

**Constitution of the Cincinnati Obstetrical and Gynecological Society**  
(founded September 1876)

**Article 1**

This Society shall be known as the Cincinnati Obstetrical and Gynecological Society.

**Article 2**

The object of the Society shall be the promotion of knowledge in all that pertains to Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to women.

**Article 3**

**Section 1:** The Society shall consist of Active, Honorary, Non-Resident, Associate, and Life members.

**Section 2:** Active members shall have been in the active practice of obstetrics and gynecology for at least one year, with evidence of formal training acceptable to Council.

**Section 3:** Honorary members shall be nominated by Council and elected by a majority vote of the active membership. They shall not hold office, vote, or pay dues but shall be entitled to all the privileges of active membership.

**Section 4:** Non-Resident members shall be such individuals who have been active members in good standing but who request a change in membership by reason of living beyond the geographical limits of Greater Cincinnati. They shall have all the privileges and responsibilities of active membership except that they may not hold office or vote, and they shall pay annual dues as determined by the Society.

**Section 5:** Associate members shall be such individuals whose interests are closely allied to obstetrics and gynecology. They shall be proposed by any two active members, and nominated by Council. They shall not hold office or vote, but shall pay such dues as may be determined by the Society.

**Section 6:** Life members shall be such members of the Cincinnati Obstetrical and Gynecological Society in good standing who request transfer to Life Membership because of advancing age, illness, disability or other sufficient reason. They may be transferred to Life Membership by vote of Council. They shall not be eligible to vote or hold office, nor shall they be requested to pay annual dues or special assessments. Upon resuming practice or engaging in allied endeavors or for reasons satisfactory to Council they may be transferred to some other category of membership by vote of Council, and notification to the individual of such transfer shall be made by the Secretary of the Society.

#### **Article 4**

**Section 1:** The Officers shall consist of a President, a President-elect, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These four together with the immediate-past-President, shall constitute Council, and the President shall be chairman of Council.

**Section 2:** A nominating committee of three (3) active members shall be elected from the floor at the first meeting of the calendar year, and it shall report its slate of nominees at the next regular meeting.

**Section 3:** The election of officers shall take place at the regular meeting following the one at which the nominating committee makes its report. Nominations for any or all offices may be made from the floor immediately preceding the election.

**Section 4:** Installation of new officers shall be the first order of business

at the first regular fall meeting following their election. Officers shall hold office two (2) years or until their successors are installed.

**Section 5:** The meeting at which the installation of officers take place shall be designated the Annual meeting.

**Section 6:** Should a vacancy occur in Council, Council shall appoint an active member of the Society to fill the vacancy. Should the office of Secretary or Treasurer be vacated, the newly appointed member of Council shall perform the duties of such office. In the case of the President-elect, however, the new appointee shall not become the President-elect, and the President shall continue in office until the subsequently elected President-elect assumes the office of President in normal fashion. Should the office of President become vacant, the President-elect or the immediate past-President may be designated President by Council.

**Section 7:** In the absence of the President the following officers shall succeed to the privilege of presiding at meetings, and in the following order: President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, most recent past-President.

**Section 8:** The duties of the officers shall be those prescribed in Robert's Rule of Orders Revised.

**Section 9:** A historian shall be appointed who shall properly preserve the papers and records of the Society.

## **Article 5**

**Section 1:** The name of a candidate for election to active membership shall be proposed in writing to Council by two active members and if Council approve the application, the name shall be posted at two (2) successive regular meetings. The candidate may be elected to active membership by a majority vote of those present at the regular meeting

following that of the second posting of his name.

**Section 2:** Should Council disapprove the application, Council shall notify the proposers in writing. However, the action of Council disapproving an application for membership may be over-ridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active membership and the application accepted.

**Section 3:** Members may be dropped from the rolls of the Society at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active membership provided that notice of such proposed action be given in writing by Council to all active members of the Society at least a month in advance and provided opportunity is offered the individual to appear before Council to answer the charges made against him.

**Section 4:** Reasons for termination of membership shall include: (a) failure to comply with the provisions of the Constitution, (b) conviction by Council of a charge of unethical or immoral conduct, (c) arrears for two (2) years in payment of dues or assessments after written warning by the Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to notify the Secretary of arrears in dues.

## **Article 6**

**Section 1:** The regular meetings shall be held on the evening of the third Thursday of each month, except in July and August. Regular meetings shall be cancelled or changed by action of Council.

