

## IFA Statues 2023

### § 1 Name

The legal body is called “International Fistball Association/Internationaler Faustball Verband” (IFA) and is the sole governing body of the sport „Fistball“ throughout the world. It consist of officially recognized national member federations which are responsible for fistball (in-doors and outdoors) and other related sports organized by IFA in their countries. Not more than one federation may be nominated and admitted as a member by any state.

### § 2 Recognition

The national federations which form IFA recognize each other as the sole governing bodies of fistball and other related sports in their countries.

### § 3 Legal seat and headquarter

IFA legal seat is located in Linz, Austria.

The association's fiscal year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31.

### § 4 Purpose

The objective of IFA , whose activities are not profit-oriented, is to promote, encourage and develop the game of Fistball (indoors and outdoors) and other related sports.

IFA constantly aims to improve the conditions and fundamentals of the sport of fistball and promote its cultural, sporting and humanitarian values worldwide.

### § 5 Objectives to archive the purpose

#### Ideal objectives:

IFA adheres to the principles of a liberal and democratic society.

The IFA shall observe strict neutrality in all political, racial and religious matters.

IFA combats all forms of violence, discrimination, racism, intolerance and match-fixing and actively advocates international understanding.

IFA sets worldwide rules and regulations for the sport of fistball and its conduct.

The IFA recognises the ideals and objectives of the Olympic movement as enshrined in the Olympic Charta and established in the Olympic Agenda 2020 and 2020+5 the IOC Basic Principles of Good Governance of the

Olympic and Sports Movement. As an active member of the Olympic movement, it advocates the promotion of Olympic values, particularly fair play, gender equality and sporting excellence.



facebook.com/IFA.Fistball  
instagram.com/ifafistball  
www.fistball.tv

President: Jörn Verleger | Secretary General: Christoph Oberlehner

Vice Presidents: Giana Hexsel, Vikki Buston, Steve Schmutzler

Treasurer: Franz Peter Iten | Chair of the Sports Commission: Winfried Kronsteiner

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In order to promote gender equality in Fistball IFA establishes a Gender Equality Policy to support the equal representation of all genders at a volunteer and professional level within the IFA structures.

IFA sets up a non-discrimination and athlete safeguarding policy to safeguard the participants in IFA events and activities and the Integrity of the competitions.

IFA promotes only doping-free Fistball sport as a clear commitment to doping-free sport. IFA recognises, adopts and implements the actual World Anti Doping Code including its international standards.

The details are governed by the IFA Anti-Doping Code. Membership in IFA entails explicit acceptance by each member of the IFA Anti-Doping rules in their current version.

The IFA membership accepts IFA as testing, results management and disciplinary Authority on their territory when and where there is no national Anti-Doping Authority actively fighting against Doping in sport.

The IFA shall establish an ethics code and a code of conduct as well as rules against match-fixing and betting fraud and a Conflict of Interest policy.

These Regulations incorporate by reference the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions of 8 December 2015 as well as any amendments made thereafter by the IOC.

These Regulations specifically prohibit betting in relation to:

- i. a competition in which the Participant is directly participating; or
- ii. the participant's sport; and/or
- iii. any event of a multisport competition in which he/she is a participant.

Every reference to "Sporting Organisation" in the Code shall mean International Fistball Association and its member federations and regional associations.

The IFA is committed to active environmental and nature conservation and applies recognised criteria to ensure the sustainability of IFA competitions. IFA approves a Sustainability Policy to make sure that those criteria are implemented into the daily management of the organisation as are environmental, socio-cultural and economic aspects of Fistball's legacy.

The IFA is committed to an appropriate athletes' representation in the decision-making process. IFA operates the IOC Guidelines relating to the creation of an IF Athletes' commission and will have an athlete with voting rights on each and all Commissions.

IFA advises and supports member federations in all matters of sport and leadership of a federation.

IFA conducts competitions and other sporting, cultural and social events.

IFA administers the relations to the world of sports and keeps interest in relation with international organisations like IOC, IPC, IWGA, AIMS, ANOC, FISU, IMGA and WADA.

**The necessary material resources should be raised by:**

Membership fees

Income from events and proceeds from goods delivery points

Grants, such as donations, subsidies, grants from public or private sources

Advertisements and advertising revenues

Sponsors' contributions

Interest income and securities

Inheritances and legacies

## **§ 6 Bodies of IFA**

IFA is composed of the following bodies:

- a) the Congress,
- b) the Board of Directors,
- c) the Executive Committee,
- d) Commissions,
- e) Regional associations,
- f) Arbitration Court
- g) Auditors/Audit Committee.

## **I. Congress**

### **§ 7 tasks and composition**

The Congress is the supreme governing body of IFA.

It consists of

- up to three representatives of the member federations,
- the members of the Board of Directors,
- those Honorary members who had been granted vote and voice by congress.

