

# THE AMERICAN EYE STUDY CLUB BY-LAWS

Amended October 16, 2010

1 **Article I: NAME**  
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3 The name of this organization shall be the American Eye Study Club, Inc. (AESC).  
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5 **Article II: PURPOSE**  
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7 The purpose of this organization is to provide an opportunity for young leaders in ophthalmology  
8 to meet annually and to discuss subjects of mutual interest including scientific, professional,  
9 socioeconomic, and political issues.  
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11 **Article III: MEMBERS**  
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13 Section 3.1 Categories of members; qualifications for membership.  
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15 The members of the AESC shall be of the following categories:  
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17 (a) Active Members. Membership as an Active Member is limited to ophthalmologists  
18 certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology or the Royal College of Physicians  
19 and Surgeons of Canada. A person must be admitted to Active membership within  
20 fifteen (15) years after initial Board certification, except that each year up to one person  
21 may be admitted more than 15 years but less than 21 years after initial board certification.  
22

23 (b) Emeritus Members. After ten years of Active membership, a member automatically  
24 becomes an Emeritus member. Emeritus members may attend meetings and propose new  
25 members, but they may not vote or hold office. Emeritus members may serve in an  
26 advisory capacity on committees and perform other duties at the discretion of the officers  
27 of the AESC.  
28

29 (c) Honorary Members. Honorary Membership may be bestowed by a majority vote of  
30 the membership present at any Business Meeting. Honorary members do not pay dues,  
31 vote, hold office or propose new members.  
32

33 Section 3.2 Number of Members.  
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35 The maximum number of members of each category shall be as follows:  
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37 Active members, 60; Emeritus members, no limit; Honorary members, no limit.  
38

39 Section 3.3 Election of Members.  
40

41 A maximum of eight (8) new members may be elected annually, only one of which may be board  
42 certified more than 15 years but less than 21 years before nomination to membership. After  
43 attending two Annual Meetings as defined in Section 5.1 of the Bylaws, each Active member or  
44 Emeritus member may nominate annually one person for membership. At least one seconding  
45 letter also must be submitted. If a candidate is nominated by an Emeritus member, a seconding  
46 letter must be submitted by an Active member. A member may second more than one nomination

47 annually. The new member proposal must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer, and  
48 sent by the Secretary-Treasurer to the Active members or posted on the Club website at least 30  
49 days prior to a Business meeting. Election shall be by written ballot from Active members  
50 present and may take place at any Business meeting of the AESC. An Active or Emeritus  
51 member proposing or seconding the nomination of the new member must be present at this  
52 meeting. Four or more dissenting votes will nullify the election of a proposed member. The  
53 Secretary-Treasurer shall advise the new member of his/her election.  
54

#### 55 Section 3.4 Dues.

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57 The annual dues for Active and Emeritus members shall be determined by the Active membership  
58 upon a majority vote by the Active members present at a Business meeting. Any member  
59 delinquent in payment of dues for one (1) year shall be notified by the Secretary-Treasurer. Non-  
60 payment of dues is grounds for termination of membership by a majority vote of the Active  
61 members present at a Business meeting. A member's annual dues may be waived by a vote of the  
62 officers when special circumstances exist.  
63

#### 64 Section 3.5 Failure to Attend Scientific Meetings.

65  
66 (a) A new member who does not attend the first or second Annual Meeting after election is  
67 subject to termination of membership upon recommendation by the officers and a majority vote  
68 of the Active members present at a Business meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform the  
69 member of this action by letter.  
70

71 (b) An Active member who misses two consecutive Annual Meetings is subject to termination of  
72 membership upon recommendation by the officers and a majority vote of the Active members  
73 present at a Business meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform the member of this action by  
74 letter. In the event of extenuating circumstances, the member in question may write an  
75 explanatory letter to the Secretary-Treasurer. The member's termination may then be stayed by a  
76 majority vote of the Active members present at a Business meeting, but must attend the next  
77 Annual Meeting.  
78

