

**Penn State Law – University Park
Student Bar Association**

Bylaws of the Mental Health & Wellness Committee

I. Mission Statement

The name of this committee shall be the Mental Health & Wellness Committee of the Student Bar Association. This committee shall be responsible for promoting an environment that empowers students to address their unique mental health needs by: 1) engaging students with social events that create a healthy and inclusive community; 2) facilitating a student support group that promotes student health and well-being; 3) providing outreach, trainings, and presentations that help students better understand mental health issues and coping strategies; and 4) building partnerships with programs and organizations that provide students with access to mental health resources and assistance.

II. Definitions

A. Mental Health: “Mental health is a state of well-being in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.”

B. Wellness: “The active pursuit of activities, choices and lifestyles that leads to a state of holistic health.”

C. Nominate: To propose by name as a candidate for election. Each nominee must be approved by the Student Bar Association before assuming the respective position.

D. Appoint: A binding selection by the Student Bar Association for an office or position in the Social Committee.

E. Quorum: Two-thirds of the student members constitute a quorum.

III. Officers of the Mental Health & Wellness Committee

A. The Mental Health & Wellness Committee shall have as its administrative and executive officer a Chair. Mental Health & Wellness Committee Chair (Chair) shall be nominated by the SBA President and appointed through the majority consent of the SBA, and serve at the SBA President's pleasure. The term of office shall be for one academic year. The Chair shall:

- I. preside over all committee meetings;
- II. set the date, time, place, and agenda for all committee meetings;
- III. oversee the process of student organization event planning;
- IV. request funding and facilitate fundraising;
- V. schedule locations for meetings and events;
- VI. vote in all actions undertaken by the Committee;
- VII. record the proceedings of all Committee meetings; and provide the executive board with copies of all minutes of meetings.

IV. Delegation of Responsibilities

The Chair may delegate responsibilities to Mental Health & Wellness Committee members as deemed necessary.

V. Electing Subcommittee(s)

A. Establishment:

i. The Chair may seek to establish one or more subcommittees to assist in the effective conduct of its business.

B. Authority:

ii. The authority of a Subcommittee shall be no greater in scope than the responsibilities assigned, and the authority delegated, by Chair. Any delegation of authority and any change in such authority so delegated, shall require the approval of the Chair.

C. Appointment:

iii. Each chair of a Subcommittee must be a member of the Mental Health & Wellness Committee. Each chair shall serve for a duration of the academic year.

VI. Members of the Mental Health Committee

- A. The Mental Health & Wellness Committee is open to all members of the student body.
- B. Those interested in becoming a member should contact the Chair.
- C. The Chair will then provide the SBA Secretary and President with the names of anyone interested in joining the Mental Health & Wellness Committee before the next SBA meeting.
- D. Membership is subject to nomination by the SBA President and approval by the SBA Board.
- E. SBA Committee members may be removed from the Committee only by a decision of the SBA President.
- F. Only a Mental Health & Wellness Committee member can host Alternative Bar Review events.

VII. Meetings

The Mental Health & Wellness Committee shall meet no less than two (2) times during an academic year with at least one (1) meeting per semester. The Mental Health & Wellness Committee reserves the right to hold additional meetings when circumstances deem necessary. The Mental Health & Wellness Committee meetings are open to any interested member of the student body.

VIII. Meeting Procedure

The following guidelines shall govern each Mental Health & Wellness Committee meeting:

- A. Every meeting shall begin when the Chair calls the meeting to order;
- B. The Chair must take roll and determine whether a quorum is present for voting purposes;
- C. The Chair will read the minutes from the previous meeting;
- D. The Chair will announce all proposals for discussion at the present meeting;
- E. After all individuals and representatives have presented, the discussion of the requests will commence;
- F. Each request will be discussed. At any time a member can move to vote on the request. Another member must second the motion;
- G. Proposals that do not obtain a majority vote will be denied;
- H. Upon discussion of all proposals, the Chair will adjourn the meeting.

IX. Voting

To vote on any matter, a quorum must be present. Any time a vote is taken, the question shall be approved by a simple majority vote.

X. Amendments

All amendments to these bylaws shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the SBA.