

# STATUTES FOR NORDIC ASSOCIATION FOR CONVULSIVE THERAPY

Adopted by the association meeting on 23 May 2024

If the English version of the Nordic Association for Convulsive Therapy's statutes should in any way differ from the Swedish version, it is the Swedish version that applies [(www.nact.se/stadgar)].

### § 1 Name and domicile

The name of the association is Nordic Association for Convulsive Therapy ("NACT", or the "Association").

The Association is domiciled in Burlöv, Sweden.

### § 2 The purpose

The purpose of the Association is to increase and promote knowledge in clinical practice and research on electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and other evidence based neurostimulation therapies. To fulfil this objective, the Association endeavors to organize scientific conferences that facilitate the exchange of educational, scientifical and practical knowledge.

### § 3 Membership

The Association is open to individuals who are active healthcare workers and/or researchers in the association's field of activity (electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and other neurostimulation therapies), providing that the applicant accepts these statutes by signing an acceptance note and pays the membership fee. To become a member, the individual must also be admitted upon decision by the board of directors.

The annual association meeting of the Association is responsible for deciding on the membership fee.

A member may withdraw from the Association at any time during the calendar year.

The board of directors holds the authority to make decisions regarding the exclusion of members from the Association. Exclusion may be warranted if a member significantly violates their obligations as outlined in these statutes or in any manner that undermines the Association's purpose or reputation. A decision to exclude a member requires more than half of the votes cast by the board of directors. Paid membership fees will not be refunded to excluded members.



# § 4 Financing

The Association's activities can be financed through membership fees or through funds that are otherwise made available to the Association.

The membership fee shall be paid annually in advance.

# § 5 Annual association meeting

The Association is to hold an ordinary association meeting (annual association meeting) before the end of December each year. The annual association meeting shall be held during the conference organized by the Association. The Association otherwise meets as required.

Notice of the annual association meeting is to be given in writing no later than four (4) months before the meeting.

Each member of the Association has one vote.

A decision made during the annual association meeting is determined by an opinion that has received more than half of the votes cast. In case of a tie where two or more opinions receive an equal number of votes, the decision is then based on the opinion supported by the chair of the meeting.

# § 6 Agenda at the annual association meeting

The following matters shall be addressed at the annual association meeting.

- 1. Opening of the annual association meeting.
- 2. Approval of the voting register.
- 3. Election of the chair and a secretary of the meeting.
- 4. Election of two persons who, together with the chair, will sign the minutes.
- 5. Determination of whether the meeting was duly convened in accordance with the statutes.
- 6. Approval of the agenda.
- 7. Presentation of the board's report for the previous financial year.
- 8. Presentation of the auditor's report and resolutions regarding adoption of the income statement and balance sheet.
- 9. Decision on discharge of liability for board of directors for the previous financial year.
- 10. Decision on membership fees.



- 11. Election of the chair of the board of directors and other members of the board and, if applicable, alternate board members.
- 12. Election of the auditor and, if applicable, alternate auditor.
- 13. Election of ordinary nominating committee member alongside alternate member/s.
- 14. Any other business incumbent on the meeting, such as the next conference/scientific meeting.
- 15. Closing of the annual association meeting.

# § 7 Extraordinary association meeting

An extraordinary association meeting must be held when the auditor or at least 2/3 of the members request it in writing or when the board of directors deems it necessary.

Extraordinary association meetings shall be held no later than six (6) weeks after the request has been received by the board of directors. Only those matters for which a request has been made shall be dealt with at the extraordinary association meeting.

### § 8 The board of directors

The board of directors shall comprise between five (5) to ten (10) board members.

To be elected as a board member of the Association the individual must be familiar with clinical usage of ECT or other neurostimulation methods. At least one (1) member of the board should be active in research related to the neurostimulation methods. The board of directors may appoint a vice chair, secretary, and cashier from within the board of directors.

A resolution to amend the number of board members shall be made at the annual association meeting.

The board of directors is quorum when no fewer than half of the board members are present, and all board members, associated members have been convened and have been notified of the board meeting. If a personal deputy board member has been appointed for a member who is unable to attend, that deputy may take the place of the absent member.

A decision of the board of directors consists of the opinion that has received more than half of the votes cast by those members present or, in the event of an equal number of votes for two or more opinions, the opinion supported by the chair.



The mandate period for the board members is two (2) years with an option for reelection. The mandate period for the chairman is three (3) years with an option for reelection.

The Association also welcomes so called associated members ("Associated Members"). An Associate Member is someone who actively contributes to the practical activities of the Association, such as organizing conferences and other events. However, they are not necessarily healthcare workers or researchers affiliated with the Association's field of activity, specifically electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and other evidence based neurostimulation therapies. Resolutions related to the election of Associated Members are made by the board of directors. The Associated Members can attend conferences and other scientific meetings, and board meetings, but they do not have any voting rights.

The board of directors holds the responsibility of authorizing representatives to act on behalf of the Association in legal matters. This involves determining which individuals are empowered to represent the organization in legal affairs. Furthermore, the organization may require the combined signatures of two association representatives for official documentation.

### § 9 Responsibilities of the board

The board of directors are, when the annual association meeting is not convened, the Association's highest decision-making body.

The board of directors are responsible for:

- to implement resolutions adopted by the annual association meeting;
- to manage the financial affairs of the Association and have accounts kept;
- to submit an annual report to the annual association meeting for the last completed financial year;
- matters of principle or precedent should be referred by the board of directors to the annual or an extraordinary association meeting;
- to ensure continuous education and informed decision-making among the board of directors by actively participating in conferences or other educational activities relevant to the association's field of activity;

# § 10 Financial year

The Association's financial year is based on the calendar year.



### § 11 Amendments of statutes

Decisions on amendments to these statutes are made by the annual association meeting. A decision on an amendment is valid if it is supported by no less than two-thirds (2/3) present at the meeting.

Members can propose amendments of the statutes by submitting a written proposal to the board of directors at least four (4) months before the annual association meeting.

The board of directors must send the amendment proposal to members of the Association no later than one (1) month before the annual association meeting.

# § 12 Dissolution of the Association

A decision to dissolve the Association follows the same procedure as that which applies to amendments to the statutes. In addition, this decision must be taken in two (2) consecutive annual association meetings.

The remaining assets of the Association must be utilized, which may include, donating them to another organization that aligns with the goals of the Association.

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