



IAPD
International Association
of Paediatric Dentistry

CONSTITUTION

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Second Council consent - Athens 31/5/1989

Amended
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CONSTITUTION

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1 **ARTICLE I - NAME**

- 2
- 3 1. The Association shall be known as “The International Association of Paediatric
 - 4 Dentistry” (IAPD), hereafter in this text, also as “the Association”.
 - 5 2. The International Association of Paediatric Dentistry shall be an independent,
 - 6 non-political, and non-profit making organization.

7 **ARTICLE II - LEGAL HEADQUARTERS**

- 8
- 9 1. The headquarters of the IAPD and its Secretariat are located in Genève.
 - 10
 - 11 2. The location of the Association may be changed under the following conditions:
 - 12 a) Well-founded proposal put forward by the Board with the approval of 2/3 of its
 - 13 members.
 - 14 b) This proposal shall be submitted to the next Council Meeting following the Board
 - 15 Meeting at which the proposal was made for approval by 2/3 of the members
 - 16 present at the time the vote is taken.

17 **ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES**

18

19 The objectives of IAPD shall be as follows:

- 20
- 21 1. To constitute a forum for the exchange of international information concerning
 - 22 Paediatric Dentistry.
 - 23
 - 24 2. To contribute to the progress and promotion of oral health for children and
 - 25 research in this field.
 - 26
 - 27 3. To arrange scientific meetings.

28

29 The International Association of Paediatric Dentistry is an independent, non-

30 political, and non-profit making organization and shall refrain from making political

31 statements in support of any particular stakeholder or remarking on any particular

32 situation in any part of the world. The association stands against any action that

33 may endanger the well-being of children and their caretakers around the globe.

34 **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERS**

35

36 1. Membership of the Association shall consist of:

37

38 a) **National-Member Societies:** National Societies of Paediatric Dentistry or
39 specialized sections of National Dental Associations devoted to child oral health.

40 A nation can be represented by only one National Society or Section.

41 b) **Individual Members:** Any legally qualified dentist who is interested in paediatric
42 dentistry.

43 c) **Honorary Members:** The Association may confer Honorary Membership on a
44 limited number of distinguished persons, who have made extraordinary
45 contributions toward the realisation of the objectives of the Association.

46 d) **Senior Members:** Retired members, having attained 65 years of age, and who
47 no longer work in private practice, university or hospital are eligible for this
48 membership.

49 e) **IAPD Supported Members:** Membership in this category applies to those
50 applying for IAPD individual membership from low-income countries.

51 f) **Postgraduate Student Members:** Students in postgraduate paediatric dental
52 studies at a university or hospital are eligible for this membership.

53 g) **Affiliate members:** Non-paediatric dental organizations and other
54 organisations that have an interest in dental care for children may affiliate with
55 IAPD.

56

57 2. The admission of National-Member Societies shall be approved by a two-thirds
58 majority of those Council Members present and voting.

59

60 3. It is the obligation and responsibility of National-Members Societies to pay
61 annual dues payments

62

63 4. A National-Member Society wishing to withdraw from membership of the
64 Association is required to give written notice to the Secretary General six months
65 prior to termination of membership

66

67 5. An Individual or National-Member Society allegedly violating the Constitution
68 can be suspended by the majority of those Council Members present and voting,
69 until his or her final exclusion is decided upon. This member shall have received
70 written notice from the Secretary General on behalf of the Board of Directors
71 three months prior to the suspension. Such written notice shall state the reasons
72 for the suspension and thereby will offer the opportunity of presenting a defence.
73 The defence reply shall be submitted to the Secretary General and the Chair of
74 the Membership Committee within 60 days of notification of the effective
75 suspension by the Council. Such reply shall be examined by the Membership
76 Committee, which shall present its final recommendation at the next Council
77 Meeting at which a simple majority shall either revoke the suspension thereby
78 acquitting the accused or turn the suspension into definite exclusion.

79

80 6. In case of an application for reinstatement of membership from a former
81 National-Member Society or Individual Member, the application cannot be
82 considered until at least one year's dues of the existing debt has been settled or
83 a special arrangement made with the Secretary General.

