

# 1.1 STATUTES OF THE WORLD MINIGOLF SPORT FEDERATION



## **Part 1: GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **Art. 1: Name and form**

- 1.1 The World Minigolf Sport Federation (WMF), herein after referred to also as the Federation, is the international umbrella organisation of all minigolf-players.
- 1.2 Members of the WMF are national minigolf associations or, in the case of countries where a national association does not yet exist, a club or sports institution.

### **Art. 2: Aims of the WMF**

- 2.1 To promote minigolf internationally and to take whatever measures are necessary to this end.
- 2.2 To represent the interests of its members at international level with regard to the authorities, other sport associations, the mass media and the public, in as far as this is not the responsibility of the members.
- 2.3 To promote sporting contact between all minigolf-players, and to organize all World Championships
- 2.4 To monitor and ensure the keeping of the existing system-specific rules; to develop a set of standard rules (in as far as the technical peculiarities of courses allow this); and to draw up an international sporting calendar.
- 2.5 To combat doping by all available means; to acknowledge and incorporate within its organization the WADA-Code and its provisions. WMF hereby fights for equality of opportunity in competitions, for the image of the sport in the publicity and for the protection of the healthiness of all athletes.

### **Art. 3: Legal seat and Duration**

- 3.1 The legal seat of the WMF is in Basel, Switzerland.
- 3.2 The duration of the WMF is unlimited.

### **Art. 4: Principles**

- 4.1 The WMF stands for freedom in sport, its voluntary nature, and the community of sport.
- 4.2 The WMF makes no distinction of race or religion and is politically neutral.
- 4.3 The WMF accepts the IOC Charter as drafted in its valid version.
- 4.4 The aims of the WMF are purely non-profit-making.
- 4.5 The bodies and functionaries of the WMF work on an honorary basis. Travel costs and expenses are reimbursed strictly in accordance with the relevant regulations covering expenses.

**Art. 5: General provisions**

- 5.1 Both genders should be represented in committees of WMF.
- 5.2 Individuals below the age of 18 may not be elected in any committee.
- 5.3 The name of the WMF, the logos, trademarks, flags, motto, anthem and other brands used by the WMF are protected. The active members may only use the logos, trademarks, flags, motto, anthem and other brands within the framework of their non-profit-making activities, provided such use contributes to the development of minigolf sport and does not detract from its dignity, and provided the active member concerned has obtained the prior approval of the Executive Committee based on a single decision or a regulation issued by the Executive Committee.

**Part 2: MEMBERSHIP****Art. 6: Membership**

There are the following kinds of members:

- 6.1 Active members  
(Nations / Clubs / Sports Institutions)
- 6.2 Honorary members

**Art. 7: Admission regulations for active members**

- 7.1 Only one association may represent each nation as an active member. In countries where a national minigolf association does not yet exist, clubs or sports institutions may apply to join the WMF.
- 7.2 The admission of active members can only take place following a written application by the prospective member to the WMF. This must contain a legally binding signature. The constitution of the association/club must be enclosed.  
If a national minigolf association does not yet exist, this fact must be noted. The details of the affiliation process are drawn up in a rule issued by the Delegates Conference.  
After examination of the application document, provisional admission may be granted by the WMF-Executive Committee. The Admission is subject to formal ratification by the next Delegates' Conference.
- 7.3 By joining the WMF, active members accept the Federation's Statutes, rules and regulations. Active members are obliged to make sure that these precepts are also respected by its member clubs/sports institutions and players.
- 7.4 The active members are bound by the rules of the Delegates' Conference in respect of fees, charges and taxes; and have to pay these by April 30 of each year.  
Newly admitted active members of the WMF do not have to pay membership fees for the year of their admission and the year thereafter.
- 7.5 Newly admitted active members have all rights resulting from the Statutes immediately after their admission is ratified by the Delegates' Conference.

Notwithstanding the above, newly admitted active members may only receive reimbursements from licensing and rights agreements once the period of time during which they pay no membership fees has expired.

#### **Art. 8: Changes of constitution**

Active members shall submit to the WMF all changes of their constitution.

