**Proposed amendments of Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of The Indian Society of Human Genetics   
as suggested in General Body Meeting (13th March 2018)**

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| **CURRENT CONTENT** | **PROPOSED CHANGE** | **JUSTIFICATION** |
| ***RULES & REGULATIONS: Article IV (e): Sessional Member*** | | |
| Non-members of the Society wishing to present papers at the Annual Meeting or any other meeting arranged exclusively or in conjunction with other organizations. | (Deleted) | It has been observed that no registration under Sessional membership category has taken place in at least last four years. Therefore, EC feels that this category of membership is not relevant. Hence proposes its deletion. |
| ***RULES & REGULATIONS: Article V [*Executive Council (EC): Office Bearers and Members*]*** | | |
| The Executive Council shall consist of the following Office Bearers and Members:  1. One President 2. Two Vice-Presidents 3. One Secretary 4. One Joint Secretary 5. One Treasurer 6. Eight Elected Members  The above office bearers and members will be elected by secret postal ballot once in two years from amongst Life and Annual Members. | The Executive Council shall consist of the following Office Bearers and Members:  1. One President 2. Two Vice-Presidents 3. One Secretary 4. One Joint Secretary 5. One Treasurer 6. Eight Elected Members  All the fourteen members of Executive Council will be elected by secret ballot (postal or electronic) once in two years from amongst Life and Annual Members. The office-bearers will be elected by the Council from among themselves. | It was felt by many EC members that the Council can be a lot more efficient in discharging its duties if select office bearers as it feels necessary and appropriate. Therefore, it proposes GB to consider election be held for all fourteen EC members. This practice is very common in many learned societies.  Also, it is hoped that in future ISHG might introduce electronic voting, the provision is proposed in the amendment. |
| ***RULES & REGULATIONS: Article VI [*Funds and Financial Resources*]*** | | |
| The Council is authorized to acquire funds on behalf of the Society chiefly through the following channels:   1. Membership fees (from Ordinary, Associate and Life members) and the admission fee. 2. Contributions, donations, and/or grants from private, public, government departments or institutions or any other suitable sources. 3. Contributions/donations from Honorary members and Patrons. 4. Income from investments. 5. Income from gifts, legacies of movable of immovable properties, and 6. Income from other activities of the Society including publications, etc. 7. All receipts through Admission fee and Life Membership fee are permanent assets of the Society which is called “General Fund”, General fund will not be utilized for any activities of the Society. | 2. Amendments proposed by the auditor, Mr Pradeep Narayan will be placed during the GB Meeting. | 2. To enable ISHG to obtain tax deductible donations it is important that the Society makes an application to Income Tax Dept using form 12A. The EC has been informed that to qualify for consideration by IT for tax deduction the byelaws of the Society must have a few clauses which have been proposed to be incorporated as suggested by the hired auditor by ISHG. |
| ***BYE-LAWS: Article II (5) [Membership Fee]*** | | |
| **Membership fees**: For the present the following rates of annual membership fees are fixed for the various categories of members of the society. These rates can be modified as per rules set up for all kinds of amendments.   * + 1. **For Resident Indians:**   **Life Member: Rs**. 1500/-, to be paid in one installment or not more than 2 installments during one financial year ending March 31.  **Annual Member** : Rs. 200/-, for each financial year ending March 31.  **Associate/ Student Member**: Rs. 100/-, for each financial year ending March 31.  **Corporate Member** : Rs. 20,000/-, payable in not more than four installments within one financial year ending March 31.  **Sessional Member** : Rs. 100/-, for the particular scientific meeting organized by the Society.  B. For non-resident Indians and members from other countries  **Life Member:** US$ 200.00, payable in one financial year  **Annual Member**: US$ 20.00 per financial year  **Membership Defined:** A member of the Society can be Honorary, Life, Annual, Associate/Student and Corporate Member. No person will be entitled to vote if he (is) in arrears for the year. Members who would have been in arrears for a period more than two years will lose membership and will have to pay admission fee to renew membership. | **Membership fees:** The membership fees should be reviewed once in four years by the Executive Council and propose change to the General Body during ISHG Annual Meeting for approval. The fees should be determined from different categories of membership as follows:   1. **For Resident Indians:**   **Life Member:** To be paid in one installment during one financial year ending March 31.  **Annual Member:** To be paid each financial year ending March 31.  **Associate/ Student Member**: To be paid each financial year ending March 31.  **Corporate Member:** To be paid in one installment during one financial year ending March 31.   1. **For non-resident Indians and members from other countries**   **Life Member**: Payable in one financial year  **Annual Member**: Payable per financial year  The fees from non-resident Indians/foreign nationals will be accepted only in INR equivalent to the rate decided in USD.  The fee structure can be discussed during the GB. | It is observed that if the amount of Membership Fee is also mentioned in the byelaws then any needed change of the fees is contingent upon changing the byelaws which is a cumbersome process. Therefore, it is proposed that the byelaws should be structured in a manner that time based routine requirements, like fees etc., should not be included in the byelaws but empower EC to determine such requirement with final approval of GB for enforcement of any proposed change. |
