

## B4.1 GOVERNMENT

- B4.1.1.1 The Society and its individual members shall be governed by this Constitution and these By-Laws and by the current Society Policies and procedures established by the Board of Governors, including any amendments that may be made from time to time.
- B4.1.1.2 Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the organization is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under IRC 501(c) 3 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.
- B4.1.2.1 Each unit of the Society may specify the requirements for a quorum of that unit in its By-laws, Rules and Procedures or Operation Guide. If no quorum requirements are specified a quorum shall be one half or more of the voting members of the unit.
- B4.1.2.2 Every question which shall come before a meeting of any unit of the Society shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution and By-Laws, by the Society Policies, or by the laws of the State of New York.
- B4.1.3 The rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable, when not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Society.
- B4.1.4.1 An Annual Report shall be prepared for the fiscal year ending on June 30.
- B4.1.4.2 The material included in the portion of the report covering the Society year shall show the following in appropriate detail:
- a. A report by the President;
  - b. A listing of the Society Officers;
  - c. Summaries of major Society activities; and
  - d. A listing of recipients of Society awards
- B4.1.4.3 The material included in the portion of the report covering each fiscal year shall show the following in appropriate detail:
- a. The number of Society members at the beginning and end of the fiscal year and a statement of the place where the names and addresses of the members may be found;
  - b. The assets and liabilities of the Society including trust funds, at the beginning and end of the fiscal year;
  - c. The revenue or receipts of the Society, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes, during the fiscal year; and
  - d. The expenses or disbursements of the Society for both general and restricted purposes during the fiscal year.

B4.1.4.4 The financial information described in B4.1.4.3 b, c, and d shall be verified by the President and the Treasurer, subject to completion of the annual audit by the outside auditors who are appointed by the Board of Governors and ratified by the membership at the first Business Meeting of each fiscal year.

B4.1.4.5 At the first Business Meeting of each fiscal year, the Annual Report, including the information described in B4.1.4.2 and B4.1.4.3, as verified according to B4.1.4.4, shall be presented by the Executive Director and Treasurer to the members assembled and made available to the membership. The Annual Report shall be filed with the records of the Society, and either a copy or an abstract thereof entered in the minutes of the proceedings of that Business Meeting.

B4.1.5 Any officer of the Society or member of any sector, board, committee, or other unit of the Society appointed or elected by the Board of Governors or by any unit of the Society may be removed or suspended from such office or membership by the Board of Governors for cause (which shall include, without limitation, violations of fiduciary duty, racial or other improper discrimination, sexual harassment and defamation).

Any officer of the Society or member of such sector, board, committee or other unit of the Society elected by the corporate membership may be removed for cause only by the vote of the corporate membership, but his or her authority to act as such officer or member may be suspended by the Board of Governors for cause.

Removal for cause by the Board of Governors shall require an affirmative vote of seven members of the Board of Governors. Suspension for cause shall require the vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Governors present at the time of the vote, provided that a quorum is present.

Written notice shall be given to the person to be removed or suspended for cause as early as practicable and in any event at least five days before any action is to be taken by the Board of Governors. The person to be removed or suspended for cause shall be given an opportunity to present a defense to the Board of Governors.

B4.1.6.1 If a nominee for the Board of Governors is unable to stand for election, the Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Board of Governors another nominee to fill the slate.

If a person elected to the Board of Governors is unable to take office, the Board of Governors shall fill the vacant position by appointment.

If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Governors after an elected Governor has been seated, the Board of Governors shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term.

B4.1.6.2 In filling the office of President, the procedure shall be as follows: The most recent available past President shall act as President pro tem and shall call an executive session of the Board of Governors within one month after the vacancy in the Presidency occurs, at which session the Board of Governors shall elect a President to complete the unexpired portion of the presidential term. The new President shall be chosen from among those who are past Presidents, past or current senior vice presidents, or past or current members of the Board of Governors.

If for any reason the President-elect is unable to take office or the nominee for President is unable to stand for election, the Nominating Committee shall be convened immediately and select another nominee for the office of President.

Election of a new President-elect shall be by special ballot provided to each corporate member.

B4.1.6.3 If a senior vice president elect is unable to take office, the Board of Governors will appoint another nominee to fill the office. A replacement nominee shall be proposed to the Board of Governors in accordance with the procedures of each sector.

B4.1.6.4 Any vacancy in the office of senior vice president, Executive Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Chief Financial Officer or Assistant Treasurer shall be filled by the Board of Governors.

If a senior vice president position becomes vacant during an incumbent's term of office, the Board of Governors shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term. A replacement nominee shall be proposed to the Board of Governors in accordance with the procedures of each sector.

B4.1.7 An act of the Board of Governors which shall have received the expressed or implied sanction of the corporate membership at the following Business Meeting of the Society shall be deemed to be an act of the Society and cannot afterward be impeached by any member.

B4.1.8 A person shall not be an officer of the Society in two different elective offices at the same time. A person who has been elected to a position of an officer of the Society shall not be nominated for another elective office of the Society if there is any overlapping of the term of the proposed office with the term of the office to which that person has already been elected.

B4.1.9 The Board of Governors may create such special committees as it may deem desirable. The members of such committees shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Board. Special committees shall have only the powers specifically delegated to them by the Board. If a special committee shall include individuals who are not Governors, it is not a committee of the Board and may not bind the Board.

Each special committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. Any or all members of any committee may be removed, with or without cause, by resolution of the Board of Governors, adopted by a majority of the Board.

Any committee may adopt rules governing the method of calling and time and place of holding its meetings. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, a majority of any committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of the members of the committee present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the committee. Each committee shall keep a record of its acts and proceedings and shall report thereon to the Board whenever requested to do so.

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board or any special committee may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board or the committee consent in writing or by electronic mail to the adoption of a resolution authorizing the action. The resolution and the written consent thereto shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or the committee.

Any one or more members of the Board or any special committee may participate in a meeting of the Board or committee by means of a conference telephone, videoconference, or similar communications equipment, allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the time, propose, object to and vote on specific actions to be taken by the Board or committee. Participating by such means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. All members of the Board or any special committee must be given adequate prior notice about the arrangements for such meetings.

- B4.1.10 The Board of Governors may delegate to the sectors and the standing committees of the Board as established in these By-Laws, for a period of one year, specific responsibilities for the management of one or more programs of the Society, subject to the supervision of the Board and to any limitation prescribed by the Board or by applicable law.
- B4.1.11 Members in office shall continue in their respective offices until their successors have been elected or appointed, and have accepted their offices.