

**ASSOCIATION OF IOC RECOGNISED INTERNATIONAL
SPORTS FEDERATIONS (ARISF)**

STATUTES

13 November 2023



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ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND LEGAL STATUS

- 1.1 The name of the association is “Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations” (ARISF).
- 1.2 ARISF is a non-governmental and non-profit association of members which are International Sports Federations recognised by the IOC pursuant to the Rule 3.3 of the Olympic Charter (the “**Members**”).
- 1.3 ARISF is governed by Article 60 *et seq.* of the Swiss Civil Code (SCC).

ARTICLE 2 - FOUNDATION AND DURATION

- 2.1 ARISF was founded in 1984 by the International Sports Federations recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- 2.2 ARISF is established for an indefinite term.

ARTICLE 3 - OFFICIAL SEAT AND HEADQUARTERS

- 3.1 The official seat of ARISF is Lausanne, Switzerland. The seat may be changed by the ARISF General Assembly with a qualified two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.
- 3.2 The Executive Board shall decide on the location of the ARISF headquarters.

ARTICLE 4 - OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The objectives of ARISF are:
 - a) to unite, represent and promote the Members in achieving their respective missions, fostering their mutual collaboration and coordinating their common interests and objectives, while preserving their own autonomy and independence.
 - b) to advocate for the Members’ interests through a mutually beneficial relationship with the IOC, and by actively engaging in an open and constructive dialogue with the IOC aimed at addressing common challenges, and advancing Olympism and the Olympic Movement.
 - c) to provide services and resources to the Members, as needed, including the organisation of workshops, seminars, sport events, competitions, and other activities to fulfil its strategic objectives, through its own channels or in cooperation with the IOC and SportAccord.
 - d) to create and promote a sustainable operation and governance model among the Members supporting the implementation of the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and of the principles set forth therein by ARISF, the Members and relevant stakeholders.
 - e) to increase the visibility and voice of ARISF within the International Sports community and in the public domain.
 - f) to foster a culture of inclusivity, respect, and dignity for all its Members.
- 4.2 ARISF unequivocally opposes all forms of discrimination, harassment, and unwelcome behaviour notably based on race, colour, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability, or any other protected characteristic.



ARTICLE 5 - LANGUAGE

The official language of ARISF is English. All meetings shall be conducted in English and all documents and communications shall be written and published in English.

ARTICLE 6 - MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 ARISF is composed of International Sport Federations that are fully recognised or provisionally recognised by the IOC according to Rule 25 of the Olympic Charter and whose sports/disciplines are not full member of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (**ASOIF**) or Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (**AIOWF**). International Sports Federations that are not fully recognised or provisionally recognised by the IOC cannot be members of ARISF.
- 6.2 Each International Sports Federation that is fully recognised or provisionally recognised by the IOC may apply to become a member of ARISF. International Sports Federations seeking to obtain the ARISF's membership must submit a written application to the Executive Board that may admit the membership request following verification of the recognition status by the IOC.
- 6.3 A Member will automatically lose its membership when one or more of its sports/disciplines are included as a full member of ASOIF or AIOWF. A Member will also automatically lose its membership should, for any reason whatsoever, the IOC decide to withdraw that Member's recognition.
- 6.4 A Member may resign for the end of a calendar year by giving written notice to the Executive Board not later than three (3) months before the end of the calendar year.
- 6.5 The Executive Board may decide to create other categories of memberships (such as associate members) without any voting rights at the General Assembly. The By-Laws shall govern the extension of rights and duties of such categories of memberships.

ARTICLE 7 - EXCLUSION AND SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS

- 7.1 A Member may be provisionally suspended or lose its membership, notably for the following reasons:
 - (i) persistent failure to comply with provisions of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of ARISF
 - (ii) persistent failure to fulfil its obligations and liabilities towards ARISF,
 - (iii) if it becomes subject to adverse publicity relating to misconduct, bad governance or any other act or omission which may damage the reputation of ARISF.
 - (iv) it fails to pay its annual membership fee by 30 June of the relevant calendar year a Member will become automatically suspended until the fee is paid.
- 7.2 A Member may be expelled by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Executive Board. The Executive Board may suspend a Member pursuant to Article 7.1 on a provisional basis.
- 7.3 A Member must be given the chance to be heard before its suspension or exclusion pursuant to Article 7.1. The By-Laws shall provide for the procedural rules to be followed in that respect.



ARTICLE 8 - INDEPENDENCE AND AUTONOMY OF MEMBERS

- 8.1 Each Member maintains its full independence and autonomy in the administration of its own sports.
- 8.2 The Members shall observe the decisions taken by the statutory bodies of ARISF in accordance with the Statutes. The fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter shall prevail in all actions taken by ARISF and its Members. By-laws, rules and regulations, if issued by ARISF, shall not conflict with or derogate from those principles.

