

EXCELSIOR SURGICAL SOCIETY

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM
Strategic Partnership



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
*Inspiring Quality:
Highest Standards, Better Outcomes*

BYLAWS **EXCELSIOR SURGICAL SOCIETY** **OF** **MILITARY SURGERY**

Article I: Society

The name of this association shall be The Excelsior Surgical Society of Military Surgery. The Excelsior Surgical Society will be an internal Society of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and will assist in attaining the goals outlined in the charter of the Military Health System Strategic Partnership with American College of Surgeons (MHSSPACS), attached hereto in Addendum A.

Article II: Purpose

All activities of the Excelsior Society will be consistent with the tax-exempt status of the American College of Surgeons. The purposes of the Society shall be to:

- A. Support the objectives of the Military Health System Strategic Partnership American College of Surgeons (MHSSPACS) which include improving surgical education, optimizing systems-based practices, and fostering research.
- B. Serve as a specialty Society providing a forum for the exchange of surgical knowledge as it relates to the practice of military surgery.
- C. Provide a forum for Tri-service military (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Air Force) exchange of information as it relates to optimization of wartime and peacetime care of military personnel.

Article III: Membership

Membership is a privilege which is accorded to persons who meet the qualifications hereinafter mentioned.

Section I:

The Excelsior Society shall have four (4) Membership classes:

- (a) **Active Members** shall be Fellows, Associate Fellows, Residents, Medical Students, and Affiliates of the College who satisfy one of the following requirements:
- a. Currently serving on active duty in a branch of the Military;
 - b. Currently active or inactive Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard;
 - c. Retired or discharged under honorable conditions from the United States Military after at least one year of service.

After verification of good standing with the American College of Surgeon (ACS) and verification of military service (current orders or a form DD 214), eligible Members will automatically become Active members upon application. Active Members have voting rights and will pay annual dues to remain in good standing. Active Members who are active duty or active Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard may hold elected office. Trainees shall NOT hold elected office.

- (b) **Associate Members** shall be Fellows, Associate Fellows, Residents, Medical Students, and Affiliates of the College who do NOT meet the requirements for current or prior military service. After verification of good standing with the ACS, eligible Members will automatically become Associate Members upon application. Associate Members have voting rights, will pay annual dues to remain in good standing, but may NOT hold elected office.

- (c) **Distinguished Members** shall be nominated by an Active Member and approved by a majority of the Executive Council.
- a. Distinguished Members will meet the same requirements and shall have the same privileges as Active Members;
 - b. Distinguished Members shall have voting rights;
 - c. Criteria for Distinguished Membership includes: A physician or scientist who has gained professional prominence by his/her contribution to the advancement of military surgery in general or the Excelsior Society in particular.
 - d. Annual dues shall be waived for Distinguished Members.

- (d) **Honorary Members** shall be nominated by an Active Member and approved by a majority of the Executive Council. Honorary Members do NOT vote or hold office. Acceptable candidates for Honorary Membership include:
- a. A surgeon not eligible for Active Membership;

- b. A physician or scientist who has gained professional prominence by his/her contribution to the advancement of military surgery in general or the Excelsior Society in particular;
- c. A member of the community who has shown particular interest in military surgery and provided support to the Excelsior Society.
- d. Annual dues will be waived for Honorary Members.

Section II: Voting

Each Active, Associate and Distinguished Member present at the annual meeting shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

Section III: Termination of Membership

Membership in the Excelsior Society of Military Surgery will be terminated:

- (a) Upon the receipt by the Executive Council of the written resignation of a Member;
- (b) Upon the failure of a Member to pay dues for a period of two (2) consecutive years after having been notified in writing of such delinquency;
- (c) When such Member shall cease to be a member in good standing of the College;
- (d) When such member, in the case of an Active or Distinguished Member, is discharged from active duty service with an “Other than Honorable”, “Bad Conduct”, or Dishonorable” rating.

Section IV: Reinstatement of Membership

A person whose Membership in the Excelsior Society has been terminated due to nonpayment of dues may be reinstated upon payment in full of such dues owing to the Society. Reinstatement shall be by action of the Executive Council.

