

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

VALE OF TRENT FACULTY BYE-LAWS

(Approved by the College Council under Bye-Law 50)

Interpretation

1. The Interpretation Act 1978 applies to these Bye-Laws as to an Act of Parliament.
2. Words and phrases used in the Charter, Ordinances and Bye-Laws of the College mean the same in these Bye-Laws.

Faculty name

3. The name of the Faculty shall be the **Vale of Trent Faculty** of the Royal College of General Practitioners (referred to in these Rules as “the Faculty”).

Area of the Faculty

4. The area of the Faculty shall be: **North Lincolnshire, South Lincolnshire, Central Nottinghamshire, Nottingham, South Derbyshire.**

Terms of Reference

5. The terms of reference of the Faculty are to further the College object in the area referred to in Bye-Law 4 of these Bye-Laws, subject to the Charter, Ordinances and Bye-Laws of the College.

Membership of the Faculty

6. The members of the Faculty shall be those members of the College practising or employed in the area referred to in Bye-Law 4 of these Bye-Laws or, if retired or otherwise not practising or employed, residing within that area. The Board may in addition permit the privileges of membership of the Faculty to be made available to members of the College not qualified for membership of the Faculty under the previous provisions of this Bye-Law.

Associateship of the Faculty

7. The associates of the Faculty shall be those associates of the College practising or employed in the area referred to in Bye-Law 4 of these Bye-Laws or, if retired or otherwise not practising or employed, residing within that area. The Board may in addition grant the privileges of associateship of the Faculty to individual associates of the College not qualified for associateship under the previous provisions of this Bye-Law. Associates may attend general meetings of the Faculty, but shall not be entitled to vote.

General meetings

8. (1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), the Annual General Meeting of the Faculty shall be held once in each Faculty year (defined for this purpose as running from 1st November in one year to the next following 30th October) on a date and time decided by the Board. Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all members and associates of the Faculty not less than 21 clear days before the meeting.

The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to any Fellows, Members or Associates of the Faculty shall not invalidate the proceedings at the meeting.

- (2) The Board may, not less than 28 days before the date on which an Annual General Meeting of the Faculty is due to be held, resolve to dispense with the Annual General Meeting if it appears unlikely that a quorum will be obtained or that there are other good reasons for doing so. Notice of the fact that the Annual General Meeting has been dispensed with shall be sent to all members and associates not less than 14 days before the date on which the Annual General Meeting would have been held. Where the Board has dispensed with the Annual General Meeting, the Board may take such decisions as could have been taken by the Annual General Meeting, and the provisions of these Bye-Laws shall apply as necessary.
9. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:
- (1) To approve the minutes of the previous general meeting;
 - (2) To receive the results of elections to the Board;
 - (3) To receive the Annual Report of the Board;
 - (4) To approve the Accounts of the Board for the preceding financial year to 31 March;
 - (5) Members' motions; and
 - (6) Such other business as the Chairman may allow.
10. Any **10** members of the Faculty may by requisition to the Chairman or Honorary Secretary demand that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the Faculty be convened, on not less than 28 days' notice, for the purpose of considering any motion set out in the requisition.

11. The quorum of general meetings of the Faculty shall be **15 Members**. If within 15 minutes of the time appointed for the beginning of the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be abandoned and, in the case of an Annual General Meeting, the Board may take such decisions as could have been reached by that meeting as if the meeting had been dispensed with under Bye-Law 8 of these Bye-Laws.
12. The Provost or other officer designated by the Board shall chair all general meetings of the Faculty. In the absence of both the Provost and the designated officer, any other officer designated by the Board to do so shall preside. In the absence of the Provost and any officer designated to preside, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number to chair the meeting.
13. The rules of debate at general meetings of the Faculty shall, subject to the discretion of the Chairman of the meeting, be those applicable to general meetings of the College, with the necessary adaptations.
14. All questions at general meetings of the Faculty shall be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, and the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote, regardless of whether he or she has already voted.

