COLOMBIAN CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY (S.V.S.)

ARTICLE 1. NAME OF THE CHAPTER.

The Colombian venue of the S.V.S. is a scientific, professional, non-profit institution, with no political, social, or cultural discrimination, incorporated by vascular surgeons members of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular (Colombian Association of Angiology and Vascular Surgery), who have accepted to comply with the By Laws and the standards, and who have freely decided to request their enrollment to the S.V.S. to be members of the Colombian Chapter and that the Board of Directors of the S.V.S. will accept them.

ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES.

- To promote cooperation among members to improve quality of care for vascular patients.
- Providing a means through which surgical experiences may be presented and discussed at an annual meeting.
- Serving as the meeting base to discuss common problems and shared interests.
- Promoting membership to S.V.S.
- Grouping Vascular Surgeons of Colombian in an International Committee promoting harmony and cooperation among them.
- Promoting the practice of Vascular Surgery in Colombia maintaining the highest ethical and scientific standards inspired in a deep social interest.
- Promoting scientific research and preparation of work related to the specialty.
- To disseminate scientific advancements among associates, common specialties, general physicians and the Colombian population.
- Being a consultant body for public and private institutions, national or international medical associations, health care institutions and schools of medicine in all subjects related to the practice of the specialty in scientific advances and academic programs.
- Suggesting standards and requirements to competent institutions for teaching and practice of Vascular Surgery, as well as continued education programs.
- Promoting all possible mechanisms for prevention of vascular diseases.
- Obtaining recognition and representation at international level.

ARTICLE 3. ELIGIBILITY.

In order to be a member of the Colombia chapter of S.V.S. the parties should be active members of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular.

All members of the S.V.S. who live in Colombia can be eligible to be members of the Chapter.

Members will solely have the right to participate in the General Assembly and in deliberations with the right to be heard, to vote and to be elected for the Board of Directors of the S.V.S., active associates and those who have no pending fees with the treasury of both associations on the date of the Assembly.
The right to vote of every member shall be exercised personally, in secret and written. Members will not be represented by third parties, and it shall not be possible to grant a general, or a especial power appointing a proxy verbally or in a written fashion.

ARTICLE 4. ABOUT ASSOCIATES.

The following types of Associates or Members shall be part of the International Colombian Chapter of S.V.S:
- Active
- Adherent
- Corresponding.

ARTICLE 5. – ACTIVE MEMBERS:

Specialists in Vascular Surgery, graduated from formal programs established by universities academically recognized in Colombia.

Specialists in Vascular Surgery duly trained abroad who have homologated their title in Colombia according to the legal requirements.

Paragraph 1. Active associates should have their permanent residency in Colombia, and in the event that they may reside abroad, then they shall become corresponding members.

Paragraph 2. All candidates to be considered active members shall submit their petition to the committee on international relations of S.V.S. who shall study the petition, and then submit it to the Board of Directors for their approval.

ARTICLE 6. ADHERENT MEMBERS.

Resident physicians who are active in formal programs in Colombia on Vascular Surgery while they are enrolled in their academic program.

Paragraph 1. All candidates to be adherent members shall submit their petition to the Committee on International Relations of S.V.S., who will study them, and then will send them to the Board of Directors for their approval.

Paragraph 2. When their training programs are satisfactorily finished the candidates may obtain their membership in the category of Active members.

ARTICLE 7. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Colombian active members who may establish their residence abroad, and who continue committed to their studies, research or professional practice of Vascular Surgery.

Paragraph 1. All candidates to corresponding members shall submit their petition to the committee on international relations of the S.V.S. who shall review them and then submit them to the Board of Directors for their approval.

ARTICLE 6. ADMISSION OF ACTIVE, ADHERENT AND CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATES.

The minimum requirements to be admitted as an active, adherent or corresponding member of the international Colombian Chapter of S.V.S. are as follows:

- Being an active member of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular.
- A submission by the President of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular, to the Committee on International Relations of S.V.S.
- Filling the documents required on the date to submit the petition for S.V.S.
ARTICLE 9. OBLIGATIONS OF ASSOCIATES.

- Being active in the practice of Vascular Surgery under the highest scientific, ethical, and professional standards in the country and abroad.
- Being committed to the Association to support its decisions made in benefit of the Association, and its Associates.
- To comply with the By Laws of the Association.
- To attend sessions summoned by the Chapter.
- Timely payment of annual membership fees of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular and the S.V.S., within the first three months of each year, and extraordinary fees when those may be established.
- Representing the Chapter and the Country with respect and dignity when invited, or attending international scientific events.
- Actively participating in the Chapter operation.
- Acting with loyalty, solidarity and interest in all activities related to the Chapter.
- Promoting enrollment of new professionals from Vascular Surgery.
- Submitting proposals that will contribute to accomplish the objectives of the Chapter.
- Electing and be elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the Chapter.

