

A Reference Manual for Delegates and Alternates

Updated January 2024

Checklist for Delegates and Alternates	4
House of Delegates Attendance	
Delegates and Alternates	5
Delegate Responsibilities	
Alternate Responsibilities	
Delegates Packet	
House of Delegates	7-9

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICIALS OF THE HOUSE

Speaker of the House of Delegates	9
Vice Speaker of the House	9

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEES

Credentials	
Tellers	
Pages	
Reference Committees	
Reference Committee Procedures	

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER APPOINTEES OF THE HOUSE

Timekeeper	
Parliamentary Advisor	
Sergeant at Arms	

HOUSE OF DELEGATES PROCEDURES

Nominations and Elections	14
Reports	14
Resolutions	
How to Propose an Amendment to the Bylaws	15

BASIC RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

How to Address the Floor	
How to Offer a Motion	
Calling for the Question	21
Amending a Motion	
Voting	
Physical Setup for the House of Delegates	

All documents for the American Association of Medical Assistants[®] (AAMA) have been developed in accordance with policies established by the AAMA Board of Trustees. Any discrepancies in policy statements inconsistent with current policies should be brought to the attention of the AAMA Executive Office and the Board of Trustees. The AAMA Board of Trustees apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE LEADERSHIP TO ENSURE YOUR DELEGATION IS FAMILIAR WITH AND ADHERES TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT.

1 2	Checklist for Delegates and Alternates
3	Upon election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates (i.e., Alternates), the President of each
4	state society sends written notification to the AAMA Executive Office.
5	□ Immediately advise the Speaker of the House of any changes of Delegates or alternates
6	before the opening of the AAMA House of Delegates.
7	Delegates and Alternates must review the entire Delegate Packet <i>prior to arrival</i> at the
8	national conference. A printed copy may be requested from the Executive Office if needed.
9	□ No changes to Delegates or Alternates will be made after due date for submission of
10	Delegates/Alternates. All changes must be made at the Credentials Desk at the AAMA
11 12	Conference prior to the start of the HOD.
12	Upon Arrival at the National Conference
13	Check the registration packet/conference program for the location and times the Credentials
15	Desk is open.
16	 Credentials table is alphabetized by <i>state</i> and not by Delegate names.
17	 Any changes that need to be made to a state's delegation must be done at credentials
18	table the day before the House of Delegates. The Speaker of the House and Vice
19	Speaker must be notified of any changes to delegates/alternates.
20	
21	
22	House of Delegates Attendance
23	5
24	• Arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to the Opening Session of the House of Delegates.
25	• Check in with the Credentials Desk prior to entering the House. The Credentials Committee
26	will verify that your credentials are in order.
27	• Be seated at your designated seat no later than 15 minutes before the Opening of
28	the House.
29	• A Delegate may not leave and re-enter the House once the House of Delegates is in session.
30	• A Delegate may exit if the House is adjourned, in recess, or with special permission
31	from the Speaker.
32	• If an Alternate replaces a delegate, the change must be made at the Credentials desk and
33	the Speaker of the House and Vice Speaker must be notified.
34 35	• Once an Alternate has replaced a Delegate, they may <i>not</i> relinquish their seat back to the Delegate for the remainder of the House.
35 36	 After Delegates have checked in and entered the House of Delegates, the Credentials
30 37	Committee will:
38	• Place on the roll of the House of Delegates the names of all Delegates in each
39	session.
40	 Verify a quorum and what constitutes a majority, and two-thirds vote to the Speaker
41	of the House and all present at the House of Delegates meeting.
• •	or me trease and an present at the trease of Deregues meeting.

