



THE SOCIETY FOR  
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

## Proposed Constitution Changes

### November/December 2020

This document outlines a number of changes to the constitution of the Society for Vascular Technology for Great Britain and Ireland put forward by the members of the executive committee for voting by the ordinary members of the society.

Changes to the constitution can only be accepted following a postal or online vote with no less than a majority of 75% of the votes cast.

Following a 2-week consultation period where details of the proposed changes are made available to the membership the ballot will be commenced with the closing date for votes being not less than forty days from the opening of the ballot.

Changes put forward for consideration are listed below:

#### **1) Presidents time in role**

##### **Current constitution**

###### **4. Officers of the society**

(b) – THE PRESIDENT who shall be the outgoing vice president and who shall hold office for one year.

##### **Proposed change**

###### **4. Officers of the society**

(b) – THE PRESIDENT who shall be the outgoing vice president and who shall hold office for **a maximum of two years.**

The Past President and vice-presidents time in the roles will also change to **a maximum of two years** but will always mirror the president's choice of term length.

##### **Rationale for change**

Past presidents commented that 1 year is not enough time to see through a number of the tasks they start during the role as president and think a maximum 2-year role would be more beneficial to the society.

## **2) Secretary Role**

### **Proposed change**

#### **4. Officers of the society**

(L) – THE SECRETARY shall be elected as an Officer to the Committee by the accredited members at the AGM. The Executive Committee shall then elect the secretary from amongst themselves, to hold office for two years.

### **Rationale for change**

The creation of the secretary role is to assist the president and the exec officers with the administration of running the society.

## **3) Postal Voting**

### **Current Constitution**

#### **13. Postal and online Ballots:**

A postal and online ballot may be called for by The Executive Committee, the Annual General Meeting or by an Extraordinary General Meeting. The resolution to be voted upon must be accompanied by an explanation of its purpose and effects.

The period between circulation of the ballot and the closing date for votes shall be not less than forty days. The resolution shall be carried by a simple majority of the postal and online votes cast unless it is a resolution to change the Constitution or to dissolve the Society, in which case a majority of two thirds and three quarters of the members is required respectively.

The result of a postal and electronic ballot shall be circulated to the members not later than fourteen days after the closing date for votes. Any resolution which has been carried shall become effective when so reported.

### **Proposed changes**

#### **13. Online Ballots:**

An online ballot may be called for by The Executive Committee, the Annual General Meeting or by an Extraordinary General Meeting. The resolution to be voted upon must be accompanied by an explanation of its purpose and effects.

The period between circulation of the ballot and the closing date for votes shall be not less than forty days. The resolution shall be carried by a simple majority of the online votes cast unless it is a resolution to change the Constitution or to dissolve the Society, in which case a majority of two thirds and three quarters of the members is required respectively.

The result of an electronic ballot shall be circulated to the members not later than fourteen days after the closing date for votes. Any resolution which has been carried shall become effective when so reported.

All other mentions of postal voting within the constitution will also be removed and replaced with online ballot only.

### **Rationale for change**

Due to advances in technology and the increased availability of email and online voting systems it is simpler and easier to use than the postal voting system.

## **4) Membership categories**

### **Current Constitution**

#### **7) Membership**

Members of the Society may come from varying backgrounds and disciplines but all should be committed to promoting excellence in the field of non-invasive vascular technology.

The Society shall consist of the following members:

- a) **ORDINARY MEMBERS:** These members shall be all persons whose primary responsibilities include non-invasive vascular investigations, including those persons who have proceeded to a supervisory and/or educational role.

Ordinary membership shall allow the member if eligible to hold office on the Executive Committee and to vote.

- b) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** These members shall be interested persons for example, surgeons, radiologists, physicists, company executives etc who do not actively participate in non-invasive investigations. These will also be all overseas members except those working outside the UK under their AVS qualification who will remain as Ordinary members. Associate membership shall not allow the member to hold office on the Executive Committee, nor vote, or obtain Indemnity Insurance through SOR but will otherwise allow the member to enjoy the same rights and privileges as Ordinary members.

- c) **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (NAAASP) MEMBERS:** These members shall be interested persons involved in the National Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Programme.

NAAASP members have all the same rights and privileges as Associate Members and shall not allow the member to hold office on the Executive Committee, nor to vote, but will otherwise allow the member to enjoy the same rights and privileges as ordinary members.

- d) **HONORARY MEMBERS:** These members shall be persons whom the Committee select in recognition of that person's contribution and support to the Society.

Honorary membership shall not allow the member to hold office on the Executive Committee, nor to vote, but will otherwise allow the member to enjoy the same rights and privileges as Ordinary Members.

*To maintain the prestigious character of this membership, the number of honorary members will be limited.*

### **Proposed Changes**

#### **7) Membership**

Members of the Society may come from varying backgrounds and disciplines but all should be committed to promoting excellence in the field of non-invasive vascular technology.

The Society shall consist of the following members:

- a) **SVT ACCREDITED MEMBERS:** These members shall be all persons who have gained and maintained accreditation as a clinical vascular scientist with the SVT and whose primary responsibilities include non-invasive vascular investigations, including those persons who have proceeded to a supervisory and/or educational role.

Accredited membership shall allow the member if eligible to hold office on the Executive Committee and to vote. Accredited Members will also be included in a MANDATORY register which will show up to date accreditation. This information will be available through the SVT website to any interested party including non-members

- b) **ORDINARY MEMBERS:** These members shall be all SVT trainees and STP Graduates without additional AVS whose primary responsibilities include non-invasive vascular investigations.

Ordinary membership shall allow the member if eligible to hold office on the Executive Committee and to vote.

- c) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** These members shall be interested persons for example, surgeons, radiologists, screening technicians and sonographers etc whose main profession may not be vascular science but who take an interest or perform some non-invasive vascular investigations. These will also be all overseas members except those working outside the UK under their AVS qualification who will remain as Accredited members.

Associate membership shall not allow the member to hold office on the Executive Committee, nor vote, or obtain Indemnity Insurance through SOR but will otherwise allow the member to enjoy the same rights and privileges as Accredited members.

- d) **HONORARY MEMBERS:** These members shall be persons whom the Committee select in recognition of that person's contribution and support to the Society. Nominations for Honorary membership shall be passed following a vote by Executive committee members in which all committee members must agree.

Honorary membership shall not allow the member to hold office on the Executive Committee, nor to vote, but will otherwise allow the member to enjoy the same rights and privileges as Accredited Members.

*To maintain the prestigious character of this membership, the number of honorary members will be limited.*

### **Rationale for change**

Creation of the accredited member group will help with identification of accredited members.

The associate member group is designed to increase the number of non-vascular members joining the SVT so that the society can promote the knowledge and standards of the SVT to a wider audience.