

Constitution and By-Laws
Of the
Resident American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics

Article I. Name of the Association

The name of the association shall be the Resident American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics

The name shall be officially abbreviated “RAOAO”.

The national RAOAO shall herein be referred to as the RAOAO

The national RAOAO is a non-practicing affiliate member of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics.

Article II. Purpose of Association

Section A. RAOAO Objectives

The objectives of the RAOAO shall henceforth be:

1. To promote and advance the interests of the specialty of Osteopathic Orthopedic Surgery;
2. To improve the quality of Orthopedic care delivered by Osteopathic Orthopedic residents and practitioners worldwide;
3. To disseminate information on the policies and practices of the AOA to the Osteopathic Orthopedic resident, to foster honest and productive dialogue on present policy and pending policy decisions before the AOA Board of Directors, and to serve as the collective “voice” of the residents at the AOA Board of Directors meetings;
4. To contribute to knowledge, welfare, and education of Osteopathic medical education and Osteopathic medical students in all areas related to the specialty of Orthopedic surgery;
5. To encourage and stimulate opportunities for clinical research and publication throughout Osteopathic Orthopedic postgraduate education;
6. To establish, foster, and maintain lines of communication with other Osteopathic resident and Osteopathic professional organizations;

7. To encourage voluntary service to the Osteopathic Orthopedic profession and to the communities where Osteopathic Orthopedic care is provided;
8. To aid the AOA in educating the local, state, and national governments and the legislators responsible for medical policy creation concerning the Osteopathic Orthopedic profession and the unique challenges facing its practitioners in today's rapidly changing political climate;
9. To increase resident participation and candidate membership in the AOA leading to increased, active participation in the AOA by graduating residents;
10. To provide information on subspecialty training and job opportunities to Osteopathic Orthopedic residents and aid in the transition from Osteopathic Orthopedic resident to Osteopathic Orthopedic attending;
11. To aid in the development of social, moral, and ethical standards consistent with the ideals and standards forwarded by the AOA and the American Osteopathic Association.

Section B. RAOAO Policy

The RAOAO shall be responsible for creation of policy recommendations relating to the association and mechanisms necessary for optimal functioning of the association through dialogue with the membership and the RAOAO Executive Board. The ultimate responsibility for ratification and implementation of any policy shall rest solely with the AOA Board of Directors.

Article III. Membership

Section A. Membership

Membership in the Association shall be voluntary and is open to all Osteopathic physicians enrolled in an AOA accredited Osteopathic Orthopedic residency programs.

1. Active Membership

Active members are Osteopathic physicians in AOA approved Orthopedic residency programs who meet the membership criteria:

- a. The resident must be a candidate member, in good standing, of the AOA.
- b. The resident must be a member, in good standing, of the AOA.

- c. The resident must have completed an application for membership in the RAOAO.

Section B. Suspension of Active Membership Status

In the event that an active RAOAO member fails to maintain the criteria established in Article III, Section A.1 of the RAOAO Constitution, their Active membership status and all rights pertaining to that status will be revoked.

1. Process of Suspension – The Association reserves the right to suspend any member’s Active membership status if they fail to maintain the criteria established in Article III, Section A.1. Membership may be reinstated if corrective action is taken.
2. Appeal of Suspension – An appeal may be made in writing to the RAOAO Executive Board with in 14 days of notification if the member alleges that the sanction was made arbitrarily, capriciously, in bad faith, or in violation of the RAOAO Constitution. The burden of proof will rest with the suspended member. The Executive board shall weigh the validity of the appeal and shall, by two thirds or majority vote, take appropriate action in the following manner:
 - a. To accept the appeal, reopen the issue, and vote on the suspension.
 - b. Deny the appeal and allow the suspension to stand.
 - c. If membership is not reinstated within one year of the notice of suspension a revocation of membership will be issued.

Article IV. Dues

Section A. Active Membership

Dues may be charged to members for participation in the RAOAO.

Section B. Assessment of Dues

The RAOAO Executive Board will assess dues which must be approved by the AAO Board of Directors.

Article V. RAOAO Executive Board

The RAOAO is a subdivision of the AOA and is subject to the discretion of the AOA Board of Directors.

Section A. RAOAO President

1. The President of the RAOAO will be an Osteopathic Orthopedic Resident at a PGY-5 level.
2. The Duties of the President will be as follows:
 - a. The President will function as a non-voting member of the AOA Board of Directors.
 - b. The President must attend all of the AOA Executive Board meetings and functions.
 - c. The President will report directly to the AOA Executive Board on the current status and all new developments that have taken place since the last meeting.
 - d. The President will serve as an ex officio member on any committee.
 - e. The President will function as a liaison between the AOA Executive Board and the members of the RAOAO.
 - f. The President will function as an advocate for the RAOAO to the AOA.
 - g. The President will have oversight responsibilities for any and all RAOAO organizational events.
 - h. The President will be responsible to submit Bi-Annual Reports to the AOA Board of Directors 60 days prior to the AOA Board Meetings in the spring and fall.

