

Constitution of the Nordic Association for Clinical Physics

Approved by the Nordic Member Organisations, Bergen June 2004

Preamble:

The Nordic Association for Clinical Physics was founded in 1962 and was an active association for many years with an excellent international reputation. Following its fourteenth meeting and General Assembly in Reykjavik on June the 26th 1992, the association has not been active.

The five Nordic Societies of Medical Physics have for some years worked to reactivate the association, and this new Constitution is a result of this work. The NACP will be an umbrella organisation, an association of associations. The constitutions of both EFOMP and IOMP have served as models for writing the new constitution, however, the NACP is not meant to replace any functions of EFOMP or IOMP, but to strengthen their role in the Nordic countries. The constitution was approved by the boards of the Nordic National Organisations for Medical Physics: the Danish Society for Medical Physics (Denmark), the Finnish Association of Hospital Physicists (Finland), the Icelandic Society for Biomedical Engineering, the Norwegian Society for Medical Physics (Norway) and the Swedish Society for Radiation Physics (Sweden).

Section A: Name, scope and continuance of activities

1. Name

The official name of the society is the Nordic Association for Clinical Physics, hereafter known as the NACP.

2. Scope

The NACP limits its activities to within the Nordic countries

3. Language

The official language of the NACP is English.

4. Continuance

The NACP shall remain in existence for an unlimited period. The voluntary dissolution of the NACP shall only be approved in accordance with the Articles of this Constitution.

Section B: Aims and purposes

5. Aims and purposes

1. The aims and purposes of the NACP include :
 - a) To foster and co-ordinate the activities of the Nordic member organisations in the field of clinical physics in all its aspects.
 - b) To establish relationships and collaboration where appropriate with national, regional and international societies and bodies in the fields related to clinical physics.
 - c) To improve the standard of clinical physics activities within the Nordic countries.
 - d) To promote Nordic co-operation within the field of clinical physics in scientific work, developments and education.
 - e) To promote the exchange of scientific information on clinical physics and related fields of science.
 - f) To recommend standards for education, training and accreditation programmes within the fields of clinical physics.
 - g) To encourage scholarships and the exchange of scientific experts within appropriate fields.
2. The activities of NACP shall be non-profit making.

Section C: Membership

6. Organization

The NACP is an organization run by the Nordic medical physics societies.
Only one national member organization will be admitted from each country.

7. Membership

Membership of the NACP shall consist of:

- (a) National Membership
- (b) Honorary Membership
- (c) Additional categories of membership created in accordance with Article 9.

8. Individual membership

The association has no individual members, except individuals who have made a significant special contribution to the advancement of clinical physics. These individuals are eligible for admission to the NACP as honorary Members, subject to the approval of the Council.

9. Additional categories of membership

At its discretion, the Council may create additional categories of membership with associated conditions and may amend or dissolve the membership categories so created.
Institutions or commercial firms are eligible for corporate membership. Privileges will be in accordance with the Bylaws.

The additional membership categories in force for the time being are defined in an appendix of this constitution.

10. Debts and liabilities

Members of the NACP are not liable for its debts or liabilities. The NACP is liable only to the extent of its assets.

Section D: Administration

11. Council

- 1) The Council is deemed to be the Constitutional Body of the NACP and directs the activities of the NACP.
- 2) The Council consists of delegates appointed by, and preferably from the board of, each Member Organisation and these delegates are the Officers of the Council.
- 3) The work of the Council is coordinated by the President.
- 4) Once a year the Council constitutes itself. The Council should try to rotate the post of the President between the National Member Organisations.
- 5) Officers of the Council can invite individuals, in particular Honorary Members and representatives of co-operating organisations to attend Council meetings as observers.
- 6) In the event of an Officer from one Member Organisation resigning his post before the end of his term of office, his Member Organisation shall appoint a substitute to fill the post until the next ordinary Council meeting.

12. Council Delegates

- 1) Each National Member Organisation shall officially appoint its delegate to the Council.
- 2) Each delegate to the Council shall normally serve for a period of two years, related to the elected period within the board of the National Member Organisation.
- 3) The Council shall normally meet at least once a year.
- 4) The President is the legal representative of the NACP and shall summon and chair the meetings of the Council.
- 5) The Council may be summoned to an extraordinary session by the President upon the written request of not less than two-fifths of the council members, or his own decision.
- 6) If a delegate is unable to attend a meeting of the Council, the National Member Organisation may designate an alternate delegate.
- 7) The President of the Council shall see that agendas, papers and budgets are prepared for circulation to delegates. Copies shall be sent to Member Organisations two weeks before the meeting.

Section E: Council business.

13. Council Business

1. The Council is the supreme authority of the NACP and in particular has power to:
 - a.) elect the President and define the duties of the council members.
 - b.) set Bylaws.
 - c.) decide on the admission of individuals as Honorary Members;

- d.) set annual membership subscription fees;
 - e.) set up and/or approve committees for specifically defined matters;
2. The council should work to initiate cooperation with other Nordic organizations working in the appropriate fields.
 3. The Council is responsible for furthering the aims and purposes of the NACP, and managing its financial affairs.
 4. Each National Member Organisation has one vote in the council. Honorary Members have no vote.
 5. A decision is valid if three votes support the decision. If Council cannot make valid decisions, council members have the option to defer the decision to the next meeting of Council, or they can decide to hold an email or postal ballot.
 6. A postal ballot of the boards of the Member Organisations is compulsory on issues related to: the dissolution of the of the NACP; changes in the Constitution; changes in Membership of the NACP; financial obligations of the Member Organisations to the NACP. Decisions on these issues can only be made with a consensus between all five member organisations.

Section F: Financial resources

14. Financial resources

The financial resources of the NACP consist of:

- a. Subscriptions paid by the Member Organisation, mainly to run the Council;
- b. Gifts, bequests and legacies;
- c. Subsidies and grants;
- d. Any other resources or revenues which may result from the NACP's activities or investments.

Subscription fees shall be decided by the Council. Subscriptions for National Member Organisations shall normally be directly proportional to the number of their ordinary members.

Subscriptions for additional categories of membership shall be determined by the Council. Honorary Members are not required to pay any subscription.

15. Accounting period

The accounting period shall be the calendar year.

The Council shall report annually to the National Member Organisation boards on financial matters.

16. Dissolve Article

In the event of the dissolution of the NACP, assets remaining after the discharge of all debts shall be transferred to a body or bodies having aims similar to those of the NACP.