

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

DISTRICT III THIRD DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY (Pine Meridian)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

This Society shall be called the District III or Third District Dental Society, (Pine Meridian).

ARTICLE II

Object

The object to this Dental Society shall be to encourage the improvement of the health of the public, to promote the art and science of dentistry, and to represent the interests of the members of the dental profession and the public which it serves.

This Society shall be a Component Society of the Mississippi Dental Association, operating under a charter granted by the Mississippi Dental Association, and shall be governed in every way by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Mississippi Dental Association.

ARTICLE III

Officers

The officers shall be a President, President-Elect, and a Secretary-Treasurer.

ARTICLE IV

Appointed Committees

Committees may be appointed to conduct the tasks of the Society. The Appointed Committee(s) may include a Program Committee, a Nominations Committee, or an Ad Interim Committee. The President may appoint any other committees deemed necessary to carry out special programs, projects and/or activities of this Society. Such committees will have tenure of one year.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Every legally licensed dentist practicing or living within the jurisdiction of this Society is eligible for consideration for active membership.

ARTICLE VI

Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Society members present at any scheduled meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been filed with the District Secretary of the Society and distributed to the membership of the Society at least sixty (60) days prior to such meeting.

Section 2. No amendment shall be considered or become effective which in any way conflicts with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Mississippi Dental Association. An official notice from the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Dental Association of any changes prescribed by that body in the Constitution of Component Societies shall be accepted by this Society and become a part of this Constitution.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Duties of the Officers and Trustees

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office. The President of this Society shall be elected for a one-year term of office.

Section 2. The President-Elect shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties, shall preside in his/her absence, shall serve as program chairman, and shall succeed to his/her office in case of vacancy from any cause. The President-elect of this Society shall be elected for a one-year term of office.

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall administer the fiduciary duties of the Society, oversee Society communications and assist with all Society meetings. The Secretary-Treasurer of this Society shall be elected for a two-year term of office. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as a member of the Mississippi Dental Association Board of Trustees representing the Society.

Section 4. The Trustees elected by the members of this Society shall be the official representatives of this Society on the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Dental Association. One of the Trustees shall be the Secretary- Treasurer. They shall report to this Society any matters concerning the Mississippi Dental Association and dentistry in Mississippi as addressed by the Board of Trustees. The Trustees and Alternates Trustees shall not be more than two in number: two trustees and two alternates. The term of office shall be two years.

Section 5. Elected officers, trustees and alternate trustees are also assigned to serve as the Society's representatives on the Mississippi Dental Association's standing councils and committees during their term of office. The assigned councils and committees are as follows:

- the President serves on the Council on Communications,
- the President-elect serves on the Council on Administration,
- the Secretary-Treasurer serves on the Council on Member and Membership Services,
- the elected Trustee serves on the Council on Dental Practice and Governmental Affairs,
- the elected Alternate Trustee serves on the Council on Association Governance, and
- the additional Alternate Trustee serves on the Member Supportive Services Committee.

Section 6. If any officer shall absent himself, without an acceptable excuse, from three consecutive meetings, the office by two-thirds (2/3) vote of this Society may be declared vacant.

ARTICLE II

Election of Officers, Trustees and Appointments

Section 1.

(a) A nominating committee, appointed by the President of the Society and composed of five (5) members in good standing of the Society, shall prepare for and present to the Society for nomination, names for offices, trustees, alternate trustees and appointments of the Society to be filled.

(b) Nominations for officers, in addition to those submitted by the nominating committee, may be, as the membership desires.

(c) The officers and trustees, alternate trustees and appointments of the Society shall be elected by majority vote of the membership present and voting.

Section 2. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the President-Elect to prepare the names of those to be elected and appointed to the MDA Standing Councils and Committees prior to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Candidates for membership shall make application upon the form furnished by the Mississippi Dental Association. All applications shall be reviewed and processed through the MDA office. The Society Secretary-Treasurer shall be provided notification of new Society members. New Society members shall be recognized at the next regular meeting of this Society. Any membership applicant may appeal to the Society and the MDA against an unfavorable

outcome on any application, and such appeal shall be addressed. A new applicant who has been rejected for membership may appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of the rejection directly to the MDA office and request a hearing from an appointed committee within thirty (30) days of their receipt of written appeal. The appointed committee has the authority to call a special meeting of the Society members within forty-five (45) days of the hearing to reconsider the application. If the applicant is rejected after this appeal or if the Appointed Committee refuses to call a special meeting of the Society for reconsideration, the rejected applicant may make direct appeal to the Committee on Peer Review of the Mississippi Dental Association within thirty (30) days of the date on which the applicant is notified or such rejection or refusal is made. The Committee on Peer Review and Ethics of the Mississippi Dental Association will then follow the direction set forth under Article II of the Bylaws of the Mississippi Dental Association.

