

# STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HUMAN AND ANIMAL MYCOLOGY (ISHAM / SIMHA / IGHAM)

## Article 1

In agreement with a resolution of the VIII International Congress of Botany, held in Paris in 1954, an international non-profit making scientific association was formed and has been named the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology (ISHAM); Société Internationale de Mycologie Humaine et Animale (SIMHA); Internationale Gesellschaft für Human- und Veterinärmedizinische Mykologie (IGHAM).

1. The Society is an association governed by these Statutes and By-Laws, by approved resolutions of the Society's members (*vide infra*), and by Civil Laws of those countries in which the Society transacts its business
2. The Society shall consist of a governing body termed the *Council* (Statutes Article 5), different categories of members (Statutes Article 3), the *General Assembly* (Statutes Article 4), *Committees* (Statutes Article 6), and *Editorial Staff* (Statutes Article 8).

## Article 2 - Objectives

1. To encourage the practice and study of all aspects of medical and veterinary mycology.
2. To facilitate on an international basis the exchange of ideas and information and give assistance pertaining to medical and veterinary mycology.
3. To publish an official journal .
4. To organise an international congress at least once every five years.

## Article 3 - Membership

1. Membership shall be open to all suitable persons (or organisations) who have a particular interest in medical and veterinary mycology.
2. Members may be: -
  - (a) *Active Members* - An active member is one who qualifies under Article 3(1) and pays regular dues. Those active members who joined the Society at its foundation or during the year 1955 shall be deemed *Charter Members*.
  - (b) *Life Members* - An active member on payment of such sum as is determined by the Society for this purpose and stated in the By-Laws (Article 4(3)) shall qualify as a Life Member.
  - (c) *Emeritus Members* - An active member of ten or more years standing *and* who has reached the age of 65 years *or* who has retired from active duty is eligible for election as an Emeritus Member.

- (d) *Honorary Members* - An individual who has made an extraordinary contribution to medical or veterinary mycology is eligible for election as an Honorary Member.
  - (e) *Associate Member* - A student, junior scientist, or similar individual who does not seek active, voting membership may be granted associate membership.
  - (f) *Sustaining Member* - A suitable person or organisation in sympathy with the aims of the Society and making regular substantial financial contributions to the Society is eligible for election as Sustaining Member.
  - (g) *Patrons* - An individual who makes a single substantial financial contribution to the Society may be elected as Patron.
  - (h) *Affiliated Organisations* - Other societies with an interest in medical and veterinary mycology, on payment of such dues as required by the By-Laws (Article 4(9)) and if they fulfil such other conditions as may be specified in the By-Laws, may be granted affiliation.
3. Only Active Members, Honorary Members, Life Members and Emeritus Members shall have a voice in the government of the Society.
  4. The conditions for admission of new members will conform with the requirements set out in Article 1 of the By-Laws.
  5. The rights of membership shall be lost by reason of:
    - (a) *Death*
    - (b) *Resignation* - To be valid, all resignations must be notified in writing to the General Secretary before the end of the calendar year in which they are intended to be effective.
    - (c) *Suspension* - A member, whose activities by a two-thirds decision of the Council shall be judged to be harmful to the Society, may be suspended by a vote of the General Assembly if a majority of two thirds of members present or represented is obtained in support of such action. The member shall be informed by letter from the General Secretary that such action is intended and the member may, if he/she wishes, defend him/herself before the members of the General Assembly.
    - (d) *Failure to pay dues* - Any member who, during two years, shall omit to pay the dues for which he/she is liable will be automatically suspended. The Council has the right to waive the application of this regulation under certain exceptional conditions as provided for in the By-Laws (Article 8).

#### **Article 4 - The General Assembly**

1. The General Assembly has full powers to decide upon and implement the aims of the Society.
2. The General Assembly shall be held at least once every five years at the instigation of the Council or on demand of at least one fifth of the members of the Society.

