



NOVA SCOTIA PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION (NSPA) BYLAWS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Physiotherapy Association will present the following proposed Bylaw amendments to members at the Annual General Meeting on March 31, 2012. The complete current bylaws can be found at http://www.physiotherapy.ns.ca/index.php/site/member_resources27/ (member login required).

Proposed Amendments	Rationale
ARTICLE THREE: MEMBERSHIP	
<p>3.2 Categories of Membership</p> <p>(a) Full Membership This category applies to graduates of accredited physiotherapy programmes in Canada or physiotherapists who hold or have held full registration or licensure in any jurisdiction in Canada or graduates of physiotherapy programmes who hold a full or part time academic faculty appointment in a physiotherapy programme at a Canadian University. Full members are eligible to hold office, are entitled to all benefits provided by the Association and have the right to vote.</p>	No changes – included for context only.
<p>(b) Student Membership</p> <p>(i) This category applies to individuals who are entry-level students in a physiotherapy program at Dalhousie University, <u>or who are enrolled in a Nova Scotia based bridging program for internationally educated physiotherapists recognized by the NSPA Board of Directors.</u></p> <p>(ii) Student Members are not eligible to hold office (with the exception of Student Director), are entitled to benefits as determined by the Board and have the right to vote.</p>	This amendment expands the Student category to include internationally educated physiotherapists enrolled in a bridging program. While Nova Scotia does not currently have a bridging program, this amendment would allow the association to recognize such students should a program be introduced.
<p>(c) Life and Honorary Membership This category is composed of persons who are recipients of awards of the CPA and such persons may be admitted to Life or Honorary Membership in the Association. The criteria, rights and privileges shall be established by the Board of Directors. Life and Honorary Members have the right to vote, Life and Honorary Members who are physiotherapists have the right to hold office.</p>	No changes – included for context only.
<p>(d) Support Workers <u>Physiotherapist Assistants</u></p> <p>(i) Support Worker <u>Physiotherapist Assistant</u> Membership This category applies to individuals who have completed a recognized formal education program for support personnel in physiotherapy, or have documented on-the-job training through current or past employment as support personnel in physiotherapy <u>physiotherapist assistant.</u></p>	Amendments to this section update the term “support worker” to “Physiotherapist Assistant”, which is consistent with changes made to Canadian Physiotherapy Association

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<p>(ii) Support WorkerPhysiotherapist Assistant Members are not eligible to hold office, are entitled to benefits as determined by the Board and do not have the right to vote <u>on resolutions at Special Meetings or the Annual General Meeting.</u> <u>Physiotherapist Assistant Members are eligible to hold office and vote in the National Physiotherapist Assistant Assembly.</u></p> <p>(e) (#)(i) Student Support WorkersPhysiotherapist Assistants Students enrolled in a recognized formal education program for support personnel in physiotherapy may join as Student Support WorkerPhysiotherapist Assistant Members.</p> <p>(ii) Student Support WorkerPhysiotherapist Assistant Members are not eligible to hold office, are entitled to benefits as determined by the Board and do not have the right to vote. <u>Student Physiotherapist Assistant Members are eligible to vote but may not hold office in the National Physiotherapist Assistant Assembly.</u></p>	<p>bylaws at the 2011 CPA Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>All voting and membership privileges are consistent with CPA Bylaw wording.</p>
<p>(fe) Affiliations The Association may have other affiliations with persons or other corporations as determined by the Board that are not eligible for other membership categories as determined by the Board but support the mission of the Association.</p> <p>Affiliates are not eligible to hold office, are entitled to benefits as determined by the Board and do not have the right to vote.</p>	<p>Renumbering only</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE SIX: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</p> <p>6.5 Term of Office</p> <p>Directors and Officers terms shall be as follows:</p> <p>(a) Directors: The term of office for elected Directors shall be two years. (b) President: The term of office for the President shall be two years. (c) President-elect: The term of office for the President-elect shall be one year. (d) Past-President: The term of office for the Past-President shall be one year. (e) Treasurer: The term of office for the Treasurer shall be one year. (f) Secretary: The term of office for the Secretary shall be one year. (g) Student Director: The term of office for the Student Director shall be one year.</p> <p>No Director shall serve more than three consecutive terms.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p><u>6.9 Notwithstanding paragraph 6.5, if a Director is elected by the Board of Directors to the office of President-Elect or President, that Director's term as a director shall not conclude until that Director completes his or her terms as President and Past-President, or until that Director resigns or is removed from office in accordance with these Bylaws.</u></p>	<p>NSPA's Bylaws provide for the election of <u>Directors</u> by members, followed by the election of <u>Officers</u> by the Board of Directors. The term of office for Directors is two years, however the cycle for President-elect / President / Past President is a minimum of four years. This proposed amendment would allow the Board to avoid a situation where the President-elect or the President must stand for election part-way through their term. Once elected by their fellow directors to serve as President, that individual would remain in office until they have completed the cycle.</p>