



DENTASA Constitution

The CONSTITUTION of The Dental Technology Association of South Africa

1. NAME

The name of The Association shall be:

THE DENTAL TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION of SOUTH AFRICA abbreviated as DENTASA and hereafter referred to as “The Association”.

2. HEAD OFFICE

The Head Office of The Association shall be situated in Pretoria or such other place as decided by the executive committee.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of The Association shall be:

- To promote the interests of members of The Association – **Unity of Purpose**
- To encourage the settlement of disputes by conciliatory methods – **Accountability**
- To promote, support or oppose as it may be deemed, expedient any proposed legislation
- To use every legitimate means to persuade all persons who are eligible for membership to become members – **Leadership**
- To co-operate with other associations in dealing with matters affecting members – **Professionalism**
- To maintain a code of Ethical practise amongst its members
- To promote equality and diversity – **Respect for diversity**
- DENTASA is an advocacy group for the profession of Dental Technology.

4. LEGAL STATUS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association is a voluntary, non-profit organisation and is registered as a Section 21 Company with the Department of Trade and Industry.

The Association shall:

- a) Exist in its own right, separately from its members.
- b) Continue to exist even when its membership changes and there are different office bearers.
- c) Be able to own property and other possessions.
- d) Be able to sue and be sued in its own name.

5. INCOME AND PROPERTY

The following pertains to income and property:

- a) The Association will keep records of everything it owns.
- b) The Association may not give any of its money or property to its members or office bearers. The only time it can do this is when it pays for work that a member or office bearer has done for the Association.
- c) A member of the Association can only get money back from the Association for expenses that he/she has paid for or paid on behalf of the Association
- d) Members/office bearers do not have rights over things that belong to the Association.

6. STRUCTURE

6.1. Board of Directors – Accountability

The board of directors:

- a) Must consist of at least five registered dental technicians nominated and appointed by the Executive Committee and Branch Committees plus two non-executive directors appointed by the Board of Directors.
- b) Will ensure that The Association functions according to the constitution and laws of the country.
- c) Will ensure that the Executive Committee completes its mandates on time.
- d) Is instrumental in arbitration.
- e) May be remunerated for attending Board of Directors meetings.
- f) May appoint a Chief Executive Officer.
- g) The management of the affairs of The Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors.
- h) May appoint the Chair of the Board.

6.2. Executive Committee – Leadership & Unity of Purpose

The following pertains to the Association's Executive Committee:

- a) The Committee will be made up of at least eleven members which will consist of the following office bearers:
 - Executive Chairperson
 - Executive Vice Chairperson
 - Treasurer
 - Chairpersons of each branch
- b) The members of the Executive Committee so elected shall hold office for a period of four years.
- c) Members shall be eligible for re-election at the end of their period of office.
- d) Office bearers may not serve more than two consecutive term periods.
- e) A member of the Executive Committee shall vacate his/her seat while under investigation.
- f) The Executive Committee may appoint sub-committees and ad hoc committees
- g) The Executive Committee's activities must abide by the laws of the country.

6.3. Branches – Leadership & Unity of Purpose

- a) Branches shall be established according to the demographics of DENTASA members.

1.4. Each Branch Committee shall consist of a minimum of five office bearers:

- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- A member

7. MEMBERSHIP

The following pertains to memberships to the Association:

- a) Open to all technicians/technologists/students registered at and in good standing with the South African Dental Technicians Council and honorary and life membership recipients.

“To promote Transparency”

7a) (i) Types of membership includes:

- Dental Manufacturing Facility
- Dental Technician / Technologist
- Student
- Honorary member
- Life Member

“Membership to the Association promotes professionalism in the industry”

8. SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription and/or levies will be adjusted annually.

9. RESIGNATION

A member may resign by giving 21 working days notice in writing to the Secretary. Such a member will be liable to pay all outstanding monies.

10. MEETINGS

The following pertains to meetings to be held by the Association:

- a) Board of Directors meetings: A minimum of three meetings per annum shall be held.
- b) Executive Committee meetings: These shall be held at least once a month and not less than eleven meetings per annum.
- c) Annual General Meeting: This shall be held once per year
- d) Special meetings: Special meetings can be called.

– Accountability and Leadership

11. DECISION TAKING

All decision taking shall be by majority vote.

“The only way to success is through successful Leadership”

12. QUORUM

- a) Executive committee: A quorum for the executive committee shall consist of fifty percent plus one.
- b) Annual General Meeting: A quorum at an Annual General Meeting shall consist of at least ten percent of the total membership.
- c) Proxy votes shall be allowed.

Respect for Diversity

13. REPORTS

- a) Annual reports will be compiled by the Board of Directors.
- b) Monthly reports will be compiled by the Executive Committee.
- c) Branch reports will be compiled by the Branch Chairperson after every branch meeting.

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14. DISCIPLINARY CODE

Disciplinary codes shall be in accordance with the Labour Relations Act.

Accountability & professionalism

15. FINANCIALS

- a) Financial statements: Audited annual financial statements shall be made available.

Transparency

16. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following pertains to the dissolution of the Association:

- a) The Association may be disbanded if at least two thirds of the members are present and voting at a meeting convened for the purpose of considering such a matter, are in favour of disbanding.

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17. AMENDMENTS

An amendment to the Constitution shall only be passed at a full Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

Please refer to policies and procedures.

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