

National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals – Western North Carolina Chapter

BYLAWS

Revised 2-8-23

BYLAWS

**Of the
National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals - Western North
Carolina Chapter**

Adopted 2-8-2023

ARTICLE I – NAME AND TERRITORIAL LIMITS

- Section 1. This organization shall be known as the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals - Western North Carolina Chapter, hereinafter referred to as this Association, a non-profit corporation incorporated as such under the laws of the state of North Carolina and chartered by the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

- Section 2. The territorial limits of this Association shall be confined to Western North Carolina, primarily the Asheville area and surrounding counties. These shall not be changed unless permission first has been obtained from the governing bodies of the local association currently having jurisdiction in such territory, if applicable, and of the North Carolina National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals and the Board of Trustees of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

- Section 1. The objectives of this Association shall be:
 - A. To promote the common business interests of those engaged in disability and risk management.
 - B. To advance public knowledge for the need and benefit of disability income and/or health insurance products.
 - C. To promote the adoption and application of high standards of ethical conduct in the health insurance industry.
 - D. To provide and promote a program of continuing education and self-improvement for Association members.
 - E. To increase the knowledge and principles, functions and applications of health insurance and disability income products.
 - F. To promote education, legislation, regulation and practices which are in the best interest of the health insurance industry and the insuring public.
 - G. To encourage adequate protection against the hazards of disability as part of a well-rounded insurance program.
 - H. To do such other things and to carry out such other programs to further the purposes of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

- Section 2. This Association and its members recognize an obligation to present accurately, honestly and completely every fact essential to the client’s decision as expressed in the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals Code of Ethics which are considered a part of these bylaws.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Membership in this Association will be available under the following designations:
 - A. Individual Members
 - B. Honorary Lifetime Members
 - C. Associate members

- Section 2. An individual member may be any individual licensed by his/her state licensing authority for the sale of health insurance products. Individual members may also include non-licensed individuals engaged in the distribution of disability income and/or health insurance products such as, but not limited to, home office personnel and other individuals engaged in the health-related industries. Individual members who have paid their annual national, state and local dues will also be referred to as active members.

Section 3. Life membership may be granted when an active member has been in good standing for a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years and has: (1) attained age 65; or (2) retired; or (3) become disabled. The National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals national dues shall be reduced by fifty (50%) percent for such Life members. Life members have the same privileges as active local association members. They are not a member on the State or National level. No membership fee is charged, although they are subject to the same fee for meals as active members. They will continue to be updated on local happenings and are welcome to participate.

Section 4. An individual may be an associate member of this association if they have paid the full National and State dues in another association by paying the full Local dues of this association.

ARTICLE IV – NATIONAL AND STATE AFFILIATION

Section 1. This Association agrees to be bound by the bylaws of the North Carolina and National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals as adopted and amended.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall provide for the prompt review, approval and forwarding of all reports required or requested by the North Carolina and National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

Section 3. Insofar as possible, this Association shall be represented by its proper delegates, or their duly appointed alternates, at the annual meeting of the North Carolina and National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

ARTICLE V – DUES AND FINANCE

Section 1. Each active member of this Association shall pay local, state and national annual dues. Such annual dues shall be payable on the first day of the member's anniversary month as recorded by the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals. All dues shall be submitted to and through the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals. Any individual member more than sixty (60) days in arrears in payment of dues shall be dropped from the rolls as a member in good standing.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of annual dues of this Association. This Association's dues may only be changed once a year and will be in effect from January 1 through December 31 of each year. Not later than the fifteenth (15th) of September of each year, or a date specified by the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals, if this Association plans to increase or decrease its local chapter dues for the following calendar year, the President shall advise the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals in writing of the Board-approved dues for the following year.

Section 3. The fiscal year of this Association shall begin on the first day of July of each year.

