



## **RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF OBESITY**

### **1. Interpretation**

In these rules:

“the Association” means the Association for the Study of Obesity; being a company limited by guarantee, registered Company No. 4796449, and which is also registered as a Charity No. 1100648

“the Rules” means these Rules made in accordance with Clause 62 of the Articles of Association of the Association

“the Committee” means the trustees and any standing Co-optees.

words importing the masculine sex only shall include the feminine sex and the singular shall include the plural

In the event of a conflict of interpretation between the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Association and these Rules then the Memorandum and Articles of Association shall prevail.

### **2. Members and Membership Subscriptions**

- a) Membership of the Association shall be open to scientists and healthcare professionals who are working or studying in the field of obesity and to others who have a particular professional interest in this area.
- b) Applications for membership shall be made to the ASO administrative office using a recognised application method/form prior to formal acceptance.
- c) The Committee shall have power to elect Honorary Members.
- d) The Committee may recommend the removal of a member from the Association if in their opinion the interests of the Association require it. The reasons for such proposed removal shall be stated in writing to that member and he may if he thinks fit state his case in reply in writing within a period specified by the Committee.
- e) Each individual member, with the exception of Honorary Members shall pay to the Association each year a subscription, the amount of such subscription to be determined at an Annual General Meeting of the Association and continuing in force until changed at a subsequent Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- f) Any Member whose subscription is in arrear in any year and who has been duly notified of the fact, shall, if the Committee see fit, cease to be a member of the Association.
- g) Any person who applies for membership of the Association shall be liable to pay the full subscription for that year, unless the Committee otherwise decides. A member resigning from the Association shall be liable for the payment of his annual subscription for the current year.

### **3. Membership Subscriptions categories:**

- a) Full Member
- b) Student Member



- (i) Membership of the Association shall be open to undergraduate and postgraduate students who are not earning a living wage. Student members shall have full membership rights.
- c) Honorary Member

#### 4. Powers of the Committee

- a) The Committee may appoint from their number unremunerated Officers of the Association. These shall be the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer.
- b) The Committee may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and, otherwise than by these Rules expressly provided, regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority vote. In case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- c) The Committee may from time to time appoint such standing or ad hoc sub-committees as may seem to them necessary.
- d) Any sub-committee appointed by the Committee may co-opt up to its own number of Members in an advisory capacity, but such co-opted Members shall not be entitled to vote at meetings of such a sub-committee.
- e) The Committee may from time to time appoint such co-optees as may seem to them necessary. Such co-optees will not have voting rights, nor the legal responsibilities of Trustees.
- f) The Committee shall have power to approve the appointment of such paid officials as may be thought necessary for the satisfactory conduct of the Association's business. No paid official of the Association, whether a member of the Association at the time of his appointment or not, shall hold any honorary post; or have the right to vote at any meeting of the Association; or of the Committee; or of its sub-committees; or in any ballot held by the Association.
- g) No business of the Committee shall be transacted at any meeting of the Committee unless a quorum is present and four shall constitute a quorum. The quorum of any sub-committee appointed by the Committee shall be the nearest whole number to 25 per cent of its voting membership
- h) The Chairman and the Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees appointed by the Committee.
- i) In the event that the number of Committee members present shall at any time be, or be reduced in number to less than a quorum, it shall be lawful for them to act for the purpose of admitting persons to membership of the Association, filling vacancies of Committee, or of summoning a General Meeting, but for no other purpose.
- j) The Committee may whenever they think fit direct the Officers to convene the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of members.
- k) The chairperson of the committee or a sub-committee meeting must ensure that minutes are taken and kept. The chairperson must ensure that the minutes are checked and are an accurate record of proceedings of the meeting. Minutes are considered confidential and restricted to only members of the Committee, until the Committee agree for them to be published.

- l) A Resolution in writing signed by all Committee members or members of any sub-committee of the Committee who are entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Committee or a sub-committee of the Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of Committee or such a sub-committee duly convened and constituted.
- m) All acts bona fide done by any meeting of the Committee or of any sub-committee of the Committee or by any person acting as a member of the Committee shall, notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any such Trustee or person, acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified, be as valid as if every person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office and was qualified to be a Trustee.

## 5. **Chairman**

The Chairman of all General Meetings of members, meetings of the Committee, or meetings of Officers shall be the Chairman of the Association. In the absence of the Chairman of the Association those present shall nominate a person to act as Chairman.

## 6. **Finances**

- a) The funds and assets of the Association shall be derived from annual subscriptions of members, meetings attendance fees, donations, grants and other endowments accepted by the Committee on behalf of the Association. These shall be administered for the furtherance of the objects of the Association by the Treasurer, acting on the instructions of the Committee.
- b) The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually. The appointment of auditors shall be decided upon at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- c) All reasonable travel, accommodation and any other expenses properly incurred in connection with attendance at any meetings or with the discharge of any duties in conducting the Association's business but otherwise no remuneration, may be paid to trustees and members of any standing or ad-hoc committee appointed by the Committee

## 9. **General and Scientific Meetings**

- a) Scientific meetings shall be arranged by the Committee or designated members and shall be relevant to the Objects of the Association. A scientific meeting may follow or precede any General Meeting.
- b) The Committee may invite any scientific or professional society to participate in a scientific meeting or accept any invitation to participate from another scientific or professional society.
- c) The Committee may submit bids to host European or International Congresses of Obesity
- d) Meetings of the Association are private and proceedings may not be communicated to the media without the consent of the Committee

## 10. **Amendment**

These Rules may be amended in accordance with the provision of the "Memorandum and Articles of Association".

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## Document Control

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Prepared By	Dr David Hughes - ASO Secretary
Approved By	
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### Status Control

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