



**BYLAWS FOR THE NURSING SECTION
OF THE
WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE**
11 May 2007

1.0 BYLAWS

The Bylaws of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM) will serve as the Section's guidelines except for the following additions, deletions, and/or exceptions.

Endorsed by the WADEM, the Section is named the Nursing Section and exists to foster collaboration among nurses involved in research, education, management, and practice in pre-hospital, emergency, public health, and/or disaster health care. WADEM members from all countries with an intent and desire to strengthen and improve the practice and knowledge of pre-hospital, emergency, public health, and/or disaster nursing shall be members of the Nursing Section, if desired.

2.0 PURPOSES

The purposes of the Nursing Section of WADEM as defined above are to:

- 2.1 Define relevant nursing issues;
- 2.2 Exchange scientific and professional information relevant to the practice;
- 2.3 Encourage collaborative efforts enhancing and expanding the field;
- 2.4 Encourage collaboration with other relevant organizations; and
- 2.5 Inform and advise WADEM of matters related to nursing.

3.0 GOALS

The goals of the Nursing Section of WADEM are to:

- 3.1 Increase the profile of the WADEM Nursing Section;
- 3.2 Foster the professional growth of the members of the Nursing Section;
- 3.3 Develop disaster nursing cooperation globally;
- 3.4 Network and integrate nursing into WADEM activities and programs

4.0 MEMBERS

WADEM members with special interest and activity in disaster and emergency nursing shall constitute the membership of the WADEM Nursing Section. Each member shall be obliged to pay the annual WADEM membership dues according to the amount and conditions set by the WADEM Board of Directors.

5.0 MEETINGS

A regular business meeting of the Nursing Section officers and members will be held coincident with and in the same location as each World Congress of Disaster and Emergency Medicine. The section meeting date, place and time will appear on the WADEM website and in the Congress program. Members present at the meeting shall constitute a quorum for business.

Special meetings may be called by the Nursing Section Chairperson and involve at least one-twentieth (1/20) of the section membership. No business regarding the operational guidelines of this section may be considered or transacted at a special meeting.

6.0 NURSING SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Nursing Section Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, the Secretary (also the Chairperson-elect), the Immediate Past-Chairperson and three (3) Members-at-Large.

The affairs and all business of the Nursing Section shall be managed and conducted by the Nursing Section Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will:

- 6.1 Oversee the functioning of the Nursing Section;
- 6.2 Ensure the orderly transfer of the administration of the Nursing Section from the retiring to the incoming officers;
- 6.3 Formulate and implement long-range plans of the Nursing Section; and
- 6.4 Act on behalf of the Nursing Section in the interval between its biannual meetings

The Chairperson, the Secretary (Chairperson-elect) and the Immediate Past-Chairperson and Members-at-Large shall serve for a two (2) year period. All officers may serve a maximum of three (2 year) consecutive periods. A minimum of two (2) years must elapse before a member may seek re-election following this period.

6.5 Nomination and Election

Candidates for the Nursing Section Executive Committee shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee appointed by the Executive Committee Chairperson. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates (to include Chairperson, Secretary/Chairperson-Elect, 3 Members-at-Large) who will be recommended to the members for election at the biannual meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. All nominees must be paid WADEM members in good standing at the time of voting.

Votes may be cast by those persons who are members of the Nursing Section as defined in Section 4.0 at least six months prior to the biannual meeting. A majority of votes cast by secret ballot at the Nursing Section biannual meeting elects the officers of the Nursing Section.

Untimely vacancies in the office of the Chairperson will automatically be filled by the Secretary (Chairperson-Elect). Untimely vacancies in the office of the Secretary (Chairperson-Elect) will be filled by the Chairperson's nomination with the approval of the Executive Committee.

6.6 Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside at all meetings of the WADEM Nursing Section, to cast the deciding vote, when necessary, and to see that procedure and decorum, as defined by *Robert's Rules of Order*, are properly enforced in all deliberations of this Section. The Chairperson shall appoint, on a biannual basis, a committee to nominate members for election to the Nursing Section Executive Committee. The Chairperson has the privilege of appointing the chairs and members of appropriate committees; such appointments are subject to confirmation by the Nursing Section Executive Committee.

The Secretary (Chairperson-Elect) shall keep minutes of the Section's proceedings at duly constituted meetings, and prepare minutes for approval by the membership at the following Nursing Section biannual business meeting. The Secretary shall preside in the absence of the Chairperson.

7.0 Committees

All WADEM Nursing Section members in good standing may serve on committees of the Section. The Standing Committees shall consist of the following:

- Nominating Committee
- Education Committee
- Membership Committee
- Publications Committee
- Research Committee
- Program Committee
- Liaison Committee



WADEM, PO Box 55158, Madison, WI 53705, USA
Tel: +1-608-819-6604 | Fax: +1-608-819-6055 | Email: info@wadem.org | Web: <http://www.wadem.org>