

NoSCoS financing

General assembly meeting 3.9.21

Statement

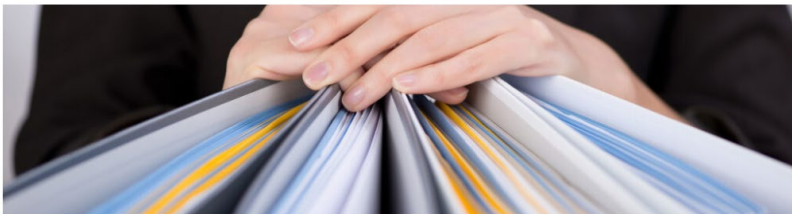
“A robust association needs a financial plan and budget”



Current situation

According to current rules:

Ordinary Member shall pay an annual membership fee of such an amount as agreed by the General Meeting.



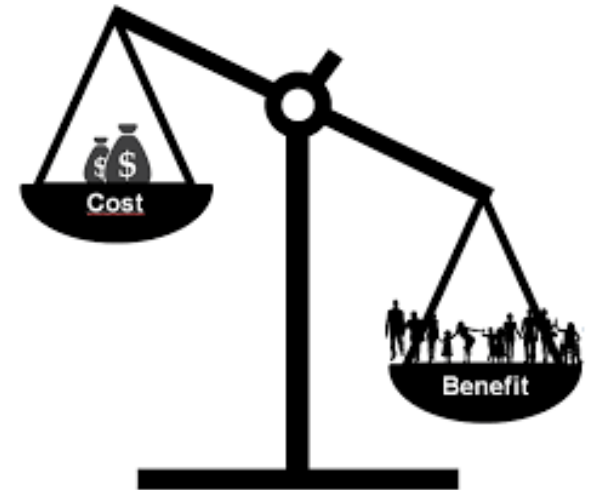
Constitution and Bylaws

But.....

- No system for membership
- No system for membership fee
- Uncertain budget
- Difficult to plan activities

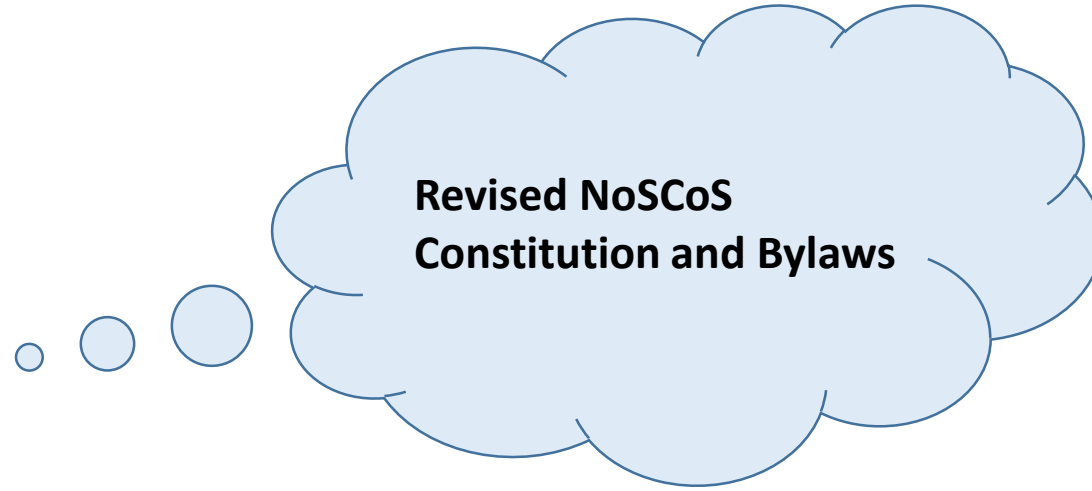
Background

- **What does the association provide to its members?**
- **How valuable are these services to your members?**
- **What are reasonable association membership fees?**
- **Associations' memberships and fees — how does it all work?**
- **Other possibilities, fund raising?**



What may the association provide to its members?

- Networking
- Information
- Education
- Guidelines
- Discount congress fee
- Letter of support research projects?



Different alternatives for memberships?

- Individual memberships
- Institutional memberships
- Combined memberships



Process so far

- Survey to the leaders of all SCI units in the Nordic countries
 - Simulation models
 - Discussions within executive committee and advisory council meetings
 - Revision of the constitution & bylaws
 - Feedback members NoSCoS
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- A process to clarify ethics and possible restrictions regarding the use of sponsors/funding has been started



Survey (N=6 including 3 members of EC/AC)

- The EC/AC are looking at different membership categories: Individual and institutional membership (i.e. an SCI center becomes member and is entitled to send a certain number of delegates to meetings). What are your thoughts concerning advantages and disadvantages of those approaches
- Concerning individual membership: What would be a reasonable amount for a membership fee?
- Concerning institutional membership: What would be a reasonable amount for a membership fee?
- Concerning institutional membership: Should there be different "sizes" (with different price levels and numbers of delegates) depending on the size of the institution?
- Can NoSCoS accept Financial support from the industry?
- Does your department/hospital/region have guidelines concerning collaboration with the industry?
- Are your employees allowed to participate in courses and other arrangements (co-) sponsored by the industry?

Different simulation models

- Budget 5200 euro (covers e.g. administration, homepage, meetings)
- Individual memberships:
number of members (100 or 200 or 300) and fee (40 or 50 euro)
- Institutional memberships:
number of institutions (10 or 20) and fee (150 or 300 euro)
- Combination memberships:
number of members (100 or 200) and number of institutions 10 and
fee individual members (40 or 50 euro) and fee institutions 150 euro.

Example combination model

100 Individual members with fee 40 euros	4000 euros
10 Institutions with fee 150 euros	1500 euros
Total	5500 euros.

3 Alternatives

1. Individual membership (right to vote and reduced congress fee)
2. Institutional membership (equal price for all institutions and no right to vote, but reduced congress fee for approximately 4-6 persons)
3. Combination of those memberships

Proposal EC/AC NosCoS alternative 3

1. Individual membership (right to vote and reduced congress fee)
2. Institutional membership (equal for all institutions and no right to vote, but reduced congress fee for approximately 4-6 persons)
3. Combination of individual and institutional memberships

Poll 1:

Do you support combined memberships?



Proposal EC/AC NosCoS member fees

- Individual membership 40 euros
- Institutional memberships 150 euros
- Students are free of charge

Poll 2: Member fees

Institutional memberships 150 euros
and individual membership 40 euros and
students are free of charge



Poll 3, ONLY IF POLL 1 (Combination membership) IS NOT IN FAVOUR

- Individual membership (right to vote and reduced congress fee)
- Institutional membership (equal and no right to vote, but reduced congress fee for approximately 4-6 persons)



Associations' memberships and fees — how does it all work?

Further work:

- Communicate the rights and duties of the members of the association
- Offer methods of payment for the membership fee

Funding

- A process to clarify ethics and possible restrictions regarding the use of sponsors/funding has been started
- We need to obtain legal expertise



Thank you for your attention!

NoSCoS



Nordic Spinal Cord Society

- Please send suggestions to Annette.Halvorsen@stolav.no
or president@nosc.org (Wolfram Antepohl)