

The Southern Chapter of the American Dance Movement Therapy Association By Laws

Article I Organization

Section I The organization shall be called the Southern Chapter of the American Dance Therapy Association, herein referred to as the ADTA.

Section II The Southern Chapter, herein referred to as the SC of the ADTA, shall be a subordinate unit of the ADTA, subject to the general authority and jurisdiction of the ADTA and include the areas in the Southern United States, specifically Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Section III The principal office of the SC shall be located at the business office of the ADTA. However, the SC may establish and maintain such other offices within the area of the SC to facilitate ongoing business, as voted on by the SC membership.

Section IV The SC shall be governed by these By-laws, as amended from time to time, as provided herein. The By-laws shall not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation or the By-laws of the ADTA.

Section V The SC shall function in conformity with the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws of the ADTA.

Section VI The SC shall maintain ongoing communication with the national office of the ADTA. The SC shall consider carefully the appropriateness of planned activities and workshops. The SC shall identify any public stand it may take on controversial issues as the position of the SC only and not the position of the ADTA or its membership.

Section VII In the event there is not a board member living in Mississippi, the current president of the SC will file with the Mississippi Secretary of State office to become the registered agent of the SC.

Article II Purpose

Section I The purpose of the SC shall be to uphold the high standards of professional competence among dance/movement therapists by promoting the education and training of dance/movement therapists. The SC shall endeavor to provide avenues of communication, support, and research among dance/movement therapists and professionals working in related fields. The SC will also serve to advocate for legitimization of the field and practice of dance/movement therapy and for the well being and fair treatment of dance/movement therapists.

Section II The SC shall maintain ongoing communication with the national office of the ADTA.

Article III Membership

Section I All members of the SC must also be members of the ADTA. Minimum requirements for the SC are eight Professional Members of the ADTA.

Section II Any member of the ADTA may become a member of the SC with full voting privileges of membership by paying annually, in advance, the requisite Chapter Membership fee, which is in addition to the annual dues for membership of the ADTA.

Section III Any associate member of the ADTA may become an associate member of the SC with all privileges of membership, including voting for officers, voting for by-law changes and holding office, by paying annually, in advance, the requisite chapter membership fees, which are in addition to the annual dues for associate membership in the ADTA.

Section IV Any student member of the ADTA may become a student member of the SC with all privileges of membership including voting for officers, voting for by-law changes and holding office by paying annually, in advance, the requisite chapter membership fees, which are in addition to the student membership fees of the ADTA.

Article IV Government

Section I There shall be a minimum of one annual business meeting for all members of the SC for the purpose of electing officers, presenting Committee reports, and transacting the regular business of the SC.

Section II Notice of all annual meetings shall be given by e-mail no less than 14 days before. Additional notifications may be sent via e-mail and or social media such as Facebook and/or LinkedIn as well.

Section III A majority of the elected officers plus 15% of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the annual meeting.

Section IV Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the officers or upon written request of six members of the SC. The meetings must be called within 45 days after such written request has been received by the Chairperson or other officer of the SC. The written request shall state the purpose of the meeting. Fourteen days notice by email will be given to all members for special meetings and said notice shall state the purpose for which the special meeting is called. Meetings may be in person or virtual.

Section V The Elected Officers shall initiate and transact all business necessary for the administration of the SC, including the approval of the annual budget of the SC.

Section VI The membership and fiscal year, in accordance with the ADTA, begins on July 1. ADTA and SC dues must be paid in accordance with ADTA guidelines or membership rights are forfeited. If a new member joins within three months prior to the end of the fiscal year, their dues shall be credited through the end of the following fiscal year. SC income shall be shared with the ADTA according to the prescribed procedures of the ADTA.

Section VII The SC membership shall vote on all changes in the By-laws, elect officers, initiate such business as it deems desirable and exercise veto power over action taken by the Elected Officers by a two thirds vote of membership.

Article V Election of Officers

Section I The Elected Officers of the SC shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer. Additional officers may be elected as membership/officers may prescribe.

