



Fort Lauderdale Surgical Society

Founded 1959



**FORT LAUDERDALE SURGICAL SOCIETY
(FTLSS)**

www.ftlss.com

CONSTITUTION

AND

BYLAWS

(Last Revised May, 1985)

(Revision Approved by Executive Committee 10/03/2012)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of the Society shall be:

The Fort Lauderdale Surgical Society (FTLSS)
www.ftlss.com

A Non-Profit Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) Florida Corporation
Internal Revenue Service Tax Identification Number # 20-8181299
Florida Sales Tax Exemption Certificate # 85-8013812828C-0

ARTICLE II

The mission of the Society shall be to foster advancement of surgical knowledge and skills by sponsoring educational meetings, with presentations and discussions on subjects concerning the art and science of surgery, and such other matters as may come properly within its professional sphere of business.

ARTICLE III

Section 1

The Society consists of Active and Senior Fellows, who are medical practitioners with interests in surgical and allied specialties and subspecialties.

Section 2

Active Fellows shall be unlimited in number.

Section 3

Senior Fellows shall be Active Fellows, who reach the age of sixty-five (65), or upon retirement from active medical practice.

Senior Fellows shall have all the privileges of Active Fellows.

Senior Fellows shall pay reduced dues.

Section 4

Any Active Fellow in good standing will forfeit their fellowship if they remove from the local medical community. Leave of absence with suspension of dues will be granted for military service, or for leaving the community temporarily for further surgical training. Otherwise, continued Fellowship is contingent upon paying the annual dues.

Section 5

Voting Fellows shall be Active or Senior Fellows.

ARTICLE IV

The elected Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, an Assistant-Secretary, and a Coordinator.

The Officers of the Society shall comprise the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V

Terms of Office. The Officers of the Society shall be elected or re-elected as appropriate by a majority ballot of the Fellows present at the annual business meeting each year. The usual term of office is for two (2) years, but Officers may be re-elected for a second term of two (2) years, with a total term limit of four (4) years.

ARTICLE VI

Fellowship in the Society shall be by invitation only.

Candidates for admission as Active Fellows must be practicing surgeons, or practicing in a medical specialty allied to the field of surgery.

ARTICLE VII

Resignation. Any Fellow having complied with the requirements of the Constitution and Bye-Laws of the Society, may resign their Fellowship by presenting their resignation in writing to an Officer of the Society.

ARTICLE VIII

Any Fellow committing a violation of the regulations of the Society and of its adopted Code of Medical Ethics, shall be removed from Fellowship of the Society. The Society shall be governed by the Code of Ethics of the American Medical Association (AMA).

BYLAWS

SECTION I

REGULAR MEETING

The Society will hold regular monthly scientific meetings between September and June, to be held no more than ten (10) times a year, on the third Thursday of each month, commencing at 6:30 pm and concluding around 9:30 pm. Fellows will be notified in advance by e-mail of the time and place of each meeting.

SECTION II

SPECIAL MEETINGS

A special meeting of the Society may be called at any time by the President. An Executive Committee meeting may be called at any time by the President or by a majority of the Officers of the Society.

SECTION III

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The last meeting of the year shall be designated as the annual business meeting, for presentation of annual reports, election of Officers, election of new Fellows, and for any other relevant business. The quorum for elections, changes to the Constitution and/or Bylaws, imposing assessments, and/or any other business affecting the interests of the Society or its individual Fellows, shall be constituted by the total number of Fellows present at the meeting. A majority vote prevails.

BUSINESS AT A REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING

Other significant business pertinent to the functioning of the Society may be transacted at any regular or special meeting of the Society, or at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

SECTION IV

DUTIES OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

The President shall preside over meetings, regulate debates, approve bills ordered to be paid by the Society, appoint committees, announce results of elections and perform all other duties pertaining to the office. The vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President, and assist with the discharge of Presidential functions.

SECTION V

DUTIES OF SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Society, notify Fellows of meetings, notify Officers and Fellows of their election, acquaint new Fellows with the requirements of the Bylaws concerning admission, receive contact information and e-mail addresses of newly elected Fellows, and take charge of Society records and papers not otherwise provided for. The Secretary shall maintain custody of the Seal of the Society.

SECTION VI

DUTIES OF TREASURER

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies and funds belonging to the Society, pay all bills when properly ordered by the Society, and present an annual financial account for audit. The Treasurer will maintain required financial records, reconcile the Society Bank account and communicate with the Society's accountant (CPA) to help prepare annual tax returns.

SECTION VII

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the Society, including the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary and Coordinator. It shall hold meetings for the transaction of routine business upon notice from the Secretary and upon the call of the President, or upon the call of any two of its own members.

SECTION VIII

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Officers of the Society shall be nominated and elected as appropriate at the annual business meeting each year. The election shall be by ballot, and a majority of all those present shall be necessary for a choice.

SECTION IX

PROPOSALS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Proposals for Fellowship shall be in writing or e-mail, supported by three voting Fellows. The nominations shall be referred to the Executive Committee, who shall report on the same at the next annual business meeting. One of the sponsors of any candidate is required to be present at the meeting at which the candidate is to be voted upon and to speak in support of them.

SECTION X

ELECTION OF FELLOWS

Election of candidates for Fellowship who have been reported upon by the Executive Committee may take place only at the annual business meeting and shall be by ballot. A majority vote of those present shall be necessary for election.

SECTION XI

ANNUAL DUES

There shall be annual dues in an amount set by the Executive Committee (current rate effective 2012-2013: \$250 active fellows; \$200 senior fellows) to be paid within four months after the annual business meeting. Any Fellow who requests relief from payment of dues and assessments may at the discretion of the Executive Committee be relieved of such dues and assessments without loss of Fellowship or other rights, but they shall not cause the Society to incur expense on their behalf.

SECTION XII

DUES IN ARREARS

Any Fellow in arrears at the November meeting shall be notified of the fact by the Treasurer by e-mail or in writing. If the dues are not paid within two months after such notification, the Fellow shall forfeit their Fellowship.

SECTION XIII

INVITED GUESTS

Any Fellow may invite any number of guests to a scientific meeting. The guest name should be registered in the e-mail response to the meeting invitation received from the website. Each guest should be introduced by their host at the meeting and their name entered in the minutes. Guests shall be limited to physicians. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the President. The President may invite guests to participate in a discussion. However, all invited guests shall withdraw from the meeting when matters confidential to the private business of the Society are under consideration. Any Fellow inviting a guest shall be responsible for payment of the guest fee (2012-2013 rate: \$25) for the meeting, unless the guest is a prospective candidate for Fellowship.

SECTION XIV

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS

The Officers of the Society will arrange for outstanding professional speakers from various branches of medicine or allied fields to make presentations to the Society. Fellows may present medical topics and/or original papers to the Society.

SECTION XV

CERTIFICATE OF FELLOWSHIP

A wall plaque will be issued to each new Fellow in good standing upon payment of their annual dues.

SECTION XVI

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Business Agenda
4. Scientific Program
5. Adjournment

SECTION XVII

RULES OF ORDER

The proceedings of the Society shall be conducted under parliamentary rules of order.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND/OR BYLAWS

No part of the Constitution and/or Bylaws shall be amended, altered or repealed except at a specified business meeting, held subsequent to advance notice being given by the President via e-mail, and prior posting of the proposed changes on the website for a minimum period of one month. Passage requires a majority vote of the Fellows present at the specified business meeting.