ARTICLE 9 - SUBSCRIPTION FEE AND RESOURCES

- 9.1 Members shall pay an annual membership fee the amount of which is decided by the General Assembly. Membership fees are due by each Member on 31 March for each calendar year. For the avoidance of doubt, if a Member is definitively expelled or is provisionally suspended, its annual membership fee shall remain due and payable for the entire year of its expulsion or suspension. Under no circumstance will a Member be entitled to reimbursement of its membership fee.
- 9.2 The resources of ARISF shall include membership fee and any contributions, fees, subsidies or grants received by the public authorities and/or private entities within the sports industry. All income generated by any sports events or other sports activities organised under the umbrella of ARISF shall be considered as part of the resources of the association.
- 9.3 The Association's financial obligations can be satisfied only from its assets. The Members shall not be liable for any obligation or debt of the Association.

ARTICLE 10 - STATUTORY BODIES

- 10.1 The statutory bodies of ARISF shall be:
 - (i) the General Assembly
 - (ii) the Executive Board
 - (iii) the Executive Director leading the ARISF Office
 - (iv) the auditors and
 - (v) any other body or commission created by the General Assembly or the Executive Board.
- 10.2 The tasks and duties of the Executive Director and the ARISF Office are specified in the By-laws.

ARTICLE 11 - COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 11.1 The General Assembly is the highest authority of ARISF. The General Assembly consists of the Members of the Association.
- 11.2 Each Member is entitled to send a delegation of up to three (3) representatives to the General Assembly with one of them designated as the head of delegation. The head of the delegation must be holding a position within the executive body of the International Sports Federation they represent.
- 11.3 The President Emeritus, the Honorary Members and other persons invited by the Executive Board may attend the General Assembly without having voting rights.



ARTICLE 12 - POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly has sole and exclusive authority to:

- a) Approve and modify the Statutes.
- b) Elect the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Executive Board Members as well as the Financial Auditors.
- c) Approve the annual financial report and financial statements .
- d) Discharge from responsibility the Executive Board and the Financial Auditors.
- e) Determine the membership fees.
- f) Approve new Members.
- g) Expel Members.
- h) Voluntarily dissolve ARISF.
- i) Decide on all other cases foreseen in these Statutes.

ARTICLE 13 - MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 13.1 The Ordinary General Assembly shall be held once a year, by invitation of the Executive Board. Except in case of emergency, the Members shall be called for an Ordinary General Assembly with at least sixty (60) days' notice. In case of an emergency, as decided by the Executive Board, this notice period may be reduced to ten (10) days.
- 13.2 The calling notice shall state the place (if applicable) and time of the General Assembly and/or its form (e.g., in presence, electronic or hybrid) and the items of the agenda. For the Ordinary General Assembly, the agenda shall include the approval of the annual report, of the annual accounts and receipt of the auditor's report. Members may request additional items for the agenda by written submission to the Executive Board at the latest ten (10) days before the meeting, in which case the Executive Board shall transmit these additions to all Members within five (5) days from receipt. The General Assembly may vote only on those matters appearing on the approved agenda.
- 13.3 An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be held
 - (i) at any time upon decision the Executive Board or the President
 - (ii) when requested in writing by not less than one fifth (1/5) of the Members.
- 13.4 The request shall specify the items for the agenda. The Agenda of an Extraordinary General Assembly may not be altered.
- 13.5 The General Assembly may be conducted by teleconference, videoconference, or another electronic means of communication or in a hybrid format. In such cases, the General Assembly may vote by correspondence, including email or other electronic means.
- 13.6 During the meetings, the President shall chair the General Assembly. At any time, the President may authorise one (1) Executive Board member to chair the General Assembly. If the President is absent or unable, the Vice-President shall chair the Assembly. If also the Vice-President is absent or unable, the Secretary General shall open the General Assembly and request the delegates to appoint a member of the Executive Board to chair the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 14 - PROCEDURES AND VOTING RIGHTS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 14.1 Each Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- 14.2 All resolutions shall be taken by show of hands or by digital voting, if the meeting is held over a digital platform. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, unless the President or the General Assembly, by a decision of simple majority, shall determine a different form



of voting. If voting is conducted by secret ballot, one or more scrutineers are elected by simple majority. The scrutineers will be responsible for supervising and monitoring the entire voting process and verifying its validity as well as the final results. The By-laws define the voting procedures.

