

## **BOARD OF SPECIALTY SOCIETIES – OVERVIEW**

([http://www.aaos.org/About/Board\\_of\\_Specialty\\_Societies/](http://www.aaos.org/About/Board_of_Specialty_Societies/))

Collaboration on issues; resolution through communications; unity among leaders.

The Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) brings together the leaders of musculoskeletal specialty societies to address issues of mutual concern and to advise the AAOS Board of Directors on issues, such as the AAOS Annual Meeting, continuing medical education, advocacy, and research. The BOS also provides opportunities for shared leadership, shared governance, organizational benchmarking, collaborative program development, and communication among member organizations.

The BOS is comprised of 23 member organizations:

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| 1. American Association for Hand Surgery               | 12. Musculoskeletal Infection Society              |
| 2. American Association of Hip and Knee Surgery        | 13. Musculoskeletal Tumor Society                  |
| 3. American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society         | 14. North American Spine Society                   |
| 4. American Orthopaedic Society for Sports<br>Medicine | 15. Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association         |
| 5. American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons                | 16. Orthopaedic Research Society                   |
| 6. American Society for Surgery of the Hand            | 17. Orthopaedic Trauma Association                 |
| 7. American Spinal Injury Association                  | 18. Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America |
| 8. Arthroscopy Association of North America            | 19. Ruth Jackson Orthopaedic Society               |
| 9. Cervical Spine Research Society                     | 20. Scoliosis Research Society                     |
| 10. J. Robert Gladden Orthopaedic Society              | 21. Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons       |
| 11. Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society        | 22. The Hip Society                                |
|  | 23. The Knee Society                               |

### **BOS GOALS:**

1. Serve as an effective direct knowledge-based link between the orthopaedic specialty societies and the AAOS.
2. Identify and support cooperation, unity, relationships, and activities among the specialty societies and between the societies and the AAOS.
3. Provide a forum for the society leaders to exchange ideas, information, and concerns.
4. Serve as a sounding board for various AAOS initiatives.
5. Participate in important AAOS organizational activities, such as developing recommendations on proposed AAOS Bylaws amendments, resolutions, and Standards of Professionalism.
6. Assist in the implementation of AAOS policies and initiatives.
7. Serve as a resource to the AAOS Board of Directors and other AAOS organizational units regarding matters of importance to orthopaedic specialty societies and their members.
8. Support communications and collaborative program development for AAOS councils and cabinets.

### **REPORTING RELATIONSHIP**

The BOS reports to the AAOS Board of Directors (see House of AAOS graphic).

## **LEADERSHIP**

The BOS has four officers – secretary, chair-elect, chair, and past-chair. Each position is a one-year term. The BOS Nominating Committee identifies and vets the secretary and chair-elect candidates and then presents the candidates to the voting BOS representatives for decision. The chair-elect and chair automatically ascend to the chair and past chair positions at the end of their terms.

The chair, chair-elect, and secretary serve on the AAOS Board of Directors, fulfill liaison responsibilities within the AAOS Councils and Cabinet, and provide updates to the BOS routinely.

## **SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES**

Each BOS member organization may have three representatives:

- The *Presidential Line Representative (PLR)* shall be within the society's presidential line and shall serve a one-year term. The society may reappoint the individual for two additional terms. The presidential line representative may vote for his/her member organization.
- The *Member Representative (MRep)* shall serve one three-year term and the society may reappoint the individual for one additional term. The member representative must be an AAOS member-in-good standing. The member representative may vote for his/her member organization.
- The society's *Executive Director (ED)* shall serve as a representative during his/her tenure as the society's lead staff member.

## **COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

The BOS has several standing committees as outlined. The BOS leadership also will form workgroups and project teams as needed.

- Executive Director Forum
  - Discuss ideas and matters of common concern to BOS member organization staff.
- Fellowship Match Oversight Committee
  - Establish, promote, and monitor "common" Match elements, such as application forms and announcement dates
  - Serve as the Match information clearinghouse
  - Troubleshoot difficulties of development, implementation, or maintenance within individual subspecialty match programs
  - Provide a forum for strategic discussions of Match issues and concerns of residents and orthopaedic residency and fellowship program directors
  - Increase transparency and communications regarding the fellowship application process
  - Serve as a forum for discussion and resolution of concerns or conflicts
  - Maintain and report fellowship match data which includes demographics on applicants, match outcomes and results
  - Facilitate the development of guidelines and competency measures across specialty society fellowships participating in the match
  - Create educational tools to enhance residents' knowledge of, and experience with, the orthopaedic fellowship match process, subspecialties, and related topics
- Nominating Committee
  - Select at least one nominee for Chair-Elect and at least one nominee for Secretary for approval by the voting BOS members.

- Quality and Patient Safety Action Fund Committee
  - Review grant applications and award grants to BOS member organizations
  - Monitor the progress of each awarded grant
  - Develop a mechanism to share information gained from each grant

The BOS also collaborates with the Board of Councilors (BOC) on the following three BOC/BOS committees:

1. Bylaws Review Committee;
2. Professionalism Committee; and the
3. Resolutions Committee.

### **MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE**

The BOS meets throughout the year. The BOS, as a whole, meets during the AAOS Annual Meeting, the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC), and the Fall Meeting.

Major activities at these meetings include:

- Providing a forum for the facilitation of communications and collaboration among the member organizations and with the AAOS
- Exploring health policy, education, communications, research, membership, and governance issues and formulating specific recommendations for the consideration of the AAOS Board and other AAOS leadership bodies
- Providing recommendations regarding proposed advisory opinions, resolutions, and bylaws changes from the AAOS Fellowship
- Meeting with Congress and other federal officials to promote the interests of orthopaedic surgeons and their patients during the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference
- Creating and implementing educational programs for the enhancement of BOS members' competence, as well as improving members' practice environments and the delivery of patient care
- **AAOS Annual Meeting**  
(The individual or the BOS member organization is responsible for all travel costs incurred by the Representatives.)

Expected BOS Representatives:

- ALL representatives

Dates and locations:

- March 14-18, 2017 – San Diego, CA
- March 6-10, 2018 – New Orleans, LA
- March 12-16, 2019 – Las Vegas, NV

- **National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC)**  
(The AAOS will assume travel costs, in accordance with the AAOS NOLC Travel Policy, for Representatives.)

Expected BOS Representatives:

- ALL representatives

Dates and locations:

- April 26-29, 2017 – Washington, DC
- June 6-9, 2018 – Washington, DC
- June 5-8, 2019 – Washington, DC

BOS Representatives are required to attend the NOLC in its entirety: participate in BOS meetings, participate in Capitol Hill visits, participate in the BOC/BOS joint meetings, attend symposia, and provide feedback through the open microphone sessions. In addition, Representatives are encouraged strongly to share the information gathered at the meetings with their society's leadership and membership.

- **Fall Meeting**

(The AAOS will assume travel costs, in accordance with the AAOS Fall Meeting Travel Policy, for Representatives.)

Expected BOS Representatives:

- ALL representatives

Dates and locations:

- October 19-21, 2017 – Dallas, TX
- Fall 2018 – To be determined
- Fall 2019 – To be determined

BOS Representatives are required to attend the Fall Meeting in its entirety: participate in BOS meetings, participate in the BOC/BOS joint meetings, attend symposia, and provide feedback through the open microphone sessions. In addition, Representatives are encouraged strongly to share the information gathered at the meetings with their society's leadership and membership.

For additional BOS information, visit [http://www.aaos.org/About/Board\\_of\\_Specialty\\_Societies/](http://www.aaos.org/About/Board_of_Specialty_Societies/) or contact Jennifer Jones, CAE ([jones@aaos.org](mailto:jones@aaos.org) or 847.384.4236) or Liz Frale ([frale@aaos.org](mailto:frale@aaos.org) or 847.384.4238).

