

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

GOVERNANCE AT A GLANCE

Action of Section	NYSBA Executive Committee Approval	House of Delegates Approval	Finance Committee Approval	Coordination and Consultation with Governmental Relations Department and NYSBA Leadership
Amend Section Bylaws	✓			
Annual Section Budget	✓	✓	✓	
Expenditure of Surplus Funds			✓	
Modify Section Dues Structure			✓	
Develop Affirmative Legislative Proposals*	✓			✓
Issuance of Position, Statement or Report Regarding Legislative Action**				✓ 5-day Rule Applies
Promoting Approved NYSBA Proposals				✓
Supporting or Opposing Non-NYSBA Legislative Proposals				✓ 5-day Rule Applies
Compliance with Lobbying Law				✓
Gifts to Public Officials (prohibited except under limited circumstances)				✓

* Proposals that are expected to have broad interest may also be brought to the House of Delegates.

** Any communication to the President of the United States or White House officials may be submitted only by the President of the Association.

NYSBA STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

House of Delegates

The control and administration of the NYSBA is vested in the House of Delegates, the decision and policy-making body of the Association. The House meets four times a year (January, April, June and November). Action taken by the House of Delegates becomes official NYSBA policy.

At the present time, the House of Delegates is composed of approximately 300 members. A simple representational formula allows for the diverse voices of lawyers within the state to be represented.

Executive Committee

The 30-member Executive Committee has the authority to act and speak for the NYSBA, consistent with previous action of the House of Delegates, when the House is not in session. It also approves affirmative legislative proposals drafted by Sections and Committees.

The Executive Committee meets quarterly and at other times as necessary. The Executive Committee is composed of the President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Association. In addition, there are vice-presidents from each of the thirteen judicial districts in the state (the 1st district has two vice presidents) and eleven members-at-large. The immediate past president is also a member of this body. All officers are elected to serve one-year terms.

OFFICERS

Nominations of candidates for all offices are submitted by the NYSBA Nominating Committee. NYSBA officers are elected by the House of Delegates and include the President, President-Elect (who automatically becomes President the year following that of election), Secretary, and Treasurer.

The President

Serves for one Association year, from June 1 to May 31. The President and his or her designee is the official spokesperson in expressing policy of the Association as determined by the House of Delegates. Unless otherwise provided, the President appoints the chairs and members of committees of the Association.

The President-Elect

Serves a term of one Association year, from June 1 to May 31, chairs the House of Delegates, and performs such other duties as the President may assign, or the duties of the President, should the President become disabled and unable to perform the duties of office.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is responsible for the continuing supervision of all of the financial affairs of the Association (except those specifically assigned to the Audit Committee). The Finance Committee prepares the budget for submission to the House of Delegates. The six members of the Finance Committee are appointed by the President. The President, President-Elect, Treasurer and Immediate Past President serve as ex officio members and are entitled to vote on deliberations of the Committee.

NYSBA Committees

The NYSBA Committees listed in the Bylaws have specific functions to perform that are essential to the harmonious operation of the organization. The House of Delegates, the Executive Committee or the President may designate additional committees of the Association. The President annually appoints the members, designates the chairs and fills vacancies in committees of the Association (except as otherwise provided for in the Bylaws).

NYSBA Sections

NYSBA Sections are established by the House of Delegates. Each Section may adopt Bylaws, not inconsistent with the Bylaws of the Association, but such Bylaws become effective only upon approval by the Executive Committee. Each Section may create committees of the Section relating to particular branches of the Section.