

Constitution
of the
Institute for Psychodynamic Child Psychotherapy

2020

CONTENTS

ARTICLE I: NAME..... 1

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE..... 1

ARTICLE III: AIMS..... 1

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP..... 1

ARTICLE V: COMMITTEE..... 2

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS..... 3

ARTICLE VII: SUB-COMMITTEES..... 3

ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE..... 3

ARTICLE IX: TREASURY (FINANCIAL POLICY)..... 4

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION..... 5

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION OF THE IPCP..... 5

ARTICLE XII: INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY..... 5

ARTICLE XIII: ETHICS..... 5

UPDATED: CONSTITUTION OF THE INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHODYNAMIC CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPY (2016)

Revised December 2020

ARTICLE I: NAME

1.1 The name of the Institute shall be "The Institute for Psychodynamic Child Psychotherapy" and abbreviated to "IPCP"

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

2.1 The IPCP is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1996. The IPCP is dedicated to the development and training of clinicians in the field of infant, child, adolescent and parent psychotherapy in South Africa.

ARTICLE III: AIMS

3.1 The main aims of the IPCP are to:

- 3.1.1 provide formal training in psychoanalytic theory and practice in child and adolescent psychotherapy through modules including: infant observation groups, theory courses, work discussions/ clinical seminars.
- 3.1.2 enhance psychoanalytic study in ethical considerations, supervised work, reading groups, elective courses, workshops and conferences.
- 3.1.3 initiate and supervise individuals and groups involved in outreach programmes and projects.
- 3.1.4 facilitate communication and collaboration amongst child focused centres and organizations.
- 3.1.5 be a national organization in South Africa, supporting regional centres: currently Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

4.1 The IPCP opposes discrimination on the basis of age, disability, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation. It is committed to increasing the diversity of members as well as of members involved in its EXCO.

4.2 Membership shall be open to all mental health and child care professionals from a diverse range of backgrounds whose interests meet the objectives of the Institute and whose work promises to further the objectives of the Institute.

4.3 The IPCP is founded on the belief that the common analytic attitude unites professionals across diverse backgrounds and provides a widely acknowledged treatment for people suffering from mental disturbance .

4.4 There are different Categories of Members:

Full Members have previously completed the Tavistock Diploma Course, *Therapeutic Communications with Children*, or currently, completed the IPCP Course, and obtained the IPCP Certificate in Post Graduate Psychoanalytic Studies in *Observational and Therapeutic Skill with Children*.

“Grandparent” Clause: All those members, who have attended the IPCP Training Course in the past, and are involved in IPCP teaching and activities, will be granted Full Membership, at the discretion of the EXCO. This will apply to the Senior Members of the IPCP for their knowledge, experience and years of commitment to the IPCP.

Student Members are enrolled in the IPCP Training Course.

Associate Members are those involved in psychodynamic/ psychoanalytic infant, child, adolescent or parent work in different settings and contexts, as well as those involved in organizational and administrative tasks for the IPCP. In Cape Town it is the IPCP Committee Members; in Johannesburg it is the IPCP Team.

4.4 Membership of the IPCP does not confer professional status on any individual, but it does provide training in child psychotherapy and is an accredited CPD provider.

ARTICLE V: COMMITTEE

5.1 The IPCP shall have an Executive Committee (IPCP EXCO) which will offer oversight and strategy in line with the purpose and principles established.

5.2 The IPCP EXCO will be a National EXCO, with representatives from each Centre, which must include the Chair or a representative, voted by the Centres.

5.3 The EXCO shall consist of up to, but not more than, 8 members, including:

5.4.1 a chairperson;

5.4.2 the immediate past-chairperson for one year

5.4.3 Deputy chair if possible to succeed as Chair

5.4.4 The EXCO may co-opt members and others as necessary for the fulfillment of specific tasks

5.5 IPCP EXCO members will serve for a three-year term of office.

5.6 An Exco member can resign upon one month's written notice been given and accepted by the EXCO.

5.7 One additional term, motivated for by EXCO and endorsed by members, may be added if deemed necessary to preserve institutional memory and promote continuity.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

6.1 The EXCO will meet at least once a term, 4 times a year, unless there is a need for a special meeting.

6.2 All meetings of the EXCO shall be minuted and minutes will be available communicated to the membership.

6.3 There shall be a General Meeting at least every second year of the Institute, which shall be held on a date to be fixed by the EXCO.

6.4 The General Meeting shall be open to all members. Full Members and Associate Members only can vote.

ARTICLE VII: SUB-COMMITTEES

7.1 IPCP EXCO may form sub-committees, convened by a member of the Exco, as may best carry out the aims of the IPCP.

7.2 Minutes shall be kept of each sub-committee meeting and shall be made available to the EXCO.

ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

8.1 The EXCO, together with the 3 Treasures of each Centre, (Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban) shall be responsible for the finances of the IPCP, with each Centre managing their own finances. At the AGM, each Centre's Treasurer will submit a statement of their Centre's finances.