#### **Art. 9: Right of appeal of active members**

An appeal against refusal of admission or an imposed sanction can be submitted to the Legal Committee within 60 (sixty) days of the announcement.

#### **Art. 10: Termination of active membership**

**10.1** The membership of an active member expires with resignation, exclusion or disbanding of the national association or the club/sports institution.

**10.2** The resignation of an active member must have been decided by its highest body. The minutes recording such decision must be sent by registered letter to the WMF within **3** (three) months. Membership fees must be paid until the end of the business year in which the resignation is received.

**10.3** If an active member violates the interests of the Federation, damages its reputation, either internally or externally, or disregards or violates the Statutes, rules or regulations, the WMF Executive Committee may take sanctions against the active member concerned. The Delegates' Conference takes the final decision on an expulsion.

#### **Art. 11: Honorary members**

**11.1** On the suggestion of the Executive Committee or on application of an active member, the Delegates' Conference can appoint as honorary members individuals who have made a great personal contribution to the world-wide sport of minigolf.

**11.2** Honorary members have no voting rights. They pay no fees. Otherwise they are treated as equal to active members.

#### **Art. 12: Members' rights**

Members have the right:

**12.1** to participate in international championships organised by the WMF, provided that they meet with the obligations towards the WMF;

**12.2** to receive in advance the agenda of the Delegates Conference, to be called in the meeting within the prescribed time, to take part to the meeting and to exercise their right to vote;

**12.3** to be informed of the state of the WMF;

**12.4** to participate in voting and in elections;

**12.5** to draw up proposals regarding the agenda of the Delegates Conference;

**12.6** to nominate candidates to the committees of the WMF;

- 12.7 to exercise any other rights arising from the Statutes, rules, regulations and decisions of the WMF.

## **Part 3: ORGANISATION**

### **1. THE DELEGATES' CONFERENCE**

#### **Art. 13: Powers and duties**

- 13.1 The Delegates' Conference is the highest decision-making authority in the WMF. It takes decisions on all important questions and issues arising in world-wide international minigolf sport, except in cases where such right is reserved for the members. The Delegates' Conference lays down the guidelines for the running of the Federation.
- 13.2 The Delegates' Conference is authorised, amongst other things, to carry out the following functions:
- 13.2.1 Election of members of Executive Committee
  - 13.2.2 Election of members of the Technical Committee, Youth Committee, Legal Committee and Auditors
  - 13.2.3 Approval of the annual accounts and budget estimates
  - 13.2.4 Relieving Executive Committee members of their duties
  - 13.2.5 Setting of membership fees and tournament fees
  - 13.2.6 Passing of a resolution on the appointment or dissolution of special committees
  - 13.2.7 Passing of a resolution on motions put forward by the Executive Committee, the Technical Committee, other committees or their members, or the Auditors, where applicable
  - 13.2.8 Considering and approving changes in Statutes and rules
  - 13.2.9 Determining organisers/venues of international competitions as far as this task is not the responsibility of the continental federations. In cases where the championships have not been awarded at least **4** (four) years before the event, the right to decide the venue transfers to the Executive Committee.
  - 13.2.10 Expulsion of members
  - 13.2.11 Dissolution of the Federation

#### **Art. 14: Structure and voting rights**

- 14.1 The Delegates' Conference consists of:
- 14.1.1 The members of the Executive Committee (with voting rights).
  - 14.1.2 The delegates of the active members (with voting rights).
  - 14.1.3 Honorary members (without voting rights).
- 14.2 General voting rights:
- 14.2.1 Each Executive Committee member has one personal vote, which is not transferable.
  - 14.2.2 Active members with up to and including **300 active** players have **2** (two) votes, active members with **more than 300** active players and up to and **including 2500** active players have **3** (three) votes, Active members with **more than 2500** active players have **4** (four) votes. An active member's right to vote is

not transferable. The number of active players is based on the membership statistics report submitted by each active member for the current year.

**14.2.3** Delegates cannot make use of a personal right to vote.

**14.2.4** A delegate can make use of all votes of the active member.

**14.3** Voting rights at elections:

**14.3.1** At a Delegates' Conference which has elections on the agenda, the pre-election active members and current Executive Committee members are eligible to vote.

