

BY-LAWS
OF THE
Vermont State
Association of
Osteopathic Physicians
and Surgeons, Inc.



1939

ARTICLE I

Name

Sec. 1. The name of this organization shall be the Vermont State Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, Inc.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Sec. 1. The membership of this Association shall consist of the present members of the Vermont State Osteopathic Association and such others as shall be elected to membership in the manner prescribed herein.

Sec. 2. The membership of this Association shall consist of five classes, namely, active members, inactive members, associate members, life members, and honorary members.

Sec. 3. Active Members. Any graduate of an osteopathic college approved by the Vermont State Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration, licensed to practice osteopathy in the State of Vermont may apply for active membership in this Association.

Sec. 4. Inactive Members. Any person who has been an active member of this

Association for two years and becomes professionally inactive in Vermont may apply for inactive membership in this Association, and shall be entitled to all the privileges of active membership except those of voting and holding office.

Sec. 5. Associate Members. Any graduate of an osteopathic college approved by the Vermont State Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration, licensed to practice osteopathy in one or more of the states of the United States or in the Dominion of Canada, but not in active practice in the State of Vermont, may apply for membership in this Association. Associate members shall be entitled to all the privileges of active membership except those of voting and holding office.

Sec. 6. Honorary Members. Honorary members shall consist of persons who have made valuable contributions to the science of osteopathy or have rendered important service to the profession and who shall have been elected to honorary membership by a two-thirds vote of the accredited voting members. Honorary members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office in this Association, but shall have the right to express themselves in meetings of the Association on matters before

the meeting for consideration. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues.

Sec. 7. Life Members. The Association shall have the power by special vote to confer upon individuals life membership. Life members shall have all the privileges of active members but shall not be required to pay dues.

Sec. 8. Application for Membership. Application for membership shall be made in writing, on blank forms prepared for that purpose, and recommended by two active members of this Association. Said application shall state when and where the applicant was graduated in osteopathy and when licensed to practice. If the applicant has ever been a member of this Association, the application must show when and for what reason membership was severed. Applicant must furnish such other information as the Board of Trustees may require. Application must be accompanied by the current fiscal year's dues.

Sec. 9. All applications for membership shall be delivered to the Clerk of the Association, who shall present the same to the Board of Trustees for its approval or rejection. If the application is

approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees, such person shall be accepted for membership. If the application is rejected, all fees accompanying the application shall be returned to the applicant.

Sec. 10. Resignation. Any member desiring to resign from membership in this Association shall send his resignation in writing to the Treasurer, which shall be accepted if all dues and assessments are paid.

Sec. 11. Delinquency and Reinstatement. Any member whose dues remain unpaid for ninety days shall thereby be automatically suspended and shall forfeit all membership privileges, but may be reinstated before the expiration of sixty days immediately following suspension on payment of all arrears, otherwise said member shall be dropped from the rolls.

Any member dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues, in order to regain membership, shall pay pro rata dues due at the time he was dropped plus the current annual dues at the time of re-applying for membership.

Sec. 12. Discipline. The Code of Ethics of this Association shall be the same as the Code of Ethics of the American Osteopathic Association.

Sec. 13. A member who has been suspended or expelled may be reinstated by a three-fourths vote of the members present at any annual or special meeting of the members upon giving satisfactory evidence to the Board of Trustees of his purpose and intent to comply with the rules governing membership in this Association. A motion to reinstate by action of the members shall be accompanied by a certificate of the Board of Trustees that such evidence has been furnished.

ARTICLE III

Fees, Dues and Assessments

Sec. 1. The fiscal year of this Association shall be from October 1st to September 30th of the following year, inclusive.

Sec. 2. The annual dues shall be as follows:

- (a) Active members \$10; applications received midyear after April 1st \$5 for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- (b) Inactive members \$2.
- (c) Recent graduates in their first and second years of practice immediately following gradua-

tion or the serving of an internship shall be as follows: first year \$2, second year \$5.