8.2 No portion of the income or assets of the IPCP shall be paid to any member of the EXCO, provided that nothing shall prevent the payment in good faith to any person of reasonable compensation for services rendered and/or reimbursement of costs or expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the IPCP.

8.3 Membership fees may be imposed by the EXCO within reason, appropriate to the functioning of the IPCP as a whole.

8.4 The EXCO shall have the power to require members, student members and visitors, to pay a fee for attendance at any conference organized by the IPCP.

8.5 In furtherance of the aims and objectives of the Institute, the EXCO may accept the affiliation of or co-operation with any other body with similar or related aims.

8.6 Any such arrangement shall remain in force until the next General Meeting, when it may be confirmed, amended or annulled.

8.7 The Chairperson shall co-ordinate all meetings. In the absence of the Chairperson, the EXCO will elect one of its members to co-ordinate the meeting.

8.8 The Chairperson has the power on reasonable notice to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the EXCO or an ordinary AGM, where s/he believes it is necessary to do so.

8.9 The secretary, or an allocated member, will take minutes of meetings of the EXCO, although email correspondence may also serve as a record.

8.10 A copy of the minutes shall be submitted to the EXCO within thirty days of the date of the meeting and once confirmed made available to all Full and Associate Members.

8.11 Each member of the EXCO shall be entitled to one vote. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson may exercise an additional, decisive vote.

8.12 An EXCO quorum is two-thirds of its members.

8.13 ANY member of the EXCO shall be disqualified from holding office in any of the following circumstances:

8.13.1 If he or she absents him or herself from four consecutive meetings of the EXCO without apology or good cause;

8.13.2 If he or she commits any act, which in the opinion of the EXCO brings the Institute into discredit or disrepute;

8.13.3 If he or she becomes of unsound mind, or is no longer able to fulfil his or her functions on the EXCO for whatever reason.

8.13.4 IPCP EXCO may call on an EXCO member to resign by a two-thirds majority vote of the EXCO

8.14 The Chairperson and/or the EXCO shall be obliged to resign from office if the Institute at a General Meeting passes a resolution of no confidence in the

Chairperson and/or the EXCO, as the case may be, which is voted by two-thirds of those members of the Institute present at such a meeting.

ARTICLE IX: TREASURY (FINANCIAL POLICY)

9.1 The Institute shall only enter into contracts, undertake activities and use its income and property to promote its objectives in alignment with its aims.

9.2 The assets of the IPCP for each Centre will be held in a dedicated account administered by the Treasurer of that Centre, with the two other signatories to the account being the Chair and the Secretary, or a designated person.

9.3 The Treasurer of each Centre will be responsible for an annual submission of a financial statement to the EXCO, and six weeks before the General Meeting and presenting the statement at the General Meeting.

9.4 Each General Meeting will be requested to adopt a resolution adopting the financial statements.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

10.1 The Constitution may be amended with the approval of at least two-thirds of members present at a General Meeting, or Special Meeting of which at least fourteen days' notice will be given. For General Meeting and Special Meeting purposes a two-thirds majority means all EXCO members.

10.2 The notice of any meeting to amend the Constitution must include the text of the proposed amendment. Draft changes to the Constitution must be circulated to those involved prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION OF THE IPCP

11.1 Should the IPCP evolve into another association, or should its life and functions be terminated at any time, any assets in its account will be distributed by each Centre to the most similar body existing in South Africa, as determined by the outgoing EXCO. Should there be no appropriate body its assets will be donated to an NGO or NPO most closely associated with the aims of the IPCP, as determined by the outgoing EXCO.

ARTICLE XII: INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY

12.1 The IPCP is a non-profit, voluntary association for the pursuance of our professional aims as above. The IPCP and its EXCO members cannot be held liable for acts of omission or commission in the pursuance of its aims.

ARTICLE XIII: ETHICS

13.1 The members of the IPCP, as well as its trainees and administrative staff, are expected to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct in their professional practices and personal lives.

13.2 Members of the IPCP are to be guided by the ethical code set out by the South African Psychoanalytic Confederation (SAPC) and the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

13.3 Whenever there is ambiguity in the interpretation of either of these Codes, IPCP members are expected to consult with senior colleagues, within the Institute, for advice and guidance.

13.4 The IPCP Constitution also condemns any discrimination of racial, religious, sexual nature and recommends its members to conduct their professional life in conformity with this non-discriminatory principle.

END