

# IACS



**International Association of Combative Sports**

## STATUTES

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## **CONTENTS**

<b>CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>4</b>
Article 1. Name and headquarters	4
Article 2. Objectives	4
Article 3. Non-discrimination, gender balance	4
Article 4. Official languages	4
<b>CHAPTER II. ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>5</b>
Article 5. Bodies	5
<b>A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>5</b>
Article 6. Definition, Organization	5
Article 7. Powers of the General Assembly	5
Article 8. Delegates	6
Article 9. Quorums	6
Article 10. Voting	6
Article 11. Elections	7
Article 12. Election of the President	7
Article 13. Ordinary General Assembly	7
Article 14. Extraordinary General Assembly	8
<b>B. COUNCIL</b>	<b>8</b>
Article 15. Composition and Election	8
Article 16. Eligibility, term of office	8
Article 17. Presidential Election	9
Article 18. Meetings, Quorums	9
Article 19. Powers of the Council	9
<b>C. ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>10</b>
Article 20. Mission	10
Article 21. Director General	10

<b>CHAPTER III. MEMBERSHIP</b>	10
Article 22. Categories of Members	10
Article 23. Conditions for Membership	10
Article 24.A Membership Application Procedure (Full Member and Associate Member)	11
Article 24.B Membership Application File to be submitted (Full Member)	12
Article 24.C. Membership Application File to be submitted (Associate Member)	14
Article 25. Honorary Members	14
Article 26. Members' rights	15
Article 27. Members' obligations	15
Article 28. Resignation	15
Article 29. Revision of Membership	16
Article 30. Suspension	16
Article 31. Expulsion	16
Article 32. Notices	16
<b>CHAPTER IV. FINANCES</b>	16
Article 33. Subscriptions	16
Article 34. Finances, Liability	17
Article 35. Auditors	
<b>CHAPTER V. FINAL PROVISIONS</b>	17
Article 36. Dispute resolution	17
Article 37. Interpretation	17
Article 38. Modification of the Statutes	17
Article 39. Dissolution	18
Article 40. Independence of Members	18
Article 41. Enforcement	18

## **CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **ARTICLE 1. NAME AND HEADQUARTERS**

1.1 International Association of Combative Sports (“IACS”) is a not-for-profit association, composed of autonomous and independent international sports federations (the “IFs”) and other international, national and regional organizations contributing to Sports for All concept and promoting Olympism through assistance to Olympic and Paralympics movement and various fields from time to time.

1.2 IACS is constituted according to Sector 8 of Indian Companies Act 2013.

1.3 The registered office of IACS is located in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India.

### **ARTICLE 2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

2. The objectives of IACS are:

- a) to unite, promote and support the international combative federations; to preserve their autonomy, while co-ordinating their common interests and goals.
- b) to facilitate and promote knowledge-sharing and exchange of information between its Members;
- c) upon request from and in agreement with its Members, to develop specific services for its Members in unique areas which avoid duplication and overlap;
- d) to organize and coordinate multi-sports events and support the organization of multisport games by its Members in agreement and cooperation with its Members;
- e) to collaborate with academic and other organization for acquiring and dissemination of academic literature as and when required so;

### **ARTICLE 3. NON-DISCRIMINATION, GENDER BALANCE**

3.1 IACS rejects all forms and means of discrimination against individuals, groups of people, organizations or countries on grounds of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, race, politics and on any other grounds.

3.2 IACS also encourages gender balance and, in that respect, supports the promotion of women in sport at all levels and in all structures with a view to implementing the principle of equality of men and women.

### **ARTICLE 4. OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

4.1 The official languages of IACS are English and Hindi.

4.2 Only English or Hindi shall be used by IACS and by its Members in their relation with IACS. In the event of a dispute between English and Hindi texts (including but not limited to the present Statutes), the English text shall prevail.

## **CHAPTER II. ADMINISTRATION OF IACS**

### **ARTICLE 5. BODIES**

5.1 The General Council is the supreme body of IACS.

5.2 The Executive Council is the executive body.

#### **A. GENERAL COUNCIL**

### **ARTICLE 6. DEFINITION, ORGANISATION**

6.1 The General Council will have General Council Meeting which will be called as General Assembly and it will be the meeting of all IACS Members. It is the supreme body of IACS.

