INTERNATIONAL POLE SPORTS FEDERATION

CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS

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CONSTITUTION

STATUE I

Section 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be the International Pole Sports Federation.

The International Pole Sports Federation is further referred to as the IPSF.

Section 2 - Definition

This Federation is a membership Federation and shall have no capital stock. This Federation is one that does not contemplate pecuniary gain of profit to any member, officer or director and no part of the earnings of this Federation, if there be any earnings, or the assets of this Federation, shall inure to the benefit of any member, officer, or director thereof. The property of the Federation is irrevocably dedicated to athletic, charitable, health and educational purposes. Furthermore, in the event of the dissolution or liquidation of this Federation, any and all surplus, capital and assets shall be distributed to one or more funds, foundations or Federations selected and chosen by the Executive Committee of this Federation and conducted solely and exclusively for athletic, health, charitable, or scientific purposes, and is seeking 501(c)(3) corporation status under the IRS laws of the USA, no part of the net earnings or which inures to the benefit of any person, member, officer, or director and no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.

Section 3 - Recognition by the I.O.C.

The International Pole Sports Federation seeks recognition by the International Olympic Committee (I.O.C)

The IPSF accepts and recognizes the statutes and aims of the I.O.C. The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable and no provision of this Constitution shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from these principles.

Section 4 - Other Affiliations

Membership of the IPSF in any other federation must be approved by Congress.

STATUE II

Section 1 - Purpose of the International Pole Sports Federation

This is a non-profit organization for educational purposes designed to foster the development of the sport of Pole Sports throughout the World. The IPSF offers institutes and individuals who desire to join in membership for the advancement of Pole Sports, an opportunity to participate and contribute to that growth. These purposes are fulfilled through the aims and objectives.

Section 2 - Aims and Objectives

A. To perpetuate, improve, and extend the sport of Pole Sports throughout the World.

B. To stimulate the interest of people in healthy sport participation through Pole Sports.

C. To supervise and administer a continuing Pole Sports program for the purpose of stimulating interest and developing athletes through careful preparation and planning, utilizing existing facilities, resources, and coaching.

D. To unify and coordinate, the efforts of all agencies interested in promoting Pole Sports, and permit all interested parties to have a voice in the development of the sport in the entire World.

E. To create and maintain research projects that will benefit all parties interested in Pole Sports.

F. To provide a clearinghouse for the distribution of coaching aids, literature, films, research materials, and rules collected from sources throughout the World.

G. To establish an effective means of communication for the transmission of useful ideas whereby coaches and athletes will be informed of the latest developments and techniques in Pole Sports.

H. To give prompt attention and consideration to valid suggestions on how to improve the conduct of administration in Pole Sports throughout the World.

I. To maintain records and disseminate information pertaining to all phases of Pole Sports.

J. To train and certify competent Pole Sports officials.

K. To raise money and finance improvement in the sport of Pole Sports.

L. To operate exclusively for educational and charitable purposes.

M. To follow and actively support the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and its principles and goals.

Section 3 - Neutrality

The IPSF observes strict neutrality on political, social and religious grounds. No discrimination is permitted against any affiliated National Federation or any association, club, or sportsman on political, racial, or religious grounds.

Section 4 - Headquarters

1. The Headquarters of the IPSF is Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
2. The IPSF will be incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation under the laws of the USA.
3. The IPSF will be incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Utah.

Section 5 - Languages

All meetings shall be conducted in English, but any delegate who has difficulties in expressing his views in English will have the right to do so in his own language, provided he has an interpreter. Every National Federation has the right to correspond in English with the IPSF. Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and all other important documents, such as minutes of the Congress, playing rules, and so on, will be published in English.

Section 6 - Composition of the International Federation

The IPSF is composed of full and provisional members being National Pole Sports Federations and their athletes.

Section 7 - Honorary-Presidents and Honorary-Members

Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, persons who have rendered exceptional services to the IPSF or who in general have given exceptional services to Pole Sports may be elected Honorary President or Honorary Member by Congress. The Honorary President has the same rights as an Executive Committee Member but without voting right.

Section 8 - Mutual Recognition of Federations

The National Federations affiliated to the IPSF recognize each other as being solely empowered to control Pole Sports in their respective countries; therefore, they undertake that neither they nor any of their members will in any way have relations with non-associated bodies or one of their members, except as may be permitted by Statutes and By-Laws or with special permission of the IPSF President for limited time periods.

STATUE III

Section 1 - Membership in the International Pole Sports Federation

For any member of the IPSF, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

FULL MEMBERSHIP

1. To be the Pole Sports Federation of a sovereign nation.
2. To control Pole Sports in their country.

3. To abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the IPSF.
4. To furnish the IPSF with their Statutes.
5. Voting power at Congress plus participation at World Championships.
6. To pay yearly membership dues as determined by the Congress.

PROVISIONAL AFFILIATION

1. Affiliation open to those countries that are limited in development of Pole Sports.
2. Must be making efforts towards full membership on an ongoing basis.
3. Have designated a National Headquarters in their country.
4. Have passport or meets eligibility criteria for national players who compete periodically in Pole Sports.

ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP

1. To be a citizen of a sovereign nation.

COMPETITION EVENT AFFILIATION

1. Meet the requirements of the IPSF Competition Event Recognition Program.
2. Formally classified as a IPSF Bronze Event, IPSF Silver Event, or IPSF Gold Event.

