

1 **Bylaws**

2  
3 **CHAPTER I -- MEMBERSHIP**

4  
5 *Section 1. Classification:* The members of this Association shall be classified as  
6 follows:

- 7
- 8 Active Members
- 9 Life Members
- 10 Affiliate Members
- 11 Honorary Members
- 12 Associate Members
- 13 Retired Members
- 14 Limited Income Practice Members
- 15 Student Members
- 16 Non-Practicing Dentist
- 17

18 *Section 2. Qualifications:*

19  
20 **A. Active Member.** An ethical dentist, who resides or practices in the State of Minnesota,  
21 or who is employed by the State of Minnesota or the United States Government within  
22 the State of Minnesota, or who resides outside the State of Minnesota and qualifies  
23 under Chapter II, Section 2. E. of these *Bylaws*, and who is a member in good  
24 standing shall be classified as an active member of this Association.

25  
26 **B. Life Member.** A member in good standing of this Association who has been an active  
27 and/or retired member in good standing of the American Dental Association for thirty  
28 (30) consecutive years or a total of forty (40) years of active and/or retired  
29 membership, and who has attained the age of sixty five (65) years, shall be classified  
30 as a Life Member by application to the Executive Director. Any member who has  
31 attained life member status as of December 31, 1997, shall retain life member status.  
32 Life membership shall be effective the calendar year following the year in which the  
33 requirements are fulfilled. A member may be considered to be in good standing  
34 during the time the member is in required active services of the Armed Forces or who  
35 was classified as a life member.

36  
37 **C. Affiliate Member.** An ethical practicing or retired dentist who is a member in good  
38 standing of the American Dental Association not eligible for active membership in this  
39 Association, or an ethical practicing or retired dentist in any country other than the  
40 United States who is a member of a recognized dental organization in such country,  
41 upon application and approval by the Executive Director, shall be classified as an  
42 affiliate member of this Association.

43  
44 **D. Honorary Member.** An individual, who has made outstanding contributions to the  
45 advancement of the art and science of dentistry, upon election by the Board of  
46 Trustees, shall be classified as an honorary member of this Association.

47  
48 **E. Associate Member.** A person, not eligible for any other type of membership in this  
49 Association, who contributes to the advancement of the objectives of this Association  
50 and has not met the educational requirements for licensure as a dentist anywhere in

1 the United States, upon application to and approval by the Board of Trustees, shall  
2 be classified as an associate member of this Association.  
3

4 **F. Retired Member.** A dentist who is or has been an active member in good standing who  
5 has been an active member of this Association and who is no longer earning income  
6 from the performance of service as a member of the faculty of a dental school, as a  
7 dental administrator or consultant, or as a practitioner of any activity for which a  
8 license to practice dentistry is required, is eligible for retired membership; and shall  
9 be classified as a retired member upon application with an affidavit attesting to  
10 retirement validated by the component society and submitted by the component  
11 society to the Executive Director of the Minnesota Dental Association. Maintenance  
12 of active or retired membership in good standing in the component society shall be  
13 requisite for entitlement to and continuance of retired membership in this Association.  
14

15 **G. Limited Income Practice Member.** A dentist who is or has been an active member in  
16 good standing of this association and who is earning a limited income at a level to be  
17 determined by the MDA Membership Committee from the performance of services as  
18 a member of the faculty of the dental school, as a dental administrator or consultant,  
19 or as a practitioner of any activity for which a license to practice dentistry is required,  
20 is eligible for limited income practice membership; and shall be classified as a limited  
21 income practice member upon application, with an affidavit attesting to income level  
22 validated by the component society and submitted by the component society to the  
23 Minnesota Dental Association. Maintenance of active or limited income practice  
24 membership in good standing in the component society shall be requisite for  
25 entitlement to and continuance of limited income practice membership in this  
26 Association.  
27

28 **H. Student Member.**

- 29
- 30 (1) A student enrolled in the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry who is in pursuit  
31 of a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree who has been accepted as a member of the  
32 Minnesota Student Dental Association.
  - 33 (2) Any dentist eligible for membership who is engaged full time in an advanced training  
34 course of not less than one academic year's duration in a school or residency program  
35 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, may by written request and  
36 with a signed letter from the program stating that the dentist is actively pursuing the  
37 completion of the program, be granted a student membership in the Minnesota Dental  
38 Association.
  - 39 (3) A student enrolled in a full time program at any School of Dentistry accredited by the  
40 Commission on Dental Accreditation who is in pursuit of a Doctor of Dental Surgery  
41 or Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry degree and who is currently a member of the  
42 American Student Dental Association through their local Student District.  
43

44 **I. Non-Practicing Dentist Member.**

45 A non-practicing dentist member shall be a dentist who is ineligible for any other  
46 classification of membership and:

- 47 (1) has a dental degree from any country
- 48 (2) resides in Minnesota;
- 49 (3) does not hold a dental license in the United States nor has a revoked U.S. dental  
50 license;
- 51 (4) is not delivering patient care as a dentist for remuneration; and

1 (5) meets membership requirements of the component society and the American Dental  
2 Association.  
3

4 **Section 3. Definition of "In Good Standing":** A member in this Association who has  
5 met the requirements for current membership in his or her component district society and the  
6 American Dental Association, and whose dues for the current year have been paid shall be  
7 in good standing; provided, however, that a member in good standing who is under  
8 disciplinary sentence of suspension shall be designated as a "member in good standing  
9 temporarily under suspension" until the member's disciplinary sentence has terminated and  
10 provided further that a member, to remain in good standing, may be required, under the  
11 bylaws of the member's component society, to meet additional standards.  
12

13 A member of the Minnesota Dental Association who resigns or fails to renew  
14 membership in this Association while under peer review or ethics review can be denied  
15 reinstatement of membership. Reinstatement may be approved upon review by the  
16 appropriate committees and approval by the Board of Trustees.  
17

18 A member who moves his or her office to another component society must become a  
19 member of the component society in which he or she practices, in order to retain membership  
20 in the Minnesota Dental Association.  
21

22 The requirement of paying current dues does not apply to retired life members of this  
23 Association for the purpose of determining their good standing.  
24

25 A member of this Association receiving assistance from the American Dental  
26 Association Relief Fund shall be exempt from payment of dues and shall be in good standing  
27 during the period of such assistance.  
28

29 A member of this Association who is totally disabled for a period of one year and who  
30 is unable to engage in the duties of the dental profession and who is a member in good  
31 standing at the time total disability was incurred, shall be exempt from the payment of dues  
32 and shall be in good standing during the period of total disability. A totally disabled member,  
33 in order to receive entitlement to dues exemption, shall submit through the member's  
34 component society to this Association a medical certificate attesting total disability and a  
35 certificate from said component society attesting this total disability. During the period of  
36 exemption from dues, further such certificates shall be presented on request to this  
37 Association.  
38

39 Any licensed dentist who is engaged in activities furthering the object of this  
40 Association may be considered to be practicing dentistry within the meaning of this section.  
41

42 **Section 4. Privileges:** Members shall have only the privileges listed.  
43

44 **A. Active Member**  
45

- 46 (1) An active member in good standing shall receive annually a certificate of membership  
47 and the official journal of the Minnesota Dental Association, the subscription price of  
48 which shall be included in the annual dues. He shall be entitled also to admission to  
49 any scientific session of this Association and to such other services as are provided  
50 by the Association.  
51

