

# Bernoulli Society Statutes (Effective 2019.08.22)

## 1 Name

- 1.1 The name of the Association shall be the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability (BS), hereinafter called the Society. The Society shall be an Association of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in accordance with Article 7 of the ISI Statutes and para. 3 of the ISI By-laws.

## 2 Objectives and Activities of the Society

- 2.1 The objectives of the Bernoulli Society are the advancement of the sciences of probability and mathematical statistics and of their applications to all those aspects of human endeavour which are directed towards the increase of natural knowledge and the welfare of mankind.
- 2.2 The activities of the Society shall include the following:
  - (a) recommending and helping to arrange programmes of relevant meetings during the ISI World Statistics Congresses;
  - (b) organising international meetings on its own or jointly with other ISI Associations or professional or scholarly bodies or endorsing such meetings for the purpose of achieving its objectives in, for example, theoretical or methodological developments and fields of application of especial timeliness and importance, or for the purpose of meeting the scientific needs of particular regional groups not otherwise catered for;
  - (c) publishing periodicals, pamphlets, books, information circulars, etc. independently or in cooperation with other ISI Associations or other organizations;
  - (d) administering prizes and supporting activities which further the objectives and interests of the Society, including the promotion of statistical capacity in developing countries;
  - (e) seeking the cooperation of other ISI Associations or statistical societies or groups of statisticians for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the Society.
- 2.3 It shall be a special obligation of the Society to assist in the development of the sciences of probability and mathematical statistics in the context of specific fields of application when no other body exists to meet such needs, provided that the Society is satisfied that such action is timely and likely to advance the objectives of the Society.

### 3 Organisational Structure

3.1 The organisations structure of the Society includes:

- (a) The General Assembly, composed of the individual members of the Society, and one designated member from each institution which is a member, in accordance with Article 5.1, hereafter referred to as the General Assembly;
- (b) The Executive Committee, composed of the Officers of the Society in accordance with Article 6.1, hereafter referred to as the Executive Committee;
- (c) The Council, composed of ordinary members, the chairs of the standing committees and ex officio members, in accordance with Article 7.1, hereafter referred to as the Council;
- (d) The standing committees of the Society, composed in accordance with Article 8.

### 4 Membership

- 4.1 The membership of the Society shall be of two types, without any restriction on number: individual members and institutional members.
- 4.2 Members of the International Statistical Institute may become individual members of the Society by applying to the ISI Director and paying any prescribed dues.
- 4.3 Any person who is not a member of the ISI may apply to the Society to become an individual member of the Bernoulli Society. An individual member shall be liable to pay prescribed membership dues determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council. Certain persons who, for reasons of financial hardship, are unable to pay the prescribed dues may apply to the Membership Secretary to become individual members of the Society at the reduced rates applying to developing countries in annual membership dues, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council.
- 4.4 Institutions which may be educational and scientific institutions, government and non-profit organizations, business enterprises, etc. may become institutional members of the Society by applying to the Membership Secretary and subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Institutional members shall be liable to pay annual membership dues on a case by case basis as determined by the Executive Committee. Institutional members shall be entitled to designate a representative who may attend meetings of the Society, and participate in the Society's scientific programme of meetings with the same privileges as the individual members. Institutional members shall be entitled to receive one set of the publications of the Society possibly offered online.
- 4.5 Members may end their membership of the Society by writing a letter to this effect to the Membership Secretary and shall be expected to pay their respective dues for the year in which their membership ends.

- 4.6 Members of the Society who are liable to pay dues shall be considered to have resigned from membership if they have not paid dues payable during the preceding calendar year.
- 4.7 All annual membership dues payable in accordance with Articles 4.3-4.6 shall be sent to and kept by the ISI Permanent Office.
- 4.8 Membership shall be terminated either by resignation, or for non-payment of the dues, or for other reasons as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council.

