

World Society for Endoscopic Navigated and Minimal Invasive Spine Surgery Statutes

NAME - REGISTERED ADDRESS – AIMS

Article 1

The Society will be known as "WORLD SOCIETY FOR ENDOSCOPIC NAVIGATED and MINIMAL INVASIVE SPINE SURGERY" (abbreviated "WENMISS.") .The "WENMISS" is a non-profit making society. The life of the Society is unlimited.

This Society has been formed under applicable and legal Non Profit Corporation Acts for the public purposes described herein, and it shall be nonprofit and nonpartisan. No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall consist of the publication or dissemination of materials for the purpose of influencing legislation, nor shall the Society participate in any political campaign on behalf of or opposed to any candidate for public office.

The properties and assets of this Society are irrevocably dedicated to scientific and educational purposes. No part of the net earnings, properties or other assets of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, officer or to the benefit of any private person.

Article 2

The registered office of the Society is situated in London, United Kingdom.

Article 3

The aims and objectives of the Society are

3.1 To improve spine care worldwide.

3.2 To improve the quality of scientific knowledge and pursuit of excellence in patient care, among professionals in the field of **Endoscopic and/or Navigation and/or minimal invasive spine surgery** throughout the world by maintaining an organization dedicated to the exchange of ideas and dissemination of scientific facts concerning the spine.

3.3 To stimulate and offer a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas in the field of research, prevention and treatment of all spinal disorders and deformities with Endoscopic and/or Navigation and/or minimal invasive spine surgery as well as their related problems.

3.4 To improve communication with and support for scientists and clinicians in order to improve skills in the field of **Endoscopic and/or Navigation and/or minimal invasive spine surgery** .

3.5 To stimulate fundamental and clinical studies of these Endoscopic and/or Navigated and/or minimal invasive spine surgery techniques and to set safety standards and terminology in this field.

3.6 To coordinate efforts undertaken all over the world for further development in this field in order to improve the health and fitness of present and forthcoming generations.

Article 4

To fulfill these aims and objectives, the Society may organize the following activities:

4.1 : Scientific meetings to exchange knowledge and to enhance the development of new ideas.

4.2 : Design, organize and stimulate basic and clinical research.

4.3 : Outline priority in research.

4.4 : Organize postgraduate teaching programs and assist Universities in developing graduate and post-graduate teaching programs, and shall meet at scientific congresses at least once a year in different countries. The Society has all the rights of a legal status and can acquire and own any personal or real estate, which serves its ends, with respect to the applicable English laws.

MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 5 - MEMBERS

Classification of Members. The members elected to this Society shall be divided into four (4) classes.

The designation of such classes and the qualifications and rights of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

5.1 Member - This membership class shall be limited to MDs, DOs, PhDs and similar or equivalent designations from around the world who demonstrate continuing interest in the problems of the spine and the pursuits and affairs of the Society. Members are expected to devote at least 50% of their professional activities to spinal problems and meet other criteria for membership. The applicant must maintain high ethical standards. Annual payment of dues, as shall be established by the Executive Board is required. A member may vote and hold office in one or more roles. Members are strongly encouraged to attend at least one (1) WENMISS Congress or interim meeting every three (3) years; however, this attendance at least once in 2 years is mandatory. A new Member must be proposed by at least two Active Members.

5.2 In-training Member - In order to qualify as an in-training member, the applicant must submit a letter certifying his/her in-training status and signed by his/her department head.

An in-training member shall pay dues, may attend annual meetings and have voting rights but may not hold office. In selected cases, in-training members may be assigned a consultative role to the Executive or International Advisory Board. A new in training Member must be proposed by at least two Active Members.

5.3 Corporate Member – This category is for groups, corporations or other entities that conduct business in the spine field. This category may include device manufacturers, instrument makers, book publishers, tissue suppliers, pharmaceutical companies or suppliers or distributors of various other spine products. There are no voting rights.

5.4 Senior or Honorary Member – This category is for doctors or other interested parties who have retired from practice or who have a keen interest in improving spinal care and treatment. They may also be elected for their outstanding contributions to the Society. There are no voting rights.

