



Statutes of the European Lipoprotein Club (ELC)

Draft for approval at the General Assembly of the European Lipoprotein Club's 47th Scientific Meeting, Tutzing, Germany, September 09-12, 2024

Article 1 – Style

The European Lipoprotein Club (ELC) was founded in 1977, and is registered in Sweden as a charitable non-profit organization.

Article 2 – Objectives

The mission is to enhance scientific communication within the research area of lipoprotein metabolism and cardiovascular disease, through organization of a yearly international scientific meeting.

Article 3 – Membership

The European Lipoprotein Club is based on individual membership. Scientists and students ~~residing in Europe or neighbouring countries~~, who are engaged in activities in line with the objectives stipulated in Article 2, may apply to attend the scientific meeting to present their work. Every participant at the annual meeting becomes a member of the Club. **The number of Members shall be unlimited. A Member shall undertake to comply with the ELC objectives and these bylaws.**

Membership can be withdrawn at any time by notice to the Organizing Committee.

Article 4 – Organization

The yearly meeting is arranged by an Organizing Committee.

The organizing committee may appoint an Administrative coordinator to assist with the running of the Society business.

Article 5 - Organizing Committee

a) Election of the Members of the Organizing Committee

Membership of the Organizing Committee is based on ballot elections held at the annual meeting. Every participant in the scientific meeting, including committee members have one vote at the ballot. The Organizing Committee proposes 1-4 candidates for election. The committee should strive towards diversity of scientific competence among its members and consideration should also be made on grounds of geographical spread of candidates and existing Organizing Committee members and gender balance.

b) Periods of office for Organizing Committee members

Membership of the Organizing Committee is for a five-year period.

c) Organizing Committee members' duties

The Organizing Committee members are responsible for;

- the fundraising to run the scientific meeting
- the content of the website (<https://eas-elc.org/>)
- deciding the criteria on which the scientific contributions to the meeting are selected
- the selection of scientific contributions to the annual meeting
- the practical arrangements for the scientific meeting

d) Election of Officers

The ELC has two official appointments, the Chairman and the Treasurer, who are elected by the members of the Organizing Committee from among the Organizing Committee members.

e) *Periods of office for Officers*

The Chairman and the Treasurer serve a five-year period.

f) *Officers' duties*

- i. The responsibility of the chairman is to organize the yearly meeting and the twice yearly committee meetings, and to organize fundraising in close collaboration with the committee members.
- ii. The responsibility of the Treasurer is to handle accumulated ELC assets and to make sure that costs incurred by arranging the scientific meeting are covered by the assets.
- iii. The chairman, treasurer and, if appointed, the ELC Administrative coordinator hold the signing right to the ELC bank accounts.

Article 6 – Finances

The liability of the ELC shall be limited to its own assets and members shall not be personally liable for debts incurred by the ELC. The Treasurer, the Chairman, and, if appointed, the Administrative coordinator can each officially sign contracts and legal or financial documents for the ELC.

Article 7 – General Rules

The annual Members' Assembly shall be held during the annual scientific meeting. Members shall be notified of the date and place of the next annual Members' Assembly at least 1 month in advance. Documents to be discussed at the Members' Assembly shall be posted on the ELC website at least 1 week in advance of the Members' Assembly and protocols from each meeting shall be posted on the ELC website within 1 month of the annual Members' Assembly.

Members shall be notified of the date of the next annual voting for Officers and members of the Organizing committee at least 1 month in advance. This information shall be available on the ELC website.

At the annual General Assembly, the Chairman shall report on the activities performed by the ELC during the preceding year.

The following matters shall be decided by the Members' Assembly:

- a. Proposed amendments to the ELC bylaws
- b. Election of new Organizing Committee Members (when applicable)
- c. Power of signature

Notwithstanding the above, the Organizing Committee may present other topics for discussion without organizing a vote on the subject.

Article 8 – Code of Conduct Compliance

Members must accept and adhere to the ELC's Code of Conduct. Failure to comply may result in exclusion from the ELC. Each case will be evaluated individually according to the ELC's established procedures.

Article 9 – Dissolution

The ELC can only be dissolved with the agreement of two-thirds of the members. Any residual funds not allocated to a specific project at the time of dissolution shall be used for research purposes within lipid and lipoprotein metabolism and its associated metabolic diseases/disorders. Under such circumstances an open call would be made among Ordinary Members for research projects, and allocation of funds is to be determined by the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee may, at its own discretion, elect to appoint one or more external officer to execute the dissolution in a proper manner and in line with applicable laws and regulations.

Article 10 – Alterations and Amendments

- a) Any alteration, addition or amendment to the above by-laws must be circulated to all members at least one month in advance of the next Members' Assembly. This information shall be available on the ELC website.

- b) If special reasons require, voting on alteration and/or amendments to the by-laws may be performed electronically. A member of the ELC shall then be selected by the Organizing Committee to monitor and review the voting result for accuracy. Alterations and amendments approved via an electronically-facilitated referendum must be verified by voting at the next Members' Assembly to become permanent.
- c) The changes require the agreement of two-thirds of the voting members.

Article 11 – Conflicts

The Society operates under Swedish law and conflicts should be handled, if not otherwise specified in signed contracts, by Swedish courts, where the district court of Gothenburg shall be the first instance.