## **5 General Assembly**

- 5.1 The General Assembly, composed of all individual members and representatives of institutional members, shall be the highest authority of the Society.
- 5.2 A meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened every year.
- 5.3 The meetings of the General Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Executive Committee may decide in accordance with Article 10.1 or 10.2.
- 5.4 Notification specifying the place and date of a General Assembly shall be sent to all members of the Society not less than two months before the date of the meeting.
- 5.5 The convocation for the General Assembly may be sent electronically or through postal mail. In agreement with the member, the convocation may be sent electronically in a readable and reproducible form to the address made available by the member.
- 5.6 Each member whether individual or institutional shall have one vote. Proxy voting is only allowed in the procedure for changing the statutes as described in Article 13.
- 5.7 The decisions of the General Assembly shall be made by a simple majority of votes cast at a meeting or by electronic means except as otherwise stated by the Statutes. Electronic voting may be organized prior to the General Assembly. Votes expressed electronically shall be considered as valid as votes in person at the General Assembly.

## **6 The Executive Committee**

- 6.1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers who shall be the President, the Past-President, the President-Elect, the Scientific Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer, the Publications Secretary and the Publicity Secretary, and the ISI Director as an ex officio member.
- 6.2 The President and President-Elect shall be residents of different countries and shall be members of the Society and the ISI. The President-Elect shall be elected by the General Assembly and serve for two years and shall thereafter automatically become the President and serve for the following two years.

- 6.3 The Executive Committee shall have balanced representation from different geographic areas.
- 6.4 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the proper management of the affairs of the Society in consultation with the Council and in accordance with the policy decisions of the General Assembly.
- 6.5 The Executive Committee shall introduce proposals to the General Assembly, after consultation with the Council, on matters of major importance that include
- (a) nomination of the five Officers of the Executive Committee (Article 6.11)
  - (b) formation of the standing committees (Articles 8.1 and 8.2) and appointment of the chairs (Articles 8.3 and 8.4)
  - (c) scientific meetings and their drafts (Article 10.5)
  - (d) proposals for amendments to the statutes (Article 13.2)
- 6.6 The Executive Committee may appoint ad hoc committees and the members of the committees, after consultation with the Council.
- 6.7 Wherever possible, the President shall represent the Society on all official occasions and shall preside over the meetings of the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee. In the absence of the President, these roles shall be filled by the President-Elect or by some member of the Council nominated by the President. The President shall have general responsibility for the execution of the policies and decisions of the General Assembly. In order to ensure the continuity of management of the Society, the President shall keep the President-Elect closely informed with respect to all relevant activities.
- 6.8 The Society shall be represented in law by the President and the ISI Director .
- 6.9 It shall be the responsibility of the President, at the conclusion of a term of office, to prepare a comprehensive report to the Society about its activities during the previous two years. This report shall be presented to the General Assembly at a meeting of the General Assembly as provided for in Article 5.3.
- 6.10 In the event that the Presidency is vacant or that the President is for any other reason unable to fulfil his responsibilities, the President-Elect shall serve for the remaining term of the President or until the President shall again be able to serve, as the case may be. If the President-Elect is for any reason unable to fulfil this responsibility, one of the Members shall be elected by the Executive Committee in his/her place.
- 6.11 The Scientific Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer, the Publications Secretary and the Publicity Secretary shall be members of the Society. They shall be nominated by the President after consultation with Council, and approved by the General Assembly, and are eligible for re-appointment, but only two terms may be served consecutively. In the event of a vacancy, caused by incapacity or otherwise, in the above offices, a new officer shall be appointed by the President after consultation with the Council, and the appointment should be confirmed at the next General Assembly. The term of office of

the Scientific Secretary and the Publications Secretary shall be four years starting from the time of a World Congress of the Society, as provided for in Article 10.1. The term of office of the Membership Secretary and of the Treasurer shall be four years each starting in January after the time of an ISI World Statistics Congress, as provided for in Article 10.1. The term of office of the Publicity Secretary shall be two years starting in January of an even-numbered year.

- 6.12 It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to prepare a report on the state of the finances of the Society at each ordinary meeting of the society as provided for in Article 10.1 and to present this report to the General Assembly at that meeting. This report should also be used to fulfill the requirements of Articles 12.2 and 12.3.
- 6.13 The Publications Secretary shall liaise with standing committees concerned and shall oversee all matters concerning publications activities of the Society in accordance with the policy of the Executive Committee. The Publications Secretary may hold the post of the chair of the Publications Committee, in accordance with Article 8.7.
- 6.14 The Publicity Secretary shall liaise with standing committees concerned and shall oversee all matters concerning the publicity of the Society in accordance with the policy of the Executive Committee. The Publicity Secretary may hold the post of the chair of the Publicity Committee, in accordance with Article 8.9.
- 6.15 The ISI Director shall provide general advice and guidance to the Society on administrative affairs and meeting arrangements, and in particular shall serve in a liaison capacity between the Society and (1) the Officers and the Permanent Office of the ISI, and (2) the Organizing Committees for the biennial sessions of the ISI and for other joint meetings with the ISI or its Associations.
- 6.16 The ISI Permanent Office serving under the direction of the ISI Director shall execute the administration of operating activities.
- 6.17 The ISI Director shall administer the funds, maintain the accounts and provide the financial records of the Society as specified by the Executive Committee.