The Ordinary Congress shall be held every four years in combination with an IFA major event. The Congress decides the overall directions and elects the members of the Board of Directors.

Date and place will be determined by the Executive Committee.

The IFA Board of Directors may convene an Extraordinary Congress in presence but also as a hybrid or virtual meeting at any time. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held if at least one tenth of the member federations makes such a request in writing within three months of receipt of the request. The decision whether to hold a meeting in presence, as a hybrid or virtual meeting is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### **§ 8 Voting right**

Each member federation participating in the Congress, the members of the Board of Directors and those Honorary members who had been granted vote and voice by congress, have a right to vote, with votes from member federations counting as double.

Members of the Board of Directors can only use their personal vote and are not allowed to exercise the voting right on behalf of a member federation.

Votes are not transferable in any way. The names of persons entitled to vote and further representatives must be notified to the Executive Committee in writing prior to the opening of the Congress. No-one shall be entitled to represent more than one federation. Representatives taking part in the Congress must be members of their national federation.

### **§ 9 Invitation**

The time and place of the Ordinary Congress must be communicated to the members at the Congress by the Executive Committee at least six months prior to the event taking place. The agenda and the financial report shall be prepared by the General Secretariat at least twelve weeks prior to the opening of the Ordinary Congress.

In the event of an Extraordinary Congress, the exact time shall be notified at least two months in advance and the agenda shall be sent at least four weeks prior to its beginning.

## **§ 10 Agenda**

The agenda of the Ordinary Congress shall at least include the following mandatory items:

1. Opening of the Congress
2. A declaration that the Congress has been convened in compliance with the regulations
3. Approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress
4. Reporting (Board of Directors, Commissions, Auditors)
5. Approval and elections
  - a) Board of Directors
  - b) Auditors/Audit Committee
6. Determination of membership subscription
7. Work schedules and events
8. Proposals
9. Various

## **§ 11 Proposals**

Proposals to be considered at the Congress can be submitted by:

- the member federations,
- the regional associations,
- the Board of Directors,
- the Executive Committee.

**The petitioner has the right to present the proposal to the Congress verbally.**

Proposals of member federations and regional associations must be submitted to the IFA Secretary General in writing with an explanation at least 16 weeks prior to the opening of the Congress.

Proposals beyond this deadline are valid if two-thirds of the members present and eligible to vote at the Congress agree to them.

The Statutes cannot be altered by way of emergency motions.

## **§ 12 Chair and Decisions**

The Congress shall be chaired by the IFA President, or, in the event of the President being unable to attend, a Vice President.

Elections are carried out by open ballots. At the request of a member eligible to vote a secret ballot shall be held.

Unless otherwise stipulated by these Statutes, decisions shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes recorded and valid. If a ballot ends in a draw, the proposal considered shall be deemed as having been rejected.

Abstentions will be counted as invalid vote.

## **§ 13 Congress language**

IFA's official languages are English and German.

For interpretation of the Statutes, regulations and decisions as well as with regard to translations into other languages, if applicable the German text shall prevail. Regarding the IFA Anti-Doping Code and its Appendices, the English text is binding.

## **§ 14 Decisions into effect and minutes**

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for IFA and its member federations 3 months after the close of the Congress, unless the Congress fixes an earlier or a later date for a decision to take effect. The minutes of the Congress shall be dispatched to the member federations and the participants of the Congress not later than eight weeks after the event taking place.

## **II. Board of Directors**

### **§ 15 tasks and composition**

The Board of Directors consists of the following members

- President,
- up to three Vice Presidents,
- Secretary General,
- Treasurer,
- chair of the Sports Commission,
- up to 6 further members,
- the presidents or representatives of the regional associations (ex officio),
- the chair and the deputy chair of the Athletes' Commission (ex officio),
- the chair of the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission (ex officio),
- the chair of the Youth and Sport Commission (ex officio).

All members have voting rights.

The Congress elects the members of the Board of Directors and confirms the ex-officio members and the Secretary General for a 4 year term. The term of the President is limited to one re-election.

The Board of Directors is responsible for:

- developing strategic plans for IFA,
- the annual budget,
- appointing the Secretary General,
- the provisional membership of new member federations,
- the provisional recognition of new regional associations,
- the forming of the Commissions (members and chairs) (with exception of those Commissions or chairs to be elected by the Congress or the Athletes),
- the remission and amendments of Regulations and Competition Rules,
- the remission and amendments of Standing Orders for the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and the Commissions.

The Board of Directors meets at least twice a year. Time and places shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. Meetings may take place in person or by means of conference telephone so participating in such meeting can hear each other at the same time.

Further the Board of Directors has to establish Standing Orders for the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Commissions.