Section 2. If a member in good standing in one Component Society changes location and engages in practice or discontinues practice in that Component Society, it is mandatory that membership shall be transferred without cost to such member, to membership in the Component Society in which the identified primary office address located.

Section 3. The above rules shall apply to honorary members. The names of candidates for honorary membership shall be presented to the MDA Council on Membership and Member Services and be endorsed by five members of the Society.

Section 4. A dentist who may feel aggrieved at the action of this Society toward him/her shall have the right to appeal to the Committee on Peer Review of the State Association. Should such grievance be due to an infraction of the Code of Ethics of this Society, such appeal should be made to the Committee on Peer Review of the State Association.

ARTICLE IV Appointed Committees

The President may appoint committees within the Society to carry out the tasks and work of the Society. The committees would consist of three members, including a Chairman appointed by the President. The terms of the members appointed to these committees shall be one year in length.

Examples of such committees may include but not be limited to:

(a) An Ad Interim Committee that may consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, the Society's District Trustees and alternates of the Mississippi Dental Association. The duty of this Committee is to govern and transact the business of this Society during the intervals between its regular meetings. This Committee reports all of its acts to the members of the Society at its next regular meeting.

(b) A committee may be appointed to address oral health initiatives of the Society and/or dental issues that surface in the local communities. The committee reports all activities to the Society members.

(c) A committee may be appointed to plan dental education programs for the Society. Members would be notified of all program provisions

ARTICLE V Annual Dues

Section 1. The annual dues of this Society shall be an amount agreed upon by the President and Secretary-Treasurer and approved by a majority of the membership at a regular meeting of the Society. Dues shall be payable January 1, of each year, and the total amount to be paid shall include the annual dues of the American Dental Association and the Mississippi Dental Association.

Section 2. Any member who shall fail to pay his/her dues by July 1, shall discontinued by this Society, the Mississippi Dental Association and the American Dental Association. A member dropped for non-payment of dues shall be restored to full membership on payment of such indebtedness.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

The regular meetings of this Society shall be held on the Second Friday in February. The February meeting shall be the annual meeting. The Society may change the date for their annual meeting. However, this date should not conflict with the date of another Component Society meeting or an MDA meeting or event. Special meetings may be called by the

President, at the request of three members. One-third (1/3) of the members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**ARTICLE VII
Rules of Order**

The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of the Parliamentary Procedures shall govern the deliberations of this Society.

**ARTICLE VIII
Code of Ethics**

The Code of Ethics of the Mississippi Dental Association that is the same as the *Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct of the American Dental Association* shall govern the members of this Society.

**ARTICLE IX
Government**

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Mississippi Dental Association shall govern the members of this Society, excepting where the provision of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Society do not in any way conflict with that of the State Association.

**ARTICLE X
Indemnification of Officers and Board of Trustees**

The Society shall indemnify and hold harmless each member of the Board of Trustees and each officer now or hereafter serving the Society, from and against any and all claims and liabilities to which he/she may be or become subject by reason of his/her now or hereafter being, or here before been, a Trustee and/or officer of the Society, and/or by reason of his/her alleged acts or omission as a Trustee and/or officer as aforesaid; and shall reimburse each Trustee and each officer of this Society for all legal and other expenses reasonably incurred by him/her in connection with defending against any such claims of liabilities, provided, however, that no Trustee or officer shall be indemnified against or be reimbursed for, any expenses incurred in defending against any claim or liability arising out of his/her own negligence or willful misconduct. The foregoing rights of Trustees and officers shall not be exclusive of other rights to which they may be entitled lawfully.

**ARTICLE XI
Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any regular meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been filed with the District Secretary of the Society and distributed to the membership of the Society at least sixty (60) days prior to such meeting. No amendment can be considered which in any way conflicts with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Mississippi Dental Association. An official notice from the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Dental Association of any change prescribed by the body in the Bylaws of Component Societies shall be accepted by this Society and become a part of these Constitution and Bylaws.

Adopted June 1972

Revised July 1985

Revised February 2007

Refreshed July 2015 (with changes to MDA governing documents).

Revised February 2018.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call / Invocation
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Reading / Approval of the minutes of previous meeting
5. Reports of officers and appointed committees
6. Old business
7. New business
 - a. Review of applications for membership
 - b. Elections
 - c. Special recognitions: awards, plaques, etc.
 - d. Requests for donations or other items
8. Reports / Presentations of invited guests
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment