

# **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE FLORIDA UROLOGICAL SOCIETY**

Amended May 11, 1974 Corrected November 11, 1974

Amended November 11, 1982

Amended October 13, 1988

Amended October 18, 1992

Amended October 10, 1993

Amended September 28, 1995

Amended September 19, 1998

Amended December 1, 2001

Amended September 1, 2002

Amended August 30, 2003

Amended November 21, 2004

Amended March 3, 2005

Amended August 31, 2006

Amended August 31, 2008

Amended September 2, 2010

Amended September 2011

Amended September 2012

Amended September 2013

Amended September 2016

Amended September 2018

Amended August 2019

Amended September 2022

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Florida Urological Society.

## **ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this Society shall be to bring into one organization those who are interested in the promotion and advancement of the practice of urology in the State of Florida and to provide meetings for the full and frank interchange of views concerning this branch of medical science.

Mission Statement: *“The primary mission of the FUS is to provide an educational, political, social and economic advisory forum as well as a common voice for all urologists in the state of Florida.”*

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The membership of this society shall be composed of Active, Associate, Honorary, Resident, and Senior members, APPs and Administrators.

Section 2. The basic requirements for Active membership in the Florida Urological Society shall be:

- (a) Receipt of an M.D. or D.O. degree at least five years before membership that is not subject to any restrictions, conditions or limitations.
- (b) The applicant shall be required to have completed a residency program which shall consist of

a minimum of four (4) years of clinical postgraduate education of which 3 years was in Clinical Urology

(c) The applicant shall be or has been a diplomat of the American Board of Urology or the American Board of Osteopathic Board of Surgery, or be eligible to sit for either exam and provide proof of same.

(d) Associate members who have been members in good standing for two (2) consecutive years but otherwise do not meet current requirements for full membership may request the Executive Committee to consider transfer to Active membership. The Executive Committee can approve such transfer through a two-thirds majority vote.

(d) Endorsement of the applicant by two (2) members of the Florida Urological Society. The members shall forward confidential letters concerning the applicant to either the Secretary or Chairman of the Membership Committee. If the applicant is a member in good standing in the American Urological Association (AUA) and the Southeastern Section of the AUA, Inc. (SESAUA), letters of endorsement will be waived.

(e) Attend an annual meeting within two years following the filing of his/her application.

(f) Limit practice to teaching or clinical practice of urology.

(g) Society members will be encouraged to join Florida Medical Association.

(h) The Florida Urological Society will offer a 1-year complimentary introductory membership to any urologist who has graduated residency or fellowship within 3 years of starting his or her practice.

(i) Physicians in Military or Government Service who can fulfill all the basic requirements for admission may apply for Active or Associate membership.

### Section 3. **Associate Members**

(a) Physicians residing within or outside of the State of Florida, and who limit their practice or have a special interest in urology, may be nominated for Associate membership.

(b) Application for Associate membership must be recommended by the Membership Committee and endorsed by the Executive Committee. Associate members who have been members in good standing for two (2) consecutive years but otherwise do not meet current requirements for full membership may request the Executive Committee to consider transfer to Active membership. The Executive Committee can approve such transfer through a two-thirds majority vote.

(c) Associate members may apply for Active membership by making application for change of status on the proper form furnished by the Secretary, and submitting the necessary letters of recommendation, if applicable. Physicians applying for change of status from Associate to Active membership must fulfill all the requirements of Active membership.

(d) Associate members shall pay the initiation fee, dues and assessments as determined by the Executive Committee. They shall not be eligible for office or have the right to vote.

(e) Urological residents may apply for Associate membership and may be elected upon completion

of an application and receipt of recommendation from the Chief of the residency program. This membership will terminate one year following completion of the residency. Resident Associate members shall pay a \$10.00 application fee and shall be exempt from subsequent dues and assessments. They shall not be eligible for office or have the right to vote.

#### **Section 4. Honorary Members**

- (a) Active members of the Society who have achieved a generally acknowledged prominence, as a result of their outstanding ability in urology, may be nominated for Honorary membership.
- (b) Guest speakers or scientists who have worked for the interests of urology may be nominated for Honorary membership.
- (c) The Immediate Past President shall be responsible for seeking candidates to be nominated for Honorary membership.
- (d) Honorary members who had previously been Active members of our Society shall retain their previous rights in the Society, but other Honorary members shall have no right to vote or hold office.
- (e) Other individuals may be elected to Honorary membership if approved by the Immediate Past President of the Society and the Executive Committee.
- (f) Honorary members will be given a membership certificate of the Society.
- (g) Honorary members will be exempt from dues and assessments.

