Reading Committee Guidelines

1. The Reading Committee consists of 40 Active EPOS Members including the Chair of the Committee, Vice-Chair, one current Councilor of Executive Committee, EPOS Education and Scientific Committee Chairs and EPOS Study Groups chairs.
2. Committee members are elected from the EPOS members. Applications are sought and then a shortlist of candidates selected by the Committee then voted on by the committee and approved by the Chairman. However, and in order to comply with point 3 as below, the Committee members can also be appointed by the EPOS Study Groups, 2 members per Study Groups.
3. While members are being selected, geographical origin of elected members is taken into consideration. The Reading Committee shall have no more than two members from any country at the same time. Only full members of EPOS are eligible for Reading Committee. However, such rule would not affect the assigned members: Councilor of Executive Committee, EPOS Education and Scientific Committee Chairs and EPOS Study Groups chairs.
4. Each member will be appointed for 3 consecutive years.
5. New members will be selected following e-mail advertisement of the EPOS membership or nomination by the Study Groups.
6. Chairman of committee stays in committee for 4 years.
7. Chair and Chair-Elect work together in the preparation of the ‘take-over’ meeting.

Evaluation process

8. Evaluation process is usually started at the end of November and completed at mid-December.
9. Only studies which have not been published previously should be submitted for review by the RC.
10. The abstracts will be reviewed by the members of the RC with no knowledge of the name(s) of the author(s).
11. Each author will be allowed to present only 2 papers orally. There is no limitation for posters.
12. Following rules are taken into consideration for evaluation process:

While evaluating, mentioned points below should be considered essentially:
1. Is the topic exciting?
2. Could the findings change our daily practice?
3. Does the study design have scientific merit?

Grades 8 to 10: A well organized wide clinical series or experimental study related with an important problem should be graded in this group.
The studies that have methodological problems but at the same time interrogate common beliefs and studies that you believe discussing at the podium would be important for European pediatric orthopedics could also be given a high score. These kinds of studies (if possible) will entirely take place in the program.

Grades 5 to 7: Not as scientifically important as the first group and/or studies that have methodological problems, but still interesting/useful for the members attending the Annual meeting. During the process of constituting the programme, attention will be given to ensuring that a broad spread of subspecialties and nations are represented if possible.

Abstracts MUST contain facts and figures – otherwise they can not be rated highly.

Grades 1 to 4: Abstracts scored at this level are unlikely to be presented. A mean score from the 5 reviewers may allow 1 low score per abstract Each abstract will be reviewed by 5 reviewers and a mean score calculated. If a reviewer recognizes a paper he/she is asked to score it as fairly as possible.

**Program preparation**

13. Committee chair is responsible to prepare a program proposal and present it to program committee (President of Society, Local Host and Reading Committee Chair).
14. Program committee first decides the number of the abstracts that will be presented as oral or poster and they assign the abstracts according to topics. The number of abstracts accepted for oral presentation will be about 80. Topics and number will be changed according to main topic and other program details (number of lectures, ICLs and other educational activities in the program).
15. Number of posters and type of poster presentation (paper or electronic) will be decided by program committee.
16. Authors are informed for acceptance by 1st week of January.