5.5 Application to Membership

5.5a To apply for membership, two items must be submitted. First, is a completed application form, which shall include all contact information including e-mail address (if available); and second, a description of the applicant's role in the spine field. A curriculum vitae may be submitted as well. Applications may be submitted on-line or via the postal service, along with the appropriate fee.

5.5b Membership applications shall be decided by the Executive Board and submitted to the membership for review in the newsletter. In rare circumstances membership may be withheld, but only if there is due cause.

5.5c Membership shall terminate upon death, dissolution, non-payment of dues for a period of one (1) year or acceptance by the Board of resignation of a member. The Executive Board shall have the power to suspend or expel any member who no longer possesses the qualifications necessary for membership, or for other appropriate reasons. Membership is exclusively personal. The beneficiaries, successors of the dead members have no right at all to belong to the Society.

Article 6

The members are not personally responsible for the debts of the Society. The debts are exclusively guaranteed by the assets and liabilities of the Society. The Society is not responsible for the debts of its members.

Article 7

Members who have resigned or who have been expelled as well as any beneficiaries, successors, ... of dead members have no right to the official assets and liabilities.

Article 8

The official language of the Society is English. However at the meetings simultaneous translation may be provided.

Article 9
ORGANS OF THE SOCIETY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly :

9.1: May, when convened for that purpose, pass and amend the statutes by two third majority of all its members. The proposed amendments of the statutes will be sent to all members together with the written notice including the agenda.

.If such a quorum is not reached, a new General Meeting will be held which will in any case be competent to pass and amend the Statutes by two-third majority of the present votes (personally or represented by a valid proxy) .

9.2 : Determines the annual dues on proposal of the Executive Board.

9.3 : Takes all the decisions which are its own by law and/or by the present statutes.

9.4: Shall meet at least once a year at the Annual General Meeting . The meetings are proposed by the Executive Board.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board administers and represents the Society. Only Active Members working in the field may be elected to it.

It is composed of:

1. President
2. Head of Education and Research
3. 1st Vice-President
4. 2nd Vice-President
5. Immediate Past-President
6. General Secretary
7. Treasurer
8. Two Members at large if necessary for their special expertise.

Article 10

The meetings of the Executive Board shall be convened if necessary and also on request of three members of the Executive Board, by the President or, on his request or in case of illness or other obstacles, by the Vice President or another member of the Executive Board who replaces him, but at least once at the time of the Annual General Meeting and further as often as necessary.

Article 11

The members of the Executive Board shall be elected for a period of two years. They shall be ineligible for re-election to the same post except for the General Secretary and the Treasurer. The General Secretary and the Treasurer may assume two or more two-year terms.

Article 12

12.1 The Executive Board shall propose to the General Assembly the nominations for the vacant offices of the Executive Board for the next term.

12.2 The Executive Board shall receive the applications and resignations of membership and propose to the General Assembly the nomination of new members.

12.3 The Executive Board can propose new and/or changes of all Internal Rules to the General Assembly. These modifications will be approved by the following General Assembly .

12.4 The Executive Board may designate or appoint the persons who will have powers to represent the Society, even before the Courts, towards third parties and will grant to those persons the right to sign individually or collectively on behalf of the Society.

12.5 Decisions of the Executive Board shall be passed by a majority of the members present. In case of a tie, the President or his substitute shall have the casting vote.

12.6 In general, the Executive Board takes upon itself all tasks that are not reserved to the General Assembly by the law and/or these Statutes

12.7 In case of vacancy in the Executive Board, it may elect by cooption one new member who will continue until the next General Meeting.

FINANCES OF THE SOCIETY

Article 13

The revenues of the Society shall be

13.1 : Annual dues of Members.

13.2 : Contributions from International Organizations

13.3 : All other incomes, grants, legacies and gifts.

These revenues serve to cover the administration and running cost of the Society.

Article 14

The Executive Board may appoint a chartered accountant for a period of two years to audit annually the accounts of the Society . This appointment is renewable.

MISCELLANEOUS

Article 15

The Society may be dissolved by the General Assembly convened for the purpose, if 75 % of the members present or validly represented by proxy so agree.