(d) Associate members \$2.

Sec. 3. Dues shall be paid on or before October 1st of each fiscal year upon receipt of notice in advance from the Treasurer. If dues are not paid within ninety days after the same shall become due, the member shall become automatically suspended but may be reinstated before the expiration of sixty days on payment of all arrears, otherwise said member shall be dropped from the rolls.

Sec. 4. To meet any emergency, the Board of Trustees may levy such assessments as it deems necessary for the carrying out of the purposes of the Association.

Sec. 5. All special assessments levied by the Board of Trustees and/or the Association in convention assembled shall be due as soon as levied and upon receipt of notice of such assessment from the Treasurer. Failure to pay such assessment shall incur the same penalty as failure to pay dues.

Sec. 6. Honorary members, associate members, inactive members and life mem-

bers shall be exempt from assessments other than dues, and honorary members and life members shall be exempt from the payment of dues. Active members who are in their first year of practice immediately following graduation or the serving of an internship shall pay fifty per cent of assessments levied. All others shall pay the full amount of the assessments.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Trustees

Sec. 1. The Board of Trustees shall be composed of five active members elected at the annual meeting of the Association by the members of the Association. One of such members shall be the Clerk, who shall be elected by the members and shall be a member of the Board of Trustees by virtue of his election as Clerk. The Board of Trustees shall be the administrative and executive body of the Association and shall perform such other duties as may be provided by these by-laws.

Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees shall elect from among its number a President, Vice-President and Treasurer. The Clerk and Treasurer may be the same person. The Board of Trustees shall fix

the compensation for the Clerk and Treasurer, or if they are the same person, may fix one salary for both offices.

Sec. 3. The term of office of all the Trustees and officers of this Association shall be one year.

Sec. 4. The Board of Trustees shall meet coincidentally with the annual session of the Association and at other times on the call of the President or on a written request signed by three members of the Association.

Sec. 5. The Board of Trustees shall make all arrangements for the annual sessions. The Board shall appoint all standing committees and such committees not otherwise provided for in these by-laws that may become necessary, and shall have the power to fill by appointment any vacancy occurring in its own membership until the time of the next session of the Association.

Sec. 6. The Board of Trustees shall have power to elect delegates to the American Osteopathic Association, and such delegates when so elected shall be the official delegates of this Association. The Board of Trustees shall have the power

to elect alternates, who shall serve in the absence or disability of the delegates as occasion may require.

Sec. 7. The Board of Trustees shall decide all questions of an ethical or judicial character and shall investigate all written charges of violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, Code of Ethics, and of gross unprofessional conduct of any member, and shall have the power to censure, suspend or expel as the findings warrant. The Board shall first cite the member to appear before it and answer to such charge and provide opportunity for such member to be heard.

Sec. 8. A majority of the members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 9. The Board of Trustees shall pass upon all applications for membership, and its decision shall be final except in the cases of suspended and expelled members.

Sec. 10. The Board of Trustees shall audit the books of the Treasurer annually at the close of the fiscal year and prior to the annual convention.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Sec. 1. The officers of this Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Clerk and Treasurer.

Sec. 2. Qualifications. Any officer taking up residence outside of the State of Vermont before his term of office expires shall immediately forfeit all rights to said office, and the Board of Trustees shall declare his office vacant.

Sec. 3. President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, and shall approve all bills before they are paid.

He shall call special meetings whenever necessary or on written request signed by ten per cent of the active members in good standing. He shall present a report of the work of the Association during the year of his administration, and make such recommendations as deemed advisable and for the best interests of the Association or the profession in general. He shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon him by this Association, these by-laws or the parliamentary authority adopted.

Sec. 4. Vice-President. The Vice-President in the absence of or at the request of the President shall preside at all meetings. In case of the death of the President or the severance of the membership of the President, the Vice-President shall automatically become President. He shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon his office by these by-laws or the Association.