42	Recess of the House
43	• Immediately following the opening session of the House, Delegates and Alternates must
44	attend the Meet the Candidates forum. (Seating by delegation is not required during this
45	forum.)
46	 Delegates and Alternates must attend all Reference Committee Hearings.
47	• After the reference committee hearings and before voting, Delegates and Alternates should
48	attend a state caucus (if one is held).
49 50	
50 51	 Reconvening of the House of Delegates (Second Session) Delegates and Alternates must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the reconvening of the
51 52	House and be in their designated seats no later than 15 minutes prior to the opening of the
53	House.
55 54	 Delegates and Alternates are to check in with the Credentials Desk (by state society name).
55	prior to being seated for the second session of the House of Delegates.
56	
57	Delegates and Alternates
58	
59	Delegates and Alternates are elected by each constituent state society to represent its position on
60	various issues discussed in the AAMA House of Delegates.
61	C
62	Delegates and Alternates are elected in accordance with the bylaws of each state society. The
63	number of Delegates apportioned to each state society (a minimum of two) is determined by the
64	total number of active and associate members of the constituent society as of December 31 of the
65	membership year prior to the date on which the names of Delegates and Alternates are submitted
66	to the Speaker of the House. Each constituent society is allocated two (2) Delegates for the first
67 68	100 active/associate members or fraction thereof plus one Delegate for each additional 400 active and associate members or fraction thereof.
68 69	and associate members of fraction mereor.
70	Important functions of Delegates are voting on issues brought before the House of Delegates and
71	electing members of the Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee. The Board of Trustees
72	of the AAMA implements the policies established by the majority vote of Delegates. A Delegate
73	should not be led to vote on an issue simply because "everyone else" is voting on the issue or
74	because there is only one candidate. Voting is your state's voice in support of or in opposition to
75	the issues presented to the House. Your vote gives direction to the Board of Trustees. Any member
76	participating in the activities of the House of Delegates as a Delegate, Alternate, or House Committee
77 78	Member (Credentials, Teller, Page) must be a registrant at the conference.
78 79	Delegate Responsibilities
80	Delegate Responsionities
81	1. Serve as a Delegate to AAMA House of Delegates for one (1) year (from the opening of
82 82	the House of Delegates that year, until the next convening of the House of Delegates).
83 84	 Become familiar with the following by reading and discussing: a. Parliamentary Procedures
85	b. AAMA Bylaws (most current)

6

86 87 88

96

97

98

99

100

102

103

104

105 106

107

108 109

110

111

112 113

114 115

116 117

123

- c. AAMA Reference Manual for Delegates and Alternates (most current edition)
- d. The Delegates Packet
- 89
 3. State opinions of items on the agenda which will include proposed Bylaw amendments, resolutions, and candidates for national office.
- 91
 92
 92
 93
 93
 94
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 92
 93
 94
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 93
 94
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 94
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 94
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 96
 97
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 94
 95
 96
 96
 97
 96
 97
 98
 98
 98
 99
 99
 90
 90
 91
 91
 92
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 94
 95
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 96
 <
- 95 5. Attend and actively participate in the following:
 - a. All Reference Committee meetings
 - b. All sessions of the House of Delegates
 - c. The Meet the Candidates forum held immediately after the recess of the first session of the House of Delegates
 - d. State society caucus (if any is held) to discuss issues and positions.
- 101 6. Participate in the voting process:
 - a. AAMA policies, guidelines, and rules are established through the vote of the House of Delegates.
 - b. Every Delegate represents the voice of their state society.
 - c. Voting at the House of Delegates should support what is in the best interest of the entire AAMA membership. A Delegate does *not* have to vote according to how their fellow Delegates are voting. A Delegate must decide, for themself, what is in the best interest of the entire AAMA membership.
 - d. Voting for candidates for AAMA Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee takes place electronically in the second session of the House. The electronic devices are distributed to the Delegates and those with proxy votes after the credentials report. Votes are counted electronically. The Tellers Chair announces the results later in the second session of the House.

Alternate Responsibilities

- 1. The responsibilities of an Alternate are the same as a Delegate.
- The Alternate must be available to represent their state if one of the Delegates is unable to attend or must withdraw from the AAMA House of Delegates. Once a Delegate is replaced by an Alternate, the Alternate serves as the Delegate for the remaining sessions of the House.

Delegates Packet

Every Delegate and Alternate to the AAMA House of Delegates will receive a Delegates Packet
and AAMA Reference Manual for Delegates and Alternates prior to the opening of the House of
Delegates. This packet contains information concerning issues to be discussed by the House of
Delegates. Delegate Packets are also sent to the AAMA Officers, Trustees, past national

129 presidents, and provider advisors.

130	Any proposed Bylaw changes or proposed resolutions must be submitted in writing to the elected
131	Delegates to the House of Delegates no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the House of
132	Delegates. (Consult the document "Guidelines for the AAMA Bylaws and Resolutions
133	Committee" for rules on how to submit these items.) A two-thirds vote of those present, and
134	voting is required for the adoption of any Bylaw amendment.
135	
136	The Delegates Packet includes the following:
137	• Memorandum to Delegates/Alternates from the Speaker and Vice Speaker of the House
138	 Preliminary agenda for the House sessions
139	 Officer and Trustee reports
140	 Board reports
141	 Strategy Team/Task Force reports
142	 Executive Office leadership reports
143	 Proposed resolutions
144	 Proposed Bylaw changes and amendments
145	 Financial reports (for information purposes only)
145	 MWS Report
140	-
	 List of Delegates and Alternates (as of the submission due date) Any symplemental paragram
148	Any supplemental reports
149	
150	House of Delegates
151	
152	The purpose and objectives of the AAMA House of Delegates are stated in the AAMA Bylaws of
153	the (Article XV—House of Delegates):
154 155	It shall determine the policies of AAMA, amend the Bylaws, conduct the election of officers and
155	act upon such other business as may come before it.
150	This includes the acceptance or rejection of proposed Bylaw amendments, resolutions, and reports
157	of the Officers, Trustees, committees, strategy teams, task forces, Executive Office leadership, and
158	boards.
160	boards.
161	Attendance to the House of Delegates will be granted to those listed below:
162	 Voting members (elected Delegates from each state society)
162	 Non-voting members
164	 Elected Alternates from each state society.
165	 Members of the Board of Trustees
166	
167	Past national presidentsExecutive Office leadership
167	 Any registered person attending the conference with a badge, including:
169	
170	
170	SpeakersGuests
172	 Exhibitors
173	

174 **House Sessions** 175 The House of Delegates will normally hold two sessions. During each session, the business of the 176 organization is conducted. The tentative agenda for the House of Delegates is sent as part of the 177 Delegates Packet. The following are the usual items: 178 179 First Session 180 Opening ceremonies • 181 • Call to order 182 • National anthem and pledge of allegiance Introduction of honored members, guests, and staff 183 • 184 • Report of Credentials Chair 185 • Orientation of Delegates (House rules) • House committee appointments are announced. 186 187 • Nominating Committee presents the slate of officers. • Three trustees (2-year terms) are elected in even years 188 189 • Four trustees (2-year terms) are elected in odd years 190 • Secretary-Treasurer (2-year term) is elected in even years 191 • Speaker of the House (2-year term) 192 • Vice Speaker of the House (2-year term) are elected in odd years 193 • Vice President (1-year term) is elected every year 194 • Nomination of candidates for the following year's Nominating Committee; four candidates 195 to be elected (only one member of the Nominating Committee per state society) 196 197 Recess 198 199 **Meet the Candidates Forum** 200 201 **Caucus of Individual States' Delegates, Alternates, and Attending Members** 202 203 **Reference Committee Hearings** 204 All Delegates, Alternates and conference registrants should attend and participate in the 205 Reference Committee Hearings. These hearings will allow each individual the time to 206 review reports, issues, and candidates and listen to others' opinions to help them formulate 207 decisions and their votes on the issues which will be decided by the House of Delegates 208 • Upon conclusion of Reference Committee Hearings, each Reference Committee will 209 adjourn and prepare a report for the House of Delegates. 210 211 Further Caucus of Individual States' Delegates, Alternates, and Attending Members after Reference Committee Hearings 212 213 214 Second Session (Reconvene House of Delegates) 215 Call to Order • 216 ٠ Report of the Credentials Chair 217 Supplemental reports • 218 Electronic election of officers/trustees/four nominating committee members • 219 • Report of the Tellers