84

85 7. An Individual Member whose annual dues are 6 months in arrears shall be
86 notified of this by the secretariat and shall be unable to exercise the rights and
87 privileges of an Individual Member until all outstanding dues have been paid.

88 **ARTICLE V - COUNCIL AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

89

90 1. The Council shall consist of one voting Delegate representing each National-
91 Member Society. A National-Member Society may nominate an alternate
92 delegate who can attend the Council Meeting and who will only vote if the
93 Delegate is absent. All voting delegates to Council must hold current Individual
94 Membership in IAPD.

95

96 2. The Council shall be chaired by the President of IAPD.

97

98 3. The Council possesses full power to pursue the objectives of the Association.

99

100 4. Council Meetings shall be held at least every other year on the occasion of an
101 International Congress. The place and date of both meetings shall be decided
102 at the previous meeting.

103

104 5. The Secretary General shall send a written invitation to all National-Member
105 Societies eligible to send representatives to the Council Meeting and to all Board
106 and Committee Members, at least 6 months in advance of the Meeting.

107

108 6. An Agenda shall be sent at least 3 months in advance of the Meeting. Special
109 Council Meetings may be held at the discretion of the Board of Directors or by
110 written request from at least one-third of the National-Member Societies of the
111 Association.

112

113 7. A National-Member Society can be represented at the Council Meeting by
114 another National-Member Society. In such instances, a letter of authorization
115 shall be required. A Member can only be responsible for the vote of one absent
116 National-Member Society. One-third of the National-Member Societies shall
117 constitute a quorum.

118

119 8. With the exceptions stated in the Constitution and By-Laws, decisions shall be
120 made by a simple majority among the National-Members represented at the
121 Council Meeting. If the number of votes is equal, the president shall have the
122 option of casting the deciding vote, otherwise the motion lapses.

123

124 9. The Secretary General on behalf of Council shall be obliged to present a review
125 of the activities of the Association at each congress.

126

127 10. Affiliate Members shall be entitled to be represented by one delegate at Council
128 meetings without the right to address Council or vote.

129 **ARTICLE VI -BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

130

131 1. The Board of Directors will be entrusted with the management and
132 administration of the Association and shall be composed of:

133

- 134 The President
- 135 The President-Elect
- 136 The Immediate Past President
- 137 The Secretary General
- 138 The Editor
- 139 Four Elected Representatives for National-Member Societies.

140

141 2. All the above mentioned, shall have the right to vote at the meetings of the Board
142 of Directors, although the President, as Chairperson, will always abstain from
143 voting unless the vote is tied.

144

145 3. The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Council. The
146 Secretary General, the Editor, and the Elected Representatives may be elected
147 to succeed themselves. Elected Representatives may serve for a maximum of
148 four years. The Secretary General and the Editor may serve for a maximum of
149 eight years. Neither the President nor the Immediate Past-President can be
150 elected to succeed themselves.

151

152 4. The President, President Elect, Past President and Secretary General shall
153 compose the Executive Committee, to work on pressing issues of IAPD in need
154 of decision. The committee may call upon Past-Presidents and Past-Secretary
155 Generals as needed and report to the Board their inclusion in the committee.
156 Critical decisions made should be reported to the Board of Directors at the next
157 Board meeting. Executive meetings may be called at any time by the President
158 or Secretary General.

159

160 5. Any member of the Board of Directors may be suspended immediately from his
161 or her position on the Board by a majority vote of the Board. This decision must
162 be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the members present at the next Council
163 meeting.

164

165 6. The Board of Directors shall meet formally at least once a year, the place and
166 time of meeting shall be determined at the previous Board Meeting and formal
167 notices and sent out by the Secretary General at least 3 months in advance of

168 the meeting. The detailed agenda and working papers will follow at least 4
169 weeks prior to the meeting. A member of the Board of Directors may be
170 represented by another member of the Board at a Board Meeting, who may vote
171 on his/her behalf. The intention to be represented by another Board member
172 must be submitted in writing to the Secretary General before the meeting. A
173 Board member can function as only one proxy in addition to his/her own vote.