- 1 (2) An active member in good standing shall be eligible for election as a delegate or  
2 alternate delegate to the House of Delegates and for election or appointment to any  
3 office, committee, council, board, or similar position in the Association except as  
4 hereinafter provided.  
5
- 6 **B. Life Member.** A life member in good standing shall receive a certificate of life  
7 membership; and shall be entitled to all privileges of an active member, except that a  
8 life member who no longer pays dues to this Association shall not receive the official  
9 journal of the Minnesota Dental Association except by subscription.  
10
- 11 **C. Affiliate Member.** An affiliate member in good standing shall receive annually a  
12 certificate of affiliate membership and the official journal of the Association, the  
13 subscription price of which shall be included in the annual dues; and shall be entitled  
14 to admission to any scientific session of this Association.  
15
- 16 **D. Honorary Member.** An honorary member shall receive a certificate of honorary  
17 membership and the official journal of this Association; and shall be entitled to  
18 admission to any scientific session of this Association.  
19
- 20 **E. Associate Member.** An associate member in good standing shall receive annually a  
21 certificate of associate membership and shall be entitled to admission to any scientific  
22 session of this Association.  
23
- 24 **F. Retired Member.** A retired member in good standing shall receive annually a certificate  
25 of retired membership; and shall be entitled to all the privileges of an active member.  
26
- 27 **G. Limited Income Practice Member.** A limited income practice member in good standing  
28 shall receive annually a certificate of limited income practice membership; and shall  
29 be entitled to all privileges of an active member.  
30
- 31 **H. Student Member.** A student member in good standing shall receive annually a certificate  
32 of membership; free group life insurance, a subscription to Northwest Dentistry, the  
33 subscription price of which shall be included in the annual dues; and shall be entitled  
34 to attend any scientific session of this Association.  
35
- 36 **I. Non-Practicing Dentist.** A non-practicing dentist member in good standing shall receive  
37 annually a certificate of membership; and shall be entitled to the privileges of an active  
38 member.  
39
- 40 **J. Privilege of Voice.** Any member of this Association desiring to bring any matter of  
41 business before the House of Delegates, shall do so in writing to the Executive  
42 Director at least 10 days prior to the opening session of the House of Delegates and  
43 may appear before Reference Committees to advocate any such measures.  
44
- 45 **K. Suspended Member.** A suspended member shall have no membership privileges  
46 except continued entitlement to coverage under insurance programs.  
47
- 48 **L. Loss of Membership.**  
49
- 50 (1) An active, student, retired, or affiliate member whose dues have not been paid by  
51 March 1 of the current year shall cease to be a member of this Association.

1 Reinstatement of active, retired, affiliate and student membership may be secured in  
2 accordance with Chapter II.  
3

- 4 (2) Any member whose license to practice dentistry has been suspended shall be  
5 suspended from membership in this Association and component society for the  
6 duration of the suspension of license. Any member whose license to practice  
7 dentistry has been revoked shall be expelled from membership in this Association  
8 and component society. In such instances the disciplinary penalty shall be imposed  
9 by this Association without a hearing if the member waives the right to a hearing.  
10 Otherwise hearings relative to suspension or revocation of license will be conducted  
11 by this Association's Committee on Constitution, Bylaws and Ethics. If a member's  
12 license has been suspended or revoked for failure to comply with the State continuing  
13 education requirement for licensure neither suspension nor expulsion from  
14 membership will be imposed. Any member who is charged with violating these  
15 Bylaws, the Principles of Ethics of this Association or the Principles of Ethics of the  
16 component society, shall have the right to a hearing in the component society of which  
17 he or she is a member. Disciplinary proceedings will be conducted in accordance  
18 with Chapter XII, Section 20.C. of the American Dental Association Bylaws.  
19

20 **M. Right of Appeal.** An accused member shall have the right to appeal a decision of the  
21 member's component district society to this Association by filing an appeal in affidavit  
22 form with the chair of the Ethics Committee of this Association. Any further appeal by  
23 the member or component district society may be made to the American Dental  
24 Association in conformance with its Bylaws.  
25

26 An appeal from any decision shall not be valid unless filed within thirty (30) days after  
27 such decision has been rendered and notice thereof sent by registered mail to the  
28 parties concerned. No decision shall become final while an appeal therefrom is  
29 pending.  
30

## 31 **CHAPTER II -- DUES**

### 32 *Section 1.*

33  
34  
35 **A.** The annual dues for active, active life, retired, limited income practice, non-practicing  
36 dentist, and affiliate members are payable January 1 each year. Such members  
37 whose dues for the current year have not been paid by March 1 of that year shall  
38 cease to be members of this Association. Any action to amend the dues of active  
39 members shall be governed by the Rule Regarding Amendment of Dues set forth in  
40 Chapter IV, Section 13 of these *Bylaws*.  
41

42 **B.** A member receiving assistance from the Relief Fund shall be exempt from the payment  
43 of dues.  
44

45 **C.** Reinstatement of a former active, active life, retired, limited income practice, or affiliate  
46 member of this Association may be secured upon being reelected or reinstated to  
47 membership in compliance with the Bylaws and regulations of the component society  
48 involved and the payment of the appropriate dues for the category of membership to  
49 which reelected or reinstated.  
50

- 1 **D.** In the event a member is expelled from membership, the component society shall  
2 determine what portion of current dues, if any, shall be returned to the expelled  
3 member. Dues paid to this Association shall not be refundable in the event of  
4 expulsion.
- 5
- 6 **E.** On a one-time basis, a licensed dentist applying for membership who may or may not  
7 have held student membership status but has never become an active member of the  
8 ADA and the MDA and is not otherwise eligible as a new graduate under section 2(B)  
9 of the Bylaws, shall pay reduced dues at the rate of fifty percent of active member  
10 dues in the first year, and shall pay one hundred percent of active member dues in  
11 the second year and each year thereafter.
- 12
- 13 **F.** The annual dues for active, active life, retired, limited income practice, and affiliate  
14 members are payable January 1 each year. Such members whose dues for the  
15 current year have not been paid by March 31 of that year shall cease to be members  
16 of this Association.

17  
18 *Section 2.*      **Active Members**

19

20 **A. Annual Dues.** The annual dues for an active member of this Association shall be set  
21 by the House of Delegates in addition to such dues as levied by the American Dental  
22 Association except as provided in subsections B, C, D, E, F, and G, and the  
23 component society. An eligible dentist transferring from another constituent society  
24 in which he or she was in good standing would be exempt from active member dues  
25 to this Association for that year.

26

27 **B. New Graduate:** On a one-time basis, the dentist, when awarded a D.D.S. or D.M.D.  
28 degree shall be exempt from the payment of active member dues for the remaining  
29 period of that year and the following first full calendar year and shall pay 25% of active  
30 member dues for the second calendar year following the year in which the degree  
31 was awarded with the exception of four-year ASDA members who shall pay 15% of  
32 active member dues, 50% of active member dues in the third year with the exception  
33 of four-year ASDA members who shall pay 45% of active member dues, 75% of active  
34 member dues in the fourth year, and 100% of active member dues in the fifth year  
35 and thereafter.

36

37 On a one-time basis, a new graduate of a non-accredited dental school who has  
38 recently been licensed to practice dentistry in Minnesota shall be exempt from  
39 payment of active member dues for the remaining period of the year upon receipt of  
40 a dental license and the following first full calendar year. The newly licensed graduate  
41 of a non-accredited school shall pay 25% of active member dues the calendar year  
42 following the year which the license was obtained with the exception of four-year  
43 ASDA members who shall pay 15% of active member dues, 50% of active member  
44 dues in the third year with the exception of four-year ASDA members who shall pay  
45 45% of active member dues, 75% of active member dues in the fourth year, and 100%  
46 of active member dues in the fifth year and thereafter.

47

48 Reduced dues for four-year ASDA members will be effective for dues payment made  
49 for the year beginning January 1, 1999.

50

- 1 **C. Advance Training Graduate:** For the dentist who enters an accredited advance training  
 2 or residency program of not less than one year's duration within one year of the award  
 3 of a D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree, the foregoing reduction of dues in subsection B. shall  
 4 be suspended and deferred until completion of the advance training or residency.  
 5 During the pendency of the advanced training or residency program, the dentist shall  
 6 pay dues in the amount set by the House of Delegates. Upon completing the  
 7 program, the dentist shall pay dues for whatever portion of reduced dues had not  
 8 been applied prior to entering the advance training.  
 9
- 10 **D. Partial Year:** Persons elected to active membership in this Association for the first time  
 11 or whose membership will be reinstated after a lapse of one full year or more, and  
 12 who are elected or reinstated after July 1, shall pay one-half of the normal annual  
 13 active member dues; and if elected or reinstated after October 1, shall be exempt  
 14 from the payment of the normal active member dues on a one time basis except in  
 15 the case of recent graduates who shall pay no dues as is addressed in subsection B.  
 16
- 17 **E. Catastrophic Loss and Disability:** An active member who has suffered due to  
 18 catastrophic disaster losses or total disability, as defined by the American Dental  
 19 Association criteria, and as certified by component societies shall be exempt from the  
 20 payment of the current year's membership dues upon approval by the Board of  
 21 Trustees, provided the member is exempt from paying component dues. Continued  
 22 exemption from active member dues for reason of disability may be granted to a  
 23 member residing outside Minnesota, should the disability preclude eligibility for  
 24 membership in the constituent society of the dentist's residence.  
 25
- 26 **F. Service in Armed Service:** The dues of an active member, in good standing, who has  
 27 entered the Armed Services, may be waived during the required period of such  
 28 service provided such member is in good standing in the component society and in  
 29 the American Dental Association during the period of such service.  
 30
- 31 **G. Dues of Members Who Suffer Financial Hardship:** Those members who have suffered  
 32 a significant financial hardship that prohibits them from payment of their full dues may  
 33 be excused from the payment of fifty percent (50%), seventy-five percent (75%) or all  
 34 of the current year's dues as determined by the Board of Trustees. The component  
 35 societies shall certify the reason for the waiver, and the component societies shall  
 36 provide the same proportionate waiver of their dues as that provided by this  
 37 Association.  
 38

39 *Section 3. Life Members.*

- 40
- 41 **A. Active Life Members.** Regardless of member's previous classification of membership,  
 42 dues for life members who are earning income that exceeds the limit of a limited  
 43 income practice member from the performance of service as a member of the faculty  
 44 of a dental school, as a dental administrator or consultant, or as a practitioner of any  
 45 activity for which a license to practice dentistry is required shall be fifty percent (50%)  
 46 of the dues of active members, due January 1 of each year.  
 47
- 48 **B. Retired Life Members.** Life members who are no longer earning any income, or are  
 49 earning less than that of a limited income practice member, from the performance of  
 50 service as a member of the faculty of a dental school, as a dental administrator or

1 consultant, or as a practitioner of any activity for which a license to practice dentistry  
2 is required shall be exempt from payment of dues.

