

1 **Resolution Number:** 204-2024

2

3 **Title:** Amendment to the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, Section 3. Order and  
4 Schedule of Business

5

6 **Reference Committee Assignment:**

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8 **Sponsor(s):** Adam Yang, Alternate Delegate, Harvard

9 Kenny Tran, Alternate Delegate, Midwestern-Arizona

10 Emily Tarr, First Delegate, Midwestern-Arizona

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12 **Financial Impact:** *None*

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14 **Board of Trustees Comments:** Received after the deadline for Board comment.

15

16 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee has considered all the testimony  
17 and is putting forth RC204-2024.

18

19 **Background:** In the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, specific requirements regarding  
20 the presentation of financial information from the Executive Committee are notably absent.  
21 Consequently, the presentation of ASDA's financial report to the House of Delegates has been  
22 characterized by a degree of ambiguity, primarily relying on pie charts, bar graphs, and general  
23 summaries without specific numerical values or percentages. Financial information is offered as  
24 courtesy by the Executive Committee rather than a clearly defined requirement.

25

26 While delegates are not directly responsible for making specific budgetary decisions, they play a  
27 crucial role in determining membership dues, as outlined in ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP Section 4.  
28 Membership Dues of the Bylaws. It is important to note that the American Student Dental  
29 Association (ASDA) operates as a 501(c)6 organization, and a significant portion of its financial  
30 information is publicly available through the IRS-required Form 990. However, the accessibility  
31 of this information does not always translate into a comprehensive understanding of the  
32 organization's financial health.

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34 This resolution aims to address the need for clarity and transparency by requiring that essential  
35 financial materials be provided to delegates in advance of the Annual Session and presented in  
36 a digestible manner. Delegates, armed with such information, will be better equipped to actively  
37 engage in financial discussions, seek timely responses from the Executive Committee or staff  
38 during the Annual Session, and ultimately enhance financial transparency and maintain  
39 accountability throughout the organization; therefore, be it

40

41

**RESOLUTION**

42

43 **Resolved**, that the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, Section 3 Schedule and Order of  
44 Business be amended as follows:

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46 The speaker and secretary of the House of Delegates (executive director) are responsible for the  
47 day-to-day business of the House, including the order of business, the agenda and the  
48 sequencing of resolutions. The House of Delegates business meeting schedule is determined by  
49 the Committee on Sessions, but may be subject to change. Under extenuating circumstances,  
50 additional meetings of the House of Delegates during an Annual Session may be called by  
51 majority vote of the House.

52  
53 **The business meeting schedule should include a financial presentation and discussion and**  
54 **distribution of materials as noted below to ensure greater transparency and accountability in**  
55 **ASDA's financial matters, allowing delegates to review financial materials, ask questions, seek**  
56 **clarification, and engage in discussions to promote informed decision-making and oversight.**

57

58 **A. Distribution of Financial Report Materials**

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60 **Materials regarding the financial report shall be distributed to credentialed delegates**  
61 **via email at least two weeks before the first day of the annual session.**

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63 **B. Detailed Financial Reporting Requirements for Financial Presentation**

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65 **The financial report presented at the Annual Session must include the following**  
66 **information in numerical value, percentage, year-to-year percentage change:**

- 67 a) **Total membership and past and projected trends**  
68 b) **Revenues in total and by category**  
69 c) **Expenses in total and by category**  
70 d) **Financial trends of revenues, expenses, and contribution to net assets over the**  
71 **past 10 years**

72

73 **C. Task Force**

74 **The 2024-25 Board of Trustees shall appoint a task force consisting of three chapter**  
75 **presidents, two 2024-25 Board members, one 2024-25 Executive Committee member,**  
76 **and a staff liaison. The task force will be tasked with researching financial information**  
77 **deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. The task force will operate for one**  
78 **year and present its findings to the House of Delegates at the Annual Session in 2025.**  
79 **Any actionable items identified by the task force will be packaged into a resolution.**

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81 **D. Financial Discussion**

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83 **Following the presentation of the financial report by the Executive Committee, along**  
84 **with the reasons for any updates or corrections, the Speaker of the House shall lead a**  
85 **discussion lasting at least 10 minutes during the second House of Delegates Business**

86 Meeting, allowing delegates to ask questions, seek clarification, voice any concerns  
87 regarding the provided financial material, and receive timely responses from the  
88 Executive Committee or staff during such session. The duration of this session can be  
89 extended or concluded by a simple majority vote called by a House delegate.

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91 **E. Formal Requests for Additional Financial Items**

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93 During financial report presentation and discussion session, delegates may formally  
94 request additional financial items by amending this section of the Standing Rules of  
95 the House of Delegates through a supermajority three-quarters vote called by a House  
96 delegate. The requested financial items must be documented by the secretary of the  
97 House of Delegates and included in the following year's financial report presentation  
98 and materials provided to House delegates.