## **III. Executive Committee**

### **§ 16 tasks and composition**

The Executive Committee consists of the following members

- President,
- up to three Vice Presidents,
- Secretary General,
- Treasurer,

- Chair of the Sports Commission.

All members have voting rights.

The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day running of IFA under the guidance of the Board of Directors.

President, Secretary General and Treasurer are authorized to sign for IFA legally binding externally each one alone.

#### **IV. Commissions**

IFA standing Commissions are:

- Sports Commission
- Athletes' Commission
- Women in Sport Commission
- Youth and Sport Commission
- Entourage Commission
- Communications Commission
- Medical and Anti-Doping Commission
- IFA Doping Control Panel
- TUE Panel
- Audit Committee
- Sport for All Commission
- Ethics Commission

The Board of Directors can establish further Commissions.

The members of the Commissions including the chair with exception of the Athletes' Commission and the Audit Committee as well as the chair of the Sports Commission are formed by the Board of Directors.

The members of the Athletes' Commission are elected by participants of the IFA Men's World Championship and the IFA Women's World Championship (see „Voting Orders of the Athletes' Commission“).

The two auditors and the chair of the Sports Commission are elected by the Congress.

In addition Ad Hoc Committees can be formed by the Executive Committee.

#### **V. Regional associations**

Member federations can establish regional associations under geographical aspects. To be recognised a regional association should be composed of at least 5 member federations.

The provisional recognition is to be approved by the Board of Directors. The recognition of the regional associations should be confirmed by the next Congress.

#### **§ 17 Admission of member federations**

National federations wishing to join IFA must submit their administrative documents (Statutes, contact person, address) to Secretary General.

The provisional membership is to be approved by the Board of Directors, and to be confirmed by the next Congress.

New federations shall comply with the Statutes and all regulations of IFA upon ad-mission.

As long as a member federation has not conducted a WADA compliant anti-doping program (including the establishment of the relevant disciplinary panels). IFA has the power to overtake these duties within the member federation.

### **§ 18 Termination of membership**

Membership terminates upon:

- a) Expulsion due to failure to pay subscriptions, not earlier than twelve months after the due date,
- b) Expulsion due to repeated breach of the Statutes, regulations or resolutions by IFA,
- c) Expulsion due to serious misconduct detrimental to the work and reputation of IFA,
- d) Resignation,
- e) Loss of status as a national federation.

The provisional expulsion is to be approved by the Board of Directors, and to be confirmed by the next Congress.

For expulsions in accordance with paragraphs a) - c) above, a two-third majority of the votes taken at the Congress is necessary.

A national member federation wishing to resign from IFA must give notice by registered letter. After three months and by consent of the Board of Directors the resignation shall become effective.

### **§ 19 IFA Juridical Regulations / Arbitration Court**

The Board of Directors adopts the IFA Juridical Regulations.

Penalties and measures could be penalize member federations and members of bodies as well as teams and individual players, if the behaviour breaks the IFA Regulations or damages the reputation of IFA during an international event.

For arbitration of all arising from the association relationship disputes an internal arbitration court is appointed according the IFA Juridical Regulations. It is a "mediation facility" within the meaning of the Association Act 2002 and no arbitral tribunal according to §§ 577 ff ZPO.

IFA acknowledges in all legal duties especially in matters of Statues, misbehaviour and Anti-Doping issues as final institution solidly the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Suisse) and the "Code of Sport-related Arbitration".

### **§ 20 Remission and amendments of and to the Statutes, Regulations and Competition Rules**

Amendments to the Statutes shall be adopted only if two-thirds of the members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to them. Proposals for amendments to the Statutes must be included in the agenda.

Remission and amendments of Regulations and Competition Rules are duties of the Board of Directors.

### **§ 21 Dissolution**

IFA may only be dissolved if a resolution to this effect is passed at a Congress convened specifically for that purpose by a majority of three-quarters of the votes taken.

In the event of the dissolution of the IFA, the Congress must – at the same time as it decides to dissolve the IFA – decide on the use of the association's assets and appoint two liquidators to implement the decision to dissolve the IFA.

If any members leave the Association, or in case of the dissolution of the Association, members have to fulfil their due financial obligations to the IFA and will receive their outstanding claims from the IFA.

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the Association funds may only be used for non-profit and/or charitable purposes as defined in the relevant legal provisions of the Republic of Austria. Where possible and permitted, the Association funds are to be donated to institutions pursuing the same or similar purposes as the IFA.

## **§ 22 Validity**

These Statutes of the International Fistball Association were adopted in its original Version by the Congress on 12th November 1960 in Frankfurt (Germany). The revised Statues were adopted by the Congress on 18th November 2015 in Cordoba (ARG).

Amendments to the statues were adopted by the Congress on 27th July 2016, on 14th August 2019 and on 27th July 2023 and came into force on 27th July 2023.

Approved by the IFA 2023 Congress on 27th August 2023.