



World Society of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus

Bye-Laws

1. THE SOCIETY

1.1. The name of the Society is World Society of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus.

1.2. WSPOS is a global scientific Society of ophthalmologists, orthoptists, allied eye-health care workers, and basic scientists working in vision science or research who specialise in the field of paediatric ophthalmology and/or strabismus (hereinafter referred to as 'the Society')

1.3. The Society is a legal entity registered as a Charity in the United Kingdom and governed by the laws of the United Kingdom

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. Advance the education of healthcare professionals in all aspects of treatment of paediatric eye disease, paediatric and adult strabismus and eyemovement disorders

2.2. Promote information exchange, debate and research in all aspects of paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus and publish useful results

3. MANAGEMENT

3.1. The general organisational administrative structure of the society is vested in two Executive Directors, an Executive Bureau and a Scientific Bureau

3.2. The two Executive Directors are the legal representatives of the Society. Executive Directors are appointed for 10 years initially and then 5 years renewable. An Executive Director can present for re-nomination as Executive Director by members of the Executive Bureau and will be re-appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Bureau. If an Executive Director does not wish re-nomination or if s/he fails to obtain a majority vote of the Executive Bureau at such re-nomination, the remaining Executive Director will call for nominations from the Executive Bureau membership for a new Executive Director and conduct a secret ballot.

3.3. The Executive Bureau consists of the two Executive Directors and three additional members. Initially these three members will be appointed by the two Executive Directors. The term of office of the three non-director members will be six years. After six years they can be re-elected or replaced by three members of the Scientific Bureau. Candidates can be self nominated or nominated by other members of the Scientific Bureau. The three candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected to the Executive Bureau. The responsibilities and duties of the Executive Bureau are to develop strategy and policy aimed to fulfil the objectives of the Society

3.4. The Executive Bureau will hold teleconferences a minimum of every two months to fulfil its responsibilities

3.5. If a non director member of the Executive Bureau fails to attend three consecutive tele-conferences or two consecutive Key Educational Forums (eg WCPOS, Paediatric Subspecialty day at ESCRS or any international forum organised by WSPOS) An executive subcommittee formed of the two Executive Directors and one other Executive Bureau member shall consider terminating the continuing membership of an Executive Bureau member. A replacement Executive Bureau member shall be selected by this sub-committee from the membership of the Scientific Bureau. The meetings of the sub-committee need not be minuted, and the determinations of the Executive sub-committee are final.

3.6. If a non-director member of the Executive Bureau demonstrates overtly or covertly a conflict of interest which is

deleterious to the aims and responsibilities of the Society, their position on the Executive and Scientific Bureaus will be terminated.

3.7. The Scientific Bureau will consist of 20 members. Fifteen ordinary members and five members of the Executive Bureau. Four years after WCPOS III (2015) 3 members of the Scientific Bureau will step down and they will be identified either by voluntary resignation or by drawing lots. Replacements for these three members will be appointed by the Scientific Bureau. Any member of WSPOS may serve as a member of the Scientific Bureau providing that their National/Regional Society or Chapter was affiliated with WSPOS before January 1st 2014. If a National/Regional Society or Chapter become affiliated with WSPOS after January 1st 2014 their members will be eligible to serve on the Scientific Bureau after a period of six years from their affiliation. At present the three positions to be filled will be appointed by the Executive Bureau. Any future elections to the Scientific Bureau must take into account a one member per country policy.

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3.8. The Scientific Bureau will appoint counsellors from among their members whose duties are outlined below. Counsellors will be elected for two years and may be re-elected for a further two years.

Scientific Counsellors: the role of the Scientific Counsellors is to counsel the Scientific Bureau about potential sites for WCPOS meetings and about potential collaborations with various Societies for symposia and KEFs

Cultural Counsellors: the role of the cultural counsellors is to counsel the Scientific Bureau and the Bureau of Ethics about potential issues with interactions in various parts of the world with KEPs, aRcs, and observorships.

Educational Counsellors: the role of educational counsellors is to counsel the Scientific Bureau about KOGHs, Observorships and Fellowships. Educational counsellors are also expected to liaise with NGOs and established forums (e.g. ICO) to increase opportunities for educational advancement.

Research Counsellors: the role of the research counsellors is to help develop areas of research collaboration (aRc's)

3.9 The Chair of the Scientific Bureau will be elected by the members of the Scientific Bureau

A majority is required for election. This election may be held electronically. The chair of the Scientific Bureau will serve a term of three years and may be re-elected for one further term of three years.

