



**AAO Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC)**  
**Stephen Belli, DDS,MS**

**February 13, 2024**

### **HOD Resolutions**

- COMEJC is submitting resolutions to the 2024 AAO House of Delegates to propose the following:
  - Implement a trial membership for orthodontists who are eligible for Active Membership and have never been AAO members previously, except for those who have been Student Members. If approved, the program would be implemented on a pilot basis for four years.
  - Extend the international bulk membership dues pilot by one year. This pilot, which is scheduled to end in May 2024, gives the Board of Trustees authority to negotiate and approve bulk dues amounts with international orthodontic societies.
  - Amend Bylaws to remove outdated language regarding eligibility of International Members who relocate to the U.S. and Canada and teach full-time at an accredited orthodontic program.
  - Amend Bylaws to more clearly define Retired Membership and eligibility.

### **Membership Trends**

- COMEJC continues to monitor membership data and trends, including 2023-24 membership renewals. Highlights through January 2024, include:
  - Renewed 96.4% of Active Members (compared to 96.6% through January 2023), including 96.7% of U.S. Active Members and 90.0% of Canadian Active Members.
  - Renewed 97.6% of Life Active members (compared to 96.5% through January 2023).
  - Renewed 94.8% of Student Members (compared to 95.0% through January 2023).
  - Renewed 85.2% of International Members (compared to 87.3% through January 2023).
  - 14.0% of all members have paid via auto-renew, including 15.0% of U.S. Active members (up from 14.3% all of last year) and 16.1% of International Members (down from 17.0%).
- As of May 31, 2023, the AAO's market share is 86.4% among U.S. orthodontists and 52.8% for Canadian orthodontists. These numbers are updated annually as fiscal year-end.

### **Member Programs**

- COMEJC continues to oversee the Resident Vitals and Financial Management for Residents presentations that are offered to residency programs annually (either in-person or virtually). Through January 2024, 16 orthodontic programs have scheduled or hosted the Resident Vitals presentation, compared to 24 for all of 2022-23 and 16 for all of 2021-22. Eleven programs have scheduled or hosted the Financial Management for Residents presentation, compared to 21 for all of 2022-23 and 13 for all of 2021-22. Programs may request presentations at <https://www2.aaoinfo.org/programs-for-residents-and-educators/orthodontic-program-presentations/>.

- COMEJC has submitted a recommendation to the AAO Board of Trustees for its February 2024 meeting to implement a new resident presentation strategy. The strategy includes recruiting a select group of engaged members to serve as presenters of the AAO Resident Vitals program throughout the U.S. and Canada.

**COMEJC Meetings**

- The next in-person COMEJC meeting will be Friday, January 10, 2025 at AAO headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Belli, DDS,MS

GLAO Representative to the AAO Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC)