

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
INTERNATIONAL PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY
ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

I. Name

The Association shall be named the **International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA)**.

II. Purposes

The Association shall promote knowledge and communication among those interested in pediatric kidney disease, to improve care and treatment of diseases of the kidney and urinary tract in children throughout the world. To accomplish these objectives, the Association will pursue the following activities:

- A. Publication of a scientific journal, *Pediatric Nephrology*, which will serve scientific and educational goals.
- B. Conduct an international Congress every three years at which time all members from the basic sciences, clinical sciences, and clinical care disciplines will meet to disseminate knowledge of pediatric nephrology.
- C. Support activities and development of regional medical meetings, and training facilities, so as to disseminate information on pediatric nephrology to all areas of the world.
- D. Support and conduct basic science workshops and satellite symposia, which stimulate interest in, and disseminate

information, on new and innovative research, and provide a forum to stimulate young physicians in pediatric nephrologic research.

- E. To develop and support educational programs in pediatric nephrology for physicians actively involved in the care of children through regional and national pediatric associations.

III. Affiliation

Continental and/or Regional or National Societies will be encouraged to affiliate with IPNA and to cooperate in its work. The Association shall not replace nor compete with Continental or National Societies of Pediatric Nephrology, but shall cooperate, support and compliment them in all activities.

IV. Membership

A. Member

1. A member may reside anywhere in the world.
2. A member must have an active interest in pediatric nephrology and be medically qualified.
3. Members of Regional and/or National Pediatric Nephrology Societies will be eligible for membership in IPNA.
4. All individuals seeking membership will apply directly to IPNA.
5. A register of members will be kept by the Secretary-General and published from time to time.

6. Members will pay annual dues, the amount of which will be decided from time to time by the Council, and which will include a subscription to *Pediatric Nephrology*. Failure to be current in payment of dues will lead to loss of membership.
- B. Honorary Membership - Honorary Membership may be bestowed on individuals who have retired, and have made outstanding contributions to pediatric nephrology. An Honorary Member shall pay no dues and will not be eligible to vote. Potential Honorary Members may be proposed to the Council, which will make the final decision as to on whom this honor will be awarded.
- C. Associate Membership - can be obtained by any individual qualified as a medical doctor who contributes to or participates in the care of children with kidney and urologic diseases, or specializes in the care of individuals with kidney and urologic diseases.
- Associate Members will pay annual dues, the amount of which will be decided from time to time by the Council, and will include a subscription to *Pediatric Nephrology*. An Associate Member will not be eligible to vote.

V. The Council

The Council will be responsible for managing and controlling the property and affairs of the Association, and assisting with arrangements

for the International Congress of Pediatric Nephrology including selection of the venue and the Congress President.

- A. The Council membership will consist of:
1. Secretary General
 2. Treasurer
 3. Assistant Secretaries, one from each of the affiliated Regional or National Pediatric Societies.
 4. Assistant Secretaries term of office shall be commensurate with their term as General Secretaries of their respective Regional or National Societies.
 5. The Secretary-General-elect for three years prior to the commencement of his/her term.
 6. The outgoing Secretary General for three years following his/her term of office as Secretary General.
- B. Twenty Councillors at large, who will be elected by the General Membership attending the Congress, and will consist of:
1. Six Councillors from North America, including one from Canada
 2. Seven Councillors from Europe, including one from Central Europe and one from Eastern Europe
 3. One Councillor from Japan
 4. Three Councillors from Latin America

5. Three Councillors from the Asian Pacific Region, including one from China and one from India
 6. Councillors at large will serve six year terms and cannot be re-elected
- C. The Congress President of the forthcoming International IPNA Congress.

D. Ex-Officio Members

1. The Editor and Co-Editor of the journal *Pediatric Nephrology*
2. Chairpersons of workshops and symposia
3. Chairpersons of standing and special committees

VI. Nominating Committee for Councillors

Membership of the Nominating Committee will include the Assistant Secretaries and one Councillor at large. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Secretary General with the consent of the Council.

The Committee will present a slate of new Councillors to the Council which will then, upon approval, present the slate for confirmation by the membership attending the General Assembly at the International Congress.

VII. The Secretariat

The Secretary General will conduct the day to day affairs of the Association, and serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Association. He/she will arrange to have minutes kept of meetings. He/she will be responsible for the organization of the work of the Council and for compiling a register of members. He/she will serve a term of six years, and may not be re-elected for additional terms, but will serve on the Council as Past Secretary General for three years.

The Secretary General-elect will be proposed to the General Assembly by the Council, which will act as the Nominating Committee, and will be elected by the General Assembly three years prior to the commencement of his/her term of office, and will serve on the Council immediately upon election. The Nominating Committee should strive to retain multiregional representation for IPNA officers.

The Assistant Secretaries will assist the Secretary in the geographical areas from whence they come and in other more general respects and keep the Secretary General informed on local happenings. Assistant Secretaries will be nominated by Council on the advice of the Regional or National Societies and approved by the members.

VIII. Treasurer

The Treasurer will be nominated by the Nominating Committee, approved by the Council and elected by the membership. He/she will be responsible for funds of the Association in cooperation with the Secretary General. He/she will serve for a period of six years. The Treasurer's election shall be coincident with that of the Secretary General. The Nominating Committee should strive to retain multiregional representation for IPNA officers.

IX. Meetings

The General Membership of the Association will meet every three years during the International Congress of Pediatric Nephrology. The

Council will meet at least on a yearly basis. The time and venue of meetings will be decided by the Secretary General in consultation with the Council membership.

X. Language

The language of the Council, including any correspondence, will be English. At the International Congress symposia and workshops, other languages can be used as decided by the Congress President, Chairmen of Workshops, symposia and the Council.

XI. Voting

Voting shall be a simple majority of members or Councillors either at a general meeting or on postal ballot, except when alteration to the Constitution is concerned a two-thirds majority is required.

XII. Publications

The International Pediatric Nephrology Association owns and operates the journal, *Pediatric Nephrology*. The contract for the publication of the journal will be negotiated by the Secretary General and Treasurer, and approved by the Council.

XIII. Committees

There shall be the following standing committees, the members of whom shall be appointed by the Secretary General for a six year term (with one reappointment permitted) and approved by the Council.

A. Committees

1. Nominating Committee
2. Special workshops and symposia
3. Publications Committee--choose editor, oversee and report to council operations
4. National and International Disaster Committee
5. Continuing Medical Education Committee
6. Development Committee

The Council or the Secretary General may, on an ad hoc basis, authorize and appoint any other Committees as in their discretion they deem necessary or appropriate to assist the Association's programs or activities.

XIV. Scientific Meetings

IPNA shall run an International Congress every three years. The venue and Organizing Committee will be the decision of the Council.

There shall be International Workshops and symposia carried out on a regular basis by the Association on topics in Pediatric Nephrology that are consistent with the goal of the Association and meet the scientific educational needs of the International Membership.

XV. Alterations to the Constitution

Alterations to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be proposed by ten or more members who live in two or more Continental regions, or by the Council. A two-thirds majority of those voting either in the General Assembly or by postal ballot, is required for approval.