

# THE UK AND EIRE GLAUCOMA SOCIETY STATUTES

Second version SAV Oct 05

Article 1. The UK and Eire Glaucoma Society (UKEGS) is a national scientific society founded in 1994 as a continuation of the Glaucoma Group which itself was founded in 1979 in London UK. In 2004 it was decided to change the format of the society that had, until then, met in London at yearly intervals and been under the auspices of a long term President. These statutes represent the first statutes of the “new” society and are presented in the absence of any previous statutes. The statutes are adapted from the statutes of the European Glaucoma Society by the 2005 Chairperson of the UKEGS (Mr S A Vernon) with kind permission of the secretary of the European Glaucoma Society. The address for the UKEGS is that for the current chairperson.

Article II. Aims of the society.

The society is a non-profit organisation. The aims of this society are:

1. To establish personal contacts and to promote the exchange of knowledge between glaucoma specialists and those involved in the management of glaucoma patients in the UK and Eire.
2. To stimulate glaucoma research by bringing together basic scientists and clinicians involved in glaucoma research, thereby establishing a scientific community with similar interests, aims and objectives together with a sense of comradeship and active co-operation.
3. To promote an interest in glaucoma as a sub-speciality in trainee ophthalmologists and those in related occupations.
4. To keep contact with other glaucoma societies within and outside the two nations.
5. To promote, protect and foster the interests and care of people having or at risk of developing glaucoma.

Article III. Financial resources.

1. There is no membership fee.
2. The society may acquire financial resources by donations from other societies, private persons, charities, government, or industrial organisations.
3. It is the aim of the Society not to limit commercial sponsorship to one company.
4. A sum of money currently resides in a bank account as a reserve but it is the aim of the society that all future meetings will be self-funding (see article IX). Control of the society’s reserve account(s) will reside with the current Executive Committee.

Article IV. Classes of membership.

1. There is one class of membership.

Article V. Current and New members.

1. As from 2005, membership of the society will be limited to those members on the previous database who have provided an up to date e-mail address. All members on the old database as of 2004 were sent information indicating the new terms of membership. New members as from 2005 will be accepted into the society at the

discretion of the current chairperson. If the chairperson considers the applicant unsuitable he/she will discuss the application with the other members of the executive committee.

2. The database of members' names and addresses is the property of the society and will be kept by the current chairperson. Members are expected to ensure that an up to date correspondence e-mail address is provided to the society.

Article VI. Loss of membership.

The membership of the society will be ended:

1. By death
2. By activities contrary to the aims of the society
3. By activities that are considered unethical by the officers of the Society.
4. By failure to maintain a correspondence e-mail address with the Society
5. By voluntary resignation

The current chairperson, previous chairperson and chairperson elect (executive committee – *vide infra*) shall have executive power concerning membership and may delete a member's details from the membership database if they consider it appropriate.

Article VII. Organisation-structure.

The society consists of the General Assembly of all its members and an Executive Committee composed of the current chairperson, the immediate past chairperson and the chairperson elect, the period of being in the chair being normally one year. Following initial contact by e-mail or letter to the last known address of old members of the UKEGS in May 2005, all communication will thenceforth be by e-mail only.

Article VII/1. The General Assembly.

1. The General Assembly comprises the membership of the Society. The General Assembly will meet every year at the occasion of the congress of the society. It can ratify the actions of the Executive Committee at that time. The current chairperson will call the meeting.
2. A General Assembly may also be called at other times than at the congress if 20% of the ordinary members of the society propose it.
3. Decisions (at the General Assembly) can only be made on subjects that are mentioned in the agenda of the meeting. Items may be put on the agenda by members up to two months before the annual congress. A simple majority vote is sufficient to carry any motion.
4. Each member has one vote. The Chairperson makes up the agenda of the General Assembly meeting. The agenda will be circulated four weeks before the meeting by e-mail to all members.
5. A report of the meeting will be made by the Chairperson and signed by him/her and the Chairperson elect. This report will be available to the membership. Voting members of the General Assembly elect the next chairperson. A minimum of fifty ordinary members is required. The vote will ordinarily be undertaken by a show of hands, but if doubt exists then a poll will be taken.

Article VII/2 Executive Committee.

1. The Executive Committee holds all the powers of government and management of the society. It will manage the business and affairs of the society.
2. The Executive Committee will consist of the current chairperson, the immediate past chairperson and the chairperson elect. At least two of the three members of the Executive Committee will be practicing glaucoma specialists (defined as an

ophthalmologist who manages a specialist glaucoma clinic receiving tertiary referrals from other ophthalmologists).

3. They will be responsible to the members of the General Assembly. The Executive Committee, usually via the current chairperson, is responsible for the organisation of the congress of the society every year.

4. The Chairperson elect will be elected by the General Assembly. The standing Executive Committee will make a proposal for the chairperson elect and present the suggestion to the General Assembly at the annual meeting. Any member may propose a chairperson elect by e-mailing the current chairperson not less than three months before the next annual meeting. If necessary an election will take place at the annual meeting.

5. The Executive Committee will communicate with each other as and when necessary by e-mail.

Article VIII. Representation.

1. Only members of the Executive Committee can represent the UK and Eire Glaucoma Society. Any agreement with an outside agency can only be provisional and will have to be agreed upon by the other members of the Executive Committee. Written information on any proposed agreement should be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and a decision made within twenty days. An exception to this rule is the daily affairs of the organisation of the congress of the society.

Article IX. Congress.

1. The society shall organise an open scientific meeting every year. At the occasion of this scientific meeting there will also be a meeting of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee.

2. The organisation of the meeting is the responsibility of the current chairperson. Each annual meeting (and any other meetings held in the name of the society) should be self-funding. It is expected that the chairperson will be responsible for the financial propriety of the meeting with any residual funds being retained by the host department.

Article X. Special and regional meetings.

1. The Executive Committee may organise 'closed' meetings of the society between the Societies annual meeting.

Article XI. Auspices.

1. Members of the UK and Eire Glaucoma Society may organise meetings under the auspices of the society only with prior approval of the Executive Committee.

Article XII. Use of the UK and Eire Glaucoma Society name.

1. The use of the name of the society is restricted to members of the Executive Committee acting on behalf of the society.

2. The name can be used on special occasions for the special or regional meetings when organised with the consent of the Executive Committee.

Article XIII. Amendments.

1. The statutes may be amended or revised at the business meeting of the General Assembly if the Executive Committee recommends this to the General Assembly or if twenty members of the society submit a proposal to the current chairperson ninety days prior to the meeting.

Article XIV. Dissolution.

1. The decision to dissolve the UK and Eire Glaucoma Society will be made on the proposal of the Executive Committee or of fifty members of the society. This

proposal has to be circulated ninety days prior to a meeting of the General Assembly where voting concerning the dissolution will take place. The decision to dissolve the society can only be made by a two-thirds majority of the membership.

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10.1.2006