



**national association
to advance
fat acceptance**

BYLAWS for the

National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, Inc.

Article I: Membership

The term of membership, with the exception of Life or Patron Membership, shall be for one year (from convention to convention). The following shall be the grades of membership:

Sec. 1— General membership

E-mail access. All members will have access to the quarterly newsletter and any special announcements sent out by the organization for the nominal fee of \$15.00. Memberships are non-transferable.

Sec. 2— Life or Patron membership, for which dues shall consist of a one-time lump-sum payment of \$10,000 or more, which guarantees membership in NAAFA for the lifetime of the member, as long as NAAFA exists. Memberships are not transferable.

Article II: The Board of Directors

Sec. 1— An applicant to the Board of Directors must either complete an application package one month prior to a Board meeting or be recommended by an existing Board member at least one month prior to a Board meeting.



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Sec 2— The applicant may not be sworn in, attend or vote at a meeting until the meeting following the applicant's acceptance into the Board.

Sec. 3— All applicants must be at least twenty-one years of age and must have been a member of National NAAFA for at least one year.

Sec. 4— An applicant must appear at a Board meeting for an interview with members of the Board. The applicant must provide a statement as to why s/he wishes to be a Board member and answer questions from Board members. After the interview, the applicant shall leave the meeting.

Sec. 5— The Board shall go into executive session to discuss the applicant's admission to the Board. An applicant can become a Board member by a simple majority vote. The applicant will be notified of the Board decision within one week of the Board meeting.

Sec. 6— A Board member may continue to serve as long as the Board member can continue to help the organization.

Sec. 7— A Board member may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Board members.

Sec. 8— Any Board Chair is authorized to accept resignations from members of the Board. Another Board member (or NAAFA member, if appropriate) may be appointed to fill the seat of the Board member who resigned.

Sec. 9— In all matters voted on by the Board, a simple majority of those attending the meeting, as defined by Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised), shall suffice to determine the Board decision, except where otherwise specified in the Constitution or Bylaws.

Sec. 10— If the Board nominates more than two candidates for a particular office, then the candidate who receives the greatest plurality of votes shall be elected.



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Sec. 12— In the event of the resignation, removal, or death of any officer before the normal expiration of his or her term, the Board may elect a new officer to fill the unexpired term.

Sec. 13— The Board has previously determined that it shall have no more than twelve (12) members and no fewer than five (5). This amount may be increased or decreased by a majority vote of the Board.

Sec. 14— Members of the Board are expected to provide substantial financial contributions to NAAFA throughout the year. However, a Board member who is financially unable to provide such funds is expected to provide substantial work on behalf of NAAFA throughout the year.

Sec. 15— A Board member or officer who has more than three (3) consecutive unexcused failures to attend a meeting within a year may have his/ her membership in the Board terminated. It is strongly recommended that it be Board practice that the Board should be notified at least twenty-four hours in advance that said member will be unable to attend the meeting.

Article III: Advisors and Counsel

Sec. 1—The following requirements must be fulfilled by any prospective Advisor:

- A. S/He shall be deemed an Honorary member.
- B. S/He must be well known to the public in any field of endeavor or must be unusually qualified to advise the Board and to support NAAFA's purposes
- C. S/He must sign an appropriate "Consent to Use Name" form

Sec. 2— Any prospective Counsel must possess the proper credential as a member of the legal profession.



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Sec. 3— There shall be no specified term limit for advisors, honorary trustees, or counsel.

Sec. 4— All Advisors and Counsels will be appointed by members of the Board.

Article IV: Meetings

Sec. 1— National Membership

- A. The Board of NAAFA shall convene a national convention for the membership each year.
- B. It is the responsibility of the Board to give advance notice regarding the convention to members of the organization.
- C. In addition to the annual convention, regional conferences should be planned whenever and wherever feasible, as approved by the Board.