Article IV: Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of this Society shall be held in conjunction with the ACS Clinical Congress or at a place and time to be determined by resolution of the Executive Council. Notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be given to Members at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

Article V: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Members of the Excelsior Society for any purpose(s) may be called by the Executive Council. Written notice with time and place of special meetings of the Members shall be given thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

Article VI: Quorum

A quorum for any meeting shall be defined as the voting Members present at the meeting.

Article VII: Election of Officers

The Officers of the Society shall be elected by the Members at the annual meeting in accordance with Article X, Section II of these rules and regulations.

Article VIII: Programs | Meetings | Lectures

The program and agenda for each meeting of the Members shall be prepared by the President in collaboration with the Officers of the Society prior to holding such meetings. Members may and are requested to make suggestions of appropriate matters for consideration by contacting the Secretary.

Section I: Order of Business

The order of conducting business and the manner of its conduct shall be determined by the President; however, if there is any difference of opinion, Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

Section II. Army Major John P. Pryor Lecture

- (a) **Rules & Eligibility.** The primary consideration in making the award is the Nominee's career contribution to the fundamental understanding of surgical knowledge as it relates to the practice of military surgery through his/her research, writing and/or lecturing. The Pryor Lecturer will be selected by the Executive Council during or following the annual ACS Clinical Congress; the decision of the Executive Council is final. The Lectureship will not be awarded in absentia. Nominees need not be Members of the Society, and Nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current Officers of the Society and previous Pryor Lecturers are not eligible.
- (b) **Nominations.**
Nominations for the Army Major John P. Pryor Lecture will be accepted from any Society Member and may be made for surgeons in all areas of military surgery. Nominations may be submitted in writing in advance of the annual meeting of the Society. Nominations shall include the full name; organization; mailing address; e-mail address; and telephone number for both the Nominee and Nominator. Floor nominations shall be accepted during the annual business meeting. The nominating Member of accepted floor nominations shall submit a written citation for consideration by the Executive Council per the criteria outlined above.

Section III. Edward D. Churchill Lecture

- (a) **Rules & Eligibility.** The primary consideration in making the award is the Nominee's career contribution to the fundamental understanding of surgical knowledge as it relates to the practice of military surgery through his/her research, writing and/or lecturing. The Churchill Lecturer will be selected by the Executive Council during or following the annual ACS Clinical Congress; the decision of the Council is final. The Lectureship will not be awarded in absentia. Nominees need not be Members of the Society, and Nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current Officers of the Society and previous Churchill Lecturers are not eligible.
- (b) **Nominations.**
Nominations for the Edward D. Churchill Lecture will be accepted from any Society Member and may be made for surgeons in all areas of military surgery. Nominations may be submitted in writing in advance of the annual meeting of the Society. Nominations shall include the full name; organization; mailing address; e-mail address; and telephone number for both the Nominee and Nominator. Floor nominations shall be accepted during the annual business meeting. The nominating Member of accepted floor nominations shall submit a written citation for consideration by the Executive Council per the criteria outlined above prior to the end of Clinical Congress.

Article IX: Liabilities of Members

No person who is now or later becomes a Member of this Society shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability and any and all creditors of this Society shall look only to the assets of the society for payment.

Management and control of the business and affairs of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) are vested in the Board of Regents. As a program of the ACS, the budget and activities of the Excelsior Society are subject to approval by the Board of Regents. All Excelsior Society activities are subject to the ACS policies and procedures. The Excelsior Society will not hire personnel or obligate the ACS in any way.

Article X: Officers

Section I: Executive Council

The Officers of this Society shall be the President, Vice President (who shall be designated the President-Elect); Secretary; Treasurer; U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large; U.S. Army Councilperson at Large; U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large; and U.S. Reserve/National Guard Councilperson at Large. Elected Officers must be on active duty, active Reserve, or active National Guard status for the tenure of the office. Trainees shall not hold an elected officer position.

Section II: Election

Members at the annual meeting, duly held upon regular call and notice, shall elect:

- (a) The President and Vice-President for a one-year term or until a successor is elected and qualified. There shall be a progression of the Vice President (President-Elect) who shall become the President at the end of a one-year term as Vice President (President-Elect).
- (b) The Secretary; Treasurer; U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large; U.S. Army Councilperson at Large; U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large; and Reserve/National Guard Councilperson at Large for terms of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (c) Voting shall commence with the election of the Vice-President (President Elect) and shall then proceed consecutively in the following order: Treasurer; Secretary; U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large; U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large; U.S. Army Councilperson at Large; and U.S. Reserve and National Guard Councilperson at Large.

