

§ 1 Name and location

The “Verein” is called „International Society for Medical Innovation and Technology (iSMIT) e.V.

It is supposed to be registered in Germany.

Location of the “Verein” is Niedernhausen

§ 2 Aim

The aim of the “Verein” is to bring together physicians and other scientists who are active in Minimally Invasive Therapy and Allied Technology with representatives from technological science and the medical device industry

For the purpose of further developing medical technologies and improve medical care. For exchange of information and ideas in the field of medical innovation and technology an annual conference is organized by an elected SMIT President for the respective conference year by the General Assembly.

§ 3 Journal of the “Verein”: MITAT

To support the aims of the Society, the Society subscribes the journal “*Minimally Invasive Therapy and Allied Technologies (MITAT)*” and makes it available to the full (standard) members. 2/3 majority of the members is required at the General Assembly to stop subscription of the journal or to select a new journal.

§ 4 Membership

4.1 Acceptance of membership

Any natural and legal person can become member of the “Verein”. The “Verein” prefers membership of persons, institutes or companies from the medical field in research and technology development. For membership a written application form including personal data and a reference from a present member are required. The Executive Board approves membership. Rejections can be declared without giving reasons.

4.2 begin of membership/membership fees

The members are obliged to pay annual membership fees to cover the costs of SMIT and which is due beginning of the calendar year. More details are determined in

membership and contribution rules that are proposed by Executive Board and Steering Committee and decided by the General Assembly.

4.3 End of membership

membership ends :

- With death for natural persons
- For legal persons with its dissolution or annulment or opening judicial insolvency proceedings or if the opening of the insolvency proceedings was dismissed for want of bulk
- Termination, only possible by the end of the year and in written form at least three months prior to the end of the financial year.
- Lack of payment of membership fees for consecutive two years despite 2 reminders.
- Via exclusion for extraordinary reasons. The decision for exclusion of a member is made by the Executive Board and is enforced by written notification to the member. The member to be excluded has to be heard prior to exclusion. The member should do this in writing by email.

§ 5 Organs

5.1 Executive Board

The Executive Board according to § 26 BGB is formed by the General Secretary as Chairman, Treasurer, Protocol Officer, Chief Editor of MITAT.

Two members of the Executive Board jointly represent the association externally.

The Executive Board is elected by a simple majority of the General Assembly.

The Executive Board is elected for a period of 5 years. Re-election is possible. The Executive Board members remain in office after expiration of their period of office until their successors have been elected and are able to start office.

The Executive Board conducts the business of the "Verein". All decisions of the Executive Board are recorded in the minutes. In urgent cases decisions can be made via phone, in written form or by e-mail provided that no Executive Board member disagrees.

The Executive Board defines the amendments of the bylaws.

The Protocol Officer convenes the meetings, prepares the items on the agenda and writes the minutes. He/she organizes the external relations and representation of the "Verein".

The Treasurer presents the annual financial report and business plan for the next year to the General Assembly. He is responsible for the administration of the financial affairs, like controlling of the payment of the membership fees, financial planning, tax declaration and balance sheet.

The Chief Editor of MITAT is responsible for the content of the journal in cooperation with the publishers.

In case of change of Chief Editor of MITAT journal the term of office expires automatically at the next succeeding General Assembly and the new Chief Editor may be elected for the remaining regular term of office.

5.2 Steering Committee

At the suggestion of the Executive Board and with the agreement of the General Assembly further organs, such as a Steering Committee can be implemented on the basis of amendments.

The Steering Committee assists the Executive Board and counsels it in the activity of the Society. New members of the Steering Committee must be standard SMIT members, are suggested by the Steering Committee and elected by the General Assembly by simple majority. The number of Steering Committee members may be altered according to the needs of the Society by the Executive Board.

5.3 SMIT President

The SMIT President must be a standard SMIT member, is elected by the General Assembly and is responsible for the annual conference of the respective year of election. She/he joins the Steering Committee Meetings as a person entitled to vote during the term of presidency and the previous year.

Any full (standard) member can apply via email for election of SMIT President for the organization of the annual meeting 4 years in advance with information on subject, location and date of the conference. The application has to be submitted at least 30 days before the General Assembly takes place.

5.4 General Assembly

The ordinary General Assembly takes place annually, usually during the annual conference. The Executive Board chairs the General Assembly. The Executive Board convenes the General Assembly at least twenty-one days prior to the day of the meeting, specifying the items on the agenda in written form or via email.

Invitation to the General Assembly is addressed to the last email address known of the full member. Each full member can apply for an amendment of the agenda or other motions in written form at least 10 days prior to the General Assembly. This has to be addressed to the Executive Board stating the reasons.

An extraordinary General Assembly has to be convened on written demand of at least 10% of the members to the Executive Board or if required by the issues of the "Verein". In these cases the General Assembly has to be called within 21 days.

The General Assembly has especially the following rights and duties:

- Acceptance of the status report of the Executive Board including report of annual conference and journal of the previous year
- Approval of the financial report for the previous financial year
- Approval of the actions of the Executive Board
- Establishment of additional organs including election of the responsible members
- Approval of the annual budget
- Determination of location and time of the annual conference through election of the proposed SMIT member as SMIT President of the conference 2 years in advance
- Resolution for membership fees scale

Resolutions of the General Assembly are carried by a simple majority of the present members. This does not apply to changes of the bylaws or dissolution of the "Verein".

Members can only vote in person.

§ 6 Changes of bylaws

Resolution of changes of bylaws is carried by $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the members present. The Executive Board is empowered to approve and conduct changes of the bylaws requested by the German registration board or any other German administrative office.

Changes of bylaws have to be provided to all members in written form / per email.

§ 7 Dissolution

The "Verein" may be dissolved by ordinary resolution of the General Assembly with $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the members present.

§ 8 Protocol

All resolutions of the General Assembly have to be recorded in minutes and have to be signed by the General Secretary and the Protocol Officer who is elected by the General Assembly.