



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

Board of Councilors

May 2018

Welcome to **BOC Now!**

Cut, paste, or simply take what you'd like out of this email and **SHARE it with your key stakeholders!**

If you haven't registered for the 2018 National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC), [registration](#) is open, and the [meeting agenda](#) is online. The meeting runs June 6-9, 2018. The AAOS room block closes on May 15th, dependent on availability, so be sure to secure a room as soon as possible.

**BOC Booth at Annual Meeting 2018:** Thanks to all the Councilors that volunteered their time at the BOC Booth in New Orleans. Several of you established thoughtful dialogue about what our group does on behalf of the entire AAOS membership. I hope some of these leads generate future volunteers and BOC advocates.

#### **BOC Business Meeting Highlights:**

- Dr. Halsey and Dr. Weber from the AAOS Presidential Line reported on the status of MOC discussions with the ABOS (an issue that began at the BOC level), reported on the Academy's education strategy, the Academy's future plans to review the existing governance structure, and the assembly of a strategic planning project team focused on adding value to AAOS members.
- Dr. Quinn gave an update on the AAOS Council on Research and Quality's (CoRQ) efforts to improve communications and awareness on what the Council is doing. There is great interest in a BOC representative having a seat on every product/tool that comes out of the CoRQ to ensure a deep dive involvement "on take-off." To become a better resource, the BOC is establishing its own BOC Research & Quality Committee. The new committee will be a vehicle for improving communications and understanding as the AAOS moves further into value-based care.
- Dr. Gill provided an update on the PAC. 97% of BOC supported the PAC in 2017. February 2019 is the PAC's 20th Anniversary and a "20 for 20" campaign will be rolled out later this year.
- New leadership of the BOC were installed:

Basil Besh, MD – Chair

Robert Orfaly, MD – Chair-Elect

Thomas Muzzonigro, MD – Secretary

Three of the five BOC committees met in New Orleans to share knowledge/updates:

### **Advocacy Resource Committee (ARC)**

Stu Weinstein, MD, Distinguished Ambassador, provided an update on advocacy. Dr. Claudette Lajam discussed a new program, Women Advocates in Orthopaedics (WAO), and the committee brainstormed about ideas regarding recruitment, retention and recognition of Ambassadors. Dr. Schueller reminded all members to commit to give to the PAC.

Contact [Dean Schueller, MD](#) or [Julia Williams](#) for more information.

### **Communications Committee**

This committee did not meet, however several BOC members took part and/or sponsored the 2nd annual [Communities in Motion](#) event on Tuesday, March 6, 2018. Nearly 250 kids and adults participated in this three-hour program where attendees engaged and exercised across seven activity stations alongside 34 AAOS Team Docs and volunteers from the New Orleans community. Participants learned about the importance of exercise and movement, and the correlations between nutrition, healthy eating behaviors, and bone and joint health.

AAOS received a proclamation from Jefferson Parish President Michael S. Yenni which recognizes the Academy for its work in promoting awareness of healthy bone and joint behaviors and lifestyles. This is a win for AAOS and BOC members in helping to enhance the image of orthopaedic surgeons.

If you would like to be part of this event in Las Vegas next year, contact [Todd Schmidt, MD](#); [Wayne Johnson, MD](#); or [Lauren P. Riley](#).

