

ASSOCIATION OF IOC RECOGNISED INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS (ARISF)

STATUTES

DECEMBER 2021



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ARTICLE 1 – NAME

- 1.1 The name of the association is: “Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations”.
- 1.2 The official abbreviation of the association is “ARISF”.

ARTICLE 2 – FOUNDATION AND DURATION

- 2.1 ARISF was founded in 1984 by the International Sports Federations (IFs) 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.
- 3.2 The Council shall decide on the location of the ARISF Headquarters.

ARTICLE 4 – LEGAL STATUS AND BODIES

- 4.1 ARISF is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-discriminatory association of IFs that is recognised by the IOC under Article 3.3 of the Olympic Charter. ARISF is also an association within the provisions of Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code.
- 4.2 ARISF shall have full legal status.
- 4.3 The proper law of ARISF is the law of its official seat.
- 4.4 The bodies of ARISF shall be the General Assembly and the Council and any other bodies created by the General Assembly or the Council.
- 4.5 Nothing in these Statutes shall constitute Members of ARISF as partners for any purpose. No Member, officer, agent, or employee of ARISF shall be liable for the acts or failure to act on the part of any other Member, officer, agent or employee of ARISF. Nor shall any Member, officer, agent or employee be liable for his/her acts or failure to act under these Statutes, except only acts or omissions to act arising out of his/her wilful misfeasance.

ARTICLE 5 – OBJECTS

The objectives of ARISF are:

- 5.1 To discuss matters raised by its members on questions of common interest, in relation to Olympism and the Olympic Movement and in relation to the role of recognised IFs as an integrated part of the Olympic Movement.
- 5.2 To coordinate and defend the common interests of its members in the above context.
- 5.3 To ensure close co-operation between its members, as well as other Sports Federations and organisations.



- 5.4 To act as a spokesman on behalf of its members in matters relating to the Olympic Charter, the Olympic Congress, Olympic Solidarity, the Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement in general.
- 5.5 To maintain the authority, independence and autonomy of its members and to ensure respect of the decisions made by the General Assembly.
- 5.6 To decide on nominations of ARISF representatives on International Sports Organisations.
- 5.7 To ensure the widest possible participation at IOC Congresses and in IOC Programs and Projects.
- 5.8 To encourage the convening of its members for the purpose of creating links of friendship, solidarity and collaboration between them.
- 5.9 To actively support the inclusion of the sports of its members in the Olympic Program.
- 5.10 Such other aims and objectives as may from time to time be defined by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 6 – LANGUAGE

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

ARTICLE 7 – MEMBERSHIP

- 7.1 ARISF is composed of IFs that are recognised or provisionally recognised by the IOC according to Article 25 of the Olympic Charter as recognised IFs and whose sports are not full member of ASOIF or AIOWF. International Sports Federations that are not recognised by the IOC as recognised IFs cannot be a member of ARISF.
- 7.2 Each IF that is recognised or provisionally recognised by the IOC can affiliate as an ARISF member. IFs seeking ARISF membership must submit a written application to the ARISF President. The ARISF President shall confirm the membership request following verification of the recognition status by the IOC.
- 7.3 A Member will automatically lose its membership status when one or more of its disciplines are included as full member of ASOIF or AIOWF. A Member will also lose its membership should, for any reason whatsoever, the IOC decide to withdraw that member's recognition.

ARTICLE 8 – INDEPENDENCE AND AUTONOMY OF MEMBER IFS

- 8.1 The Member IFs maintain full independence and autonomy in the administration of their own sports.
- 8.2 The Member IFs shall observe the decisions taken by the General Assembly in relation to the objects stated in these Statutes. The fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter shall prevail in all actions taken by ARISF and its Members. Rules and regulations, if issued by ARISF, shall not conflict with or derogate from those principles.



ARTICLE 9 – SUBSCRIPTION FEE

Members IFs shall pay such subscriptions as the General Assembly decides.

