

CONSTITUTION OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis. It shall be chartered and exist as a non-profit corporation in and under the laws of the State of Maryland. It shall be represented by the initials MABA.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be to promote the analytical science of behavior and its associated technologies within the State of Maryland.

- a) Serve as a scientific and professional reference group for all in the State of Maryland who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis;
- b) Promote research that will advance understanding of human and animal behavior;
- c) Identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures in meeting the educational and supportive needs of persons within the State of Maryland;
- d) Advise political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis in the State of Maryland;
- e) Organize and sponsor an annual convention that shall serve as a forum for the presentation of scientific and technological achievements as well as for discussion of the affairs of the organization;
- f) Publish and distribute an official bulletin devoted to dissemination of scientific and technological achievements within the scope of behavior analysis and to matters of interest to the membership.

Article III - Membership

1. MABA shall consist of two classes of members, voting and non-voting. Members of both classes are entitled to the rights and privileges of MABA as are appropriate for their membership category.

Voting Members:

Full Member: Any individual holding at least a Bachelor's degree in behavior analysis, psychology, education or related field, with training or professional experience in behavior analysis and whose full time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis.

Non-Voting Members:

Affiliate Member: Any individual who does not meet the qualifications of full membership. Associate membership is also available to non-degreed persons working in a

direct service role. Verification of employment at an agency is required for direct care membership. Affiliate members will enjoy all benefits of full membership, except for the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization and the right to hold office.

Student Member: Any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of or related to behavior analysis on at least a half-time basis may apply for membership in this category. Such application must be accompanied by an endorsement of an academic advisor and certification of applicant's student status. Student members may neither vote nor hold office.

2. To remain a member in good standing, an individual must be no more than 6 months in arrears with respect to Association dues and assessments and must have attended at least one conference in the last two years of active membership.
3. Each Full member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Association. There shall be no proxy voting.
4. Persons desiring to apply for membership in the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis shall submit a completed application form, together with such endorsements, recommendations, and any application fee that may be required, to the Director(s) who will forward the application to the Chairperson of the Membership Committee. The Committee shall notify the applicant promptly of the receipt of the application. The Committee shall consider the application and inform the applicant of its action within 90 days of the date of receipt. Decisions of the Membership Committee may be appealed to the Executive Committee within 90 days.

Article IV - Officers

1. The officers of the Association shall be voting members of ABA and MABA. These officers are the President, the President-Elect, the Past President, Member(s)-At-Large, and Director(s).
2. The officers of MABA shall constitute the MABA Executive Committee and shall serve as the Officers and the Board of Directors of the Organization for the times for which they are elected or appointed.

Each officer is entitled to vote as a member of the MABA Executive Committee at the MABA Executive Committee meetings in the year of his or her election or appointment. Executive Committee voting is determined by a majority of the executive committee members voting on a motion.

The MABA Executive Committee shall serve as the governing body of MABA, and conduct its business at meetings or by correspondence, and report its actions, or request the membership to take action, at the Annual Business Meeting or by correspondence.

3. Each year, the voting members shall elect the President who assumes the office of President-Elect at the end of the Annual Business Meeting in the year of his or her election. Following the subsequent Annual Business Meeting he or she shall assume the office of President. The president shall hold office for one year and succeed to the office of Past President at the end of the next Annual Business Meeting. The Past President shall hold office for one year, and complete his or her term at the end of the next Annual Business Meeting. The President cannot succeed himself or herself in office.

The President shall present a Presidential Address, preside at all MABA Executive Committee Meetings and the Annual Business Meeting, supervise the counting of nomination and election ballots, as well as the ballots in any referenda submitted to voting membership, announce election results, and exercise general supervision over the affairs of MABA.

If the President is unable to preside over a meeting, that responsibility shall fall to the Past President. If he or she is unable to preside, the President-Elect shall assume the responsibility.

4. Each year, the voting members shall elect the number of MABA Executive Committee members necessary to complete the voting membership of the Executive Committee. The individual(s) elected shall assume office at the end of the Annual Business Meeting in the year of his or her election, and hold that office for a two year term.
5. The Member(s)-At-Large shall serve for two years. The Member(s)-At-Large shall assume duties following the Annual Business Meeting. The Member(s)-At-Large shall participate in the organization and implementation of the Annual Meeting.
6. The Director(s) shall keep the records of MABA and the MABA Executive Committee. The Director(s) shall send requests for nominees for all Executive Committee vacancies. He or she will count the nominations and election ballots, as well as the ballots in any referenda submitted to the voting membership. The Director(s) shall serve on the Continuing Education and Publications Committees. The Director(s) shall receive all applications for membership and give notice of all inductions into membership. The Director(s) shall have the responsibility for all funds for MABA and shall have authority to disburse these funds for purposes authorized by the MABA Executive Committee. The Director(s) shall keep a record of all money received and all disbursements made and submit an annual report of the financial status of MABA to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting.
7. The Chairpersons of the Membership Committee, the Publications Committee, the Legislative Liaison Committee, and the Continuing-Education Committee shall be non-voting affiliates of the Executive Committee. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a Committee Chairperson from simultaneously holding membership on the Executive Committee.

