

Surgical Oncology Trainee's Association

(Founded 2011)

SOTA Objectives and Constitution:

1. Title

Surgical Oncology Trainee Association - BASO.

2. Objectives

To represent the views of trainee members of the British Association of Surgical Oncology (BASO) and The Association of Cancer Surgery (ACS).

To improve the experience, training and professional competence of surgical trainees with an interest in oncology, principally in academic and research matters.

To promote a high standard of training and education in cancer surgery across all disciplines.

To endorse interaction between trainees from all surgical subspecialties and promote dissemination of recent advances in cancer surgery to all members.

To advance the understanding of cancer surgery and the current developments in each surgical field.

To encourage interaction with colleagues outside the subspecialty and foster greater awareness of the roles and tasks of the modern Cancer Surgeon.

To represent views and interests of cancer surgery trainees on other appropriate forums.

To undertake or facilitate activities supportive of the purposes set out above as and when necessary.

3. Membership

Membership will be open to any trainee allied health professional with an interest in the management of cancer surgery. This includes students, Foundation year trainees, Core trainees (CT), Specialty trainees (ST), Higher Surgical Trainee's (HST's), Associate Specialists, and Specialty doctors. Ordinary membership will lapse after the date of their appointment to a substantive post as consultant. Trainees and academics in other affiliated non-surgical specialties (such as medical oncology or medical research) may also apply to become members.

Applications for Membership are to be made to the association secretary and considered by the Committee, who shall determine their eligibility for membership.

4. The National Committee of SOTA Members:

The committee of the trainees group will consist of surgical trainees with an interest in cancer surgery of any seniority. SOTA shall be managed by a Committee who are elected every two years by a ballot of ordinary trainee members of SOTA in January.

A list of Committee members shall be maintained on the SOTA website and any appointments or resignations or terminations shall be properly documented in the minutes and the list consequentially amended as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

All Committee members share the responsibility for coordinating SOTA activities but have particular roles.

Any SOTA member may stand for election onto the Committee.

The committee drafting this constitution elected in January 2013 shall continue in their elected roles to oversee the implementation of this constitution ; completing their elected term of 2 years.

The SOTA Committee shall consist of the following members together with such other members as the committee shall from time to time determine.

The Committee shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary and an Education and Training Officer.

(a)

A President who shall be elected by a ballot of ordinary trainee members of SOTA in January on a biennial basis. An outgoing president is eligible for re-election as President for one further term ONLY and shall sit on the trainee committee as Past-President until the term of office of the incoming president is complete. If the

President attains CCST during his/her term then he/she should attain the role of Past-President and the Vice President shall fulfil the role as interim- President. The President will act as the focal point for the Committee in coordinating its activities and relationships with other clinical and research individuals or organisations.

(b)

A Vice-President who shall be elected by a ballot of ordinary trainee members of SOTA in January on a biennial basis. An outgoing vice-president is eligible for re-election as Vice-President for one further term ONLY. The Vice President shall support the President in the Committee's leadership and to coordinate the finances of SOTA, including obtaining funding and sponsorship.

(c)

A Secretary who shall be elected every year by a ballot of ordinary trainee members of SOTA in January on a biennial basis. An outgoing Secretary is eligible for re-election as Secretary for one further term ONLY. The role of the secretary shall be to publish minutes, reports and newsletters together with other documents arising from SOTA business and to support the President and Vice President in the running of the Committee.

(d)

An Education and Training Officer who shall be elected every year by a ballot of ordinary trainee members of SOTA in January on a biennial basis. An outgoing education and training representative is eligible for re-election as Education and Training Officer for one further term ONLY. The role of the Education representative shall be to work together with the local organising committee to develop the Annual Training Day.

(e)

SOTA Representatives from subspecialty groups

Duke's Club (ACPGBI)

Mammary Fold

RCOG Trainees, Obs & Gynae

ENT/AOT

Urology/BAUS/SURG

MaxFax/BAOMS FiT

ASIT

PLASTA/BAPRAS

BOTA

BNTA

These representatives are subject to subspecialty group regulations and are nominated to the SOTA committee for appointment by their respective trainee's group, prior to taking a role on the SOTA committee.

5. Election of Officers:

Elections take place annually with a call for nominations in November from the committee. Those interested in running for the committee will need to be proposed and seconded by two current members and will be required to submit a short CV and statement. Elections are conducted electronically through BASO administration.

Each member of the committee can run for up to two years in office.

Subspecialty representatives are appointed by their respective organisation to sit on the SOTA committee.

6. Subscriptions:

At present there is no subscription but this may need to be addressed in the future.

7. Annual General Meetings:

Ordinary Meetings of the Group for educational or social functions shall be held at times to coincide with the national BASO~ACS scientific conference. These meetings will be chaired by the President or in his or her absence by a member elected by those present and will have a second casting vote. Any member who wishes to move a Resolution at an Annual General Meeting has to give notice in writing to the Secretary not less than twenty-eight days before the date of the Meeting and this motion will be included in the Agenda.

8. Extraordinary General Meetings

By Resolution of the Executive Committee or at the request in writing of five or more members of the Group specifying the purpose of the Meeting, the Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, stating the purpose for which it is called. Every such Meeting shall be held within fifty-six days from the passing of such Resolution or the receipt of such request or requisition. The quorum shall be members present and entitled to vote. The Chairman of the Meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

9. Data Management, Maintenance & Membership

The details and database of the membership shall be held in a geographical location deemed appropriate by the Committee to allow optimal functioning of the Group.

Such details will only be used by the group for distributing relevant information and will not be used commercially.

10. Amendment to the Constitution and Rules

Alterations to the Constitution and Rules must receive the assent of two thirds of the Members present at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting. A resolution for the alteration of the Constitution must be received by the Secretary of the Group at least twenty-eight days before the Meeting. At least fourteen days' notice of such a Meeting must be given by the Secretary to the membership and must include notice of the alteration proposed.

11. Dissolution

The Association may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purpose, of which twenty-eight days' notice must be given to the Members.

12. Ratification of the Constitution

This constitution will be presented on the SOTA-BASO website to the membership for ratification: An online poll to either accept this constitution or reject it and recommence consultations will close on December 18th at 5pm.

The constitution shall be deemed ratified upon receipt of a majority vote.