Sec. 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all moneys received and disbursed and shall collect all fees, dues and assessments and give his official receipt for the same. He shall pay out money, on checks signed by him, only after the bills have been approved by the President. He shall produce his books of account at the close of the fiscal year for inspection by the Board of Trustees and at any other time when requested by the President or the Board of Trustees. He shall present an annual report at the annual meeting of the Association, which shall correctly reflect the financial condition of the Association, and the standing of membership including the number of members in good standing, new members received, and members suspended for the fiscal year ending prior to the convention. He shall furnish a printed directory for

distribution if directed by the Board of Trustees. At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor all moneys and property belonging to the Association. He shall perform such duties as may be imposed on his office by these by-laws or by the laws of the State of Vermont, and shall perform such other duties not inconsistent with these by-laws or the laws of the State of Vermont as may be imposed upon him by the Board of Trustees. The Treasurer, if the Board of Trustees so requires, shall furnish a bond with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Board of Trustees and in such amount as the Board shall require, which bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of his office and the faithful handling of all moneys belonging to the Association.

Sec. 6. Clerk. The Clerk shall reside in this State and keep his office in the place where the principal office of the Association is located. A vacancy in the office of Clerk may be filled by the Board of Trustees, and the person so elected shall be Clerk until his successor is elected by the members, who may make such election at the next annual meeting or at any duly called special meeting held prior thereto. The Clerk shall record all votes and proceedings of the Board of Trustees

and of the members of the Association. He shall have the custody of the corporate seal and of the corporation records, other than those books of account, receipts, etc., otherwise committed to the custody of the Treasurer. He shall procure and file in the office of the clerk of the town where the principal office of the Association is located, and also keep on file in his own office, certified copies of all papers required by law to be filed with the Secretary of State, except the annual report required by Section 5882 of the Public Laws.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings of Members

Sec. 1. The annual meeting of this Association shall be held in the month of October at such place as may be designated by the Association at its preceding annual session, or if no such designation has been made, at such place as the Board of Trustees shall direct. Provided, however, that the Board of Trustees may arrange that said annual meeting shall be held at such other time during the year as in the judgment of the Board of Trustees will best promote the interests of the Association.

Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees shall determine the exact date of the annual con-

vention, and when necessity warrants may change the time and place of sessions and notify the members of such change.

Sec. 3. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to call special meetings when the interests of osteopathy in the State require such meetings. But all special meetings shall be warned by notice sent by the Clerk to each member, at his address as the same appears on the books of the Association, at least five days prior to such special meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Nomination and Election Of Board Of Trustees and Of Clerk

Sec. 1. The President of the Association shall annually appoint a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members, who shall be active members of the Association in good standing.

Sec. 2. The Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the time of the annual meeting and shall choose nominees for the office of Clerk and for the office of the remaining four members of the Board of Trustees, and shall make report when call-

ed upon to do so at the annual meeting of the Association of their list of nominees. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election. The Nominating Committee shall be charged with using the utmost care and diligence in selecting only such candidates who will serve the best interests of this Association.

Sec. 3. The Clerk and the remaining four members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected annually by ballot and shall assume their respective offices at the close of the convention at which they were elected.

Sec. 4. When the Nominating Committee has reported the President shall ask if there are any other nominations for the offices provided to be filled. All such nominations shall be announced.

Sec. 5. In case of more than one nomination for any office to be filled as hereinbefore provided, election shall be by ballot. In case there are no other nominations made, it shall, upon motion passed by the members, be the duty of the Clerk to cast the elective ballot of the Association for the nominees reported by the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

Quorum For Meetings Of Members

Sec. 1. At all meetings of this Association ten per cent of the active members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

Sec. 1. These by-laws may be amended by the Association at any annual session by a two-thirds vote of the accredited voting members in good standing in attendance at such session, provided that such amendment shall have been presented in writing to the Board of Trustees and filed with the Clerk and notice thereof given to the members of the Association at least five days prior to the date of the meeting by mailing to the address of the member as the same appears upon the books of the Association.