ARTICLE 10 – THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10.1 The General Assembly is the highest authority of ARISF. It shall be held at least once a year and shall have all the powers in ARISF that, according to governing law and these Statutes, have not been given to other bodies of ARISF. In particular:

- a) A General Assembly or Extraordinary General Assembly may take place in person, in writing or by way of electronic means (“Virtual Congress/Extraordinary Congress”) or a combination of in person and by way of electronic means (“Hybrid Congress/Extraordinary Congress”).
- b) In special circumstances the resolution, decision and/or disposition of a Congress or Extraordinary General Assembly may be taken in writing. The ARISF Council is competent to decide in which circumstances a resolution, decision and/or disposition of a General Assembly or Extraordinary General Assembly may be taken in writing. In this case, the ARISF Council must give written notice (including by way of email) to the Members at least thirty (30) days before the date of the General Assembly/ Extraordinary General Assembly
- c) In special circumstances a General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly can be postponed or held by way of electronic means or by a combination of in person and by way of electronic means (“Virtual or Hybrid General Assembly/Extraordinary Assembly”) allowing ARISF Members to attend it by way of electronic means (video and/or audio). The ARISF Council must give written notice (including by way of email) to the Members at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Virtual or Hybrid General Assembly/Extraordinary General Assembly

The General Assembly is empowered to:

- a) Approve and modify the Statutes.
- b) Elect the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Council Members as well as the Financial Auditors.
- c) Approve the yearly statements of accounts.
- d) Discharge from responsibility the Council and the Financial Auditors.
- e) Determine the membership fees.
- f) Approve new Members.
- g) Exclude Members.
- h) Voluntarily dissolve ARISF.
- i) Decide on all other cases foreseen in these Statutes and the By-Laws.



- 10.2 Extraordinary General Assemblies shall be held at a place and on a date determined by the Council:
- a) When requested by a decision of the Council;
 - b) Within four (4) months of the receipt by the Council of a requisition by not less than one third (1/3) of its members; or
 - c) On the request of the President.
- 10.3 Not less than four (4) months' notice shall be given to convene a General Assembly and such notice shall specify the place, date and time of the meeting and include an invitation to the members to submit items to the agenda at least 75 days prior to the meeting. The agenda of the meeting shall be sent out at least 45 days prior to the meeting.
- 10.4 The General Assembly shall be composed of:
- a) Up to three (3) delegates from each Member IF, one of whom shall be the head of the delegation to be declared before the opening of the meeting. The head of the delegation must be a member of the Executive Committee/ Council/ Board of Directors of the IF he/she represents. Only the Head of Delegation has the right to vote at the ARISF General Assembly. No member of the ARISF Council may be Head of Delegation.
 - b) Members of the Council
 - c) The President Emeritus, without voting rights.
 - d) Honorary Members of ARISF under Article 10.13, without voting rights.
 - e) Other persons that may attend the General Assembly at the discretion of the President.
- 10.5 The agenda of the General Assembly shall include at least:
- a) President's address.
 - b) Roll call to determine the number of present votes.
 - c) Approval of the Agenda.
 - d) Election of three (3) scrutinisers.
 - e) Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly.
 - f) Annual Report(s) of the President and the Secretary General.
 - g) Annual Financial Report(s).
 - h) Report of the Financial Auditors.
 - i) Approval of the accounts and discharge of the Council.
 - j) Fixing the date, time and place of the next General Assembly.
 - k) Any other items which have been proposed by the Council or by one or more Members. These items should reach the Secretary General at least 75 days before the date of the General Assembly.



- 10.6 The General Assembly may debate only those matters appearing on the approved agenda.
- 10.7 The President shall preside over the General Assembly but he/she may request the meeting to appoint a Chairperson in his place. If the President is absent, the Vice-President shall preside over the Assembly. If also the Vice-President is absent, the Secretary General shall open the General Assembly and request the delegates to appoint a member of the Council to take the Chair.
- 10.8 The General Assembly and the Extraordinary General Assembly are validly held when at least half plus one Member IFs of ARISF having right to vote are attending. Resolutions are validly taken by simple majority, which is the majority of votes cast, excluding abstentions. The dissolution of ARISF and amendments to the Statutes, dismissal of Council members shall be validly resolved upon if approved by qualified majority, that is by at least half of the votes of the Member IFs of ARISF having right to vote.
- 10.9 Each Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- 10.10 Voting at General Assembly shall be dealt with as follows:
 - a) Voting by a proxy vote is not permitted.
 - b) All voting on business matters shall be taken by show of hands, and all voting on matters concerning persons shall be by secret ballot, unless the President or the meeting, by simple majority, shall determine a different form of voting.
 - c) If voting is by ballot, the scrutinisers will open the ballot papers and decide on the validity of each vote cast.
 - d) Election of the scrutinisers requires a simple majority.
 - e) The approval of the agenda of the General Assembly shall be by a simple majority.
 - f) The General Assembly may decide to carry out an electronic ballot outside of the meeting. Electronic ballots are regulated by procedures set out in the By-Laws.
- 10.11 Elections at a General Assembly shall be dealt with as follows:
 - a) The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Council Members shall be elected in such order. Each voter shall vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies. The candidates who obtain the largest number of votes shall be elected. In case of an equality of votes 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 position or if there are as many candidates as there are positions, the election is conducted without voting.
 - c) Each candidate is entitled to three (3) minutes address. A resume of each candidate seeking election shall be circulated to all delegates by the Secretary General.