## **7 Council**

- 7.1 The Officers of the Society, as provided for in Article 6.1, shall be ex officio members of the Council. The Council shall be composed of ex officio members, twelve ordinary members and the chairs of the standing committees as provided in Article 8.
- 7.2 The ordinary members, of whom not more than two shall be residing in the same country, shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee as provided for in Article 9.1 and elected by the General Assembly through the procedures provided in Article 9.
- 7.3 The term of office of an ordinary member of Council shall be four years starting from the time of an ordinary meeting held jointly with an ISI World Statistics Congress as provided for in Article 10.1. No ordinary member shall serve on the Council for more

than two consecutive terms. At least one-half of the ordinary members of the Council shall retire every two years.

- 7.4 For requests by the Executive Committee, the Council shall formulate the policies of the Society, liaising with the Scientific Secretary, the standing committees and other relevant bodies, whenever it is appropriate and necessary. In particular, the Council shall, together with these committees, take an active part in planning and organising programmes for meetings which give adequate emphasis to domains of currently increasing importance.
- 7.5 The Council shall deliberate, as provided for in Article 6.5, on the proposals to be submitted to the General Assembly by the Executive Committee.
- 7.6 The Executive Committee shall consult Council on matters of major importance for the Society including
- (a) determination of the annual dues of individual members (Articles 4.3 and 11.3)
  - (b) reduced rates in annual membership dues (Article 4.3)
  - (c) decision on termination of membership (Article 4.8)
  - (d) appointments of ad hoc committees and the members (Article 6.6)
  - (e) appointments of Officers in the Executive Committee (Article 6.11)
  - (f) approval by the Executive Committee for the membership of standing committees (Article 8.3)
  - (g) setting meetings of the General Assembly (Articles 10.1 and 10.2)
  - (h) decision on the acceptability of any donation (Article 11.2)
  - (i) the Executive Committee's proposals for amending the Statutes (Article 13.2)
  - (j) foundation of prizes and selection of awardees

## 8 Standing Committees

- 8.1 The Executive Committee shall, in consultation with the Council and under the approval by the General Assembly, as provided for in Article 6.5, direct the formation of standing committees for the purpose of
- (a) specific administrative functions pertaining to the Society,
  - (b) the development and advancement of specific subject areas in mathematical statistics and probability theory and their applications, and
  - (c) the support of activities that will promote the objectives of the Society within a specific geographical region.

These standing committees shall be respectively referred to as administrative committees, subject area committees and Regional Committees.

- 8.2 The working rules of each standing committee shall be approved by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council and by the General Assembly.
- 8.3 The chairs of administrative committees and of subject area committees shall be members of the Society and shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council, with approval of the General Assembly. Each chair shall serve for a period of four years, unless otherwise prescribed in the working rules of the committee. The members of these committees shall be nominated in accordance with the working rules of the committees, and shall be elected subject to the approval of the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council.
- 8.4 The chairs of Regional Committees shall be members of the Society, nominated in accordance with the working rules of the committees, and appointed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council, with approval of the General Assembly. The members of each committee shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the working rules of the committees.
- 8.5 The chairs of standing committees shall submit reports of their committees to the Executive Committee not later than three months before the next ordinary meeting of the Society as provided for in Article 10.1.
- 8.6 The chairs of standing committees shall be a member of the Council, as provided for in Article 7.1.
- 8.7 The Publications Committee as an administrative committee, formed in accordance with Article 8.3, shall oversee all matters concerning publications activities of the Society.
- 8.8 The chief editor of any official publication of the Society shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in consultation with an ad hoc committee appointed in accordance with Article 6.6 and consisting of the outgoing chief editor (where applicable), a nominee of the Executive Committee and a nominee of the Publications Committee, and any other company, body or organisation jointly responsible for the publication. Unless the working rules state otherwise, the chief editor shall serve for a period of three years and shall have the discretion to form the editorial board of that publication subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. All editorial policies shall be subject to the approval of the Publications Committee.
- 8.9 The Publicity Committee as another administrative committee, formed in accordance with Article 8.3, shall be in charge of all matters concerning the publicity of the Society.
- 8.10 The Regional Committees formed in accordance with Article 8.4, shall promote and assist scientific activities of regional groups to achieve the objectives of the Society in accordance with Article 2. The chair of Regional Committees shall be a member of the Council as provided for in Articles 7.1 and 8.6.