6.2 Only a General Assembly duly convened has the authority to exercise its powers.

6.3 The General Assembly may be ordinary or extraordinary.

6.4 The meetings of the General Assembly are open to the public except when decided otherwise by the General Assembly. When justified by the circumstances the President may, under the authority of the General Assembly, request individual members of the public to leave the conference room.

### **ARTICLE 7. POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

7. The General Assembly:

- a) adopts or amends the Statutes of IACS;
- b) may amend or revoke the regulations and directives of the Council that the General Assembly determines adversely affects any Members' right provided or described in article 9 or impinges on any power or other competence of the General Assembly provided or described in article 18;
- c) approves the minutes of the last meeting;
- d) admits, suspends (subject to article 13.1) or expels a Member (subject to article 14);
- e) elects the President;
- f) appoints the independent auditors;
- g) approves the budgets, the audited financial statements and the activity report;
- h) sets the amount of the subscription for Members;
- i) bestows, on a proposal by the Council, the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member on a retiring President or retiring Council member who rendered outstanding services to IACS;

j) exercises any other competence specifically attributed to it by the Statutes, regulations and directives of IACS as and when required/desired so for the betterment of the organization.

#### **ARTICLE 8. DELEGATES**

8.1 Each Member's delegation is limited to a maximum of 2 (two) persons preferably a male and female. A Member's delegation shall not include IACS Council members.

8.2 All delegates other than the President/Chair, Vice-President or Secretary General. Treasurer and other Member shall send to the Administration a power of attorney document signed by one of the above mentioned 2 (two) Officers, which he/she must carry on the day of the General Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 9. QUORUMS**

9.1 In order for the General Assembly to be validly convened, more than 1/2 (half) of the Members having voting rights must be present.

9.2 Decisions regarding the dissolution of IACS or amendments to the Statutes passed by the General Assembly shall only be valid if 2/3 (two-thirds) of the Members having voting rights are present.

9.3 Absent the quorum, a second General Assembly shall be held 24 (twenty-four) hours after the first was due to convene, with the same agenda. In that second General Assembly, no quorum is required, unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the IACS Statutes, the election of the President, the expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of IACS.

#### **ARTICLE 10. VOTING**

10.1 Each Full Member who has satisfied all its financial obligations toward IACS at the time of the meeting is entitled to one vote.

10.2 Delegates may not represent more than one Member.

10.3 Associate Members have no voting right, but have the right to speak at the General Assembly with prior information to the administration office in written format about the issue in details.

10.4 Save any indication to the contrary in these Statutes, all decisions shall be made by more than 1/2 (half) of the votes validly cast.

10.5 the General Assembly shall be passed by a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of the votes validly cast:

a) amendment of the agenda of the General Assembly

b) amendments to the Statutes

c) admission of a new Member in the case that a Member raises a Compatibility Issue against the admission of the said Applicant;

d) dissolution of IACS.

10.6 Illegible, void, blank votes, and abstentions shall not be included in the count of validly cast votes.

10.7 Except in the case of elections, voting shall be conducted by voting machines when available or otherwise, by a show of hands, unless 2 (two) or more Members having voting rights should request a secret ballot; in that case, voting machines may also be used, provided they allow for secrecy in voting.

10.8 The Council may submit any resolution within the competence of the General Assembly to a vote by correspondence to the Members. Resolutions passed by correspondence shall be considered decisions validly made by the General Assembly.

10.9 Voting by proxy or letter during the General Assembly is not allowed.

#### **ARTICLE 11. ELECTIONS**

11.1 A candidate is elected if he/she obtains the majority of the votes validly cast. If no candidate is elected in the first round, a second round shall take place between the two candidates having obtained the highest number of votes in the first round. In case of a tie, a third round shall take place. In case of a tie in the third round the election is done by drawing lots.

11.2 Voting for elections shall always be carried out by secret ballot whenever there is more than 1 (one) candidate up for election. Voting machines may be used provided they allow for secrecy in voting.

11.3 In the event there is only one candidate for the position being filled, the election will be carried out by acclamation, unless an election by secret ballot is requested by at least 2 (two) Members with voting rights.