ARTICLE 10. RIGHTS OF ASSOCIATES.

- Contributing suggestions orally or in written for better professional practice in the specialty in scientific, technical, ethical, social and humanitarian subjects.
- Voting at sessions held by the Chapter.
- Sharing all rights and benefits granted by S.V.S. such as attending congresses with preferential payment terms, access to the Journal of Vascular Surgery, access to S.V.S. website, and all other privileges obtained among the two Associations.
- To be appointed for management positions in the Colombian Chapter.

ARTICLE 11. DISCONTINUING MEMBERSHIP.

- Any Associate may be free to discontinue the corresponding membership to the S.V.S. Chapter, through sending a written notice on the decision made to the Board of Directors, who will accept such decision and will respond to the party, to all other associates and the Committee on International Relations of S.V.S. for the corresponding administrative management.

The member who leaves the Chapter shall lose the rights pertaining to the corresponding membership.

ARTICLE 12. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ITS ORGANIZATION.

The General Assembly shall be the maximum authority for the Chapter.

Active, corresponding and adhering Associates are Members of the General Assembly and their decisions are mandatory for all present or absent affiliates, whenever such decisions have been made as established in these By-Laws.

The General Assembly shall meet ordinarily once per year within the first three months of the year. The corresponding Summon will be done by e-mail to the corresponding address registered by members, with a minimum notice of 15 days, including the Agenda for the meeting.

Attending members shall have fully paid their membership fees to the treasury of both associations.
Paragraph 1. Ordinary sessions of the General Assembly will discuss the following subjects:

- Issues related to the operation of the Chapter.
- Election of the Board of Directors
- Scientific subjects objective of the Chapter.
- Issues submitted for consideration by the Board of Directors.
- Amendments to the By-Laws.

Paragraph 2. Quorum for the General Assembly will require the presence of 50% of the associates plus one member. If in the First Summon, the above mentioned quorum is not obtained, then, a second summon will be made for a meeting one hour later that the time established for the first one, and in this second meeting, the quorum will be considered with all present members and associates.

ARTICLE 13. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors of the Colombian Chapter will be established as follows:

- A President
- A Vice President
- A Medical Auditor
- A Secretary and the person to perform such a position, in the event or requiring a substitute.

Paragraph 1. The members of the Board of Directors will be elected by the General Assembly for a two year term, among the group of active associates, through a personal, secret and written vote. The members elected shall have fully paid all of their fees to the Treasury office.

Votes to elect the members of the Board of Directors, shall be received on lists prepared for this purpose.

Paragraph 2. Election of the Medical Auditor shall be made in an independent election, at the same meeting, for a term of two years.

Paragraph 3. Election of the President of the Board of Directors shall be made among active associates who have demonstrated their efficiency, concern, and mystique.

Paragraph 4. The Board of Directors will meet every six months for their ordinary session, and extraordinarily, when agreed by its main or substitute members, or when summoned by the President.

The meetings can be held virtually, or using any communication or telecommunication means, and, a Minute shall be prepared on any of these meetings. This shall be the responsibility of the Secretary. The Minutes shall be signed by the President and the Secretary.

Paragraph 5. It is possible to resign to the quality of Member of the Board of Directors before the General Assembly. But, in the event that the General Assembly cannot meet immediately, such resignation can be considered by the other members of the Board of Directors, who shall elect the substitute to take that position in a provisional fashion, in the next General Assembly. Members of the Board of Directors may be re-elected in their position for one additional consecutive term.

A position in the Board of Directors shall be considered as vacant, when the person having such a distinction misses three consecutive meetings without submitting a justified excuse. In such event, the procedure to be followed will be done in compliance with the Bylaws. Non attending to meetings, shall be reported in written to the Board of Directors.
Paragraph 6. The following are the roles of the Board of Directors:

- To comply and make associates comply with the By-Laws.
- To cooperate with the President and Secretary in the preparation of scientific events and any other activity at national or international level of importance.
- To authorize transportation and hotel costs for the members of the Board of Directors and Associates, when they travel representing the institution.

Paragraph 7. All decisions by the Board of Directors will be made, with the vote of 50% plus one associate present.

ARTICLE 14. DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

DUTIES BY THE PRESIDENT.

- Legally, judicially, and extra-judicially represent the Chapter. Compliance of this duty, may involve the institution in licit trade actions, to grant powers of attorney, as well as all other complementary actions that may be required to meet the goals of the chapter, as established in these By-Laws.
- To Chair all sessions of the general assembly and the Board of Directors in their Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings.
- To summon extraordinary meetings for the General Assembly or the Board of Directors.
- To report about activities carried out to the General Assembly of the Board of Directors.
- To sign jointly with the Secretary all Minutes once they have been approved.
- To take care and solve, all claims and complaints submitted by members, to guarantee the protection of collective interests.