$\begin{array}{c} 220 \\ 221 \\ 222 \\ 223 \\ 224 \\ 225 \\ 226 \\ 227 \\ 228 \\ 229 \\ 230 \\ 231 \\ 232 \\ 233 \\ 234 \\ 235 \\ 236 \\ 237 \\ 238 \\ 239 \\ 240 \\ 241 \\ 242 \\ 243 \\ 239 \\ 240 \\ 241 \\ 242 \\ 243 \\ 244 \\ 245 \\ 244 \\ 245 \\ 244 \\ 245 \\ 246 \\ 247 \\ 248 \\ 249 \\ 250 \\ 251 \\ 252 \\ 253 \\ 254 \\ \end{array}$	Report of the Reference Committees (Recommendations from reports and By-Laws are discussed and voted upon. Recommendations may be accepted, amended, or rejected.) Officer Trustee Committee Strategy Team Task Forces Executive Office leadership and Board Reports Resolutions and Miscellaneous Business Bylaws Unfinished Business New Business Announcements Good and Welfare Statements Adjournment RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICIALS OF THE HOUSE Speaker of the House appoints such committees are necessary to perform the business of the AAMA House of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Reference Committee Chairs and members from the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members form the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members from the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members form the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members form the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members form the list of Delegates. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers, Pages, and Credential Committee Chairs and members form their HOD committee and possibly fill the role on a reference committee. The Speaker of the House appoints Tellers or Credential Committee. The Speaker of the House appoints the Conference. Alternates can be selected to serve as a member (not chair) of the Tellers or Credential Committee, with the understanding should they need to move up into the delegate position they would need to resign from their HOD committee and possibly fill the role on a reference committee. Th
254	Vice Speaker of the House of Delegates
255 •	The Vice Speaker must be as knowledgeable as the Speaker of the House regarding
256	House functions. The Vice Speaker will replace the Speaker if the Speaker is unable to
257	perform their duties.
258 • 259	The Vice Speaker performs the duties requested by the Speaker.
260	
260	
262	

263	RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEES
264	
265	Credentials
266	A. Credentials Chair
267	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House from the members attending the conference
268	without Delegate/Alternate responsibilities.
269	2) Reports the number of voting Delegates, majority vote and two-thirds vote to the
270	Speaker of the House
271	3) Reports to the Speaker of the House whether a quorum is present at each session of
272 273	the House. B. Credentials Committee Members
273	1) Consists of five (5) members selected from conference registrants and alternate
275	delegates
276	2) Verifies the validity of the credentials of all Delegates and Alternates serving from
277	each state society.
278	3) Documents proxy votes assigned to another Delegate from a state (in the event any
279	chartered state is unable to be represented by the full complement of Delegates to
280	which it is entitled and the proxy vote is requested)
281	a) The proxy card is kept by the Delegate as proof of their right to receive more
282	than one vote (or to be counted as more than one vote when a division is
283	called).
284	4) Verifies that a quorum is present at any official session of the AAMA House of
285	Delegates
286	
287	Tellers
288	A. Tellers Chair
289	 Appointed by the Speaker of the House Bernensitle for the following:
290 291	2) Responsible for the following:
291	a) Preparation and delivery of the report of the vote to the Speaker of the Houseb) Presenting the report to the AAMA House of Delegates as requested by the
292	Speaker of the House. The written report shall include:
293	Number of eligible votes
295	Number of legal votes cast
296	Number required for election
297	Number received by each candidate
298	•
299	B. Tellers Committee Members
300	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House from the group of registered members and
301	alternates attending the conference without Delegate responsibilities (if assumes
302	Delegate responsibilities must give up committee position)
303	2) Responsible for the following:
304	a) Distributing official electronic voting devices to the voting body
305	b) Verifying the electronic vote
306	c) Assisting with counting standing votes when called for by the Speaker of the House or by a Delegate
307	House or by a Delegate

