

AOSA BYLAW PROPOSAL 1, 2024

PURPOSE: To eliminate the membership committee and shift the responsibilities of said committee to the Vice President and Executive board.

The Membership Committee has and is not operating according to the current Bylaws. It currently consists of 1 person for whom all membership applications are submitted. If the applicant meets the criteria of applied membership the application is sent to the Executive board for approval. After approval the tentative member is presented to the membership at the annual meeting for their acceptance to be voted on. This is very cumbersome and includes many steps that are unnecessary. The proposed rule would streamline the process and allow applicants for membership to be approved and voted on by the Executive board therefore bypassing the need for membership voting at the annual meeting.

CURRENT RULE

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

4. Membership

e. Honorary Members - Any person who has rendered signal service in one or more of the fields of activity of the Association mentioned in Article III is eligible for Honorary Membership. Any Member of the Association may nominate a person for Honorary Membership. Such nominations shall be submitted to the Membership Committee. If approved by the Executive Board, the name will be presented to the members during the Annual Meeting. They shall be declared elected upon a two-thirds majority vote. Honorary Members shall be eligible for appointment to committees and committee chairs and may enter motions in meetings of the Association but shall not be eligible for election as an officer or member of the Executive Board of the Association or entitled to vote in Association elections or other business of the Association. Honorary Members shall have a free limited registration at the Annual meeting that may or may not include meals, workshops, symposiums, etc., as determined by the AOSA Executive Board. (2008)

5. Application for Official, Allied, or Associate membership in the Association must be made to the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee will determine the membership category following the guidelines as set forth above. If approved by the Membership Committee, the names of applicants will be presented to the members during the Annual Meeting. They shall be declared accepted upon majority vote. (1998)

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

4. There shall be Standing Committees as follows (1998):

f. Membership: shall receive and make recommendations concerning applications for membership to the Association. The committee has the privilege of submitting names to the Executive Board for Honorary Membership for election at the annual meeting. This committee is to be a point of contact for any new members. This committee will also aid in orientating new members at the annual meeting. Members of this committee will assist the Executive Director in

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maintaining a membership list and contacts. This committee shall consist of not less than three (3) members. (2015)

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

3. Duties and Terms of Office:

(2) Vice President: The Vice-President shall act as President upon the completion of the term of office as Vice-President, except that, in the case of ineligibility or resignation, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Article V, Section 4.b. or c., of the Bylaws. The duties of the Vice-President shall include:

(a) Serve as co-chair of the Joint Annual Meeting Committee. (Etc.) (2016)

(b) To solicit candidates for the AOSA Merit Award according to award guidelines set forth in Article XVIII. (2023)

(c) During the close of the second year of office as Vice-President in preparation for the first year of office as President, appoint all chairs for those committees whose chair positions must be filled annually and for those whose chair positions have been vacated by term expiration as specified in the Bylaws.

(d) Serve as member of the Financial Committee during the first year as Vice- President. During the second year of office, the Vice-President shall serve as chair of the Financial Committee in preparation for the first year of office as President.

(e) Organize and invite organizations to liaison meeting.

(f) **Serve as a member of the Membership Committee.**

(5) Executive Board

(1) The Executive Board shall have the following general responsibilities:

(a) Conduct the business of the Association when the Association is not in session.

(b) Consider matters of policy and make recommendations to the Association concerning such matters.

(c) Act upon matters referred to it for decision or recommendation by the Association membership at an annual meeting.

(2) The Executive Board shall have full responsibility at all times for the following specific duties.

(a) Make financial arrangements for the publication and distribution of the journal, newsletter, Handbook on Seed Testing, and other publications of the Association. (2000)

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- (b) In consultation with appropriate officers of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists, set the time and location of annual meeting.
- (c) Approve special meetings of the Association or the Executive Board when the need for such has been determined to exist.
- (d) Decide elections in case of tie votes.
- (e) Approve tentative rules for testing seed
- (f) Approve minutes of annual meeting prior to publication.
- (g) Provide for the bonding of the Secretary-Treasurer.
- (h) Approve disbursements from Association funds.
- (i) Report all actions to the Association membership at each annual meeting.
- (j) Make the final determination of the "in good standing" status of a laboratory if the laboratory is found in violation of Article IV Section 1.a. (2008)
- (k) Approve increases in Association incomes including but not limited to dues and publications with the recommendations from the Financial Committee and Executive Director.
- (l) The term of office of the elective Executive Board Members shall be for three years. A member may serve for two consecutive terms after which one year must elapse to establish eligibility for re-election.

