

# UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

## Constitution

Amendments submitted to the UWW Congress for approval

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## **PREAMBLE**

In 1905 wrestling was part of the “Amateur Athleten Weltunion”, an organisation created in Duisburg (Germany). In 1912, the “Internationaler Ringverband” was founded on the occasion of the Stockholm Olympic Games in Sweden. In 1921, the “Internationaler Ringverband” was reconstituted under the name “International Amateur Wrestling Federation” (from 1954 “Fédération Internationale des Luttes Amateur”). In 1994, it took the name of “International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles”, abbreviated FILA. In 2014, FILA changed its name into “United World Wrestling” (the “Federation”).

## **TITLE I – NAME, AIM, WRESTLING STYLES AND COMPOSITION OF THE « UNITED WORLD WRESTLING » (THE FEDERATION)**

### **Article 1 – Name, duration and seat**

The “United World Wrestling” (hereafter the “Federation”) is an association of unlimited duration governed by articles 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code and by its Articles of Association.

The seat of the Federation is in ~~Corsier-sur-Vevey~~ (Switzerland). It may be transferred to any other location by decision of the Congress upon proposal of the Bureau.

### **Article 2 – Aim**

The Federation is a worldwide, non-governmental, ~~politically and nationally independent~~ organisation acting in favour of ~~and governing~~ the practice of the sport of wrestling, in the spirit of its traditions and in accordance with the requirements of the Olympic Charter.

The aims of ~~and governance by~~ the Federation shall ~~be, in particular~~ include without limitation:

- a) to encourage ~~and promote~~ the development of all wrestling styles and to promote the sport in all countries of the world;
- b) to provide support and technical assistance to all countries;
- c) to contribute to the development of friendly relationships between the wrestlers and between the National Federations (as defined in Article ~~6-4~~);
- d) to establish and disseminate the international rules for the different wrestling styles;
- e) to exercise control over wrestling throughout the affiliated National Federations (Affiliated Members, as this term is defined in Article 6.1) and Associated Members (as this term is defined in Article 6.2);
- f) to supervise the application of wrestling rules and regulations at Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cups, continental competitions and all international events which are held under the control of the Federation;
- g) to designate, select, train and control international referees, coaches and managers;
- h) to represent the sport of wrestling and to protect its interests within the Olympic Movement, in particular at the International Olympic Committee (hereafter the “IOC”) and other relevant sports associations or organizations;
- i) to arbitrate and take all necessary decisions, measures and sanctions in all cases of litigation or disputes which may arise as a consequence of any breach of the Federation statutes or regulations as well as disputes between any of its Members when practicing the sport of wrestling;

- j) to promote the fair and significant representation and involvement of women in the sport at all levels and ~~significant representation of women~~ in all the Federation's bodies;
- k) to condemn, ~~and~~ combat and prevent any form of discrimination on any grounds ~~such as~~, including without limitation: age; race; skin colour; ethnic, national or social origin; gender; disability; language; religion; political opinion or any other opinion; wealth, birth or any other status; sexual orientation; or any other reason; ~~to fight against any kind of political, racial and religious discrimination.~~
- l) To condemn, combat and prevent any form of harassment and abuse, be it physical or mental;
- m) To promote sustainable and socially responsible practices in all its activities.

### **Article 3 – Wrestling styles**

The Federation recognises and governs the following wrestling styles:

- a) the Olympic styles: Greco-Roman Wrestling, Freestyle Wrestling and Female Wrestling;
- b) all Other Styles, ~~in particular~~ including traditional, ~~and~~ historical and regional wrestling styles, and also including but not limited to Beach Wrestling, Grappling, Pankration and Belt Wrestling.

### **Article 4 – Official languages**

The official languages of the Federation are French and English.

German, Arabic, Spanish and Russian are acknowledged as working languages when supported by written or verbal translation, as the case may be, in the official languages. Translation must be provided by the author of the communication.

In case of any discrepancy between the French and the English version of any document, the English version shall prevail.

### **Article 5 – The Federation's Intellectual properties**

The emblem of the Federation is the following:



The Federation is the owner of all rights in and to all World Championships and World Cups as well as all other international competitions, including but not limited to Continental Championships ~~and Golden Grand Prix events, on~~ in respect of all recognized wrestling styles for all groups of age, including all rights, ~~and~~ data and intellectual property relating thereof, in particular, without limitation, all rights relating to their organization, exploitation, broadcasting, recording, representation, reproduction, access and dissemination in any form and by any means or mechanism whatsoever, whether now existing or developed in the future. An international competition is any form of competition, tournament or other event which involves the organizations of more than 3 (three) participating countries.

