

CONSTITUTION

Article I – Name

The name of this organisation shall be: Breast Surgery International (BSI) and it is domiciled at Seefeldstrasse 88, 8008 Zurich, Switzerland

Article II – Objectives

The objectives of the association shall be (1) maintenance of the highest standards in the practice and art of breast surgery, (2) To support the advancement of the science and art of breast surgery through clinical experience or laboratory investigation 3) To provide education in the diagnosis and management of breast cancer in developing countries

Article III – Membership

Membership of the association shall be limited to surgeons who practice breast surgery, either full-time or occasionally and granted after appropriate application and evaluation by the Membership Committee. The applicant's contributions to the scientific literature pertinent to breast surgery will be considered but is not a prerequisite in determining membership.

There shall be three types of members: Active, Senior and Honorary.

- Active members are surgeons with an active breast practice. Annual dues will include subscription to the World Journal of Surgery.
- Senior Members are surgeons who have been active members of BSI and are now retired. Senior members share all the responsibilities of active members. Senior members shall not be required to pay annual dues. Senior members cannot be considered for election to office and cannot vote.
- Honorary Members shall consist of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to breast surgery. They shall have no voting privileges, nor be eligible for election to office, nor be levied the annual BSI dues.

Article IV – Meeting

A biennial assembly of the association shall be held in accordance with the bylaws.

Article V – Officers/Council

Officers of BSI shall consist of president, president-elect, secretary, a treasurer, all to be elected as provided in the bylaws.

There shall be a Council of the association consisting of the officers, and a maximum of seven additional council members with representation of various regions of the World.

Article VI – Alterations/Repeal

The members of BSI may alter or repeal any article of this constitution by a three-fourth affirmative vote of members present at the biennial assembly, provided a copy of the proposed change has been delivered to each member 60 days in advance of the

assembly meeting.

Article VII

BSI shall function under the auspices of the International Society of Surgery/Société Internationale de Chirurgie (ISS/SIC), which shall be responsible for collection of annual dues, selection of the biennial meeting site, and the principal arrangements thereof. The ISS/SIC shall have no authority regarding the contents of the scientific program of BSI. All members of BSI are required to be members of ISS/SIC.

BSI shall have representation on the Executive Committee of the ISS/SIC as well as on the Editorial Board of World Journal of Surgery.

BYLAWS

Article I – Election of Members

Manual and electronic application forms for active membership are available from the websites of ISS and/or BSI. Applicants will submit an up-to-date abbreviated curriculum vitae and personal statement outlining their surgical interest and practice of breast surgery. Completed applications shall be reviewed by the Membership Committee, who will determine suitability for BSI membership.

Candidates for honorary membership shall be proposed in writing to the Executive Committee through the Secretary. Once approved by the Executive Committee they will be elected to honorary member status in accordance with the same procedure regarding active membership.

Article II – Officers/Councillors

The President and the President-Elect of the association shall be elected for a term of two years. The term of all other officers shall be for a term of four years (two meetings).

The Executive Committee of Council will consist of the President, President-elect, Treasurer, Secretary and the Past-President. The Past-President will stay on the Executive for 2 years.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of the meetings of the association and the Executive Committee, receive and hold records belonging to the association, and conduct the correspondence of the association. This office will provide a written report of the preceding year's activities to be read to the Executive Committee and membership at the biennial assembly. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys and funds belonging to the association, pay all bills, and report to the Executive Committee of the BSI at the biennial assembly meeting. The Treasurer will prepare a financial report for audit at the biennial assembly.

Article III – Committees

There shall be five standing committees of the association:

Membership Committee: Secretary and 2 Council members elected for a term of four years (two meetings).

Nomination Committee: President (Chair), President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary

Program Committee: President-Elect, President, Secretary, two Council members for a 2-year term.

Committee for International Outreach: Chair (council member) elected for a term of four years (two meetings) and three Council members.

Scientific/ Research Committee: May be composed of members or councillors as nominated – a chair shall be appointed by council

Article IV – Meetings

A biennial assembly of the association shall be held at the time and place to be determined by the ISS/SIC. Any member of the association may attend the biennial assembly.

The business of the association shall be conducted at the biennial assembly. A meeting of the BSI Council shall occur prior to this assembly.

The President shall Chair the biennial meeting. The membership will receive the reports of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Nominating Committee and from other ad hoc subcommittees as they arise. Nominations for Council members may be made from the floor. However, election of members to the Executive Council will be made by the Council. Council members shall be elected by majority vote of active membership during the assembly.

Article V – Fees/Dues

Dues and assessments shall be levied by the Council of the ISS/SIC.

Any member whose dues remain unpaid for a period of one year shall be informed by the Executive Secretary of ISS/SIC. Non-payment of dues for three successive years shall constitute grounds for dismissal from the association.

Article VI – Resignations, Expulsions

Resignations of members in otherwise good standing shall be accepted by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Charges of unprofessional or unethical conduct against any member of the association must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's concurrence or disallowance of the charges shall be presented to the membership at

the biennial assembly. A two thirds affirmative vote of the members present shall be required for expulsion.

Members of Council including the President can voluntarily resign due to health or other pertinent reasons by submitting a letter explaining their intent to the Executive.

Article VII – Quorum

A minimum of 30 members shall constitute a quorum at the biennial assembly to effect changes in the constitution and bylaws of the association, to make assessments, to authorise appropriations or expenditures of money other than those required in the routine business of the association, to elect officers and members, and to expel members.

For the transaction of other business, the members present at any biennial meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article VIII – Alterations/Repeal

Bylaws may be altered or repealed at the biennial assembly by a three/fourths affirmative vote of the members present.