308	
309	Pages
310	A. Chair of the Pages
311	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House from the group of registered members attending
312	the conference.
313	2) Responsible for overseeing the function of the Pages
314	D. D. even Committee Manulaur
315 316	B. Pages Committee Members
310 317	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House pages from the group of registered members and alternates attending the conference without Delegate responsibilities (if assumes
317	Delegate responsibilities must give up committee position)
319	2) Responsible for the following:
320	a) Delivering messages on the floor of the House
321	b) Other duties as requested by the Speaker of the House
322	
323	Reference Committees
324	A. Reference Committees for the AAMA House of Delegates include the Reference
325	Committee on Bylaws; the Reference Committee on Reports; and the Reference
326	Committee on Resolutions and Miscellaneous Business. Reference Committees function
327	only during the annual meeting.
328	
329	B. Chairs of the Reference Committees
330	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House from the list of Delegates
331 332	2) Responsible for the following:
333	a) Presiding over the Reference Committee Hearingsb) Appointing a secretary from the members for that Reference Committee
334	c) Appointing a timekeeper from the members of that Reference Committee
335	d) Conducting an orientation of all present at the Hearings
336	e) Conducting discussions of annual reports made by the Officers, Trustees,
337	committees, strategy teams, task forces, Executive Office leadership and boards;
338	proposed Bylaw amendments; and proposed resolutions and Miscellaneous
339	Business
340	f) Conducting discussions of recommendations made by the Officers, Trustees,
341	committees, strategy teams, task forces, Executive Office leadership, and boards
342	g) Allowing all interested members to participate in discussion in an open meeting
343	h) Facilitating orderly proceedings in the House of Delegates by giving members,
344	Delegates, and Alternates an opportunity to be heard at this informally conducted
345 346	meeting
340 347	C. Reference Committees members
348	1) Appointed by the Speaker of the House from the list of Delegates. These committees
349	serve only during the session for which they are appointed.
350	2) Responsible for the following:
351	a) Deliberating in a closed meeting after hearing all debate and determining
352	committee recommendations to the House of Delegates for action.

353	b) Recommending to the House of Delegates through the Chair of the Reference			
354	Committee approval, disapproval, or amended changes to the recommendation			
355	resolutions, and/or Bylaws amendments proposed.			
356				
357	Reference Committee Procedures			
358	Open Session			
359	Reference Committee Hearings are held to allow for the informal discussion of issues to be			
360	considered by the House of Delegates. The hearings are held to encourage participation by all			
361	members so that the committee may know the opinions of the membership and the consensus			
362	of the membership and assist the committee in concluding what will be most advantageous for			
363	the association.			
364	1. No motions are made.			
365	2. As soon as the Chair and the committee feel the attendees have debated the issue			
366	sufficiently to come to a decision, the committee moves on to the next issue.			
367	3. The members are allowed to speak after approaching the microphone. Each member has			
368	two (2) minutes to speak on an issue. No one person may speak twice on an issue until			
369	everyone (wishing to speak) has had a turn. If a virtual session is offered for Reference			
370	Committees will be limited to no more than one hour and individuals will be allowed to			
371	speak only once on each issue.			
372	4. Each member is asked to give their name, credential, state, and membership status. If a			
373	nonmember wishes to speak, permission must be given by the Chairs.			
374	5. If any member requests additional information or clarification of an issue, an officer,			
375	trustee, or staff member will be summoned.			
376				
377	Closed Session			
378	At the conclusion of the discussions, the committee adjourns the meeting and goes into closed			
379	session to come to a definite decision on their recommendations.			
380	1. The committee is instructed to review their notes, opinions, and concerns from the			
381	hearing.			
382	2. The conclusions must be what are <i>best for the association</i> and not the opinions of those			
383	who were the most vocal.			
384	3. One committee member is chosen to be Secretary. The report should recommend the best			
385	course of action to be taken by the House. Using the AAMA template, the report is			
386	prepared by the Chairs and typed the BOT Ex-Officio.			
387	a) The report may recommend to "file for future reference." (Note: Several reports			
388	may be grouped.)			
389	b) The report may recommend to adopt or not to adopt. The report may move by			
390	striking and inserting, amending, substituting, referring, etc. the proposals as			
391	originally referred.			
392	c) The reports must be signed by all committee members (unless there is a minority			
393	report).			
394	4. Reports from the Reference Committees to the House require three methods of signature.			
395	a) Unanimous decision: <i>all</i> members sign the report.			
396	b) Divided decision: the majority of the members signs the report.			