174

175 7. Except for special cases stated in the constitution, a vote will be approved by a
176 simple majority of the Board Members.

177

178 8. The members of the Board of Directors shall be invited to participate in the
179 Council Meeting on a consultative basis, but shall not have the right to vote, with
180 the exception of the President, in the case of a tie. However, a member of the
181 Board who is also representing a National-Member Society retains his or her
182 privilege to vote.

183

184 9. The Editor shall be responsible to represent the Association's interests in the
185 publication of the International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry.

186

187 10. In the event of a vacancy in any of the Board of Directors positions, the
188 BOD shall act in the manner described in the By-Laws.

189

190 11. The IAPD shall indemnify and hold harmless any IAPD Board Member, member
191 of IAPD Committees, agent or representative against all claims and liabilities
192 and all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, reasonably incurred or
193 imposed upon such persons in connection with or resulting from any action, suit
194 or proceeding, or the settlement or compromise of any action taken or to such
195 persons at the time such liabilities, costs or expenses are imposed or incurred
196 and, in the event of such person's death, shall extend to such person's legal
197 representatives.

198 **ARTICLE VII - BUDGETS AND ACCOUNTS**

199

- 200 1. The annual dues payable to the Association shall be based on the total
201 membership in a National-Member Society, in accordance with the agreed
202 formula voted upon by Council.
203
- 204 2. The accounts of the Association shall be drawn up by the 31st of December
205 each year. The accounts shall be presented by the Secretary General to the
206 Board of Directors annually at Board meetings.
207
- 208 3. On alternate years, the accounts shall be presented by the Secretary General
209 to the Council Meeting.
210
- 211 4. Accounts shall be audited annually. Accounts presented to Council shall be
212 audited by a professional accounting firm. Accounts presented to the Board at
213 an interim meeting may be audited by the Finance Committee or a professional
214 accountant.
215
- 216 5. Subject to a satisfactory financial situation of the Association, members of the
217 Board of Directors shall be entitled to claim travel and related expenses for
218 journeys on behalf of IAPD that have been approved in advance by the
219 Secretary General and the President.

220 **ARTICLE VIII - BY-LAWS**

221
222 The Constitution shall be supplemented with By-Laws approved by the Council.

223 **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES, BY-LAWS, AND STANDING**
224 **ORDERS**

- 225
226 1. A suggested amendment made by a National-Member Society and seconded
227 by another National-Member society shall be sent to the Secretary General at
228 least 90 days prior to the Council Meeting and reviewed by the Constitution
229 Review Committee. The committee shall then refer its recommendation to the
230 Board of Directors. If approved, the amendment shall be brought to vote at the
231 Council meeting. The amendments shall be sent by the Secretary General to
232 National Members at least 60 days prior to the Council meeting.
233

234 2. Amendments to the Constitution shall be adopted when approved by 2/3 of the
235 National-Member Societies present and voting at two consecutives Council
236 Meetings.

237

238 3. Amendments to the By-Laws shall be adopted when approved by 2/3 of the
239 National-Member Societies present and voting at one Council Meeting.

240

241 4. Amendments to the Standing Orders shall be adopted by a vote of the majority
242 of the Board of Directors. Any changes in the Standing Orders will be reported
243 to the Council Meeting.

244 **ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

245

246 1. Propositions concerning the dissolution of the Association may emanate from
247 Board of Directors or from the Council. The Board of Directors shall give written
248 notice to the National-Member Societies, in the case of such proposition, no less
249 than 60 days before the Council Meeting.

250

251 2. No decision on dissolution of the Association will be adopted unless voted at
252 two consecutive Council Meetings by a two-thirds majority of the existing
253 National-Member Societies.

254

255 3. The Council on the recommendation of the Board of Directors will determine the
256 ways to accomplish the dissolution of the Association.

257

258 4. After it has been dissolved, it is up to the Council to decide in which tax-exempt,
259 public-interest, Swiss-based institution with identical or similar mission to place
260 the remaining capital. Returning the capital to members is prohibited.

261

262 **ARTICLE XI - GENERAL DISPOSITIONS**

263

264 The official language of the Association shall be English. The Council has the right
265 to add further to the list of official language(s).