

**INTERNATIONAL TRANSPLANT NURSES SOCIETY
GOLDEN TRIANGLE CHAPTER**

BYLAWS

Article I Name

Section 1 The name of this chapter of The International Transplant Nurses Society shall be **The Golden Triangle Chapter**.

Section 2 The Chapter shall be incorporated as a non-for-profit corporation under the laws of the state of Pennsylvania.

Section 3 Mission Statement
The Golden Triangle Chapter of the International Transplant Nurses Society is committed to the promotion of excellence in clinical transplant nursing through the provision of educational and professional growth opportunities, interdisciplinary networking, collaborative activities and nursing research.

Article II Goals

- A. To provide a network for communication among professional nurses with a focus and commitment to transplantation.
- B. To provide a means of continuing education for professional nurses with a focus in transplant nursing.
- C. To examine new trends in all types of transplants as it affects patient care and the clinical and functional role of the nurse.
- D. To promote and support research in the field of transplant nursing.
- E. To distribute the results of scientific investigations among professionals interested in the area of transplantation.
- F. To foster an awareness of ongoing ethical considerations in the areas of procurement, donations and recipient selection.
- G. To do all else that is necessary and proper for the accomplishment of all of the foregoing or other proper and lawful purposes and objectives of the Society.

Article III Membership

Section 1 The Golden Triangle Chapter of the International Transplant Nurses Society (ITNS) shall have only those members designated by the International Organization Bylaws.

Categories of Members

Active Member- Any member who is licensed to practice as a Registered nurse in the United States. Entitled to vote, hold office and serve on committees.

Associate Member – Any health professional involved in transplantation, LVN or LPN, Social worker, Pharmacist, Dietician, or full-time student enrolled in an accredited professional nursing program. Associate members shall receive all membership benefits and are allowed to vote, hold office and serve on committees on the local level (Chapter), but not on an international level.

(Amendment : 5/15/2001 Associate members of the Golden Triangle Chapter may also include health care professionals involved in Transplantation at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center ISMETT, Istituto Mediterraneo per I Trapianti e Terapie ad Alta Specializzazione.)

Section 2 Election of Members

Any individual eligible for membership under the ITNS bylaws shall be elected to membership on written application in accordance with the international membership criteria.

Section 3 Duration of Membership and Resignation

Membership in this Society is voluntary, and any member may, by giving written notice of such intention, terminate by voluntary withdrawal. All rights, privileges and interest of a member in or to the Society shall cease on termination of membership. No dues shall be refunded and upon resignation the member shall pay or be responsible for all outstanding dues and special assessments.

Section 4 Dues

A. Amount

The annual dues for each member of The Golden Triangle Chapter of the International Nurses Society shall be \$10.00 dollars.

Amendment 7/14/05:

Annual dues for active members of the Golden Triangle Chapter (Registered nurses) shall be \$20.00

Annual dues for Associate members of the Golden Triangle Chapter (all other health care professionals) shall be \$10.00

B. Failure to Pay

Members who fail to pay their dues with thirty (30) days from the time they become due shall be notified in writing and, if payment is not made within the next succeeding thirty (30) days may, without further hearing, be dropped from the rolls and thereupon forfeit all rights and privileges of membership. The Officers of The Golden Triangle Chapter may prescribe procedures for extending time for payment of dues and continuation of membership privileges upon request of a member for good cause shown.

Section 5 Responsibilities of Membership

- A. Active members are expected to attend as many meetings as feasible and participate on one committee annually as attendance and participation will support the effective functioning and growth of the Chapter and the Society.
- B. Members are expected to keep confidential any patient or professional information discussed at meetings, educational or professional growth opportunities, or when participating in collaborative or research activities.

Section 6 Membership Meetings

A. Annual Meeting

There shall be an annual meeting of The Golden Triangle Chapter at the time to be determined by the Officers, for the installation of Officers, for receiving annual reports, and transaction of other business. The annual Chapter meeting should coincide with the International Transplant Nurses Society Annual Symposium and installation of new Officers each September or October. Notice of such meeting and the agenda for such meeting shall be mailed to the last recorded address of each member at least thirty (30) days before the date appointed for the meeting. Members present shall constitute a quorum. Voting may occur by proxy.

B. Membership Meetings

General meetings of The Golden Triangle Chapter shall be held periodically throughout the year for the purpose of the provision of educational and growth opportunities, interdisciplinary networking, collaborative activities, nursing research, and other activities. The date of the next general meeting shall be scheduled by informal consensus of those present at the current meeting. Members are encouraged to attend. Members present shall constitute a quorum.

- C. Special Membership Meetings
Special meetings of The Golden Triangle Chapter may be called for any reason by the President upon written request by the Officers or twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Chapter. Notice of such a meeting and the agenda for the meeting shall be mailed to each member at the last recorded address of each member at least fourteen (14) days before the date appointed for the meeting. A quorum at a special meeting shall constitute twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the Chapter. Voting may occur by written proxy.

Section 7

Voting

Voting by members on all items of business other than elections may be conducted by either mail ballot or by vote at any annual or special membership meeting, as determined by the Officers. Ballots shall be mailed to each active member with notice of annual or special meeting of members.

Article IV

Governance

A. Officers

President – Oversees all Chapter activities, leads Chapter board meetings, and acts as the Chapter representative to the ITNS Board of directors

President-Elect – Will succeed the President. May be delegated by the President to perform duties in his/her absence. May perform duties as assigned by the President.

(Amendment 1/26/1993: President Emeritus – Will assist the President and President-Elect in the performance of their duties.

Secretary – Keeps minutes of Chapter Board meetings. May complete other assignments as requested.

Treasurer - Responsible for fiscal activities of the Chapter such as forming the budget, producing fiscal reports, paying Chapter bills and collecting Chapter fees from members for programs. May complete other assignments as requested.

B. Election of officers

Election/installation of officers shall take place during the annual meeting the fourth quarter each year. The term of office shall be one (1) year.

(Amendment May 15, 2001: The Treasurer shall serve a (2) year term in office.)

- C. **Standing Committees and Task Forces**
Standing Committees will include the Membership/Recruitment Committee, Journal Club Committee, and Dinner Program Committee. Additional committees and task forces may be formed as necessary.

Article V Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall begin January 1 and end December 31 each year.

Article VI Indemnification

The Chapter may, by resolution of the Officers, provide for indemnification by the Chapter of any and all of its Officers against expenses actually necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, in which they or any of them are made parties, by reason of having been Officers of the Chapter, except in relation to matters as to which such Officer or former Officer shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. Indemnification shall also not be allowed in matters that are settled by agreement based on the existence of such liability for negligence or misconduct.

Article VII Parliamentary Authority

All meetings of the Chapter shall be conducted according to Parliamentary law as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VIII Revision of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended at the annual meeting or at any special meetings duly called for the purpose of amending the Bylaws. By a majority vote of those present and voting or by mail ballot, supervised and conducted at the meeting, providing notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to the members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 1 Procedure to amend

Amendments shall be submitted in writing carrying the proponent's signature to the Officers for review at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting.

Section 2 Effective Date

Amendments that have been approved by a majority vote of the members voting shall become effective at the conclusion of the annual

meeting at which the results are presented.

Article VII Dissolution Statement

The Chapter shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these bylaws, and no part of said funds shall inure to the benefit of, or to be distributed to, members of the Chapter. On dissolution of the Chapter, any remaining funds shall be distributed to

The ITNS International home office: 1739 East Carson Road
P.O. Box 351
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Accepted by Membership 1/16/1992

Amended 1/26/1993

5/15/2001

6/12/05