The emblem of the Federation, its flag, motto (if any), symbol, anthem ~~and~~, identifications (including but not limited to "United World Wrestling", "UWW" and any derivatives): and

All of the foregoing rights are collectively referred to as the “Federation Properties”. All rights to any and all Federation Properties, as well as all rights to the use thereof, belong exclusively to the Federation, including but not limited to the use for any profit-making, commercial or advertising purposes. The Federation may license all or part of its rights on terms and conditions set forth by the Bureau.

## **Article 6 – Members of the Federation**

The Federation is composed of:

- Affiliated Members (article 6.1)
- Associated Members (article 6.2)

### **6.1. Affiliated Members**

Any regularly established national federation governing the Olympic wrestling styles and recognized by its National Olympic Committee, which National Olympic Committee shall be recognized by the IOC, (a “National Federation”), may be admitted as Affiliated Members to the Federation.

The following conditions shall be met to apply for membership as Affiliated Members:

- a) a written request, signed by its President and Secretary General, shall be sent by the National Federation to the Bureau, in which the President and the Secretary General shall confirm the autonomy and independence of the National Federation;
- b) the National Federation shall adhere to the Federation Articles of Association and regulations and recognize the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as the only external judicial instance;
- c) the National Federation shall undertake to ~~impose~~ cause the Federation Articles of Association and regulations to be recognized, adhered to and complied with ~~on~~ by all its affiliated entities and members;
- d) the National Federation shall undertake to pay any membership fee(s) and due(s) as set forth in the Federation financial regulations (the “Financial Regulations”);
- e) The constitution and regulations of the National Federation shall be compliant with the Federation Articles of Association and regulations. The National Federation shall attach to the affiliation written request an authenticated copy of its constitution and regulations signed by its President and Secretary General.

National Federations have no right to become Affiliated Members. The decision to accept a National Federation as Affiliated Member is within the exclusive and discretionary competence of the Congress.

Only one National Federation per country may be ~~affiliated~~ admitted to the Federation as Affiliated Member. For the purposes of the Articles of Association of the Federation, a “country” shall mean an independent State recognized by the international community.

Any Affiliated Member ~~governing the Olympic wrestling styles and~~ which is not willing to govern any Other Style of wrestling in its country shall not be entitled to challenge the recognition, by the Federation, as Associated Members, of another national sports organization governing Other Styles in such country, provided that the requirements mentioned under letter a) to letter e) above are met by such other national sports organization.

### **6.2. Associated Members**

In order to support the development of wrestling at the international and regional level, national sports organizations governing any Other Style may be admitted as Associated Members, provided that such national sports organizations are autonomous and independent from any Affiliated Member.

The conditions for membership are the same as indicated in article 6.1.

Associated Members may attend the Congress without voting rights. They may participate in all friendly competitions and wrestling tournaments on invitation. They shall not organize or enter wrestlers for Olympic wrestling championships in Greco-roman, Freestyle and Female wrestling.

### **6.3. Autonomy of National Federations**

Affiliated and Associated Members shall ~~run-govern and administer~~ their activities independently. They shall preserve their autonomy ~~and oppose to~~without influence by any political, religious or economic pressures.

Governments and other public authorities shall only be entitled to verify the use of their financial grants by the National Federations.

Any infringement to this provision shall be reported to the Bureau of the Federation by the President of the relevant Affiliated or Associated Member.

### **6.4. Election within Affiliated and Associated Members**

The constitution and regulations of Affiliated and Associated Members shall provide for transparent, impartial and independent election and nomination process.

## **Article 7 – Cessation of the Federation membership**

The membership of the Federation members ceases in the following circumstances:

### **7.1. Resignation**

Any resignation shall be notified in writing to the Bureau at least 90 days before the end of the fiscal year and shall only be effective as of the end of the fiscal year.

### **7.2. Cessation of wrestling activity**

### **7.3. Expulsion from the Federation**

Expulsion from the Federation is decided by the Congress, upon proposal from the Bureau, without any indication of grounds for expulsion.