#### **ARTICLE 12. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT**

12.1 During the election of the President, the outgoing President shall conduct the election.

12.2 The outgoing President continues to chair the General Assembly until its conclusion.

12.3 The newly elected President and Council members take office after the close of the General Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 13. ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

13.1 The Ordinary General Assembly is convened by the Council once a year.

13.2 All proposals by Members to modify the IACS Statutes should be communicated in writing to the Administration at least 4 (four) months prior to the General Assembly.

13.3 At least 6 (six) months before the date of the opening of the General Assembly, the Administration shall send a formal call to the meeting to all Members. The notice shall stipulate that any Member willing

to add a new item on the agenda must submit it to the IACS Administration no later than 4 (four) months prior to the meeting.

13.4 At least 1 (one) month before the General Assembly meets, the Administration shall circulate the agenda as prepared by the Council, together with the activity report and any other relevant document. The budget and the financial statements will be circulated immediately after having been audited, but, in any case, before the General Assembly.

13.5 Together with the agenda, the Administration shall circulate details of any membership applications submitted to the vote of the General Assembly and a brief description and results of any investigations made to that effect by the Administration as well as any recommendations by the Council. Objections to or reservations held regarding such membership applications must be communicated to the Administration together with the reasons for such objection or reservation, no later than 15 (fifteen) days prior to the General Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 14. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

14.1 An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at the request of the Council or shall be convened upon receipt of a written request from at least 1/5 (one-fifth) of the Members having the right to vote, no later than 2 (two) months following the request. Notification of the meeting will be sent out to the Members at least 30 (thirty) days in advance.

14.2 The notification shall detail the reasons for convening an Extraordinary General Assembly. No business other than that specified in the notification shall be conducted at such an Extraordinary Assembly, unless all Members are present and vote unanimously in favour of it.

#### **B. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

##### **ARTICLE 15. COMPOSITION AND ELECTION**

15.1 The Council is the executive body of IACS. It consists of 12 (twelve) members, including the President, who is elected by the General Assembly according to article 31 below.

15.2 The Council elects President, Secretary General, Treasurer, 4 (four) Vice-Presidents and 4 (four) Joint Secretaries, among the members of the Council.

##### **ARTICLE 16. ELIGIBILITY, TERM OF OFFICE**

16.1 The Council members must have reached the age of 18 (eighteen) when taking office and be in full possession of their civil rights.

16.2 Council members are appointed for a term of 4 (four) year's corresponding to the term of the President. They may be reappointed.

16.3 The Council members who, during their term of office with IACS, lose their position with the Member affiliated to the Organization which they represent shall continue to sit on the Council until the

next General Assembly, unless the relevant Member objects. In the latter case, the Organisation concerned, mentioned under article 29.2, shall appoint a substitute that will sit for the remainder of the term.

#### **ARTICLE 17. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

17.1 The President of IACS shall serve for a single four-year term of office. There shall be a rotation cycle so that the President of IACS shall come from and be nominated by a Member from one of the Organizations listed hereafter, in accordance with the following rotating cycle:

The rotating cycle will automatically renew itself for a successive cycle, and so on from cycle to cycle.

17.2 Nominations for the Presidency must be notified in writing to the Administration at the latest 30 (thirty) days before the beginning of the General Assembly meeting at which the elections will take place. The Director General will issue a note indicating the deadline to be observed at least sixty (60) days before the meeting at which the elections will take place.

17.3 President can only be elected from the full member organizations of eminence with good track record, without any disputes with any national and international organizations and who have paid their annual membership dues full in the last three years continuously.

17.4 Candidates must have reached the age of 18 (eighteen) at the date of the election and be in full possession of their civil rights.

17.5 Nominations that arrive after the deadline shall not be taken into consideration. If no candidate has been nominated within the deadline or if a nominee is no longer a candidate on the day of the General Assembly, the First Vice-President elected by the Council shall preside until the next General Assembly.

17.6 After the deadline for receiving nominations has been reached, the list of nominees for President will be distributed to the Members at least 15 (fifteen) days before the meeting at which the elections will take place.

