

THE NEBRASKA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1

Name

The name shall be Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences (also to be identified as NJAS or Junior Academy). NJAS is an affiliate of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences (NAS). The NAS President-Elect will serve on the NJAS Executive Board. NJAS shall not engage in any activity that would be inconsistent with the status of an educational, charitable, and scientific organization as defined by Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any successor provision thereto.

ARTICLE II

Object

The purpose of Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences (NJAS) is to stimulate science education and to encourage young people to become involved in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields including the following:

- Promote the intense involvement of Nebraska students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and related fields
- Stimulate and support problem solving, planning and conducting real world investigations, using appropriate tools, gathering data and analyzing results
- Communicate the structure and results of student research
- Connect students with peers and community members from industry, education, and businesses.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1: Classes of Memberships

Students

Any student in grade levels K-12th in the state of Nebraska interested in science may become a member by paying the required annual dues at a regional competition.

Adults

Adult members of this association should be members of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences and current on NJAS or NAS dues.

Section 2: Eligibility for Membership

Any individual who supports and promotes the objectives of NJAS and is a member of NAS is qualified for membership.

Section 3: Dues

The NJAS Executive Board will set dues annually. The adjustment shall not exceed \$1.00.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1:

The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and Special Awards Chair, Judging Chair, SRC Chair, University Advisor, Teacher Advisor (9-12), Teacher Advisor (6-8). This group shall be called the NJAS Executive Board and maintain all fiscal duties. The NDE Director of Science will serve as an Ex Officio (non-voting) Advisor to this group.

Section 2: Nominations and Elections:

An electronic ballot sent to each region shall elect the officers. A nomination committee shall be responsible for nominations and election as outlined in the operation manual. All members of the NJAS Executive Board shall be elected by the Regional Directors or designated representatives of each region of the organization by majority of those voting. Tie votes or plurality are to be resolved by runoff election, within 30 days. Elections are to be held once per year on a date determined by the NJAS Executive Board, with 60 days notice to the membership. There shall be one designated voter and one vote from each region. If the designated voter is not the Regional Director, the Director, in writing, must certify that voter.

Section 3: Term of Office

Officers shall hold office for a term of three years. There will be no limits on number of terms an officer or Board member may serve. Any successors elected will take office on May 1, following the election. Initially, the officers' terms will begin as follows:

President: 3 years

Vice President: 1 year

Treasurer: 2 years

Secretary: 2 years

Teacher Advisor (9-12): 1 year

Teacher Advisor (6-8): 2 years

Judging Chair: 3 years

Special Awards Chair: 3 years

SRC Awards Chair: 1 year

University Advisor: 1 year

Subsequent terms shall be for 3 years, as stated above

Section 4: Vacancies

Any vacancy occurring on the NJAS Executive Board shall be filled by presidential appointment subject to approval by the Board for the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V

NJAS Executive Board

The Board shall consist of the elected officers and advisors. This group shall be called the NJAS Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

- Section 1:** There shall be an annual membership meeting of the Association at the time and place of the NAS annual meeting.
- Section 2:** Others meetings may be held by phone, Internet, video conference as decided by the NJAS Executive Board.
- Section 3:** Meetings of the Association are open to persons interested in science education, but as observers only. These persons may address the Board only by permission and by request of a Board member.
- Section 4:** Quorum shall be six of the eleven NJAS Executive Board members to conduct business, not including the non-voting advisor.
- Section 5:** The Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences State Competition shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences.

ARTICLE VII

COMMITTEES

- Section 1:** There shall be a nominations committee, which shall be responsible for nominations and elections as outlined in the Operations Manual.
- Section 2:** Standing committees are set forth in the Operations Manual.

ARTICLE VIII

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order shall govern meetings.

ARTICLE IX

Amendment of Bylaws

Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the NJAS Board.

ARTICLE X

Dissolution of the Association

In the event of termination or dissolution of the Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences, the NJAS Board shall distribute the remnant assets of the division to one or more of the following: the NJAS members, or to support student research.