3. The Council will send to all members not less than six months before the date of the General Assembly a notice requesting items for the agenda. Members who desire to have an item included on this agenda must inform the Council at least four months prior to the date of the Assembly. The Council will send to all members not less than two months before the date of the Assembly a detailed agenda of subjects to be discussed. The Assembly may discuss and make recommendations upon a subject not included on the agenda with the majority approval of the members present.
4. The General Assembly shall meet under the Chairmanship of the President of the Society, or, failing that, of one of the Vice-Presidents, or, failing that, of a person elected by the members present.
5. Except in exceptional circumstances as allowed for in the Statutes (Article 3 (5c), Article 9), and recognising By-Laws Article 1(3), the decisions will be taken on a simple majority vote of members present taking into account By-Laws Article 3(1-3) and Article 7. In case of equality, the vote of the Chairman is decisive.
6. The resolutions of the General Assembly shall be recorded and signed by the Chairman and General Secretary. These records shall be held by the General Secretary in a special Minute Book and shall be open to inspection by all members.

#### **Article 5 - *The Council***

1. The Society is governed by a Council comprising at least nine members elected according to By-Laws Article 2 and Article 8(3) of the present Statutes and the Chief Editor who is appointed by Council.
2. The Council shall consist of a President, a President-Elect, five Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, A Treasurer and the Chief Editor of the Journal of the Society.
3. The terms of office for all members of the Council shall begin at the close of the General Assembly at which they are elected and shall extend to the next General Assembly of the Society. The term of any Council member may however be curtailed on demand of 70% of members of the Society. The President-Elect will automatically serve a second term as President. The retiring President is not eligible for re-election to the same post; however the Vice-Presidents, General Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected for a second term. The maximum term of office for any position will be 6 years except for the Chief Editor who may be appointed as desired. Should a vacancy occur between General Assemblies, the Council may co-opt a member who shall hold office until the next General Assembly.
4. The Council will meet immediately prior to each General Assembly and otherwise as may be considered necessary by the President and General Secretary. Its decisions will be taken on simple majority vote. In cases of equality the President shall have the casting vote.
5. The decisions of the Council shall be recorded and preserved by the General

Secretary who shall hold them available for inspection by all members of the Society.

6. The council shall administer all goods and funds of the Society according to the wishes of the members. It can delegate authority for routine matters to one or more members. All legal matters are the responsibility of the Council represented by the President or a member appointed for such matters.
7. Decisions of Council shall be taken on the basis of a simple majority vote from a quorum of at least five members, one of whom shall be the President, General Secretary or Treasurer.
8. All members of Council may act as signatories on behalf of the Society and all decisions must be formally authorised by the signatures of at least two Council members.

### **Article 6 - Committees**

1. The Council or the General Assembly shall appoint such Standing Committees as shall from time to time be desirable for the study of special problems. Such Committees shall act for such a period as may be determined by the Council or General Assembly. Such a period shall not exceed 4 years, at which time the Committee may be re-appointed by a decision of the Council or the General Assembly.
2. Any member who has served on a Standing Committee during two consecutive terms will not be eligible for immediate re-election.
3. No members shall serve on more than two Standing Committees at a time.
4. The Chairman of a Standing Committee shall be nominated at the time of election of the Committee.

### **Article 7 - Budgets and Accounts**

1. The Financial Year of the Society begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December. The Council must present to each General Assembly for approval the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the period between the previous General Assembly and the 31st December of the previous year. In the interim between General Assemblies, the annual accounts will be published in the Society's official Journal or Newsletter.
2. An Auditing Committee of at least three members shall be charged to examine the records of the Treasurer. The manner of election of this committee is defined in the By-Laws Article 3(4).

### **Article 8 - The Journal of the Society**

1. The Journal of the Society is named *Medical Mycology* and is the official journal of the International Society for Human and Animal

Mycology.

2. The Journal shall be edited for the Society according to the general policy laid down by the Council and the General Assembly.
3. The Journal shall be edited by a Chief Editor, Associate Editors and an Editorial Board of six or more members. Nominations for the Editorial Board shall be submitted by the Chief Editor and approved by the Council.
4. The Journal shall publish texts written in Latin letters. For articles other than English, an additional summary in English shall be provided.
5. At each General Assembly, the Chief Editor shall submit a report on matters appertaining to the Journal.

### ***Article 9 - Modification to the Statutes and Dissolution of the Society***

All propositions with the object of modifying these Statutes or the dissolution of the Society must be made by the Council or at least twenty-five active members of the Society. Such a proposition must be communicated to the Council at least five months before the date of the General Assembly called to consider it. The Council will inform the members at least three months in advance of the modifications proposed as well as the exact date of the General Assembly called to consider them. No decision can be taken unless supported by a majority of two-thirds of the voting members of the Society. The General Assembly shall decide the mode of dissolution of the Society and liquidations of its capital.

