PEE DEE DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name and Boundaries

The name of this organization shall be the Pee Dee District Dental Society component of the South Carolina Dental Association. This Society shall be affiliated with the American Dental Association, through the South Carolina Dental Association, hereinafter referred to as "this Society" or "the Society". The jurisdiction of this Society shall include the counties of Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Kershaw, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, and Williamsburg, as provided for in Chapter II; Section 2C of the South Carolina Dental Association By-Laws, Revised 1973.

Article II - Object

The object of this Society shall be to encourage the improvement of the health of the public and to promote the art and science of dentistry.

Article III - Organization

Section 1. Incorporation: This Society is a non-profit organization, organized under the laws of the State of South Carolina. If this Society shall be dissolved at any time, no part of its funds or property shall be distributed to, or among its members, but after payment of all indebtedness of the Society, its surplus funds and properties shall be used for dental education and dental research in such manner as the then governing body of the Society may determine.

Section 2. Study Clubs: Study clubs shall be those local dental societies or dental associations organized as such in conformity with Chapter III of the By-Laws of the South Carolina Dental Association.

Article IV - Membership

The qualification for membership, discipline of members by censure, and suspension or expulsion is provided for in the By-Laws, Chapters I and VII.

Article V - Officers

The officers of this Society shall be a President, a President Elect, a Vice-President, and a Secretary- Treasurer.
Article VI - **Constitutional Committees**

The constitutional committees of this Society shall be an Executive Committee, a Nominating Committee, a Board of Censers, Legislative Committee, Membership Committee, Patient Relations Committee, Peer Revert Committee, Ethics Committee, and Delegates and Alternate Delegates.

Article VII - **Sessions**

Scientific and Business Sessions of this Society shall be conducted by its members as provided in the By-Laws, Chapter V.

Article VIII - **Code of Ethics**

The Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association and the Code of Ethics of the South Carolina Dental Association shall be the Code of Ethics of this Society.

Article IX - **Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended provided the proposed amendment has been presented in writing to the Secretary one week prior to any business session of the Society by (a) a unanimous affirmative vote of the members present at the regular business session, or (b) a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at a subsequent business session provided a quorum be present.

**BY-LAWS**

Chapter I - **Membership:**

Section 1. Classification: The members of this Society shall be classified as follows: Active members, Life members, Associate members, Honorary members, and Teaching members.

Section 2. Qualifications:
A. Active members: Active membership shall be available to those dentists who, having complied with the state dental laws, are engaged in the practice or teaching of dentistry in the boundaries of this Society in accordance with the Code of Ethics of this Society.

B. Life members: A dentist that fulfilled the requirements for life membership in the South Carolina Dental Association and the American Dental Association shall also
be considered a Life Member of this Society. Maintenance of membership in good standing in this component society shall be requisite for continuance of Life membership in this Society.

C. Associate members: A dentist who is an active member in good standing of this Society, if through illness or disaster is financially unable to pay his or her dues, may be elected to associate membership of this Society, so long as this membership is approved by the House of Delegates, as provided by the South Carolina Dental Association Constitution and By-Laws.

D. Honorary member: - A dentist who has honorably retired from practice, or a reputable practitioner of dentistry from another state, or a research worker not actively engaged in the practice of dentistry but whose research is of such scientific nature as to further the art and science of dentistry, or an educator who has improved the methods of dental education, may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any business meeting of this Society.

E. Teaching member: A dentist who is engaged as, a full time professor, teacher or instructor in a duly accredited school of dentistry in South Carolina, and who is duly licensed in another state, whose license is in good standing and who has not taken the South Carolina Board and is a member of the American Dental Association, may become a teaching member of this Association.

Section 3. Election:

A. Election of Active Member: All applications for membership in this Society shall be made in writing to the Secretary. The application shall be signed by two members in good standing of this Society, and shall be accompanied by the first year annual dues of this Society, the South Carolina Dental Association dues, and the American Dental Association dues. The application shall then be referred to the Board of Censors of this Society for investigation. The Board of Censors shall ascertain the eligibility of all candidates, and make its recommendations to the Society at any regular meeting of this Society. Candidates are then elected to be membership by a simple majority affirmative vote of the members present at any regular meeting of this Society. If a candidate is elected to membership his fee, for dues shall be apportioned for all first year dues. If the candidate is not elected, his fee for dues shall be returned to him.

B. Election of Teaching Member: All applications for teaching membership in this Society shall be made in writing to the Secretary. The application shall be processed in the same manner as for an Active Member.

Section 4. In Good Standing: A member of this Society who is not under final sentence of expulsion and whose dues for the current calendar year have been paid shall be
considered in good standing. A member of this Society, while receiving assistance from the ADA relief fund shall be exempt from payment of dues and shall be considered a member in good standing, during such period of assistance. An active member whose dues for the current year have not been received by March 31 of that year shall cease to be a member of the Society. Applications for reinstatement shall be as in Section 3 of this chapter, and shall be processed as though the candidate were applying for original membership.

