

AVS Bylaws Proposed Updates

June 24, 2014

The AVS Board recommends the following revisions (additions/changes in **bold** or ~~strikethroughs~~) to the AVS Bylaws. Following review by the membership both electronically and at the AVS national membership meeting held on June 14, 2014 in Los Angeles, two minor additions were suggested and have been recommended for addition by the AVS Board. These final two changes appear in **red** below.

1. Article II. AVS Mission Statement

Current Mission Statement

“The American Viola Society promotes interest in the viola by encouraging performance and recording at the highest artistic level, by the continued study and research of our instrument and its repertoire, and by providing a vehicle for the ongoing development of the fraternal bond among violists.”

Amended Mission Statement:

Rationale: The AVS Board spent considerable time reviewing the current AVS mission statement and has determined that a more inclusive statement will better describe the breadth of the AVS membership and the activities the society supports.

The AVS board recommends voting YES to endorse the following amended AVS mission statement:

The American Viola Society is a nonprofit organization of viola enthusiasts, including students, performers, teachers, scholars, composers, makers, and friends, who seek to encourage excellence in performance, pedagogy, research, composition, and lutherie. United in our commitment to promote the viola and its related activities, the AVS fosters communication and friendship among violists of all skill levels, ages, nationalities, and backgrounds.

2. Article V: Executive Board

Rationale: Historically, the PIVC Director has made major contributions to the life and health of the American Viola Society through their significant work with the PIVC. Recent growth in the scope of the role of PIVC Director and the challenges of fundraising through foundations for support of the competition has clarified the need for new parameters for this position. To that end, the AVS Board recommends that the following bylaws changes be approved, in order to bring the PIVC Director the same voting rights and board responsibilities as the other two board appointed positions of JAVS Editor and AVS Webmaster.

The AVS board recommends voting YES to endorse the following updates to reflect the changing role of the PIVC Director and its relationship to the AVS Board.

Section 1 and section 7 (additions/changes in **bold** or ~~strikethroughs~~):

Section 1: The Executive Board shall consist of 12 members-at-large, the four elected officers specified in Article IV, the Past President, ~~and~~ the current JAVS Editor, ~~and~~ the current AVS Webmaster, **and the current PIVC Director** as Board appointees (Article V, sections 5, ~~and 6 and 7~~ below). Members-at-large shall be elected by a majority vote cast and tabulated as set forth in Article IV, Section 3. Members-at-large may succeed themselves for no more than a second **consecutive** term. No person shall hold more than one national elective office in the Society concurrently.

Section 7: Primrose International Viola Competition Director. The Director of the Primrose International Viola Competition shall be appointed by the Executive Board for each specific competition and may be eligible for reappointment. **The appointee shall also serve as a voting member of the Executive Board throughout his/her tenure as PIVC Director. The PIVC Director shall receive such compensation as the Board may determine.**

Section 8 and 9 (additions/changes in **bold** or ~~strikethroughs~~):

Rationale: The AVS Board recommends the following addition of a new section 8 to ensure that no one person has to combine the large responsibilities of service in any of the appointed board positions of JAVS Editor, AVS Webmaster or PIVC Director with those required of AVS officer positions.

Section 8: After July 1st, 2015, the board appointed positions of JAVS Editor, AVS Webmaster, and PIVC Director cannot be held concurrently with an officer position on the AVS Executive Board.

Article V, Section ~~8~~ 9 [old section 8 now section 9]

3. Article VI, Section 2

Rationale: This was missed in a previous bylaws revision that updated the references to Primrose International Viola Competition.

The AVS board recommends voting YES to endorse the following updates to bring all references to the PIVC in our bylaws into the current nomenclature.

Section 2: The committees of the Society shall include Executive, Nominating, Congress, ~~Primrose Memorial Student Competition~~ **Primrose International Viola Competition**, Publication, Finance, Membership, Awards, Technology, and By-Laws.

Your participation as a voting member is much appreciated as we continue to grow as an organization!

AVS Bylaws Committee

Kathryn Steely, chair

Allyson Dawkins, Ed Klorman, Michelle Sayles, Shelly Tramposh