OHFAMA House of Delegates Assessment Committee combined with two independent membership surveys has indicated that a change from our House of Delegates (HOD) annual meeting format to an Annual Business Meeting format makes sense and Resolution 19-01 from the 2019 OHFAMA HOD passed, indicating the Association's desire to pursue a change in annual meeting format, it is not a guarantee that this policy will pass the 2020 OHFAMA HOD. It is still vital to the Association that other policies proposed still be considered for changes to OHFAMA bylaws. Therefore, these other changes are presented here for consideration if the Proposition that includes the Annual Business Meeting change fails to pass.

Over the last three years, there has been significant changes in the structure of APMA governance and bylaws that will require a parallel change to the OHFAMA bylaws. Membership category definition changes and dues payment process changes have dictated changes in OHFAMA bylaws and are presented in the attached bylaws.

The passage of Proposition A-19 at the 2019 OHFAMA HOD has led to the proposed changes on term and election of the Young Member Trustee.

The passage of Resolution 19-02 at the 2019 OHFAMA HOD has led to changing the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee from an appointed member of the committee to the elected Treasurer of the OHFAMA.

Creation of an OHFAMA membership category called Federal Services Member. Currently, podiatrists in Federal Services can elect to be members in the APMA Federal Services category or become an OHFAMA Active member. APMA bylaws prohibit membership in both components. Those who choose the APMA Federal Services membership have no benefits or association from OHFAMA if they practice in Ohio. The addition of the OHFAMA Federal Services Member category will enable these members to be included in some of the benefits and associations of OHFAMA membership instead of exclusion. APMA Federal Services members who practice in Ohio are valued members of our profession in the state and carry many

of the same concerns, hardships, goals and aspirations as OHFAMA members and should not be a forgotten voice or partner in this profession.

Some proposed bylaws changes are minor edits, corrections of typos/errors and changes of personal preference. A minor edit example is the consolidation of privileges for OHFAMA Employee, Honorary, Life, Permanently Disabled, Federal Service and Student members. The most significant error correction is the movement of lines from the Active member privileges to the Postgraduate member privileges that were misplaced in a previously published version after the 2018 OHFAMA HOD. An example of a change of personal preference is the renaming of the Finance and Budget Committee to the Budget and Finance Committee.

It is proposed to remove any statement of Association dues and fees from the bylaws and move them to a new document proposed called the "OHFAMA Dues and Fees Schedule". The OHFAMA bylaws are a legal document and the intent is for structure and stability in its declarations. Dues and fees assessments are dependent on the financial status of the world and the budget of the Association, all of which can change annually. The Association would be better served to have a separate document of dues and fees that can be easier for members to access and understand, as it will be all in one place and consolidated, and it will be a document that can be amended by the Association without rewriting the bylaws.

It is proposed to limit the terms of the OHFAMA Secretary/Treasurer to five consecutive terms. All officers within the Executive Committee, with exception of the Secretary/Treasurer, follow a path from 2nd VP, 1st VP, President and Immediate Past President and therefore are term limited. They serve four years and have one vote each on committee issues. The Secretary/Treasurer has traditionally been held for more consecutive terms than the other officers. While the nature of the office of Secretary/Treasurer may benefit from the experience that comes with multiple terms, it is not enough to justify the seniority on voting matters to a point and some uniformity in consecutive terms should be instituted. Thus, it is proposed in the bylaws changes that the OHFAMA Secretary/Treasurer be limited to five consecutive terms.

The current OHFAMA bylaws lack a process to replace the Young Member Trustee or the APMA 2nd Alternate Delegate should either leave office for any reason prior to the completion of his/her term. This is now defined in the bylaws proposed.

It is proposed to allow the Board of Trustees (BOT) to vote on matters electronically. A formal policy is not currently in place and the recent difficulties in meeting personally due to COVID19 has made it evident that there may be times when it is the best option in order to govern the Association properly, efficiently and safely.

It is proposed to add an emergency bylaws amendment procedure. There is a written policy but not one clearly stated within OHFAMA bylaws for this. The policy presented in the bylaws changes mimics the one in the APMA bylaws.

REFERENCES:

- OHFAMA bylaws
- APMA bylaws

POLICY DOCUMENT: OHFAMA Bylaws

SUBMITTED BY: OHFAMA Board of Trustees

CO-SPONSORED BY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The cost of research and materials of these bylaws changes was less than \$50. The future cost of implementation of these bylaws changes is projected to be \$0.

INSTRUCTIONS: Delete the stricken text and insert the underlined text.

BYLAWS: Document attached.