



Zoltán Szűcs <zoltanszucsmd@gmail.com>

Letter From EAMS Board of Directors

EAMS Secretary <eamsssecretary@gmail.com>

2018. november 10. 5:17

Címzett: eamsmembers@googlegroups.com

Dear European Airway Management Society members

European Airway Management Society (EAMS) has grown substantially over the last few years with the efforts of the current Board of Directors. EAMS membership has more than doubled during this period. We grew beyond Europe and to include members from the US, Middle East, Asia, Australia and New Zealand as well as South America. In fact, among the countries with the most members are Chile and Argentina. EAMS now features a webpage, free access to the official EAMS journal Trends in Anaesthesia and Critical Care (TACC). EAMS also organizes an annual congress fully dedicated to airway management with our 5th Congress to be held in Catania, Italy in December 2018. EAMS' close links with the UK's Difficult Airway Society and the USA's Society for Airway Management have resulted, for the first time, in EAMS jointly organizing the World Airway Management Meeting (WAMM) in Amsterdam 2019. Great times for EAMS!

However, to our surprise and despite this impressive international presence and recognition, EAMS has never been an officially registered society. We were defined as "a group of friends", without the legal rights of a "proper" society. With the increasing involvement of EAMS in large international meetings, the lack of legal rights poses difficulties regarding financial obligations and taxing. The Board of Directors has therefore been busy over the last few months in finding a country where the laws to become an official society are both straightforward and without high tax load. We are pleased to inform you that, on September 12th 2018, the EAMS has become an officially registered society in Switzerland. This country was selected as having the most favorable tax laws for societies when compared to other European countries.

This process of registration required us to update EAMS bylaws. The updated Bylaws are attached to this email. Further regulations are defined separately, also attached to this email. Because not all details could be described in the Bylaws, EAMS also has additional regulations, which further explain the individual roles of the society. These regulations are also easier to change and adapt to the everyday needs of the society.

As explained above, EAMS was obligated to become a legal society in order to continue growing and to remain strong. The transition was only a legal one, and it did not influence any practical aspects of EAMS' daily life. As of September 12th, all current EAMS members, that is all of you, have automatically become members of the newly registered EAMS society. You are not required to do anything regarding your membership as this transition was automatic.

Considering that we are now a newly registered society, the law requires us to re-elect the Board of Directors (BOD). Consequently, the entire Board of Directors needs to be reconfirmed by the general assembly, which is composed by all EAMS members in good standing. In order to have your full say in this re-election process, we have made a decision to allow for new proposals for the BOD during this re-election. Therefore, in addition to the current EAMS BOD members, this process is open to new proposals too.

Applicants are invited to submit their application until November 23rd 2018. Please read carefully the requirements as stated in the EAMS Bylaws, as well as the roles and duties applicable to each BOD position, further described in the Regulations. All BOD positions are open for re-election. Applications

should be addressed both to the EAMS secretary and to the current president, including a photo, short CV (2 pages) and a letter of motivation for the position (1 page). Applicants must be members of EAMS for at least 2 years and can apply for one position only.

The applications will then be presented to the EAMS membership for voting. We will have a vote starting December 4th 0900h until December 6th 1800h CET. Voting will be possible either directly electronically in Catania, or online. The voting results will then be announced at the general assembly on 7th December during 5th EAC in Catania.

In addition, if our members wish to change any specific point in the EAMS bylaws, they need to make a proposal for change, which will then be presented for voting to the next general assembly that will be held during World Airway Management Meeting in Amsterdam, November 2019.

The role of the subcommittees is reviewed in the Regulations as well. Please don't hesitate to apply to become a member in the subcommittees. We will look at this at a later time again.

The president and the entire Board of Directors is proud to present the amended Bylaws, the Regulations, as well as the proclamation of the official existence of EAMS as a registered society. We look forward to seeing many of you in Catania in December.


Best regards

The Board of Directors of EAMS



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