

**New England Region
of the
American Music Therapy Association
Bylaws**

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Professional membership shall be open to music therapists and other professionals interested in music therapy, who reside in the New England Region and are not professional members of any other AMTA region. Such membership will provide the privilege of participation in the activities of the Association at the national and regional levels, including but not limited to, the right to vote, to hold office, and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, the New England Regional Newsletter and other national and regional publications of the Association.
- Section 2. Associate membership shall be open to others, not including music therapists, who support the Association. Such membership will provide the privilege of participation in the activities of the Association at the national and regional levels and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, New England Regional Newsletter and other national and regional publications of the Association. Such membership does not include the right to vote or hold office on the national and regional level.
- Section 3. Student membership shall be open to declared music therapy majors enrolled in AMTA-approved schools, or other interested students. Such membership will provide the privilege of participation in the activities of the Association, both on the national and regional levels, and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, New England Regional Newsletter and other national and regional publications of the Association. Student membership does not include the right to vote or to hold office on the national and regional level. Students may serve as ex-officio committee members.
- Section 4. Retired Professional membership shall be open to professional music therapists and other retired professionals interested in music therapy. Such membership will provide the privilege of participation in the activities of the association, both on national and regional levels, and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, New England Regional Newsletter and other national and regional publications of the Association.
- Section 5. Inactive music therapist membership shall be open to professional music therapists who are not currently practicing music therapy. Music therapists seeking inactive membership must complete an application available from the national office. Inactive membership will provide the privileges of participation in the activities of the Association and the right to receive

selected publications of the Association, but does not include the right to vote or to hold office on the national and regional levels.

- Section 6. Patron membership shall be open to individuals, organizations, institutions, business firms, or foundations who contribute substantial sums to the Association. They may be used by the Association for scholarships, endowments, research, or special projects as designated by the donor with the approval of the Executive Board. Patron membership may be assigned to a person designated by the organization, institution, firm, or foundation from which the funds are received. For each contributing year, the Association will confer upon that person the rights and privileges of Associate membership.
- Section 7. Affiliate organization membership shall be open to any organization interested in supporting the aims, objectives, and purposes of the Association. Rights and privileges for the designate of the organization shall be the same as those for the Associate membership.
- Section 8. Honorary Life membership may be conferred upon any person in recognition of distinguished service in the field of music therapy. Such an election will be made by the AMTA Board of Directors. Rights and privileges of an Honorary Life member are defined in the AMTA Bylaws.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

- Section 1. The elective officers of the Association are: President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Vice-President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Section 2. The elective officers of the region shall be elected by ballot as specified in these Bylaws. The President-Elect is elected to serve two years as President-Elect, two years as President and two years as Immediate Past President. The Vice-President-Elect is elected to serve two years as Vice-President-Elect and two years as Vice-President. If a position is inherited or appointed by default, more than one half of a term is considered a full term. The secretary and treasurer are elected to serve two years and may be reelected for consecutive terms. The term begins at the close of spring conference, at which time the President-Elect assumes the office of President, the Vice-President-Elect assumes the office of Vice-President, and the President assumes the office of Immediate Past-President.
- Section 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the region, shall call and preside at Executive Board meetings, shall serve as the New England Region-AMTA spokesperson and as Delegate to the AMTA Assembly, shall appoint the Editor or Co-Editors of the New England Region newsletter, Student Representative, and standing committee representatives with the approval of the Executive Board, shall serve as ex-officio member of standing committees except the nominating committee, and shall perform all other duties commensurate with the slated purpose of the organization. The President will also notify officers and committee members of their elections or appointments. A vacancy in the office of the President is filled by the President-Elect.

- Section 4. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a member of the Executive Board, shall assume all duties of the President in case of resignation, disability or absence of the President and President-Elect, shall chair the Nominating Committee, shall keep current the job descriptions of the Executive Board, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President and Executive Board.
- Section 5. The President-Elect shall assist the President as requested, shall study the duties of the President to be prepared at the proper time to take over the responsibilities of the presidency, shall assume all duties of the President in case of resignation, disability or absence of the president, shall coordinate review of the Constitution and Bylaws and present proposed amendments at annual meetings, and shall assist the Vice-President with conference planning as assigned.
- Section 6. The Vice-President shall act a Chairperson of the annual regional conference and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President and Executive Board.
- Section 7. The Vice-President-Elect shall assist the Vice-President as requested, shall study the duties of the Vice-President to be prepared at the proper time to take over the responsibilities of the Vice-President, shall assume the duties of the Vice-President in the case of resignation, disability or absence of the Vice-President, and shall assist the Vice-President with all conference planning activities as they pertain to the region.
- Section 8. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board and of the general membership, and within two weeks of the meeting, shall submit all minutes to the Executive Board and committee representatives.
- Section 9. The Treasurer shall pay bills authorized by the Executive Board, shall keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements, shall present a financial report to the President on request, shall present financial reports to the Executive Board and the region at annual meetings, and shall serve as member of the Budget Committee.
- Section 10. The Editors or Co-Editors of the New England Region newsletter shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board, shall serve as ex-officio members of the Executive Board, and shall be responsible for editing and supervising the publication of the newsletter under the guidance of the Executive Board.
- Section 11. The student representative to the Executive Board shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. The Student Representative shall communicate information between the New England Region Student American Music Therapy Association (NER-AMTAS) and the Executive Board and shall perform other duties as assigned by either the Executive Board or the NER-AMTAS as approved by the Executive Board.
- Section 12: Retiring officers shall deliver to their successors all records, papers and other regional property within two weeks of ceding office.