Officers of the Faculty

15. The officers of the Faculty shall be a Provost, Chairman, **Vice Chairman**, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and **Faculty Representative/s on Council**, and such other officers as the Board shall decide from time to time. The term of office of the officers shall be **normally three years and incumbents may subsequently stand for re-election**.
16. The Chairman and Honorary Treasurer of the Board shall be elected by the members of the Faculty, in such manner as the Board shall decide, and every member shall be entitled to vote. No election need take place if only one candidate is duly nominated for any particular vacancy. If a system of single transferable voting is adopted, it shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures advised by the Electoral Reform Society. **The Provost, Vice Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Board shall be nominated by the Faculty Board.**

Faculty Board

17. The management of the affairs of the Faculty shall be vested in a Faculty Board (referred to as “the Board” in these Bye-Laws), which is empowered, subject to the provisions of the Charter, Ordinances and Bye-Laws of the College and any directions of the Council, to act on behalf of the College and the Faculty. The Board may regulate its own procedure, subject as previously stated.

18. The members of the Board shall be the Chairman, **Vice Chairman**, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the **Faculty Representative/s on Council** and the following:

Ex-Officio Members

(a) Ex-officio Members

- **The Provost or Chairman/Provost of the Faculty**
- **Members of College Council who are members of the Faculty**
- **The immediate Past-Chairman of the Faculty Board**
- **All College Tutors appointed by the Faculty Board**

(b) Members

There shall be up to 18 elected Members who shall be as regionally representative as possible. At each Annual General Meeting of the Faculty one-third of the Members of the Board shall retire from office in rotation: the normal term of office being 3 years and the retiring members being eligible for re-election. If the full 18 Members are not appointed, or if a vacancy occurs on the Board, the Board shall have the power to appoint Members of the Faculty to fill such vacancies until the next Annual General Meeting.

There shall be up to 5 Associates of the Faculty appointed annually by the Associates of the Faculty. If all 5 are not appointed, or a vacancy occurs the Board shall have the power to appoint Associates of the Faculty to fill such vacancies until the next Annual General Meeting. Associates shall have full voting powers on the Faculty Board.

The Faculty Board has the right to appoint a lay member to the Board. He or she would not be a Member or Associate Member of the College, but would have full voting rights. The Lay Member's tenure will be not longer than three years, but a shorter time may be stated at the time of appointment.

The Faculty Board may co-opt other persons for special purposes in an advisory capacity.

Candidates for election to the Faculty Board either at the Annual General Meeting or by subsequent co-option should be nominated in writing to the Honorary Secretary 1 week before the meeting. Election shall be by ballot.

19. **Appointments of Representatives of the College on Trent Regional Committees shall be made by the Trent Regional Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners, which body shall comprise the Chairmen and Honorary Secretaries (or in their absence their Representative/s) from the 3 Faculties that comprise the Trent Region.**

20. The Board may appoint such committees or sub-committees for such purposes as it thinks fit. **Each Committee may co-opt, with the approval of the Faculty Board, Fellows, Members and Associates of the Faculty who are not Members of the Faculty Board, or other persons who are not Members of the Faculty Board, or other persons who are not Members of the Faculty or the College. No-one who is not a Fellow, Member or Associate of the College or the appointed Lay Member of the Faculty Board shall be entitled to vote on these Committees.**

21. The Board and any of its committees or sub-committees may if the Chairman of the body concerned agrees meet wholly or partly by telephone or video conference, provided all members have been sent the papers for the meeting (including by electronic means). **The quorum for meetings of the Board shall be one third of those eligible to be present.**

Faculty representative(s) on College Council

22. The Board shall be responsible for nominating the Faculty representative(s) on the College Council.

Accounts and financial arrangements

23. The Honorary Treasurer of the Faculty shall be responsible for drawing up the Accounts of the Faculty for the previous 12 months to 31 March, including a balance sheet and profit and loss account. The Accounts as so drawn up shall be sent to the Honorary Treasurer of the College, for inclusion in the Annual Financial Report of the College.

24. The banking account(s) of the Faculty shall be held at the **NatWest Bank**, or such other Bank as the Board may from time to time decide, subject to the approval of the Honorary Treasurer of the College. Appropriate procedures shall be put in place by the Board, subject to the approval of the Honorary Treasurer of the College, for signature of cheques.

Amendment, revocation or re-making of Bye-Laws

25. These Bye-Laws may, subject to the approval of the College Council, be amended, revoked and re-made by resolution of the members of the Faculty in general meeting, passed by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

Revised October 1991, September 2002, October 2003

Reviewed Summer 2012