3.10. Responsibilities and duties of the Scientific Bureau shall include: Oversight of the ongoing academic, educational, ad research activities of WSPOS. The Bureau can create standing or ad hoc workgroups as needed. This oversight will include but not be limited to the planning of the World Congress of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, and other academic related sessions, research planning and priorities as well as policy making and journal production.

3.11 The Scientific Bureau will meet twice a year either in person or by teleconference to fulfil its responsibilities.

3.12 If a member of the Scientific Bureau fails to attend two consecutive meetings or two consecutive Key Educational

Forums (e.g WCPOS, Paediatric Sub-specialty day at ESCRS or any international symposium organised by WSPOS), an executive subcommittee formed of one Executive Director, the Chair of the Scientific Bureau and one other Scientific Bureau member shall consider terminating the continuing membership of the Scientific Bureau member

3.13 If a member of the Scientific Bureau demonstrates overtly or covertly a conflict of interest which is deleterious to the aims and responsibilities of the Society, their position on the Scientific Bureau will be terminated.

3.14 If an appointed counsellor within the Scientific Bureau fails to fulfil the responsibilities outlined in 3.8 he or she will be asked to resign from the Scientific Bureau.

3.15 The Bureau of Ethics is independent of the Scientific Bureau but has representation on the Scientific Bureau by way of its chair in a non-voting capacity. The Bureau of Ethics is comprised of the chair plus up to nine members – one member from each of the following regions: North America, South America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North Africa and Middle East, Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, Far East, Australasia. The inaugural chair of the

Bureau of Ethics will be invited by the Executive Officers. The chair will nominate members with the advice of the Executive Bureau. The Ethics Bureau will have the authority to review activities of the Society with reference to activities in research and education.

3.16 The Bureau of Ethics will meet once yearly either in person or by teleconference to fulfil its duties. If a member of the Ethics Bureau fails to attend two consecutive meetings he or she will be asked to resign from the Ethics Bureau.

4 MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership of WSPOS is confined to ophthalmologists, orthoptists, allied eye-health care workers, and scientists working in vision science or research who specialize in the field of paediatric ophthalmology and/or strabismus.

4.2 Membership of WSPOS is obtained through membership of an affiliated National or Regional Society or an affiliated WSPOS chapter. Where there are no regional societies individuals can join but will be encouraged to form a chapter.

4.3 All National or Regional Societies can become affiliated members of WSPOS. Membership of WSPOS is free of charge to all Societies and their members. In regions where there is no National/Regional Society with an interest in Paediatric Ophthalmology or Strabismus three or more individuals may form a chapter and become affiliated with WSPOS. All benefits accrued to affiliated National/Regional Societies will accrue to Chapters. In some exceptional circumstances a group of individuals may form a Chapter even if a National/Regional Society exists in their region. Three members are required to make application to the Executive Bureau whose decision will be final.

4.4 All members of WSPOS have voting rights in Society elections. Each vote from members whose National/Regional Society or Chapter have affiliated or begun the process of affiliation by October 1st 2013 will count as TWO votes. Those who have not yet completed the affiliation process have until January 1st 2014 to do so. Each vote from members whose National/Regional Society or Chapter were affiliated after January 1st 2014 or who have no National/Regional or Chapter affiliation will count as ONE vote. Societies or Chapters must be affiliated for THREE years before each vote counts as TWO votes in any election if they were not affiliated by January 1st 2014. All societies affiliated by January 1st 2014 will be known as Foundation Member Societies or Chapters

5. SCIENTIFIC MEETING

5.1 The Society shall hold a Scientific Meeting at least every three years and any scientific meetings, symposia or collaborations as deemed appropriate by the Scientific Bureau.

5.2 Each World Congress of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus will have a local host President who will guide and advise the Scientific Bureau and the Executive Bureau about matters pertaining to the host country, infrastructure and support. This person will be appointed by the Executive Bureau. The local host should be nominated by the local Society or the local City society.

6. PUBLICATIONS

6.1 The Society has the right to publish a scientific journal, magazine or any other publications in print or online as deemed necessary by the Scientific Bureau.

7. AMENDMENT of BYE LAWS

7.1 New bye laws may be adopted or the current bye laws amended by the decision of the Executive Bureau providing that any such amendments are not inconsistent with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society.