

The European Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery Articles of Association

1. The Foundation

- 1.1. The European Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (EATES) was founded on the 28th May 1993.
- 1.2. The headquarters was originally located in Athens but the association is now pan-European.
- 1.3. The name of the association is the European Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery.
- 1.4. For convenience, the association is known as EATES.

2. The Aims of the Association

- 2.1. The aims of the association are:
 - To promote training and continuing medical education in emergency surgery, trauma surgery, pre hospital care, intensive care and in areas relating to the above, by organizing academic meetings and practical courses on a regular basis.
 - To propagate clinical and basic research in these core subjects.
 - To apply protocols using best medical practice to diagnosis and treat emergency surgical and trauma patients.
 - To facilitate exchange of information and to encourage interdisciplinary networking with those specialties that relate to trauma and emergency surgery.
 - To facilitate practical courses and programs to assist practitioners.
 - To promote meetings on a regular basis. (Meetings may not be held less frequently than bi-annually.)

3. Membership

- 3.1. The association is made up of founder and ordinary members.
- 3.2. "Founder members" are those that joined the association before 31st May 1993. Those joining after this date are termed "ordinary members".
- 3.3. Applications for membership of the association are submitted to the board of directors with the appropriate fee for membership.
- 3.4. The membership fee is payable on joining the association and subsequently on the first day of January each year. Failure to pay the fee after a reminder, results in termination of membership for the following year.
- 3.5. The rights of membership of the Association:-
 - to vote at the General Assembly,
 - to receive the Association's Publication at a reduced rate

- to attend the bi-annual meeting of the Association at a reduced rate
- to stand for membership of the board

4. General Assembly

- 4.1. All member of the association shall be members of the general assembly.
- 4.2. The membership fee is agreed by the General Assembly of members, and is discussed at the bi-annual meetings.
- 4.3. Decisions by the general assembly shall be decided on the majority of votes cast amongst voting members. Only positive and negative votes will be considered when counting. Voting may take place by correspondence and by written proxy. Block voting by groups is forbidden.
- 4.4. The members of the general assemble are responsible for appointing a general secretary every six years and a vice president every two years. The vice president automatically becomes president for a two year term after the vice-presidency.
- 4.5. Members with specific expertise, merit and excellence may be co-opted on to the board after election by the general assembly. They will not have entitlement to vote but will be encouraged to advise the committee.

5. The Board of Directors

- 5.1. The board of directors will consist of ten members of the Association, made up of,
 - The president (Voting)
 - The vice president (who is also the president elect) (Voting)
 - The general secretary to the board (Voting)
 - The treasurer (Voting)
 - The immediate past president (Voting)
 - Five other members (Voting)
- 5.2. Non voting members (including previous presidents and co-opted members) may be included on the Board.
- 5.3. Members of the board of directors shall be elected by the general assembly of founding and ordinary members.
- 5.4. Decisions by the board of directors shall be determined by the majority of votes amongst voting members. Only positive and negative votes will be considered when counting. Voting may take place by correspondence and by written proxy. The president will have a casting vote if a decision is hung.
- 5.5. Members of the board of directors shall represent different countries and no country may have more than two representatives.
- 5.6. Members of the board of directors will be appointed for two years and may be re-elected for a further two-year term of office, with the exception of the general secretary, whose term of office is six years (non-renewable) and the treasurer whose term of office is four years

(renewable). The general secretary and treasurer may serve in other board roles.

- 5.7. The board of directors is responsible for the implementation of the aims of the association.
- 5.8. The board of directors are responsible for recommending a vice president to the general assembly every two years.
- 5.9. The board of directors shall appoint a treasurer from the members of the board who will serve for a four-year, renewable term of office.
- 5.10. The association is represented by the president or by the vice president of the society.
- 5.11. The board of directors is authorized to cooperate in confederations, unions or networks with other associations, institutes, national and international scientific societies with similar aims and to have associations with other journals involving the core subjects of the society. These should be subsequently ratified by the general assembly.

6. Duties of office holders

The general secretary

- 6.1. The general secretary will be responsible for secretarial affairs for a six year term of office.
- 6.2. The general secretary will remain a voting member of the board but will not be eligible for re-election as secretary.
- 6.3. The general secretary will implement the decisions of the board of directors and is responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the association.
- 6.4. The general secretary is responsible for the minutes of all official meetings and for maintaining the association's web site.

The treasurer (four years – renewable)

- 6.5. The treasurer will submit an annual report to the board of directors for approval and will be responsible for presenting the audited accounts of the previous year's activity.
- 6.6. The treasurer will work closely with the president and the secretary and will establish a system of updating membership and for ensuring payment of fees on a regular (yearly) basis.

The president and vice president

- 6.7. The president will serve a term of office of two years and will then pass on the presidency to the vice-president. A new vice president should then be elected from the general assembly who will also be president-elect.
- 6.8. The assembly and the board are chaired by the president of the association.

- 6.9. The president shall convene the general assembly every two years but may hold an extraordinary general meeting upon the request of one third of its current general membership or the majority of the board.
- 6.10. The president takes overall responsibility for representing the association.
- 6.11. The president will take up office at the bi-annual meeting.
- 6.12. The vice-president will represent the president if not present.

7. The association's journal

- 7.1. The official journal of the association is Injury, published by Elsevier. Should there be a majority vote, which is half plus one of those having the right to vote, to change or to augment the official journal with another, then this may be reviewed.

8. Dissolution of the association

- 8.1. In the case of the dissolution of the association or cessation of its activity for whatever reason, all residual assets shall be devolved to other associations, foundations or bodies having similar aims as the association, as chosen by the majority of the board.
- 8.2. No reimbursements shall be made to any member.