8. There shall be one representative to, but not Officer of, the Executive Committee who shall be a Student member. Each year the student members shall elect one Student Representative to the Executive Committee for a one-year term beginning after the Business Meeting.
9. If any officer, because of death, resignation, or other reason, cannot perform the duties of the office, the MABA Executive Committee shall be empowered to fill the vacancy by any method that, in its judgment, will best reflect the goals and purposes of the Association.
10. Any Officer of the Association or Member of the Executive Committee may be recalled in accordance with the following procedure:
 - a) A petition for recall bearing the names of at least 20% of the Full members in good standing at the time of submission shall be presented to the Executive Committee.
 - b) The Director(s) shall certify the petition with respect to the validity of the signatures.
 - c) Upon validation of the petition, the President or his designee shall cause a mail ballot to be prepared and distributed to the membership having voting qualifications. The ballots shall be received and tabulated by the Past-President who shall certify each to be valid.
 - d) The officer whose incumbency is under challenge shall be recalled only by two-thirds vote of those members eligible to vote.
 - e) An office whose incumbent is recalled shall be temporarily filled by majority vote of the Executive Committee; the replacement shall serve until the next election and shall automatically be one of the nominees presented to the Association for election to that office.

Article V - Meetings

1. The Executive Committee will meet at least once a year with one meeting occurring at the Annual Conference. Other meeting times will be determined by the Executive Committee.
2. An Annual Business Meeting will be held to coincide with the Annual Conference.
3. A conference will be held once per year at a time determined by the Executive Committee.

Article VI - Nominations and Elections

1. At least three months prior to the Annual Conference the Director(s) will send a request for nominations to all voting members. The three members in good standing who receive the most nominations for each office will be contacted by the President to determine their willingness to serve. Those willing to serve will be listed on a ballot sent to all voting members by the Secretary. If following this procedure, any office has less than two nominees, the Executive Committee will nominate enough members to fill the vacant positions.
2. The election ballot will contain the names of all candidates for each office listed in alphabetical order. The Director(s) will count the ballots. The winner in each election shall

be determined by a majority vote. The President shall announce the winner at the Annual Business Meeting.

3. The Student Representative is elected by the student members in a manner consistent with that for the Voting members.

Article VII - Committees

1. The Committees of the Association shall consist of such standing committees as may be provided by these By-Laws and such special committees as may be established by vote of the Executive Committee.
2. The Membership Committee shall consist of one member appointed by the President. That member shall serve as chairperson of the Membership Committee and shall appoint at least two additional members with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Chairperson of the Membership Committee shall be a Full member in good standing and shall serve a one-year term that shall be renewable without limit at the discretion of the President. Except for the Chairperson, membership on the Membership Committee is not limited by category of membership.
3. The Continuing Education Committee shall consist of the Director(s) and at least two members appointed to one-year-terms by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The primary duty of the Continuing Education Committee shall be the organization and management of the Association's Annual Convention. The Chairperson of the Continuing Education Committee shall recommend to the President appointment of members to such sub-committees as are deemed appropriate. The President shall so appoint with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
4. The Publications Committee shall consist of at least two members appointed by the President for one-year terms renewable without limit. The Director(s) of the Association shall serve ex officio. The duties of the Publications Committee shall be to edit, publish, and distribute a periodic Bulletin of the Association, to edit, publish, and distribute a Program of the Annual Convention, and edit, publish, and distribute such other items as shall be designated by the Executive Committee.
5. The Legislative Liaison Committee shall consist of one member appointed by the President for a one-year term, renewable without limit.

Article VIII - Dues

1. Dues for the various categories of membership shall be established by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee. This action can be rescinded by a three-fifths majority vote of those present and voting at the Annual Meeting of the Association in which event the Executive Committee shall propose an alternate schedule of dues for approval by simple majority of those present and voting.

2. Dues shall be payable in the time and manner prescribed by the Executive Committee and published to the membership at large at least six months prior to the due date.
3. Any member who shall have failed to remit dues will, 6 months thereafter, be declared in arrears. That member shall be subject to suspension of privileges of membership in the Association, including, but not limited to, receipt of the Bulletin, eligibility for election to Association Office, and special member rates at the Annual Convention.

Article IX - Amendments

This Constitution may be amended only by two thirds vote of the members present and voting at the time of the annual meeting of the Association. Amendments may originate either by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee or by introduction from the floor at the Annual Meeting. In the latter event, the proposed amendment shall have first been endorsed by a petition bearing the signatures of at least one third of the Emeritus and Full members. In the event of such petition reaching the floor, the Presiding Officer shall declare the meeting in recess for the purpose of validating the signatures. The Presiding Officer shall then reconvene the meeting, announce the result of the validation process, and dispose of the issue immediately. The meeting will then resume in accordance with the result of the Amendment vote.

This Constitution was submitted and accepted for adoption by the Membership of the Association at the 2007 Annual Meeting on November 30, 2007. To be adopted, it shall have received the unanimous endorsement of the Executive Committee then sitting and shall be adopted by two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting.

Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

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