397	c) Minority decision: one or two members sign the report. (It is recommended that
398	the Committee present a unanimous decision by using objectivity and
399	compromise.)
400	5. The Reference Committee Report is always written in the third person and will include:
401	
402	b) The date, time, and place the hearing was held
403	c) Approximate numbers attending and the names of committee members and Ex-
404	Officio present
405	d) The date, time, and place of the executive session
406	6. The committee report contains only that which has been agreed upon by the majority vote
407	of the committee members. A quorum must have been present to formulate the report.
408	The report will identify the proposal, report or resolution by number, title or sponsor.
409	
	Testimony and supporting evidence, if necessary, will be given for clarity of the
410	recommendation. The last paragraph will contain the recommendation or motion. Those
411	reports which are only for information can be recommended to be filed for future
412	reference.
413	7. This report will not be a final decision. The Delegates will vote on each proposal in the
414	House.
415	
416	House of Delegates (Second Session)
417	At the official session of the House of Delegates, the Chair for each Reference Committee is
418	called upon to give the Committee's report to the assembled Delegates. Copies of each
419	committee report are placed at each Delegate's seat and made available to all in attendance. The
420	
	Delegates are asked to listen to each Chair give the committee's recommendation or motion.
421	Note: It is not necessary to second a committee report at any time. More than one person has
422	already agreed to the report, or it would not be presented.
423	
424	
425	RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER APPOINTEES OF THE HOUSE
426	
427	Timekeeper
428	• The purpose of the Timekeeper is to monitor the amount of time each member is allowed
429	to speak on each question.
430	• Each Delegate is limited to two minutes.
431	• The Timekeeper notifies the Speaker of the House when the allotted time has expired.
432	The Thilekeeper houses the Speaker of the House when the anotice time has expired.
433	Parliamentary Advisor
434	 Appointed by the Speaker of the House
435	• The purpose of the Parliamentary Advisor is to advise the Speaker of the House on issues
436	concerning parliamentary procedure.
437	
438	Sergeant at Arms
439	Appointed by the Speaker of the House
440	• The purpose of the Sergeant at Arms is to check Delegates at the entrance to the AAMA
441	House of Delegates to ensure they have checked in at the Credentials Desk.

