

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

Bylaws of the Section on Admiralty and Maritime Law

Article I, Name and Purpose

- Section 1. Name. This Section shall be known Section on Admiralty and Maritime Law.
- Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Section are as follow: (a) to promote the communication of ideas among the section's members; (b) to keep section members abreast of new developments; (c) to make recommendations to the Association on matters affecting the teaching or practice of admiralty and maritime law

Article II, Membership

- Section 1. Membership.
- (a) Membership in the Section is open to all faculty and professional staff members of law schools that are members of the Association of American Law Schools (hereinafter "the Association").
- (b) Associate membership is open to any other person who is involved in or concerned about the teaching or administration of admiralty and maritime legal education.
- Section 2. Privileges of Members.
- (a) Regular members may be officers of the sections and may vote in a section election.
- (b) Associate members may participate in the programs, meetings and activities of the section, but may not vote or hold office in the section.

Article III. Officers, Executive and Other Committees

Section 1. Officers. The officers of the section shall be as follows: a chair, chair-elect, a secretary and a treasurer. They shall each be elected at the business meeting of the section at the annual meeting of the Association, shall qualify by acceptance, and shall serve until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Section 2. The Executive Committee.

(a) The Executive Committee of the section shall consist of the officers and the immediate past chair of the section.

(b) The executive committee shall act on behalf of the section in the interval between annual meetings and may create standing and special committees.

Section 3. Filling Vacancies. If an officer other than the chair resigns, becomes ineligible to serve, or dies, the chair shall appoint a member of the section to fill the resulting vacancy. If the position of chair becomes vacant, each of the remaining officers, other than the immediate past chair, shall succeed to the next highest office. The new chair shall then appoint a member of the section to serve as treasurer.

Article IV. Nomination and Elections

Section 1. Nominations. The executive committee shall serve as the section's nominating committee and shall propose a slate of nominees prior to or at the business meeting of the section at the annual meeting of the Association.

Section 2. Elections. The officers of the section shall be elected at the business meeting of the section at the annual meeting of the Association. Nominations shall be received from the nominating committee as well as from the floor. Elections shall be by voice vote or secret ballot, as the chair determines.

Article V. Duties of Officers

- Section 1. **Chair.** The chair of the section shall preside at all meetings of the section and of the executive and nominating committees. At each annual meeting of the Association, the chair shall report on the section's activities during the prior year. The chair shall be responsible for the section's annual meeting program and shall appoint the members of all standing and special committees as needed.
- Section 2. **Chair-Elect.** The chair-elect of the section shall assist the chair, as the chair may request, and shall perform the duties of the chair during absence or disability of the chair.
- Section 3. **Secretary.** The secretary of the section shall keep the minutes of the section and the executive committee, shall maintain the files of the section, shall conduct the correspondence of the section, and shall carry out such other duties as the chair may request.
- Section 4. **Treasurer.** The treasurer of the section shall collect, disburse, and account for all of the funds of the section, shall prepare such financial statements as may required, and shall carry out such other duties as the chair may request.

Article VI. Expenditures

- Section 1. **Permissible Use of Section Funds.** In addition to the purposes described in Association Executive Committee Regulation 1.6(d), section dues and other section income may be spent for a reception for section members at an Association annual meeting, workshop, or teaching conference; to fund a deficiency in a meal guarantee made to a hotel (or similar establishment); to produce a section survey; or to publish and distribute an enhanced section newsletter.
- Section 2. **Release of Funds.** Before any activity is undertaken, the executive committee must authorize the expenditure of dues or other income for the activity. In approving payment of an expenditure, the chair must determine that the particular expenditure is for the activity authorized by the executive committee and is consistent with both the bylaws and the Association's policies.

Section 3. Notification. The executive committee shall approve the expenditure at least six (6) weeks prior to the activity for which expenditure is authorized. The chair shall notify the Association's National Office no later than one (1) month before the occurrence of the activity.

Article VII. Policy Statements

Because the section is a component of the Association, an statement of policy or similar expression of position adopted by it shall be made public only after the Association's Executive Committee has formally adopted the statement.

Article VIII. Amendments

Section 1. Procedure. These bylaws may be amended at any business meeting of the section held at an annual meeting of the Association. A majority of the regular members of the section present and voting is required for passage.

Section 2. Effective Date. Amendments shall take effect upon being approved by the Association.