3  
4 **Section 4. Affiliate Members.** The dues of an affiliate member shall be set by the  
5 House of Delegates.

6  
7 **Section 5. Honorary Members.** An honorary member shall be exempt from all dues of  
8 this Association.

9  
10 **Section 6. Associate Members.** An associate member shall be exempt from all dues of  
11 this Association.

12  
13 **Section 7. Retired Members.** The dues of a retired member shall be twenty-five percent  
14 (25%) of the dues of active members.

15  
16 **Section 8. Limited Income Practice Members.** Members who are earning a limited  
17 income at a level to be determined by the MDA Membership Committee must submit an  
18 affidavit annually to the component society which must approve the affidavit and grant a  
19 proportionate dues reduction. The dues of a limited income practice member shall be twenty-  
20 five percent (25%) of the dues of an active member.

21  
22 **Section 9. Student Members.** The dues of a student member shall be set by the House  
23 of Delegates.

24  
25 **Section 10. Non-Practicing Dentist Members.** The dues of a non-practicing member  
26 shall be fifty percent (50%) of the dues of active members.

27  
28 **Section 11. Percentage Dues.** In establishing the dollar rate of dues in this chapter  
29 expressed as a percentage of active member dues, computations resulting in fractions of a  
30 dollar shall be rounded up to the next higher dollar.

### 31 32 **CHAPTER III -- COMPONENT DISTRICT SOCIETIES**

33  
34 **Section 1. Organization:** A component district society shall be organized and chartered,  
35 subject to the approval of the House of Delegates. A component district society shall consist  
36 of dentists and student dentists who are members in good standing of this Association. Each  
37 component district society shall adopt and maintain a Constitution and Bylaws, which shall  
38 not be in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association, and shall file a copy  
39 thereof and any changes made thereafter with the Executive Director of this Association.

#### 40 41 **Section 2. Powers and Duties:**

42  
43 **A.** A component district society shall have the power to elect its members and to elect its  
44 fully privileged members as active members of this Association within the limits  
45 imposed by Section 4 of this Chapter.

46  
47 **B.** It shall have the power to make laws, rules, and regulations, not in conflict with the  
48 Bylaws of this Association; to adopt principles of ethics, not in conflict with the  
49 Principles of Ethics of this Association; to govern the professional conduct of its  
50 members; to provide for its financial support.

- 1 C. It shall have the power to discipline any of its members by censure, probation,  
2 suspension or expulsion for having been found guilty of a felony; for having been  
3 found guilty of violating the dental practice act of a state, district, territory or  
4 dependency; for violating these Bylaws or the Principles of Ethics of this Association  
5 subject to the provisions in Chapter 1, Section 4. J. and K. of these *Bylaws*.  
6
- 7 D. It shall have the duty to follow the peer review procedures set forth in the Minnesota  
8 Dental Association Peer Review Manual as approved by the Board of Trustees.  
9

10 **Section 3. Division of Districts:**

- 11
- 12 A. The State of Minnesota shall be divided into eight (8) districts as follows:

- 13
- 14 (1) Minneapolis District, comprising the following counties: Anoka, Carver, Hennepin,  
15 Isanti, McLeod, Renville, Scott and Wright; and St. Anthony Village.  
16
- 17 (2) Northeastern District, comprising the following counties: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca,  
18 Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis.  
19
- 20 (3) Northwestern District, comprising the following counties: Becker, Beltrami, Cass,  
21 Clay, Clearwater, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomen, Marshall,  
22 Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau.  
23
- 24 (4) Saint Paul District, comprising the following counties: Chisago, Dakota, Ramsey, and  
25 Washington.  
26
- 27 (5) Southeastern District, comprising the following counties: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn,  
28 Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmstead, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona.  
29
- 30 (6) Southern District, comprising the following counties: Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood,  
31 Faribault, Jackson, LeSueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles,  
32 Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine.  
33
- 34 (7) West Central District, comprising the following counties: Benton, Big Stone,  
35 Chippewa, Crow Wing, Douglas, Grant, Kanabec, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Meeker,  
36 Mille Lacs, Morrison, Otter Tail, Pope, Sherburne, Stearns, Stevens, Swift, Todd,  
37 Traverse, Wadena, and Wilkin.  
38

- 39 B. In addition to the seven geographic districts of the Minnesota Dental Association, there  
40 shall also be an eighth district, the Minnesota Student District, comprised of students  
41 in pursuit of a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the University of Minnesota Dental  
42 School, who are members of the Minnesota Student Dental Association. The  
43 Minnesota Student District shall not be considered a component society or district for  
44 purposes related to the American Dental Association.  
45

- 46 C. Only one (1) component district society in each of the districts as outlined in the preceding  
47 section shall be recognized and chartered as a component district society by this  
48 Association.  
49

- 50 D. Each component district society shall judge the qualifications of its own members, but as  
51 such, societies are the only portals of entry to this Association. Every ethical and

1           legally registered dentist and student dentist in the district shall be eligible to election  
2           to membership.

3  
4   **Section 4.    Membership.** The fully privileged membership of each component district  
5   society shall be limited to the dentists and student dentists within the jurisdiction of such  
6   component district society, except for a newly graduated dentist who may be permitted to join  
7   the component society of choice while seeking a practice location until such time as the  
8   practice location is established or until December 31 of the year following the year in which  
9   a D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree is received, whichever should occur first.

10  
11           Any member residing in one district and practicing in another district shall be a  
12   member of the district of the practice. A dentist practicing in more than one district may select  
13   and designate one of those districts for component membership.

14  
15           A member dentist may petition the Board of Trustees to become a member of a district  
16   for which they do not otherwise qualify. Criteria for approval of a petition shall be established  
17   by the Board of Trustees.

18  
19   **Section 5.    Officers.** The officers of a component district society shall be a President,  
20   Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as may be prescribed in its Constitution and  
21   Bylaws.

22  
23   **Section 6.    Nomination of Trustee.** Nomination of Trustee in each trustee district shall  
24   be made according to Chapter V, Section 4 of these *Bylaws* following selection of the  
25   candidate at a regularly called meeting of the component district society comprising the  
26   trustee district.

27  
28   **Section 7.    Sessions.** A component district society shall hold a business session at least  
29   once each calendar year.

30  
31   **Section 8.    Principles of Ethics.** The Principles of Ethics of the American Dental  
32   Association, the Principles of Ethics of this Association, and the Principles of Ethics adopted  
33   by the component district society shall be the principles of ethics of that component district  
34   society for governing the professional conduct of its members.

35  
36   **Section 9.    Privilege of Representation.** Each component district society shall have the  
37   privilege of representation in the House of Delegates of this Association by four (4) or more  
38   fully privileged members of such component district society who are selected to serve as  
39   officially certified delegates according to the following formula. There shall be four (4)  
40   delegates from each component district society. In addition thereto, each component district  
41   society, except the Minnesota Student District, shall be entitled to one (1) additional delegate  
42   for each seventy-five (75) members or major fraction thereof. In further addition thereto, each  
43   component district society having three-hundred (300) or more members shall be entitled to  
44   one (1) additional delegate for each one-hundred fifty (150) members or major fraction  
45   thereof. Such representation shall be based on the active, active life, retired and retired life  
46   membership total as of December 31 of the previous year.

47  
48           Each component district society may select from among its fully privileged members,  
49   the same number of alternate delegates as delegates. An alternate delegate may act in the  
50   absence of a delegate at any meeting of the House of Delegates. Each component district

1 society delegation chair shall have the privilege of determining the alternate delegate who  
2 shall be authorized to substitute for an absent delegate from that component district society.

3  
4 The Minnesota Student District shall be limited to four (4) officially certified delegates  
5 and four (4) alternate delegates.

6  
7 Each component district society shall have one (1) representative on the Board of  
8 Trustees.

9  
10 **Section 10. Chartered Component District Societies.** The Executive Director of this  
11 Association is authorized to issue a charter in a form approved by the Board of Trustees to  
12 each component district society denoting its name and jurisdiction. The following societies  
13 hereby are chartered as component district societies of this Association:

- 14
- 15 Minneapolis District Dental Society
- 16 Northeastern District Dental Society
- 17 Northwestern District Dental Society
- 18 St. Paul District Dental Society
- 19 Southeastern District Dental Society
- 20 Southern District Dental Society
- 21 West Central District Dental Society
- 22 Minnesota Student District Dental Society

23  
24 **CHAPTER IV -- HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

25  
26 **Section 1. Composition.** The House of Delegates shall be composed of the official  
27 certified delegates of each component society and the elective officers of this Association.  
28 The Trustees of the Association shall be ex-officio members of the House of Delegates  
29 without the power to vote unless duly selected as delegates of their respective component  
30 district societies.

31  
32 **Section 2. Certification of Delegates and Alternate Delegates.** The secretary of each  
33 component district society shall file with the Executive Director of this Association,  
34 immediately following their election, the names of the delegates and alternates duly selected  
35 by their society.

36  
37 The Executive Director of this Association shall provide each delegate and alternate  
38 delegate with proper credentials which shall be presented to the Committee on Credentials  
39 of the House of Delegates for registration and admission to the meetings of the session. In  
40 the event of a contest over the credentials of any delegate or alternate delegate, the  
41 Committee on Credentials shall hold a hearing and report its findings and recommendations  
42 to the House of Delegates.

43  
44 **Section 3. Powers:**

- 45
- 46 **A.** The House of Delegates shall be the supreme authoritative body of this Association.
- 47
- 48 **B.** It shall possess the legislative powers of the Association.
- 49
- 50 **C.** It shall determine the policies which shall govern this Association in all of its activities.
- 51

- 1 D. It shall have the power to enact, amend, or repeal the Articles of Incorporation,  
2 Constitution and Bylaws of the Association.
- 3
- 4 E. It shall have the power to adopt and amend the Principles of Ethics for governing the  
5 professional conduct of the members of this Association, provided that they are not  
6 in conflict with the Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association.
- 7
- 8 F. It shall have the power to grant, amend, or revoke charters of component district societies.
- 9
- 10 G. It shall have the power to create special committees of the Association.
- 11
- 12 H. It shall have the power to approve all memorials, resolutions, or opinions in the name of  
13 the Minnesota Dental Association.
- 14
- 15 I. The MDA maintains an inherent right to remove any individual from elective office for valid  
16 cause by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates or the Board of Trustees (those  
17 present and voting and fulfilling the requirements of a quorum). The procedures for  
18 such removal shall be consistent with our Parliamentary authority.

19  
20 Examples of valid cause shall include, but not be limited to:

- 21 1. Inability to fulfill duties due to relocation, resignation, impairment or due  
22 to lack of participation, lack of attendance, continued or gross willful  
23 neglect of duties.
- 24 2. Intentional misrepresentation or misinformation regarding the MDA or its  
25 officers and/or representatives.
- 26 3. Failure or refusal to disclose necessary information on matters of  
27 organization business (withholding critical information).
- 28 4. Unauthorized expenditures; signing of checks or misuse of organizational  
29 funds.
- 30 5. Patterns of behavior inconsistent with MDA standards.
- 31 a. Inappropriate language or actions, egregious violations of MDA Code of  
32 Conduct, misuse of position to advance personal agenda, nepotism
- 33 6. Conviction of a felony
- 34 7. Failure to comply with proper direction of the House of Delegates or  
35 Board of Trustees, or actions that intentionally violate the Bylaws.

36  
37 **Section 4. Duties:** It shall be the duty of the House of Delegates to:

- 38
- 39 A. Elect the President-elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer,  
40 Speaker of the House, and the delegates and alternates to the American Dental  
41 Association House of Delegates.
- 42
- 43 B. Elect the members of the Board of Trustees.
- 44
- 45 C. Adopt the annual budget presented by the Board of Trustees after making such  
46 amendments as deemed necessary.
- 47
- 48 D. Recommend members to the governor of the State for appointment on the State Board  
49 of Dentistry, as provided in Chapter IX of these *Bylaws*.
- 50

1 **Section 5. Transfer of Powers and Duties of the House of Delegates:** The powers  
2 and duties of the House of Delegates referred to in Section 3 and 4 of this Chapter, except  
3 the power to amend, enact or repeal the *Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and Bylaws* of  
4 this Association and the duty of electing the elective officers and the members of the Board,  
5 may be transferred to, and assumed by, the Board of Trustees of this Association in time of  
6 extraordinary emergency. The existence of a time of extraordinary emergency shall be  
7 determined by mail vote of the last House of Delegates on recommendation of the majority  
8 of the Board of Trustees. A mail vote to be valid shall consist of ballots received from no less  
9 than one-fourth (1/4) of the members of said House of Delegates. A majority of the votes  
10 cast within thirty (30) days after posting of the ballots shall decide such vote.  
11

12 **Section 6. Interim Mail Ballots:** In the event not less than three-fourths of the Board of  
13 Trustees shall approve, a mail ballot may be taken of the membership of the last House of  
14 Delegates, subject to the conditions herein. Such mail vote to be valid should consist of  
15 ballots received from no less than two-thirds of the members of said House of Delegates, and  
16 a majority of ballots received within thirty days after mailing of the ballots to the delegates,  
17 shall decide such vote. Such mail ballots shall be taken when the Board of Trustees wishes  
18 to receive an advisory opinion or authority to take an action or to approve any matter which  
19 the House of Delegates is authorized to approve or enact, provided the matter is one which  
20 the Board of Trustees by resolution declares to be an important matter which requires action  
21 prior to the next regular annual business session; and provided further, the Board of Trustees  
22 finds that the matter can equitably be resolved by mail ballot, rather than by the calling of a  
23 special session, considering the complexity of the question, of the expense involved, and the  
24 further consideration of whether the matter involved is one which should be subject to debate  
25 and amendment to be fairly resolved. Mail ballots may not be used for elections. A report of  
26 the results of any such ballot shall be made at the following House of Delegates.  
27

28 **Section 7. Annual Business Sessions:** The House of Delegates shall meet annually at  
29 a time and location designated by the Board of Trustees, and as many meetings shall be held  
30 as are deemed necessary by the officers.  
31

32 **Section 8. Special Sessions:** A special session of the House of Delegates shall be  
33 called by the President on three-fifths (3/5) affirmative vote of the members of the Board of  
34 Trustees present and voting in a regular or special session, or on written request of one-fifth  
35 (1/5) of the officially certified delegates who comprised the last House of Delegates provided,  
36 however, these delegates are from at least four (4) of the component societies. The notice  
37 shall specify the time and place of meeting and, in general terms, the objects of such special  
38 session. No other business shall be transacted thereat.  
39

40 **Section 9. Official Call:**

41  
42 **A. Annual Sessions:** The Executive Director of this Association shall send to each officially  
43 certified delegate and alternate an official notice of the time and place of each annual  
44 session, not less than ten (10) days before the opening of such session.  
45

46 **B. Special Sessions:** The Executive Director of this Association shall send an official  
47 written notice of the time and place of each special session and a statement of the  
48 business to be considered to every officially certified delegate and alternate delegate  
49 of the last House, not less than twenty (20) days before the opening of any such  
50 session. This notice shall be considered due notice.  
51

1 **Section 10. Quorum:** Two-fifths (2/5) of the voting members of the House of Delegates  
2 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of any session.  
3

4 **Section 11. Officers:**  
5

6 **A. Number and Title:** The officers of the House shall be the Speaker and the Secretary.  
7 The Executive Director of this Association shall be the Secretary. In the absence of  
8 the Speaker, the office will be filled by the President. In the absence of the Secretary,  
9 the Speaker shall appoint a Secretary *pro tem*.  
10

11 **B. Duties:**

12 (1) **Speaker:** The Speaker shall preside at all meetings of the House of Delegates,  
13 appoint tellers to assist in determining the result of any action taken by vote and  
14 perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage require.  
15

16 The Speaker may consult a parliamentarian when a question of order arises. The  
17 decision of the Speaker shall be final unless an appeal from such decision shall be  
18 made by a member of the House, in which case final decision shall be by a majority  
19 vote, of those present and voting.  
20

21 (2) **Secretary:** The Secretary shall serve as the recording officer of the House and the  
22 custodian of its records. The Secretary may utilize the services of a professional  
23 recorder for the purpose of obtaining a stenographic record of the proceedings of the  
24 House and shall cause a factual record of the proceedings to be edited and published  
25 as the official transactions of the House. He shall serve as the reading clerk of the  
26 House but may designate an assistant to perform this duty.  
27

28 **Section 12. Order of Business, Annual and Special Session:** The order of business  
29 shall be that order of business adopted by the House of Delegates.  
30

31 **Section 13. Rules of Order:**  
32

33 **A. Standing Rules:**  
34

35 (1) **Reports.** All reports except supplemental reports of elective officers, Board of  
36 Trustees, and committees, shall be published under the direction of the Executive  
37 Director of the Association and sent to each delegate and alternate delegate at least  
38 ten (10) days in advance of the opening of the annual session. All supplemental  
39 reports of any such officers or agencies shall be distributed if possible to each  
40 delegate before such report is considered by the House.  
41

42 (2) **Recommendations or Resolutions on Appropriation of Funds.** The Board of  
43 Trustees shall act as a Consultant Committee of the House of Delegates. This  
44 committee shall be consulted on all motions and resolutions, the adoption of which  
45 includes an appropriation of funds of the Association. All resolutions and  
46 recommendations submitted to the House of Delegates shall be accompanied with a  
47 'Fiscal Impact' statement.  
48

49 (3) **Consideration of Budget.** The Board of Trustees shall annually prepare a suitable  
50 budget which shall be submitted to the House of Delegates for adoption.  
51

1 (4) **Nominations received from the Board of Trustees.** The House of Delegates shall  
2 have the right to make additions to nominations received from the Board of Trustees.  
3

4 (5) **Rule Regarding Amendment of Dues.** A resolution to amend the dues of active  
5 members may be submitted to the House of Delegates in any amount and may be  
6 amended to any other amount by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting.  
7

8 **B. Additional Rules:** The deliberations of this Association shall be in accordance with the  
9 American Institute of Parliamentarians "Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure"  
10 in all cases which are applicable and not in conflict with the standing rules or these  
11 Bylaws.  
12

13 *Section 14. Committees:* The committees of the House shall be:

14  
15 **A. Committee on Credentials and Rules and Order.**

16  
17 (1) This Committee shall consist of three (3) officially certified delegates, and shall be  
18 appointed by the President at least ten (10) days in advance of each session.  
19

20 (2) It shall be the duty of this Committee to:

21  
22 (a) Determine and record the roll of the House at each meeting and to report at  
23 the time provided in the order of business.  
24

25 (b) Conduct a hearing on any contest which may arise over the certification of a  
26 delegate or alternate delegate and to report its recommendations to the House.  
27

28 (c) Prepare a report, in consultation with the Speaker and Secretary of the House  
29 of Delegates on matters relating to the order of business and special rules of order,  
30 and report its recommendations to the House of Delegates.  
31

32 **B. Reference Committees:**

33  
34 (1) **Personnel.** Two (2) or more Reference Committees, consisting of officially certified  
35 delegates, shall be appointed by the President at least ten (10) days in advance of  
36 each session. All districts shall be represented on each Reference Committee.  
37

38 (2) **Duties.** It shall be the duty of the reference committees to consider reports referred  
39 to them, to conduct open hearings and to report recommendations to the House of  
40 Delegates. Each committee shall, as soon as possible, consider such business as  
41 may have been referred to it and shall report at the next meeting or when called upon  
42 to do so.  
43

44 **C. Special Committees:** The Speaker, with the approval of the House of Delegates, may  
45 appoint special committees to perform duties not otherwise assigned by these *Bylaws*, to  
46 serve until adjournment of the session at which they were appointed.  
47

48 *Section 15. Election Procedures:* Elective positions shall be elected by the House of  
49 Delegates except as otherwise provided in these *Bylaws*. Voting shall be by ballot. The  
50 majority of ballots cast shall be required to elect any candidate for any office. In the event  
51 there is only one candidate for one office such candidate may be declared elected by the

1 presiding officer. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast on the first  
2 ballot, the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be balloted upon  
3 again. If there is more than one nominee for each position of delegate or alternate delegate  
4 to the American Dental Association House of Delegates, those nominees receiving a majority  
5 of the ballots shall be elected. If all of the positions are not filled on the first ballot, a second  
6 ballot shall be cast. The number of candidates for the unfilled positions shall be one more  
7 than the number of positions to be filled, and the candidates upon the second ballot shall be  
8 those unelected candidates on the first ballot who receive the highest votes. Those  
9 candidates receiving a majority of the ballots on the second vote shall be elected and the  
10 balloting shall cease.

## 11 12 **CHAPTER V -- BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

13  
14 *Section 1.      **Composition:*** The Board of Trustees shall consist of one (1) trustee from  
15 each of the component district societies, and the elective officers of this Association.

16  
17 *Section 2.      **Qualification:*** A trustee must be an active, student, life or retired member, in  
18 good standing of this Association and a fully privileged member of the component district  
19 society which he or she is elected to represent. The elective officers of this Association shall  
20 serve as trustees in their elective capacity, but not as representing any component society.  
21 Should the status of any trustee be changed in respect to the preceding qualifications, or  
22 should the trustee be elected to one of the elected offices in this Association during the term  
23 office, then that trusteeship shall be declared vacant and the President shall fill such vacancy  
24 as provided in Chapter V, Section 7 of these *Bylaws*.

25  
26 *Section 3.      **Term of Office:*** The District trustees, except the Student Trustee, shall be  
27 divided into three (3) groups of two (2), two (2), and three (3), respectively; each group to  
28 serve for a term of three (3) years limited to two (2) consecutive terms; subsequent terms  
29 may be served after a period of one (1) year. One (1) group shall be elected annually. Any  
30 partial term less than one-half a full term shall not preclude a trustee from serving two full  
31 consecutive additional terms.

32  
33           The Student Trustee shall serve for a term of one (1) year and shall be elected  
34 annually. The term of the Student Trustee shall begin on April 1 of one year and end on  
35 March 31 of the following year.

36  
37 *Section 4.      **Nomination:*** At each annual session of the House of Delegates, the Chair of  
38 the delegation representing the component society in each trustee district in which the term  
39 of the trustee is about to expire, or a delegate of that district appointed by the component  
40 society president, shall introduce their nominee as candidate of the component society  
41 composing that trustee district, as candidate for election to succeed the trustee whose term  
42 will expire.

43  
44 **A.** In the event that the component society comprising the trustee district has not selected a  
45 candidate, the delegates from the component society in which the term of trustee is  
46 about to expire shall hold a caucus prior to, or on the day of the first meeting of the  
47 House of Delegates, at the session in which the term of the trustee expires, and select  
48 a candidate. This caucus shall be called in such case, by the trustee whose term is  
49 due to expire, or in his absence, by the chair of the delegation representing that  
50 trustee district.

- 1 **B.** A nominating speech of two (2) minutes shall be allowed in the House on behalf of each  
2 nominee.
- 3
- 4 **Section 5. Election:** The trustees shall be elected by the House in accordance with  
5 [Chapter IV, Section 15](#) of these *Bylaws*.
- 6
- 7 **Section 6. Installation:** The trustee shall be installed at the time scheduled for  
8 installation of elective officers.
- 9
- 10 **Section 7. Vacancy:** In the event of a vacancy in the office of a trustee, the President  
11 shall appoint a qualified member of the component district society in the trustee district in  
12 which the vacancy occurs to fill such office until a successor is elected by the next House of  
13 Delegates for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- 14
- 15 **Section 8. Powers:**
- 16 **A.** The Board shall be the managing body of the Association, vested with full power to  
17 conduct all business of the Association, subject to the laws of the State of Minnesota,  
18 the *Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and Bylaws* and the mandates of the House  
19 of Delegates. All monies received by the Association shall be disbursed under the  
20 supervision of the Board of Trustees, subject to the approval of a majority vote of the  
21 House of Delegates. No money shall be accepted by this Association that are not  
22 dues or in the ordinary course of business of the Association without action by the  
23 Board of Trustees.
- 24
- 25 **B.** It shall have the power to establish rules and regulations not inconsistent with Chapter V,  
26 Section 8.A. of these *Bylaws* to govern its organization, procedure, and conduct.
- 27
- 28 **C.** It shall have the power to remove a committee member upon the recommendation of the  
29 President.
- 30
- 31 **D.** It shall have the power to elect qualified persons for honorary, affiliate, and associate  
32 membership, for honorary award of this Association, and to approve applications for  
33 dues waivers for total disability and dues exemptions due to catastrophic losses.
- 34
- 35 **E.** It shall have the power to establish *ad interim* policies when the House of Delegates is  
36 not in session and when such policies are essential to the affairs of the Association,  
37 provided, however, that all such policies must be presented for review at the next  
38 session of the House of Delegates. Such power shall include the removal from  
39 elective office of individuals for valid cause (as indicated in Chapter IV, Section 3, (I.)).
- 40
- 41 **F.** It shall have the power to create committees for the purpose of investigative planning and  
42 administrative activities not specifically designated in the duties of the standing and  
43 special committees. These committees shall report their findings, conclusions, and  
44 recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
- 45
- 46 **G.** It shall have the power to amend the budget when it is not in conflict with the policies  
47 established by the House of Delegates, and present any such amendment for review  
48 at the next session of the House of Delegates.
- 49
- 50 **H.** It shall have the power to make the required adjustments by adding to or deleting  
51 delegates from or to the list of elected alternate delegates to enable the correct

1 certification of delegates to the American Dental Association House of Delegates in  
2 the event the number of delegates allocated by the American Dental Association is  
3 changed after the delegates have been elected. It shall also have the power to make  
4 the required adjustments by adding to or deleting alternate delegates to the American  
5 Dental Association House of Delegates in the event the number of alternate delegates  
6 allocated by the American Dental Association is changed after the alternate delegates  
7 have been elected.  
8

9 **Section 9. Duties:** It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to:

10  
11 **A.** Nominate qualified members of the Association to the elective offices.

12  
13 (1) Not less than one hundred twenty (120) days before the annual session of the House  
14 of Delegates, nominate one (1) or more candidates for each of the elective offices  
15 (Officers, District Trustees, ADA Delegates and Alternates) to be filled.  
16

17 (2) Nominate delegates and alternate delegates to the House of Delegates of the  
18 American Dental Association Annual Session and submit them to the House of  
19 Delegates for election. Delegates are to be nominated for a one (1) year term and  
20 alternate delegates for a one (1) year term.  
21

22 Notification of such nominations shall be made to the active, life and retired members  
23 of the Association not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual session of the  
24 House of Delegates.  
25

26 **B.** Provide for the maintenance and supervision of the Central Office and all other property  
27 or offices owned or operated by this Association.  
28

29 **C.** Appoint qualified persons to the offices of Executive Director and Editor, and to determine  
30 their salaries and term of office.  
31

32 **D.** Cause to be bonded, at the expense of the Association, by a reliable surety company any  
33 officer, member, or employee of the Association entrusted with Association funds for  
34 whatever amount deemed necessary.  
35

36 **E.** Provide for an annual audit of all the accounts of the Association by a Certified Public  
37 Accountant.  
38

39 **F.** Prepare and present to the House of Delegates a budget for carrying on the activities of  
40 the Association for the ensuing fiscal year.  
41

42 **G.** Provide for the publication and distribution of all official publications of the Association.  
43

44 **H.** Administer the Relief Fund by:

45  
46 (1) Causing to be distributed to the secretary of each component district society all  
47 approved plans for increasing the principal of the Relief Fund of this Association and  
48 to promulgate the rules and regulations for the granting of financial aid to dentists,  
49 their dependents and survivors.  
50

1 (2) Receiving written application from persons soliciting relief for themselves or for others  
2 and to investigate all applications and to require such proofs as they may deem  
3 proper. If the application is approved by the Board, it shall be forwarded to the  
4 Secretary of the Council on Relief of the American Dental Association together with  
5 the Board's recommendations. All relief funds contributed to jointly by the Minnesota  
6 Dental Association shall be distributed in accordance with the rules and regulations  
7 of the American Dental Association.  
8

9 I. Cause to be promulgated in the official journal of the Association all policies adopted by  
10 the House of Delegates.  
11

12 J. Submit an annual report to the House of Delegates concerning its activities and those of  
13 the appointive officers of the Association.  
14

15 K. Designate the time and place of the annual scientific session, and the House of  
16 Delegates.  
17

18 L. Fill all vacancies that may occur except as provided for in these *Bylaws*, which the Board  
19 of Trustees is empowered to appoint; such appointees shall serve only until the next  
20 meeting of the House of Delegates.  
21

22 M. Assign all MDA policies to committees or to itself for annual review and report to the  
23 House of Delegates.  
24

25 N. Perform such other duties as are prescribed by these *Bylaws* or the House of Delegates.  
26

27 *Section 10. Sessions:* There shall be two (2) regular sessions of the Board each year,  
28 and such additional sessions as are deemed necessary by the President or the majority of  
29 the Board.  
30

31 *Section 11. Action Without a Meeting:*  
32

33 **A. Action Without a Meeting or via Remote Communication.** Action without a meeting  
34 or through means of remote communication shall be allowed as set forth in these  
35 Bylaws or as may otherwise be authorized under Minnesota law.  
36

37 **B. Meetings Conducted Through Means of Remote Communication.** The Board of  
38 Trustees, Committee Chairs, or Subcommittee Chairs may specify that a meeting will  
39 be conducted partially or solely through one or more means of remote  
40 communication. They may authorize individual attendance and participation by Board  
41 members, Committee members and Subcommittee members at meetings through  
42 one or more means of remote communication, provided that all notice and quorum  
43 requirements are met. Remote communication includes any communication that is  
44 accomplished by means of electronics, telephone, video, or internet conferencing, or  
45 other similar means through which persons not physically present in the same  
46 location may communicate with each other on a substantially simultaneous basis.  
47 Participation in a meeting through a form of remote communication that is authorized  
48 by the Board of Trustees, Committee Chair, or Subcommittee Chair constitutes  
49 personal presence at the meeting.  
50

1 **C. Action Without Meeting.** Any action that may be taken at a meeting of the Board of  
2 Trustees, Committees, or Subcommittees may be taken without a meeting when  
3 authorized in a written action signed or consented to in an electronic communication  
4 which meets the requirements of the following Subsection in one or more  
5 counterparts, by the number of Trustees, or committee members that would be  
6 required to take the same action at a meeting of the Board or Committee at which all  
7 members of the Board or Committee were physically present. The action is effective  
8 when the written action has been signed or consented to in an electronic  
9 communication which meets the requirements of the following Subsection by the  
10 required number of Trustees, or Committee members, unless a different effective  
11 time is provided in the written action.

12  
13 **D. Electronic Records and Signatures.** The Minnesota Dental Association recognizes  
14 that authenticated electronic communication which meets the requirements of this  
15 Subsection may legally satisfy written record and signature requirements necessary  
16 for valid records, signatures, and contracts. Authenticated communications are those  
17 communications that set forth information from which the Association can reasonably  
18 conclude that the communication was sent by the purported sender and are delivered  
19 to the principal place of business of the Corporation, or to a Trustee or Agent of the  
20 Association who is authorized by the Association to receive the communication.  
21 Electronic records are records that are created, generated, sent, communicated,  
22 received or stored by electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic  
23 or similar technologies. Valid electronic signatures are those that are expressed  
24 through an electronic sound, symbol or process, and that are logically associated with  
25 a record and executed or adopted by a person with intent to sign the record.

26  
27 **Section 12. Quorum:** Two-thirds of the voting members of the Board of Trustees shall  
28 constitute a quorum.

29  
30 **Section 13. Officers:**

31  
32 **A. Number and Title:** The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be a Chair, Vice Chair,  
33 and a Secretary. The President of this Association shall be the Chair, the President-  
34 elect shall be the Vice Chair, and the Executive Director of this Association shall be  
35 the Secretary. In the absence of the Secretary of the Board, the Chair shall appoint  
36 a Secretary *pro tem*.

37  
38 **B. Duties:**

39  
40 (1) **Chair.** The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board and perform such other  
41 duties as custom and parliamentary usage require.

42  
43 The Chair may utilize the counsel and advice of a parliamentarian when a question of  
44 order arises. The decision of the Chair shall be final unless an appeal from such  
45 decision is made by a member of the Board, in which case final decision shall be by  
46 a majority vote of the trustees present and voting.