### ***Article 10 - General Disposition***

The above Statutes have been accepted together with the By-Laws by the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology at the General Assembly in Paris on July 8th, 1971, and as modified by the General Assemblies at Atlanta (USA) on May 23rd, 1985, at Adelaide (Australia) on March 17th, 1994, at Salsomaggiore Terme, Parma (Italy) on June 13th, 1997 and at San Antonio (USA) on May 29th, 2003.

## BY-LAWS

### Article 1 - *Members*

All persons wishing to become Members of the Society must submit to the following procedures and conditions.

1. *Active Members* . The candidate must send to the General Secretary a request supported by two active existing members of the Society. Active Members are elected by the Council.
2. *Life Members* . Any Active Member can become a Life Member by decision of the Council on payment of a single subscription equal to one year's normal subscription for active membership multiplied by twenty.
3. *Honorary Members*. Honorary Members are proposed by the Council or by any group of 25 members and elected by a two-thirds majority at the General Assembly.
4. *Emeritus Members* . Members who conform to the conditions and who wish to become Emeritus Members may be so elected by the Council without further formality.
5. *Associate Members* . The candidate, normally a student, junior doctor, or other individual who has not yet attained permanent employment must apply to the General Secretary. His/her application must be supported by two active members, at least one of whom can testify as to the candidate's eligibility for this membership category.
6. *Patrons* . Election shall be provisionally made by the Council and ratified at the next convenient General Assembly.
7. *Sustaining Members* - as for 6.
8. *Affiliated Organisations* - as for 6.

## **Article 2 - Election of Members of Council**

1. All members as specified in Article 3(3) of the Statutes have the right to propose the names of other Members to stand for election to the Council.
2. All such proposals must reach the General Secretary at least five months before the General Assembly. They must be supported by at least two other members and must be accompanied by a written statement from the Member proposed indicating that he/she is willing to stand for election.
3. An alphabetical ballot list of all nominees for each vacancy shall be prepared by Council and circulated to all voting Members of the Society two or more months before the General Assembly. The votes shall be returned to the General Secretary and counted prior to the Assembly by a Committee appointed by the Council. A simple majority suffices for election, but, in the event of a tie, the most senior of the Members shall be elected.

## **Article 3 - The General Assembly**

1. To make a valid decision, 15 percent of the enrolled voting Members of the Society must be present at the General Assembly. The existence of such a quorum must be ascertained by the General Secretary.
2. Members of the Society not present at a General Assembly may be represented by a participating member who is eligible to vote, providing the latter does not represent more than three absent members. The member acting thus as a representative must have written authority from the absentee(s) that he/she may vote on their behalf. The written authority may or may not include instructions on how such votes shall be cast. Absent members so represented shall be included in the determination of a 15 percent enrolment for a valid vote (By-Laws Article 3(1)).
3. Members of the Society who cannot be present at a General Assembly may signify their views on any item on the agenda by letter to the General Secretary. Such views will be considered as postal votes when deciding a course of action.
4. The Auditing Committee cited in Article 7(2) of the Statutes must number at least three members who shall be appointed by the Council.

## **Article 4 - Dues**

1. The amounts of the dues for all types of memberships shall be determined by the General Assembly.
2. An *Active Member* upon payment of annual dues shall be entitled to all privileges of membership including receipt of the Journal of the Society.
3. A *Life Member* shall pay a single subscription equal to twenty times that

currently charged annually to ordinary active members. A Life Member shall have all privileges of active membership.

4. An *Emeritus Member* shall be exempted from the payment of annual dues but shall retain all privileges of membership except that he shall receive the Journal of the Society only upon payment of a subscription equal to half the annual dues of an active member.
5. An *Honorary Member* is exempted from the payment of annual dues and shall have all the privileges of membership.
6. An *Associate Member* upon payment of annual dues shall be entitled to all privileges of membership but not the right to vote.
7. A *Sustaining Member* shall pay annual dues equal to or exceeding a minimum amount as determined by the General Assembly. A sustaining member shall have all the privileges of membership except the rights to hold elective office and to vote.
8. A *Patron* shall pay at one time the amount of one hundred times the annual subscription for an Active Member. A Patron shall have all the privileges of membership except the right to vote.
9. *Affiliated organisations* shall pay the annual subscription of an Active Member.
10. Payments from Life Members, Patrons, Sustaining Members and Affiliated Organisations shall be allocated to General Funds.