Sec. 2— Board Meetings

- A. The Board shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the body, but no more infrequency than every other month. Days and times to be decided upon by the Co-chairs.
- B. The Board may, from time to time, call special meetings as needed with advance notice to Board members. The Board meetings will be held electronically, and participation therein will be coordinated by the Technology Chair.
- C. The Board shall attempt to have at least one in-person retreat yearly in addition to the national NAAFA convention, at which time each Board member will retake the oath of office.
- D. Annual meetings will be convened by the Board at the National Convention to update the membership on the past year's highlights



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- E. During Board meetings, an Executive Session may be held that temporarily excludes non-Board members as determined by the Board.
- F. All meetings are conducted under Roberts Rules of Order (Newly Revised).
- G. It is the intention of NAAFA to have Board meetings via teleconference to provide the opportunity for the attendance of all Board members.

Article V: Publications, Polls, and Publicity

Sec. 1— NAAFA shall periodically circulate a newsletter via the NAAFA Web site, by e-mail and by U.S. postage. The content of the newsletter shall be in keeping with the mission and goals of NAAFA and address the well-being, needs and interests of the membership.

Sec. 2— The Board shall have the authority to create special publications on topics in keeping with the purposes of NAAFA, for which a price may be charged.

Sec. 3— Polls or surveys shall be encouraged to keep the Board informed on the problems and wishes of members. At least one general survey per year is recommended, and surveys on special issues are encouraged when appropriate.

Sec. 4— At no time will any manner of publication (written, e-mail, or web site) contain material or be used in a manner opposite to the stated mission and policy of NAAFA.

Sec. 5— Any links contained on the NAAFA Web site must be specifically approved by the Board of Directors. NAAFA's Web site and other publications will not be used to promote for-profit businesses unless specifically approved by the Board.

Sec. 6— For newsletters, programs, and other NAAFA activities, Board members and other NAAFA members may not solicit ads that contain material contrary to the stated mission and policy of NAAFA.

Sec. 7—The Board is responsible for the content of all publicity.



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Article VI: Committees

Sec. 1— Throughout the year, the Board may appoint key volunteer members to help in the performance of essential work for NAAFA, at the yearly convention and at regional meetings, and to assist the various members of the Board with their assignments. The Board members will seek to obtain volunteer members to assist in the exercise of their Board duties whenever possible.

Sec. 2— Committee Chairs will provide reports to the Board in a timely fashion.

Article VII: Remuneration and Hiring

Sec. 1— All NAAFA Board members serve without remuneration.

Sec. 2— NAAFA shall rely on the efforts of volunteers, the Board, et al., for no remuneration. However, when in the best interest of NAAFA, as determined by the Board and the state of the budget of NAAFA, specific individuals may receive remuneration for their services, whether full- or part-time, and reimbursement for reasonable expenses that they may incur while performing such services for NAAFA, as agreed upon by the Board.

Sec. 3— The criteria for determining the remuneration for the hiring of NAAFA staff and consultants shall be the budget, the state of NAAFA finances, the nature and importance of the work to be rewarded, the qualifications of the individual, and remuneration commonly received for comparable work elsewhere.

Sec. 4— The Board of Directors is responsible for the hiring and firing of office staff and consultants, if and when hired.

Sec. 5— In the event a consultant is hired by the Board to perform a specific task (i.e., produce the convention, design a Web site, etc.), that consultant will work under the direction of the Board member responsible for that area.



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Sec. 6— Expenses incurred by Board Members on behalf of NAAFA may from time to time be reimbursed with the approval of the Co-chairs.

Article VIII: Board Members' Oath of Office

All Board members of NAAFA must take the Oath of Office and abide by same during the term of their membership on the Board.

I, *[name of person elected or appointed]*, do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a member of NAAFA, that I will uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of NAAFA, that I will abide by the wishes of the majority of Board members as determined Constitutionally, that I will cast a favorable light on NAAFA by my actions in public, that I will faithfully perform the duties of my office, that I will not allow any private interest to influence my conduct in NAAFA matters, and that I will live up to the responsibility of my office to the best of my ability.

Article IX: Amendment of Bylaws

Sec. 1— The Board may, from time to time, as needed, amend the Bylaws and Constitution of NAAFA.

Sec. 2— Notice of at least one month must be given to all Board members prior to such action being taken.