

**Bylaws of  
The Young Physicians Section of  
The American Academy of Emergency Medicine  
(YPS-AAEM)**

**Approved August 17, 2021**

**Article I: Purpose and Mission**

1.1 Purpose and Mission

This Young Physicians Section is constituted and formed for the purpose of promoting the professional development of its members and providing them with education regarding the principles and activities of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine. As a section of the Academy, all activities of the Section will be in accordance with the standards established by the Academy. The purpose and mission statement of the Academy also extend to the Young Physicians Section.

1.2 Duration

The term of existence of the Section shall be perpetual unless dissolved according to the bylaws of the Academy.

**Article II: Membership and Privileges**

2.1 Section Membership

All Emergency Medicine Residency-Trained, Fellows-in-Training, Associate or Voting members of the Academy who are within the first five years of professional practice after residency or fellowship training shall be eligible for membership in the Young Physicians Section.

2.2 Voting Privileges

All members of the Section shall be entitled to vote for officers and councilors and to vote to change the bylaws in accordance with the procedures outlined in these bylaws.

2.3 Obligations of Members

By virtue of membership, each member of the Section agrees to be bound by these bylaws and all lawful rules and practices adopted by section council and of the Academy.

2.4 Action on Behalf of the Section

Only the executive council of the Section, the council of the Section, and other authorized agents of the Section may state policies or positions on behalf of the Section.

**Article III: Resignation**

3.1 Resignation

Membership in the section requires membership in AAEM. Membership in the section shall be terminated immediately upon termination of membership in AAEM.

**Article IV: Assessments**

4.1 Dues

Annual dues shall be determined by the officers and council and AAEM executive council for the ensuing year.

4.2 Non-Payment

The executive council shall establish policies with regard to nonpayment of dues.

## **Article V: Meetings**

### 5.1 Annual and Special Meetings

There will be a formal meeting of the Young Physicians Section at the Academy's Scientific Assembly each year. Other meetings throughout the year will be held as circumstances and needs dictate, as determined by the executive committee. Special meetings may be called by the executive council at its discretion.

### 5.2 Voting

Any voting member may be represented in person or by proxy at any meeting, but each voting member shall be entitled to only one vote.

## **Article VI: Executive Council and Councilors**

### 6.1 Executive Council

The officers of the Section shall consist of a section chair, immediate past chair, regardless of his/her eligibility to be a YPS member, vice chair and secretary-treasurer. These officers are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Section.

### 6.2 Section Council

The section council shall consist of the Section chair, immediate past chair, vice chair, secretary-treasurer, AAEM Resident and Student Association representative, AAEM YPS Member Councilor and up to five other councilors. The immediate past chair, AAEM/RSA representative and AAEM YPS Member Councilor are voting members on the YPS Section Council regardless of their eligibility to be a YPS member. The Section Council is responsible for the direction of the Section and long-term planning.

### 6.3 AAEM Resident and Student Association Representative

The Section Council shall include a representative of the AAEM Resident and Student Association. This member shall be nominated by the AAEM/RSA Section Council and approved by vote of the Section Executive Council. This council position shall remain vacant if the AAEM/RSA fails to provide a nominee or if no nominee is accepted by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### 6.4 Section Liaison

The Section Council shall include a liaison from the AAEM Board of Directors.

### 6.5 Election Procedure

Any Section member may nominate another eligible member (including him or herself) for an open position on the Section Council, except for the AAEM/RSA representative or the AAEM YPS Member Councilor. To be eligible for nomination, the member must meet the requirements for membership in the section, as outlined in Article II, throughout the duration of the term for which he or she is nominated. Members of the Academy in their final year of accredited emergency residency training or fellowship training may not be nominated as an officer, but may be nominated for any other position for which they would otherwise be eligible as a member of the Section. Nominations may be made during a period that will end 60 days before the next Scientific Assembly. In the event that no nominations are received for a particular position on the section council, the current section council may elect a member to that position by majority vote. Any member appointed by the section council to a position must meet all requirements which would otherwise be necessary for nomination to that position, except for the immediate past chair, who may also serve as the AAEM YPS Member Councilor .