### **Article 5 - International Congress and Future Congresses**

1. An international Congress shall normally take place in conjunction with the ordinary General Assembly and it shall be for the Assembly to determine the place and year of future Congresses.
2. International Congresses shall be arranged either by the Council or by an Organising Committee approved by the Council. At least two members of the Council shall serve on any committee created to organise the scientific programme. The Society's Treasurer will liaise with the Organising Committee with the formulation of a budget plan because the financial responsibility for each Congress rests in part with the Society. Detailed accounts shall be submitted to Council within six months of the Congress. The distribution of any profits from a Congress will be at the discretion of the Council.
3. Invitations to host an ISHAM Congress must reach the General Secretary at least five months before the General Assembly. Such invitations must be supported by at least three members who provide in writing an indication of their willingness to undertake the task of organisation and their proposals for administration of the Congress. Council must be satisfied that the bid is economically viable and that there should be no financial loss to either the organizers or the Society before it is placed before the membership.
4. A list of the invitations approved by Council shall be circulated to all voting

members of the Society two or more months before the General Assembly to allow members who are unable to attend the General Assembly to indicate their preference by a postal vote.

5. Members wishing to present a communication must conform to the regulations laid down by the Council or Organising Committee. Such regulations shall be brought to the notice of Members at least five months before the date of the meeting.

#### **Article 6 - *ISHAM Scientific Meetings***

1. The Society shall organise or sponsor from time to time such scientific meetings, other than international congresses, as deemed appropriate to the objectives of the Society. Decisions to organise or sponsor such meetings shall be taken by the Council or the General Assembly.
2. Meetings organised exclusively by or for the Society shall be subject to the same provisions as an International Congress as outlined in Article 5(2).
3. Meetings sponsored or co-sponsored by the Society shall be supported by the Society in a manner and to an extent determined by the Council according to the individual circumstances of each proposed meeting.

#### **Article 7 - *Postal Ballot***

1. The members of the Council, Standing Committees or the members of the Society may be required to vote by post, and such decisions will have the same quality as decisions taken by members of the Council or Standing Committee meeting in person or by members of the Society meeting at an Assembly.
2. A ballot paper shall be circulated by the General Secretary with the approval of the Council and returned to him/her without delay on completion. All available information relating to the matter to be decided will be supplied. The final date for receiving replies shall be indicated on the paper.
3. The time allocated for a postal vote shall be sufficient for the most distant members of the Society to respond.
4. Where only the Council is voting, the ballot papers shall be opened and the votes counted by the General Secretary or other Officer nominated by the Council. The results shall be made known to the Council which will implement the decisions ensuing from the voting.
5. In the case of a general vote, the ballot papers shall be opened and the votes counted by the General Secretary, or other Officer nominated by the Council, in the presence of two or more other members of the Society. The results shall be made known to the Council which will implement the decisions ensuing from the voting.

**Article 8 - Failure to pay dues**

- 1. If in the opinion of the Council a member is prevented from paying his/her dues by pressures beyond his/her control, he/she may be excused from paying such dues.
- 2. Resons sufficient to allow payment to be waived shall be decided by the Council.
- 3. At no time can the number of persons so excused exceed one percent of the total active membership of the Society.

**Article 9 - Address of the Society**

Communications to the Society are effective when received by the President, General Secretary or Treasurer. The registered locations of the Society for incorporation, taxation and banking will be determined by Council. The official address of the Society for all correspondence is that of the General Secretary.

**Article 10 - List of members**

The Treasurer shall ensure that an updated list of all members of the Society, including where appropriate the designations *Life, Emeritus, Honorary* etc. shall be assembled and suitably distributed at intervals not exceeding three years.

**Article 11 - Amendments**

- 1. These By-Laws can be changed by a simple majority of votes in accordance with Statutes Article 4.
- 2. Proposed amendments must be brought to the attention of the Council at a time sufficient to allow the general membership of the Society to be given two months notice of the proposal.
- 3. Any changes so made must be brought to the notice of members not more than three months after being made.

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