17.7 The General Assembly elects the President for two (2) single four (4) year term.

#### **ARTICLE 18. MEETINGS, QUORUMS**

18.1 The Council shall meet in principle twice during each year of its period of office.

18.2 The quorum for meetings of the Council is met when the President plus 4 (four) other Council members are present (including by video, computer or telephone conference), except in exceptional circumstances when the President is unable to attend and does not wish or is unable to cancel the meeting, in which case the quorum shall be satisfied with 1 (one) Vice-President and 4 (four) other Council members.

18.3 The President or the Chair of the meeting has a casting vote in case of a tie.

18.4 Resolutions of the Council may also be adopted by way of written consent to a proposition.

## **ARTICLE 19. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL**

19.1. The Council is competent in all matters that are not reserved to other bodies by the Statutes, regulations and directives of IACS.

19.2 The Council lays down the regulations and directives of IACS.

19.3 The Council prepares and convenes Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies.

19.4 The Council may appoint any commission it deems necessary at any time.

## **C. ADMINISTRATION**

### **ARTICLE 20. MISSION**

20.1 The mission of the Administration is to implement the decisions made by the General Assembly and the Council, and carry out all the administrative duties of IACS, under the supervision of the Director.

20.2 Members of the Administration do not have voting rights except the Director General.

### **ARTICLE 21. DIRECTOR GENERAL**

21.1 The Director General is appointed by the Council. He/she shall be accountable to the Council for the running of the Administration and such other duties as may be required.

21.2 He/she hires the IACS staff after consultation with the President

## **CHAPTER III. MEMBERSHIP**

### **ARTICLE 22. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERS**

22.1 The Members of IACS are:

a) the Full Members;

b) the Associate Members, whose admission has been approved by the General Assembly. Unless the context otherwise indicates, the term “Member(s)” in these Statutes comprises both Full Members and Associate Members.

22.2 The Members of IACS are also categorized according to the following organizations

a) International Members (International Combative Sports or Martial Arts Organizations);

b) National Members (National Association of Combative Sports);

c) Associate Members (Regional/ National/ International Combative Sports or Martial Arts Organizations);

### **ARTICLE 23. CONDITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

23.1 May apply and become:

- a) a Full Member any sport organization (generally known as IF) which groups together the majority of the National Federations (the “NFs”) (or organizations) throughout the world practicing its sport and regularly holding international competitions; or
- b) a Full Member any sport organization (generally known as NACS) which groups together the majority of the National Federations (the “NFs”) (or organizations) throughout the national practicing its sport and regularly holding national competitions; or
- c) an Associate Member any sport organization which groups together the activities of several Members generally for the purpose of organizing competitions or any international, national and regional organization contributing to sport in various fields.

For the purpose of these Statutes, “NF” means a body representing combative sport or a number of sports in a Country that may be recognized by either the National Olympic Committee (the “NOC”) or any of the department of Government responsible in that country or any other organization which are reputed enough with high credentials in the society with at least two recommendation of the person involved with any of the above organizations.

A “Country” means either:

- 1. a state recognized by the International Community; or
- 2. a state having a NOC recognized by the International Olympic Committee (the “IOC”)

**ARTICLE 24.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PROCEDURE (FULL MEMBER AND ASSOCIATE MEMBER)**

24. A.1 The membership application procedure (the “Membership Application Procedure”) starts by filling a membership application form (the “Membership Application Form”) with IACS. The Membership Application Form shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- 1. a letter of intent signed by authorized representatives of the applicant (the “Applicant”) confirming its intent to become a Member of IACS and to provide without delay the complete membership application file containing all information, elements and documents required pursuant to articles 7.B. and 7.C. (the “Membership Application File”);
- 2. an acknowledgement form signed by authorized representatives of the Applicant confirming that the Applicant hereby agrees to be bound by the present Statutes and other IACS rules and regulations and accepts the authority of the relevant bodies and commission of IACS (including the Council, the General Assembly and the ad hoc Commission) as well as the jurisdiction of New Delhi court with respect to any issues arising out of or in connection with the Membership Application Procedure;
- 3. a proof of payment made out in USD, of the membership application fee (the “Membership Application Fee”). The Membership Application Fee is a one-off fee and is not refundable. For the avoidance of doubt, the Membership Application Fee does not cover or exempt from the payment of the membership subscription due after the Applicant becomes a Member and joins IACS.