Section II The SC nominating committee shall make and accept nominations from the membership; prepare and make ballots available to voting members no less than 14 days prior to the deadline for voting; notify candidates of results of election prior to reporting such results to the membership; and announce election results to the membership.

Section III No person shall hold more than one elected office at the same time nor shall any person be a final slate candidate for more than one elected office during election meetings.

Article VI Officers

Section I The President of the SC shall preside at all meetings of the SC. They shall coordinate all business of the SC and shall be responsible for the agenda for the business meetings. They shall appoint chair people of special committees, such as Government Affairs, Public Relations, Newsletter, Membership, as deemed necessary; shall be Ex-Officio member of all committees; coordinate the work of all committees; be responsible to the Board of Directors of the ADTA and shall represent the SC at regional or national meetings of the ADTA. The term of this office is two fiscal years.

Section II The Ex-Officio shall be the outgoing President and shall represent the previous board and act as a liaison and advisory person between the outgoing and incoming board. They shall be a resource person for information and procedures in order to insure an easier transition between the outgoing and incoming board and shall provide new incoming board members with some expertise in conducting chapter functions. This position will automatically be filled by the outgoing President. If the outgoing President chooses not to continue in this capacity, the outgoing board members may appoint, by consensus, another officer of the outgoing board. The term of this office is one year of the incoming board.

Section III The Vice President shall assume the above mentioned responsibilities of the President when the President is unable to do so as well as perform delegated tasks from the President. The term of this office is two fiscal years.

Section IV The Treasurer shall maintain the records pertaining to SC finances and submit reports to the ADTA Treasurer every four months. They shall submit annual fiscal reports to SC members and the National Treasurer. They shall perform all duties usually assigned to the office, which shall include reimbursing SC members for debts incurred in relation to SC functions, i.e. workshops and conferences, communication with the President as to the SC fiscal status, maintaining a bank account and recording income and disbursements according to standardized bookkeeping procedure and collecting money at SC workshops and conferences. All checks will require 2 signatures. The two signatures must consist of the President or Vice President and the Treasurer. The term of this office is two fiscal years.

Section V The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the SC and board meetings and e-mail the minutes to SC membership. The Secretary shall oversee mailings regarding chapter functions to the membership; this includes making sure communications reach the membership in a timely manner. At the end of the fiscal year, the Secretary is to submit a current membership roster of the SC to the ADTA as well as a list of the SC officers and committee chairpersons and a record of the past year's activities. The term of this office is two fiscal years.

Section VI The Student Representative is a position held by a current student pursuing their dance movement therapy degree, or alternative route training, who is currently residing in the states which are part of the SC. This position will represent the student voice in the SC.

Article VII Finances

Section I Chapter income shall be shared with the ADTA according to the formulae approved by the ADTA Board of Directors.

Section II No indebtedness or obligation shall be incurred by the SC or its officers in the name of the ADTA and the ADTA shall not be responsible for any indebtedness or obligation incurred by the SC or any of its officers.

Section III In the event of dissolution or liquidation of the SC, the remaining assets after all the liabilities are paid are to return to the ADTA.

Article VIII Rules of Order

Questions of procedure shall be decided according to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, unless otherwise provided in the By-Laws.

Article IX Amendments

Section I These By-Laws may be amended at any official meeting of the SC provided members have been sent the proposed changes in writing at least 21 days prior to the meeting at which action on the proposals shall be taken and further provided a quorum as hereinbefore specified takes action. An affirmative vote equivalent to two thirds of the votes cast as hereinbefore specified shall be required for amendment. All amendments must be in conformity with the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws of the ADTA and the SC.

Section II A majority of the elected officers plus 15% percent of the Professional Membership of the SC will constitute a quorum for any general meeting of record, including the annual business meeting.

Article X Dissolution

The SC may dissolve by a majority vote of its members or by revocation of the SC by the ADTA Board upon just cause, with proper review of the charges by the Board at regular meeting.