

Bylaws of the North Carolina Ultrasound Society (NCUS)

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: Name

This society shall be known as the “North Carolina Ultrasound Society”, hereafter referred to in these bylaws as the NCUS or the society.

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of this society shall be to advance the development of personnel involved in the diagnostic application of ultrasound in health care by providing an opportunity for continuing education to personnel involved in the diagnostic application of ultrasound in health care and by operating exclusively for education and scientific purposes as a non-profit society.

In the event of dissolution, any assets of the society shall be distributed to an organization enjoying an exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of Successor Statutory Authority.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Universal Requirements

Membership is a privilege and not a right, and is contingent upon compliance with these bylaws. No person shall be accepted or continued as a member unless that person is of good moral character and follows professional ethical standards.

Section 2: Membership Categories

A. Active: Sonographers currently performing ultrasound procedures in a clinical setting, physicians actively engaged in the field of clinical ultrasound, and scientists directly involved in the field of ultrasound through physics, engineering, biology, or basic research. Each active member shall have full voting rights in all NCUS membership meetings.

B. Affiliate: Persons working in the commercial field of ultrasound or any other interested persons not qualified under other membership categories. Each member in this category shall have the right to attend and address the membership at all NCUS meetings, but shall not have the right to make motions or vote.

C. Honorary: Persons who have been active members or others, who have given outstanding service and support to the NCUS. Honorary membership shall be by the nomination by any member of the NCUS and requires approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board of Directors. Each member of this category shall have the right to attend and address the membership at all NCUS meetings and shall have the right to make motions and vote.

D. Student: Those persons studying disciplines pertinent to the society, in a full-time formal training program. Those persons should not receive a salary from that program or institution. They must also document their status annually at the time of dues collection. Each member in this category shall have the right to attend and address the membership at all NCUS meetings, but shall not have the right to make motions or vote.

Section 3: Application for Membership

An application form shall be completed by the applicant and submitted to the membership committee for review and subsequent action in accordance with these bylaws. The applicant shall receive a copy of these bylaws with the notification of acceptance. Membership will not be denied because of race, color, sex, religion, ethnic background or national origin, and will be open to all who share in its purposes.

Section 4: Membership Fees and Renewal

Each category of membership shall pay an annual fee (renewable each year) to be determined by the NCUS Board of Directors. A member whose fee is delinquent will be stricken from the membership.

Article III: Board of Directors

Section 1: Number

The governing body of this society will be the Board of Directors, consisting of twenty (20) voting members in good standing, nominated, and elected by ballot. The affairs, business, property, and concerns of this society will be vested in the Board of Directors for the benefit of the society. At least one member must come from each of the geographical regions established by the Board of Directors. At least one seat shall be filled by a physician who will serve as an advisor. One seat shall be filled by a faculty member of an accredited Ultrasound program in North Carolina. One seat may be filled by an active member in good standing from outside the state of North Carolina.

Section 2: Nominations

The nominee should be a current and active member of the NCUS.

Section 3: Election

The Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the general membership through a mail ballot voting process. In the event of a tie vote, the President (who did not vote in the initial election), without knowledge of the outcome of the election, shall vote to break the tie. Each elected board member will serve a three-year term.

Section 4: Powers and Duties of Board Members

The power and duties of the Board of Directors shall consist of, but not be limited to the following: carry out the purpose of the society in accordance with these bylaws, devise and execute such measures as they deem proper to promote the purpose of the society for the members' benefit, call and hold all regular and special meetings of the society and the Board of Directors at such places and times as deemed proper, adopt and monitor the finances and establish an annual budget. There shall be at least two regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors each year, in which attendance is required for at least two of the scheduled meetings.. The Board of Directors will make an report to the general membership at the annual meeting.

Section 5: Resignation

A board member may at any time resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Board of Directors.

Section 6: Removal

Upon notice to all Board of Directors, a board of director may be removed from office by a majority vote of all other Board of Directors.

Section 7: Vacancy

Should any vacancy occur on the Board of Directors, it will be filled without undue delay by special appointment by the Board of Directors. Those so appointed will fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the previous occupant or until the next general election.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1: Officers

The officers for the NCUS shall be President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

Section 2: Eligibility of Officers

The officers shall be members of the Board of Directors and elected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. No officer shall have any full-time (the amount of time considered the normal or standard amount for working during a given period) or part-time (involving or working less than customary or standard hours) affiliation with any ultrasound equipment manufacturer (i.e., sales, applications specialist).

Section 3: President

The President will preside as chairman of all Board of Directors and general membership meetings, be chief executive officer of the NCUS, and ex-officio member of all committees with the right to vote. In the event of a tie vote, the President (who does not vote in the initial election) without knowledge of the election outcome, shall vote to break the tie.

Section 4: President-Elect

The President-Elect shall assume the office of the President for the next consecutive term, and shall be the Nominating Committee chairperson. He shall also be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 5: Vice-President

In the event the office of the President is vacated for any reason before the expiration of his term, the office will be filled by the Vice-President. He shall perform the duties of the President whenever the President is absent or unable to act in person. He shall assist the President in the performance of duties as requested by the President.

Section 6: Secretary

The secretary shall record and read the minutes of all Board of Directors and general membership meetings, and co-ordinate the society's correspondence with the NCUS Central Office. The secretary will make the minutes of all meetings available to all Board of Directors and to the general membership upon request.

Section 7: Treasurer

The treasurer shall keep account of all monies received and expended for the use of the society. A financial statement will be provided to the Board of Directors at each meeting and to the general membership upon request. The treasurer shall be a member of the Finance Committee and make sure the society's financial records are audited biennially.

Section 8: Past President

The immediate past president shall serve for one year in an advisory capacity on the Board of Directors with the right to make motions and vote.

Article V: Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

Standing committees are to be appointed by the Board of Directors as required to meet the needs of the society. Committees shall include, but not limited to, Rules and Bylaws, Nominating, Membership, Finance, Education, Symposium, and Communications.

Section 2: Special Committees

Special Committees may be appointed by the Board of Directors as required to meet the needs of the society.

Article VI: Meetings

Section 1: Board of Director Meetings

The NCUS Board of Directors shall meet at least two times per year. A quorum of the Board of Directors will be constituted to be two-thirds (2/3) of the board members in attendance for any board meeting.

Section 2: General Membership Meetings

At least one general membership meeting will be held annually with the date and location of the meeting to be determined by the Board of Directors. A quorum of the general membership shall be constituted to be two-thirds (2/3) of those members in good standing who are in attendance and eligible to vote, and when at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors are present.

Section 3: Parliamentary Procedure

Parliamentary procedure (according to the NCUS bylaws) will be followed at all Board of Director and general membership meetings. In the absence of rules in these bylaws, all proceedings of the NCUS shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VII: Bylaws

Section 1: Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be repealed, amended, or altered in whole or in part at any time, provided that the proposed change or changes be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the voting date. The motion or motions to amend, repeal, or alter shall carry with a majority vote of the general membership. The change(s) shall immediately take effect and be incorporated into these bylaws.