**CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SHOCK SOCIETIES**

**ARTICLE I (Name)**

The Name of the Federation shall be International Federation of Shock Societies (IFSS).

**ARTICLE II (Purpose)**

The purpose of the IFSS is to promote cooperation between existing shock societies in the areas of research and clinical practice.

That goal shall be pursued through a regular meeting of an International Conference on Shock, to be held every four years within the jurisdiction of one of the affiliated societies.

**ARTICLE III (Membership)**

Membership in the Federation shall be open to:

All national or regional shock societies organized in their respective nation or geographical region;

Select national or regional medical or scientific societies with a shared interest in the general subject of shock and which demonstrably have an active department or section specifically devoted to shock research.

**ARTICLE IV (Officers)**

The officers of the IFSS are a President, a President-Elect who shall serve as Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President-Elect/Vice President shall serve one term as such followed by one term as President. No person shall be eligible for re-election to the Presidency. The Secretary and the Treasurer may be re-elected once. A term of office shall be 4 years.

**ARTICLE V (Council)**

The affairs of the IFSS shall be conducted by Council, which shall consist of:

* The President, Vice President (President-Elect), Secretary, and Treasurer of the IFSS;
* The three most immediate past Presidents of the IFSS;
* Representatives from each society, made up of three representatives from societies with 251 or more paying members, two representatives from Societies with 101-250 paying members and 1 representative from smaller societies;
* The Chief Editor(s) of the official publication(s) of member societies as approved by Council as non-voting ex-officio member(s).

**ARTICLE VI (Election of Representatives)**

The Council members will be elected by the respective member societies in time for them to attend each International Congress.

When a vacancy arises, the governing body of the relevant society shall appoint a member to serve the remainder of the term of office.

If any Council member is unable to attend a meeting, he/she may request a substitute.

Officers shall be elected by and from the Council.

**ARTICLE VII (Bylaws)**

The provisions of the Constitution of the IFSS shall be carried out in accordance with the current Bylaws of the IFSS.

**Article VII (Affiliations)**

The original affiliated shock societies are the Shock Society (USA), the European Shock Society, the Japan Shock Society, the Brazilian Shock Society and the Chinese Shock Society.

New applications for affiliation shall be submitted to the IFSS Council for consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of application. A two-thirds majority of votes is required for final approval. Affiliation shall become effective as soon as the new Society has paid its first annual dues.

**ARTICLE IX (Finances)**

Member organizations shall pay an annual fee to the IFSS based on the number of their active members, as laid down in the Bylaws.

When any member society has failed to pay its dues for three consecutive years, Council may decide to terminate its membership.

**ARTICLE X (Amendments)**

This Constitution may be amended by an agenda item proposed by any Council member, to be discussed by the full Council, and shall be deemed to be approved if carried by a two-thirds majority of votes in Council at two consecutive Council meetings.

**ARTICLE XII (Dissolution)**

The IFSS may be dissolved by a proposal submitted by any Council member. Dissolution becomes effective if approved by a two-thirds majority of votes in Council at two consecutive Council meetings.

In the case of dissolution, all assets belonging to the IFSS shall be dispersed in accord with US tax law for tax-exempt organizations.

**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I (Membership)**

Membership in the Federation shall be open to:

All national or regional shock societies organized in their respective nation or geographical region;

Select national or regional medical or scientific societies with a shared interest in the general subject of shock and which demonstrably have an active department or section specifically devoted to shock research.

**ARTICLE II (Election of New Members)**

New applications for affiliation shall be submitted to the IFSS Council for consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of application. A two-thirds majority of votes is required for final approval. Affiliation shall become effective as soon as the new society has paid its first annual dues.

**ARTICLE III (Dues)**

Affiliated societies shall pay annual dues of US $1.00 (one United States dollar) for each paying member registered in its society.

**ARTICLE IV (Meetings)**

The IFSS is authorized to hold an International Conference on Shock once every four years. It is also authorized to hold other scientific meetings, international, national, and regional. A business meeting of the Council shall be held in conjunction with the annual scientific meeting of the Shock Society USA, or in conjunction with the International Conference on Shock. Parliamentary procedures to be followed in the business meeting shall be those specified in *Robert’s Rules of Order*. Representation from half plus one of the affiliated members shall constitute a quorum of which two shall be the President, the Secretary and/or the President-Elect/Vice President.

**ARTICLE V (Publications)**

The journal *Shock* shall be designated as the official journal of IFSS.

**ARTICLE VI (Duties of Officers)**

It shall be the duty of the President to preside over the annual meeting of Council of the IFSS, to appoint and charge, with the approval of the Council, the Chair and members of committees of the Council, and to carry out other activities usually pertaining to the office.

The President-Elect shall carry out the duties of an absent or disabled President. The President-Elect will automatically succeed to the presidency when the office becomes vacant.

The Secretary shall keep accurate records, maintain an up-to-date membership list, and give notice of all meetings to members and to the Council.

The Secretary shall keep accurate records, maintain an up-to-date membership list, and maintain minutes of the Council meetings. Minutes shall be presented to the President and to the Council members within one month of the Council meeting.

The Treasurer shall send out dues notices and collect all dues. He shall be responsible for all funds and securities of the IFSS, and shall make all disbursements in accordance with the budget approved by the Council. All expenditures of more than US $1,000 must be approved by signature of two other officers. The Treasurer shall submit an annual report of the financial condition of the IFSS to the Council and be responsible for any financial reports required by the Internal Revenue Service.

**ARTICLE VII (Duties of the Council)**

The duties of the Council shall be to determine the policies for the good of the IFSS and the science it represents in accordance with the Constitution and to implement the execution of these policies as provided in these Bylaws. It shall establish the venue of each International Conference on Shock, approve the plans for this and other scientific meetings; it shall authorize the expenditure of IFSS funds; and it shall obtain an annual audit of the IFSS finances.

The Council shall meet, at the call of the President, at least once a year. At the regular meetings it shall consider and approve changes in dues, amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, and proposals for affiliations, and set the agenda for the business meeting. The Council may apply for grants or secure donations for specific projects which are consistent with the purposes of the IFSS and they or appropriate Committees of the Council may then meet to consider their business at times other than the annual meeting, with expenses defrayed by said grants or donations.

**ARTICLE VIII (Amendments)**

Amendments to the Bylaws shall be initiated according to the same procedure as amendments to the Constitution. A majority vote at the annual business meeting of the Council shall suffice for ratification.

**ARTICLE IX (Distinguished Service Award)**

The Distinguished Service Award will honor a member of the IFSS who has shown sustained commitment to the betterment of the IFSS. Nominations for the award will be solicited from the membership a year before the IFSS meeting is held. Members will submit nominations to the IFSS Council along with a C.V. and letter of support at least six months prior to the IFSS meeting. The Council will select a recipient during a teleconference two months before the IFSS meeting. The award will be presented at the IFSS meeting that year.