Section 13: In the case of resignation, disability, incompetence, or absence of an executive member, the President, with the approval of the Executive Board, has the power to appoint another person to complete the term of office.

ARTICLE III. DELEGATES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AMTA COMMITTEES

Section 1. Primary and Alternate Delegates to the AMTA Assembly shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall serve for a term of two years as specified by the AMTA. The regional President shall serve as one of the Delegates to the Assembly. Delegates pro tempore may be elected by quorum of regional membership convened officially to fill an unforeseen Assembly vacancy.

Section 2. Representatives to the AMTA committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board, and shall serve for a term of two years. Representatives may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3. Committee representatives and Assembly Delegates shall be minimally required to submit written summary reports at the region's annual meeting and to submit these reports to the Editor or Co-Editors for publication in the newsletter a minimum of once annually, with interim reports to be similarly submitted as appropriate.

ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The members of the Executive Board shall be President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Vice-President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Primary Delegates to the AMTA Assembly. Regional committee representatives, Editor or Co-Editors of the newsletter, and Student Representative are invited to attend Executive Board meetings as ex-officio members.

Section 2. Only elected officers of the region may vote at Executive Board meetings.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall meet to conduct business a minimum of three times a year.

Section 4. The President or designee shall send notice to all Executive Board, Primary and Alternate Delegates, Editor or Co-Editors of the newsletter, Student Representative, and representatives to AMTA committees, of the date of the Executive Board meetings prior to a scheduled meeting, including date and place of the meeting, at least two weeks prior to a scheduled Executive Board meeting.

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Elections for the elective regional officers and Primary and Alternate Delegates to the AMTA Assembly shall be held every odd year at the annual meeting.

Section 2. A slate of nominees for elective officers shall be presented by the nominating Committee. Additional nominations may be accepted from the floor at least 24 hours before the vote is held.

- Section 3. Following the election of regional officers, the membership shall vote for one nominee for each Delegate and alternate position. Total votes will be tabulated and nominees ranked from highest to lowest. Primary Delegates will be those persons receiving the highest ranks in descending order; Alternate Delegates will be those receiving the next highest ranks.
- Section 4. Election shall be by ballot, with active members present, providing there is a quorum. A mail vote may be conducted at the discretion of the Executive Board.
- Section 5. Elective officers, with the exception of the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Primary and Alternate Delegates to the AMTA Assembly, shall serve for a term of two years.

ARTICLE VI. AWARDS

- Section 1. A committee of the President, Immediate Past President, and the President-Elect may, at the discretion of the Executive Board, present a service award to no more than two people per fiscal year.
- Section 2. Two student awards shall be granted to candidates from each of the New England AMTA-approved educational institutions as deemed appropriate by the New England Region Executive Board, one consisting of a one-year student membership to AMTA and the other consisting of a professional membership to AMTA. Each institution's Music Therapy Director will select its candidates who are not professional members of the Association. Candidates for the first award must have successfully completed their first year of training and showed an interest in the activities of the Association to be nominated for the award. Candidates for the second award must be active in the Association and have successfully completed their internship by the end of the current academic year to be nominated for the award. Awards will be granted based upon the availability of funds in the regional budget. The availability of funds will be determined annually by the Executive Board and funds will be disbursed directly to AMTA by the regional Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The Auditing Committee shall consist of the Treasurer and at least two Executive Board members, or the Treasurer and an accountant, who shall audit the Treasurer's books at the end of the fiscal year, July 1 to June 30, and shall report findings to the Executive Board and the region.
- Section 2. The Budget Committee shall consist of all Executive Board members including the Treasurer, who shall serve as the chairperson. The committee shall present a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year at its first meeting following the annual audit.
- Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Chairperson and two to four members, who shall prepare a slate of nominees for elective regional offices, with the slate of nominees equal to the number of Primary and Alternate Delegates to the AMTA Assembly, to be presented to the membership at the annual business meeting of the region. The Nominating

Committee must receive written or verbal consent from the nominees before submitting his/her name on the slate to the membership.

Section 4. The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, may appoint other committees for which there is a special need.

ARTICLE VIII. PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. The official publication of the region shall be the New England Region Newsletter.

Section 2. Subscriptions to the newsletter shall be made available to non-regional members at a price of \$15.00 per year.

ARTICLE IX. THE FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE X. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the authority for all questions not covered by these Bylaws. Any questions not resolved by Robert's Rules shall be referred to the Executive board for a decision.

Section 2. A parliamentarian shall be appointed by the presiding officer as needed.

This version of the Bylaws is inclusive of all changes voted into effect through March 2007.