

## Statutes

### 1 Name, legal status and domicile

The Swiss Society of Cannabis in Medicine (hereinafter referred to as Society) is a nonprofit organization according to art. 66 ff of the Swiss Civil Code. It is cited at the location of the office.

### 2 Aim and tasks of the Society

The Society:

- is the Swiss interdisciplinary platform of science and information for the medical use of cannabis and cannabinoids (hereinafter referred to as MCs)
- is the Swiss ambassador organization of the «International Association for Cannabinoid Medicines» (IACM)
- aims that in Switzerland MCs is accepted and regulated by law, and clinically implemented
- supports the scientific-rational, destigmatized use and the simplified, unbureaucratic access to therapies with MCs, following the IACM «[Declaration of Human Rights for Medical Access to Cannabis and Cannabinoids](#)» which the Society has signed, too
- aims to link medical persons, health professionals, communities of interests, patient organizations, self-help groups, scientists, politicians, representatives of health and regulatory agencies, and industry as well as to foster the cooperation with other MCs organizations nationally and internationally
- promotes the basic science- and therapy-oriented MCs research, collects, evaluates and provides facts and experiences from science and practice
- elaborates guidelines to the most important principles of treatment and clinical use of MCs, according to the scientific data base and evidence
- organizes congresses, continuing education and training as well as other related events, independently or in cooperation with other professional societies and organizations, which are engaged in the field of MCs
- supports the establishment of MCs quality controls and -circles, awards skills diploma and certificates
- is the Swiss point of contact for questions related to MCs, advises authorities, politics, media and the general public, and releases consultations and statements
- has as official, open-access, peer-reviewed the journal «Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids» (Karger Publishers Basel).

### **3 Memberships**

#### *3.1. Categories*

Members of the Society are full individual members, collective members, corresponding members, honorary members, sponsors and passive members.

3.1.1. Full individual membership is available to every natural person, who deals with MCs in his professional environment based on the principles of scientific evidence.

3.1.2. Collective members can be professional societies, professional associations, academies, industry interest organisations, congress and exhibition organisations as well as patient organisations. The condition is that they deal with cannabis in medicine.

3.1.3. Corresponding membership is available to professionals active outside Switzerland or international partner organizations.

3.1.4. Honorary membership is available to a natural person, who has earned special merits for the Society. The application must be submitted to the board. The member assembly decides about the admission.

3.1.5. Sponsors are natural or legal entities, who support the Society with financial contributions at least corresponding to the respective annual membership fee, without a compelling professional relationship.

3.1.6. Passive members are legal entities that are active in the field of cannabis in medicine.

#### *3.2. Admission*

Applications for admission must be addressed to the office via application form on the Society's website, together with a motivation statement and short bio. The board decides about admission.

#### *3.3. Right to vote*

Every full individual member, collective member, and honorary member has one vote. Corresponding members, passive members and sponsors have the full right to receive information, but no voting rights.

#### *3.4. Prohibition of contractual ties on behalf of the Society:*

No member is allowed to sign contracts and organize events in the name of the Society. Requests must be authorized by the board. Financial matters must be signed collectively by two board members.

#### *3.5. Termination of membership*

3.5.1. The membership ends by death, written notice of resignation addressed to the board or in case of missing fee payment during two following years, despite reminder by registered mail, or by justified exclusion by the member assembly.

3.5.2. Members, who leave or are excluded, have no rights over the funds of the Society.

## **4 Membership fee and budget**

- 4.1. The annual membership fee is fixed by the member assembly.
- 4.2. Honorary members are exempt from the liability to pay contributions.
- 4.3. Only the Society assets held responsible for the liabilities of the Society. Any personal liability of the members, including the board, is excluded.
- 4.4. All anticipated expenses must be stated within the annual budget approved by the member assembly. At the annual member assembly the board declares these items by a trustee as account overview. This trustee is elected every year by the member assembly on recommendation of the board.

## **5 Organs of the Society and authorities**

*5.1. The member assembly is the supreme organ.*

### 5.1.1. Convening

#### 5.1.1.1. The ordinary member assembly

The ordinary member assembly takes place at least once per business year – usually during the annual congress. The exact date is communicated at least three months in advance.

5.1.1.2. Propositions of members with a right to vote must be added to the agenda of the member assembly, provided they are sent by registered mail to the board by latest two months in advance.

5.1.1.3. The board or a fifth of the members with a right to vote can request that an extraordinary member assembly be called, stating a reason. This should take place during the next three months after receipt of the request at the office.