- 10.12 Decisions taken by the General Assembly shall be immediately binding and effective, unless the Assembly resolves otherwise.
- 10.13 The General Assembly may confer by special majority the title of Honorary Member upon persons who have rendered exceptional service to ARISF.

ARTICLE 11 – COUNCIL

11.1 Authority

- a) The Council shall be responsible for 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) The Council shall, subject to the directions of the General Assembly, have full power and authority 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. The Council shall resolve upon all matters not otherwise reserved to the General Assembly by these Statutes.

11.2 Composition

- a) The Council shall consist of:
 - i. The President
 - ii. The Vice-President
 - iii. The Secretary General
 - iv. Three (3) Members.No IF shall be represented within the Council by more than one (1) person.
- b) Nominations must reach the Secretary General not later than 75 days before the date fixed for the General Assembly. All nominations shall include a resume of the candidate.
- c) 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.
- d) All members of the Council shall hold office for a term of four (4) years, unless the Council members are appointed or elected in a vacancy resulting before the term of a Council 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 Council, the General Assembly may by qualified majority decide to remove a Council member on the grounds of misconduct or conduct prejudicial to the interests and objects of ARISF.
- e) Members of the Council are eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office.

11.3 Meetings

- a) The Council shall meet at least once in each year at such time and place as the President decides.



b) The President Emeritus is invited to attend all Council meetings.

11.4 Vacancies

a) If the President dies, resigns, becomes permanently incapacitated or otherwise loses office under these Statutes, the Vice-President shall assume office as Acting President until the next General Assembly. The Acting President shall be entitled to all privileges and be responsible for all duties of the President.

b) If the Vice-President or Secretary General relinquishes or otherwise loses office under these Statutes, the President shall appoint the Acting Vice-President or Secretary General out of the remaining Council members, until the next General Assembly. Such acting Vice-President or Secretary General shall be entitled to all privileges and responsible for all duties of the Council member he/she is appointed to replace.

c) If any of the Council Members relinquish or otherwise lose office under these Statutes the position(s) will remain vacant until the next General Assembly.

11.5 Within the framework of the authority given to the Council, it may delegate its day-to-day affairs to the President, the Secretary General, or one (1) of several of its Council Members or Members.

11.6 The President and/or the Secretary General are empowered, within the limits of their responsibilities to enter jointly into legal binding transactions on behalf of ARISF, not exceeding CHF 10,000.00. For any transactions exceeding this amount, approval by the Council shall be required.

11.7 The President is empowered to represent ARISF vis-à-vis third parties and as such to enter into legally binding transactions and sign any agreement or other document on behalf of ARISF provided that such transactions and agreements do not conflict with the Statutes/Constitution and the By-Laws and those they were approved by the Council or the General Assembly. The Council may appoint the President, the Secretary General, or a Council Member or Members to represent ARISF in any legal matter.

11.8 In accordance with Article 29 of the SportAccord Statutes, ARISF is entitled to designate two SportAccord Council members, of whom one shall be the President of ARISF ex officio, whereas the other one shall be appointed by ARISF Council upon recommendation of ARISF President.

ARTICLE 12 – COUNCIL MEMBERS

12.1 The President shall represent ARISF in all circumstances, including at law, both as plaintiff and defendant.

12.2 The President of ARISF

a) shall chair the General Assembly and the meetings of the Council and draw up the agenda of these meetings.

b) may appoint at his discretion an Executive Director of ARISF, who shall assist the President in the management of the ARISF, or any other person for special tasks.



