

# Standard Operating Procedures – General Committee Chair

## Responsibilities of the chair

- 1. When necessary, partners with executive director to set dates and develop agendas in preparation for committee meetings and initiates other communications with the committee
- 2. Understands and supports the committee's duties and obligations and accepts and carries out committee assignments from the Board of Directors.
- 3. Ensures that records and relevant information on committee work are maintained. The chair must be sufficiently informed to interact knowledgeably with other committee members.
- 4. Encourages committee members' participation and also moves committee toward resolution regarding outstanding issues.
- 5. Exercises leadership during committee meetings by maintaining orderly discussion on the topic at hand.
- 6. Maintains objectivity and votes on motions only when there is a tie among the committee members present.
- 7. Evaluates committee efforts and communicates accomplishments to the committee and to association leadership.
- 8. After the committee has made a recommendation to the board, presents that recommendation to the board of directors.

### Qualities of an effective committee chair

## Communication Skills

- Demonstrates ability to communicate with committee members and other groups
- Demonstrates willingness to listen

### **Participation**

- Demonstrates active participation and interest in the association
- Has knowledge in subject in which the committee is involved
- Thinks in terms of association goals
- Seeks out all view points for discussion while remaining neutral

## Leadership

- Commands attention and inspires others
- Demonstrates ability to create a positive work atmosphere
- Controls without dominating
- Understands the committee's function in the larger goals of the association

#### Administrative Skills

- Demonstrates willingness to take initiative
- Demonstrates ability and willingness to carry out responsibilities
- Supports orderly procedures for conducting work
- Understands the specific charges of the committee and works to efficiently lead the committee to accomplish the desired goals

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