Section 5. Privileges:
A. Active Member: (a) An active member in good standing shall be granted admission to all meetings of this Society, and shall have the privilege of participating and voting at all general business sessions. (b) An active member in good standing shall be eligible for election or appointment of any office, committee, or board, or similar position in this Society, except as otherwise hereinafter provided.

B. Life Member: A life member in good standing shall be entitled to all the privileges of an active member.

C. Associate Member: An associate member in good standing shall be entitled to all the privileges of an active member, with the exception of holding office.

D. Honorary Member: An honorary member in good standing shall be entitled to admission to any scientific or general business of this Society, but shall not hold office in this Society, or participate or vote at any business meeting of this Society.

E. Teaching Member: A teaching member in good standing shall be entitled to all privileges of an active member.

Section 6. Professional Conduct of Members: The professional conduct of every member of this Society shall be governed by the Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association and the Code of Ethics of the South Carolina Dental Association.

Section 7. Discipline of Members: Discipline of any member is subject to the provisions in Chapter 1, Section 60 of the By-Laws of the American Dental Association and as provided by in Chapter 1, Section 7 of the South Carolina Dental Association By-Laws.

Section 8. Resignation of Membership: A member in good standing of this Society, against whom disciplinary proceedings have not been invoked, upon written application to the Secretary, may resign his membership.
Chapter II - Election of Officers

Section 1. Nominations for President, President Elect, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be presented to the Society by the nominating committee of this Society at the Fall meeting. At the same time the nominating committee shall make nominations for committee members, delegates and alternate delegates.

The President must and shall ask for nominations from the floor before closing nominations. The President Elect shall be nominated to the office of President at the next annual election of the Society, following his election as the President Elect, provided; however, he is a voting member in good standing at that time.

Section 2. Tenure of Office: The officers of this Society shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected.

These elected officers shall assume office immediately following the close of the annual meeting of the South Carolina Dental Association.

Section 3. Vacancies: In the event the office of President becomes vacant, the President Elect shall become President for the unexpired portion of the term. In the event the office of Vice-President becomes vacant the nominating committee shall present at the next meeting of the Society a nomination for this vacancy. In the event the office of the Secretary-Treasurer becomes vacant the Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities of the office until the vacancy is filled.

Section 4. Duties of Officers:

A. President:
1. He shall preside at all meetings of this Society.
2. He shall call if necessary a special meeting of this Society.
3. He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees.
4. He shall appoint all officers or committees not otherwise provided for.
5. He shall appoint a program committee, consisting of a chairman and two members.
6. He shall be a Delegate to the South Carolina Dental Association’s House of Delegates.
7. He shall be a member of the South Carolina Dental Association's Board of Governors.

B. President - Elect

It shall be the duty of President- Elect to:

1. Act in the absence of the President.
2. Succeed to the office of President in case of removal, resignation or death of the President.
3. Be elected automatically to the office of President at the end of his term, provided he is an active member in good standing of the Society at that time.
4. He shall be a member of the House of Delegates of the South Carolina Dental Association.
5. Plan and arrange the scientific program for the regular meetings of the Society.
6. Supervise the dental educational phase of the Society's activities such as seminars, refresher and post-graduate courses.
7. Arrange for the meeting place for regular and special meetings of the Society.
8. Arrange for all social and entertainment functions sponsored by the Society.

C. Vice-President: The duties of the Vice-President shall be to assist the President Elect.

D. Secretary-Treasurer: The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be to keep the records of the Society and perform such duties as usually appertain to the office. He shall keep a membership roster, receive and keep all monies belonging to the Society and pay out same on order of the President. He shall forward within a reasonable length of time the dues collected for the South Carolina Dental Association and the dues of the American Dental Association to the Secretary-Treasurer of the South Carolina Dental Association. He shall also perform such other duties as may be directed by the South Carolina Dental Association Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 5. Committees, Delegates and Alternate Delegates and Duties:

A. The senior member of each committee shall be chairman of that committee. It shall be his duty and responsibility to see that the duties of his committee are carried out.

B. Board of Censors: The Board of Censors of this Society shall be composed of three members. One shall be elected each year with a term of office of three years. It shall be the duty of the Board of Censors to recommend action on all applicants for membership to this Society as provided for in Chapter II, Section 6 of the South Carolina Dental Association Constitution and By-laws.

