

# *North Pacific Surgical Association*

## **Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Changes**

*Revised April 1, 2020*

### **Background**

In the fall of 2019, the NPSA Council held a strategic planning session. One of the outcomes is to re-align NPSA's governing documents to meet the strategic initiatives. The following is a summary of changes to the NPSA constitution and bylaws. Some of the changes are "housekeeping" related, others provide more flexibility in regard to membership numbers, categories and methods of voting.

### **Summary of Changes**

Housekeeping changes:

- Inclusion of gender-neutral terminology "he /she/they/them" or "his/her/theirs" where appropriate.
- A handful of grammatical and typographical changes.

Voting:

- Inclusion of electronic means of voting in addition to or replacement of in person voting. This applies to council voting and voting by members at the annual meeting.
- Clarification of the methodology for voting by members at the annual meeting.
- Inclusion of voting by mail, where appropriate.
- Inclusion of the use of "web-based meetings" where appropriate.
- Inclusion of non-members at the annual meeting with "specific reports or relevant information to the proceedings."

Member Categories:

- Removal of the limit of 150 members in the NPSA.
- Inclusion of new member categories for *Surgeons in Training* and *Affiliated Advanced Practice Providers*. Specifically, in Article III, the proposed definition is:

Section 6. Trainee Members. *Any intern, resident, or fellow in surgical specialty training may apply to be a trainee member. They shall not vote or hold office. Such members shall be sponsored by an active NPSA member, pay a reduced rate set by the NPSA Council and be able to participate in committees.*

Section 7. Advanced Practice Provider Members. *Any advanced practice provider (e.g. Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, or Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) engaged in surgical and/or subspecialty care may apply to be an Advanced Practice Provider Member. They shall not vote or hold office. Such members shall be sponsored by an active NPSA member, pay a reduced rate set by the NPSA council and be able to participate in committees.*

- The option for the president to appoint a Trainee and/or Advanced Practice Provider as non-voting members of the NPSA council.

### **Approval by Members**

In accordance with our current bylaws, these changes must be approved by the members at the annual meeting on November 6 in Seattle, WA. The proposed changes require at least a 30 day notice to the member meeting.

### **Comments**

Comments should be addressed to the NPSA president, Dr. John Waldhausen at 206-987-1177 or [John.waldhausen@seattlechildrens.org](mailto:John.waldhausen@seattlechildrens.org).