

New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Committee

By-law

BY-LAW PURSUANT TO THE CONSITUTION OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A COLLEGE BODY

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Associated RACP Documents	Governance of College Body By-law, Appointments to College Bodies Policy, RACP Constitution
Applicability	Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

Note: This is a controlled document within the [RACP Policy Framework](#).

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Board of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has established the New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Committee (the “Committee”). The [Governance of College Bodies By-law](#) sets out the general provisions for governance of Board Committees. Both the Governance of College Bodies By-law and this By-law govern the Committee.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Committee is to advance the interest of local members in New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory (NSW/ACT) as policy and advocacy champions, facilitate and promote educational opportunities for Fellows and trainees within these jurisdictions and advocate on training matters within local hospitals and clinical settings.

3. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Committee include:

- a) Advocate for and lead the development of NSW/ACT based policy priorities.
- b) Facilitate effective connections with NSW/ACT governments and advocate on behalf of the College, Fellows and trainees with health or other portfolio Ministers on locally based issues.
- c) Contribute to College wide policy through nomination and participation on the College Policy and Advocacy Committee (CPAC) to represent NSW/ACT perspectives and to strategically shape the College’s policy and advocacy agenda – including bringing locally based policy challenges to the attention of CPAC.
- d) Advocate for and promote College-wide education priorities within NSW/ACT with Fellows, trainees, health authorities and relevant stakeholders.
- e) Contribute to College wide strategic direction through nomination and participation on the College Council to represent NSW/ACT perspectives and to strategically shape the College’s strategic agenda – including bringing the locally based policy challenges to the attention of the Council.
- f) Enable positive interactions and liaison points with health-related organisations and regulators to support initiatives that improve health outcomes for local communities and maintain standards of the profession for NSW/ACT Fellows and trainees.
- g) Seek to represent the College in the media on local issues following receipt of approval via the College’s media evaluation process.
- h) Recommend College representatives for nomination on external NSW/ACT bodies to the RACP President for approval.
- i) Facilitate and promote educational opportunities and deliver locally organised educational forums for Fellows and trainees within NSW/ACT.
- j) Provide insights to the College Education Committee and the Continuing Professional Development Committee on the needs of NSW/ACT members.

4. COMMITTEE PROHIBITIONS

The Committee must not:

- Enter into any agreement binding upon it or on the College; or
- Represent or imply in any way that the Committee is a body independent of the College.

5. MEMBER COMPOSITION

The Membership of the Committee shall comprise up to 11 members, who must be residing in New South Wales or Australian Capital Territory comprising of the following:

- Five elected members;
- Five appointed members; and
- A trainee representative appointed by the NSW/ACT Trainees' Committee which may be the Chair/Co-Chair or another representative (ex-officio).

Two of the 11 members of the Committee must reside in the Australian Capital Territory.

Board members may attend meetings of the Committee in the state/territory in which they reside, as observers.

5.1. Ex-officio Members

- A trainee representative appointed by the NSW/ACT Trainees' Committee which may be the Chair/co-Chairs or another representative.

5.2. Appointed Members

Up to five appointed members residing in New South Wales or Australian Capital Territory, nominated by the respective Division, Faculty or Chapter Body they are representing comprising at least one:

- Member of the Adult Medicine Division;
- Member of the Paediatrics and Child Health Division; and
- Member representing the Faculties.

5.3. Elected Members

Up to five elected members, residing in New South Wales or Australian Capital Territory elected by College members residing in New South Wales or Australian Capital Territory including at least one:

- Member of the Adult Medicine Division;
- Member of the Paediatrics and Child Health Division; and
- Member representing the Faculties.

5.4. Co-opted members

Co-opted members may be appointed for a particular purpose or term.

6. MEETING

This section is to be read in conjunction with the [Governance of College Bodies By-law](#).

6.1. Number of Meetings

The College Body shall hold a minimum of five meetings per calendar year and shall meet by teleconference or videoconference with an allowance of two face-to-face meetings.

6.2. Chair

The Chair or their appointee will Chair all meetings.

6.3. Quorum

A quorum is one half of the total College Body membership.

6.4. Voting

Decisions will be made by consensus of the majority of members.

6.5. Minutes

The proceedings of all meetings of the Committee shall be recorded in the minutes.

6.6. Secretariat

Meeting agenda, supporting papers and minutes or outcomes will be provided prior to the date of the meeting.

6.7. Committee/Council Reviews

The Committee/Council are to undertake a skill and experience review annually.

The Committee/Council are to review their performance against this By-law every two years.

7. REPORTING

The Committee must report and make recommendations to the College Council as required.

The Committee is required to provide to the College Council each year:

- a new or updated work plan (work plans may be one or two years)
- a report against the preceding years' work plan.

8. REVIEW OF BY-LAW

This By-law will be reviewed every three years.

9. DEFINITIONS

Term	Means
Board	The Board of Directors of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
College	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, an incorporated body limited by guarantee ACN 000 039 047.
College Body	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.
Ex-officio	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Fellow	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.
Member of the College	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Parent Body	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Trainee	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.

10. HISTORY

Commencement		
This By-law was approved by the College Board and commenced on 13 October 2017.		
Revision	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	13/10/2017	The initial version of this By-law was approved by the Board of the College on the 13 October 2017
2.0	1/7/2018	<p>Addition of sub-clause 2.2.4 – Board members may attend meetings of the Regional Committee in the State/Territory in which they reside as observers</p> <p>Sub-clause 2.21 amended from Four (or six if representation of each Faculty preferred) to Five, and removal of trainee dot point</p> <p>Sub-clause 2.2.2 amendment from Six (or Four if Faculties represented individually) to Five appointed members nominated by the respective Division, Faculty or Chapter Body they are representing</p> <p>Addition of clause 2.2.5 – two of the eleven members of the Committee must be resident in the ACT</p> <p>Subclause 3.1 Amended from “quarterly” to “as required” as the Committee provides its minutes at each Board meeting as part of the of the Minutes and reports for noting – any other reporting to be done on an as needs basis</p>
3.0	17/12/2021	<p>Following the Governance Review the templates and structure of the Board Committee by-laws have been updated to reflect current governance practice. The purpose and member composition remain the same.</p> <p>Consolidation of the number of functions listed in the initial By-law from 17 to 10 in the newly drafted By-law since some were similar in content</p> <p>The following sections are contained in the Governance of College Bodies By-law. To avoid duplication and potential for inconsistency between the committee By-law and the Governance of College Bodies By-law, the following sections are proposed to be removed from the committee By-law:</p> <p>2.3 Chair</p> <p>2.4 Election and Term</p>

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		2.5 Working Groups The Board approved the revised By-law on 17/12/2021
4.0	27/07/2022	Added allowance for an additional face to face meeting after the request from the regional Committees and approval from the CEO.
5.0	1/9/2022	Transferred into new template
6.0	26/5/2023	Removal of the word “Regional” from the title of the committee and all of the content of this By-Law
7.0	30 May 2025	Changed reporting line from RACP Board to College Council.