



Washington Association of Diabetes Educators

July 28, 2009

To: WADE Members
From: The WADE board

Listed in this letter are proposed amendments to the WADE bylaws. A majority of the WADE board believes that these amendments will strengthen our membership and enhance our capacity to communicate with membership via our website (www.wadepage.org). All members of WADE will have an opportunity to vote on each of these amendments beginning in late August through September. You will receive an email in the coming weeks with the instructions on how to vote. A complete copy of [WADE's current bylaws](#) can be found on our website. Your participation is encouraged and appreciated.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment # 1: Addition of a student membership category

ARTICLE 3-MEMBERSHIP (Section 1. Categories)

Current WADE bylaw states: Current membership categories include Active, Associate, and Sustaining members.

Reason for Change: AADE has a student membership category and the board believes that inviting students to join WADE will enrich our membership, promote mentorship, and support the future role of the Diabetes Educator.

New Text: Section 1. CATEGORIES.

Membership categories shall be Active, Associate, Student, and Sustaining Member.

Student Member shall be any full time student or trainee in any health profession program. Student membership shall be granted when accompanied by evidence of enrollment in a health profession program. A student member shall not have the right to vote, to make nominations, or to stand for elective office. A student member may serve on committees and vote on committees, but may not chair committees (AADE, student membership).

Proposed Bylaw Amendment #2: Allows the WADE Board of Directors to Authorize an Electronic Vote as well as a vote by mail.

ARTICLE 5- Meeting of Members and Voting (Section 4. Mail Vote)

Current WADE bylaw states: A vote by mail is authorized by the Board of Directors or as specified in these Bylaws.

Reason for change: To follow AADE's lead and to facilitate efficient elections using electronic communications

New Text: Meeting of Members and Voting (Section 4. Mail and Electronic Votes)

The WADE Board of Directors may authorize a vote to occur outside of the business meeting as specified in these Bylaws. This vote maybe done by mail or electronic ballot.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment #3: Allows Electronic ballots in addition to mailed ballots.

ARTICLE 6- OFFICERS (Section 4: Nominations and Elections)

Current WADE Bylaw: Elections shall be made by mail ballot sent to voting members of WADE.

Reason for Change: Facilitate more efficient WADE membership election process using WADEpage.org and improve alignment of WADE bylaws with AADE

New Text: Elections shall be made either by electronic ballot or mail ballot sent to the voting members of WADE. Mail ballots will be sent to those members that indicate a special need on membership application.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment # 4: Refilling a vacancy on nominating committee

ARTICLE 6—OFFICERS (Section 5. VACANCY)

The current WADE Bylaw: does not identify a process for replacing an elected member of the nominating committee during a vacancy to this position.

Reason for change: Not currently addressed in bylaws.

New Text: In the event of a vacancy on the nominating committee, the board will nominate and vote a qualified successor to this vacant position. A majority vote by the WADE Board will be required in selecting the candidate for this committee position.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment # 5: Allows Electronic Voting.

ARTICLE 8 NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS (Section 3. ELECTION PROCEDURE)

Current WADE bylaw states: The slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee to the voting membership of WADE shall be placed on ballots which shall be mailed to all eligible voting members of WADE. Ballots are to be returned by the date established by the approved policies and procedures of the Nominating Committee. Ballots postmarked after this date will not be accepted for tally

Reason for change: To allow efficient elections by electronic voting.

New Text: The slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee to the voting membership of WADE shall be placed on ballots which shall be distributed by mail or electronic means to all eligible voting members of WADE. Mail ballots will be sent to voting members who indicate this need to membership. Ballots will be submitted electronically or mail by established deadlines approved in policies and procedures of the Nominating committee. Votes received after the deadline will not be accepted.