

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

DISTRICT V FIFTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY (Gulf Coast)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I Name

This Society shall be called District V or the Fifth District Dental Society (Gulf Coast District).

ARTICLE II Object

The object shall be to promote the public welfare by the advancement of the dental profession in education, science, mutual fellowship and good feeling, by bringing into a single compact organization all of the legal and reputable members of the dental profession of the state of Mississippi, by the advocacy of proper legislation and by a co-operation with the medical profession in all matters of mutual interest and advantage to the people of the State.

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 By-laws of the Mississippi Dental Association.

ARTICLE III Officers

The officers shall be a President, President-Elect, and 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 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 absence, and shall succeed to his 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 keep the records of the Society and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office. He/she shall keep a record of the members of this Society. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the Mississippi Dental Association of any known changes in status of Society members. This Society is responsible for any financial discrepancy of its Secretary-Treasurer in properly collecting and transmitting fees and dues of its members.

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer of this Society will also serve as a Trustee to the Mississippi Dental Association and shall be elected for a two-year term.

Section 5. The Secretary-Treasurer perform the fiduciary duties of the Society, oversee Society communications and assist with all Society meetings.

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

Section 7. 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 maximum members of the Board of Trustees and alternates shall not be more than two in number: two trustees and two alternates. The term of office shall be two years.

Section 8. 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.
-

ARTICLE II

Election of Officers, Trustees and Appointments

The officers and trustees of the society shall be elected at the annual meeting by written ballot. There shall be a nominating committee appointed by the President. This committee shall select one or more candidates for the following offices: President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Trustee and Alternate Trustee. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the other officers to prepare the names of nominees to be appointed to MDA committees prior to the annual meetings. Elected officers and nominees shall be voted on and approved by the majority vote of the membership present and voting at 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 corresponding and 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 actions 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 two-thirds (2/3) majority of the membership at a regular meeting of the Society. Dues shall be payable upon joining or at annual membership renewal. The total membership dues 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 have membership 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 the payment of such indebtedness. Members one year in arrears shall be dropped from the roll of members.

ARTICLE VI
Meetings

The regular meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Friday in January. The January 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 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 provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of this Society do not in any way conflict with that of the State Association.

ARTICLE X
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 in 1967
Revised in 1985
Revised in 2007
Refreshed in July 2015 (to align with MDA governing documents)
Revised and approved by District January 12, 2018

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 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**