

Statutes of the Nordic Aging Society

Approved by the council on the 8th of December, 2023.

Signed and approved by Morten Scheibye-Knudsen, President, Nordic Aging Society



, December 8th, 2023

Section 1 – Style

The Nordic Aging Society was founded in 2023 and is registered in Denmark as a charitable non-profit organization.

Section 2 – Aim

The aim is to promote aging research with special emphasis on the Nordic countries as well as international collaboration. The object of the Nordic Aging Society is to coordinate research across the Nordic region including organizing an annual international conference and bi-yearly virtual meetings.

Section 3 – Membership

The Nordic Aging Society is based on individual membership. Scientists and students, who are actively engaged in or have an interest in aging research may apply to become a member of the Society. Membership fees 200 DKK for professors, 100 DKK Trainees.

Section 4 – Organization

The council of the Nordic Aging Society preferentially consists of seats for two actively engaged members from each Nordic country – i.e. Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Denmark. In addition, the council can include one or two seats for actively engaged members from countries outside the Nordic region. Further, an advisory board is formed that can be included by the council in decisions pertaining the society.

a. Election of council members

Members will be asked to nominate candidates for the council. Such nominations shall be sent to the chairman of the Nordic Aging Society at least one month prior to the election, which will take place at the annual General Assembly. If no nominations have been received before this deadline, participants attending the General Assembly can be nominated and elected at the General Assembly without prior nomination. A general aim shall be to nominate members (a) from all age-groups, (b) with the broadest possible professional scientific expertise and (c) with an equal gender balance.

b. Periods of office for council members

Membership of the council is for a period of four years. Ideally, the period served by one member of a country should overlap by two years the period served by the second member. Members may be re-elected for another 4 years with the possibility for a third and final period.

c. Council members' duties

The Council members are responsible for

- the scientific program of the annual conference
- the fundraising to run the annual conference
- deciding the criteria on which the scientific contributions to the annual conference are selected
- the practical arrangements for the annual conference
- the dissemination of the Nordic Aging Society to interested parties across the Nordic region.

d. Election of Officers

The Nordic Aging Society has four official appointments, the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Webmaster, who are elected by members of the council.

e. Periods of office for Officers

The President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Webmaster serve a period of four years.

f. Officers' duties

- i. The responsibility of the President is to organize the annual conference and to organize fundraising in collaboration with the council members.
- ii. The responsibility of the Treasurer (together with the Chairman) is to handle accumulated assets and to make sure that costs incurred by the annual conference are covered by the assets.
- iii. The responsibility of the Secretary is to handle all communication to and from the Nordic Aging Society in collaboration with the Webmaster.
- iv. The responsibility of the Webmaster is to maintain the website of the Nordic Aging Society.
- v. The President, the Treasurer and the Secretary together hold the signing rights on behalf of the Nordic Aging Society.

g. Council meetings

The President and at least one council member from three member countries must be present at a council meeting to constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote shall be decisive in the council. In case of an equal number of votes the President will have a second and casting vote.

h. Advisory board

The suggestion to add an individual to the advisory board can be done by any member at the general assembly. The decision to include an individual will be done via a simple majority vote. In case of an equal number of votes, the President of the Nordic Aging Society will have a final and casting vote.

Section 5 – The annual conference

The annual conference is arranged by an Organizing Committee in collaboration with the council members.

a. Election of Organizing Committee

Members of the Organizing Committee for next years' meeting are elected on the Annual General Assembly. As for the Council members a general aim shall be to elect an Organizing Committee consisting of members (a) from all age-groups, (b) with the broadest possible professional scientific expertise and (c) with an equal gender balance.

b. Duties of the Organizing Committee

- Rating abstracts submitted for the annual conference
- Nominate and contact invited speakers

Section 6 – The annual General Assembly

The annual General Assembly shall take place at the annual conference of the Nordic Aging Society.

a. Agenda

- 1) Election of chairman for the annual General Assembly
- 2) Election of a minute's secretary
- 3) Report of the President of the Nordic Aging Society
- 4) Auditors' report
- 5) Treasurers' report
- 6) Membership fee
- 7) Election of Council members
- 8) Election of two auditors
- 9) Future meetings – election of Organizing Committee for next years' meeting
- 10) Any other business

b. Announcements and deadlines

The date of the next annual General Assembly shall be available on the Nordic Aging Society website at least 2 months in advance. Items for the agenda must be submitted to the President or the Secretary of the Nordic Aging Society at least 1 month before the annual General Assembly. The final agenda for the annual General Assembly along with documents to be discussed, statement of accounts, and balance sheet can be distributed to the members on request during the annual conference. Minutes from the General Assembly shall be distributed to all members of the Society within one month of the annual General Assembly.

c. Voting procedure

A simple majority vote shall be decisive in all items put to a vote. In case of an equal number of votes, the President of the Nordic Aging Society will have a final and casting vote.

Section 7 – Finances

The liability of the Nordic Aging Society shall be limited to its own assets and

members shall not be personally liable for debts incurred by the Nordic Aging Society. The Treasurer, the Secretary and the President can together officially sign contracts and legal or financial documents for the Nordic Aging Society.

The running costs of the Nordic Aging Society shall be covered by return on investments; donations from private, public, or corporate funds; sale of shares and the annual membership fee. The size of the membership fee shall be decided on the annual General Assembly. The Nordic Aging Society accounts and balance sheet shall be audited by two auditors elected at the annual General Assembly. When the auditors' report has been approved, the Treasurer shall be discharged from any further personal responsibility.

Section 8 – Dissolution

The Nordic Aging Society can only be dissolved at the annual General Assembly if this has been put on the agenda in accordance with the deadlines defined in Section 6b. To dissolve the Society at least two-thirds of all members must vote for dissolution. If two-thirds of all members are not present at the annual General Assembly, a decision shall be taken by means of an electronic ballot. In these circumstances a simple majority vote in favor of dissolving the Society will be decisive. The final annual General Assembly will decide how to disperse the assets of the Nordic Aging Society according to the aim stated in Section 2.

Section 9 – Alterations and amendments

Any proposals for alterations, additions or amendments to the above by-laws must be sent to the Chairman or the Secretary of the Nordic Aging Society at least 3 months before the annual General Assembly. Proposed changes must be distributed to the council members and discussed among the Council members before the next annual General Assembly.

Section 10 – Conflicts

The Nordic Aging Society operates under Danish law and conflicts should be handled, if not otherwise specified in signed contracts, by Danish law.