24.A.2. Upon receipt of the membership application (the “Application”) which consists of (i) the Membership Application Form, (ii) the Membership Application Fee and (iii) the complete Membership Application File, the Administration shall review and assess the Application.

24.A.3 The Council shall examine any new membership applications in respect to the justification of the existence of the sport and to the existence of potential or existing rivalry issues, overlap or conflict of competence (the “Compatibility Issue”) with IACS Members and/or between two or more Applicants. The Council may conduct a due diligence to assess any Compatibility Issue between two Applicants and/or an Applicant and any Members. The costs of the due diligence process to be borne by the Applicant(s) will be subject to separate guidelines to be enacted by the Council. The Council may appoint one or more ad hoc Commission(s) to perform the duties. In such a case, the ad hoc Commission(s) will prepare a report to the attention of the Council setting out in particular its findings and conclusions upon completion of the due diligence, the investigations and the assessment of the Application.

24.A.4 On the basis of its investigations and/or the report of the ad hoc Commission and provided that the Council considers at its sole discretion that the Applicant has complied with all requirements as set out in this Membership Application Procedure, the Council shall issue for a positive recommendation to the attention of the General Assembly. The General Assembly is the sole competent body to admit new Members. However, should the Council consider at its sole discretion that the Applicant has not complied with all the requirements as set out in this Membership Application Procedure, the Council is entitled to decide not to submit the Applicant to the vote of the General Assembly which results in the termination of the current Membership Application Procedure.

24. A.5 In addition to the above rules and articles the Council is competent to enact guidelines implementing the provisions for admission, into IACS as member in any of its defined category.

#### **ARTICLE 24.B MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FILE TO BE SUBMITTED (FULL MEMBER)**

24.B Any Applicant shall submit the Membership Application File with the documents listed hereafter at least 6 (six) months prior to the commencement date of the General Assembly at which the Applicant is to be voted subject to article 27.A.4:

1. a written declaration signed by authorized representatives of the Applicants justifying that:
  - a) the sport or activity which it controls does not conflict with and there is no Compatibility Issue with an already existing Member of IACS;
  - b) the Applicant is the legitimate IF governing its sport at worldwide level. Upon request, the Applicant shall provide any information required by IACS, in particular by the ad hoc Commission, to document which solutions have been arranged with any other organization active in the sport(s)/disciplines governed by the Applicant.
2. a confirmation that the Applicant is a not-for-profit organization;
3. a copy of its constitution/statutes, regulations and directives including but not limited to any rules dealing with sport, ethics, disciplinary, manipulation of competitions or fight against violence matters as well as any all applicable health and safety regulations protecting the athletes and any other stakeholders)

which must comply with these Statutes any other applicable regulations, directives and decisions of IACS. The Constitution/statutes of the Applicant must also contain a specific provision recognizing the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of New Delhi, India.

4. a governance report setting out good governance mechanisms implemented within the Applicant (including but not limited to democratic process, term/age-limits, checks and balances, transparency and communication, compensation policy, audit functions, social responsibility, non-discrimination, allocation of resources for the global development of grass- roots activities) as well as ethical considerations implemented by the Applicant in particular in its management and operational processes;
5. a chart of its organizational structure (including staff), with detailed explanations and highlighting the gender balance within its staff, bodies and other commissions (men/women comparison) and, alternatively, explaining why the gender balance is not achieved;
6. the minutes of the last 1 (one) General Assemblies and the minutes of the last electoral congress if it took place during another General Assembly;
7. any element proving the Applicant's existence for at least 2 (two) years, including the list of the last 2 (two) General Assemblies, and the list of their attendees;
8. a list of its member NFs (where applicable), grouped by continents, which must count:
9. a membership certification signed by each NF recognized by the Applicant; only 1 (one) NF per sport and per country will be taken into account;
10. Each NF must be a full member of the Applicant. No categories other than the full membership to the Applicant will be taken into account;
12. a list of the NOCs or NSAs recognizing its NFs; A recognition certification signed by the NOC and/or NSA (together with a certified English translation) must be enclosed within the Membership Application File;
13. on a case-by-case basis and upon request from IACS a list of its international events involving NFs and their affiliated athletes;
14. a document presenting its events, explaining in particular:
  - the procedures implemented by the Applicant in order to ensure a high level of fairness and objectivity to its competitions (including selection, training, evaluation of judges);
  - the steps taken to present its sport in an interesting and attractive manner;
  - concrete examples of its ways of ensuring non-discrimination, fair play and solidarity in all of its activities;
15. copies of the financial statements (for the last 2 years) audited by a professional independent auditor, together with an itemization of income and expenses;

16. a strategic plan approved by the Applicant's executive body, covering the mid/long term (two (2) – four (4) years period);

17. a document describing the main achievements of the Applicant over the last two (2) years as well as the two (2) development programs along with the two (2) development programs specifically aimed at young people;

18. any other documents or information as requested by the ad hoc Commission and/or the Council.

**ARTICLE 24.C. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FILE TO BE SUBMITTED (ASSOCIATE MEMBER)**

24.C.1 In addition to the documents, information and elements required, any organization willing to apply for associate membership must submit its Membership Application File with the additional documents listed hereafter at least 6 (six) months prior to the commencement date of the General Assembly at which the Applicants is to be voted:

1. a list of its members, including NFs or IFs or NOCs (where applicable);

2. a membership certification signed by each member of the Applicant;

3. if the Applicant organizes sports events:

a) a list of its members (NFs or IFs or NOCs) represented in its two (2) most recent events. If the number of events is less than three, the Applicant is not eligible for associate membership;

b) a document presenting its event, explaining in particular:

- the procedures implemented by the Applicant in order to ensure a high level of fairness and objectivity to its competitions (including but not limited to selection, training, evaluation of judges):

- the steps taken to present its sport in an interesting and attractive manner;

- concrete examples of its ways of ensuring non-discrimination, fair play and solidarity in all of its activities;

- a list of all members that are involved in the organization of the events. If any of these members are not Members of IACS, they should not have Compatibility Issue with any of the IACS Members.

4. if the Applicant does not organize sports events:

a document presenting its events or other activities, explaining in particular the benefit of the Applicant's activities for IACS and/or its Members.

**ARTICLE 25. HONORARY NOMINATED MEMBERS**

The General Assembly may, upon a proposal by the Council, grant the title of "Honorary President" or "Honorary Member" respectively to a retiring President or a retiring Council member for their outstanding services to IACS. They may attend the General Assembly, but do not have the right to vote.

#### **ARTICLE 26. MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

Members have the right:

- a) to receive in advance the agenda of the General Assembly, to be called to the meeting within the prescribed time, to take part in the meeting and, if Full Members, to exercise their right to vote;
- b) to be informed of the activities and receive the audited financial statements of IACS to be approved by the General Assembly ;
- c) to participate in voting and in elections if a Full Member;
- d) to draw up proposals regarding the Agenda of the General Assembly;
- e) to nominate candidates to the Presidency of IACS;
- f) to exercise any other right arising from the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IACS.

#### **ARTICLE 27. MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS**

Members have the obligation:

- a) to comply at any time unreservedly with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IACS as well as the rules, including but not limited to any regulations, directives and decisions dealing with anti-doping, ethics, integrity of conduct, manipulation of competitions or fight against violence matters as well as any and all applicable health and safety regulations protecting the athletes and any other stakeholders,
- b) to have their executive bodies elected at all times by their respective general assembly's;
- c) to notify IACS, in writing, of any modification in their constitution or statutes that potentially affects the conditions of admission, of the inclusion or hiving off of any sport discipline and of any other change that potentially affects the conditions of admission;
- d) to pay their membership subscription in due time.

#### **ARTICLE 28. RESIGNATION**

28.1 A Member may resign at any time.

28.2 Such resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt of a notice of resignation signed by the authorized person(s) and shall be reported to the next General Assembly by the Administration of IACS.