Section B. RAOAO Vice-President

1. The Vice-President of the RAOAO will be an Osteopathic Orthopedic Resident at a PGY-4 level or higher.
2. The Duties of the Vice-President will be as follows:

- a. The Vice-President will function, with the approval of the AOA Executive Board, as an alternate non-voting member of the AOA Executive Board in the RAOAO President's Absence.
- b. The Vice-President will oversee all special subjects deemed appropriate by the President of the RAOAO
- c. The Vice-President will function as an active member on any committee that the AOA Executive Board deems appropriate.

Section C. RAOAO Secretary/Treasurer

1. The Secretary/Treasurer of the RAOAO will be an Osteopathic Orthopedic Resident at a PGY-3 level or higher.
2. The Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer will be as follows:
 - a. The Secretary/Treasurer will function to organize and take minutes at all RAOAO functions and meetings.
 - b. The Secretary/Treasurer will track RAOAO assets and expenditures and report to the president.
 - c. The Secretary/Treasurer will function as an active member on any committee that the AOA Executive Board deems appropriate.

Section D. Regional Representatives

1. Regional Representatives will be one member from each AOA approved orthopedic residency program with the default member being an acting Chief resident (PGY-5) or a designee of the residency with a valid email address.
2. The Regional Representative will receive, disseminate, and discuss RAOAO communications with the Osteopathic Orthopedic Residents in their residency program and will return the correspondence with a consensus on any matter requiring a response. This will in turn allow the other RAOAO Executive Board members to adequately represent the members at the AOA Board meetings.

Section E. Appointment of RAOAO Executive Board Members

1. The positions of RAOAO President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer must be approved by the AOA Board of Directors. The candidates will be nominated upon recommendation of their Program Director.

2. The succession of the officers will proceed from Secretary/Treasurer to Vice-President to President with yearly replacement of the Secretary/Treasurer by AOA Executive Board appointment as defined in Article V., Section E.1 of the RAOAO Constitution.

Section F. Terms of Office

The Executive Board members shall serve a one year term and will not be eligible for re-election in the same capacity.

Article VI. Annual Meeting

The RAOAO will hold an annual meeting in conjunction with the AOA Fall Seminar for discussion of pertinent Osteopathic Orthopedic residency issues and pending issues before the AOA and AOA that relate to the RAOAO membership. These meetings will have a scheduled time and a published agenda. All Osteopathic Orthopedic residents in attendance will be encouraged to attend. The meeting will be run by the RAOAO President. An AOA advisor may be in attendance.

Article VII. Discrimination

The RAOAO will not refuse membership in the RAOAO or restrict participation on the RAOAO Executive Board on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin or creed.

Article VIII. Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics for the RAOAO shall mirror the AOA Code of Ethics in all instances appropriate for the Osteopathic Orthopedic resident who is preparing for professional life as an Osteopathic Orthopedic surgeon and representative of that profession. The Code of Ethics will govern the professional behavior of the RAOAO Executive Board members and all Active members of the RAOAO. Amendments specific to the RAOAO will be made at the discretion of the AOA Board and in accordance with the AOA rules governing the amending of the AOA Constitution and Bylaws.

Article IX. Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised will serve as the model for the conducting of any gathering of the RAOAO requiring parliamentary procedure to execute the business of said meeting.

Article X. Amendments to the RAOAO Constitution and Bylaws

1. Amendment Consideration - All proposed amendments to the RAOAO Constitution and Bylaws shall be considered at the Annual meeting of the AAOO Board of Directors.
2. Amendment Submission - The RAOAO Executive Board can propose an amendment by submitting a resolution with explanation for the need for the amendment to the Executive Office of the AAOO.
3. Amendment Distribution - The resolution will then be submitted to all of the RAOAO Executive Board members and Regional Representatives at least sixty days prior to the next scheduled Annual AAOO meeting to allow for thorough discussion.
4. Preliminary Approval - The resolution will then come before a vote of the RAOAO Executive Board members and Regional Representatives with a two-thirds majority required to carry the motion forward for AAOO Board of Directors consideration.
5. Final Approval - The proposed amendment will be presented to the AAOO Board of Directors for consideration and final approval or denial of the proposed amendment.

Article XI. - Dissolution of the RAOAO

The AAOO Board of Directors may chose at any time to dissolve the RAOAO by majority vote of the Board. This will be done in accordance with established AAOO policy and in accordance with the AAOO Constitution and Bylaws. All subsequent legal and/or fiduciary responsibilities for the final dissolution will be the burden of the AAOO Board of Directors.