



Understanding the AAEP Board of Directors Election Process and the Role of the Nominating Committee

The American Association of Equine Practitioners is committed to advancing equine veterinary medicine and supporting practitioners worldwide. A key component of this mission is the election of board members and officers, a process overseen by the AAEP Nominating Committee.

The AAEP Nominating Committee: Composition and Role

Committee Responsibilities:

The Nominating Committee plays a crucial role in shaping the organization's leadership. Its primary responsibility is to oversee elections of board members, the Vice President and the Treasurer (in applicable years) and ensure that leadership positions are filled in a fair and equitable manner with the best interests of the association in mind.

Candidates for leadership positions are considered for these roles based on criteria such as integrity, peer respect, engagement with AAEP membership, communications and consensus building and advocacy for equine practitioners.

By facilitating fair elections, the Committee maintains transparency and integrity in the selection process. The Committee is also charged with reviewing annual award nominations and recommending recipients for the AAEP's awards program for final selection by the AAEP Board.

Note: The process for serving on the Nominating Committee is prescribed in the AAEP's bylaws and can be found [here](#) (read Article VI, Section 2 – Committees); however, with the recent changes in the bylaws, there are now more opportunities to serve. If you are interested in serving, be sure to update your Volunteer Interest Form and indicate interest in the Nominating Committee.

2025 Nominating Committee Roster:

- Rob Franklin, 2025 chair
- Betsy Charles
- Erin Contino
- Katie Flynn
- Katie Garrett
- Amanda House
- Emma Read



New Election Process Beginning in 2025

One of the most notable changes to this year's election process is the selection of AAEP Vice President. Before the recent bylaw changes approved by the membership, the Vice President was nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the AAEP Board of Directors. Beginning with the 2025 election, the Nominating Committee will nominate two well qualified individuals for this position and the membership will vote to determine who will serve.

Leading up to the ballot, AAEP leadership will provide multiple opportunities for members to familiarize themselves with the candidates for the two open board positions and the two nominees for vice president. Through a variety of formats, including candidate spotlights and interactive discussions, our goal is to give all members equal access to the backgrounds, qualifications, and visions of those seeking office.

The election for the Board and Vice President positions will take place in July via electronic ballot; a ballot will be mailed to any member without an email address.

Please contact David Foley, AAEP executive director, at dfoley@aaep.org or (859) 233-0147 if you have any questions about the AAEP bylaws or the upcoming election process.