

BOARD OF SPECIALTY SOCIETIES – OVERVIEW

<http://www.aaos.org/about/bos>

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

THE BOS EXISTS TO:

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 is led by four officers – secretary, chair-elect, chair, and past-chair. Each position is a one-year term. The secretary and chair-elect are elected each year by the BOS with the aid of its Nominating Committee. The chair is the immediate former chair-elect. The chair, chair-elect, and secretary serve on the AAOS Board of Directors. Candidates must be BOS representatives. The BOS officers shall assume the BOS liaison responsibilities within the AAOS Councils and Cabinet and provide updates to the BOS routinely. They evaluate and report the success of the restructuring annually to the BOS member organizations and the AAOS Board of Directors. If necessary, they refine the structure and procedures. Leadership will also form workgroups and project teams as needed.

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

There shall be a minimum of two representatives and a maximum of three representatives appointed from each BOS member organization.

- At minimum, one society member, who is an AAOS Fellow or Associate, and the executive director shall be required representatives. The AAOS Fellow or Associate shall serve one three-year term and shall be eligible for one additional three-year term.
- The remaining one representative shall be an AAOS Fellow or Associate who shall be a society board member or liaison to the society's board and shall serve one one-year term and shall be eligible for two additional one-year terms. The executive director will serve as a representative during his/her tenure as the society's lead staff member.

Each organization may appoint up to two society members as BOS representatives for its slotted seats. The executive directors of the member organizations are also BOS representatives. The term for the executive directors is for the duration of their employment with the society.

The slotted seats are as follows:

1. One Representative (with ties to the society's board)
2. One Representative
3. Executive Director Representative

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The BOS has several committees to enhance its vibrancy:

- Executive Director Forum
 - Discuss ideas and matters of common concern
- Fellowship Committee
 - Establish, promote, and monitor "common" fellowship elements, such as application forms and announcement dates
 - Serve as the orthopaedic fellowship information clearinghouse, including the match
 - Troubleshoot difficulties of development, implementation, or maintenance within individual subspecialty fellowship programs
 - Provide a forum for strategic discussions of fellowship issues and concerns of residents and orthopaedic residency and fellowship program directors
 - Increase transparency and communications regarding the fellowship process
 - Serve as a forum for discussion and resolution of concerns or conflicts, including those related to common accreditation requirements
 - Maintain and report fellowship data which includes demographics on applicants, fellows, outcomes, and results
 - Work with the subspecialty societies to facilitate the development and updating of guidelines and competency measures across specialty society fellowships
 - Create educational tools to enhance residents' knowledge of, and experience with, the orthopaedic fellowship process, subspecialties, and related topics
 - Provide any needed oversight of the centralized infrastructure supporting alternative accreditation pathways
 - Inform the AAOS Board of Directors of any fellowship issues
 - Oversee the development and implementation of the Fellowship Directors' Forum and its related activities
- Nominating Committee
 - Select at least one nominee for Chair-Elect and at least one nominee for Secretary for approval by the BOS member organizations

The BOS also works with the Board of Councilors on the following three BOC/BOS committees:

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

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE

The BOS committees and roundtables meet throughout the year. The BOS meets during the AAOS Annual Meeting, the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference, 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. BOS Representatives are expected to participate in the BOS Business Meeting.

Dates and locations:

- March 12-16, 2019 – Las Vegas, NV
- March 24-28, 2020 – Orlando, FL
- March 9-13, 2021 – San Diego, CA
- **National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC)**
The AAOS will assume travel costs, in accordance with the AAOS NOLC Travel Policy, for Representatives. BOS Representatives are expected 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.

Date and location:

- June 5-8, 2019 – Washington, DC
Future dates will be confirmed this spring
- **Fall Meeting**
The AAOS will assume travel costs, in accordance with the AAOS Fall Meeting Travel Policy, for Representatives. BOS Representatives are expected 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.

Dates and locations:

- October 24-26, 2019 – Nashville, TN
Future dates will be confirmed this spring.

For additional BOS information, visit <http://www.aaos.org/about/bos> or contact us at BOS@aaos.org

