



Board Member Resources for HOA Governance

A curated list of training, tools, and networking
resources for HOA board members



Introduction

Board members of a homeowners association (HOA) carry numerous responsibilities

— from vendor management to dispute resolution and even financial management. Board members need proper training, tools, and resources to be effective.

The board must be familiar with the ins and outs of HOA management and connect with peers in the same position. Here's a comprehensive list of resources for HOA board members:



Training, Education, and Online Resources

- **Community Association Institute (CAI):**

This international membership organization provides education, information, and resources to volunteer HOA board members, professional HOA managers, and management firms. CAI offers education through seminars, conferences, workshops, published resources, books, guides, magazines, and newsletters. Topics range from the basics of HOA governance to advanced financial and legal issues. It also offers certifications, such as the CAI Board Leader Certificate, to governing board members.

- **Local Property Management Workshops:**

Many HOA management companies offer workshops to help educate board members. These workshops provide insight on topics such as dispute resolution, handling delinquent accounts, and local regulations.

- **Government Resources:**

Many state and local governments offer resources and training programs for HOA members and directors. Some government websites also provide overviews of local laws applicable to homeowners associations.

- **HOA Industry Articles & Publications:**

Many HOA management companies and industry sites publish informative articles on topics involving community management, including financial management, rule enforcement, governing document management, and HOA law.

- **HOAManagement.com:**

Provides informative articles about topics involving community management, including financial management, rule enforcement, governing document management, HOA law, and more.

- **Boardline Academy:**

Provides bite-sized content accessible through desktop and mobile devices, with an extensive course catalog and training opportunities for board members, homeowners, and community managers.



Document Templates

- **HOAManagement.com:**

Provides a continuously updated list of free document templates for HOAs, including templates for special assessment letters, meeting minutes, annual budgets, and election ballots.



Networking

- **CAI Events:**

Hosts events to educate board members and hold discussions on various issues. Board members can connect with peers and industry professionals.

- **HOA Leadership Network:**

Offers events designed to educate board leaders through collaboration. Board members from various HOAs can meet each other, along with key insurance, realty, and legal professionals.

- **Nearby Local Associations:**

Board members can connect with nearby associations of a similar size or budget, share strategies, and learn from each other's most effective management practices.

Online Forums and Discussion



- **HOAleader.com:**

Offers board members a platform to ask questions, share experiences, and get expert advice on specific issues.

- **HOATalk.com:**

Provides online discussion forums to share ideas, discuss issues, and ask questions of industry professionals, volunteers, and community association leaders.

- **HOAManagement.com:**

Offers online discussion forums for homeowners, board members, and industry professionals to discuss community-related topics.

- **Reddit HOA Communities:**

Subreddits like r/HOA offer a platform for open discussion about experiences, challenges, and solutions related to HOA management.

- **Facebook HOA Groups:**

Facebook hosts numerous HOA-specific groups where board members can share stories, seek advice, and connect with experts.

HOA Software and Tools

1. **Condo Manager:** Provides integrated management, accounting, and communication tools for professional community managers and self-managed HOAs, including the ability to manage multiple organizations and an unlimited number of units.
2. **PayHOA:** An all-in-one online HOA management platform for POAs, COAs, and HOAs, with online assessment collection, A/R reporting, accounting, financial management, member portals, online request forms, violation management, and more.
3. **Smartwebs:** An all-in-one platform for automated community bookkeeping and accounting, with security, cloud storage, communication, architectural requests, work orders, and violation tracking.
4. **AppFolio:** A property management platform for corporate accounting, including automated accounts payable, bill entry, invoicing, and billing.
5. **Buildium:** A property management platform for management, accounting, and document storage that adapts to organizations of different sizes.
6. **ElectionBuddy:** A voting platform that helps communities reach a quorum and securely conduct transparent voting — an electronic solution that can adapt to paper voting for non-tech-savvy homeowners.
7. **Vote HOA Now:** An online voting platform for community associations, with a custom voting website, full-service setup, vote management, and retained voting records to help establish a quorum.



Legal and Regulatory Updates

State and Local Government Websites:

State and local governments often maintain websites that track recent regulations and legislation involving HOAs.

HOAManagement.com:

Provides updated state laws and regulations relevant to condominium and homeowners associations.

CAI Legal Resources:

Offers legal resources on current federal and state laws involving community associations, including legislative tracking, infographics, summaries, and links to state legislative action committees.

Law Firm Seminars/Webinars:

Board members can stay current on local legislation by attending webinars or seminars for HOA board members hosted by local law firms.

Effective Community Management

HOA board members who actively participate in these resources can more effectively manage their associations in compliance with regulations.

Equipped with the right knowledge, resources, and networks, **they're better prepared to make informed decisions and successfully govern their communities.**