## 9 Elections

- 9.1 At each ordinary meeting of the Society held at an ISI World Statistics Congress, as provided for in Article 10.1, a Nominating Committee shall be established consisting of the President, the President-Elect, one representative each for the standing committees and nominated by them, and Scientific Secretary as an ex officio member without voting rights. The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the President-Elect.
- 9.2 The task of the Nominating Committee shall be to make nominations for the office of President-Elect and for ordinary Council membership that will become vacant by the next ordinary meeting.
- 9.3 The President shall inform the members of the Society of the setting up of the Nominating Committee and invite them to submit names of possible candidates to the chair of the Nominating Committee.
- 9.4 In nominating candidates, the Nominating Committee shall give careful attention to the importance of achieving proper geographical distribution and proper balance between specialties of the nominees, in order to accomplish the objectives and promote activities of the Society as provided for in Article 2.
- 9.5 The Nominating Committee shall ascertain from nominees that they are willing to stand for office in the capacity for which they are nominated, and shall develop a list of candidates. The list may include a single candidate or more than one candidate for each post. The Nominating Committee shall submit the list along with a report to the Executive Committee at least ten months before the General Assembly at the ISI World Statistics Congress. Thereafter, the Nominating Committee shall be automatically dissolved.
- 9.6 The Scientific Secretary shall submit the report of the Nominating Committee to the ordinary members of the Council. The ordinary members of the Council may nominate additional candidates provided that each such nomination is sponsored by at least two ordinary members and sent within a period designated by the Scientific Secretary.
- 9.7 The Scientific Secretary shall submit, not later than eight months before the General Assembly at the ISI World Statistics Congress, the names of all nominated candidates to the Executive Committee including the ISI Director .
- 9.8 At least six months before the General Assembly at the ISI World Statistics Congress, the final list of candidates shall be presented by the ISI Director to the members of the Society. If the number of candidates for an office does not exceed the number of vacancies, the candidates in question shall be declared elected without vote.
- 9.9 Where there is more than one candidate for a post, voting shall be organised by the ISI Director . The voting may be done by electronic means or by mail ballot.
- 9.10 The voting period shall be at least four weeks.

- 9.11 For each office, the candidate or candidates having received the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie, the candidate who has been a member of the Bernoulli Society the longest shall be declared elected. In case the lengths are equal, a candidate or candidates shall be elected by lot from the candidates in the tie.
- 9.12 The results of the voting shall be laid down in a report drawn up by the ISI Director and presented to the Executive Committee at least two months before the General Assembly at the ISI World Statistics Congress.
- 9.13 The President shall deliver a report on the outcome of the voting to the General Assembly.
- 9.14 The term of office of each elected Officer shall begin as prescribed after the meeting of the General Assembly at which they were elected.
- 9.15 An ordinary member of the Council shall be succeeded, in the event of incapacity, by a member of the Society chosen by the Executive Committee to serve the residual term, provided that it is not less than one year.

## 10 Meetings of the Society

- 10.1 Ordinary meetings of the Society, i.e. ordinary meetings of the General Assembly, shall be convened every year conjointly with either
- (i) the ISI World Statistics Congresses in odd-numbered years,
  - (ii) the World Congresses of the Society in even-numbered years, or
  - (iii) a major conference organized by one of the standing committees, or another major international scientific meeting in the subjects of mathematical statistics and probability, as the Executive Committee may decide in consultation with the Council.
- 10.2 Meetings of the General Assembly other than those provided for in Article 10.1 shall be called extraordinary meetings of the Society and shall be held at such times and places as the Executive Committee may decide after consultation with the Council.
- 10.3 No quorum shall be required for a meeting of the General Assembly.
- 10.4 Meetings of the Executive Committee and standing committees shall be held conjointly with the meetings of the General Assembly in accordance with Article 10.1 or at such times and places as may be deemed necessary.
- 10.5 The subject area committees organize scientific meetings, subject to the approval by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council, and by the General Assembly. The meetings shall be organised in accordance with the working rules of the committees, and also over a wide scope in timely manner in order to achieve objectives and effective activities of the Society as provided for in Article 2.
- 10.6 Scientific meetings of the Regional Committees shall be organised in accordance with the working rules of the committees.