Notwithstanding Article 11.4 below, the resolution of the Congress to expel a member shall be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

## **Article 8 – Resources of the Federation**

The resources of the Federation ~~are the following (without limitation~~ include without limitation the following):

- Annual membership fees
- License fees of all kinds
- Television and advertising licensing rights
- Sponsorship rights
- Organisation fees (for instance: championships, international competitions)
- Entry fees
- Fees related to training program (for instance: referees, coaches)
- Gifts and donations.

## **Article 9 – License to compete**

All wrestlers participating in any international competition, ~~being any individual or team competition in which more than three countries are participating,~~ shall hold a valid Federation licence and be entered by their duly affiliated National Federation.

The licence shall set out the competition(s) in which the wrestler is entitled to participate.

### **Article 10 – Doping**

The World Anti-Doping Code is mandatory for the Federation. The agreement entered into between the Federation and the WADA shall be applicable to doping controls.

In events controlled or supervised by the Federation, doping control shall be carried out under the conditions set out in the Federation Anti-Doping ~~Regulations~~Rules. The Federation shall also be entitled to carry out out-of-competition doping tests.

## **TITLE II – CONGRESS**

### **Article 11 – The Congress**

The Congress is the general meeting of the members of the Federation. It is the supreme organ of the Federation.

The ordinary Congress is held every two years, in principle ~~during the Olympic Games and, in between,~~ during the World Championships, ~~of Wrestling~~ or in a place determined by the Executive Committee. It may be held by electronic means in exceptional circumstances as the Bureau may decide. The proceedings shall be as valid and effective as if the Congress had been held in person.

The Congress is chaired by the Federation President or, in his/her absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Secretary General, upon decision of the Bureau.

#### **11.1. Composition and delegates**

The Congress is composed of

- (i) the delegates of the Affiliated Members; and
- (ii) the members of the Bureau elected by the Congress.

Up to three delegates of Affiliated Members are authorized to attend the Congress. One of them shall have the right to vote and to speak.

Associated Members can attend the Congress and be represented by a delegate. They are not entitled to vote.

Delegates representing the Affiliated Members shall be an elected Member of the ~~National Federation~~ and hold the same nationality. They shall have a written authorization (~~P~~proxy) from their ~~Federation~~federation, signed by the President of the ~~Federation~~National ~~Federation~~ they represent to exercise such National Federation's right to vote and speak. A copy of the ~~P~~proxy shall be sent to the Secretariat of the Federation at least ~~7~~30 days before the Congress. In case of any dispute regarding the ~~P~~proxy and the right to represent a ~~National~~National ~~Federation~~Federation and to vote and speak, the electoral commission (if any), or the Bureau in the absence of any electoral commission, shall decide immediately on the dispute.

#### **11.2. Powers of the Congress**

As the supreme body of the Federation, the Congress is invested with the following powers:

- a) approval and modification to the Articles of Association;

- b) transfer of the seat of the Federation upon proposal from the Bureau.
- c) approval of the financial statements and of the Bureau's financial report;
- d) election and removal of the President;
- e) election and removal of the members of the Bureau;
- f) affiliation of Affiliated Members and recognition of Associated Members;
- g) expulsion of Affiliated or Associated members;
- h) removal of the members of the Disciplinary Commission;
- i) decisions on all matters and suggestions proposed by the Bureau and/or the ~~National Federations~~ Affiliated Members;
- j) determination of the subscription fees and other resources of the Federation.
- k) recognition and management of new wrestling styles;
- l) approval of the Bureau general work program.

### 11.3. Agenda

The Congress shall only deliberate on the items listed on the agenda. Affiliated Members are entitled to request items to be listed on the agenda by written request received by the Federation Secretariat at least 75 days before the date of the Congress. The agenda of the Congress is decided by the Bureau and shall be communicated to the national federations at least 45 days before the Congress.

The Congress may decide, with a majority of two-thirds of the votes, to examine an item that is not on the agenda.

### 11.4. Decisions

In accordance with the proxy provided by the national Federation, ~~e~~Each Affiliated Member is entitled to one vote, provided that it is up to date at the beginning of the Congress with the payment of any dues or financial obligations to the Federation.

Each member of the Bureau elected by the Congress is entitled to one vote.

Voting rights shall ~~shall only be~~ ~~exit-excised~~ exercised by the said Proxy and may not be delegated. Representation by any other ~~a~~-member or a third party is prohibited.