28.3 A Member that resigns remains liable for any outstanding obligations to IACS.

## **ARTICLE 29. REVISION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Modifications of its constitution/statutes, regulations and directives by a Member, inclusion or having off of sport disciplines to its program affecting the conditions of admission or ceasing to comply with the conditions of membership may result in the revision by the General Assembly of its membership to IACS. As a result of such revision, the General Assembly may set a deadline within which the Member shall comply with any directions that the General Assembly may give, failing which the General Assembly may decide to suspend or expel the Member.

## **ARTICLE 30. SUSPENSION**

30.1 The Council may suspend a Member until the next General Assembly:

- a) if it fails to comply with a provision of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IACS;
- b) if it fails to fulfil its financial obligations and pay its liabilities due to IACS;
- c) if it owes 2 (two) years of overdue annual membership subscription to IACS.

30.2 A final decision must be made by the next General Assembly, provided the suspension is still in force at that time.

## **ARTICLE 31. EXPULSION**

31.1. A Member shall lose its membership to IACS on a resolution passed by the IACS General Assembly, notably for the following reasons:

- a) refusal to pay any liabilities due to IACS;
- b) non-payment of any membership subscription due to IACS for 2 (two) or more years;
- c) refusal to comply with the provisions of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IACS;
- d) loss of its status as representative of its sport at the international level.

## **ARTICLE 32. NOTICES**

32.1 A notice or notification to a Member shall be deemed to have been properly received provided it was sent by regular mail, by electronic message or by fax.

32.2 Notification regarding suspension or expulsion of the Member concerned or dissolution of IACS shall always be sent by registered mail.

## **CHAPTER IV. FINANCES**

### **ARTICLE 33. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

33.1 All Members of IACS shall pay an annual subscription according to the following scale:

- a) Full Members: 100% (one hundred per cent) of the subscription;

b) Associate Members: 75% (seventy-five per cent) of the subscription.

33.2 New Members shall pay a partial subscription for the current year, as of the month of their membership acceptance.

33.3 The amount of the subscription shall be decided by each General Assembly on a proposal from the Council and shall be payable no later than 31st of June.

33.4 Should a General Assembly not be held in any one or more years, the same amount of subscription as the previous year shall become due on the 31st of June.

#### **ARTICLE 34. FINANCES, LIABILITY**

34.1 IACS shall be financially bound, within the limits of the approved budget, by the joint signatures of the President and the Director, or of the Director and the Treasurer or Vice-President.

34.2 Members shall only be legally and financially liable, toward IACS and third parties, up to the limit of their annual subscription to IACS.

34.3 The financial year of IACS shall run from the 1st April to the 31st of March annually.

#### **ARTICLE 35. AUDITORS**

35.1 The financial statements must be audited each year by external qualified professional Auditors, totally independent from IACS. Their duty is to audit the financial statements and present their report to the General Assembly, with their conclusions and recommendations, notably with regards to the approval of the financial statements by the General Assembly.

35.2 The Auditors must be appointed by the General Assembly, generally for a period of 2 (two) years. Their mandate may be renewed.

### **CHAPTER V. FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **ARTICLE 36. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Any dispute arising from, or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IACS can be resolved by a competent internal body of IACS.

#### **ARTICLE 37. INTERPRETATION**

The authority for settling any dispute arising out of the interpretation of these Statutes shall reside with the President, or First Vice-President, if the President is absent, unable or unwilling to preside, who shall seek the advice of the Council or General Assembly before making a final decision.

#### **ARTICLE 38. MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES**

These Statutes may only be modified by the General Assembly or by an Extraordinary Assembly convened especially for that purpose.

**ARTICLE 39. DISSOLUTION**

39.1 The intended dissolution of IACS shall require an Extraordinary Meeting of the General Assembly at which the proposed dissolution shall be the sole item on the agenda.

39.2 Any assets remaining after the dissolution of IACS, shall, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, be applied to the furtherance of any objective(s) of IACS 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 organization. Under no circumstances shall they be paid to or distributed among the Members of IACS.

**ARTICLE 40. INDEPENDENCE OF MEMBERS**

No discussion or voting by IACS shall infringe in any way on the freedom and independence of any Member, who shall, at all times, retain complete independence and control over all matters falling within its field of activity.

**ARTICLE 41. ENFORCEMENT**

This version of the Statutes has been adopted by the General Assembly in Greater Noida - India on 05 August- 2019 and came into force immediately.