Section 4. This Association's books of accounts shall be reviewed and/or audited at least once each fiscal year. The Board of Directors shall name the auditors/reviewers.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall determine the official depository(ies) for Association funds and shall designate one or more Board members in addition to the Treasurer to sign or countersign checks or other documents for the disbursement of such funds.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

- Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Section 2. Each officer shall be an active member of this Association, and the State and National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.
- Section 3. All officers shall serve without compensation.
- Section 4. All officers shall take office on the first day of July of each year following their election and shall serve for a term of two years.
- Section 5. The office of Immediate Past President shall be filled automatically by the outgoing President. In the event there is no outgoing President, this office shall remain vacant.
- Section 6. If the office of the President shall become vacant due to death, disability, resignation, recall or removal by due process, the President-Elect shall assume the office for its unexpired term and the term of President for the succeeding year and the office of President-Elect shall become vacant until the next regular election. If the office of President becomes vacant and there is no President-Elect, the order of succession shall be Vice President and then Treasurer.
- Section 7. If the office of President-Elect shall become vacant due to death, disability, resignation, recall or removal by due process, or by succession to the Presidency under Article VI., Section 6, the President shall appoint a member of this Association in good standing to fulfill the duties of the office for its unexpired term. The appointment shall be subject to a three-fourths (3/4) vote of approval by the Board of Directors. The office itself shall remain vacant until the next regular election.
- Section 8. If the offices of Vice President, Secretary and/or Treasurer become vacant due to death, disability, resignation, recall or removal by due process, or by succession under Article VI., Section 6, the office(s) shall be filled by appointment by the President. The appointment shall be subject to three-fourths (3/4) vote of approval of the Board of Directors and shall be only for the unexpired term of the office(s). Appointees shall assume the title and duties of the office(s).

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:
- A. President – The President shall be the chief elected officer of this Association and shall preside over all meetings of this Association and the Board of Directors. The President shall be an ex officio member of all standing and special committees except the Nominations Committee.
 - B. President-Elect – The President-Elect, in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings of this Association and the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.
 - C. Immediate Past President – The Immediate Past President shall serve as an advisor to the Board of Directors and perform other duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors.
 - D. Vice President – The Vice President, in the absence of the President and the President-Elect, shall preside at all meetings of this Association and the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

- E. Secretary – The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping minutes of the meetings of this Association and the Board of Directors and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.
- F. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for receiving all funds and dues paid to this Association. Dues are automatically collected and deposited into the National Bank Account of NABIP and our local portion then deposited into our local Chapter account on a monthly basis. The Treasurer shall deposit all other funds in this Association’s official depository(ies) and shall disburse such funds upon the order of the Board of Directors. The accounts and books of the Treasurer and this Association shall be open at all times for inspection by the President, the Board of Directors, and any authorized auditors. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the completion and submission of forms required by laws governing the administration and/or tax status of this Association.

ARTICLE VIII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers and (8) eight elected directors.
- Section 2. Each director shall be an active member of this Association, and the North Carolina and National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals..
- Section 3. All directors shall serve without compensation.
- Section 4. All directors shall take office on the first day of July of each year following their election and shall serve for a term of two years. (See Article VI, Section 4.)
- Section 5. The Board of Directors shall determine the policies and activities of this Association, approve the budget, authorize all expenditures and disbursements, and has the authority and responsibility to manage this Association’s affairs.
- Section 6. The Board of Directors shall meet no less than nine (9) times per year or at the call of the President. The meetings shall be held at such times and places as may be determined by the President or Board of Directors. A written notice (by email) of the time and place of all regular meetings of the Board of Directors of this Association shall be sent to each member of the Board by the President not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- Section 7. The Board of Directors may transact business by mail or electronic means by voting upon proposals presented to them. Any such proposal shall be adopted if at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the entire Board returns affirmative votes. The members of the Board of Directors shall be advised of the results of such balloting no less than seven (7) days after the vote is tabulated.
- Section 8. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- Section 9. In the event a director position becomes vacant due to death, disability, resignation, recall or removal by due process, or by succession under Article VI., Section 6, the position shall be filled by appointment by the President. The appointment shall be subject to three-fourths (3/4) vote of approval of the Board of Directors and shall be only for the unexpired term of the office(s).

ARTICLE IX – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- Section 1. The election of officers and directors shall be held at the annual meeting of this Association.
- Section 2. At least three (3) months prior to the date of the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominations Committee. The duties of this committee shall be to solicit and receive nominations and to prepare a slate of candidates. The Nominations Committee shall have general charge of the election

process including the preparation, distribution, collection and counting of ballots, and reporting the results.

Section 3. The Nominations Committee shall prepare a ballot containing the names of all qualified nominees and distribute ballot materials to all active members at least one (1) month prior to the date of the annual meeting. The ballots shall be cast in person at the annual meeting.

Section 4. Except for Immediate Past President and President, additional nominations for Officer and Board of Director Positions may be made from the floor of the annual meeting while nominations are open for a particular office. In order to qualify, the nominator must present to the Secretary no less than twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the floor for nominations a petition containing the name and position nominated for, along with a signed statement by the nominee that he or she is willing and able to serve if elected.

Section 5. The Nominations Committee will determine the number and duration of nominating speeches.

ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be the following standing committees:

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| A. Awards | H. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion |
| B. Professional Development | I. LPRT |
| C. Legislation | J. Vanguard |
| D. Membership / Retention | |
| E. Media Relations | |
| F. HUPAC / NCPAC | |
| G. Past Presidents Council | |

Section 2. The President shall appoint the chairs and members of all standing, special or ad hoc committees and task forces, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall establish guidelines for all committees and task forces regarding usual duties, terms of office, and requirements for reports unless otherwise specified in these bylaws.

Section 4. The administration of the fiscal affairs of all standing, special and ad hoc committees and task forces are vested in the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI – RECALL AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. An officer, member of the Board of Directors, committee member or chair, or task force member or chair may be removed for malfeasance of office.

Section 2. No elected officer or board member, or appointed committee member or chair, or appointed task force member or chair may be removed from office without a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meetings at which a quorum is present.

Section 3. Notice of recall or removal must be sent by registered mail to the affected individual advising him/her of the action taken or about to be taken. Removal by due process requires notification prior to the vote for removal from office. The Board of Directors and/or twenty-five percent (25%) of this Association's membership can initiate recall. Recall can only be achieved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Failure to achieve the required vote for removal will cause the immediate reinstatement of the recalled individual to office. Any appointee replacing the recalled officer shall also immediately be discharged.

Section 5. Any individual member of this Association shall lose all rights and privileges of office under this Association if his/her license to sell insurance is revoked or if he/she is convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor.

ARTICLE XII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The current edition of “The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure” (Sturgis) governs this Association in all parliamentary situations that are not provided for in the law or in its charter, bylaws or adopted rules.

ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to these bylaws, if in conformity with the policy of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals – Western North Carolina Chapter, may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors of this Association present at any meeting of this Association, by mail or electronic mail with three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors responding, provided that written notice or electronic notification of the meeting or electronic vote and of the proposed amendment(s) shall have been given to the members at least one month prior to the meeting, and provided further that a quorum is present at the meeting, if by mail or electronic mail providing that the required minimum number of members respond.

ARTICLE XIII – INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1. This Association may, by resolution of the Board of Directors, provide for indemnification by this Association of any and all its Directors or officers or former Directors or officers against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding, in which they or any of them are made parties, or a party, by reason of having been Directors or officers of this Association, except in relation to matters as to which such Director or officer or former Director or officer shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty and to such matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated on the existence of such liability for negligence or misconduct.

ARTICLE XIV – DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution of this Association requires the passing of a Resolution of Resignation by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all active members. The adopted resolution shall be sent by the Secretary of this Association by registered mail to the Executive Vice President of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals and shall become effective upon acceptance by the Board of Trustees. Upon acceptance of the Resolution of Resignation by the Board of Trustees, individual members of this Association shall become active members of the existing local association nearest them in their state, or their state association, or members-at-large if no other association exists within their state.

Section 2. This Association, by taking the action to resign, shall surrender all rights to use the name, emblem, insignia, plate, sign, label or phrase indicative of membership in this Association.

Section 2. This Association’s charter with the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals may be suspended or revoked in accordance with appropriate sections of the bylaws of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals .

Section 3. This Association shall use funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these bylaws and no part of said funds shall inure or be distributed to its members in the event this Association is dissolved or its charter revoked for cause in violation of the bylaws of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals. Immediately upon dissolution or revocation of its charter, this Association’s Board of Directors shall return all remaining Association funds to its state association. If there is no state association, the funds shall be sent to the National Association of Benefits and Insurance

Professionals for placement in escrow. Funds placed in escrow will be distributed in accordance with the procedures outlined in the bylaws of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

ARTICLE XV – PREVIOUS BYLAWS SUPERCEDED

Section 1. These bylaws, as revised, supercede all provisions of any previous bylaws of this Association.

END

Submitted by:



February 8th, 2023

Wesley Washel, President Elect






NCWestern Bylaws - NABIP

Final Audit Report

2023-02-14

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