- c) shall have all other powers, rights and duties provided for in these Statutes or in the Swiss Laws.
- 12.3 The Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties and deputise for him as requested.
- 12.4 The Secretary General is responsible for the administration of ARISF. The Secretary General is also in charge of budgeting, implementing, recording, reporting, planning and controlling of ARISF's finances.

ARTICLE 13 – PRESIDENT EMERITUS

- 13.1 By qualified 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.
- 13.2 The President Emeritus shall serve ARISF by facilitating a smooth transition of the Presidency.
- 13.3 The President Emeritus shall be allowed to represent ARISF and the ARISF Council, in close consultation with and subject to any restrictions laid down by the President.
- 13.4 The President may designate specific tasks to the President Emeritus.
- 13.5 The President Emeritus reports to the President and is invited to attend all Council meetings, without right to vote.

ARTICLE 14 – EXPENSES OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

All expenses of Council members are to be met by the IF nominating the Council member, with the exception of costs accounted for in the budget approved by the Council.

ARTICLE 15 – FINANCIAL AUDITORS

- 15.1 The General Assembly shall elect two (2) financial auditors.
- 15.2 The financial auditors may not be members of the Council.
- 15.3 It shall be the duty of the financial auditors to examine the financial administration of ARISF, its balance sheet and the profit and loss statement, as well as any other matters in the ARISF financial administration.
- 15.4 If the financial auditors agree to the balance sheet and the profit and loss account, they shall propose to the General Assembly that the accounts be approved.
- 15.5 The Council is obliged to give the financial auditors any information it requires and to permit inspection of any documents.

ARTICLE 16 – ACCOUNTS

- 16.1 The Council shall maintain such accounting records that the financial position of ARISF can be ascertained at all times. The accounting records shall be expressed in a currency decided by the Council.



- 16.2 The Council shall submit its annual report including a balance sheet and a profit and loss account to the General Assembly and present a fully documented report of its management in the previous financial year. The financial year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of the same year.
- 16.3 The Council shall approve the budget of the current year as well as the budget of the following year.
- 16.4 Acceptance of the annual accounts by the General Assembly shall release the Council from liability for all acts apparent from the annual accounts

ARTICLE 17 – COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT

- 17.1 For any controversies between the ARISF and any of its Members IFs or amongst them, which cannot be friendly settled within a reasonable term, the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne shall have exclusive jurisdiction. The controversy shall be resolved by a panel of arbitrators to be appointed in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration.
- 17.2 The language of the arbitration shall be English and Swiss Law shall apply.

ARTICLE 18 – DISPUTES OF INTERPRETATION

In all cases in which application of these Statutes leads to dispute regarding their interpretation, the Council shall decide the matter, with the right to appeal to the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE 19 – MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

In urgent cases, not provided for in these Statutes, the Council is empowered to pass and enforce any necessary resolution, which will remain in force until ratification by the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE 20 – MODIFICATION

- 20.1 These Statutes may be validly amended by a resolution of the General Assembly passed by qualified majority.
- 20.2 Amendments to the Statutes proposed by anyone other than the Council shall be submitted to the Council for approval.
- 20.3 The proposal must reach the Secretary General not later than 75 days before the date fixed for the General Assembly.
- 20.4 The Secretary General shall communicate any proposal to the Members.
- 20.5 A proposal may be withdrawn at any time but a withdrawal by a Member must be in writing unless it is made by the head of delegation of that Member during the General Assembly.



ARTICLE 21 – DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

- 21.1 ARISF may only be dissolved at an Extraordinary General Assembly convened for the purpose and by a resolution supported by the 2/3 of the votes present.
- 21.2 If dissolved, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of ARISF shall be fully discharged and the remaining assets, if any, shall be distributed to the members at the time of the resolution dissolving ARISF.
- 21.3 If following a resolution dissolving ARISF, no liquidators are appointed, the Council shall carry out the liquidation procedure.
- 21.4 After dissolution, ARISF shall continue to exist insofar as this is necessary for the liquidation of its assets. During the liquidation procedure, these Statutes shall remain in force. In documents and announcements issued by ARISF, the words "in liquidation" must be added to the name.
- 21.5 As soon as a proposal calling for the dissolution of ARISF is submitted, this Article, including **Articles 21.1 – 21.5** may not be altered.

ARTICLE 22 – FINAL PROVISIONS

This constitution has been adopted by the Members of ARISF at the General Assembly of 15 December 2021, held virtually. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, it comes immediately into effect and supersedes all previous versions.