

# Rules of the British Myology Society

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## Name

1. The Society shall be called the British Myology Society.

## Object

2. The object of the Society is to act as a multidisciplinary professional body of experts to promote the clinical practice, education and advancement of knowledge about muscle disease, myasthenia gravis and spinal muscular atrophy in the British Isles.

This will include:

- Agreeing best practice and standards of care for patients with muscle disease
- Agreeing standards for training in clinical myology and clinical muscle pathology
- Promoting translational research
- Establishing clinical networks to facilitate and promote clinical trials and patient registries
- Facilitating collaborations with patient organizations

## Membership

3. The Society shall consist of Ordinary, Associate and Honorary Members.

4. Those appointed to consultant posts, or senior lectureships or equivalent, in the neurological sciences, genetics, paediatrics, physiotherapy, nursing and neurorehabilitation who undertake specialised muscle clinics or pathological examination of biopsy material from muscle shall be eligible for Ordinary Membership.

5. Persons of distinction in Medicine or related paramedical disciplines who have contributed to the advancement of muscle disease shall be eligible for the Honorary Membership. Foreigners of similar distinction shall be eligible for the Honorary Foreign Membership. The number of Honorary Members shall be limited to 10 and of Honorary Foreign Members to 10; they shall be elected by the Society on the recommendation of the Council.

6. All specialist registrars and others pursuing clinical practice or research in muscle disease within the British Isles or the Republic of Ireland shall be eligible for Associate Membership. On appointment to substantive consultant or senior lecturer posts, Associate Members will automatically become Ordinary Members at the next Annual General Meeting.

8. Ordinary members on reaching the age of 65 or on prior retirement from paid employment, shall cease to be Ordinary Members at the next Annual General Meeting, and may become Senior Members, enjoying benefit of membership without payment of subscription.

9. Candidates for Ordinary, Membership shall be nominated by at least two members of the Association in writing to the Honorary Secretary by the time of the last Council Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.

10. The Council shall recommend candidates from those nominated as Ordinary or Honorary Members to the Annual General Meeting.

## Subscription

11. The annual subscription shall be decided by Council on a yearly basis in the light of the financial

situation of the Society and after taking advice from the Treasurer. The subscription shall then be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting of the Association. It shall be paid by Deed of Covenant, or Direct Debit, or Banker's Order.

12. Non-payment of the subscription within twelve months may be considered by Council as equivalent to resignation.

### **Officers and Councillors**

13. The Council shall consist of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and seven council members. All members of Council shall be Ordinary Members of the Society. Officers of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The chairman shall be responsible for organizing a suitable secretariat.

14. Council may co-opt others, without voting rights, to attend its meetings.

15. A quorum of four voting members will be necessary for decisions made by Council to be valid.

16. The Councillors shall hold office for three years following which there will be re-election..In order to avoid a complete change of council members at once a staggered reelection of council members will be agreed.

17. If an Officer or Councillor of the Society be unable to continue in office for any reason the Council shall have the power to nominate a successor to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

### **Meetings and the Annual General Meeting**

18. At least one and usually two or more meetings shall be held each year, one of which shall include the Annual General Meeting. Associate members shall be entitled to attend these meetings and the Annual General business meetings of the Association as non-voting members.

19. At least two months prior to the meetings the Honorary Assistant Secretary shall send a notice to each member and shall invite communications to be presented at the scientific meetings.

20. At each clinical meeting time there will be time available for members to discuss management and research issues of general interest to the Society. The agenda for these items will be decided by the Council and will generally focus on the main aims of the Society across all muscle diseases.

21. The programme for the Meetings of the Society will be organised by the local organiser in discussion with the Honorary Secretary and Chairman.

22. The programme for each clinical meeting shall be sent by the Honorary Secretary to each member of the Society at least one week before the meeting is held.

23. The agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be sent to Ordinary and Honorary Members by the Honorary Secretary at least one week before the meeting is held.

24. A majority vote of those members present will be required to ratify decisions at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Other Rules**

24. No alteration shall be made in the rules except at the Annual General Meeting and unless proposed by the Council or by at least ten members in writing. In the latter case, the proposal must reach the Secretary at least four weeks before the date of the meeting. Notice of the proposed change shall be circulated to each member at least one week before the meeting at which it is to be brought forward,

and it shall be decided by vote of those present at the meeting.

25. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in the Rules, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to members of the Society. Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment, in good faith, of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Society, or to any member of the Society, in return for any services rendered to the Society.

26. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution having objects similar to the objects of the Society, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Society under or by virtue of the last preceding Rule, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Society at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provisions, then to some charitable object.

27. The Association shall be independent and its views shall not be compromised as a consequence of its relationships with commercial sponsors or any other organization.