



Ethics Enforcement Process

Approved by Council September 16, 2019

Any ION member can report a possible ethics violation to Ethics Chair. Where possible, the identity of the reporting member will remain private.

The Ethics Chair, ION President, and ION Executive Vice President review the concern and decide (by vote if necessary) whether to refer the matter to the executive committee.

- If allegations are clearly groundless, then the matter can be closed without further action.
- If the allegations may have merit, it should be referred to the executive committee to make a determination.

The Executive Committee will decide, by vote, on:

- Whether or not an ethics violation has occurred.
- If it has occurred, what should be done about it.

The Ethics Chair will inform the person accused of the violation as to the ethics committee's decisions about whether a violation has occurred, and if so, what should be done about it.

If there is a time constraint, the Executive Committee will attempt to resolve the matter ahead of the time constraint. However, if that cannot be done, the Executive Committee has the option of taking a temporary action (such as removing someone from consideration for an award for that year) before making a final decision as to whether there has been an ethics violation.

When the process is complete, the Ethics Chair will inform the member who reported the possible ethics violation that the Executive Committee has completed its review of the concern.

- Nothing else should be reported to the person who reported the possible ethics violation.

If the possible ethics violation involves a member of the Executive Committee or the Ethics Chair, they will be recused from the procedure described above. If necessary, the ION President will fulfill the role of the Ethics Chair.

All matters involving ethics violations shall be considered confidential and shall not be shared with people who do not have a right to know, according to this policy.