

California Orthopaedic Association By-Laws Committee

The By-Laws Committee met via conference call on Tuesday, January 10 at 6:00 pm. Robert O'Hollaren, M.D., Chaired the meeting. The following members participated in the call: Drs. William Brien, Leslie Kim, and Blair Filler and Executive Director Diane Przepiorski.

The COA By-Laws were amended at the May, 2016 Business Meeting establishing a "General Affiliate" Membership category for COA. The Committee was asked to define who they would recommend be included in this category and what parameters would be required of the Affiliate member.

ACTION ITEM

The Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Who could qualify:
 - Physician Assistants
 - Nurse Practitioners
 - Physical Therapists
 - Occupational Therapists
 - Podiatrists
 - Other physicians and surgeons/osteopaths with a MSK emphasis in their practice, eg., plastic surgeons, physiatrists, pain management specialists, orthopaedic primary care.
2. Required criteria for membership:
 - a. Be employed by an orthopaedic practice or health system and work directly with orthopaedic surgeons that are part of the group;
 - b. Be restricted to referring to themselves only as "General Affiliate Members" of the COA;
 - c. In any designation of membership, be required to include the "General Affiliate" designation;
 - d. Maintain a current and unrestricted state license/certification in their respective professional field; and,
 - e. Attend orthopaedic-related continuing medical education courses as part of their required CME hours for their ongoing licensure/certification.
3. Restrictions on Affiliate Members
 - No ability to vote or hold office per the By-Laws
 - No ability to attend the Board of Directors meeting or Annual Business Meeting unless specifically invited to attend
 - Ability to provide input to a COA Committee or Task Force only upon request.

4. Recommended dues structure:

Physician Assistants - \$150	CAPA – \$195 (allows physicians to join \$195)
Nurse Practitioners - \$150	CANP - \$250
Physical Therapists - \$150	CPTA-\$245 have to also join APTA - \$295
Occupational Therapists – \$150	OTA - \$199
Podiatrists - \$175	Other Physicians - \$200

It is expected that the medical group supporting these individuals would likely pay these dues.

Benefits of COA affiliation:

1. Discounted registration for COA's Annual Meeting, QME course and/or distance learning courses for their own professional development.
2. Take advantage of any COA discounted member programs with outside entities, e.g, OrthoEvidence, treatment guidelines – ACOEM/ODG, Dragon Software, etc.
3. In their Healthgrades on-line profile, be designated as an affiliate member of COA.
4. Higher visibility and perceived level of expertise within their field.
5. Ability to access and utilize COA's Career Resource Center for expanded employment opportunities.

Benefits to COA of Having General Affiliate Members

1. Improved coordination within the MSK health care team.
2. Increased membership numbers.
3. Increased dues income for COA projects.
4. Pool of potential employees for orthopaedic practices.
5. Difference in perspective on orthopaedic care issues.
6. Ability to learn from their perspective in treating an orthopaedic condition.

Considerations for COA

1. Increase membership administrative workload.
2. Potentially have to deal with conflict of interest on policy issues before COA.
3. Being asked to address ancillary issues involving affiliate members which could include billing and payor issues.

Approved by Board of Directors – March 16, 2017.