Bylaws of the International Association for
Multibody System Dynamics

Adopted by the International Steering Committee
on July 1, 2014 in Busan, Korea
with changes on July 26, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal

PREAMBLE

The International Association for Multibody System Dynamics is a successor to the Joint International Conference on Multibody System Dynamics formed on May 26, 2010. It is the essential mission of the Association, to establish biannual international conferences on multibody dynamics that address computational mechanics, nonlinear dynamics and control design; to foster research on the dynamics of multibody systems and related fields; and to promote international cooperation between scientists and engineers in industry.

BYLAWS

Article 1 – NAME

1.1 The name of this organization is International Association for Multibody System Dynamics, which will hereafter be referred to by the initials IMSD.

1.2 The permanent address of the Reporting Secretary is the legal address of the Association.

Article 2 – OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of IMSD are to foster research on multibody dynamics and related fields, to promote international cooperation among scientists and engineers and to provide means for the public dissemination of the results from these efforts, e.g. in the form of scientific publications, sessions at various conferences, or by summer schools.

2.2 For this purpose, the Association shall, both solely and in cooperation with other bodies, hold an International Conference on Multibody System Dynamics generally every two years, and carry out any other activities deemed desirable and feasible to promote the stated objectives.

2.3 The IMSD is an international non-profit scientific organization operating without commercial interest.

Article 3 - THE INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

3.1 The International Steering Committee (ISC) shall consist of 15 members. The term of service of an ISC member is 2 years with the possibility of 2 re-elections. Serving as an Officer (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Reporting Secretary) does not count as a re-election term for the ISC.

3.2 The function of the International Steering Committee shall be:
(a) to manage the IMSD;
(b) to elect a Chairperson and Reporting Secretary;
(c) to elect its members;.
(d) to select date, place, and Conference Chairperson for each upcoming IMSD Conference;
(e) to delegate the local organization of each upcoming IMSD Conference to a Local Organizing Committee chaired and selected by the Conference Chairperson, who is also responsible to submit the final report on his/her conference;
(f) to decide about amendments to the Bylaws; and
(g) to consider any other matters affecting IMSD.

3.3 The International Steering Committee, in general, meets every year but at least during each IMSD Conference. These meetings can be held in presence, hybrid or in an online format.

3.4 Each member of the International Steering Committee shall have only one vote. A simple majority shall be effective for the selection of the Conference Chairperson of the upcoming IMSD Conference.

3.5 For matters requiring interim action by IMSD, proposal ballot may be used to make decisions. A majority vote of the full International Steering Committee is required for adoption.

3.6 The meetings of the ISC may be attended by guests who have been invited by the Chairperson. This should help, especially, the IMSD to involve former ISC members, future IMSD Conference Chairpersons, members of the Electoral Committee, or other persons who are actively supporting IMSD. Guests have no voting rights.

3.7 The International Steering Committee may appoint an Electoral Committee (EC) to compile a slate for the Chairperson to be elected, the Reporting Secretary, and 12 ISC members. The Electoral Committee will be chaired by the retiring IMSD Chairperson. The Electoral Committee may have up to four additional scientists active in the area of multibody dynamics who are not themselves officers of the ISC. The prepared proposal should ensure a wide diversity in represented regions and scientific areas of multibody dynamics. For this purpose the proposal can be split into groups. The officers should usually be elected uncontested.

Article 4 – CHAIRPERSON

4.1 The function of the Chairperson shall be:
(a) to preside over meetings of the International Steering Committee;
(b) to act on behalf of IMSD in the conduct of IMSD affairs in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by the International Steering Committee;
(c) to invite candidate recommendation from ISC members and EC members for the election of officers and members; and
(d) to chair the Electoral Committee.

4.2 The term of the Chairperson shall commence at the end of an IMSD Conference and continue through the next IMSD.

Article 5 – VICE-CHAIRPERSON

5.1 The Chairperson of the previous term serves automatically as Vice-Chairperson. The functions of the Vice-Chairperson shall be to assume the duties of the Chairperson in case the Chairperson is unavailable.

5.2 The term of the Vice-Chairperson shall commence at the end of an IMSD conference and continue through the next IMSD.

Article 6 – REPORTING SECRETARY

6.1 The function of the Secretary shall be:

(a) to be responsible to the International Steering Committee for the administrative management of IMSD and to submit to the ISC a report;

(b) to make all necessary preparations for meetings of the International Steering Committee;

(c) to maintain the records of each IMSD Conference; and

(d) to conduct the correspondence necessary to maintain the affairs of IMSD.

6.2 The term of the Reporting Secretary shall commence at the end of an IMSD Conference and continue through the next IMSD. The Reporting Secretary shall be eligible for re-election.

Article 7 - FINANCES

7.1 Members of the International Steering Committee shall be responsible for meeting their own expenses.

7.2 The financial arrangements associated with holding an IMSD Conference and other meetings shall be the responsibility, in each case, of the IMSD Conference Chairperson.

7.3 The foregoing shall not preclude any one from voluntarily contributing to the funds or to the organizing expenses of IMSD Conferences.

7.4 The association has no money, no bank account, and may not be involved in activities or contracts which might lead to any financial risks or obligations.

7.5 The liquidation of IMSD has to be decided by the ISC with 3/4 majority.

Article 8 – GENERAL

8.1 The official language of the IMSD shall be English.

8.2 The official journal of the IMSD is the 'Multibody System Dynamics' published by Springer.

8.3 IMSD is affiliated with the International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) providing essential support from theoretical and applied viewpoints.

Article 9 – AMENDMENTS

9.1 Adoption of any amendment to the present Bylaws shall require two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at the meeting of the International Steering Committee. Accepted amendments become effective after the meeting.

9.2 The proposed amendments shall be circulated to all members of the International Steering Committee at least one month before the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Article 10 - HONORARY FELLOWS

The International Association for Multibody System Dynamics may award appropriate individuals as Honorary Fellows of the IMSD, in recognition of work done by such individuals to further the objectives described in Article 2. Honorary Fellows shall be elected by the International Steering Committee and a certificate may be presented during the forthcoming IMSD.

Article 11 - FOUNDING MEMBERS of the Joint International Conference on Multibody System Dynamics, Lappeenranta, May 26, 2010

Kurt Anderson (USA, ASME)
Krzysztof Arczewski (Poland)
Olivier Bauchau (USA, ASME)
Carlo Bottasso (Italy)
Javier Cuadrado (Spain, IFToMM)
Peter Eberhard (Germany)
Caishan Liu (China)
John Mc Phee (Canada, IFToMM)
Aki Mikkola (Finland, Co-Chair)

Werner Schiehlen (Germany, Co-Chair, IFToMM)

Ahmed Shabana (USA, ASME)

Nobuyuki Shimizu (Japan, JSME)

Wan-Suk Yoo (Korea, KSME)