

IFA Statues 2016

§ 1 Name

The International Fistball Association (IFA) 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 Austria. The location of the IFA headquarter is decided by the Board of Directors.

§ 4 Purpose

The objective of IFA 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

IFA adheres to the principles of a liberal and democratic society and condemns every form of violence, discrimination and match fixing.

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

IFA promotes gender equality.

IFA administers the relations to the world of sports and keeps interest in relation with international organisations like IOC, IWGA, AIMS, WADA etc

IFA promotes doping-free Fistball sport and adopts and implements the actual World Anti Doping Code including its international standards as well as relevant principles of the Olympic Charta.

IFA adopts an Ethic-Code and a Code of conduct.

§ 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.

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 Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held if the majority of member federations make such a request in writing within three months of receipt of the request.

§ 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 (in accordance with Article 6 above) 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
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, regulations and Competition Rules 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, the 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

The languages at the Congress shall be English and German.

§ 14 Decisions into effect and minutes

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for IFA and its member federations ninety days 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,
- Vice President,
- Secretary General,
- Treasurer,
- chair of the Sports Commission,
- up to two further members,
- the presidents of the regional associations (ex officio),
- the chair of the Athletes' Commission (ex officio),
- the chair of the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission (ex officio).

All members have voting rights.

The members of the Board of Directors are with exception of the ex officio members elected by the Congress for a 4 year term.

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.

The Secretary General shall invite to the meeting not less than 30 days prior to the date of such meeting.

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,
- Vice President,
- 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.

The Executive Committee can form Ad Hoc Committees.

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 members of the Audit Committee 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 admission.

§ 18 Termination of membership

Membership terminates upon:

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

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

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.

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 Sports-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 fulfill 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) and came into force on 18th November 2015. Amendments to the constitutions were adopted by the extraordinary Congress on 27th July 2016 in Nuremberg (GER) and came into force on 1st August 2016.