**14.3.2** Only the active members are eligible to vote on elections.

**14.3.3** After new elections active members and the newly elected members of the Executive Committee are eligible to vote.

**14.3.4** Proof of voting rights:

The right to vote of the delegates must be confirmed in writing by the national association or the club/the sports institution of the active member concerned.

## **Art. 15: Quorum and passing of resolutions**

**15.1** A Delegates' Conference which has been convened in accordance with the Statutes always has a quorum.

**15.2** Resolutions passed by the Delegates' Conference are affected by simple majority, with the exception of such instances as are listed in the Statutes.

**15.3** A tied vote will result in rejection.

**15.4** Record of proceedings

**15.4.1** Minutes must be taken of the resolutions passed at the Delegates' Conference, and signed by both the Executive Committee member responsible for the minutes and by the person taking the minutes. The minutes must be distributed to all members not later than **60** (sixty) days after the conference.

**15.4.2** The minutes are regarded as approved, if after **60** (sixty) days of distribution no written objections have been raised. Objections raised will be discussed at the next meeting. Until then the minutes are considered approved only in the points where no objections were raised.

**15.5** In the event of questions and matters arising which have to be cleared up without delay, a postal vote is possible. This carries the same force as a resolution passed by the Delegates' Conference.

This type of voting can also be used in the other bodies of the WMF. (Votes not received on time will be interpreted as endorsement.)

## **Art. 16: Elections**

**16.1** Save any indication to the contrary in these Statutes, elections are held on the basis of the simple majority.

**16.2** Election of the members of the Executive Committee are held on the basis of the absolute majority (>**50%**) of the votes validly cast. In the event the absolute majority is not reached in the first round, a second round will be organised, under the rule of the relative majority (the highest number of votes). In the event of a tie, a third round shall take

place after the elimination of the candidate who has obtained the least number of votes in the second round; this procedure shall continue until only one candidate remains. In case of persisting equality between candidates, they shall be separated by drawing lots.

- 16.3** Illegible, void, blank or improper votes, and abstentions shall not be included in the count of validly cast votes.
- 16.4** Voting for elections shall always be carried out by secret ballot whenever there is more than **1** (one) candidate for the office up for election. Voting machines may be used provided they allow secrecy in voting.
- 16.5** 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) active members having voting rights.
- 16.6** Voting by proxy or letter is not allowed.
- 16.7** Transfer of voting rights to other delegates or WMF committee members is not allowed.

#### **Art. 17: President and committee members in office**

- 17.1** During the election of the President, the out-going President shall, if seeking re-election, surrender the chair to a “chairman pro-tempore”, elected by the Delegates Conference, who will then conduct the election.
- 17.2** Subject to a contrary decision by the Delegates Conference the re-elected or newly elected President continues to chair the Delegates Conference.
- 17.3** The newly elected members of the Executive Committee take office immediately after the election.

#### **Art. 18: Ordinary and Extraordinary Delegates' Conference**

- 18.1** Ordinary Delegates' Conferences are held every **2** (two) years.
- 18.2** The Executive Committee or at least one fifth of the active members can arrange or call for an Extraordinary Delegates' Conference to be convened, as long as there are appropriate and urgent reasons for this.

#### **Art. 19: The act of convening**

- 19.1** In order for an Ordinary Delegates' Conference to be convened, all members must be informed in writing and the agenda made known at least **90** (ninety) days before the date of the conference. The conference is convened by the Executive Committee member responsible for this. The exact venue and time of the conference can be announced at a later date.
- 19.2** An Extraordinary Delegates' Conference can be convened at as little as **30** (thirty) days notice.

#### **Art. 20: Motions**

- 20.1** Motions can be proposed for the Delegates' Conference by the following:
  - 20.1.1** The active members
  - 20.1.2** The Executive Committee

- 20.1.3** The Technical Committee
  - 20.1.4** The Legal Committee
  - 20.1.5** The Special Committees
  - 20.1.6** The honorary members
  - 20.1.7** The Auditors
- 20.2** Motions must be submitted with an explanation to the WMF not later than **60** (sixty) days before the Delegates' Conference is to be held. A compilation of the motions is distributed by the Secretary General to all members at least **30** (thirty) days before the conference. Motions submitted after the deadline are subject to priority and will only be placed on the agenda if a **2/3** (two-thirds) majority of those present agree. These deadlines do not apply to motions proposed by the Executive Committee and the Technical Committee.
- 20.3** In the event of an Extraordinary Delegates' Conference being convened, the deadline for putting forward motions is reduced to **14** (fourteen) days before the conference.

