

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE (SWACSM)

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Section 1: Name

The name of the organization is the "Southwest Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine" (**SWACSM**). **SWACSM** is a regional chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine (**ACSM**). **ACSM** is the parent national association.

Section 2: Geography

The geographic area includes the states of: (1) Arizona, (2) California, (3) Hawaii, (4) Nevada, (5) New Mexico, and (6) Utah.

Section 3: Restructuring

Any restructuring of the geographical area will follow **ACSM** guidelines.

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

Underlying these purposes and objectives is a philosophy that encourages the intellectual growth and technical expertise of the membership and those with whom this membership relates.

Section 1: Purposes

The primary purpose of this multi-disciplinary professional and scientific organization is to fulfill the purposes and objectives of the American College of Sports Medicine as are appropriate at the regional level. Thus, **SWACSM** promotes the generation and dissemination of knowledge concerning the motivation, responses, adaptations and health aspects of persons engaged in sport and exercise. The major areas of concern are:

- Basic physiological, biochemical, biomechanical, structural and behavioral mechanisms.
- Improvement and maintenance of functional capacities for daily living.
- Prevention and rehabilitation of chronic and degenerative diseases.
- Evaluation and conditioning of athletes.
- Prevention and treatment of injuries related to sport and exercise.

Section 2: Objectives of ACSM and SWACSM

The objectives include some that are shared jointly by **ACSM** and **SWACSM**, whereas others are uniquely suited for the regional chapter.

Subsection 2.1. Objectives Shared by ACSM and SWACSM

- Promotion and advancement of scholarly studies or reviews dealing with the effects of sport and exercise on the health and physical performance of humans.
- Mutual cooperation with other organizations, physicians, scientists, and educators having similar interests in sport/exercise science.
- Organization of meetings, workshops, clinics, and conferences for physicians, educators, allied health professionals, scientists, and students interested in exercise science.
- Develop and implement educational programs in the areas of interest to the College for physicians, allied health professionals, scientists, teachers, coaches, athletes, and the general public.
- Provide encouragement and opportunities for financial support of students and post-graduates in the field of sport/exercise science.

Subsection 2.2. Objectives Uniquely Suited for SWACSM

- Introduce students to **ACSM**.
- Introduce non-member professionals to **ACSM**.
- Develop potential leaders for **ACSM**.
- Broaden the base of participation in **ACSM** activities in the areas of public education, continuing education, public relations, and health and science policy.
- Promote the benefits of **ACSM** membership.

ARTICLE 3: ORGANIZATION

Section 1: Status

The **SWACSM** is a non-profit organization founded in 1982 (based on the date of the written Bylaws) and officially granted permanent status by **ACSM** in 1985.

Section 2: Board of Trustees Members

The Board of Trustees consists of the President Elect, President, and Past President, five Members-at-Large, a representative to the **ACSM** Regional Chapters Committee, a Student Representative, an Executive Director, an Associate Executive Director, if necessary, and any appointed members.

Except for the Student Representative, all members of the Board of Trustees (hereafter referred to as the "Board") must be Professional Members of the American College of Sports Medicine and

SWACSM. The Student Representative must be a Student Member of **SWACSM** and **ACSM** when starting the term of office.

Section 3: Board Duties

The Board implements the business of the membership and the policies of the Chapter as prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 4: Elections

Elections for President Elect and Members-at-Large are held annually. The candidates receiving the majority of votes cast are elected. The President Elect and Members-at-Large are elected by the membership.

Section 5: Appointments

The Regional Chapter Representative is selected by the Board. The appointment will normally be made from those who have previously been President of the **SWACSM** Chapter. The President Elect will select the Student Representative to serve concurrently with the President Elect.

The Executive Director and, if necessary, the Associate Executive Director are appointed by the Board. The Board has the power to retain or remove either of these officers or any other appointed officer at any time for cause by a simple majority vote.

Section 6: Office Terms

The Executive Director will serve a term of five years, with the opportunity for a renewal by the Board of five years or less. The optional Associate Executive Director and temporary special positions will serve terms determined by the Board. The terms of office for the elected officers shall be one year for the Presidents (President Elect, President, Past President) and three years for Members-at-Large, and the Regional Chapter Representative. Every President will serve one year as President-Elect, one year as President and one year as Past-President. The term for the Student Representative is one year. Term year shall be from one **SWACSM** annual meeting to the next **SWACSM** annual meeting.

Section 7: Office Vacancies

Any vacancy or absence in the office of the President will be filled by the Past-President. Vacancies in any other office shall be filled by appointment by the President, with the approval of the Board. The appointee will serve until the completion of the elected term.

Section 8: Officer Removal

The elected officers may be removed by the Board, following the procedures for removal described in the Bylaws.

Section 9: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of **SWACSM** shall be from January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership Qualifications

Membership to **SWACSM** is open to any person meeting the qualifications as described in the **SWACSM** Bylaws. The membership categories are described in the national **ACSM** and **SWACSM** Bylaws.

Section 2: Membership Term

The duration of the membership is one calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Student membership is included in the annual meeting registration and is valid until the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE 5: AMENDMENTS

Changes to the **SWACSM** Constitution may be initiated by the general **SWACSM** Membership according to the following procedure.

- At least five members of the Chapter who are also **ACSM** Fellow members sign the written proposal for the amendment(s).
- All proposals must be presented in writing to the Executive Director at least 60 days prior to a Board meeting.
- The proposed amendment(s), after approval by the Board, will be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting's business session and, possibly, prior to the Annual Meeting via internet or **SWACSM** Newsletter.
- A two-thirds affirmative vote by the Members attending the Annual Meeting's business session is required to adopt any amendment.

ARTICLE 6: DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER

If for any reason the **SWACSM** chapter becomes dissolved, the debts and assets of the Chapter shall be transferred to the American College of Sports Medicine.