10.7 For scientific meetings sponsored by the Society in cooperation with other bodies, the President shall, in consultation with the Executive Committee, appoint at least one member of the Society (preferably but not necessarily a member of the Council) to serve on an appropriate programme committee. One member of the programme committee shall be designated as personally responsible for maintaining effective liaison with the Scientific Secretary of the Society.

## 11 Finances

11.1 The financial resources of the Society shall be membership dues, proceeds of advertisements in and sales of publications of the Society and such donations as the Society may obtain.

11.2 The acceptability of any donation shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Council.

11.3 The annual dues of individual members of the Society shall be fixed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Council, as provided for in Article 4.3. The annual dues of institutional members shall be fixed case by case by the Executive Committee, as provided for in Article 4.4.

11.4 The funds of the Society may be used for the following purposes:

- (a) A proportion, to be determined and approved by the General Assembly and to be negotiated with the ISI, of the net income of the Society during the two years preceding an ordinary meeting held conjointly with an ISI World Statistics Congress shall be transferred to the ISI.
- (b) The remaining funds of the Society may be used for the following purposes:
  - (i) to pay for, at the discretion of the President, any expenses incurred by mail, fax, telegraph and telephone in connection with the business of the Society and by secretarial assistance for the Scientific Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer, the Publications Secretary and the Publicity Secretary;
  - (ii) to pay, in exceptional cases, for the travel expenses of invited speakers and young members who need financial support, whether members of the Society or not, to attend the scientific meetings of the Society, subject to the availability of funds and the approval of the Executive Committee;
  - (iii) to award prizes; and
  - (iv) to subsidise publications of the Society.

11.5 The Officers of the Society and the members of the Council shall serve without compensation or remuneration.

11.6 The Society may undertake the administration and expenditure of grants or funds for purposes consistent and compatible with the objectives of the Society, and such grants and funds shall not be subject to the conditions of Article 11.4 above.

11.7 The ISI Director shall administer the funds, maintain the accounts and provide the financial records of the Society, as provided for in Article 6.17.

## **12 Reporting**

12.1 The Executive Committee shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly at an ordinary meeting as provided for in Article 10.1 or to the members within six months of the end of each fiscal year, unless the General Assembly extends this period.

12.2 The annual report shall include the activities of the Society, a financial statement covering all income and expenditure over the preceding fiscal year and a statement of the assets and liabilities as of the last day of the three preceding years.

12.3 The financial statement must have been audited by a professional qualified accountant.

12.4 The report will be approved by the members of the Executive Committee and the ISI Director .

## **13 Amendments to the statutes**

13.1 Amendments to the Statutes can only be decided at the General Assembly meeting at the ISI World Statistics Congress.

13.2 Proposals for amending the Statutes can be submitted by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Council.

13.3 Proposals can also be submitted by individual members at least eight months before the General Assembly meeting and must be signed by at least 10 members.

13.4 The President shall ask the ISI Director to transmit the proposals and, in case of a proposal submitted under Article 13.3, the views of the Executive Committee to all members, this transmission to occur at least three months before the General Assembly.

13.5 The proposals for amendments shall be brought forward to the members, who shall be asked to express their opinions. The members may express their opinions electronically before the General Assembly, and may nominate voting proxies in accordance with Article 13.6.

13.6 Opinions shall be provided and proxies nominated at least 50 days before the General Assembly. The ISI Director shall be notified of all nominations for proxies within this period.

13.7 A majority of two thirds of the votes cast in person including by proxy is required for any amendment to be successful.

13.8 The dissolution of the Society or the alteration of the name of the Society shall be treated as an amendment to the Statutes of the Society.

## 14 Language

12.1 The working language of the Association shall be English.