## **2. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Art. 21: Structure**

- 21.1** The Executive Committee consists of
  - 21.1.1** The President
  - 21.1.2** The Secretary General
  - 21.1.3** The Finance Manager
  - 21.1.4** The Sport Director
  - 21.1.5** The Media Manager
  - 21.1.6** One representative of each continental federation. The continental representatives are nominated by the respective continental federations.

### **Art. 22: Election and length of office**

The Executive Committee members are elected by the Delegates' Conference for a period of **2** (two) years and can be re-elected repeatedly.

### **Art. 23: Eligibility for the Presidency**

- 23.1** Eligibility: the following individuals are eligible
  - 23.1.1** The President elected during the last Delegates Conference;
  - 23.1.2** Individuals nominated by active members latest **45** days prior to the Delegates Conference;
  - 23.1.3** Other individuals are not eligible.
- 23.2** Nominations (23.1.2) by active members must be submitted to the WMF. A short curriculum vitae of the candidate must be added.

**Art. 24: Eligibility for the position as member of the Executive Committee**

- 24.1** Eligibility: the following individuals are eligible
- 24.1.1** The members elected during the last Delegates Conference;
  - 24.1.2** Individuals nominated by active members latest 45 days prior to the Delegates Conference;
  - 24.1.3** Other individuals are not eligible.
- 24.2** Nominations (24.1.2) by active members must be submitted to the WMF. A short curriculum vitae of the candidate must be added.

**Art. 25: Quorum and the convening of the Executive Committee**

- 25.1** The Executive Committee meets as required or at the request of **4** (four) of its members.
- 25.2** The Executive Committee has a quorum if at least **4** (four) members are present. Each member has a personal vote which is not transferable. Art. 15.2 and 15.3 likewise apply with regard to the taking of decisions.
- 25.3** The shortest period of time in which a meeting can be convened is **30** (thirty) days.
- 25.4** Regarding decisions of the Executive Committee, a record must be produced and signed by the member of the Executive Committee responsible for its drafting. This record must be delivered to all active members, the members of all WMF-committees and all Executive Committee members not later than **60** (sixty) days after the meeting. Art. 15.4.2 also applies.

**Art. 26: Areas of responsibility and duties**

- 26.1** The Executive Committee is competent in all matters not belonging to any other body of WMF. In particular the following areas of responsibility and duties, are allocated to the Executive Committee:
- 26.1.1** The administration of the Federation.
  - 26.1.2** The conclusion of all budget and financial matters.
  - 26.1.3** The drawing-up of periodic reports and accounts.
  - 26.1.4** Preparation for the Delegates' Conference and drawing-up of the agenda.
  - 26.1.5** Implementation of all resolutions passed at the Delegates' Conference.
  - 26.1.6** Protection of the Federation's interests internally and externally.
  - 26.1.7** The provisional admission of active members, subject to formal ratification at the next Delegates' Conference.
  - 26.1.8** Drawing-up of the budget.
  - 26.1.9** Preparing changes in the Statutes and rules.
  - 26.1.10** Supervision of the activities of the committees and Technical Committee, but not the Legal Committee.
  - 26.1.11** Supervision of the WMF's sports events.
  - 26.1.12** Designation of organisers/venues for international competitions where such awards have not been made by the Delegates' Conference at least **4** (four) years in advance.
  - 26.1.13** Appointment of the WMF anti-doping officer for implementation of the WMF anti-doping regulations. The anti-doping officer is

supported by all organs, works independent and reports regularly to the Executive Committee.

- 26.1.14** Drawing up and release of the anti-doping regulations.
- 26.2** The Executive Committee draws up a programme of functions and duties for its members.

