2016 **BYLAWS with amendments for 2017**
OF
THE SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RADIOLOGY

**ARTICLE II**
**MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 6: Ethics and Discipline:** The SPR adheres to the ACR Code of Ethics which is intended to aid the radiology community, individually and collectively, in maintaining a high level of ethical conduct.

**Section 7: Principles of Ethics** form the first part of the Code of Ethics. They serve as goals of exemplary professional conduct for which members should constantly strive.

a. The principal objective of the medical profession is to render service to people with full respect for human dignity and in the best interest of the patient. Members should merit the confidence of patients entrusted to their care, rendering to each a full measure of service and commitment.

b. Members should strive continually to improve their medical knowledge and skill and make these improvements available to their patients and colleagues.

c. Members should at all times be aware of their limitations and be willing to seek consultations in clinical situations where appropriate. These limitations should be appropriately disclosed to patients and referring physicians.

d. The medical profession should safeguard the public and itself against physicians deficient in moral character or professional competence by reporting, to the appropriate body, without hesitation, perceived illegal or unethical conduct of members of the medical profession.

e. Members should uphold all laws, uphold the dignity and honor of the medical profession and accept its self-imposed discipline and deal honestly and fairly with patients and colleagues.

f. The honored ideals of the medical profession imply that responsibilities of members extend to society in general as well as their patients. These responsibilities include the interest and participation of members in activities that improve the health and well-being of the individual and the community.

g. Members may not reveal confidences entrusted to them in the course of medical attendance, or deficiencies they may observe in the character of patients, unless they are required to do so by law, or unless it becomes necessary to protect the welfare of the individual or of the community.

h. A physician who has not personally interpreted the images obtained in a radiological examination should not sign a report or take attribution of an interpretation of that examination rendered by another physician in a manner that causes the reader of a report to believe that the signing radiologist was the interpreter.

i. The decision to render a service by a diagnostic radiologist, radiation oncologist, interventional radiologist, nuclear medicine physician, or medical physicist is a matter of individual physician and patient choice governed by the best interest of the patient.

j. The traditional bond among diagnostic radiologists, radiation oncologists, interventional radiologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and medical physicists, particularly in their professional relationships with each other, is a powerful aid in the service of patients and should not be used for personal advantage.

**Section 8: Rules of Ethics** form the second part of the Code of Ethics. They are mandatory and directive of specific minimal standards of professional conduct for all members of the Society.

a. Members’ behavior should conform to high standards of ethical, legal, and professional conduct. Any activity that fails to conform to these standards compromises the member’s personal integrity and casts aspersions on the Society and the medical profession.

b. The practice of physicians referring patients to health care facilities in which they have a financial interest is not in the best interest of patients. Self-referral may improperly influence the professional judgments of those physicians referring patients to such facilities.

c. Members with ownership interests participating in such arrangements may be in violation of these Rules of Ethics.
d. Members shall relate to other members of the health care team with mutual respect and refrain from harassment or unfair discriminatory behavior.

e. In providing expert medical testimony, members should exercise extreme caution to ensure that the testimony provided is non-partisan, scientifically correct, and clinically accurate.

f. The member offering expert testimony shall not accept compensation that is contingent upon the outcome of litigation.

g. Radiologic research must be performed with integrity and be honestly reported.

h. Members should not claim as their intellectual property that which is not theirs. Plagiarism or the use of others’ work without attribution is unethical.

i. If the Society receives a complaint or request for disciplinary action against a member, the Society shall follow the procedures specified in its bylaws, rules or regulations for investigating and disposing of the matter.

j. If the matter is retained by the Ethics Committee, written notice shall be sent to the member in question by registered or certified mail at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to a meeting of the Committee (a) stating the time and place of the meeting, (b) informing the member of the nature of the complaint which will be considered, (c) advising that the member may then and there appear in person and/or by legal or other representative and may submit such evidence as the member deems appropriate, and (d) advising the member in question that failure to cooperate reasonably with an ethics investigation is independent grounds for disciplinary action. Following the meeting, the Ethics Committee shall notify in writing the chair of the Board of Directors and the member of its decision.

k. A member against whom disciplinary action is taken either upon the recommendation of the Ethics Committee may appeal the decision to the Judiciary Committee by mailing a written notice of appeal to the chair of the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of the mailing of notice of the adverse decision to the member in question.

l. Before the Judiciary Committee shall hear an appeal, the Judiciary Committee shall, by registered or certified mail notify the member in question not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to a meeting of the Judiciary Committee that the member may then and there appear in person and/or by legal or other representative to present such argument as the member deems proper to show that the disciplinary action taken should be reversed.

m. The Judiciary Committee shall determine whether the disciplinary action taken against a member is supported by the evidence and is the result of the fair procedures consistent with these bylaws. If so, the Committee shall affirm the disciplinary action. If not, the Judiciary Committee shall reverse the disciplinary action and either dismiss the case or return the case to the Ethics Committee with instructions for further proceedings. All actions of the Judiciary Committee shall be by majority vote.

n. The status of a member during disciplinary proceedings shall be unaltered.

Section 9. Termination of Membership: Membership in the Corporation shall be terminated by the Board of Directors for nonpayment of dues by the Ethics or Judiciary Committees for unethical conduct deemed detrimental to the Society. The SPR expects members to support the mission of the Society and exhibit a high standard of professionalism including adhering to the ACR Code Ethics and to the current ACR Practice Parameter on expert witness testimony. In any case where the Board of Directors Ethics or Judiciary Committees intends to terminate the membership of a member for unethical behavior deemed detrimental to the Society, a review shall have been performed as described in Article II, Sections 6-9 and the decision to terminate membership will be communicated to the Board and to the Member the Secretary of this Corporation shall notify the member by receipt documented mail within thirty (30) calendar days indicating therein the reason for proposed termination. The member shall have an opportunity to be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. The member must notify the Secretary of the Society, in writing, of the request to have the matter heard by the Board no fewer than 5 days prior to the Board meeting. If the member does not request a hearing or if the Board does not change its decision after hearing from the member, Board action to terminate membership is effective at the adjournment of that next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Section 2.11 Reinstatement of Membership: Members terminated for non-payment of dues may be reinstated upon payment of said dues. For Members terminated after Ethics issues, the process is as follows: one year after the action to terminate on ethical grounds, the affected Member may request consideration for reinstatement from the SPR Ethics Committee for review and recommendation. Once terminated, the member so notified may advise the President of this Corporation that he or she requests that a Judiciary Committee hearing be held. Following the hearing, the Judiciary Committee shall vote in secret ballot, and if by a two-thirds vote, the Judiciary Committee members elect to reinstate to Active membership, the member is reinstated as a member of the Society. In the event that the member fails to receive the necessary two-thirds vote of the Judiciary Committee, the Secretary shall so notify said
member by receipt documented mail within thirty (30) calendar days of the hearing. The member shall have no further right of appeal but may reapply for membership in two years from the date of the vote of termination by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**COMMITTEES**

**Section 3. Abstract Review Committee:** The Abstract Review Committee shall consist of the President as the Chair, the President-Elect as the Vice Chair, the First Vice President, the Second Vice President, the Secretary and up to three other active members in good standing, one appointed by the President each year as needed to conduct the review of abstracts submitted for the papers and posters, for a three year term to succeed a retiring member. In addition, the President may appoint several additional members for a one-year ad hoc term at his/her discretion. Duties of the Program Committee shall be to review the abstracts submitted for each annual program at the direction of the program committee chairman.

**Section 6. Ethics Committee:** The Ethics committee shall be appointed by the President and shall be composed of seven (7) Active members in good standing of this Corporation who are not members of the Board of Directors. Their term shall be for three years. One or two new members will be appointed annually to fill the vacancy(ies). The President shall appoint one member of the Committee to act as Chair for one year. The Ethics Committee will act in accordance with Article II of these Bylaws.

**Section 13. Community Hospital-Based Pediatric Radiologists Advocacy Committee:** the Community Hospital-Based Pediatric Radiologists Advocacy Committee will consist of seven members appointed by the president. Service on the committee will be for a three-year term, renewable for one subsequent term. The committee, through its chair, will assist the president by providing recommendations for topics, seminars, and/or speakers to serve the educational needs of community Hospital-Based Pediatric Radiologists. The committee will propose to the board of directors of the SPR means to improve communication among SPR members including, but not limited to, the hosting of a meeting at the annual SPR meeting.

**ARTICLE IX**

**MEETINGS**

**Section 4. Attendance at Meeting:** Attendance at the formal business portion of meetings shall be restricted to members and approved guests of this Corporation. Educational sessions of this Corporation may be open to non-members and guests upon approval by the Secretary or President. Requests for permission to invite guests other than trainees to attend the annual scientific meeting shall be made to the Secretary or President by any member of this Corporation.