

## Speaker's Letter #1

I hope this letter finds everyone in the MSSNY delegation to our 2024 House of Delegates in good spirits and ready to go to work! Welcome, and I look forward to working with you all to make this House (my last as Speaker) the best ever! This letter will, among other things, outline timelines on the various activities that precede the House including deadlines for completion. The HOD will be held at the Long Island Marriott in Uniondale from April 12 to 14.

I continue to search for Delegates who are interested in serving on our reference committees. Those who are interested should contact Michael Reyes and indicate their preference for committee involvement. Serving on a reference committee is not only interesting and educational but also an opportunity to introduce yourselves to your fellow Delegates. Leadership roles in MSSNY often begin as a Reference Committee member or Chair. I hope to have a complete list of those who are interested by Monday, January 8, and have the reference committee members assigned by Friday, February 9.

Folks interested in submitting resolutions to our 2024 House should be working on them as soon as possible. The Deadline for Resolution submission will be 5pm on Wednesday, February 28. Any resolutions submitted after that time and date will be considered late resolutions and will only make it to the House floor if the Rules Committee decides that the given resolution could not have been submitted by the deadline because of its timeliness. The merits of the resolution are not considered by the Rules Committee. That committee will meet prior to the house to consider late resolutions and details will follow on that process.

The Nominating Committee will provide a slate of potential officers that reflect input from the Counties, District Branches, Specialty Societies, and Sections. Nominations outside of the slate presented by the Nominating Committee will be accepted as "Prefatory Nominations" with a deadline for submission of 9pm on Monday March 25. Requirements for eligibility will be detailed in a later letter. All elections will occur at the HOD.

Circling back to the Ref Coms, the plan is to have both virtual and on-site Ref Com sessions. Several years ago, the long range planning committee recommended that the House be shortened from three days ( Friday to Sunday) to a two-day meeting (Saturday and Sunday). At our last House, however, the House voted to return to a three-day meeting. Because of Covid, your speakers were forced to adapt to a virtual platform for both reference committee hearings and the House itself. The house returned to a live two-day event in 2022, but Ref Coms have been virtual since 2020. The goal is to give every Delegate the

opportunity to engage in the process of shaping the resolutions, which reflect MSSNY policy. Two Ref Com sessions (one virtual and one live) may prove to be unworkable, but we won't know unless we try. Having said that, I believe that the virtual platform is here to stay. The virtual sessions will be scheduled from Saturday, March 16 until completed before Friday, March 22. That schedule will be announced after reference committees have been chosen. Details of how reference committee reports will be completed have not been finalized.

Hopefully the above information will help everyone to get started on thinking about our 2024 House of Delegates.

I would like to wish everyone a great holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

All the Best,  
William R Latreille, MD , FACP  
Speaker, MSSNY HOD