

1                   **CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST CHAPTER OF THE**  
2                   **AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE (SWACSM)**

3                   **ARTICLE 1: NAME AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREA**

4                   **Section 1:** Name

5                   The name of the organization is the "Southwest Chapter of the American College of  
6 Sports Medicine" (**SWACSM**). **SWACSM** is a regional chapter of the American College  
7 of Sports Medicine (**ACSM**). **ACSM** is the parent national association.

8                   **Section 2:** Geography

9                   The geographic area includes the states of: (1) Arizona, (2) California, (3)  
10 Hawaii, (4) Nevada, (5) New Mexico, and (6) Utah.

11                  **Section 3:** Restructuring

12                  Any restructuring of the geographical area will follow **ACSM** guidelines.

13                  **ARTICLE 2: PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES**

14                  Underlying these purposes and objectives is a philosophy that encourages the  
15 intellectual growth and technical expertise of the membership and those with whom this  
16 membership relates.

17                  **Section 1:** Purposes

18                  The primary purpose of this multi-disciplinary professional and scientific organization is  
19 to fulfill the purposes and objectives of the American College of Sports Medicine as are  
20 appropriate at the regional level. Thus, **SWACSM** promotes the generation and dissemination  
21 of knowledge concerning the motivation, responses, adaptations and health aspects of persons  
22 engaged in sport and exercise. The major areas of concern are:

- 23                  • Basic physiological, biochemical, biomechanical, structural and behavioral mechanisms.
  - 24                  • Improvement and maintenance of functional capacities for daily living.
  - 25                  • Prevention and rehabilitation of chronic and degenerative diseases.
  - 26                  • Evaluation and conditioning of athletes.
  - 27                  • Prevention and treatment of injuries related to sport and exercise.
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35 **Section 2: Objectives of ACSM and SWACSM**

36 The objectives include some that are shared jointly by **ACSM** and **SWACSM**, whereas  
37 others are uniquely suited for the regional chapter.

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39 **Subsection 2.1. Objectives Shared by ACSM and SWACSM**

- 40
- 41 • Promotion and advancement of scholarly studies or reviews dealing with the  
42 effects of sport and exercise on the health and physical performance of humans.
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- 44 • Mutual cooperation with other organizations, physicians, scientists, and  
45 educators having similar interests in sport/exercise science.
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- 47 • Organization of meetings, workshops, clinics, and conferences for physicians,  
48 educators, allied health professionals, scientists, and students interested in exercise  
49 science.
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- 51 • Develop and implement educational programs in the areas of interest to the College  
52 for physicians, allied health professionals, scientists, teachers, coaches, athletes,  
53 and the general public.
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- 55 • Provide encouragement and opportunities for financial support of students and post-  
56 graduates in the field of sport/exercise science.
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58 **Subsection 2.2. Objectives Uniquely Suited for SWACSM**

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- 60 • Introduce students to **ACSM**.
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- 62 • Introduce non-member professionals to **ACSM**.
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- 64 • Develop potential leaders for **ACSM**.
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- 66 • Broaden the base of participation in **ACSM** activities in the areas of public education,  
67 continuing education, public relations, and health and science policy.
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- 69 • Promote the benefits of **ACSM** membership.
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72 **ARTICLE 3: ORGANIZATION**

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74 **Section 1: Status**

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76 The **SWACSM** is a non-profit organization founded in 1982 (based on the date of the  
77 written Bylaws) and officially granted permanent status by **ACSM** in 1985.

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79 **Section 2: Board of Trustees Members**

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81 The Board of Trustees consists of the President Elect, President, and Past President, at  
82 least five Members-at-Large, a representative to the **ACSM** Regional Chapters Committee, a  
83 Student Representative, an Executive Director, an Associate Executive Director, if necessary, and  
84 any appointed members.

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86 Except for the Student Representative, all members of the Board of Trustees (hereafter referred  
87 to as the "Board") must be Professional Members of the American College of Sports Medicine and  
88 **SWACSM**. The Student Representative must be a Student Member of **SWACSM** and **ACSM** when  
89 starting the term of office.

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92 **Section 3:** Board Duties

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94 The Board implements the business of the membership and the policies of the Chapter as  
95 prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws.

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98 **Section 4:** Elections

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100 Elections for President Elect and Members-at-Large are held annually. The candidates receiving  
101 the majority of votes cast are elected. The President Elect and Members-at-Large are elected by the  
102 membership.

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105 **Section 5:** Appointments

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107 The Regional Chapter Representative is selected by the Board. The appointment will  
108 normally be made from those who have previously been President of the **SWACSM** Chapter. The  
109 President Elect will select the Student Representative to serve concurrently with the President  
110 Elect.

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112 The Executive Director and, if necessary, the Associate Executive Director are appointed by the  
113 Board. The Board has the power to retain or remove either of these officers or any other  
114 appointed officer at any time for cause by a simple majority vote.

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117 **Section 6:** Office Terms

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119 The terms of office for the elected officers shall be one year for the Presidents (President  
120 Elect, President, Past President) and three years for Members-at-Large, and the Regional Chapter  
121 Representative. Every President will serve one year as President-Elect, one year as President and one  
122 year as Past-President. The term for the Student Representative is one year. Term year shall be  
123 from one **SWACSM** annual meeting to the next **SWACSM** annual meeting.

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126 **Section 7:** Office Vacancies

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128 Any vacancy or absence in the office of the President will be filled by the Past-President.  
129 Vacancies in any other office shall be filled by appointment by the President, with the approval of the  
130 Board. The appointee will serve until the completion of the elected term.

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133 **Section 8:** Officer Removal

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135 The elected officers may be removed by the Board, following the procedures for removal  
136 described in the Bylaws.

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**Section 9:** Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of **SWACSM** shall be from January 1 through December 31.

**ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** Membership Qualifications

Membership to **SWACSM** is open to any person meeting the qualifications as described in the **SWACSM** Bylaws. The membership categories are described in the national **ACSM** and **SWACSM** Bylaws.

**Section 2:** Membership Term

The duration of the membership is one calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Student membership is included in the annual meeting registration and is valid until the next annual meeting.

**ARTICLE 5: AMENDMENTS**

Changes to the **SWACSM** Constitution may be initiated by the general **SWACSM** Membership according to the following procedure.

- At least five members of the Chapter who are also **ACSM** Fellow members sign the written proposal for the amendment(s).
- All proposals must be presented in writing to the Executive Director at least 60 days prior to a Board meeting.
- The proposed amendment(s), after approval by the Board, will be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting's business session and, possibly, prior to the Annual Meeting via internet or **SWACSM** Newsletter.
- A two-thirds affirmative vote by the Members attending the Annual Meeting's business session is required to adopt any amendment.

**ARTICLE 6: DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER**

If for any reason the **SWACSM** chapter becomes dissolved, the debts and assets of the Chapter shall be transferred to the American College of Sports Medicine.

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