79 (c) In special circumstances, exceptions to the above attendance requirements may be granted  
80 upon recommendation by the AESC officers and a majority vote of the Active members present at  
81 a Business meeting.  
82

### 83 **Article IV: OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

#### 84 Section 4.1 Officers.

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86  
87 The officers of the AESC shall be a President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording  
88 Secretary, and Immediate Past-President. These five officers shall coordinate the policies and  
89 activities of the AESC and preside at the meetings. The AESC may hire an executive director  
90 who shall have duties and authority as determined by the officers. The executive director shall  
91 report to and be supervised by the officers.  
92

#### 93 Section 4.2 Nominations.

94  
95 A Nominating Committee consisting of the current President, who shall act as chair, and former  
96 presidents of the AESC present at the Annual Meeting shall submit the names of candidates for  
97 office. These nominees and any other individual(s) nominated and seconded by an Active  
98 member shall be subject to a vote of the Active members present at the Annual Meeting. A  
99 majority vote is required for election.  
100

101 Section 4.3 Duties of Officers.

102  
103 (a) President. The President shall hold office for one (1) year and, as the chief executive officer,  
104 manage the general affairs of the AESC.

105  
106 (b) President-Elect. The President Elect shall serve as program chair for the Annual Meeting and  
107 succeed the President after one (1) year in office.

108  
109 (c) Secretary-Treasurer. The term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be two years. The  
110 Secretary-Treasurer shall perform all duties commonly incident to this office.

111  
112 (d) Recording Secretary. The term of office of the Recording Secretary shall be two years. The  
113 Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the American Eye Study Club.

114  
115 Section 4.4 Vacancies.

116  
117 In the event that the office of President becomes vacant, the President-elect shall complete any  
118 unexpired portion of the term of office in addition to his/her own term as President. If any other  
119 office becomes vacant, a successor for the unexpired term shall be appointed by a majority vote  
120 of the remaining officers. The appointee shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the  
121 Active members present at the next Business meeting.

122  
123 Section 4.5 Committees

124  
125 The Annual Meeting Site Selection Committee shall be composed of the officers of the AESC  
126 and any additional members chosen by the President-elect, who is the chair of the Committee. All  
127 other committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, will be appointed as  
128 necessary by the President.

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130 **Article V: MEETINGS**

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132 Section 5.1 Annual Meetings.

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134 The AESC will have one scientific meeting a year designated as the Annual Meeting, and it will  
135 be called at such time and place as designated by the President after having given due notice to all  
136 members.

137  
138 Section 5.2 Business Meetings

139  
140 The AESC shall have at least one Business Meeting of the membership each year for the election  
141 of officers, election of new members and to transact any other business of the AESC as may be  
142 appropriate. A Business Meeting will take place during the Annual Meeting of the AESC and  
143 during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology or in a manner consistent  
144 with Section 5.3 of these By-Laws. Notice of any Business Meeting shall be made to the  
145 membership at least 30 days in advance.

146  
147 Section 5.3 Special Meetings.

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149 Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the officers at such time and place as they  
150 shall designate after giving due notice to all members at least 30 days in advance.

151  
152 Section 5.4 Quorum.

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154 A quorum shall consist of ten or more Active members present at any Annual, Business or

155 Special meeting.

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157 Section 5.5 Vote Required.

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159 The affirmative vote of a majority of the Active members who are present at a meeting shall be  
160 sufficient to elect any officer or to transact any business, unless the matter is one upon which, by  
161 express provision of the By-Laws of the AESC, a different vote is required, in which case such  
162 express provision shall govern.

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164 Section 5.6 Notice

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166 Notice to members may be by U.S. Mail or by electronic communication sent to the address listed  
167 in the AESC's records.

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170 **Article VI: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

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172 These By-Laws may be amended at any Business Meeting by a two-thirds vote of the Active  
173 members present. Proposed amendments shall be reviewed by the officers. A copy of the  
174 proposal shall be sent to each Active and Emeritus member or shall be posted on the Club website  
175 with a notice to the Active and Emeritus members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which a  
176 vote on proposed amendments is planned.