

ARTICLES OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF MANUAL/MUSCULOSKELETAL MEDICINE

ARTICLE 1 - FORMATION OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF MANUAL/MUSCULOSKELETAL MEDICINE.

- 1.1 These articles apply to an academy formed by the membership of the FIMM International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine, which was made independent of FIMM as a consequence of a voting at the FIMM General Assembly, Varna, 12th September 2008. The Academy will be registered and located in Switzerland.

ARTICLE 2 – NAME

- 2.1 The name of the Academy shall be the International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine referred to below as “the Academy”.

ARTICLE 3 – AIMS OF THE ACADEMY

- 3.1 The aims of the Academy are:
 - 3.1.1 to enhance and develop scientific approaches that focus on musculoskeletal medicine related problems; and
 - 3.1.2 to encourage cooperation between scientists and teachers; and
 - 3.1.3 to encourage the implementation of evidence based diagnostic tests and treatments in the educational systems

ARTICLES 4 – MEMBERSHIP

4.1 The membership of the Academy shall comprise:

- 4.1.1 Members
- 4.1.2 Honorary members
- 4.1.3 Associate members

4.2 Eligibility

- 4.2.1 A Member must be a person active in musculoskeletal medicine or a related field, whose academic accreditation, in the opinion of the Science Board, includes appropriate experience in science or teaching
- 4.2.2 An Honorary Member must be a person of outstanding eminence in musculoskeletal medicine or a related discipline
- 4.2.3 An Associate Member must be a person or organisation that supports the Academy financially. An Associate member will not have voting rights

4.3 Election and Appointment

- 4.3.1 Members shall be elected by the Science Board or on its behalf by a Membership Committee appointed by the Science Board
- 4.3.2 Applications may be made
 - 4.3.2.1 By the applicant
 - 4.3.2.2 On the applicant’s behalf by a National Society (which in these Articles means a National Society, which is concerned with the promotion of Musculoskeletal Medicine), another member of the Academy or other medical association or association concerned with professions allied to Musculoskeletal Medicine
- 4.3.3 Honorary Members shall be elected by a unanimous vote of the Assembly of the Academy
- 4.3.4 Associate members shall be elected by the Executive Board of the Academy
- 4.3.5 The Academy shall not have a duty to give reasons for failing to elect any member in any

category of membership

4.4 Privileges and obligations

- 4.4.1 All classes of Member may attend general meetings, which shall be known as Assemblies
- 4.4.2 Members may submit papers for publication by the Academy. The Scientific Director shall have the right to accept or refuse such submissions
- 4.4.3 Members shall be entitled to vote in all Assemblies of the Academy and to hold office in the Academy
- 4.4.4 All members must promote the aims of the Academy as far as lies within their power
- 4.4.5 All ordinary members are obliged to pay an annual fee set by the Assembly of the Academy at the annual general meeting

4.5 Termination of Membership

- 4.5.1 Membership may be terminated by death, resignation or by the decision of the Science Board if, in its judgement, the member has:
 - 4.5.1.1 failed to perform its duties under Article 4.4.4 above
 - 4.5.1.2 acted against the aims and interests of the Academy or damaged its authority
 - 4.5.1.3 failed to pay the membership dues for the Academy for two consecutive years
 - 4.5.1.4 A Member whose membership has been terminated shall have the right of appeal to the Assembly of the Academy

ARTICLE 5 – DUES

5.1 Annual dues

- 5.1.1 The annual dues or subscriptions for Members shall be decided by the Assembly of the Academy, following recommendations by the Executive Board
- 5.1.2 No dues shall be payable by Honorary Members
- 5.1.3 Dues for Associate Members shall be determined by the Executive Board of the Academy

5.2 Payment of Annual dues

- 5.2.1 Membership dues shall be paid by bank direct debit, or such other means as the Treasurer shall determine
- 5.3 Exemption from annual dues
 - 5.3.1 No dues shall be payable by a member who has both attained the age of 70 and has completed 10 years continuous membership of the Academy

ARTICLE 6 – OFFICERS

6.1 Designation

- 6.1.1 The Officers of the Academy shall be Chairman, Scientific Director, Logistics Officer, Treasurer

6.2 Chairman

- 6.2.1 The Chairman shall be appointed by the Assembly of the Academy for a period of one year, but may be reappointed for a maximum term of four continuous years
- 6.2.2 The Chairman shall preside at all Assemblies and Executive Board meetings of the Academy

6.3 Scientific Director

- 6.3.1 The first Scientific Director shall be the person holding the office of Scientific Director of the former FIMM International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine, but will be

- eligible for election by the Assembly of the Academy for a further 3 years, and subsequent Directors for 4 years
- 6.3.2 The Scientific Director shall be the Chairman of the Science Board and shall deputise when necessary for the Chairman of the Academy
- 6.4 Logistics Officer
- 6.4.1 The Logistics Officer shall be appointed for a period of four years (but may be reappointed at the end of that term for further periods of four years) by the Assembly of the Academy, which may also remove this officer from office
- 6.4.2 The Logistics Officer's responsibilities shall include:
- 6.4.2.1 attendance at the Executive and Science Board meetings
- 6.4.2.2 provision of advice on Information technology
- 6.4.2.3 execution of all necessary activities relating to logistics
- 6.5 Treasurer
- 6.5.1 The Treasurer shall be appointed for a period of four years (but may be reappointed at the end of that term for further periods of four years) by the Assembly of the Academy, which may also remove this officer from office
- 6.5.2 The Treasurer shall be responsible for the management and investment of funds, collection of dues, making disbursements as approved by the Executive Board and preparing annual accounts for approval by the Academy
- 6.6 Remuneration
- 6.6.1 The offices of Chairman and Scientific Director are honorary and the holders shall not be entitled to any remuneration from the Academy save for travelling/subsistence allowances approved in advance by the Executive Board
- 6.6.2 The Treasurer shall be entitled to such remuneration as may be approved by the Executive Board