There is no quorum for the Congress.

Decisions of the Congress are taken by a majority of the votes cast.

For all decisions and elections, abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority.

The President has the casting vote in case of a tie, unless the voting is held by secret ballot.

Voting is held by secret ballot for elections or upon decision from the Bureau.

Voting may be processed through a voting machine, electronic device, by raising hands, by acclamation or by any other process decided by the Bureau.

If the Congress is held by electronic means, the decisions and elections shall be processed by casting electronic votes remotely via an independent third party.



## **11.5. Minutes**

Within two months following the Congress, the minutes of the meeting, signed by the President and the Secretary General and verified by the scrutineers nominated by the Congress, shall be communicated to the National Federations and submitted for approval at the following Congress.

## **11.6. Extraordinary Congress**

An extraordinary Congress shall be convened if requested by the Bureau or by at least one ~~fourth~~ third of the Affiliated Members. The request shall set out the grounds for calling an extraordinary Congress and shall be communicated to the Bureau.

During such Congress, items that are not listed on the agenda shall not be discussed. Article 11.3, paragraph 2, shall not be applicable.

The Bureau decides on the place, date and agenda of the extraordinary Congress upon proposal from the President, provided that (i) the Bureau shall have at least 30 days from the receipt of the request to call the meeting and (ii) the agenda shall include the item(s) proposed by the Affiliated Members which have requested the calling of the extraordinary Congress.

The Extraordinary Congress may be held by electronic means in exceptional circumstances as the Bureau decide. The proceedings shall be as valid and effective as if the Extraordinary Congress had been held in person.

# **TITLE III – ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION**

## **CHAPTER I – THE BUREAU**

### **Article 12 – The Bureau**

#### **12.1. Composition**

The Bureau is composed of:

- (i) the President;
- (ii) five Vice-presidents, including at least one woman;
- (iii) thirteen elected members of which three members, at a minimum, must be and are reserved for women;
- (iv) the Presidents of the Continental Councils; and
- (v) the President of the Athletes' Commission.

~~Three seats among the elected members of the Bureau are reserved for women.~~

#### **12.2. Eligibility and election**

##### **Eligibility**

Candidates shall meet the following requirements to be eligible as members of the Bureau:

- be proposed by an Affiliated Member in good standing with the Federation and having entered at least two wrestlers in any of the Olympic disciplines in either of the Junior or Senior World Championships in the ~~past~~ immediately preceding three years; ~~and~~
- hold a valid passport of the country of the Affiliated Member and have primary residence in that country for at least the immediately preceding three years;
- speak fluently at least one of the ~~six~~ two official languages recognized by the Federation (Article 4); candidates to the office of President must speak fluently English.

Unless otherwise expressly stated in the Articles of Association, one candidate per Affiliated Member is eligible as member of the Bureau. The Affiliated Member willing to propose a candidate shall communicate the candidature to the Federation Secretariat at least three months before the elections.

The elected members of the Bureau shall all hold nationalities different from each other.

### Election

The President and eighteen other members of the Bureau are elected by the Congress.

~~Within the eighteen elected members,~~ The Bureau appoints elects five Vice-presidents, including at least one woman, ~~upon proposal from the President,~~ by secret ballot ~~from~~ among the ~~18~~ elected members.

All Elections are held by a majority of the votes cast. If no candidate obtains the majority in the first round, a second round of elections is held and the candidate obtaining the higher number of votes is declared elected. If two or more candidates obtain the same higher number of votes, the candidate who is an outgoing member of the Bureau or, if there is no outgoing member of the Bureau, the oldest candidate, shall be elected.

If there is only one candidate for a position, such candidate shall automatically be elected.

Positions reserved for women shall be opened to masculine candidatures in the absence of a sufficient number of women candidates.

### **12.3. Term of office and re-election**

The term of office of the elected members of the Bureau is six years. One third of the mandates of the Bureau shall be subject to elections every two years, during the Congress.

In case of vacancy in the Bureau for any reason other than the attaining of the age limit, a substitute member shall be elected during the next Congress. The term of office of the substitute member shall end at the expiration of the term of office of the member he/she replaces.

The new elected President and members of the Bureau come into office at the end of the Congress during which they are elected.

The Presidents of the Continental Councils are members of the Bureau for their term of office as Presidents of the Continental Councils. The Continental Councils shall hold their elections the year following the Olympic Games on the occasion of the Continental Championship.