**Art. 27: Legal validity**

The Executive Committee itself determines whose signatures are legally binding and it establishes their responsibilities and type of signature.

**Art. 28: Administration**

Appointment of a Director and other staff:

The Executive Committee may appoint a Director and other administrative staff. It determines the remuneration and the tasks of the Director and the staff. The Executive Committee determines the responsibilities for supervision of the Director and staff.

**3. THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**Art. 29: Structure**

The Technical Committee consists of:

- 29.1** The Sport Director (chairman)
- 29.2** The Youth Officer (elected by the Ordinary Delegates' Conference for a period of **2** (two) years. Re-election is possible.
- 29.3** One representative of each continental federation, who is not a member of the WMF Executive Committee. The continental representatives are nominated by the respective continental federations.
- 29.4** One additional member (elected by the Ordinary Delegates' Conference for a period of **2** (two) years. Re-election is possible.

**Art.30: Areas of responsibility and duties**

- 30.1** The Technical Committee is an advisory body of the Executive Committee.  
The Technical Committee can pass resolutions for inviting entries to competitions organised by the WMF.
- 30.2** Responsibilities of the Technical Committee include the following:
- 30.2.1** An advisory role in general questions relating to international minigolf.
- 30.2.2** Technical supervision of championships and other tournaments organised by the WMF.
- 30.2.3** The passing of resolutions on proposals for general rules and regulations in international minigolf; and the presentation of these to the Delegates' Conference and/or the Executive Committee.

- 30.2.4** The right to propose venues for minigolf Championships and other competitions organised by the WMF, for introduction and passing to the Executive Committee.

#### **Art. 31: The act of convening, quorum and motions**

- 31.1** The Technical Committee meets once a year (January - February) before the annual meeting of the Executive Committee. Beyond that, the Technical Committee may convene with the agreement of the President, if especially important matters arise which cannot be postponed.
- 31.2** The Technical Committee is convened by the Sport Director in accordance with Art. 19.
- 31.3** The Technical Committee has a quorum if at least **4** (four) of its members are present. Each member has a personal vote which is not transferable. Art. 15.2 and 15.3 likewise apply with regard to the taking of decisions.
- 31.4** Motions can be put forward to the Technical Committee by:
- 31.4.1** The active members
  - 31.4.2** The Executive Committee
  - 31.4.3** The Committees
  - 31.4.4** The members of the Technical Committee
- 31.5** Minutes must be taken of all resolutions passed by the Technical Committee. These must be distributed to all TC-members, to the Executive Committee and to the active members not later than **60** (sixty) days after passing of the aforementioned resolutions. The Executive Committee has the right to raise a protest against decisions of the TC within **60** (sixty) days of the distribution of the minutes. In such cases, the matter in question must be considered at the following meeting of the TC. Art. 15.4.2 also applies here.

## **4. THE YOUTH COMMITTEE**

#### **Art. 32: Structure**

The Youth Committee consists of:

- 32.1** The Youth Officer (chairman)
- 32.2** A further **4** (four) members who must not be members of the Executive Committee.
- 32.3** These **4** (four) members of the Youth Committee are elected by the Ordinary Delegate's Conference for a period of **2** (two) years. They must not belong to the same active member, but they can be re-elected unrestrictedly.

#### **Art. 33: Areas of responsibility and duties**

- 33.1** Advice on youth related matters in the WMF.
- 33.2** The technical supervision of junior tournaments organised by the WMF.

- 33.3** Advice and passing of resolutions on all necessary issues of a technical sports nature, which are required for the organisation of junior tournaments mentioned in 33.2.
- 33.4** The right to propose venues for the World- and Continental junior minigolf championships.
- 33.5** The Youth Committee is an advisory body. It presents its recommendations and proposals in the form of motions to the Technical Committee, which passes them on to the Delegate's Conference or the Executive Committee.
- 33.6** The Youth Committee is convened by the chairman as required.
- 33.7** The chairman or **2** (two) members of the Youth Committee decide on the necessity to convene (maximum once a year).
- 33.8** The Youth Committee has a quorum if at least **3** (three) members are present. Art. 15.2 and 15.3 likewise apply with regard to the taking of decisions.
- 33.9** Minutes must be taken down on resolution passed by the Youth Committee and distributed to all Youth Committee members, the Executive Committee, the Technical Committee and the active members not later than **60** (sixty) days after the passing of the resolutions. Art. 15.4.2 also applies here.