PROPOSED RULE:

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

4. Membership

e. Honorary Members - Any person who has rendered signal service in one or more of the fields of activity of the Association mentioned in Article III is eligible for Honorary Membership. Any Member of the Association may nominate a person for Honorary Membership. Such nominations shall be submitted to the **Vice President for review. If approved the Executive Board will vote on acceptance during monthly board meetings. (2024)** The name of the recipient will be presented to the members during the Annual Meeting. Honorary Members shall be eligible for appointment to committees and committee chairs and may enter motions in meetings of the Association but shall not be eligible for election as an officer or member of the Executive Board of the Association or entitled to vote in Association elections or other business of the Association. Honorary Members shall have a free limited registration at the Annual meeting that may or may not include meals, workshops, symposiums, etc., as determined by the AOSA Executive Board. (2008)

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5. Application for Official, Allied, or Associate membership in the Association must be made to the Vice President who will determine the membership category following the guidelines as set forth above. If approved, the Executive board will vote on acceptance during monthly board meetings. The names of the new members will be presented to the membership during the Annual meeting. (2024)

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

4. There shall be Standing Committees as follows (1998):

f. Moved to Vice Presidents duties and Executive board duties. (2024)

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

3. Duties and Terms of Office:

(2) Vice President: The Vice-President shall act as President upon the completion of the term of office as Vice-President, except that, in the case of ineligibility or resignation, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Article V, Section 4.b. or c., of the Bylaws. The duties of the Vice-President shall include:

(a) Serve as co-chair of the Joint Annual Meeting Committee. (Etc.) (2016)

(b) To solicit candidates for the AOSA Merit Award according to award guidelines set forth in Article XVIII. (2023)

(c) During the close of the second year of office as Vice-President in preparation for the first year of office as President, appoint all chairs for those committees whose chair positions must be filled annually and for those whose chair positions have been vacated by term expiration as specified in the Bylaws.

(d) Serve as member of the Financial Committee during the first year as Vice- President. During the second year of office, the Vice-President shall serve as chair of the Financial Committee in preparation for the first year of office as President.

(e) Organize and invite organizations to liaison meeting.

(f) Accept and review applications for membership. Present applications for membership to the Executive board to be voted on. (2024)

(5) Executive Board

(1) The Executive Board shall have the following general responsibilities:

(a) Conduct the business of the Association when the Association is not in session.

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- (b) Consider matters of policy and make recommendations to the Association concerning such matters.
 - (c) Act upon matters referred to it for decision or recommendation by the Association membership at an annual meeting.
- (2) The Executive Board shall have full responsibility at all times for the following specific duties.
- (a) Make financial arrangements for the publication and distribution of the journal, newsletter, Handbook on Seed Testing, and other publications of the Association. (2000)
 - (b) In consultation with appropriate officers of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists, set the time and location of annual meeting.
 - (c) Approve special meetings of the Association or the Executive Board when the need for such has been determined to exist.
 - (d) Decide elections in case of tie votes.
 - (e) Approve tentative rules for testing seed
 - (f) Approve minutes of annual meeting prior to publication.
 - (g) Provide for the bonding of the Secretary-Treasurer.
 - (h) Approve disbursements from Association funds.
 - (i) Report all actions to the Association membership at each annual meeting.
 - (j) **Vote on membership applicants (2024)**
 - (k) **Make the final determination of the "in good standing" status of a laboratory if the laboratory is found in violation of Article IV Section 1.a. (2008)**
 - (l) **Approve increases in Association incomes including but not limited to dues and publications with the recommendations from the Financial Committee and Executive Director.**
 - (m) **The term of office of the elective Executive Board Members shall be for three years. A member may serve for two consecutive terms after which one year must elapse to establish eligibility for re-election.**

Submitted by
Lynn R Robinson