The Vice-presidents serve for a period of four years ~~during two Olympiads~~. They may be re-elected only once- such that the maximum that a Bureau member may be a ~~Vice--~~president is eight years.

Subject to the foregoing, ~~a~~All elected members of the Bureau, including the President, may stand for successive re-elections. They are not required to be proposed by a National Federation.

Except for the President of the Federation, the age limit for all Bureau members and all members of the Continental Councils is seventy-five years old, such that any such position shall cease upon the person attaining the age of ~~76~~seventy-six. In such case, the vacancy is filled at the next Congress, respectively the next Continental elective assembly.

## 12.4. Powers, meetings and decisions

### Powers

The Bureau is in charge of the management and administration of the Federation.

Without limitation, such management and administration shall in particular:

- organize the Congress and prepare the documentation for the resolution to be submitted to the Congress, including the financial report;
- ensure the proper implementation of the decisions made by the Congress;
- approve wrestling rules;
- upon proposal from the President, appoint the members of the commissions;
- propose the statutory auditor to be elected by the Congress;
- upon proposal from the President, nominate Honorary Presidents;
- upon proposal from the President, approve all Federation agreements and contracts for partnerships, sponsoring, acquisition and change of property and submit them to the Congress for approval;
- select the dates and the organizers of all world and continental championships as well as the world and continental cups;
- approve decisions made by the Executive Committee;
- exercise all powers and performs all duties not attributed by law or by the Articles of Association to the Congress or to the President.

The Bureau is entitled to establish rules and regulations compliant with the Articles of Association.

The Bureau may delegate part of its powers to the President, to the Executive Committee or to other organs.

### Meetings and decisions

The Bureau shall meet at least once a year. Meetings of the Bureau may also be convened by the President whenever the President deems it necessary, or at the request of one third of the members of the Bureau.

The members of the Bureau serve *ad personam* and do not act as representatives of their respective country or national federation. In the event of a resignation or removal of a member of the Bureau, the substitute member can be proposed by any national federation, in accordance with the Articles of Association.

The Bureau shall be chaired by the President. If the President is not able to attend a meeting of the Bureau, the Bureau shall appoint a chairman for the meeting. Honorary Presidents may be invited by the President to attend meetings of the Bureau, without voting right.

The quorum required for a meeting of the Bureau is three fifth of the members of the Bureau.

Any member absent from three consecutive meetings shall be removed from the Bureau.

Each member of the Bureau has one vote. Resolutions shall be passed by a majority of the votes cast. The President has the casting vote in the case of a tie.

In case of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted by the President to a vote by correspondence, including fax or electronic mail, of the members of the Bureau.

An elected member of the Bureau who is simultaneously President of a Continental Council is entitled to one vote only.

Minutes of the meetings shall be drawn up by the Secretary General and signed jointly by the President and the Secretary General.

### Expenses

The members of the Bureau shall not get any remuneration for their activities.

The members of the Bureau have the right to be reimbursed for their travel, hotel and daily representation expenses resulting from their activities for the Federation. The Bureau shall set out the conditions of such reimbursement in specific regulations.

### **Article 13 – Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is composed of the President, the Secretary General and the Vice-Presidents.

The Executive Committee has full powers for the administration, the financial management and the entire ~~NFF~~ activity of the Federation, as proposed by the President.

## **CHAPTER II – THE PRESIDENT**

### **Article 14 – The President**

#### **14.1. Eligibility and election**

Only elected members of the Bureau who have acted as member of the Bureau for at least one complete term may be candidates for presidency.

The President shall be elected for a term of six years by the Congress among the candidate(s) proposed by the Bureau. This mandate is limited to two terms of six years. The President is not bound by the 75 years of age restriction set out in clause 12.3 above but may not be re-elected after attaining this age.

Applications for candidacies to the office of President shall be sent by registered mail to the Federation Secretariat at least three months prior to the Congress. The Bureau shall examine all applications and propose one or several candidates to the Congress for election. Any such proposal to the Congress shall be motivated.

Article 12.2 (“*Election*”) is applicable to the election of the President.

In case of any vacancy, regardless of the reason, the Bureau shall appoint one of its elected members, by secret ballot, to provisionally act as President of the Federation. A new President shall be elected during the following Congress.