#### 5.1.2. Announcement of the member assembly

A member assembly is called in writing (by mail or e-mail) with notification of the agenda by the office by latest one month in advance.

#### 5.1.3. Quorum of the member assembly

5.1.3.1. Each member assembly convened in accordance with the statutes is quorate, independent of the number of members present.

5.1.3.2. Each member with a right to vote has one vote at the member assembly, whereby a proxy with written authorization is possible. A member present can only substitute one single absent member.

5.1.3.3. Decisions can only be taken on items listed in the agenda.

5.1.3.4. Decisions of the member assembly are made with simple majority of the votes cast.

5.1.3.5. In case of a tie vote on a business item the president decides with a second vote; in case of a tie vote on elections the decision shall be made by lot.

5.1.3.6. Exemptions are (tree-quarter majority of votes cast required):

- change of statutes
- dissolution of the Society and liquidation of the Society's assets
- merger with other organizations

5.1.3.7. Elections and votes are open by hand, provided the member assembly does not decide on a written vote or election.

5.1.4. Miscellaneous

5.1.4.1. The president chairs the member assembly. If he/she is unable to attend, he/she appoints a substitute. If this is not possible, the vice-president or another member of the board takes over the chairmanship.

5.1.4.2. The chairperson appoints the tellers.

5.1.4.3. The secretary of the Society or the actuary, in case of absence another board member, keeps a record about the decisions and elections of the member assembly, which must be signed by him/her and the chairperson.

5.1.4.4. The member assembly has the following powers:

- admission of honorary members
- exclusion of members stating a reason
- approval of the annual report and the annual accounts
- decision on the budget
- setting of the membership fees
- election of the presidium
- election of a control board
- discharge of the board
- decision on propositions of members
- change of statutes
- dissolution of the Society and liquidation of Society's assets
- merger with other organizations

**5.2. Board**

5.2.1. Composition:

The board consists of at least five members, of which are mandatory the president, one or more vice-presidents, and the cashier. Additional board members can be appointed. The board constitutes itself, except the president. If possible, all Swiss language regions should

be represented, and the professional diversity and professional competence of the members should be taken into account.

5.2.2. The president leads the Society according to the statutes, is the head of the board, and represents the Society externally.

5.2.3. The vice-president acts as a substitute of the president and supports him/her in the exercise of duties.

5.2.4. The other board members take over the tasks assigned to them.

5.2.4.1. The cashier runs the bill, manages the cash register, and proposes the annual membership fee to the member assembly.

5.2.4.2. Signature rules

A double signature of the president, the vice-president and/or the cashier and another board member, respectively, is always required in case of legally valid official acts.

5.2.5. Election, term of office

5.2.5.1. The board members are elected every four years for their respective function. In advance of the member assembly the board sends his written proposal for new board appointments together with the agenda to all members with a right to vote. Any counter-proposals can be submitted by members with a right to vote until the election.

5.2.5.2. Each board member's term of office is limited to three times four years.

5.2.6. Meetings

5.2.6.1. The board holds meetings annually as required. Meetings must be convened in writing, stating the agenda. The convocation must be effected at least fourteen days in advance.

5.2.6.2. Three board members can request that a board meeting be convened, which must take place within one month.

5.2.6.3. For the discussion of specific matters the board can call additional experts from among the members or other experts.

5.2.7. Decision:

The board has a quorum based on a simple majority, if the majority of its members is present, whereas a representation by means of a written power is possible. In case of a tie, the president has the casting vote. Negotiations and decisions are recorded.

5.2.8. Duties and powers

The board under the direction of the president is responsible for:

- a) the management of the Society in accordance with the statutes
- b) the implementation of tasks from the member assembly
- c) the supervision and coordination of the Society's activities

### 5.3. Auditing

5.3.1. The responsible auditors are elected every 4 years by the member assembly.

5.3.2. The auditors check annually the accounts and submit a written report with a request to the member assembly.

### 6 Business year

The business year corresponds to the calendar year.

### 7 Liquidation in case of dissolution of the Society

7.1. The liquidation is performed by the board on request of the member assembly and presented to the auditor.

7.2. A report and a final account of the liquidation must be drafted for the attention of the member assembly, which is then deciding about the definitive liquidation.

7.3. Any surplus assets will be transferred to an association with a similar purpose.

Bern, November 2024,



Dr. med. Reto Agosti, President SGCM