| ***BYE-LAWS: Article II (7) [Admission Fee]*** | | |
| All new members, other than Sessional Members shall pay a sum of Rs. 20.00 as Admission Fee in addition to the Membership subscription. The admission fee for Corporate membership is Rs. 200/- and for non-resident Indians and foreign nationals it is US$ 5. Those, whose membership was discontinued due to non- payment of subscription for two consecutive years, shall pay the Admission Fee when seeking fresh membership | All new members shall pay an Admission Fee in addition to the Membership subscription. The Admission Fees may be different for ordinary members, corporate members and non-resident Indians/foreign nationals. The fees from non-resident Indians/foreign nationals will be accepted only in INR equivalent to the rate decided in USD.  Admission Fee should be reviewed once in four years by the Executive Council and propose any change to the General Body during ISHG Annual Meeting for approval. | As mentioned above for Article II (5), the same logic also applies for Admission Fee. Therefore, the changes in the byelaws suggested accordingly. |
| ***BYE-LAWS: Article III (5) [Office Bearers of the Society & Executive Council]*** | | |
| The office bearers- President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Executive Council will be elected by secret postal ballot once in two years from amongst Life and Annual Members.  In addition to the above elected members, the President and Secretary of the outgoing EC will be EX-Officio members of the new Executive Council provided they have not been elected to some other office. However, Ex-Officio Members will not have right to vote during the EC meetings, in case the situation demands voting on the issues to be decided. | The members of the ensuing Executive Council shall be elected from among and by the Annual and Life Members. The members so elected shall be members of the Council for a period of two years. The office-bearers will be elected by the Council from among themselves.  In addition, the President and Secretary of the outgoing Council will be ex-officio members of the new Council provided they have not been elected to some other office. However, ex-officio members will not have right to vote during Council meetings. | The argument remains same as mentioned above under RULES & REGULATIONS, Article V. |
| ***BYE-LAWS: Article IV [Elections]*** | | |
| **Elections to the Executive Council of The Indian Society of Human Genetics: Rules and Procedure**  **1.** Elections will be held for all the office bearers and other members of the Executive Council once in every two years. The following Office-bearers and members of the Executive Council will be elected by secret postal ballot from amongst the Life and Annual members, who qualify in the following terms:  (i) Member of a minimum of three years standing as on 30th June of the election year.  (ii) Those who have paid all their dues to the Society till the year of election.  (iii) Those who would have attended at least one conference and/or General Body Meeting during the last three years.  i. President One  ii. Vice-Presidents Two  iii. Secretary One  iv. Joint Secretary One  v. Treasurer One  vi. Executive Committee  Members Eight  *The Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer will be nominated and elected as a block from one or adjoining cities.*    2. Office bearers can hold an office only for two terms i.e., 4 years in continuation, and shall not contest re-election for the same office for a period of four years (2 terms after his tenure).  3. All Life and Annual members of the society are eligible to vote.  4. The elections will be by secret postal ballot.  5. For the purpose of elections, the Executive Council will appoint an Election Officer in the year in which election is due.  6. The Election Officer in the month of July of the year will invite nominations for various offices from amongst the members of the Society as on roll on June 30th of the year. The nominations will be invited on Nomination Paper as per the proforma appended. The nominations should reach the Election Officer within the due date specified. Nominations received after this due date will be invalid. The Election Officer will also be provided with a list of members of the current and the immediate preceding Executive Council so that re-nominations in contravention of rule 2 above are not made. This will not be, however, applicable in case of the first Executive Council to be elected under the new constitution (As per the Article IV (Elections) amended on 31stMarch, 2004).  7. The Election Officer will seek the consent of nominees for various officers and members and only on receipt of the consent, their names will be included on the ballot paper.  8. For an efficient functioning it would be desirable to nominate Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer from same or adjoining cities.  9. The ballot papers will be sent by post to members latest by the end of September.  10. Marked ballot paper should be returned to the Election Officer before the date specified for the purpose. Marked ballot papers received after the due date will be invalid.  11. All ballot papers received by the Election Officer on or before the last date will be opened by the Election Officer who will also arrange for their counting.  12. Results of the election will be finalized and communicated to the president and to all the elected members by the Election Officer by the first week of December.  13. Election officer will not be eligible for contesting the election.  **Filling the List of Members of the Executive Council:**  The names of newly elected Office Bearers and Members of Executive Council will be announced at the Annual General Body Meeting and will be communicated to relevant agencies and institutions on or before the 14th day succeeding the elections of the Society. A list shall be filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies of the names, addresses and occupations of the members of the Governing Council of the Society.  Note: Any clause of the article lV, that has not been explicitly stated in the amended article lV (2004), will stand applicable. | **Elections to the Executive Council:  Rules and Procedure**  **1.** Elections will be held for the members of the Executive Council once in every two years. The members of the Executive Council will be elected by secret postal/online ballot from amongst the Life and Annual members, who qualify in the following terms:  (i) Member of a minimum of three years standing as on 30th June of the election year.  (ii) Those who have paid all their dues to the Society till the year of election.  (iii) Those who would have attended at least one conference and/or General Body Meeting during the last three years.  The Executive Council shall consist of the following Office Bearers and Members:  a. One President b. Two Vice-Presidents c. One Secretary d. One Joint Secretary e. One Treasurer f. Eight Elected Members  The Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer should preferably be selected from the elected EC members with close geographical proximity to the Head Quarters of the ISHG for ease of operation.  2. Office bearers can hold an office only for two terms i.e., 4 years in continuation, and shall not contest re-election for the same office for a period of four years (2 terms after his tenure).  3. All Life and Annual members of the society are eligible to vote.  4. The elections will be by secret postal or electronic ballot.  5. For the purpose of elections, the Executive Council will appoint an Election Officer in the year in which election is due.  6. The Election Officer in the month of July of the year will invite nominations for Executive Council from amongst the members of the Society as on roll on June 30th of the year. The nominations will be invited on Nomination Paper as per a specific proforma. The nominations should reach the Election Officer within the due date specified. Nominations received after this due date will be invalid. The Election Officer will also be provided with a list of members of the current and the immediately preceding Executive Council so that re-nominations in contravention of rule 2 above are not made. This will not be, however, applicable in case of the first Executive Council to be elected under the new constitution (As per the Article IV (Elections) amended on 31st Jan, 2018).  7. The Election Officer will seek the consent of nominees and only on receipt of the consent, their names will be included on the ballot paper.  8. [deleted; already covered in no. 1]  9. The ballot papers will be sent by post to members latest by the end of September until an electronic ballot system is adopted by the Society.  10. Marked ballot paper should be returned to the Election Officer before the date specified for the purpose. Marked ballot papers received after the due date will be invalid.  11. All ballot papers received by the Election Officer on or before the last date will be opened by the Election Officer who will also arrange for their counting.  12. Results of the election will be finalized and communicated to all the elected members by the Election Officer.  13. Election officer will not be eligible for contesting the election.  **Filling the List of Members of the Executive Council:**  The names of newly elected Members of Executive Council will be announced at the Annual General Body Meeting and will be communicated to relevant agencies and institutions on or before the 14th day succeeding the elections of the Society. A list shall be filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies of the names, addresses and occupations of the members of the Executive Council of the Society.  Note: Any clause of the Article lV, that has not been explicitly stated in the amended article lV (2018), will stand applicable. | Mentioning The Indian Society of Human Genetics here is redundant. Hence removed.  Election of only members of Executive Council has been suggested based on same argument made for change of RULES & REGULATIONS, Article V.  (i) No change  (ii) No change  (iii) Minor textual changes made without any effect on the basic intent in the relevant byelaw.  The number of Office bearers is written as is under RULE & REGULATIONS (Article 5) to be consistent. Also, the alphabetic order (a-f) has been proposed to distinguish it points made (i-vi) under #1.  The language has been changed (‘preferably’) to make the proposed “block” less stringent which is a lot more practical today due to seamless electronic communication between long distance locations  (2) No change  (3) No change  (4) Provision for electronic ballot for future election has been made for coping with modern changes for better efficiency and ease of the process.  (5) No change  (6) Changes have been proposed for election of only EC members and not other office bearers as suggested above under RULES & REGULATIONS (Article 5).  (7) No change  8. Redundant statement since it has been already mentioned under #1 above  9. Change suggested to keep provision for electronic ballot in future.  10. No change  11. No change  12. No change  13. No change  Consistent with suggested changes in the election procedure to elect on members of EC (and not the Office Bearers), it is proposed that during GB election of only members of Executive Council to be announced |