442 443 444	• The Sergeant at Arms will prevent entrance to the House of Delegates by anyone until given permission by the Speaker.
445 446	HOUSE OF DELEGATES PROCEDURES
447	
448	Nominations and Elections
449	Nominating Committee
450	The Nominating Committee consists of five members.
451	• Four members shall be elected by ballot by the AAMA House of Delegates following
452	nominations from the floor, with a plurality vote electing. No two members can be from
453	the same Constituent Society.
454	The AAMA Immediate Past President will serve as the Chair.
455	
456	The Nominating Committee is responsible for soliciting, screening, and presenting a slate of
457	nominees for officer and trustee positions in accordance with the Bylaws.
458	Nominations must be postmarked by May 1
459	• Nominating Committee will screen the qualifications to determine eligibility of the
460	members for candidacy.
461	• Eligibility of candidates for office can be found in the AAMA Bylaws of the American
462	Association of Medical Assistants: Article VIII.
463 464	Elections
464 465	
463 466	 Elected by ballot, and a majority of the total voting body shall elect If a state of emergency precludes the holding of an engula meeting, the Board of
467	• If a state of emergency precludes the holding of an annual meeting, the Board of Trustees shall supervise and conduct the election either electronically or by U.S. mail in
468	accordance with Article XV, Section 5.
469	accordance with Article AV, Section 5.
	Donouto
470	Reports
471	Reports are routinely received as business of the House when they come from the Board of
472	Trustees, Reference Committees of the House and certain officials of the association. Except
473 474	under special circumstances, such reports are referred to appropriate Reference Committees so
474 475	that hearings may be held on the substance thereof.
476	
	Deschutions
477	Resolutions
478 470	Dusings is introduced into the House through the presentation of resolutions by write a Delegator
479 480	Business is introduced into the House through the presentation of resolutions by voting Delegates,
480 481	state societies, or the Board of Trustees. Resolutions submitted to the AAMA by state societies
481	must pertain to business of the AAMA and not the state society. Resolutions are submitted to the
482 483	Board of Trustees, included in the AAMA Annual Meeting agenda, and are referred to the Reference Committee on Resolutions and Miscellaneous Business. Resolutions must be submitted
483 484	by the required deadline established annually.

485 Emergency resolutions must be submitted by noon of the day preceding the opening of the

486 AAMA House of Delegates. Copies should be in the hands of the Speaker of the House, AAMA

487 President, and the Executive Office leadership by noon of the day preceding the opening of the

- 488 House of Delegates. Emergency resolutions are referred to the reference committee.
- 489 If it is not considered an emergency by the committee, it will not be accepted as business • 490 of the House.
- 491 • If it is considered an emergency, the matter is put before the House with or without 492 consideration and recommendation from the reference committee.
- 493 Emergency resolutions require a three-fourths affirmative vote of the House of Delegates • 494 for approval.

495 State societies wishing to submit a resolution should refer to the Guidelines on Submitting a

496 Resolution to the AAMA House of Delegates for the proper procedure.

497

506 507

508 509

513

515

516

517

518 519

523

524 525

526

528

498 How to Propose an Amendment to the Bylaws

- 499 The definition of a bylaw is "a law of application adopted by an organization and • 500 established for orderly conduct of business to define purpose, policy, membership duties, etc." The process of proposing a Bylaw change: 501
- The state society wishes to amend an existing Bylaw. 502 •
- The state society submits a proposed change in wording to the Board of Trustees (by the 503 • 504 stated deadline) as follows:
- 505 • Submitted By:
 - Current Wording
 - Proposed Wording:
 - Article and Section
 - Rationale: (reason for submission of proposed change)
- 510 • The Board of Trustees discusses the proposed Bylaw amendment and makes a 511 recommendation to the AAMA House of Delegates. 512
 - Recommend not to adopt the wording Recommend a change in the wording.
 - Make no recommendation.
- Final decision rests with the House of Delegates. 514
 - The Delegates will vote on the amendment.
 - A two-thirds vote is necessary to adopt any Bylaw change.

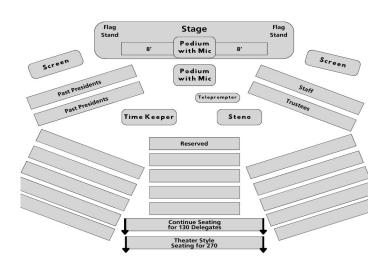
BASIC RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

How to Address the Floor 520

- 521 All comments and discussion must be addressed through the Speaker of the House.
- 522 • Delegate should step up to the microphone on the floor.
 - Only one member may stand at the microphone while waiting to be recognized (unless the Speaker indicates more members may be at the microphone).
 - When the member is recognized, they should address the Chair by saying "Madam Speaker" or "Mr. Speaker" or "Mx. Speaker" (pronounced "mix") per their preference.
- Introduce yourself: 527 •
 - o Give your name, credential, and say state society you represent.