FUNCTIONS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT

- To take the place of the President, in case of his temporary or absolute absence, with the same authorities granted to the President in these By-Laws.
- To help the President in the Direction and administration of the Chapter.

FUNCTIONS BY THE SECRETARY.

- To execute all activities or programs approved by the Board of Directors or the General Assembly.
- To attend Ordinary or Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly or the Board of Directors. Preparing the Minutes, signing them jointly with the President, once they have been approved, and keep the corresponding books up-dated.
- Issue, according to petitions received from Associates, certificates required by national or international institutions, in compliance with these By-Laws.
- To take care of all issues that relate with the well being of the Chapter and the Associates, to notify the Board of Directors about such issues on a timely fashion.
- To be up-dated on activities organized by other Medical Associations, and try to get their cooperation in the development of common programs.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY.

- To take the place of the Secretary in the event of a temporary or permanent absence, with the same functions and duties.
FUNCTIONS OF THE MEDICAL AUDITOR.

To exercise surveillance to guarantee compliance of these By-Laws, and any regulations established by the General Assembly, the Board of Directors or the President.

- To attend deliberations by the General Assembly, and the Board of Directors, with the right to have a voice, but no right to vote in the Board of Directors.
- To make sure that all operations to be agreed, or complied with by the Chapter, will be done according to the By-Laws, the General Assembly and the Board of Directors.
- To submit a written and timely report to the Assembly, the Board of Directors, or the Legal Representative, according to the case, of any irregularities found in the operation of the Chapter and in the development of its business.
- To exercise surveillance on the relations of the Chapter with any other national or international associations, making sure that all activities will be pursued for the benefit of the Chapter guaranteeing its rights in these relations, and that in no event, these may be in contradiction of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 15. RELATIONS OF S.V.S. AND THE COLOMBIAN CHAPTER.

The Chapter, nor the Board of Directors or Members of the Chapter, have no authority to represent or to negotiate in anyway, in the name of the Asociacion Colombiana de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascular or the S.V.S.

ARTICLE 16. COMMITTEES.

The General Assembly herein delegates to the Board of Directors of the Chapter the responsibility to establish any Committees that it may consider necessary for the development, compliance, and accomplishments of all objectives contained in these By-Laws.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the Presidents of the committees who shall at the same time appoint all those members required for the proper operation of the committees.

PARAGRAPH 1. The Committees shall work in a coordinated fashion with the Board of Directors in the different scientific activities scheduled to be pursued, and these shall be reported, and the Board of Directors shall grant its corresponding and previous authorization to implement them.

PARAGRAPH 2. It is expressly prohibited to the committees to compromise the name of the Chapter without the previous authorization issued by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 17. DISSOLUTION.

The Board of Directors, or the Medical Auditor, may propose the Dissolution of the Chapter. But such dissolution will solely be decided through the affirmative, and secret written vote, expressed by 80 % of its active members.

The following are the causes for dissolution:

- Impossibility in complying with its objectives.
- By a decision made by 80% of active members.
- For non compliance with all other causes that may be imposed in the future.
LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIEDAD COLOMBIANA DE ANGIOLOGIA Y CIRUGIA VASCULAR
APPROVED BY THE SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY.

1. Alberto Muñoz-Hoyos
2. Alejandro Molina-Hernández
3. Daniel Indaburu-Lizarralde
4. German Gómez-Santos
5. Giovanni García-Martínez
6. Héctor Jiménez-Meléndez
7. Ignacio Ucros-Díaz
8. Jorge Alvaro Murcia-Gómez
9. Jorge Alvaro Murcia-Sarmiento
10. José Manuel González-Arevalo
11. Jaime Humberto Velez-Victoria
12. Mauricio Montes-Swanson

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ASOCIACION COLOMBIANA DE ANGIOLOGIA Y CIRUGIA VASCULAR
WHO ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPROVAL BY THE SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY

1. Adelma Sofia Hoyos-Usta
2. Diego Fajardo-Saavedra
3. Diego Rivera-Arbelaez
4. Heriberto Pimiento-Patino
5. William Lenis-Regifo
6. Alvaro Delgado-Beltran
7. Carolina Bravo-Ceballos
8. Ernesto Cordoba-Chamorro
9. Juan Guillermo Barrera-Carvajal
10. Rafael Garrido-Solano

DIRECTORS PROPOSED FOR THE CHAPTER

President  Rafael Garrido-Solano
Vice-President  Ignacio Ucros-Díaz
Secretary  Daniel Indaburu-Lizarralde
Secretary Substitute  Alejandro Molina-Hernández
Medical Auditor  Diego Fajardo-Saavedra