C. Committee Members:
1. Nominating Committee: This committee shall consist of three members from this Society with a term of office for three years. One new member shall be elected each year. The duties of the committee shall be:
   I - State Duties: To represent this Society at the annual South Carolina Dental Association meetings, and to place in nomination, at the proper time the name of that member duly nominated by this Society for Vice-President of the South Carolina Dental Association.
   II - Local Duties: It shall also be the duties of this committee to present to this Society nominations for the office of President, President Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, as well as committee members, delegates, and alternates, except as hereinafter provided.
2. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee of this Society shall be composed of the following members: the President, the President Elect, the Vice-President, the Secretary-
Treasurer, and the immediate Past President. This committee shall be the managing body of this Society. It shall have the power to establish ad interim policies when such policies are essential to the management of the Society, provided, however, that all such policies must be presented for review at the next regular meeting of the Society.

3. Legislative Committee: There shall be one member from this Society on the Legislative Committee of the South Carolina Dental Association. The duties are as provided by the South Carolina Dental Association By-laws, Chapter VII, Section 12.

4. Membership Committee: There shall be one member from this Society on the Membership Committee of the South Carolina Dental Association. The duties of this committee -man are as outlined in the South Carolina Dental Association By-laws, Chapter VII, Section 12.

5. Delegates and Alternate Delegates: The number of delegates and alternate delegates shall be of equal number, and shall be one for each fifteen members or fraction thereof, as provided for by the South Carolina Dental Association, Chapter II, Section 6. It shall be the duties of the delegates to represent this Society, and to attend all meetings of the House of Delegates. In the event that a delegate is unable to attend a meeting of the House of Delegates, the alternate delegate in order of election shall attend.

6. Ethics Committee: This committee shall consist of three members. One shall be elected each year with a term of office of three years. It shall operate under the rules and regulations set forth in the Constitution of the South Carolina Dental Association.

7. Patient Relations Committee: This committee shall consist of three members. One new member shall be elected annually for a three year term. It shall operate under the rules and regulations set forth in the Constitution of the South Carolina Dental Association.

8. Peer Review Committee: This committee shall consist of six members. Two new members shall be elected annually with a term of office of three years. It shall operate under the rules and regulations set forth in the Peer Review Manual of the South Carolina Dental Association.

Chapter III - Study Clubs

Members in good standing in this Society who practice or reside in any city or community of the territory of this Society may organize a local study club that conforms to the Constitution and By-laws of this Society and the South Carolina Dental Association. Such a study club shall not be an official component of the South Carolina Dental Association or this Society.

Chapter IV - Special Committees

Special Committees may be created at any session of this Society, for the purpose of performing any duties not otherwise assigned by these By-laws.

The President of this Society shall have the power to create a special committee for the purpose of performing any duties not otherwise assigned by these By-laws, provided that the necessity for such a committee arises a reasonable length of time before the next regular meeting of this Society.
Chapter V - **Sessions**

Section 1. This Society shall hold a Spring and Fall meeting each year; the date shall be approved by the President-Elect of the South Carolina Dental Association.

Section 2. A special session shall be called by the President, provided there is an urgent need for such a meeting.

Section 3. Quorum: One-sixth of the fully privileged members of this Society shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any session.

Section 4. Order of Business: The President shall determine the order of business for each session.

Section 5. Admittance and Participation:

A. Scientific Sessions: The following shall be admitted to any scientific session of this Society:
1. Members in good standing of this Society.
3. Members in good standing of allied professions and associations.
5. Speakers.
6. Dental Students.
7. Invited guests.

B. Business Sessions: Admittance to any business session of this Society shall be restricted to voting members only, when the President deems advisable.

Chapter VI - **Finances**

Section 1. Dues

A. Active Members: The dues of this Society shall be $20 payable annually in advance to the Treasurer of the Society. The members of this Society shall submit to the Treasurer of this Society the dues of the South Carolina Dental Association as well the dues of the American Dental Association-along with the dues of this Society.

B. Life, Associate, and Honorary Members shall be responsible for the payment for meals of meetings attended, but are exempted from annual dues.

C. New Members: All new members who have just graduated from a school of dentistry shall be exempt from the payment of dues for the remainder of that year. Other new members that join after January 1, shall pay one-half (1/2) the full years dues. Each year thereafter they shall pay the full years dues.

D. Former Active Members: A former active member of this Society upon being re-elected to active membership shall be required to pay the full years ‘dues of this Society.

E. In Service: An active member in good standing of the Society upon involuntary entree into military service shall be exempt from the payment of dues during the period of military service and shall be considered a member in good standing during such service.
F. Teaching Members: The dues for a teaching member shall be the same as for an active member.

Chapter VII - **Automatic Expulsion**

Any person who is not a voting member of this Society who shall endeavor to influence the election of officers, or to influence the policies of this Society, shall forever be debarred from attending the meetings.

Chapter VIII- **Amendments**

These By-laws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present at any business session of this Society, provided the proposed amendment has been presented in writing to the membership at least one week previous to any session. These By-laws may also be amended at any business session of this Society by unanimous vote, provided the proposed amendment has been presented in writing.

Chapter IX - **Rules of Order**

All matters of business and order not provided for in these By-laws shall be governed by Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure