Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Constitution & By-laws
(Revised, September 2010)

Article I

Name
The name of the organization shall be the Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), but may be abbreviated, the LA Chapter or the Chapter.

Article II

Objectives
To further the objectives of the AAP, as stated in the Constitution of the Academy, Article III, Section I, in the state of Louisiana to wit;

“The objective of the Academy shall be to foster and to stimulate interest in pediatrics and correlate all aspects of the work for the welfare of children which properly come within the scope of pediatrics. The Academy shall endeavor to accomplish the following purposes:

(a) To establish and maintain the highest possible standards for pediatric education in medical schools and hospitals, pediatric practice and research.
(b) To perpetuate the history and best traditions of pediatric practice ethics.
(c) To maintain the dignity and efficiency of pediatric practice in its relationship to public welfare.
(d) To promote publications and encourage contributions to medical and scientific literature pertaining to pediatrics; none of which objectives are for pecuniary profit.”

To cooperate with the Louisiana State Medical Society and all agencies of the State of Louisiana concerned with the welfare of children as the representative body of the qualified pediatricians and allied specialists of the State of Louisiana.

Article III

Section I  Membership Categories

Membership in the Chapter is open to pediatricians, pediatric dentists and physicians engaged in pediatric specialties who reside in Louisiana. Membership may be in the following categories:

(a) Fellow Fellows and Specialty Fellows of the AAP residing in the State of Louisiana;
(b) Emeritus Fellow, Honorary Fellow and Retired Fellow shall be elected to life membership by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the Chapter membership. They shall be exempt from dues and assessments.
(c) Affiliate Member is any physician who resides in Louisiana who is engaged primarily in pediatric practice, teaching or research and is not already a Fellow of the AAP.
(d) Associate Member is a pediatric dentist who has received a certificate or a degree in the specialty of pediatric dentistry from a program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of the American Dental Association and practices pediatric dentistry in the United States, Puerto Rico or Canada;
(e) Candidate Member and Post Residency Training Member
(f) Resident Member
Section II. Rights and Privileges of Members

(a) Fellows and Specialty Fellows have the right to vote and may hold any office of the Chapter
(b) Emeritus and Honorary Fellows may not vote or hold office
(c) Retired Fellows may vote, but may not hold office
(d) Affiliate Members may vote, but may not hold office
(e) Candidate Members, Post Residency Training Members and Resident Members may vote, but
may not hold office

Section III. Forfeiture of Membership

(a) Membership shall lapse after the failure to pay dues for two years. If a member
continues to be delinquent for 30 days after notification by the Treasurer, he shall be suspended
until reinstated by the Executive Committee upon payment of dues and assessment arrears.
(b) Any conduct ethically or socially violating the standards of the Chapter shall be brought
before the Executive Committee for proper disposition. An accused members shall be
notified of the charges by the Secretary in writing and be given ample opportunity for defense
against them.

Article IV

Amendments

This Constitution and the By-Laws of the Chapter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of ballots cast by
voting members of the Chapter, provided that a copy of any such proposed amendment shall have been
submitted in advance to the Executive Committee for its consideration. A copy of any proposed amendment,
together with the recommendation thereon of the Executive Committee, shall be mailed by the Secretary to each
member at least one month before the annual Chapter meeting. Ballots will be returned to the Secretary. Any
mailings may be accomplished electronically.

By-Laws

Article I

Officers

Section I Officers of the Chapter shall be:

(1) President
(2) Vice President
(3) Secretary
(4) Treasurer
(5) Two members of the Executive Committee, elected At-Large
(6) The immediate past president

Section II The President shall appoint all committees and liaison representatives subject to the approval of
the Executive Committee. He/she shall be a member ex officio of all committees and shall serve
a term of two years. He/she shall be eligible for a second term but no more. No officer of the
LA Chapter may serve more than four successive years. The President will submit an annual
report to the District Chairman prior to the Annual Fall meeting of the American Academy of
Pediatrics or as required by the Executive Board of the AAP.
Section III  The Vice President shall serve a term of two years, and shall be eligible for re-election once.

Section IV  The Secretary will perform the usual duties of that office, such as keeping records and sending notices and ballots to the members. The term of office will be for two years, and he/she shall be eligible for re-election once.

Section V  The Treasurer shall collect all dues and assessments. He/she will pay all bills authorized by the Executive Committee. He/she will be responsible for all funds entrusted to him/her and will render a financial report to the Executive Committee and members at the annual meeting. He/she may be bonded at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The term of office will be for two years and he/she shall be eligible for re-election once.

Section VI  Executive Committee
The Executive Committee of the Chapter will consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Fellows elected at-large, and the immediate past president. The Executive Committee will conduct all of the business of the Chapter between meetings, and will plan and be responsible for all Chapter activities.

The at-large members of the Executive Committee shall serve terms of two years each and be eligible for re-election once.

Section VII  An Executive Director may be employed by the Chapter to work under the direction of and in close cooperation with the Executive Committee. The Executive Director may, upon direction by the Executive Committee, act as spokesperson for the Chapter in whatever form the Executive Committee deems appropriate and necessary. The Executive Committee shall determine the job description and compensation of the Executive Director.

Section VIII  Advisory Committee:
The Advisory Committee of the Chapter will consist of the following: the Executive Committee
One liaison representative of the Louisiana State Medical Society (LSMS);
The CATCH facilitator;
The Coalition of Louisiana Societies of Pediatricians (CLASP) presidents;
The program director or his designee from each of the pediatric residency programs;
The Chief pediatric resident or his designee from each of the pediatric residency programs;
The Chair or his designee of each pediatric academic medical institution;
One representative from the Perinatal Commission;
One representative from PROS;
One representative from a pediatric subspecialty group;
A representative of the Office of Public Health Maternal Child Health Program;
A school health advisor;
One representative for disaster preparedness;
An oral health advocate;
Two representative of the Young Physicians Section
Any other Louisiana member who is appointed to a national AAP committee;
The chair any Ad Hoc committee.

Section IX  Newly elected officers of the Chapter shall assume their duties at the annual meeting.

Section X  In the event that any officer of the Chapter or Member of the Executive Committee is unable to serve his/her full term of office, the Executive Committee is empowered to appoint or elect a Fellow to serve out the unexpired term.
Article II

Nominating Committee

Section I  The Nominating Committee shall consist of three Fellows elected by a majority of the membership voting by ballot. The term of office shall be for four years and no one may succeed himself. The candidate with the largest vote shall act as Chair.

Section II  Every two years the Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of one or more candidates for all offices that will be vacant the following year. This will be done prior to July 1st.

Section III  The list of candidates will be mailed to the members of the Chapter by the Secretary on or about July 1st. Return ballots will be mailed to the Secretary, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, or to the District Chairman, as specified. Additional candidates may be nominated when properly endorsed by five or more members. Members will be given 30 days to submit additional candidates.

Section IV  The Secretary will mail ballots with qualified candidates to Members within one week of the close of nominations. Ballots will be considered valid when returned within 30 days of this mailing.

Section V  If there are more than two candidates for any vacancy, the candidate receiving a plurality of the votes will be elected.

Article III

Meetings

Section I  The annual meeting of the Chapter shall be held at a time and place designated by the Executive Committee.

Section II  Other meetings may be held at the call of the Chapter Chairman, the Executive Committee, or by written request signed by ten Fellows.

Section III  Notice of the time and place of all meetings shall be mailed to the entire membership at least three weeks in advance thereof by the Secretary.

Section IV  A quorum shall consist of eleven of the voting Fellows of the Chapter, or their proxies.

Section V  All business meetings of the Chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the latest revised Roberts’ Rules of Order.

Section VI  The Executive Committee of the Chapter shall meet at least twice annually to conduct the Chapter business, appoint committees and liaison representatives, give directions to these committees and liaison representatives, as well as receive and study reports submitted by these agents.

Section VII  The Advisory Committee of the Chapter shall meet at least twice annually to advise the Chapter Executive Committee on Chapter development and policy and inform the Chapter from a broad
Article IV

Dues and Assessments

Section I  Chapter dues shall be set by the Executive Committee subject to the approval of the majority of the membership of the Chapter voting by ballot.

Section II  Dues may be waived for just cause by the Executive Committee.

Section III  The Executive Committee of the Chapter is empowered to defray all or part of the expenses of the officers of the Chapter, or Chapter committee members, for the performance of Chapter business.

Section IV  Authorized expenses may not be incurred by any of the members, or committees of the Chapter above and beyond the cash resources of the Chapter.

Section V  Assessments may be levied on recommendation of the Executive Committee after the approval of the majority of the Fellows present and voting at the annual meeting.

Article V

Indemnification

The corporation shall indemnify and hold harmless each director, officer, employee or agent now or hereafter serving the corporation from and against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she may be or become subject by reason of his or her now or hereafter being or having heretofore been a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation and/or by reason of his or her alleged acts or omissions as such director, officer, employee or agent whether or not he or she continues to be such director, officer, employee or agent at the time when any such claim or liability is asserted, and shall reimburse each such director, officer, employee or agent for all legal and other expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with defending any and all such claims or liabilities, including amounts paid or agreed to be paid in connection with reasonable settlements made before final adjudication with the approval of the Executive Committee, whether or not he or she continues to be such director, officer, employee or agent at the time such expenses are incurred; provided, however, that no director, officer, employee or agent shall be indemnified against any claim or liability arising out of his or her own negligence or willful misconduct or shall be indemnified such claims or liability or in settling the same unless in the judgment of the directors of the corporation the director, officer, employee or agent against whom such claim or liability is asserted has not been guilty of negligence or willful misconduct. The foregoing right to indemnification shall not be exclusive of other rights to which any director, officer, employee or agent may be entitled as a matter of law.