

Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of the Society of Fetal Medicine (SFM)

1. Addition in Section: Powers and Duties of the National Office Bearers

Regulatory Compliance Manager:

A Regulatory Compliance Manager shall be appointed by the President of the Society from among the Executive Committee members or from the pool of past or present central office bearers.

The Regulatory Compliance Manager shall be a *de facto* member of every SFM committee or group formed for any purpose.

He/she shall advise the Central Office Bearers on all regulatory matters including accounting, taxation, legal compliance, and ethics.

As the Society expands, the Central Office Bearers may appoint a suitably qualified professional to this position. Such an appointee shall be entitled to a salary and perquisites commensurate with his/her qualifications and experience.

Director of Operations (General Manager):

A Director of Operations shall be appointed by the President of the Society to manage the day-to-day operations of the Society.

He/she shall be responsible for maintaining membership registers, managing bank accounts, overseeing taxation matters, coordinating conferences/CMEs, handling logistics, and liaising with various government offices.

The Director of Operations shall receive a salary, perquisites, and allowances as per his/her qualifications and experience.

2. Addition in Section: Co-branded Meetings with Other Academic Societies

(Under the Section “Types of Society of Fetal Medicine Academic Activities”)

The Society reiterates that Fetal Medicine is a multidisciplinary team endeavor. Co-branded meetings with local branches of other academic societies such as IRIA, IFUMB, FOGSI, IFS, ISAR, Pediatric, Genetics, and Pediatric Subspecialty Societies are encouraged.

- Equal profit sharing with the partner society is **mandatory** for such events.
- Society members must be entitled to a **minimum discount of 20%** on registration charges.
- Preliminary and audited accounts of any such event must be submitted to the Central Office within **three calendar months** of the event.
- Failure to comply with this requirement will invite **penal action** by the Central Office, which may include **suspension of the concerned office bearers**.

3. Addition in Section: Election Schedule

The election schedule for Central and Regional Office Bearers shall be as follows:

- Appointment of an **Election Officer** by the Central Executive Committee by **15th November** in the second year of the running term of existing office bearers. *Example:* For elections for the term **1st April 2022 to 31st March 2024**, the Election Officer shall be appointed by **15th November 2021**.
- The Election Officer shall announce the dates and time periods for nominations, filing of forms, withdrawal of names, and the voting period.
- The **decision of the Election Officer shall be final** in all election matters.
- Elections must be **completed by 15th January 2022**, preferably by **electronic voting**, or by **postal ballots** in exceptional circumstances, as decided by the Central Executive Committee.
- **Official results** for Central and Regional Office Bearers and Central Executive Committee Members shall be declared by **31st January 2022**.
- The **newly elected members** shall take charge on **1st April 2022**.

4. Addition in Section: Guidelines for Academic Events

Detailed guidelines for academic events shall be published on the Society's website from time to time, as approved by the Mentors Group.

- All regional office bearers who are part of the organizing committee shall provide a **written undertaking** confirming that they have read and understood the rules.
- Regional conference/CME organizers shall **strictly adhere** to the rules and the **sanctioned budget** as approved by the Central Office.

5. Addition in Section: Operation of Accounts

The banking accounts of the Society shall be maintained in the name of the “**Society of Fetal Medicine.**”

These accounts shall be operated as authorized by the Central Executive Committee.

Authorized signatories shall include **any two persons** from the following:

- National President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Regulatory Compliance Officer
- Director of Operations

Such authorization shall be made **on the recommendation of the President, SFM, and approved by the Central Executive Committee.**