



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
*For science. For action. For health.*

### **Standing Rules of the Governing Council**

1. The distribution of campaign material related to candidates for APHA National Elected Office or items under consideration by the Governing Council is prohibited on the floor of the Council. The distribution of these materials may happen at designated spots outside of the Council room but shall not block the registration or entrance of Councilors.
2. Access to the Governing Council Floor is restricted to sitting councilors. Non-councilors are not permitted on the floor of the council and must remain in the Gallery which will be clearly marked.
3. The display of signs, banners, posters, and other items is strictly prohibited in the Governing Council and Gallery. All material must be outside of the Council Floor and Gallery.
4. The use of audio and video recordings, as well as photography, is expressly prohibited in the Governing Council meetings.
5. The Speaker of the Governing Council, or their designee, may request the removal of any individual found in violation the Standing Rules, APHA Governing Council Rules of Order, or the APHA Bylaws.

### **APHA Governing Council Rules of Order**

*As adopted by the Council*

1. **APHA 15-Minute Discussion Rule:** Each policy brief, agenda item, and report is limited to discussion of 15 minutes. At the end of 15 minutes of discussion, the Speaker will poll the Governing Council as to whether it wishes to spend one or more additional 10-minute periods discussing the item.
2. **Prohibition On Bullet Voting:** When voting for candidates for Executive Board and the Nominations Committee, Governing Councilors are required to select the same number of candidates as open positions (i.e. if there are 3 open positions, each Councilor selects their top 3 candidates when voting). "Bullet voting," the process of selecting only one candidate as a tactic to reduce the vote total for other candidates thus maximizing the chance you favored candidate will be elected, is not allowed.

*The Bylaws of the American Public Health Association establishes the Parliamentary Authority for the Association operations.*

Revised January 2025 | Speaker Guest

## Standing Rules of Governing Council Election and Appointment<sup>1</sup>

**Rule 1:** All Governing Councilors (including ex-officio members) for the subsequent Council year be elected by July 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Rule 2:** Standing Committee Chairs, appointed to office no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> of the preceding year.

**Rule 3:** All vacancies shall be filled as accorded to the Bylaws of the Association: Vacancies that occur following this deadline must be filled within 45 days. Vacancies in the Governing Councilor and Section Chair roles occurring more than 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting must be filled by appointment by the Section Council until the next election. Vacancies occurring less than 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting can be filled via the proxy process.

**Rule 3:** An individual cannot serve as a proxy for two consecutive Governing Council meetings for the same member unit.

**Rule 4:** An individual cannot serve as a proxy for consecutive Governing Council years for the same member unit.

**Rule 5:** Any Sections and SPIGS unable to fill all Governing Councilors positions by the deadlines listed above for two (2) consecutive years, shall lose one Governing Council seat for a period of three years, not including any existing standing minimum in the number of Councilors established in the Bylaws of the Association.

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<sup>1</sup> As approved by the APHA Executive Board on January 13, 2025