#### **14.2. Powers**

The President represents the Federation and presides over all its activities. The President may take any action on behalf of the Federation when circumstances prevent such decision from being taken by the Congress or the Bureau. Such action or decision must be submitted promptly for ratification by the competent body.

The President shall have the right to be compensated for the time allocated to his/her activities and reimbursed for his/her travel, hotel and daily representation expenses resulting from his/her activities for the Federation. The Bureau shall set out the conditions of such reimbursement in specific regulations.

## **CHAPTER III – THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

### **Article 15 – The Secretary General**

The Secretary General is appointed by the Bureau upon proposal from the President, either among the elected members of the Bureau or outside the Bureau. The duration of the mandate is decided by the Bureau.

The Secretary General supports the President in the leading and running of the Federation and assumes the responsibility of secretary of the Bureau and Congress meetings. The Secretary General is in charge of the minutes of the meetings and is responsible for the relations with the Continental Councils, the Commissions, the working groups, the National Federations and any other bodies or individuals, in all cases under the direction of the President. Any other tasks and duties of the Secretary General shall be decided by the Bureau.

The Secretary General shall have the right to be compensated for his/her activities and reimbursed for his/her travel, hotel and daily representation expenses resulting from his/her activities for the Federation. The Bureau shall set out the conditions of such compensation and reimbursement in specific regulations.

## **TITLE IV – AUDITORS**

### **Article 16 – Accounting company and auditor**

The Bureau shall appoint an accountant or accounting firm to keep the accounts of the Federation.

The accounts of the Federation shall be audited every year by an external licensed auditor approved by the Swiss Confederation (in the meaning of the Auditor Oversight Act of December 16, 2005) and totally independent from the Federation.

The licensed auditor shall verify the accounts of the Federation and submit a report to the Congress, including its recommendations regarding the approval of the accounts by the Congress.

The licensed auditor is appointed by the Congress following a proposition by the Bureau for a term of four years. The licensed auditor can be re-elected.

Article 69b of the Swiss Civil Code is reserved.

## **TITLE V – DISCIPLINARY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**

### **Article 17 – Disciplinary and dispute resolution regulations**

The Bureau shall enact disciplinary and dispute resolution regulations which shall set forth disciplinary measures and sanctions as well as establish procedural rules for disciplinary procedure and dispute resolution.

In order to enforce the said regulations, the Bureau, upon proposal of the President, shall appoint a Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Chamber, composed of nine members.

The Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Chamber shall have the power to impose the measures and sanctions specified in the Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Regulations and to resolve the disputes as set forth in the said regulations.

## **TITLE VI – AUXILIARY BODIES**

### **CHAPTER I – CONTINENTAL COUNCILS**

#### **Article 18 – Definition**

Affiliated Members and Associated Members of a same continent are grouped in a Continental Council, the role and abilities of which are set forth in internal regulations issued by the Bureau and adopted by the Congress.

The Continental Councils shall promote and develop wrestling on their continent and shall ensure that the Articles of Association and the regulations issued by the Federation are respected.

The Continental Councils are auxiliary bodies of the Federation and are not entitled to become members of the Federation. They do not have any legislative power in areas governed by the Federation, including with respect to wrestling technical and regulation. The Continental Councils shall not be allowed to take any decision with respect to a National Federation.

#### **Article 19 – Structure and competence**

Each Continental Council is managed by an Executive Commission composed of seven individuals (President, Vice-President and five members), including one woman, elected by its general assembly (the “General Assembly”). They are elected for a period of four years and may be re-elected. The age limit for all individuals seating on the Executive Commission of the Continental Council is 75 years old, such that any such position shall cease upon the person attaining the age of seventy-six. In such case, the member will not be replaced until the next elective General Assembly. The mandate of the President of the Continental Council is limited to three terms of four years.

The headquarters and the secretariat of the Continental Council shall be located in the President's country of residence and all the necessary material and equipment must be provided by the National Federation to which the President belongs.

The General Assembly meets every year during the Continental Championships. The rules applicable to the Congress shall be applicable to the General Assembly. In the absence of any calling of a General Assembly, the Bureau shall convene such General Assembly

The agenda and the invitations to the General Assembly are prepared by the Continental Council and must be preapproved by the Federation's President. The call for candidates to the Continental Council is handled by the Federation Secretariat who will validate and transmit the valid applications to the President of the Continental Council.