### **Economics Issues Committee**

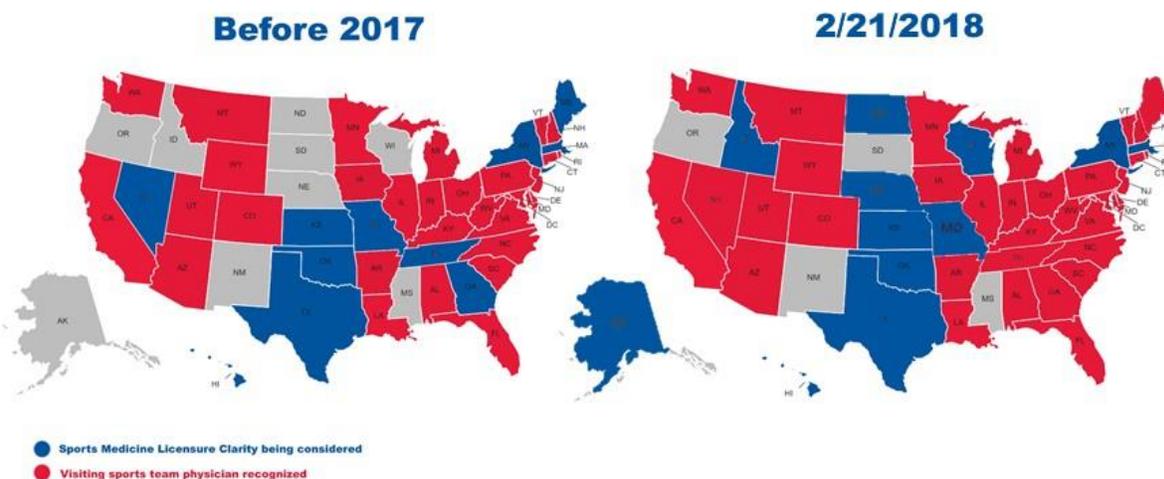
- Both MEDPAC and many physicians feel MIPS is too complicated. MEDPAC suggested that MIPS be repealed while many physicians are opting out due to cost of implementation being greater than the penalty
- AAOS' approach to BPCI Advanced. We've sent a letter to CMS with our concerns over the application process and the precedence of CJR over BPCI Advanced. There are also concerns that the upside for advanced BPCI will not be as great as BPCI classic
- TKA off the inpatient only list. There are many reports that hospitals and insurers are causing confusion by calling for all Medicare TKA to be performed in the outpatient setting. AAOS supports the default for TKA to be inpatient and for the surgeon to have ultimate responsibility for determining the safe place of service
- AAOS is actively lobbying to change law around physician-owned hospitals as well as proactively monitoring precertification woes to ensure our members' needs are met

Contact [Catherine Boudreaux Hayes](#) or [Jeffrey Angel, MD](#) for more information.

## State, Legislative and Regulatory Issues Committee (SLRI)

SLRI met to share recent state wins which include:

- Protecting physician ownership in South Carolina, Massachusetts and Maryland.
- Sports medicine licensure clarity is now recognized in more states and under consideration by several others due to the significant efforts of AAOS.



- Insurance reforms are underway in Pennsylvania, Texas and Puerto Rico.
- Several state orthopaedic societies were successful in combating insurer campaigns to set payment rates to Medicare.

All state orthopaedic societies have access to [grassroots advocacy tools](#) through AAOS for no cost. A private library of grants, grant reports and sharable materials to help BOC and AAOS members support current and future state, legislative and regulatory issues has been developed sourcing information from the past decade.

Contact [Manthan Bhatt](#) and [Cassim Igram, MD](#) for more information.

## State Societies Committee

This committee did not meet, but will reconvene at NOLC. Grant applications for the State Orthopaedic Society Assistance Fund are now being accepted. [Applications](#) and [supporting background documents](#) must be submitted by Friday, May 4, 2018.

Contact [Greg Gallant, MD](#) or [Erin Volland](#) for more information.

## Reminder

**BOC Awareness Video:** Who is the BOC and what do we do? Don't forget that a video exists to help us explain to others what we do on behalf of the orthopaedic profession. Councilors are

encouraged to share this video at any state or regional society meeting. **The video can be downloaded and is posted online at [http://www.aaos.org/About/Board\\_of\\_Councilors/](http://www.aaos.org/About/Board_of_Councilors/).**

This marks my last 'official' newsletter as I'm turning the reins of the BOC Communications Committee to Todd Schmidt, MD and Wayne Johnson, MD who will lead and author the BOC. Now moving forward.

I'm still available at [Muzzy@tririversortho.com](mailto:Muzzy@tririversortho.com), 412-780-9961 with any comments, suggestions for improving communications both internally and externally across the BOC.

See y'all in DC.

Muzzy  
Tom Muzzonigro, MD  
BOC Communications Committee Outgoing Chair

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