47  
48 (2) **Secretary.** The Secretary shall serve as the recording officer of the Board and as the  
49 custodian of its records. The Secretary may utilize the services of a professional  
50 recorder for the purpose of obtaining a stenographic record of the proceedings of the  
51 Board and shall cause a factual record of such proceedings to be edited and

1 published as the official transactions of the Board. The Secretary shall serve as the  
2 reading clerk of the Board but may designate an assistant to perform this duty.  
3

#### 4 **CHAPTER VI -- ELECTIVE OFFICERS**

5  
6 **Section 1. Title:** The elective officers of this Association shall be the President,  
7 President-elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Speaker of the  
8 House. The officers shall be elected as provided in Chapter IV, Section 4.A. and Section 5,  
9 and in Chapter V, Section 9.A. of these *Bylaws*.

10  
11 **Section 2. Eligibility:** Only an active, life, or retired member, in good standing of this  
12 Association shall be eligible to serve as an elective officer.

13  
14 **Section 3. Nominations:** Nominations for the office of President-elect, First Vice  
15 President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House may be made at the  
16 annual session of the House of Delegates as provided in Chapter IV, Section 13.A. (4) and  
17 Chapter V, Section 9.A. of these *Bylaws*.

18  
19 Nominations for office shall be made orally, but no nominating speech shall exceed  
20 three (3) minutes in length. Seconding speeches shall be limited to two (2) minutes, and two  
21 (2) in number. Any nominee receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected.  
22 (See Chapter IV, Section 15 of these *Bylaws*.)  
23

24 **Section 4. Tenure of Office:** The elective officers, with the exceptions of the Treasurer  
25 and the Speaker of the House, shall serve for a term of one (1) year, or until their successors  
26 are elected and installed.

27  
28 The Treasurer and the Speaker of the House shall serve for a term of three (3) years  
29 with a maximum of two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms.  
30

31 The Treasurer terms of three (3) year intervals shall begin in year 2010 and the  
32 Speaker of the House terms of three (3) year intervals shall begin in year 2011.  
33

34 Any interim term greater than one-half of a full term for Treasurer, District Trustee, or  
35 Speaker of the House will count as a full term toward any ascribed term limitations.  
36

37 **Section 5. Installation:** The elective officers shall be installed at the last meeting of each  
38 annual session of the House of Delegates. The President-elect shall be installed as President  
39 at the next annual session of the House of Delegates following that election.  
40

41 **Section 6. Vacancies:** If the office of President becomes vacant, the President-elect  
42 shall become President for the unexpired portion of the term, and shall serve the full term for  
43 which originally elected.  
44

45 If both the offices of President and President-elect become vacant, the First Vice  
46 President shall become President for the unexpired portion of the term.  
47

48 If the office of President-elect becomes vacant, the President for the ensuing year  
49 shall be elected at the next session of the House of Delegates.  
50

1 If the office of First Vice President becomes vacant, the Second Vice President shall  
2 become First Vice President for the unexpired portion of the term.

3  
4 If the office of Second Vice President becomes vacant, it shall be filled by a majority  
5 vote of the Board of Trustees.

6  
7 In the event of any other vacancy in an elective office, the Board of Trustees, by  
8 majority vote, shall be empowered to fill such vacancy until the next annual session of the  
9 House of Delegates.

10  
11 **Section 7. Duties:**

12  
13 **A. President.** It shall be the duty of the President:

- 14  
15 (1) To preside at all meetings of this Association and the Board of Trustees, except the  
16 House of Delegates, and to perform all the duties required of a presiding officer.  
17  
18 (2) To serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.  
19  
20 (3) To be a member of all committees, ex officio, unless otherwise provided.  
21  
22 (4) To appoint members to all committees and the chair of each that is maintained by the  
23 Board of Trustees.  
24  
25 (5) To appoint the members of all committees of the House of Delegates unless otherwise  
26 provided for.  
27  
28 (6) To appoint the members and the chairs of any special committees except as  
29 otherwise provided. To create any special committee except as otherwise provided.  
30  
31 (7) To call meetings as necessary of special or standing committees in addition to such  
32 committee meetings as may be called by the chair of such committees.  
33  
34 (8) To fill any vacancies in the office of Trustee, as provided in Chapter V, Section 7.  
35  
36 (9) To fill any vacancies that may occur except as otherwise provided.  
37  
38 (10) To submit a written report of the activities of the office to the House of Delegates.  
39  
40 (11) To perform such other duties as may be provided in these *Bylaws*.

41  
42 **B. President-elect.** It shall be the duty of the President-elect:

- 43  
44 (1) To assist the President as requested.  
45  
46 (2) To serve as a member of the House of Delegates.  
47  
48 (3) To serve as a member and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.  
49  
50 (4) To be a member of all committees, ex officio, unless otherwise provided.  
51

- 1 (5) To succeed to the office of President in the event of a vacancy in such office.  
2  
3 (6) To succeed to the office of President at the next annual session of the House of  
4 Delegates following his election as President-elect.  
5  
6 (7) To submit a written report of the activities of the office to the House of Delegates.  
7

8 **C. First Vice President.** It shall be the duty of the First Vice President:

- 9  
10 (1) To assist the President and President-elect as requested.  
11  
12 (2) To serve as a member of the House of Delegates.  
13  
14 (3) To serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.  
15  
16 (4) To be a member of all committees, ex officio, unless otherwise provided.  
17  
18 (5) To submit a written report of the activities of the office to the House of Delegates.  
19

20 **D. Second Vice President.** It shall be the duty of the Second Vice President:

- 21  
22 (1) To assist the President, President-elect, and First Vice President as requested.  
23  
24 (2) To serve as a member of the House of Delegates.  
25  
26 (3) To serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.  
27  
28 (4) To familiarize himself or herself with the organizational structure and activities of the  
29 Association by serving as a member of all committees, ex officio, unless otherwise  
30 provided.  
31  
32 (5) To submit a written report of the activities of the office to the House of Delegates.  
33

34 **E. Treasurer.** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

- 35  
36 (1) To administrate the usual duties of a Treasurer and answer all queries of the Board  
37 of Trustees regarding the financial status of the Association.  
38  
39 (2) To submit a written report of the activities of the office to the House of Delegates.  
40  
41 (3) To serve as a member of the House of Delegates.  
42  
43 (4) To serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.  
44

45 **F. Speaker of the House of Delegates.** The Speaker shall preside at the meetings of the  
46 House of Delegates and shall perform such duties as custom and parliamentary  
47 usage require. The Speaker of the House shall serve as a member of the Board of  
48 Trustees.  
49

1 **Section 8. Ex Officio:** “Ex Officio” shall be construed to mean the right to attend  
2 meetings, participate in debate, and make motions. An ex officio member is not  
3 counted in determining the quorum and does not have the right to vote.  
4

5 **Section 9.** The treasurer of the MDA shall have total and unrestricted access to financial,  
6 investment, and audit information of the Association.  
7

## 8 **CHAPTER VII -- APPOINTIVE OFFICERS**

9

10 **Section 1. Appointive Officers:** The appointive officers of the Association shall be an  
11 Executive Director and an Editor, each of whom shall be appointed by the Board of  
12 Trustees as provided in Chapter V, Section 9.C. of these *Bylaws*.  
13

14 **Section 2. Tenure of Office and Salary:** The Board of Trustees shall determine the  
15 tenure of office and salary of each appointive officer.  
16

17 **Section 3. Duties:** The duties of the appointive officers shall be as follows:  
18

19 **A. Executive Director.** It shall be the duty of the Executive Director:  
20

- 21 (1) To be the executive head of the Central Office.
- 22 (2) To engage all employees except as otherwise provided by these *Bylaws*.
- 23 (3) To supervise and coordinate the activities of all committees in regard to their special  
24 assignments and systematize the preparation of all reports of such committees.  
25
- 26 (4) To send all notices, to keep records of proceedings of meetings of the House of  
27 Delegates and of all committees, and all other documents unless otherwise provided.  
28
- 29 (5) To collect all monies due the Association.  
30
- 31 (6) To perform all other duties as are incident to the office and which are prescribed by  
32 these *Bylaws*, or which may be prescribed by the Board of Trustees.  
33
- 34 (7) To submit written reports to the Board of Trustees.  
35
- 36 (8) To be an ex-officio member of the House of Delegates, Board of Trustees, and of all  
37 committees.  
38

39 **B. Editor.** The Editor shall be the Editor-in-Chief of the official publication of this  
40 Association. The Editor shall be responsible to the Publications Committee, and shall  
41 abide by its judgment in matters of editorial policy.  
42

## 43 **CHAPTER VIII -- COMMITTEES**

44

45 The Board of Trustees may appoint such standing committees as needed to accomplish the  
46 mission and activities of the Association. The composition and duties of such committees  
47 are described in the MDA Policy and Procedure Manual.  
48

## 49 **CHAPTER IX -- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

50

1  
2 *Section 1.* No less than two members for each expiring dentist position shall be selected  
3 by ballot vote of the House of Delegates for recommendation to the Governor for appointment  
4 to the Minnesota Board of Dentistry.

5  
6 *Section 2.* Nominees shall be submitted by the Board of Trustees and shall be presented  
7 on a ballot with space for additional nominees from the floor. Delegates voting must vote for  
8 at least two nominees for each position, but may vote for as many nominees as are on the  
9 ballot. Those nominees receiving more than twenty-five (25) percent of the ballots correctly  
10 executed will receive the recommendation.

## 11 12 **CHAPTER X -- AMENDMENTS**

13  
14 *Section 1.* These *Bylaws* may be amended at any session of the House of Delegates by  
15 a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present and voting, provided the proposed  
16 amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous annual session or at a  
17 previous meeting of the same session, except those *Bylaws* effecting a change in dues.

18  
19 *Section 2.* An amendment to the *Bylaws* affecting a change in dues shall be effective as  
20 of January 1, the year following. Final action on such amount shall not be limited to or bound  
21 by the figure mentioned in the original motion. Any action to amend the dues of active  
22 members shall be governed by the Rule Regarding Amendment of Dues set forth in Chapter  
23 IV, Section 13 of these *Bylaws*.

24  
25 *Section 3.* Any amendments to the *Constitution and Bylaws* of a component district  
26 society shall not be in conflict with the *Constitution and Bylaws* of the Minnesota Dental  
27 Association.

## 28 29 **CHAPTER XI -- RULES OF ORDER**

30  
31 *Section 1.* The deliberations of this Association shall be in accordance with American  
32 Institute of Parliamentarians "Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure", unless otherwise  
33 specified.

34  
35 *Section 2.* To clarify the voting rights and quorums of the Board of Trustees, committees,  
36 and committee members, the following definitions shall be utilized:

37  
38 **A. Regular Member:** A committee or Board member who has the right to attend meetings,  
39 participate in debate, make motions, vote and is counted in determining the quorum.

40  
41 **B. Ex Officio Member (Board Liaison):** A committee or Board member who has the right  
42 to attend meetings, participate in debate, and make motions, but **is not** counted in  
43 determining the quorum and **does not** have the right to vote.

44  
45 **C. Advisory Member, Consultant or Legal Counsel:** An individual who has the right to  
46 attend meetings, participate in debate, but **is not** entitled to make motions, **is not**  
47 counted in determining the quorum, and **does not** have the right to vote.

48  
49 **D. Quorum:** The Board of Trustees requires two-thirds of regular members to achieve a  
50 quorum. Committees require more than 50% of regular members be present to  
51 achieve a quorum. No votes can be taken or official business conducted if a quorum

1 of regular committee or Board members is not present, either in person or via remote  
2 attendance.

3

4 As Adopted by the House of Delegates September 12, 2015.

5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

## ***Principles of Ethics***

Chapter III, Section 8 of the Minnesota Dental Association *Bylaws* states:

**"The Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association, the Principles of Ethics of this Association, and the Principles of Ethics adopted by the component district society shall be the principles of ethics of that component district society for governing the professional conduct of its members."**

Whenever there arises between members of the Minnesota Dental Association a grave difference of opinion regarding professional conduct or questions of an ethical nature which cannot be adjusted, the dispute should be referred for consideration and settlement as follows:

- A. To the committee assigned responsibility for ethical matters or similar committee of the component society.
- B. Should the verdict of a component society committee be unsatisfactory to the accused, appeal may be made to the committee of the Minnesota Dental Association assigned responsibility for ethical matters.
- C. Should the verdict still be unsatisfactory, appeal may be made for settlement to the American Dental Association Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs.
- D. When differences arise between members of their respective component societies or official units thereof, and such differences cannot be adjusted within such units, the matter should be referred to the committee of the Minnesota Dental Association assigned responsibility for ethical matters and thereafter to the American Dental Association Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs.
- E. It shall be the ethical duty of every member to cooperate with the MDA committee responsible for matters of ethics and the Peer Review Committee and to comply with the requirements of these and other official committees of the Minnesota Dental Association and of the component societies so as to enable such committees to perform their designated function.
- F. Any violation of the considered judgment and opinion of the Minnesota Dental Association as expressed by the House of Delegates or Board of Trustees should be considered as a breach of the *Principles of Ethics*.
- G. Component societies are urged to establish *Principles of Ethics* not inconsistent with that of the parent association, particularly with respect to those parts of the parent association's *Principles of Ethics* purposely left to component societies, designed to afford them more precise regulations.

The foregoing and the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct will serve as the Minnesota Dental Association Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct.

1  
2  
3 **MDA Member Code of Conduct**

4 This MDA Member Code of Conduct was adopted by the 2012 House of Delegates and reads  
5 as follows:

6 CODE OF CONDUCT:

- 7 1. Members should communicate respectfully in all interactions with other  
8 dentists, dentist members, Association officers, trustees, and staff.  
9 2. Members should respect the decisions and policies of the Association and  
10 must not engage in disruptive behavior in interactions with other members,  
11 Association officers, trustees, or staff.  
12 3. Members have an obligation to be informed about and use Association  
13 policies for communication and dispute resolution.  
14 4. Members must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including but  
15 not limited to anti-trust laws and regulations, and statutory and common-law  
16 fiduciary obligations.  
17 5. Members must respect and protect the intellectual property rights of the  
18 Association, including any trademarks, logos, and copyrights.  
19 6. Members must not use Association membership directories, on-line member  
20 listings, or attendee records from Association-sponsored conferences or CE  
21 courses for personal or commercial gain, such as selling products or services,  
22 prospecting, or creating directories or databases for these purposes.  
23 7. Members must treat all confidential information furnished by the Association  
24 as such and must not reproduce materials without the Association's written  
25 approval.  
26 8. Members must not violate the attorney-client privilege or the confidentiality of  
27 executive sessions conducted at any level within the Association.  
28 9. Members must fully disclose conflicts or potential conflicts of interest and  
29 make every effort to avoid the appearance of conflicts of interest.  
30  
31  
32  
33

# Constitution

## ARTICLE I -- NAME

The name of this organization shall be Minnesota Dental Association, hereinafter referred to as "the Association" or "this Association."

## ARTICLE II -- OBJECT

The object of this Association shall be to encourage the improvement of the health of the public and to promote the art and science of dentistry.

## ARTICLE III -- ORGANIZATION

*Section 1. Incorporation:* This Association is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota. If this corporation shall be dissolved at any time, no part of its funds or property shall be distributed to, or among, its members but, after payments of all indebtedness of the corporation, its surplus funds and properties shall be used for dental education and dental research in such manner as the then governing body of the Association may determine.

*Section 2. Central Office:* The registered office of this Association shall be known as the Central Office and shall be located in St. Paul or Minneapolis, Minnesota.

*Section 3. Membership:* The membership of this Association shall consist of dentists and other persons whose qualifications and classifications shall be established in Chapter I of the Bylaws.

*Section 4. Component District Societies:* Component district societies of this Association shall be those dental societies chartered as such in conformity with Chapter III of the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE IV -- GOVERNMENT

*Section 1. Legislative Body:* The legislative and governing body of this Association shall be a House of Delegates, which may be referred to as "the House" or "this House" as provided in Chapter IV of the Bylaws.

*Section 2. Administrative Body:* The administrative body of this Association shall be a Board of Trustees which may be referred to as "the Board" or "this Board" as provided in Chapter V of the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE V -- OFFICERS

*Section 1. Elective Officers:* The elective officers of this Association shall be as provided in the Bylaws.

*Section 2. Appointive Officers:* The appointive officers of the Association shall be an Executive Director and an Editor, each of whom shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees as provided in the Bylaws.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23

**ARTICLE VI -- ANNUAL SESSION**

The annual session of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with Chapters III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, and XI of the *Bylaws*.

**ARTICLE VII -- PRINCIPLES OF ETHICS**

The Principles of Ethics of this Association which are not in conflict with the Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association, and the principles or codes of ethics of the component district societies which are not in conflict with the Principles of Ethics of this Association, shall govern the professional conduct of all members.

**ARTICLE VIII -- AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members of the House of Delegates, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented in writing at any previous annual or special session of the House of Delegates.

This Constitution may also be amended at any session of the House of Delegates by a unanimous vote, provided the proposed amendments have been presented in writing at a previous meeting of such session.