



The “ByLaws” and Policies column explores and discusses issues relevant to NSNA governance.

By Laura Chapman, NSNA Director, and Chair, NSNA Bylaws and Policies Committee

# Are you Bookin’ or Beggin’ for Bylaws?

“Bylaws and Policies” may sound like a dry subject, but I assure you it’s not. Bylaws and association policies define how an organization is structured and how it makes its decisions.

We’ve all tasted different kinds of apples: red, green, a combination of both colors, and either sweet, tart or somewhere in between. While each type of apple may look and taste different, each one is still basically the same: peel surrounding fruit, and, of course, the core.

The core often gets ignored as we enjoy our apple. We do not eat it, and in fact, we often ignore it entirely and even throw it away when we are done. Let’s not forget, though, that without the core we could not enjoy the fruit at all. The core contains the all important seeds from which the fruit develops. The core provides shape and structure from which the rest of the fruit grows. And

it provides the link to the tree and, as such, to the other fruits that grow along with it.

The core of NSNA is adherence to and respect for the Bylaws. Webster’s defines Bylaws as the “standing rule[s] governing the regulation of internal affairs of a corporation or a society.” The Bylaws of NSNA provide the seeds for the organization’s growth. In educating ourselves and others about the Bylaws, we can better promote the philosophy of NSNA.

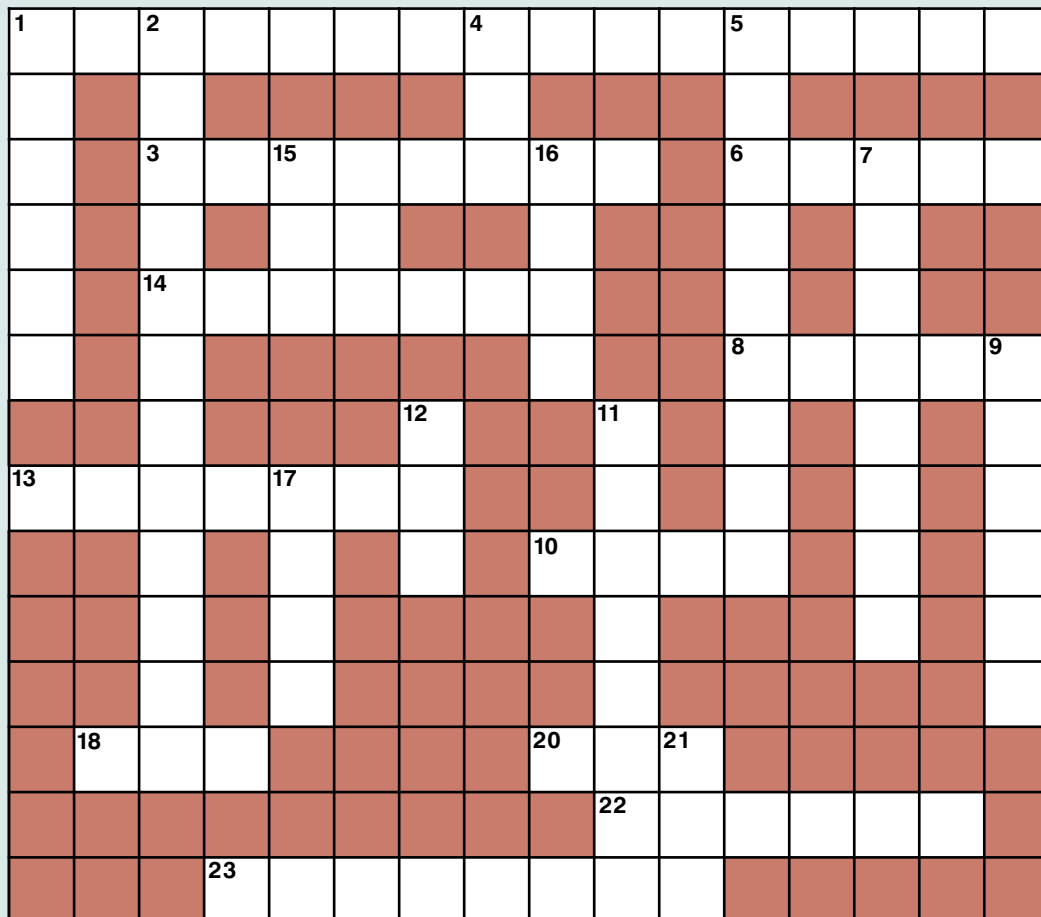
Since being Chair of the Bylaws and Policies Committee, I have noticed that people tend to groan at the mention of Bylaws. Yet, when challenges arise regarding governance questions, it is the Bylaws that often provide the answers. I encourage every member, and local and state officers to be proactive in educating themselves and others. Like the apple, the fruit of your chapter will only be bountiful if you remember that all growth begins at the core.

If you have any questions regarding bylaws or policies please feel free to contact me at **NSNA DirectorSouth@gmail.com**. In the meantime, enjoy the crossword on the following page, themed (what else) “NSNA’s Bylaws” with a few other words thrown in for you. Enjoy!



*Don’t forget to check out the updated Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Guidelines booklet on the NSNA website at **www.nsna.org**. (Click on Publications and then Chapter Resources to find all of the Guidelines for Planning booklets.)*

# NSNA's Bylaws



## Across

- 1 Fill vacancies other than President
- 3 Term of Consultants to the Board of Directors
- 6 Delegate representation found in this article of Bylaws
- 8 \_\_\_\_ of Delegates – NSNA's governing and voting body
- 10 Number of representatives in NEC
- 13 A separate clause in a formal document
- 14 Chronicles of Narnia author
- 18 In charge of pre-slating candidates (abbrev.)
- 19 Percent of credentialed delegates needed to hold quorum
- 20 What matador says as bull goes by
- 22 Popular cellist

## Down

- 1 A standing rule governing internal affairs
- 2 Purpose and function of NSNA found here
- 4 Enforces Controlled Substances Act (abbrev.)
- 5 Serves as ex-officio member of the Board of Directors
- 7 Destroyed Pompeii in 79 AD
- 9 Code of \_\_\_\_ - guidelines for professional development
- 11 City of principal office of NSNA
- 12 Number of members needed to start a chapter
- 15 Species of Harry Potter's pet
- 16 By any other name would smell as sweet
- 17 \_\_\_\_ of Professional Conduct, or Academic and Clinical Conduct
- 21 Hires regardless of race, sex, age, religion, etc. (abbrev.)

*For answers to the crossword, please see page 25.*