## **5. THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

### **Art. 34: Structure, length of office and elections**

- 34.1** The Legal Committee consists of a chairman, **2** (two) committee members and **2** (two) substitute members. Those on the Legal Committee must not be members of another body; nor may they belong to the same active member as one another.
- 34.2** The members of the Legal Committee are elected by the ordinary Delegates' Conference for a period of **2** (two) years and they can be re-elected unrestrictedly.
- 34.3** The members of the Legal Committee can belong neither to another WMF body nor to the same active member. They cannot also be members of national legal bodies.

### **Art. 35: Areas of competency**

The Legal Committee arbitrates in, and resolves all disputes between

- 35.1** The active members.
- 35.2** An active member and the WMF.
- 35.3** The Bodies of the WMF.

## **6. THE DOPING DISCIPLINARY ORGAN**

### **Art. 36: Structure and nomination**

- 36.1** The Doping Disciplinary Organ is the disciplinary organ in the legal sense of the WADA code. It consists of a chairman, a vice-chairman

(both should be attorneys), **2** (two) medical educated members, **2** (two) additional members and **2** (two) representatives of high international level minigolf players. The members of the Doping Disciplinary Organ shall not be members of another body. They cannot also be members of national legal bodies.

**36.2** The members of the Doping Disciplinary Organ are nominated by the Executive Committee.

#### **Art. 37: Areas of competency**

The Doping Disciplinary Organ arbitrates in, and resolves all disputes concerning doping issues.

#### **Art. 38: Principles**

**38.1** The Doping Disciplinary Organ is acting on the base of the Statutes, rules and regulations of WMF and is bound to the legal regulations of substantive law.

**38.2** Details are regulated by the WMF Anti-Doping Regulations.

**38.3** Against a decision of the Doping Disciplinary Organ the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne / Switzerland is competent for appeals. Legal remedies to the ordinary courts are hereby excluded.

### **7. THE AUDITORS**

#### **Art. 39: Structure, length of office and elections**

**39.1** The Delegates' Conference designates **2** (two) active members to be in charge of auditing for a period **2** (two) years.

**39.2** If possible, both designated active members should announce immediately the representative who is instructed to carry out the actual auditing.

**39.3** In addition, the Delegates Conference may appoint an external qualified professional auditor, totally independent from the WMF, to carry out the audit.

**39.4** The duty of an external qualified professional auditor is limited to the review of the financial accounts, unless the Delegates Conference assigns other duties.

#### **Art. 40: Duties**

**40.1** The auditors must check the accounts and expenditure of the WMF, and make a yearly report on the financial situation to be presented to the Delegates' Conference by way of the Executive Committee.

**40.2** They can carry out an audit at any time, provided they inform both the Finance Manager and the President of the WMF in writing at least **14** days in advance.

**40.3** A written audit is possible at any time, and must however be carried out at the end of the calendar year.

## **Part 4: FINANCE**

### **Art. 41: Revenue**

The WMF gets the funds necessary for the fulfilment of its duties by the following means among others:

- 41.1** Membership fees
- 41.2** Takings/hosting fees from events
- 41.3** From third parties
- 41.4** Donations and other fees
- 41.5** Fundraising
- 41.6** A record of contributions, to be updated by the respective Delegates' Conference, is a component of the WMF finance-order.

### **Art. 42: Membership and other fees**

- 42.1** The setting of membership fees and WMF tournament fees is passed by resolution at the Delegates' Conference. Active members are liable to payment of both membership and other fees; exception Art. 7.4.  
If an active member has a debt (membership fees or other money) owing to the WMF for more than **12** months, it foregoes its rights as a member.
- 42.2** The WMF has the right to make agreements with broadcasting companies regarding the coverage of all WMF tournaments and may distribute the fees arising from such agreements. The same applies to all other media coverage.  
The task of negotiating with the media rests with the Executive Committee, unless delegated to the national minigolf association organising the event.  
Active members organising international Championships and - tournaments by the order of the WMF are allowed to seek their own commercial sponsorship for these events. However, existing sponsorship agreements made by the WMF must be respected.

