

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
RULES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ADOPTED JANUARY 24, 1973; AMENDED APRIL 13, 1991; PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 2022; AS AMENDED AND ENDORSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON  
NOVEMBER 4, 2022.

1. Presiding Officer

(a) The ~~Chair~~President-Elect shall ~~preside be the Presiding Officer at all meetings~~ of the House. In the absence of the ~~Chair~~President-Elect, the President shall preside, and in the absence of the President and President-Elect, the Vice-President with seniority of membership shall preside. In the absence of the President, the President-Elect, and all Vice-Presidents, the senior member of the House ~~of Delegates~~ shall preside.

(b) The ~~presiding~~Presiding officer shall:

- (1) ~~insure~~Ensure that meetings are conducted in an orderly manner.
- (2) Decide questions of order and procedure.

(c) The Presiding Officer may:

- (1) Change the order of business at any meeting.
- (2) Limit the time of debate or discussion on any matter of business.
- (3) Call for a vote on any matter before the House.
- (4) Take other reasonable steps to advance the efficiency of the meeting.

2. Meetings of the House of Delegates

(a) Unless otherwise ordered by the House, regular meetings shall be held at the time and place designated by the ~~Chair~~Presiding Officer, but in no event less than four times in each year including one meeting to be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association.

(b) ~~A~~Any special meeting of the ~~House of Delegates~~ may be called at any time, subject to the notice requirements of the Bylaws, by:

- (1) The ~~Chair of the House~~President-Elect
- (2) The President
- (3) The Executive Committee

(4) The Secretary upon the written request of at least 25% of the delegates; provided, however, that the Secretary shall not be required to call such meeting to consider any matter which was considered and acted upon at a meeting of the House held within the previous twelve meetings.

~~(c) A special meeting of the House of Delegates shall be called by the Chair or the President upon the request in writing of at least 25% of the delegates; provided, however, that the Chair or President shall not be required to call a special meeting to consider any matter which was considered and acted upon at the last previous meeting of the House.~~

(dc) ~~Except in case of emergency, notification~~ Notification of any ~~regular or special~~ meeting of the House of Delegates shall be sent by the Secretary ~~of the Association~~ not less than 15 days prior to the time fixed for such meeting. Notice of any meeting shall be deemed ~~to be sufficiently given~~ sufficient when written notice of the time and place thereof is ~~mailed~~ given by mail, email, or other electronic transmission by the Secretary to each member of the House of Delegates on or before the 15th day prior to such meeting. ~~In case the Chair of the House, the President, or the Executive Committee determines there is an emergency, a special meeting of the House may be called upon six days prior notice given by mail, or four days prior notice given by telegraph or telephone to each member of the House of Delegates.~~

### 3. Order of Business

- (a) ~~The Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the presiding~~ Presiding officer ~~Officer~~ shall determine the order and priority of business at a meeting. ~~Except in case of emergency, a~~ written agenda shall be ~~mailed sent by mail, email, or other electronic transmission~~ by the Secretary ~~of the Association~~ to each delegate not less than 15 days prior to the time fixed for the meeting, but additions or deletions may be made ~~in to~~ the agenda by the ~~Chair of the House~~ President-Elect, the President, or the Executive Committee.
- (b) Unless permitted by the ~~presiding~~ Presiding officer ~~Officer~~, no resolution may be proposed by a delegate for action at a meeting unless such resolution has been submitted, in writing to the ~~Chair~~ Presiding Officer and the delegates, at least 15 days prior to such meeting.
- (c) ~~Delegates are required to~~ shall notify the Presiding Officer, in writing, by the end of the business day the Wednesday prior to the meeting should they intend to introduce a matter of new business or make a motion to table a report or resolution, unless there is good cause in which case notice should be given as soon as practical, and the Presiding Officer may make a determination as to whether that the motion will be heard without such notice or moved to a future meeting.
- (d) If no member has risen in opposition or requested to speak in opposition to a report or resolution, then the Presiding Officer may invoke the rules of limited debate, limiting comments to no more than three speakers.
- (ee) With the exceptions noted below, no delegate shall speak more than ~~ten~~ three minutes at one time or more than once at the same session upon the same question unless such member obtains the consent of the ~~presiding~~ Presiding officer ~~Officer~~ or ~~the a~~ majority of the delegates present at the meeting. The person presenting the matter under discussion shall have the right to close the debate on that matter. The ~~Chair~~ Presiding Officer may ~~impose further limitations upon~~ adjust the length of time for making oral presentations if in his or her judgment the conduct of the business of the House so requires, but such limitations may be removed by majority vote of the delegates present at the meeting.
- (ef) Without limitation on the other powers of the House, the House may by majority vote refer any matter coming before it to the Executive Committee or ~~another other~~ committee, section, or ~~action unit~~ task force of the Association for further consideration.
- (eg) Voting shall be by voice vote, or, if the delegate is participating remotely, by polling through the videoconference software, unless the presiding ~~Presiding officer~~ Officer ~~directs a division~~ division of the House or an anonymous written ballot or, if the delegate is participating remotely, by polling through the videoconference software. Voting shall be by a voice vote unless the Presiding Officer directs a division of the House, or, if the delegate is participating remotely, by polling through the

videoconference software. An anonymous written ballot may be held upon motion by a member.

(fh) Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern meetings of the House, except as otherwise provided in these Rules or the Bylaws.

~~4. Membership~~

~~(a) Delegates to the House of Delegates shall be determined in accordance with Article V, Sections 3 and 4 of the Bylaws.~~

~~(b) Section delegates, as set forth in Article V, Section 3, paragraph D of the Bylaws, shall be chosen according to procedures established by the sections and may, but need not be officers of their respective sections.~~

~~(c) Delegates from those judicial districts in which there are two or more county bar associations in counties having less than 100 members each of the New York State Bar Association, as set forth in Article V, Section 3, paragraph E, subparagraph 5 of the Bylaws, shall be chosen by the governing bodies of such county bar associations in a manner mutually agreed upon by such bar associations. In the absence of such mutual agreement, the House of Delegates shall determine the manner in which the delegates shall be chosen.~~

54. Persons in attendance at meetings of the House of Delegates

Meetings of the House shall be open to attendance by members of the Association unless the Executive Committee or the delegates vote to exclude non-delegates from a specified meeting. The ~~presiding~~Presiding officer of the meeting in his or her discretion may permit attendance at meetings of the House of Delegates by members of the press or members of the public. No non-delegate shall be heard by the House unless requested to speak by the ~~presiding~~Presiding officer of the meeting or upon the vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at the meeting, provided that such non-delegate shall first disclose the representative nature of his or her appearance, including the name of any client or principal whose interests the non-delegate may represent.

65. Amendments

The Rules of the House of Delegates may be amended at any meeting of the House by a vote of two-thirds of those present, provided that 15 days previous notice in writing of the proposed amendment shall have been given to the delegates.