

## Happy Chinese New Year

The Year of the Rooster is upon us. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members a Happy and Prosperous Lunar New Year. Interestingly Chinese New Year is a cultural festival that is celebrated by all creeds, in as much as the Gregorian New Year is. It is customary during this season to remember family and friends and return to one's roots for a reunion dinner on the eve of the celebration. Of course, being Chinese, there is a large emphasis on prosperity and health and longevity. In fact, one such blessing goes thus:

五福臨門 (wǔ fú lín mén)

“May the five blessings come to you.” (Longevity, wealth, health, virtue, and a natural death.)

Personally, I prefer the emphasis on family and togetherness. It is only with these qualities that we can hope to achieve great things.

The APOA is on the verge of becoming a very large family. We have greatly enhanced our numbers through the diligence and persuasion of my predecessor, Dr. Ted Mah. We now need to organise ourselves to improve communications and to set about new structures that will stand the test of time.

I am pleased to announce that with the able assistance of our secretary, Dr. Jamal Ashraf, we have managed to poll a quorate number of Council members to effect several key changes to our Constitution that will make Council meetings easier to manage and to accommodate the growth of the sections of the Association. This is no mean feat given that each chapter has up to three representatives and each Federation has two. We need at least two thirds of votes to be quorate and at least two thirds of the quorum to agree. I am glad to say that we have already achieved this but will continue to run the poll to get the best numbers.

I will keep the membership posted about these changes which will be ratified at the Trauma and Infection meeting in Putrajaya, Malaysia on March 30th to April 2nd. Please do feel free to contact us with any concerns.

I hope to see you at the Trauma and Infection meeting which promises to be a very informative event.

**David Choon**

President

Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association