Officers may be nominated for elected office by Active, Associate, and Distinguished Members of the Society. Nominations will be accepted in writing prior to the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting shall be permitted. Each Active, Associate, and Distinguished Member present at the meeting shall be entitled to one vote. Balloting will be conducted at the discretion of the Executive Council.

Section III: Vacancies

A vacancy in any Officer position because of resignation, removal, disqualification, death or otherwise shall be determined by the Executive Council or by the Members at a duly held meeting upon regular call and notice.

Section IV: President

The responsibilities of the President, subject to preceding items, shall consist of general supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of the Society. The President shall preside at meetings of the Members and Executive Council and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Council or by the Members.

Section V: Vice President (President-Elect)

In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President (President-Elect) shall perform all of the duties of the President and, in so acting, shall have all of the powers of the President. The Vice President (President-Elect) shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Council or by the Members.

Section VI: Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a full and complete record of the proceedings of the Members and the Executive Council; shall record and distribute meeting minutes; shall make service of notices as may be necessary or proper; shall assume responsibility for moderating the online ACS Military Community; and shall supervise the keeping of all records of the Society.

Section VII: Treasurer

The Treasurer will develop the budget for approval by the Executive Council. The budget as approved by the Executive Council is also subject to ACS Board of Regents review and approval according to the ACS Bylaws. The Treasurer, with approval by the Executive Council, will monitor, supervise and apportion the funds of the Excelsior Society.

Section VIII: U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large | U.S. Army Councilperson at Large | U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large

The U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large; U.S. Army Councilperson at Large; and U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large shall be on active duty with their respective service and have responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Council. These Officers shall serve as liaisons between the Society and their respective service components.

Section IX: Reserve/National Guard Councilperson at Large

The Reserve/National Guard Councilperson at Large shall be a member of the active Reserve component or active National Guard and will have responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Council. This position shall serve as liaison between the Society and the Reserve and National Guard component.

Section X: Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Executive Council for the determination of Officers.

Article XI: Executive Council

Section I: Officers and Appointed Council

The Executive Council will consist of the eight (8) elected Officers: President; Vice President (President-Elect); Treasurer; Secretary, U.S. Air Force Councilperson at Large, U.S. Army Councilperson at Large, U.S. Navy Councilperson at Large; and the Reserve/National Guard Councilperson at Large and six (6) Appointed Council Positions: U.S. Army ACS Governor; U.S. Navy ACS Governor; U.S. Air Force ACS Governor; MHSSPACS DoD Executive Co-chair (or delegate); MHSSPACS ACS Executive Co-chair (or delegate); and the Chief for the ACS Region 13 Committee on Trauma.

Section II: Quorum

A majority of the Members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section III: Voting

Each Executive Councilperson present at the Meeting is entitled to one (1) vote.

Section IV: Powers of the Executive Council

Societal power and the business and affairs of the Society shall be exercised and controlled by the Executive Council and shall be subject to the authority of the ACS Board of Regents. Without limiting the general powers, the Executive Council shall have the following authority:

- (a) To select and remove agents of the Society and to prescribe such powers and duties for Members as may NOT be inconsistent with law.
- (b) To conduct, manage and control the affairs of the Society and to make rules and regulations.
- (c) The Executive Council will be the Nominating Committee for the Excelsior Society.

Article XII: Dues

All fees and annual dues shall be recommended by the Executive Council and approved by a vote of the majority of the Members of the Society at the Annual Meeting, and shall be due and payable upon presentation of invoices. The annual dues for Excelsior Surgical Society members shall be \$100.00. Dues are waived for Honorary & Distinguished Members, Resident Members, Medical Student Members and Members over 70 years of age. Excelsior Surgical Society dues are in addition to ACS membership dues. The Excelsior Surgical Society membership year coincides with the United States federal government fiscal year, operating on a fiscal calendar of October through September. Dues notices shall be emailed to Members annually in October.

Article XIII: Amendments

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed. New Bylaws may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of eligible voting Members present at the annual meeting of the Excelsior Society, provided that written notice of the proposed change or changes shall have been given to each voting Member.

Addendum A

**Charter of the Military Health System Strategic Partnership with American College of Surgeons
(MHSSPACS)**