



## **IFSSH Newsletter**

### **January 2022**

### **Message from the Secretary-General: S. Raja Sabapathy**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of our Federation, I wish all of you and your families a very Happy and Healthy 2022. It is said that the pandemic has changed the way people look at things. Surprisingly, many things which we valued have not changed. In fact they have become more relevant and important than ever before. One such is our wish to have in person meetings. We have come to realise even though knowledge can be shared in better ways now using technology, nothing can compensate the fellowships we enjoyed and the moments shared when we met at the IFSSH Congresses. Hopefully we will all be able to meet in June in London.

Before that we do have quite a lot of business to accomplish. They are consistent with our goals to make the IFSSH more valuable and relevant to all the stakeholders. The ExCo members have also been working constantly in that direction. You will find a lot of deadlines, updates and new schemes in this newsletter. While the newsletter gives you a snapshot of the various events, policies, and procedures I would urge you to use the links given to have the full details of the issue in question.

### **2022 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting**

The 2022 IFSSH Delegates' Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. This will take place in London, in conjunction with the triennial IFSSH congress.

We look forward to welcoming the delegates from all IFSSH member nations and discussing the activities and plans of our Federation. We ask that all societies check the IFSSH Member Nations page ([https://ifssh.info/member\\_nation.php](https://ifssh.info/member_nation.php)) and ensure their delegate details are current and correct. Please note that the 2022 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting will include a number of items to be decided by vote and societies must be in good financial standing to participate in these matters. Please contact the secretariat ([administration@ifssh.info](mailto:administration@ifssh.info)) with alterations and questions.

### **2022 Elections: Executive Committee and Nominating Committee members**

At the 2022 Congress, the IFSSH Delegates' Council will elect the following officers to join the IFSSH Executive Committee:

- the incoming Secretary-General;
- a Communications Director; and

- 5 ExCo Members-at Large (regional representation)

In addition, outside of the Executive Committee, but to specifically be a part of the Nominating Committee only:

- 2 Nominating Committee Members-at-Large

The full position descriptions and application processes for these positions have been distributed to all society delegates. These are also listed on the IFSSH website <https://ifssh.info/2022-elections.php>. All societies should consider the essential and desirable qualities for the positions when considering nominations.

**Nominations may now be submitted.** Applications must be received by the secretariat ([administration@ifssh.info](mailto:administration@ifssh.info)) by **6<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**.

### **2028 IFSSH Congress: Bidding Societies**

Under the revised congress host guidelines, societies wishing to host the 2028 IFSSH Congress (to be held in the Asian-Pacific region) were required to register their intent to bid by 6<sup>th</sup> December. We are pleased to announce that the following three societies will bid to host this Congress:

- **Association of Chinese-speaking Hand Surgeons United**
- **Japanese Society for Surgery of the Hand**
- **Singapore Society for Hand Surgery**

These societies will now prepare their proposals and must forward their full bid documents to each IFSSH Delegate by **6<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**. Voting will occur at the 2022 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting.

### **IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery**

The IFSSH Executive has approved a new initiative to promote the sharing of knowledge: the IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery. Over a period of 3 days (minimum), hand surgery topics of interest will be discussed from basic principles to the recent trends.

We now invite applications from IFSSH member societies to host the course. The Mid-Term Course encourages further geographical representation by restricting applications to those regions not hosting the preceding or subsequent IFSSH triennial congress. With the 2022 Congress being held in London and the 2025 Congress in Washington, D.C., we invite applications from the **South American** and **Asian-Pacific** IFSSH societies.

The course is to be held at the mid-way time point between triennial congresses. The host society will be selected at the 2022 London Congress, with the Mid-Term Course to be held in late 2023/early 2024.

Applications are to be submitted by **6<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**. The guidelines are available on the IFSSH website: <https://ifssh.info/mid-term-course.php>

### **IFSSH Triennial Congress – London: 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June, 2022**

For the 2022 IFSSH Congress, in addition to the regular travel/registration grants provided, the congress organizers have added a component that will provide travelling fellows with visits to the busy hand units of the UK. The London congress organizers have notified the travel grants to 34 young surgeons

The Nominating Committee of the IFSSH has also confirmed the choice of 28 senior surgeons who will be recognized as IFSSH Pioneers of Hand Surgery within the London Congress. The award ceremony during the welcome reception will be a grand event.

### **Future Meetings**

A detailed list of national and regional hand surgery meetings is available on the IFSSH website. The triennial IFSSH Congresses are as follows:

*XV<sup>th</sup> IFSSH – XII<sup>th</sup> IFSHT Congress – London, United Kingdom*  
6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2022  
[www.ifssh-ifsht2022.com](http://www.ifssh-ifsht2022.com)

*XVI<sup>th</sup> IFSSH – XIII<sup>th</sup> IFSHT Congress – Washington D.C., USA*  
29<sup>th</sup> March - 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2025

With very best wishes

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