The General Assembly during which elections shall be held must take place every four years after the Olympic Games.

## CHAPTER II – COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

### Article 20 – Definition, composition and mission

#### Commissions

The commissions (hereafter the “Commissions”) are set up by the Bureau, which determines the purpose and mission of each Commission.

The members of Commissions are appointed by the Bureau upon proposal from the President. The Bureau decides on the number of members of each Commission.

The members of Commissions must have expertise in the field covered by their respective Commission and shall have working knowledge of French or English.

The candidate willing to be member of a Commission shall be proposed by a National Federation, which shall undertake to bear all travel and accommodation costs for the candidate.

The members of Commissions are appointed for a period of four years and can be re-elected

Apart from the Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Chamber, the specific status of which is governed by Article 17 above, the following Commissions are permanent commissions of the Federation:

- Development ~~Commission~~ & Technical Assistance Commission
- Technical ~~Assistance~~ Commission
- Athletes Commission
- Refereeing Commission
- Coaches Commission
- Medical & Anti-doping Commission
- Ethics & ~~Legislative~~ Legal Commission
- Marketing & Sponsoring Commission
- Media Commission
- ~~Masters & Promotion Commission~~
- Sport for All Commission
- ~~Women & Sport~~ Gender Equality & Diversity Commission
- Historical Heritage & Hall of Fame Commission
- Scientific Commission
- ~~Traditional Wrestling Commission~~
- ~~Pankration Commission~~
- ~~Beach Wrestling Commission~~
- Wrestling ~~Circle~~ Friends.

The Bureau may establish other Commissions to fulfil specific missions or mandates for the Federation.

#### Committees

The Bureau may set up committees to manage, develop and promote the other styles recognized and governed by the Federation, as well as committees to promote the practice of wrestling on a regional level or within the framework of intergovernmental organizations. The composition and objectives of these committees shall be approved by the Bureau. Their members are appointed according to the same procedure and for the same period as for the commissions.

## **TITLE VII – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 21 – International competitions**

National Federations (and their ~~affiliated sports clubs~~ members) may only participate in international competitions organized and/or recognized by the Affiliated Members or Associated Members.

At the request of a National Federation, the Bureau may agree that a National Federation not yet affiliated to the Federation participates in a competition, provided that (i) the competition contributes to the development of wrestling in the participants' countries, and (ii) this National Federation has applied to become Affiliated Member.

Wrestlers, Wrestling clubs or associations may only organize, or participate in, international competitions if their National Federation is affiliated or associated to the Federation.

Affiliated Members and Associated Members shall not:

- accept participation from wrestlers, leaders or officials who are (i) not members of an Affiliated Member or an Associated Member; (ii) not affiliated; or (iii) subject to a disciplinary measure or suspension;
- organize any contest or event with any association that is not an Affiliated Member or an Associated Member, unless a specific authorization is granted by the National Federation of the country of such association.

### **Article 22 – Representation of a country**

Participants (wrestlers and referees) to any Olympic Games, Continental or Regional Games, World Championships, Cups, Continental Championships and Cups as well as any other competitions or events held under the authority of the Federation shall have the nationality, as determined by the Federation, of a country in order to be part of its national team and to be permitted to represent such country.

### **Article 23 – Transfer and change of nationality**

Rules regarding transfer and changes of nationality, as to be determined by the Federation, shall be set out in specific regulations by the Bureau.

### **Article 24 – Betting activities**

The Bureau shall set out specific regulations to fight any prohibited betting activities.

### **Article 25 – Liability**

The members of the Federation shall not be held liable for any obligation, debt, or other liability of the Federation.

### **Article 26 - Dissolution**

The Federation shall be dissolved only by way of during an extraordinary Congress convened for that purpose.

### **Article 27 – Transitional provision**



The rule according to which elected members of the Bureau shall all have different nationalities (Article 12.2 of the Articles of Association) shall not apply to those elected members of the Bureau in place at the date of approval of these Articles of Association and as long as such elected members are re-elected by the Congress. The age limit for elected Bureau members (Article 12.3 of the Articles of Association) shall not apply to those elected members of the Bureau who are re-elected at the same Congress where such age limit for Bureau members is introduced in the Articles of Association and approved by the Congress.

Articles of Association approved by the Congress on ...

Previous amendments:

Articles of Association approved by the Congress on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2014