



Special General Meeting – 23 February 2010

Overview of proposed changes

Document	Section No.	Proposed changes*
Constitution	Section 14	In the existing Constitution, Section 14.1 to 14.8 contains detail pertaining to the powers of the ASA Board to suspend or expel members. The wording is ambiguous and subject to interpretation. In the proposed Constitution, Section 14.1 will replace the entire Section 14, deferring the process of complaints handling to the Code of Professional Conduct.
Code of Professional Conduct	Section 1: Overview	Existing paragraph retained. Two paragraphs added to outline the powers of the Disciplinary Committee and Appeal Panel, as well as enabling ASA members to use the term "ASA certified sonographer" or "ASA certified student sonographer".
	Section 2: Scope	Content updated only or unchanged.
	Section 3: Objectives	Wording has been strengthened within this section. "Breaches of the Code by Sonographers will be investigated and appropriate action taken" added at the end of the fourth paragraph.
	Section 4: Definitions	The following definitions have been added: Appeal Panel, CEO, Chair, Complainant, Disciplinary Committee, Independent Investigator, Law, Material Breach, Respondent, Technical Breach.
	Section 5: Professional Conduct	Updates of terminology and to incorporate the regulatory requirements of our New Zealand members. Addition of Sections (l) relating to resolution of concerns, and (m) requiring co-operation with committees investigating complaints.
	Section 6: Examination technique and protocol	Content updated only or unchanged.
	Section 7: Reporting technique and protocol	Content updated only or unchanged.
	Section 8: Patient care	Content updated only or unchanged.
	Section 9: Privacy and information security	Content updated only or unchanged.



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Section 10: Conflict of Interest	Content updated only or unchanged.
Section 11: Non-discriminatory practices	Content updated only or unchanged.
Section 12: Confidentiality	Content updated only or unchanged.
Section 13: Compliance with laws	Content updated only or unchanged.
Section 14: Treatment of colleagues	Section 14.1 (d) now incorporates the requirement for Sonographers to promote awareness of and adherence to the Code
Section 15: Sonographer and Society	Content unchanged, though re-ordered
Section 16: Research and Clinical Teaching	Content updated only or unchanged.
Section 17: Role of the Code Administration Committee	This section has been renamed "Role of the Disciplinary Committee". Content unchanged, though re-ordered.
Section 18: Reporting of non-compliance	Updated to reflect the new complaints handling process and consistency of terminology.
Section 19: Determination of non-compliance	This section has been renamed "Complaints and Appeals Process". It has been substantially changed, and now reflects the proposed four-stage complaints and appeals process. This process has been documented as a flowchart to enable readers to readily identify all possible steps of the complaints handling process .
Section 20: Corrective action for non-compliance	This section is largely unaltered, it has been re-ordered and includes the option for publication of breaches.
Section 21: Monitoring the operation of the Code and reporting	Content updated only or unchanged.

*Where content has been noted to be unchanged or updated only, this indicates that some wording may have been changed. Such changes will not affect the operation of the Code and are proposed to provide consistency across our documentation.