

National Aquaculture Association Policy on Committee Structure and Function

Background

A fundamental precept of the National Aquaculture Association (NAA) is to be representative of US aquaculture that encompasses the 1500 to 1600 species, hybrids, and varieties cultured throughout the United States by approximately 3000 farms located in every state and territory. The NAA was founded by aquaculture producers and is producer oriented. The NAA strives to represent all of this diverse aquaculture industry and seeks information and opinion from a wide variety of sources. Committees have been formed to address specific areas of interest or issues to help gain as much information as possible to arrive at consensus NAA decisions, opinions, positions, and policies.

Policy

Committee Structure:

1. The President, at his discretion, appoints or dismisses committee chairs to address particular topics or issues. Committee chairs shall be a member of the NAA Board of Directors or, if not a member of the NAA Board of Directors, shall be approved by the NAA Board of Directors.
2. The President, at his discretion and after consultation with the committee chair, appoints or dismisses committee members. Committee members shall be NAA members in good standing and shall be briefed by the committee chair or by the Executive Director or provided written materials describing NAA policies and principles including this policy on Committee Structure and Function.
3. NAA members interested in committee membership should express their interest to the Committee Chair, the President, or the Executive Director.
4. The Executive Director will serve on all committees to provide administrative support.

Committee Function:

1. Committees serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors for the purposes of identifying and summarizing issues of importance to US aquaculture; drafting letters, position papers, or opinion pieces for consideration by the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors; and submitting an activity report for each Board of Directors meeting.
2. Committee members who represent a state or species association to the NAA should provide input to the committee from the perspective of that association.

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3. To help ensure and encourage input from a variety of perspectives and opinions, and giving consideration to the fact that only the Board of Directors can approve a formal policy or position of the NAA, the specific comments or opinions of others as exchanged in committee discussion and debate, either verbal or written, should remain confidential.
4. Committee members represent NAA and serve to further NAA interests and are expected to be discrete and respectful of NAA and its members.
5. Committee members should be familiar with and committees shall follow the NAA Policy on Decision Process for Establishing Policies, Resolutions, and Written Public Position Statements.