529	• Present a motion (if that is your intent), ask for "point of reference" or "point of
530	parliamentary inquiry," or speak to an issue.
531	
532	How to Offer a Motion
533	General Information
534	 Present motions that are in order.
535	 Obtain the floor properly.
536	
530	 Speak clearly and concisely. Obsy the rules of debate
	Obey the rules of debate. Officing a Matian
538	Offering a Motion/Seconding a Motion
539	• Obtain the floor.
540	• Wait until the last speaker is finished.
541	• Rise and address the Chair.
542	• Say "Madam Speaker" or "Mr. Speaker" or "Mx. Speaker" (pronounced "mix")
543	per the Speaker's preference.
544	• Introduce yourself (see above).
545	\circ Present your motion (a verbal motion must be followed with a written motion). \circ
546	Speak clearly and concisely.
547	• State your motion affirmatively.
548	• Say "I move that we" instead of "I move that we do not"
549	• Avoid personalities and stay on the subject.
550	• Wait for a second to the motion.
551	• Another member will say, "I second the motion," or the Chair will call
552	for a second.
553	• If there is no second, your motion will not be considered.
554	• The Chair will restate your motion.
555	 The Chair must say "It is moved and seconded that we"
556	 After this happens, debate or voting can occur. Your motion is now "assembly
557	property," and you cannot change it without consent of the members.
558	 The Chair will call for discussion.
559	 The Chair will call for discussion. The Mover is allowed to speak first.
560	 Direct all comments to the Chair.
561	• Keep to the time limit for speaking. You may speak again after all other
562	people who are speaking are finished.
563	• You may speak a third time by a motion to suspend the rules with a two-thirds
564	vote.
565	
566	Calling for the Question
567	• The Chair asks, "Are you ready for the question?"
568	• If there is no more discussion, the vote is taken. The Chair announces the results.
569	• Or a motion to call for the question may be adopted.
570	
571	Amending a Motion
572	• Say, "I move to amend the motion by" The person speaking may not be interrupted.
573	• A second to the amendment is required.
574	• The amendment is debatable only if the motion to be amended is debatable.

575	•	An amendment can be amended.
576	•	A majority vote is needed to adopt.
577	•	The amendment is voted on before the main motion
578		
579	Voti	ing
580	•	Types of Voting
581		o Voice vote
582		• Show of hands
583		o Rising vote
584		o Counted rising vote
585		o General consent
586		o Ballot vote
587		o Electronic device vote
588	•	Delegates may abstain from voting.
589	•	The Speaker will announce whether the motion was carried or defeat
590		1
591	Phv	sical Setup for the House of Delegates
592	•	Delegates are seated at tables (in classroom style) according to state designation.
593		• State designation signs are posted for seating assignments.
594		• On alternating years, state society seating is from A–Z and Z–A. (For example,
595		Alabama would be seated in the front row one year and in the back row the
596		following year).
597	•	Special seating is in front for elected Officers, Trustees, and AAMA Past Presidents.
598	•	Special seating for the Tellers and Credentials Committee is set aside.
599	•	Special seating is for Executive Office leadership and staff.
600	•	Seating must be available for the timekeeper, and other officials conducting business
601		before the House.
602	•	The gallery sits in theater style behind the Delegate seating section.
603	•	Microphones are placed in the Delegate section for easy access.
604		
605		Suggested Seating for House of Delegate
606		



Revision Date	Speaker	Vice Speaker
January 2024	Sherry Bogar, CMA (AAMA)	Natasha Geno,CMA (AAMA)