

SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF PHYSICIANS

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The Society shall be called the Scottish Society of Physicians. Its objects shall be to encourage the study and discussion of clinical and scientific medical work and to promote research for the ultimate benefit of the public.
2. The Society shall consist of Ordinary, Retired and Honorary Members. Ordinary Members shall be physicians of consultant status, speciality doctors (including staff grade, associate specialists, general practitioners with a responsibility for acute admissions) in medical specialties or medical specialist trainees. Any qualified nurse or allied health professional whose main interest/area of work is in one of the medical specialties shall be eligible for Associate membership. For Ordinary and Associate membership, application should be to the Executive Committee for approval. All Ordinary Members shall resign at the end of the academic year in which they retire from clinical practice, but will be eligible to remain as Retired Members if so desired.
3. The Society may, at its Annual General Meeting, elect men or women of distinction in Medicine as Honorary Members.
4. The business of the Society shall be conducted by an Executive Committee consisting of a President, a President-elect, a Secretary, and eight Members. These Officers shall be elected *either* at the Annual General Meeting or by written election (email/post) in the interim via a poll amongst members.
5. The President shall be elected on the nominations of the Members resident in the region in which the following year's Annual Meeting will be held. He/she shall hold Office for one year and shall not be eligible for re-election.
6. The President-elect shall be elected on the nomination of the Members in the region in which the relevant Annual Meeting will be held. He/she shall hold Office for one year and will step into the role of President in the following year.
7. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting for a period for five years, and will be eligible for re-election.
8. Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a term of not exceeding four years. Two shall retire annually and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election. Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee shall be represented by at least one Member of Committee and at least two Members shall be representatives from hospitals elsewhere. One committee member should be a doctor in training. Any variation on this shall first be approved by the President, Treasurer and Secretary.
9. Members of the Society who have suggestions for co-operative research projects which might be undertaken by the Society should submit them, supported by a protocol, to the Executive Committee of the Society for consideration; the Executive Committee shall have the discretion to constitute an ad hoc committee of experts in the field and to allocate responsibility for the direction of the project to an individual or individuals.
10. The Annual Meeting shall be held in Scotland during the autumn in alternate years in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee in rotation and out with the 4 main cities in the intervening years. The meetings of the Society shall be conducted in a manner which promotes friendship among Scottish Physicians.
11. The President may appoint a Local Secretary to organise the Annual Meeting. The Local Secretary shall be invited to attend Executive Committee Meetings but shall not be entitled to vote thereat.

12. The business of the Annual Meeting shall include:
 - (a) A business meeting for the selection or ratification of Office-Bearers selected by Committee in between AGMs, New Members and Honorary Members; the presentation of accounts; the selection of the next place of Meeting; and any other competent business
 - (b) A Scientific Meeting for the presentation of original papers, original posters and overview lectures
 - (c) The Fitzgerald Peel Research Fellowship Prize to be awarded annually to the trainee making the best oral presentation.
 - (d) A Society Travel Fellowship may be awarded to the Fitzgerald Peel prize winner and to trainees whose work is selected for podium presentation. The Fellowship Award should be taken up in the calendar year following the date of the Award and should contribute towards travel which is approved by the President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer on behalf of the Executive.
 - (e) A Society poster prize to be awarded to the trainee making the best poster presentation.
 - (f) An invitation lecture entitled the Fitzgerald Peel Lecture to be given at the annual scientific meeting.
 - (g) Social activities including an annual dinner.
13. Presentations will take the form of oral communications, which will be selected from abstracts submitted to the executive committee in advance of the meeting; they shall not exceed twenty minutes in duration followed by a discussion.
14. The Executive Committee may, at their discretion, make arrangements for joint meetings with other Societies, or for extra meetings either within Scotland or elsewhere.
15. The subscription for Ordinary members shall be decided at the annual meeting. No subscription shall be due from Retired members.

Subscriptions shall be payable annually to the Treasurer after election to Ordinary membership. A member who is more than 12 months in arrears and has been notified thereof by the Treasurer or administrator shall, unless payment is made within one month of such notification, cease to be a Member of the Society.
17. The Constitution and Rules shall only be altered by a two-thirds majority of those present at an Annual General Meeting. Notice of any motion to amend the Constitution or to alter the Rules must be circulated to all members not less than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting.
18. None of the Society's assets may be distributed or otherwise applied (on being wound up or at any other time) except to further its charitable purposes.
19. If on the winding-up of the society any property remains after satisfaction of all the society's debts and liabilities, such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the society; that property shall instead be transferred to some other charity or charities (whether incorporated or unincorporated) whose objects are similar (wholly or in part) to the objects of the society.