

INTERNATIONAL GEOSYNTHETICS SOCIETY NORWEGIAN CHAPTER

BYE LAWS

1. **NAME**

The official name shall be the Norwegian Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society and shall be referred to herein as the Norwegian Chapter. The legal address shall be in Norway.

The Norwegian Chapter shall be a chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society, and associated with the Norwegian Geotechnical Society.

2. **OBJECTIVES**

To collect, evaluate, disseminate and promote knowledge on all matters relevant to geosynthetics and related materials.

To improve communications and understanding regarding geosynthetics and related materials and their applications.

The aims and activities of the Norwegian Chapter shall be in accordance with the policy guidelines and activities of the International Geosynthetics Society.

3. **MEMBERSHIP**

The membership shall consist of Corporate members, Individual Members, Honorary Members and Affiliates. Corporate members and Individual Members of the Norwegian Chapter must be members of the International Geosynthetics Society who normally reside within or are employed within Norway.

Honorary Membership may be bestowed by the Norwegian Chapter upon a limited number of persons on the basis of: distinguished position, scientific achievement, outstanding service or major contributions to the promotion of geosynthetics and

related materials and their applications. Honorary Members of the International Geosynthetics Society who otherwise qualify as Individual Members of the Norwegian Chapter shall automatically become Honorary Members of the Norwegian Chapter. The geographical bounds of the Norwegian Chapter can, as long as there are no chapters in the other Nordic countries, encompass all the Nordic countries.

Affiliates are members of the International Geosynthetics Society whose geographical residence or employment is outside of the Nordic countries.

4. **ORGANISING COMMITTEE:**

The Organising Committee of the Norwegian Chapter can comprise:-

- Chairman (may be Chairperson)
- Vice-Chairman
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer
- Ordinary Member(s)
- Member Secretary
- Activities Secretary

The organising committee shall be elected at the Annual general meeting.

The Treasurer shall keep proper books and accounts and prepare a balance sheet as well as income and expenditure for presentation to the Annual General Meeting.

5. **ADMISSION TO AND RESIGNATION FROM THE NORWEGIAN CHAPTER:**

Application for membership shall be submitted to the Organising Committee.

The application should indicate evidence of the applicant's eligibility for membership of the International Geosynthetics Society.

6. **RESIGNATION:**

Any member may resign at any time by notice to the Organising Committee.

Such resignation shall take effect on the date specified in the notice or at the termination of the current subscription period if no date is specified.

Such resignation shall not relieve the member from the obligation to pay the subscription fee for the year in which the resignation takes place.

7. **DISMISSAL:**

Members who act counter to the aims and interests of the Norwegian Chapter can be dismissed for cause by a joint decision of the International Geosynthetics Society Council and the Norwegian Chapter.

A majority decision of voting members at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting shall cause a case for dismissal to be submitted to the IGS Council.

Members being considered for dismissal for cause must be afforded an opportunity to make representation to the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting before it reaches its decision.

8. **SUBSCRIPTION AND FINANCE:**

The annual subscription fees shall be determined and collected by the Organising Committee and notified to the Annual General Meeting.

An entrance fee may be levied and is not refundable. It cannot exceed a one-year membership subscription fee.

The subscription fee may differ for the different classes of membership i.e., for Individual Members and Affiliates.

Honorary Members shall not be liable for subscription fees.

The annual subscription fee shall become due on the first day of January each year unless otherwise decided.

Any member whose payment is in arrears may be subject to penalty charges as established by the Organising Committee, or after due notice, be dismissed for non-payment.

In addition to entrance fees and subscription fees from Members, the Norwegian Chapter may receive income from:

- Gifts, legacies, etc.
- Other activities such as sale of publications.

- Sponsored Conferences etc.

The Honorary Treasurer shall annually prepare a budget of income and expenditure for the forthcoming year and following then approval of the budget with or without amendments the Honorary Treasurer may make all disbursements, which have been so approved. No other disbursement shall be made from the funds of the Norwegian Chapter except upon approval from time to time properly recorded in the Minutes of the Society.

All accounts shall be audited annually.

Auditors will be appointed by the Annual General Meeting.

9. **VOTING:**

Individual and Honorary Members shall have one vote each.

Affiliates shall have no vote.

At all General Meetings, whether Annual or Extraordinary, the Chairman shall have a casting vote and a simple majority shall be decisive.

Each member may appoint any other member at a meeting to act as their proxy. Notice of authority to act as proxy must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. No members shall represent more than five members by proxy.

An Annual General Meeting shall be held at a time and place preferably decided by the previous Annual General Meeting.

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time to transact special business.

The Honorary Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 60 days upon request signed by 20% of the voting members or at the direction of the Organizing Committee.

The organizing committee shall give at least 30 days notice of an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

10. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

The business of an Annual General Meeting will include the debate on the approval of: reports by the Chairman, the approval of the accounts, the approval of the subscription fees, and the election of Officers for the next term of office.

The Annual General Meeting determines the maximum number of Honorary Members the Organising Committee may elect.

The Annual General Meeting decides, by vote, actions to be taken by the Organising Committee, e.g., specifying time intervals for Conferences, etc. Any members may add an item to the agenda of the Annual General Meeting by submitting a written statement to the Secretary not less than 15 days prior to the opening of the Annual General Meeting.

Only fully paid Individual Members and Honorary Members may vote. Votes of the Annual General Meeting shall be taken by a show of hands. A secret vote shall also be taken if demanded by not fewer than 20% of votes of members present. Ballots and votes of the Annual General Meeting shall be carried by a simple majority of votes. In the event of any tie, whether on a show of hands or on a ballot, the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting may use his vote to decide the issue. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to Members.

11. **LANGUAGE:**

The official language of the Norwegian Chapter will be Norwegian

12. **AMENDMENTS TO THE BYE LAWS AND DISSOLUTION:**

Alteration or amendment to these bye laws, proposed at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting shall not be made until after a simple majority has been obtained by a postal ballot of the membership.

Oslo

2008-02-06