#### **Section 5. Candidate Members (Residents and Fellows)**

- (a) Requirements:
  - 1. Application for Membership
  - 2. Enrollment in a resident or fellowship program credentialed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or such similar body in state of Florida or Puerto Rico
  - 3. Good standing within residency or fellowship program as deemed by Program director (Approval Letter)
  - 4. A willingness to participate in responsibilities assigned by the Society
- (b) Candidate Members shall have no right to vote or hold office, with the exception of the Candidate Member Representatives elected to the Society Board of Directors as set forth in the Bylaws.
- (c) Candidate Members shall be eligible upon request for elevation to Active Membership upon completion of residency or fellowship.
- (g) Society members will be encouraged to join Florida Medical Association
- (h) Urology residents who complete residency or fellowship training in good standing and who have been candidate members in good standing may have their candidate membership

converted to active status upon completion or their training and approval of the membership committee and endorsement of the executive committee.

## Section 6. **Senior Members**

- (a) Senior members who meet all of the following criteria are eligible for Senior Membership status:
  - i. Retired, permanently disabled or have reached 65 years of age AND
  - ii. Have been active members of the Society for a minimum of twenty (20) years.
- (b) Applications for transfer from Active to Senior membership status shall be approved by the Executive Committee upon receipt of a written request of the individual.
- (c) Senior members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active members, including the right to hold office.
- (d) Senior members shall be dues exempt, but will be required to pay registration fees, meal costs and social activity fees at Society meetings.

## Section 7. **APP**

- (a) APP membership is available to physician assistants and nurse practitioners specializing in urology and not otherwise eligible for membership in the FUS. Application and renewal of membership requires sponsorship by an active or senior member of the FUS. APP members shall have all the privileges of active membership but cannot hold office or vote. Dues and assessments will be established by the Executive Committee.

## Section 8. **Administrators**

- (a) Administrator membership is available to practice administrators of practices specializing in urology and not otherwise eligible for membership in the FUS. Application and renewal of membership requires sponsorship by an active or senior member of the FUS. Administrator members shall have all the privileges of active membership but cannot hold office or vote. Dues and assessments shall be established by the Executive Committee.

## Section 9. **Election of Members**

Election of members shall be by ballot only after endorsement by the Membership Committee and the Executive Committee. Before an applicant may be considered by the Membership Committee, he shall have placed on file within the Society, a properly executed application and letters of recommendation from two members of the Florida Urological Society in good standing, if applicable. The Membership Committee must ascertain the qualifications of the applicant with conformation correspondence with his medical school, internship, and urological residency.

It is necessary that the applicant receive a majority of votes cast by those members present at the meeting at which his application is presented.

## Section 10. **Membership Notification**

Each member, upon election to membership, shall be notified by the Secretary and furnished with a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and a roster of the Florida Urological Society.

#### **Section 11. Military Service Leave of Absence**

Members who are entering active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States may, upon their request, be granted leave of absence status. Members of this status shall have no vote and will not be required to pay dues. Upon resumption of such a member's private practice, the member shall notify the Secretary in writing, and leave of absence status automatically shall terminate and the member shall resume his former status.

#### **Section 12. Resignation and Reinstatement**

Any member who has complied with all the requirements of the bylaws during the life of his or her membership may resign by written notification to the Secretary of the Society who shall officially acknowledge the receipt thereof.

Any member who has resigned or whose membership has been deleted for nonpayment of dues, or for other reason, may, after payment of any back dues owed, request reinstatement, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the Society shall be the President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Secretary-Treasurer Elect, who serve one-year terms, the Historian, who shall hold office for a two year term and an Executive Committee of six members, who shall hold office for a two year term. The current Geographical Representatives serving on the SESAUA Board of Directors from the State of Florida will serve as voting members of the FUS Board of Directors. The Alternates(s) will be considered voting Board member(s) only when the elected representative(s) is not present to vote. The officers shall make necessary arrangements for the interim and annual meeting under the direction of the President.

Section 2. Candidates for office shall be Active members in good standing. They must be nominated by the Nominating Committee as designated in Article VII, Section 8 or nominated from the floor of the Annual Meeting and elected by the majority of the members present and voting.

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of the transactions of the Society, and shall render a report of the physical and financial condition of the Society at each annual meeting. He also shall secure a suitable place for the meeting to be held three years from the time of his election as Secretary- Treasurer.

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer Elect shall assist the Secretary-Treasurer with the duties outlined in Article IV Section 3 and shall ascend to the position of Secretary-Treasurer following their one year term of Secretary-Treasurer Elect.

Section 5. Vacancies in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer and Secretary-Treasurer Elect may be filled by the Executive Committee for the unexpired term.

## **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held each year on a date selected by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Upon invitation, this Society may hold joint meetings with similar associations from Florida or other states.

Section 3. A scientific program shall be presented at least once a year, under the direction of the Program Committee. Invitations may be extended to nonmembers to take part in the scientific programs of this Society.

## **ARTICLE VI: FUNDS AND EXPENSES**

Section 1. Funds for meeting the expenses of the Society shall be derived from annual dues, assessments not to exceed the annual dues of anyone year, and/or voluntary contributions.

Section 2. The annual dues for membership shall be determined by the Society at the annual meeting, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee. Dues will be payable within thirty days of receipt of notice from the Secretary/Treasurer. Notice of dues will be mailed during the first month of the calendar year. New members shall pay initiation fee which shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Monies shall be set aside each year by the Society for social functions and the amount shall be determined by the Executive Committee and officers.

Section 4. Dues must be paid annually by the members. Members delinquent after June 30 shall be declared delinquent. Delinquent members will be contacted. Members delinquent in payment of dues at the end of the due's year will be notified, at their last known address, that they are no longer in good standing and therefore, shall not exercise any of the rights and privileges of membership. Any member not in good standing because of nonpayment of dues may be reinstated any time during that year, by majority vote of the Council and payment of indebtedness. Any members who has resigned or whose membership has been deleted for non-payment of dues, or for other reason, may, after payment of any back dues owed, request reinstatement, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall employ an Executive Secretary. He shall carryout the routine duties of the office under the direction of the Officers of the Society. The Executive Secretary's compensation shall be determined annually by the Executive committee.

## **ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The following standing committees of the Society shall be appointed by the President:

(a) Membership, (b) Auditing, (c) Program, (d) Legislative/ Government Policy (e) Bylaws, (f) Education, (g) Website, (h) Young Urologists, and (i) Past Presidents Advisory.

Section 2. The Membership Committee shall be composed of the chair and up to three members, whose duty it shall be to pass upon all applications for membership and render a report to the Society.

Section 3. The Auditing Committee shall consist of two members who shall go over the accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer and report to the Society at the Annual Meeting. One of the members must be an officer of the Association.

Section 4. The Program Committee shall consist of the chair and up to three members whose duty it shall be to provide suitable scientific programs for the Society.

Section 5. The Legislative/Government Policy Committee shall consist of a Chairman and up to one additional member whose duties shall be to establish legislative initiative of particular concern to the Florida Urological Society and to report annually to the Executive Committee.

Section 6. The Bylaws Committee shall consist of a chairman and up to one additional member whose duties shall be to perform an annual review of existing Society bylaws with recommendations to the Executive Committee for changes, deletions and additions.

Section 7. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) Members. These are the three (3) most recent living Past Presidents and two (2) at-large Members who are Active Members of the Florida Urological Society. The At-Large Members are nominated and elected, or appointed by the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy, for a term of two (2) years by the Membership of the Society during the Annual Business Meeting. Those Committee Members elected by the Society Membership shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms. The Chairperson shall be the Past President with most seniority.

The Committee shall present to the membership at its annual business meeting a slate of nominees of active members of the Society. The nominees shall include a single candidate for officers of the Florida Urological Society including: President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary-Treasurer Elect, Historian and Executive Committee members as vacancies occur. Additional nominees shall include members and alternate members of the Board of Directors of the SES-AUA Florida Representatives, as vacancies occur. In addition, the Nominating Committee shall present to the Executive Committee nominees for FUS specialty representation in the Florida Medical Association, or similar organized medical liaison positions as they occur.

Section 8. The Education Committee shall consist of five (5) or more Members. The chairman of the committee shall be the current year's Program Chair and the four (4) remaining committee members shall be the Chairman of the NP/PA Session, current President, Immediate Past President and one (1) rotating resident. The resident position shall follow the same rotation as the program chair; however the resident shall be up one year so that the resident and program chair are not from the same institution. The Committee shall be tasked with reviewing and selecting the abstracts to be presented during the Annual Meeting.

Section 9. The Website Committee shall consist of three (3) Members, one of which will be elected chair by Committee's members. The Committee will be tasked with providing the necessary continuity for content, coordination and oversight of Flaurological.org and FUS social media efforts in concert with FUS administration.

Section 10. The Young Urologists Committee will consist of 5 members, one of which will be elected chair by the Committee's Members. The members must be within 10 years of graduating residency or fellowship. The committee will be tasked with outreach and providing feedback regarding the needs of Young Urologists in Florida. In addition, the committee will review

opportunities and strategies to grow membership. The committee members will serve a two year term and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 11: The Past Presidents Advisory Committee shall consist of five (5) Members, the four most recent FUS Presidents and the Historian. This committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past President of the Society. The Committee will be tasked with providing perspective on the Society's past experiences This committee will have no program oversight responsibilities, and will serve in an advisory capacity to consult on issues facing the Society.

### **ARTICLE VIII: RULES OF ORDER**

The deliberations of the Society shall be governed by parliamentary usage, as contained in Robert's Rules of Order, when not in conflict with this Constitution and Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be repealed or amended by two-thirds of the vote of the members present voting at the annual business meeting, provided that the proposed revisions or amendments shall have been circulated to the membership at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting at which such action is to be taken.