Voting in the general election will be undertaken online: one vote per person. Each voting member shall have one vote for each open position of chair, vice-chair, secretary-treasurer and each open councilor position, except for

the position of AAEM-RSA representative or AAEM council liaison. Each open council position will be filled by the nominee receiving the most votes. An uncontested open position will be filled by the nominee regardless of the number of votes received for that position. Elections will be completed no less than 14 days prior to the start of the Scientific Assembly. In the case of a tie in the election of any YPS position, a run-off election for the tied candidates will be held. The run-off election will begin at the discretion of the current YPS chair. Voting will be open for a 14-day period, otherwise following the same procedures as the general election. No changes to the official candidate statements will be allowed during this period. The newly elected officers and councilors will take their positions at the YPS section council's meeting at the Scientific Assembly. No officer or council member may hold more than one position on the council at a time.

#### 6.6 Terms of Office

The term of all council members is one year. Term limitations are established at two consecutive terms for each office. A term will not count towards the term limitation unless the member shall have served at least 11 months in that position.

#### 6.7 Rules of Succession

Officers and councilors shall hold office until a successor has been duly elected and takes office. In the event of a vacancy in the offices of vice chair, secretary-treasurer or councilor due to death, resignation, or otherwise, the position shall be filled by appointment of the chair and must be approved by the section council. In the event of similar vacancy in the office of chair, the vice chair will assume command for the unexpired term. If he or she is unable to take over the role of chair, then succession falls to the secretary-treasurer of the Section. In the event of any succession, the succeeding officer will be eligible at the completion of the unexpired term of his or her predecessor for election to two full terms in that position.

#### 6.8 Meetings of the Council

Meetings of the Section Council shall be open to the members of the Section. A closed executive session may be called by the council for just cause, but all voting must be in open session by open ballot. Special meetings of the section council may be called by or at the request of the executive committee, any five councilors, or at the request of 20 percent of all of the voting members of the Section. Any member of the Section may submit any resolution or item for discussion and vote at any of the council meetings.

#### 6.9 Quorum

At any meeting of the section council, a majority of the councilors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### 6.10 Resignation

A councilor or officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the council, the chair, or the secretary-treasurer of the Section. Unless otherwise specified in the notice, the resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof by the council or such officer, and the acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

#### 6.11 Presumption of Assent

A councilor of the Section who is present at a meeting of the Section Council at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action unless his or her dissent to such action is registered with the person acting as secretary of the meeting before adjournment thereof or unless he or she shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the secretary-treasurer of the Section immediately after the adjournment of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a councilor who voted in favor of such action.

#### 6.12 Majority Action

Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, every act or decision done or made by a majority of officers and councilors present at any meeting duly held at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Section Council. Voting may also be conducted by electronic mail.

#### 6.13 Removal of an Officer or Councilor

Any officer or councilor may be removed from office by a vote passed by at least three-quarters of the entire section council. A recall requires a petition by one-third of the entire section council or ten percent of Section membership. If an officer or councilor misses three consecutive meetings of the council, the council may then, at its discretion, declare the position to be vacant.

### **Article VII: Council Work Groups**

#### 7.1 Executive Council

The Executive Council shall consist of the chair, immediate past chair, vice chair, and secretary-treasurer. The executive council shall have the authority to act on behalf of the council subject to ratification by the council. The executive council shall meet at the call of the chair, vice chair or secretary-treasurer. A report of its actions shall be given to the council. Any tie vote of the executive council may be decided by the chair.

#### 7.2 General Committees

The executive council may appoint committees and task forces to address issues of the Section. Meetings shall be at the discretion of the committee chair. Each committee chairperson is responsible for an annual report to the officers and section council .

### **Article VIII: Accountability**

#### 8.1 Records

Minutes of the meetings of the council and books of account shall be open to inspection by any member of the Academy.

#### 8.2 Rules of Order

The Section shall follow Dr. James E. Davis' Rules of Order.

### **Article IX: Indemnification**

The councilors and officers of the Section shall not be personally liable for any debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the Section or the Academy. The Academy shall defend current and former councilors and officers against all claims, suits, actions, or other proceedings which arise as a result of such persons' position with the Section. The Academy shall hold harmless and indemnify each councilor and officer for reasonable expenses and liabilities incurred in all such proceedings. The Academy may maintain insurance, at its expense, for these purposes.

### **Article X: Amendments to Bylaws**

These bylaws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a vote passed by at least two-thirds of the entire section council or at least two-thirds of the voting members of the Academy.

**Approved 8/17/2021**