

10 JANUARY 1991

CONSTITUTION OF THE BRITISH PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ASSOCIATIONARTICLE I - NAMESECTION 1

The name of this organisation shall be called "The British Paediatric Cardiac Association". It shall be affiliated to the "British Cardiac Society".

ARTICLE II - PURPOSESECTION 1

This is a non-profit making organisation. Its purposes are to promote the study and care of infants and children with heart diseases in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland; to promote and distribute study data pertaining to these problems and their prevention; to help those engaged in this work at the various centres in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and to promote communication and co-operation between these workers.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIPSECTION 1

The Association shall consist of Ordinary, Candidate and Corresponding Members.

SECTION 2

ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP shall be given to medical practitioners of consultant or equivalent level, and others, whose primary interest is in the practice or research of children's heart diseases, who are resident in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland at the time of the application.

SECTION 3

A member may cease to be an ordinary member at any time and may choose to become a Corresponding Member

SECTION 4

CANDIDATE MEMBERSHIP will be given to individuals engaged in any aspect of training in children's heart diseases. Such members will be ineligible to vote or hold office.

SECTION 5

CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP may be given to recognised physicians, surgeons, or others overseas, who have a clear and continuing link with children's heart disease in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

SECTION 6

Corresponding members will not be eligible to vote or hold office.

SECTION 7

The original membership shall be ceded to those individuals who are already members of the British Paediatric Cardiac Association. Subsequent applications for any category of membership shall be considered by the Council and ratified at the Annual General Meeting. Such applications should be proposed and seconded by two (2) ordinary members.

ARTICLE IV - SUBSCRIPTIONSSECTION 1

The annual subscription and the due date shall be fixed by the Council. Failure to pay within one (1) year of the due date shall be considered equivalent to resignation of membership.

SECTION 2

The annual membership subscription, payable by ordinary members, shall be twenty-five (25) pounds sterling, subject to changes to be advised, and shall be payable on the First of January.

## ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

### SECTION 1

The officers of this organisation shall be President, Vice President (President-Elect), Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) elected Council Members. The elected members shall, as far as possible, reflect the composition and various interests of the Association. The officers shall have been voting members of this organisation for at least one year prior to their election.

### SECTION 2

All officers must submit themselves to re-election after two (2) years.

### SECTION 3

The President automatically stands down after two (2) years and is replaced by the Vice-President (President-elect). However, the President shall be eligible for a non-executive position on the Council two (2) years after ceasing to be President.

The Secretary and Treasurer shall be eligible for re-election after two (2) years.

Ordinary Council Members shall be elected for two (2) years.

No officer shall serve on the Council for more than two (2) consecutive two-yearly terms (maximum of four years), but will be eligible for re-election two (2) years after ceasing to hold office.

### SECTION 4

The elected officers shall form the Executive Council of the organisation.

## ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

### SECTION 1

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual General Meeting, providing the amendment has been proposed in writing and recorded at the last Annual General Meeting.

BYE-LAWS OF THE BRITISH PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ASSOCIATIONARTICLE I - MEETINGSSECTION 1

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the British Cardiac Society meeting in Spring. This will consist of a scientific and business meeting. The programme and agenda shall be organised by the Council and will complement the programme of presentation of papers arranged by the British Cardiac Society.

SECTION 2

Other meetings of the Association shall be arranged at the discretion of the Council and will rotate around the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. The topics will be selected at the discretion of the Council, who will take into account suggestions from the members. A local organisation shall be nominated for this second meeting, but the overall organisation shall remain the responsibility of the Council.

SECTION 3

A Quorum shall consist of not less than twenty (20) members.

ARTICLE II - FISCAL YEARSECTION 1

The fiscal year shall correspond with the term of office of the officers.

SECTION 2

Newly elected officers shall assume office at the close of the Annual General Meeting and hold office for two years or until a duly elected successor takes office.

## ARTICLE III - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### SECTION 1

Until such time as election of the Council takes place, the Steering Committee shall act in the capacity of the Council. The Council shall present a list of candidates for elections, but nominations will also be accepted from the membership. Nominations and elections will be conducted by a postal ballot and the results will be notified at the Annual General Meeting. A straight majority will be sufficient for election.

### SECTION 2

The nominations should take place in January and the elections in the following March.

## ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### SECTION 1

The President shall preside at all the meetings, have general supervisory powers over the organisation, see that officers perform duties, and enforce the Bye-Laws. He will appoint the chairman of all the sub-committees. He will cast the deciding vote when there is a tie in the balloting.

### SECTION 2

The Vice-President (President-Elect) shall preside in the absence of the President and in case of death, sickness, resignation, disqualification, refusal, or neglect of the President, to discharge the duties of his office. The Vice-President (President-Elect) shall then perform all duties incumbent upon the President for the remainder of the term of office.

### SECTION 3

The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the organisation and prepare a roll of members. He will call the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice-President (President-Elect). The Secretary shall be in charge of scheduling and printing the meeting programme for the year.

SECTION 4

The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the organisation, pay bills, disburse funds as directed, and have all accounts receipted upon payment of the same. The Treasurer shall be charged with the collection of subscriptions. All disbursements shall be by cheque and require the signature of the Treasurer or, in his absence, the Secretary. The Treasurer shall give a financial report at the Annual General Meeting.

SECTION 5

In case of death, sickness, or resignation of the Vice-President (President-Elect) or the Secretary, or the Treasurer, the Council will present a list of candidates to the membership for election.

ARTICLE V - SUBSCRIPTIONSSECTION 1

Subscriptions shall be collected annually from each member. Candidate and Corresponding Members shall be exempt from paying subscriptions. The Council shall propose the subscription and this will need ratification at the Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTSSECTION 1

These Bye-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual General Meeting, providing the amendment has been proposed in writing and recorded at the last Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE VII - CONVENING OF SUB-COMMITTEESSECTION 1

The Council shall have the right to convene sub-committees as it deems necessary.

ARTICLE VIII - NON-PROFIT STATUS AND  
DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1

No part of the net earnings of the organisation shall inure to the benefit of any individual or member. Where appropriate, the Executive Council may determine to compensate reasonably any officer of the organisation in accordance with and commensurate with the labour, services, or other endeavours performed by such persons.

SECTION 2

In the event of the dissolution of this organisation, or in the event it shall cease to exist for the stated purposes, all the property and assets shall be distributed to an organisation or agency of similar nature and charitable and nonprofit status. This allocation shall be decided by the Council at the time of dissolution. Under no circumstances shall any of the property or assets of this organisation during the existence and/or upon the dissolution thereof go and be distributed to any officer or member of the organisation.

OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ASSOCIATION

President: Dr Stewart Hunter

Vice President: Professor Michael Tynan

Secretary: Dr Shakeel Qureshi

Treasurer: Professor Robert Anderson

Council members: Dr John Deanfield  
Mr Babulal Sethia  
Dr Barry Keeton  
Professor David Hamilton  
Dr Desmond Duff  
Dr Audrey Smith