### **Art. 43: Finances**

- 43.1** The Delegates Conference must decide a budget showing a loss exceeding 20 percent of the annual membership fee with a **two-thirds** majority of the votes present in the Delegates' Conference.
- 43.2** Losses effectively incurred exceeding 20 percent of the annual membership fee must be recovered within **3** (three) years by a profit.

### **Art. 44: Liability**

- 44.1** If a board member is taken up as acting part by a contracting party of the WMF, he can require by the WMF exemption respectively refunding of all costs, which are connected to this demand, provided that the business has been operated in „official capacity“ as board member in execution of his board tasks with the usual care.

- 44.2** The Federation is liable to fulfil its financial commitments from its assets. An active member is also liable, if by intent or through gross negligence, that member is responsible for weakening the financial situation of the WMF.

**Art. 45: Financial year**

The financial year of the WMF shall run from the 1st January to the 31st of December annually.

**Part 5: FINAL CLAUSES**

**Art. 46: Dispute resolution**

- 46.1** Any dispute arising from, or related to the Statutes, rules, regulations and decisions of WMF, and after passing the legal committee, will be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), in Lausanne, Switzerland, applying its own procedural rules. Its decisions are final.
- 46.2** Legal remedies from any ordinary court of any country are hereby excluded.

**Art. 47: Changes in rules**

Changes in the Statutes can only be passed by resolutions of the Delegates' Conference. A two-thirds majority of the votes of those participants registered in the participants list is required.

**Art. 48: Dissolution of the Federation**

- 48.1** The WMF can be dissolved:
- 48.1.1** Pursuant to a merger with another sport association or associations
  - 48.1.2** By liquidation.
- 48.2** The dissolution of the Federation can only be passed by resolution in a specially convened Extraordinary Delegates' Conference. A **three-quarters** majority of the votes of those participants registered in the participants list is required.
- 48.3** The dissolution of the Federation should be carried out by the President, in as far as the Delegates' Conference has not appointed others,.
- 48.4** In the case of a merger, any remaining assets will be transferred to the amalgamated federation. In the case of liquidation, assets will be passed to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for non-profit-making sporting purposes.

**Art. 49: Rules and regulations**

- 49.1** The changing and repealing of rules is the responsibility of the Delegates' Conference. Such decisions may be taken with a simple majority.

- 49.2** The Executive Committee alone is responsible for the making, changing and repealing of regulations, and it can also give directions and make recommendations.

**Art. 50: Official language:**

The official language of the WMF is English.

**Art. 51: Notices**

- 51.1** A notice or notification to an active member shall be deemed to have been properly received provided it was sent to the last official address indicated by the active member to the WMF.
- 51.2** Notification regarding suspension, expulsion or dissolution shall always be sent by registered mail.

**Art. 52: Coming into effect**

These Statutes come into effect immediately.

St. Margrethen	(SWI)	19 <sup>th</sup> August 1980
Hannover	(GER)	13 <sup>th</sup> November 1982
Monza	(ITA)	19 <sup>th</sup> August 1985
Paderno	(ITA)	21 <sup>st</sup> August 1988
Oslo	(NOR)	20 <sup>th</sup> August 1991
Göteborg	(SWE)	16 <sup>th</sup> August 1993
Thessaloniki	(GRE)	26 <sup>th</sup> September 1994
Hard	(AUT)	21 <sup>st</sup> August 1995
Maggingen/Studen-Biel	(SWI)	18 <sup>th</sup> August 1997
Papendal	(NED)	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 1999
Vaasa	(FIN)	19 <sup>th</sup> August 2001
Bad Münden	(GER)	17 <sup>th</sup> August 2003
Steyr	(AUT)	21 <sup>st</sup> August 2005
Canegrate	(ITA)	19 <sup>th</sup> August 2007
Bern (written voting)	(SWI)	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2008
Odense	(DEN)	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2009

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