- 14.3 The General Assembly is validly held when at least half plus one Member having a right to vote are attending the meeting. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, resolutions are validly taken by simple majority of votes validly cast. Abstentions or void votes are not taken into account to determine the majority. The dissolution of ARISF, amendments to the Statutes and the dismissal of Executive Board's members shall be validly taken if approved by qualified two -third (2/3) majority.
- 14.4 Elections at a General Assembly shall be dealt with as follows:
- a) The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Executive Board Members shall be elected in such order. Each Member shall vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies. The candidates who receive the largest number of votes shall be elected. In case of tie, a run-off election of the tied candidates will be carried out. In such a case, votes shall be cast for one candidate only, under penalty of the vote being declared void. The candidate having collected the highest number of votes shall be elected.
 - b) In the event of unopposed nominations, the candidates nominated shall be automatically elected. If there is only one candidate for a single position or if there are as many candidates as there are positions, the election is conducted without voting.
 - c) Each candidate is entitled to a three (3) minute address. A resume of each candidate seeking election shall be circulated to all delegates by the Secretary General.
- 14.5 Decisions taken by the General Assembly shall be immediately binding and effective, unless the Assembly resolves otherwise.

ARTICLE 15 - EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 15.1 The Executive Board shall consist of
- (i) the President
 - (ii) the Vice-President
 - (iii) the Secretary General and
 - (iv) Three (3) Members.
- 15.2 No International Sports Federation shall be represented within the Executive Board by more than one (1) person.
- 15.3 Nominations must reach the Secretary General not later than thirty (30) days before the date fixed for the General Assembly. All nominations shall include a resume of the candidate.
- 15.4 Candidates may be nominated for multiple positions, with due observance that they can only be elected for one (1) position. If a candidate is elected for a position, nominations of this candidate for other positions are automatically deemed to be withdrawn.
- 15.5 All members of the Executive Board shall hold office for a term of four (4) years, unless the Executive Board members are appointed or elected in a vacancy resulting before the term of an Executive Board is completed. In such case, they shall hold office until the end of the term of their respective predecessor(s). At the proposal of the Executive Board, the General Assembly may by qualified two-third (2/3) majority decide to remove an



Executive Board member on the grounds of misconduct or conduct prejudicial to the interests and objects of ARISF.

- 15.6 A member of the Executive Board may serve no more than three (3) terms in total. For the avoidance of doubt, the word “term” includes consecutive and non-consecutive terms. This provision does not apply retroactively to members who already have served or are serving for one or more terms within the Association on the date of adoption of these Statutes pursuant to Article 25.

ARTICLE 16 – POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 16.1 The Executive Board shall have the following powers and authority:
- a) directing the policy, management and activities of ARISF and for ensuring the proper performance and observance of the objectives of ARISF, these Statutes and its decisions.
 - b) to manage the affairs of ARISF and exercise all its powers including the power to engage such agents as may be necessary for the performance of its duties.
 - c) to develop and approve all the by-laws, rules and guidelines which are not within the competence of the General Assembly.
 - d) to approve the annual budget.
 - e) to oversee the preparation of the annual financial report and the audited financial statements, which are to be submitted by the Secretary General for approval by the General Assembly pursuant to Article 12 lit. c)..
 - f) to provide a written report of its activities to every General Assembly
 - g) to review materials to be presented to a General Assembly and, if required, approve the documents to be presented to the General Assembly when they are issued under its responsibility or its authority, and issue any recommendations and comments that it deems necessary.
 - h) to appoint or dismiss any commission or committee as it deems necessary.
 - i) to appoint, in addition to the ARISF President, the ARISF representative who will seat within the SportAccord Board.
 - j) to appoint an Executive Director and other staff as necessary to perform the day-to-day administration and provide services to Members.
- 16.2 The Members of the Executive Board have automatically the right to attend the General Assembly without having voting rights.
- 16.3 The Executive Board shall resolve upon all matters not otherwise reserved to the General Assembly by these Statutes.
- 16.4 In urgent cases, not provided for in these Statutes, the Executive Board is empowered to pass and enforce any necessary resolution, which will remain in force until ratification by the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE 17 - MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 17.1 The Executive Board shall meet as often as necessary but at least once per year.
- 17.2 The President convenes the Executive Board by written invitation addressed to all Executive Board’s members at least ten (10) days in advance, except in the case of emergency. The President may decide to hold Executive Board meetings by teleconference, videoconference or any other suitable means, including in a hybrid format. In such a case, Executive Board’s members may vote by correspondence, including email or other electronic means.



- 17.3 At least two (2) members of the Executive Board may request to call a meeting of the Executive Board.
- 17.4 Each Member of the Executive Board is entitled to one (1) vote. All resolutions are passed by a majority of vote validly expressed (abstentions or void votes are not taken into account). In case of a tie the President will have the casting vote.
- 17.5 If the President is no longer able to fulfil their role, the Vice-President will step in as Acting President until the next General Assembly. The Acting President will have all the rights and responsibilities of the President. If the Vice-President or Secretary General is no longer able to fulfil their role, the President will appoint an Acting Vice-President or Secretary General from the remaining Executive Board members until the next General Assembly. The Acting Vice-President or Secretary General will have all the rights and responsibilities of the Executive Board member they are replacing. If any other Executive Board Members are no longer able to fulfil their roles as outlined in these Statutes, those positions will remain vacant until the next General Assembly.
- 17.6 Within the framework of the authority given to the Executive Board, it may delegate its day-to-day affairs to the President, the Secretary General, or one (1) of several of its Executive Board Members or Members.
- 17.7 The members of the Executive Board are not entitled to any compensation for their services to the Association. They are however entitled to reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their duties in the interests of the Association, as per the procedures set forth in the corresponding By-Laws.
- 17.8 If a member of the Executive Board fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings or four (4) meetings during the same term, their mandate can be revoked, and they can be replaced for the remainder of the term by a decision of the Executive Board

ARTICLE 18 - PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL

- 18.1 The President shall represent ARISF in all circumstances.
- 18.2 The President of ARISF
 - a) shall chair the General Assembly and the meetings of the Executive Board and draw up the agenda of these meetings.
 - b) shall have all other powers, rights and duties provided for in these Statutes or in the Swiss Laws.
 - c) shall be as ex officio member of the SportAccord Board. However, the President may delegate another member of the Executive Board to represent them on the SportAccord Board.
- 18.3 The Vice President may assist the President in carrying out his duties and deputise for him as requested.
- 18.4 The Secretary General is responsible for the administration of ARISF. The Secretary General is responsible for budgeting, implementing, recording, reporting, planning and controlling of ARISF's finances.

ARTICLE 19 - PRESIDENT EMERITUS

- 19.1 By qualified two-thirds (2/3) majority, the General Assembly may appoint the immediate past President as President Emeritus. A person appointed as President Emeritus can only hold this office for one term of four (4) years.



- 19.2 The President Emeritus shall serve ARISF by facilitating a smooth transition of the Presidency.
- 19.3 By decision of Executive Board, the President Emeritus may be invited to attend all Executive Board meetings.

ARTICLE 20 - ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING

- 20.1 The financial year begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st.
- 20.2 The financial statements of the Association shall be audited by the Auditors appointed by the General Assembly for a period of two (2) years.

ARTICLE 21 - REPRESENTATION

ARISF is validly represented and legally bound by the collective signatures of the President and the Secretary General. The Executive Board may delegate the power of representation to one (1) or several of its members, and/or to one (1) or several employees or third parties.

ARTICLE 22 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 22.1 For any disputes between the ARISF and any of its Members or for any disputes arising amongst Members themselves, which cannot be settled amicably, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne shall have the exclusive jurisdiction. Unless parties agree otherwise, the dispute shall be resolved by a panel of three arbitrators to be appointed in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration.
- 22.2 The language of the arbitration shall be English and Swiss Law shall apply.

ARTICLE 23 - AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

- 23.1 These Statutes may be validly amended by a resolution of the General Assembly passed by qualified two-thirds (2/3) majority.
- 23.2 Amendments to the Statutes proposed by anyone other than the Executive Board shall be previously submitted to the Executive Board for approval.
- 23.3 Any proposal to amend these Statutes must be addressed to the Secretary General not later than forty-five (45) days before the date fixed for the General Assembly.
- 23.4 The Secretary General shall communicate any proposal to the Members.
- 23.5 A proposal may be withdrawn at any time if the Member that has submitted the proposal communicates its decision in writing to the Secretary General. Notwithstanding the above, the head of delegation of that Member may withdraw its proposal during the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 24 - DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

- 24.1 The Associate may be dissolved at an Extraordinary General Assembly convened for the purpose and by a resolution supported by a qualified two-thirds (2/3) majority.
- 24.2 Any assets remaining after the dissolution of the Association, shall, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, be applied to the furtherance of any objective(s) of the Association as determined by the General Assembly at, or before, the time of dissolution. If effect cannot be given to the foregoing provisions, they shall be given to a charitable



organisation. Under no circumstances shall they be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Association.

- 24.3 As soon as a proposal calling for the dissolution of the Association is submitted, this provision may not be altered.

ARTICLE 25 - FINAL PROVISIONS

- 25.1 The present Statutes prevail over all other internal rules.
- 25.2 The present Statutes has been adopted by the Members at the General Assembly of 13/11/2023 in the Olympic Museum, Lausanne. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, it comes immediately into effect and supersedes all previous versions.