ELECTORAL REGULATIONS FOR ITALIAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY’S (IPS) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Art. 1 - All Members of IPS who have regularly paid their membership fees at the time of voting are entitled to take part in the elections. The list of those entitled to vote will be published, and regularly updated, in the Members Area of IPS website.

Art. 2 - All Members who have regularly paid their membership fees for at least one year are entitled to stand for election as officers of the Society, therefore they have the right to vote and stand. Once the Assembly held to elect Society officers has been convened (see the following Art. 3), Members who want to submit their nomination as officer candidates shall do so by explicitly informing the IPS President at least 45 days prior to the Assembly date. The outgoing President will ensure the regularity of all received nominations. Timely notice will be given of all nominations, through the official means of IPS.

Art. 3 - The Assembly held to elect Society officers must be convened by the President of IPS, with the consent of the Council, via an announcement published, at least six months prior to the Assembly date, in “Il Nuovo Saggiatore”.

Art. 4 - Elections of officers for the IPS consist of three steps: election of an Electoral Commission, balloting, and the declaration of election results.

Art. 5 - The Electoral Commission is composed of one President and four Members and is elected by the Assembly by a simple majority in an open ballot.

Art. 6 - Upon election, the Electoral Commission Members immediately assume their responsibilities and the President of the Electoral Commission becomes the President of the Assembly.

Art. 7 - The Electoral Commission appoints a Secretary chosen from among Commission Members; the Secretary is responsible for drafting the minutes of Assembly sessions and elections.

Art. 8 - At the start of the Electoral Assembly for the election of officers, the President of the Electoral Commission acting as President of the Assembly communicates the list of Members who presented their nominations as officer candidates in accordance with Art. 2, and coordinates the subsequent discussion on the aforementioned nominations.

Art. 9 - The President of the Electoral Commission will determine the opening and closing time of the voting station, to last 48 hours from the start of the Electoral Assembly. The aforementioned President will also determine the time for re-opening the Assembly after the counting of the votes and the list of newly elected officers (see Art. 17, below) has been completed. The duration will not in any case be more than 14 hours from the closing of the voting station.

Art. 10 - The electronic-only voting system (see the following Art. 11, Art. 12 and Art. 13) allows to vote for:
1) Candidates for the election of the President,
2) Candidates for the election of Council Members.

Art. 11 - The electronic voting system lists the names and surnames of the candidates to choose for the election. The voting system does not allow more than one vote for the President nor more than three for Council Members.

Art. 12 - The voting station is equipped with online access stations for electronic voting. Each Member with voting right, upon verification of her/his compliance with the requirements of Art. 1, can only vote online at the voting station. The vote is cast electronically in a protected area of a webpage suitably set up by IPS. Members can access it by a personal password. In that protected area Members are allowed to vote for the President and Council Members also with other Members’ voting proxy.

Art. 13 - An e-mail message with the e-voting procedure and the candidates list will be sent to all IPS Members compliant with the requirements of Art. 1, not later than one month prior to the Electoral Assembly. Should a Member renew his/her membership after that date, but still within the opening of the e-voting station, as determined by the Electoral Commission (see Art. 9), she/he will straightaway receive the aforementioned message. Right after receiving that message Members can cast their electronic vote remotely. As specified in Art. 12 Members can vote online in a protected area of a webpage suitably set up by IPS. Members can access it by a personal password. In that protected area Members are allowed to vote for the President and Council Members. Remote e-voting can be cast within the opening of the voting station. Alternatively, each Member can electronically transmit to another Member her/his proxy within the opening of the voting station, in order that she/he can vote on her/his behalf at the voting station as stated in Art. 12. Members giving their proxies as well as members receiving them must comply with the requirements of Art. 1.

Art. 14 - When voting has been completed, the counting of e-votes begins. Members of the Electoral Commission not otherwise covering the roles of President and of Secretary, oversee the process.

Art. 15 - A list of those for whom votes were cast is compiled showing the number of votes for each Member for the offices of President or Council Member. The votes obtained for one office cannot be combined with the votes cast for another office.

Art. 16 - The Electoral Commission is responsible for ensuring the regularity of the electoral procedure. The Commission can take profit of the IT technical assistance of the Society.

Art. 17 - When all the vote counting has been performed and the list of those for whom votes were cast has been completed, the President of the Electoral Commission, as President of the Assembly, will re-open the Assembly (see Art. 9) and read the results of the ballot.

Art. 18 - When the reading of the voting results has been completed, the President of the Assembly will declare elected those members who have obtained an absolute majority of votes for the respective offices. Members not receiving an absolute majority will be treated as indicated in Art. 19 and Art. 20.

Art. 19 - In cases where none of the candidates for the office of President has obtained an absolute majority, the President of the Assembly will propose that the Assembly ratify the election of the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes for this office. Voting for ratification is done by a show of hands after any voting declarations. If ratification obtains an absolute majority of those voting, including proxies, the member in question will be elected President of IPS. If an absolute majority is not obtained at ratification, new elections must be called. The outgoing President remains in office until new elections take place.

Art. 20 - In cases where one or all of those standing for the office of Council Member have still not obtained an absolute majority, the Assembly will decide by ratification as per Art. 19, voting for the number of members needed to complete the Council. If this procedure is unsuccessful, new elections must be called for those Council positions not filled. These places will be temporarily covered by the Council Members who have obtained the highest number of votes in the previous election and who are presently Members of the Council.

Art. 21 - The Council elects the Vice-President during its first sitting. If the President resigns or is permanently hindered from exercising his office, the Vice-President will call for the election of a new President at the next ordinary Assembly in accordance with the general stipulations of these electoral regulations. The same procedure applies to the election of new Council Members to replace Council Members who have resigned or are permanently hindered from exercising their office.

Art. 22 - The Council elects a Treasurer from among the Council members.

Art. 23 - The Council appoints, every three years and usually not more than twice, the Vice-Directors of the IPS scientific journals: Il Nuovo Cimento, La Rivista del Nuovo Cimento, Giornale di Fisica and il Nuovo Saggiatore.