ARTICLE 7 – BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

7.1 Executive Board

- 7.1.1 The Executive Board shall consist of the Chairman of the Academy, the Scientific Director, the Logistics Officer and the Treasurer. It shall be chaired by the Chairman of the Academy
- 7.2 Science Board
- 7.2.1 The Science Board shall consist of the Scientific Director, the Logistics Officer and 9 members. It shall be chaired by the Scientific Director
- 7.2.2 The members of the first Science Board shall be the members of the Science Board of the former FIMM International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine subject to them being elected. The members of the Science Board shall be elected by the Assembly of the Academy for a period of one year. Any member of the Science Board may be reappointed for a maximum term of four continuous years including years as member of the Science Board of the FIMM International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine
- 7.2.3 The Science Board shall be responsible for:
- 7.2.3.1 all scientific and related educational matters
- 7.2.3.2 referral of appropriate scientific and educational material for publication in the Academy journal, currently "International Musculoskeletal Medicine" or, if appropriate, other reputable journals and on the Academy web site

7.3 Committees

- 7.3.1 The Executive Board may appoint such committees on such terms, as it considers appropriate

- 7.3.2 The Science Board may appoint such technical committees to assist in the carrying out of its functions on such terms as it considers appropriate
- 7.3.3 The Scientific Director may appoint technical committees to represent fields of interest, and (if deemed necessary) a Membership Committee

ARTICLE 8 – MEETINGS

8.1 Academy Assembly

- 8.1.1 The Academy shall hold one Assembly in each calendar year, which shall be the annual general meeting of the Academy
- 8.1.2 The business of the annual general meeting of the Academy will consist of:
 - a) receiving and considering the annual reports of the Executive Board for the previous financial year
 - b) receiving and considering the annual report of the Science Board for the previous financial year
 - c) receiving and considering, and if thought fit, accepting the financial accounts and the Treasurer's report for the previous financial year
 - d) determining the amount of the annual dues for Members
 - e) receiving and considering proposals presented to the Executive Board at least 1 month ahead of the Assembly
 - f) electing such Officers and Board members as may be required under these Articles
 - g) electing Honorary Members
 - h) electing an auditor
 - i) determining any appeal against termination of membership under Article 4.5.2 of these articles
 - j) such other business as may be approved in advance by the Chairman
- 8.2 The Academy may hold other Assemblies for such purposes and at such times as the Science Board shall determine
- 8.3 Except for the election of the Scientific Director under Article 6.3.2 of these Articles, every member present shall have one vote. Decisions will normally be taken by a show of hands, but a secret ballot may be held at the discretion of the chairman. Unless otherwise stated in these articles, all decisions will be made by simple majority. If the number of votes for and against any proposition, or the number of votes for more than one candidate for appointment are equal, the chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her ordinary vote
- 8.4 Notwithstanding Article 8.3, a resolution effecting a change in the Articles of the Academy whether at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting, shall not be carried unless it is supported by majority of not less than two-thirds of those members present and voting
- 8.5 Decisions of the Assembly shall be valid if one quarter of the membership (excluding associate members) is present. If insufficient members are present, the Assembly shall be adjourned to a date determined by the Chairman of the Assembly and not later than four weeks from the original Assembly. Decisions of the adjourned Assembly shall be valid whatever number of members is present
- 8.6 Written notice of not less than two months shall be given to all Members of every category for each Assembly
- 8.7 Committees appointed by the Executive Board will meet at the discretion of the Chairman
- 8.8 Committees appointed by the Science Board will meet at the discretion of the Scientific Director

- 8.9 Boards and Committees shall decide their own rules of procedure, and in default of such decision, the rules applying to Assemblies shall apply
- 8.10 The proceedings of the Academy, the Executive Board, the Science Board and any Committee of either Board shall not be invalidated by any defect in the election or qualification of any Member
- 8.11 The accidental omission to give or failure to receive notice of any Assembly or meeting of the Executive Board, the Science Board or any Committee of either Board shall not invalidate the proceedings of that Assembly or meeting

ARTICLE 9 – BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS

- 9.1 **The financial year of the Academy shall commence on the 1st day of January**
- 9.2 The Academy shall be financed by membership fees; by sales of publications; benefactors; by donations from associate members; by meetings and instructional courses; and any surplus arising from events held by the Academy
- 9.3 The Treasurer shall be responsible for recording the assets, income and expenditure of the Academy in properly drawn accounts. As soon as possible after the end of the Academy's financial year, the Treasurer shall submit the accounts to the Academy's auditor. The audited accounts, following approval by the Executive Board, shall be submitted for the approval of the Assembly at its annual general meeting
- 9.4 All moneys not required for immediate working purposes shall be invested in such investments as may be authorised by law for Trust or charitable funds

ARTICLE 10 – DISSOLUTION OF THE ACADEMY

- 10.1 The Academy shall be dissolved if, following consultation with the members of the Academy, its dissolution is approved by a majority of two-thirds of the Academy Assembly
- 10.2 If the Academy is dissolved, its remaining assets, after settlement of any debts, shall be transferred to such charity or public body, with similar aims and objectives to the Academy, as the Assembly shall decide

ARTICLE 11 – LAW AND JURISDICTION

- 11.1 These articles shall be read in accordance with the law of England and subject to the jurisdiction of the English court.

Unanimously accepted by the Academy Assembly, Prague, May 29th 2009.

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