

## Statutes

### Heart Failure Working Group (HF WG)

### Working Group of the Swiss Society of Cardiology (SSC)

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#### Article 1 – Status and Affiliation

The Heart Failure Working Group (HF WG) is a working group of the Swiss Society of Cardiology (SSC).

The following documents are binding for the HF WG:

- Statutes of the Swiss Society of Cardiology<sup>1</sup>
- Regulations for the working/interest groups of the Swiss Society of Cardiology<sup>2</sup>
- Financial Regulations of the Swiss Society of Cardiology and its Working / Interest Groups<sup>3</sup>
- Regulations concerning obligations related to continuing education events and congresses of the Swiss Society of Cardiology and its Working / Interest Groups<sup>4</sup>

In the event of discrepancies, the statutes and regulations of the SSC shall prevail.

The HF WG complies with the applicable SSC Guidelines for Working Groups.

#### Article 2 – Objectives and Tasks

The HF WG covers the field of heart failure in its broadest sense.

Its objectives and tasks include in particular:

- promoting the quality of care, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart failure in Switzerland;
- disseminating scientific and clinical knowledge in the field of heart failure;
- organising and supporting continuing and postgraduate education activities;
- contributing to the development, dissemination and implementation of recommendations, guidelines and standards suitable for daily clinical practice;
- promoting interdisciplinary and interprofessional collaboration and network-based care;
- supporting and developing scientific, academic and clinical activities related to heart failure in Switzerland;
- representing the field of heart failure within the SSC and with national and international partner organisations, in coordination with the SSC.

The areas of palliative care in heart failure, heart failure nursing and cardio-oncology are affiliated with the HF WG in the form of sections.

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<sup>1</sup> [Statutes of the Swiss Society of Cardiology](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Regulations for the working/interest groups of the Swiss Society of Cardiology](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Financial Regulations of the Swiss Society of Cardiology and its Working/Interest Groups](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Regulations concerning obligations related to continuing education events and congresses of the Swiss Society of Cardiology and its Working/Interest Groups](#)

### Article 3 – Sections

The HF WG may establish or recognise affiliated specialty sections with permanent or temporary status covering specific subfields of heart failure. The establishment, recognition, modification or dissolution of a section requires the approval of the HF WG general assembly.

Affiliated sections operate in scientific coordination with the HF WG. Depending on their own organisation and subject to the approval of the HF WG Board and the SSC Board, they may have organisational and/or financial autonomy.

Affiliated specialty sections are represented on the HF WG Board by a single representative for all sections, appointed for a limited term and in accordance with the modalities defined by the HF WG Board.

### Article 4 – Membership

Membership of the HF WG is open to all members of the SSC with an interest in the field of heart failure.

Applications for membership must be submitted in writing to the HF WG Board and supported by two existing members of the HF WG (sponsors or “Paten” in German).

Admission of new members is decided by the General Assembly by a simple majority of the voting members present.

Applicants must be members of the SSC. The SSC membership categories with their designated voting rights apply accordingly to the HF WG membership.

### Article 5 – Bodies

The bodies of the HF WG are:

- the General Assembly;
- the HF WG Board.

### Article 6 – HF WG Board

The HF WG Board consists of:

- the President;
- the Vice-President;
- the Past President;
- the Treasurer;
- up to five additional Board members.

Representation of the five Swiss university hospitals should be sought whenever possible. Affiliated specialty sections will be represented in the Board by one representative for all sections according to modalities defined by the HF WG Board. Balanced representation of regions and language areas, genders, and different professional backgrounds and interests is sought.

The Board is elected by the General Assembly by simple majority for a two-year term. Board members are eligible for re-election, except for the President and Vice-President. Total Board membership shall not exceed ten years.

Candidates for the Board must be submitted to the incumbent Board at least six weeks before the General Assembly. All voting members of the HF WG are eligible.

The President and Vice-President are evaluated and proposed by the board and elected separately by the General Assembly for a two-year term. The Vice-President is generally proposed to the General Assembly as a candidate for President following completion of his or her term.

The Board may invite permanent or temporary guests to its meetings without voting rights, including a Past Presidents Committee, a Committee of Cardiologists in Private Practice, and a Committee of Young Cardiologists (SCOT members). These committees have an advisory role.

### **Article 7 – Responsibilities of the Board**

The Board manages the activities of the HF WG and takes all decisions not expressly reserved for the General Assembly.

It is responsible in particular for:

- implementing the objectives of the HF WG;
- organising meetings, scientific events and educational activities;
- coordinating the sections;
- administrative and financial management in accordance with SSC regulations;
- representing the HF WG vis-à-vis the SSC and external partners.

### **Article 8 – General Assembly**

The Board organises at least one General Assembly per year.

The agenda is prepared by the Board and circulated to members at least four weeks in advance.

The General Assembly is quorate regardless of the number of members present, unless otherwise provided by these statutes.

Decisions are taken by simple majority of the voting members present, unless otherwise specified.

### **Article 9 – Finances**

The financial resources of the HF WG are governed by the SSC Financial Regulations.

The Treasurer is responsible for financial management and reports to the Board and the General Assembly.

The introduction of any membership fee requires prior approval of the SSC Board and the approval of two-thirds of the voting members of the HF WG.

### **Article 10 – Amendments to the Statutes**

Amendments to these statutes require:

- approval by the General Assembly of the HF WG by a two-thirds majority of the voting members present;
- approval by the SSC Board.

Proposed amendments must be communicated to members in writing at least four weeks before the General Assembly.

## Article 11 – Dissolution

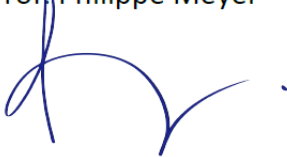
The HF WG General Assembly may decide with a two-thirds majority of the voting members present to request its dissolution by the SSC general assembly. In the event of dissolution, any remaining assets shall revert to the SSC.

## Article 12 – Final Provisions

These statutes were approved by the SSC Board on 10.06.2026 and by the General Assembly of the HF WG on 10.06.2026.

In these statutes, the masculine form refers to persons of all genders.

Prof. Philippe Meyer



President, HF WG

Dr. Michele Martinelli



President-elect, HF WG