March 18, 2020

Dear Member,

Official Notice of NYSAFP Congress of Delegates
June 13-14, 2020 (Saturday and Sunday)

Given current events we may convert the Congress of Delegates (COD) to a virtual program. We will send updates as the information is available. Going virtual will not change the requirements for submission of resolutions (30 days, properly formatted!) so please adhere to the information that follows.

If we do conduct the COD as a virtual event it will be necessary to conduct as much business as possible in advance and by digital means. Resolutions and reports would be published digitally and comments would be collected over the digital platform we use to publish materials and by email. We recently conducted a board meeting using Zoom. The meeting went well and we learned a great deal about how to conduct business in an orderly way using a web-based tool. We are exploring other vendors as well and will provide comprehensive instructions if we ultimately decide to conduct the COD as a virtual event.

Please let us know if you would like to serve on a reference committee. Some of the reference committee’s work will be done in advance of the COD to expedite the process. This will be especially important for a virtual meeting.

Registration available soon.
Click here for hotel reservations

The 72nd annual Congress of Delegates of the NYSAFP will meet June 13-14, 2020 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY. All members are invited and encouraged to attend the Congress, to participate in discussions of current issues and to debate Academy policy. Delegates to the Congress include delegates elected by county chapters and family medicine residency program chapters, members of the board of directors, past presidents, delegates selected by resident and student members, and delegates selected from counties that do not have a component chapter. County chapters are
entitled to two delegates and alternates. Counties with more than 100 members have an additional delegate and alternate for each additional 100 members. In counties where there is no component chapter, any member(s) interested in becoming a delegate must provide written notice to the Speaker of the Congress. If more than one member in a county where there is no component chapter want to be delegates, the Speaker will conduct an election not less than 30 days prior to the Congress and will limit participation in that election to members in good standing of that county. Although all members may participate in the Congress, only delegates may vote.

The Congress is an annual meeting of the membership of the NYSAFP. This is the forum wherein active members voice their opinions on Academy positions and operations and present suggestions for Academy programs and positions.

**Resolutions**

Resolutions are the means by which members of the NYSAFP convey ideas or concerns to the Congress of Delegates. Resolutions which are adopted by the Congress of Delegates become policy of the NYSAFP.

Resolutions which have been submitted in advance and reports of commissions and officers are presented at the Congress. Reference committees meet and hear testimony regarding resolutions and reports. The reference committees make recommendations regarding resolutions and reports. Any member may submit a resolution.

Resolutions received after close of business thirty (30) days prior to the Congress, including those submitted at the opening of the Congress of Delegates of the NYSAFP, shall be deemed Late Resolutions. Resolutions so offered shall be considered under a Late Resolution Process.

Guidelines for writing resolutions include:

1. Staff assigns numbers to resolutions
2. The author of the resolution is responsible for identifying the subject of the resolution
3. The resolution must include name of the member, commission or organization presenting the resolution and a phone number
4. Each item of background and justification for the resolution should be included and should begin with the word "Whereas"
5. After the various "Whereas" paragraphs, the "resolves" paragraphs should clearly establish the purpose of the resolution such as a change in Academy policy, amendment of the bylaws, or referral to another organization (such as resolving that the NYSAFP delegation to the AAFP COD ask the AAFP to adopt a resolution).
6. Please remember that only the “resolved” clauses appear as policy (not the “whereas” clauses), so each “resolved” clause must stand on its own.

Please look at the Resolution Writing Template in order to guide you in proper formatting of a resolution. MUCH VALUABLE TIME REVIEWING RESOLUTIONS IS SPENT CORRECTING SIMPLE FORMATTING ISSUES AS OPPOSED TO DISCUSSING CONTENT. THIS CAN BE AVOIDED BY REVIEWING THE TEMPLATE AND THE TIPS INCLUDED IN THE TEMPLATE. Your resolution MUST be in the proper format or it will be rejected (sent back to you for proper formatting!).

Often times, resolutions presented at the NYSAFP COD reflect EXISTING POLICY of the NYSAFP or the AAFP. Resolutions need not be submitted to support existing policy. Before submitting a resolution, please use these links to investigate if your resolution is already reflected in existing NYSAFP or AAFP policy.

Through 2018 NYSAFP Policies and 2019 Summary of Actions
(Note: Please be patient as we reformat our policy manual on Key Health Issues )
Current AAFP Policies

Elections

The Congress also conducts elections. Elections will be held for the following offices at the Congress: president-elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, director (3 positions), delegate to the AAFP Congress, and alternate delegate to the AAFP Congress, delegate to MSSNY, and alternate delegate to MSSNY, speaker and vice speaker. The three director positions are for 3-year terms. The AAFP delegate and alternate positions are for 2-year terms. The New Physician position is a 2-year term. All other offices are for 1-year terms. MSSNY delegate and alternate positions are for 3-year terms.

If you are interested in becoming a delegate and you live in a county that does not have an organized county chapter, contact Executive Vice President, Vito Grasso for information regarding how you can become a delegate. You may reach Vito at vito@nysAFP.org or 518.489.8945 x1.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions. We look forward to a productive Congress of Delegates in June.