**Section 2:** A special meeting may be called at any time by the action of Council or upon the petition of ten (10) active members, and notice of said special meeting and the purpose for which it is called must be given to every active member of the Society.

**Section 3:** A quorum for business purposes shall be ten (10) members,

and for meetings at which action is taken requiring a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the active membership, a proxy written ballot may be accepted.

**Section 4:** Procedures at the meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order Revised except when such rules are in conflict with this Constitution.

**Section 5:** The order of business may be changed by the presiding officer unless any certain order is called for by a majority of the members present.

**Section 6:** No paper read before the Society shall be published over the name of the Cincinnati Obstetrical and Gynecological Society without special permission of Council.

#### **Article 7**

**Section 1:** Council shall meet as often as its members think necessary for the best interest of the Society, and three (3) members shall constitute quorum. A meeting of Council may be called by the President or any two (2) members of Council, but proper notice of such meeting, including the matters to be considered, shall be transmitted to each member of Council. The President shall have a vote.

**Section 2:** Council shall have as its function the management of the affairs of the Society, subject to the action of the Society at its regular meetings.

**Section 3:** Council shall consider the applications of candidates, and shall have the power of making nominations for election to the Society. Decisions of Council may be over-ridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active membership.

**Section 4:** Council shall have entire control of the publications of the

Society with the power to reject such papers or prohibit such discussion as it deems best in the interest of the Society.

**Section 5:** Council shall constitute a tribunal before which shall be tried any member for an alleged offense against the Constitution of the Society or for unethical or immoral conduct, and shall have the sole power of moving the expulsion of any member. For this purpose, a quorum shall consist of at least four (4) of the five (5) members of Council.

**Section 6:** In hardship cases, dues to any member may be waived by Council, provided each member of Council be given the opportunity to express his opinion before the vote in Council is taken.

### **Article 8**

**Section 1:** In order to further the objectives of the Society there shall be established a standing committee known as Committee of Professional Education and Patient Care.

**Section 2:** It shall consist of (a) the President of the Society, who shall act as chairman of the committee, (b) the directors or chairmen of the department of obstetrics and gynecology of each hospital in the Cincinnati area which has an active department of obstetrics and/or gynecology, and (c) one other member from each of these hospitals, elected by the obstetrical/gynecological staffs of said hospitals by whatever method they may determine, to serve for a period of two (2) years, except that in the first election, half the hospitals as determined by Council shall choose such additional member to serve for one year only.

**Section 3:** When such designated members (either department directors or elected representatives) are not members of the Society they may participate in the activities of the committee, but shall have no vote in the deliberations of the committee. Should a hospital refuse to participate in the activities of the committee, Council may appoint from

among the members of the Society an individual who is on the staff of such hospital to advise the committee.

**Section 4:** The duties of the committee shall be: (a) to examine and correlate for the Society all pertinent data on city-wide obstetrical and gynecological problems, (b) to concern itself with city-wide educational problems, (c) to act for the Society in formulating the program for the meetings of the following year. For this purpose the President-elect of the Society shall designate a member of the committee to act as program chairman, (d) to meet at the discretion of the President of the Society in consultation with Council, and (e) to report its deliberations to the Society in the next regular meeting of the Society.

#### **Article 9**

Every member shall pay annually in advance, the sum of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) as dues.

#### **Article 10**

Any of the provisions of the Constitution may be amended or repealed by an affirmative vote of a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the active membership, provided that written notice of the proposed change be given to all members at least a month in advance of the meeting at which such a change will be considered.

No copy of the original constitution is extant, but the first amendment to it was adopted on March 8, 1877. The second constitution was written by Dr. C.L. Bonnifield and Dr. William S. Graf, and was approved on December 11, 1924. The third constitution, adopted on January 14, 1936, was drawn up by a committee consisting of Dr. James M. Pierce, Chairman, Dr. Charles E. Hauser and Dr. Arthur G. King. The fourth constitution, prepared by a committee made up of Dr. C. James Fairo, Chairman, Dr. Richard D. Bryant and Dr. Daniel J. Davies, was finally approved on September 16, 1953. The fifth constitution formulated by a committee consisting of Dr. Arthur G. King, Chairman, Dr. Richard D. Bryant and Dr. Douglas R. Graf was adopted on May 20, 1965, and revised in 1977, 1983, 1993 and 2002.