

The By Laws of the Mid New Jersey Chapter of the American Society for Training and Development

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section A: Chapter Name

The name of this organization is the Mid New Jersey Chapter of the American Society for Training and Development. The registered office of the chapter shall be located in the State of New Jersey.

Section B: Affiliation with the National Society

The chapter is an affiliate of the American Society for Training and Development, which is a non-profit educational society under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The Society and its chapters are not organized for profit, and no part of their net earnings shall benefit any member or private individual, except for payment or reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Section C: Governance and Management of Chapter

The chapter shall be governed and managed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership. The Board of Directors shall set policies within the limits prescribed by these bylaws.

Section D: Purpose

The Chapter is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, as amended, and may make expenditures for one or more of these purposes. Without limiting or expanding the foregoing, the chapter's specific purpose shall be as follows:

The mission of the Mid NJ ASTD Chapter is to enhance the professional standing and knowledge-base of its members. We will accomplish this by:

- Providing an on-going forum for education and information exchange.
- Becoming the source of choice for Mid NJ training and performance consulting.
- Providing support and guidance in an increasingly competitive work environment.
- Supporting and contributing to the committees of which we are a part.

Section E: Equal Opportunity

The chapter offers equal opportunity to all eligible members, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, veteran status, physical or mental impairment

Section F: Political Activities

The chapter shall not devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise, and shall not advocate or campaign for legislation or a defeat of proposed legislation. The chapter shall not directly or indirectly participate in., including the publishing or distribution of statements, any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office

Article II: Membership

Section A: Eligibility

Membership in the chapter is open to those who have interests or responsibilities in training, human resource development, workplace learning and performance; are interested in advancing the objectives of the chapter and the Society; and subscribe to and are qualified under these bylaws. A chapter member in good standing is one who meets the requirements for membership, and whose dues are paid for the membership year.

Section B: Dues

Dues, fees, and terms of chapter membership will be set by the Board of Directors. Chapter membership is not transferable.

Section C: Suspension or Termination of Membership

The Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds vote of those present, suspend or terminate the membership of any individual for non-payment of dues or monies owed the chapter, or for actions or behavior in violation of these bylaws or deemed detrimental to the best interests of the chapter.

1. Suspension or termination of membership will be considered at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Written notice of, and rationale for, proposed suspension or termination shall be mailed to board members and the member concerned at least twenty days prior to the meeting.
2. Any motion for suspension or termination must be made by an elected board member, based on personal knowledge, official chapter records, or a statement signed by no fewer than 5 chapter members in good standing.
3. Before enacting the suspension or termination, the member will have an opportunity to be heard by the Board of Directors.

Article III: Board of Directors

Section A: Duties and Responsibilities

The management of the affairs of the chapter shall be vested in the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Board to carry out the objectives and purposes of the chapter, and to this end it may exercise all powers of the chapter. The duties of the Board shall include: establishing policy for the operation of the chapter; approving the strategic plan, the annual plan, and the budget; approving categories of membership; authorizing new committees of the chapter; and performing other functions as appropriate for the Board of Directors.

Section B: Membership

1. The Board of Directors will consist of individuals elected from among chapter members in good standing as specified in Article II of these bylaws. The Board of Directors shall continue in office until successors are duly installed.
2. Members of the Board of Directors shall be President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice Presidents of Finance, Operations, Membership, Communications, and Programming. These are elected positions. Special appointments and project director positions may be determined by the President or the board of directors. These are not elected positions.

3. President

As the Chief Executive Officer of the chapter, the President is responsible for managing the chapter in accordance with these Bylaws and the laws of the State of New Jersey. The President presides at, and sets the agenda for, meetings of the Board of Directors and Membership meetings, except as noted in Article VII of these bylaws; and oversees the management of the chapter.

4. President-Elect

The President-Elect acts for the President in the President's absence. The President-Elect serves as the chair of the Nominating Committee and facilitates planning in preparation for term as President. The President-Elect performs other duties as requested by the President.

5. Directors

All Directors will have position descriptions approved by the Board, listing the duties and responsibilities of each position. Position descriptions will be made available to chapter members and potential Board members at least 30 days prior to scheduled elections.

Section C: Qualifications

Persons seeking to serve on the Board of Directors must be chapter members in good standing as specified in these bylaws. Board members are required to maintain membership in the national Society.

Section D: Terms

1. The Board members elected to the President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President positions shall serve a series of three one-year terms. An election will be held each year for the President-Elect position. At the end of the President-Elect's term, the person in the President-Elect position will automatically become the President. At the end of the President's term, the person in the President position will automatically become the Immediate Past President.

2. All other Board members shall be elected to serve terms of two years

Section E:

Conduct of Chapter Business

1. A majority of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. Should a quorum not be present, those members present may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is present.

2. The act of the majority of Board members present at a meeting where a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board unless a greater proportion is required by law or by these bylaws.

3. Board members may not cast proxy votes for absent Board members.

Section F. Meetings

The Board of Directors will meet at least quarterly. The exact time, date, and location of all Board meetings will be announced to all Board members at least 14 days in advance of the meeting.

Section G: Attendance

Failure to attend three consecutive and duly called meetings of the Board of Directors will be sufficient cause for the Board to consider replacing a Board member under the provisions of these Bylaws

Section H: Removal

1. The Board of Directors may, by majority vote of the full Board, suspend or terminate a member of the Board for actions or behavior in violation of these bylaws, or which are deemed detrimental to the best interests of the chapter.
2. Suspension or termination of board members will be considered at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Written notice of, and rationale for, proposed suspension or termination shall be mailed to Board members and the individual concerned at least twenty days prior to the meeting.
3. Any motion for suspension or termination must be made by a board member, based on personal knowledge, official chapter records, or statement signed by no fewer than 3 chapter members in good standing.
4. Before action of suspension or termination, the board member will have an opportunity to be heard by the Board.

Section I: Vacancies

1. When a vacancy occurs for a board position, the President may, with the approval of the majority of the Board of Directors, appoint a replacement from among chapter members in good standing to serve the balance of the term.
2. Should the office of President be vacated, the President-Elect will assume the position and its responsibilities. If both the offices of President and President-Elect become vacant simultaneously, the VP of Finance will convene the Board of Directors to select a member of that body to assume the duties and responsibilities of the President until a special election by the membership can be held. Approval of an interim President will require a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article IV: Election of Board Members

Section A:

Nominating Committee

The President-Elect will form a Nominating Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee will include the President-Elect, the Past President, and 3 chapter members in good standing not currently serving in elected positions.

Section B:

The Nominating Committee will seek the input of the Board of Directors and will present a slate of qualified candidates to the membership at least 30 calendar days prior to the end of the current Board terms.

Section C:

Board members will be elected by a majority of chapter members voting.

Article V: Financial Review

Section A.

A financial review will be conducted annually, and more frequently if circumstances dictate, by the Financial Review Committee, with findings reported to the Board of Directors.

Section B.

A financial review, conducted by an outside accountant, is mandated every two years, and may be undertaken more frequently.

Section C.

Results of the financial reviews and audits will be published and made available to the chapter membership as soon as is practicable, but no later than 90 days into the following fiscal year.

Section D.

The committee shall consist of the President-Elect, the Past President, and no fewer than three chapter members in good standing who have not served as a Board member for at least two years. The VP of Finance shall not be eligible to serve on the Financial Review Committee, but will provide the committee or an independent auditor any and all records necessary to complete a review of chapter finances.

Article VI: Committees and Teams

In addition to committees specified in these bylaws, committees or teams may be established or disbanded by the Board of Directors with the approval of the President. Committees are subject to the oversight and direction of the Board, the President or those authorized by that body.

Article VII: Special Meetings of the Chapter

Special meetings of the chapter may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or upon the receipt of a petition signed by at least 25% of chapter members in good standing.

1. The call for a special meeting must specify the reason for the meeting. Business at the special meeting will be limited solely to the topic specified. Notification will be made to all chapter members at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.
2. 25% of chapter members in good standing will constitute a quorum required for the conduct of business at a special meeting.
3. The President shall preside at a Special Meeting of the chapter, unless the President has a conflict of interest regarding the reason such a meeting has been called. In that case, the body calling the Special Meeting (the Board or chapter members) shall select an individual to preside at the meeting by majority vote.
4. A majority vote of chapter members present will be sufficient to carry a motion, provided that such a motion complies with these Bylaws.
5. The minutes of a special meeting will be published or made available to all chapter members.

Article VIII. Indemnification

The Board of Directors may seek and maintain such indemnification to the fullest extent available under the laws of the State of New Jersey to protect the chapter, chapter members, board members, officers, employees, and agents.

Article IX: Amendment and Modification of Bylaws

Section A.

Amendments to these bylaws may only be initiated by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by at least 10% of chapter members in good standing.

Section B.

Notice of any potential change must be published and distributed to the membership at least 30 calendar days prior to voting on such measures.

Section C.

Amendments must be approved by a majority of chapter members in good standing voting by mail ballot or at a duly called special meeting.

Section D.

Notice of approved changes to these Bylaws shall be published or distributed to all chapter members no later than 60 days following adoption.

Article X. Dissolution of chapter & Liquidation of Assets

The chapter may be dissolved by a vote of two-thirds of chapter members in good standing. Upon dissolution of the chapter, and after all of its liabilities and obligations have been paid, satisfied and discharged, or adequate provisions made therefore, all of the chapter's remaining assets shall be distributed to one or more organizations that are organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of sections 501(c)(3) and 170 (c)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, as amended over time.