

What Can I Expect if Elected To the MAFCA Board of Directors?

We are glad you are considering a run for the MAFCA Board of Directors. Our club needs excellent volunteers as its leaders. There are only two full-time paid employees and one part-time employee at our headquarters in La Habra. Everyone else offers their talents and time voluntarily. So, what can you expect as a volunteer MAFCA leader? Here are some thoughts.

How will I know what job will be mine if I'm elected?

MAFCA Bylaws call for announcement of election results at the National Awards Banquet at the end of each calendar year. That is also the final meeting of the current board members and the first gathering of the new board members. At the end of the final board meeting for the existing board members, the new board will go into executive session and decide which people will be matched to each of the board positions for the coming year. Everyone gets to state their preference and then a vote will determine the assignments.

How much time will it take if I'm elected?

As you can imagine, the time you will spend on your board assignment will depend on the time of year and the duties of your board position. Some jobs, like treasurer and technical director, require a fairly consistent time commitment throughout the year. Some jobs, like secretary, will have periods of time when workloads increase and then things slow down for a while before busy days begin again. You can expect to spend an average of from 5 hours to 20 hours per week as a board member. Travel across country can take a day each way.

What reimbursement will I receive for my expenses as a board member?

The Board meets 4 times per year (5 times if it's a Convention Year) Board meetings are held in various locations around the country. Most meetings are at MAFCA headquarters in La Habra, CA. There is a meeting at the National Convention in even-numbered years and the National Awards Banquet each year. Board members are expected to attend all meetings. It can mean cross-country travel for some and local drives for others. MAFCA will reimburse two nights hotel expense for each meeting. That covers the night before the meeting and the night of the meeting. MAFCA will also cover travel expense not to exceed the lowest cost coach air fare to the meeting location. For non-air travel, MAFCA will pay for road tolls provided there are receipts for each toll. MAFCA pays either fuel based on actual receipts, or mileage at the IRS rate for not-for-profits, which is \$0.14 per mile in 2019. Remember, the least expensive travel option is what MAFCA will reimburse.

Meals, car rentals, event or meet registration fees, airport parking, and other personal expenses are all going to be "out-of-pocket" for each board member. And, they can add up over the course of a year to sometimes reach \$1,500 to \$3,000. Board members must be willing to make that contribution for participating on the board. See MAFCA expense reimbursement policy P3S12.

What about expenses when my spouse travels with me?

It is not a requirement that spouses attend board meetings. However, it is common that spouses travel with board members. Expenses for spouses are borne by the board member. With the exception of the two nights lodging paid for by MAFCA, all other spouse expenses are “out-of-pocket” for the board member. That includes spouse meals, event registration fees, and personal items. The cost of traveling to board meetings for spouses is not covered by MAFCA.

Why should I run for a seat on the MAFCA Board of Directors?

Because MAFCA needs your experience and guidance. MAFCA is a large enterprise. As a business, it requires sound business leaders so it can thrive and remain for future generations to enjoy.

Don't overlook the wonderful friendships you can build with other board representatives. It is fun to work with others who want to support MAFCA. And, you can meet people from all over the world at MAFCA events. As a board member, you will have the opportunity to speak with local club leaders and members across the globe. Gathering local input is important to board discussions and decision making.

Most importantly, you will have the satisfaction in knowing you have made a contribution to MAFCA and its membership. It is the highest honor a MAFCA member can have.

Do I have to know how to use a computer to be on the Board?

The Board uses email extensively to communicate so an internet connection and familiarity with email is important. Our policies are modified using MSWord so some knowledge in this area is helpful. You do not need to be a computer expert. Some committee activities are carried out using Skype and/or conference calls.

Are Board meetings held on one day?

Meeting usually run for a full day from early morning (8 A.M.) until late afternoon (5 P.M.) with several breaks including one for lunch. Meetings are scheduled on a Saturday when the Board meets in La Habra. The Board holds a planning session on Friday afternoons and Board members are expected to attend these sessions as well.