Section 2 - Resignation

Resignation of a National Federation may be accepted by Congress upon written request and after having fulfilled all the fiscal obligations towards the IPSF or any of its member Federations. The request must be handed in at least six weeks before the end of the fiscal year, otherwise, the National Federation remains a member for the following year with all financial duties.

Section 3 - Suspension of Membership Rights

A National Federation who or whose clubs, members, and officials have repeatedly failed in its responsibilities towards the IPSF after written warning, or has acted contrary to the Statutes, By-Laws, Regulations or decisions of the bodies of the IPSF can be suspended by the Executive Committee. The affiliated National Federations will be informed about such suspension which will be submitted to the next Congress for confirmation.

Section 4 - Expulsion

Any affiliated National Federation can be expelled from the IPSF by Congress if it:

A. Brings disrepute to the IPSF or to Pole Sports in its own country.
B. Seriously violates the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations or Congress decisions.
C. Does not pay the subscriptions and fees owed to the IPSF after due notice has been given.
D. Does not control Pole Sports in its country.

The decision is final.

Any Member Athlete can be expelled from the IPSF by Congress if it:

A. Brings disrepute to the IPSF or to Pole Sports in its own country.
B. Seriously violates the Statutes, By-Laws, Regulations or Congress decisions.
C. Does not pay the subscriptions and fees owed to the IPSF after due notice has been given.

The decision is final.

Section 5 - Dissolution

The dissolution of the IPSF shall only be effected by an Extra-Ordinary Congress called especially for this purpose. The Extra-Ordinary Congress decides about the disposal of the funds of the IPSF, as indicated in Statue 1, Section 2 definition. The Executive Committee will fulfill the duties of liquidation.

Section 6 - Termination of Rights and Duties of Members

All rights and duties pertaining to membership cease with resignation or expulsion. An expelled or resigned Federation cannot put forward any claims to the assets of the IPSF.

Section 7 - Responsibilities

The financial commitments of the IPSF are limited to its assets.

Section 8 - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the IPSF starts on January 1 and ends on December 31 of the same year.

Section 9 - Deadline

For the observance of the established dates in the Statutes, By-Laws, and Regulations, the "date stamp" is decisive.

Section 10 - Arbitration of Disagreements within a Member Federation

In event of disagreement, the National Federation concerned must seek its own settlements. If no such settlement is possible, then the matter must be submitted for decision to the Executive Committee to be ratified by Congress at the next regularly scheduled Congress Meeting.

Section 11 – Constitutional Statues and By-Laws

A. By-Laws and Regulations are additional prescriptions to the Constitutional Statutes.
B. Statutes and By-Laws may be changed or amended by a simple majority of the Executive Committee until a World Congress is established.
C. For modifications of the Statutes, a qualified majority of the World Congress is necessary.
D. For modifications of the By-Laws, a simple majority of the World Congress is sufficient.
E. Regulations may be changed or amended by a simple majority of the Executive Committee with final approval to be confirmed at the next World Congress.
F. Each full member federation has one vote.
G. Provisional member federations have no vote. Provisional member federations may be represented at the World Congress, but they will have no vote; however may be granted the right of speaking after approval of the President.

STATUE IV

Section 1 - Administration of the IPSF

Congresses and Committees of the IPSF are:

A. Legislative bodies
    1. World Congress
    2. Extra-Ordinary Congress
B. Executive judicative bodies
    1. Executive Committee
    2. Committees
C. Auditors

Section 2 - Sections of the IPSF

Duties for sports and rule, judges, coaches, and disciplinary matters are carried out by permanent appointed committees. Each committee will be under the chairmanship of an Executive Committee member appointed by the Executive Committee. The committees will consist of the chairman and a minimum of three members. The three members will be proposed by the chairman and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 3 - Officials of the IPSF

The officials of the IPSF are classified according to their responsibilities and authority:

A. Executive Committee Members
B. Committee members
C. Other temporary officials of the IPSF
D. President may appoint Ad Hoc Committees to be approved by the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be elected by the World Congress except for the initial Executive Committee. The initial Executive Committee will be comprised of carefully selected individuals until the establishment of the World Congress. The Executive Committee approves the committee members.

STATUE V - LEGISLATIVE BODIES

Section 1 - Meetings of the Legislative Bodies

The legislative bodies of the IPSF meet as follows:

A. The World Congress meets every year in conjunction with World Championships.
B. An Extra-Ordinary Congress will be called within three months after the request for such meeting.

Section 2 - Notice of Meetings

Notice of all regular Congresses will be given by the IPSF office not later than 3 months before such Congress together with the agenda. Relevant documents will be sent out at least 2 months before the Congress. However, for an Extra-Ordinary Congress, a notice must be given not later than six weeks before the meeting to all affiliated National Federations. The Congresses are organized by the IPSF office in cooperation with the National Federation of the country in which the meeting takes place.

Section 3 - Proposals

All full member Federations in good standing and the Executive Committee Members have the right to present proposals. Only written proposals that have been sent to the IPSF office not later than six weeks before the meeting (the post stamp on the envelope, or date stamp on email, is sufficient) can be accepted and are subject to the following extra conditions:

A. Formal proposals on modification of the Statutes and By-Laws of the IPSF can only be submitted at the World Congress.
B. Proposals for changing the playing rules shall be submitted to the Executive Committee preceding the World Congress.
C. Proposals on modification of the rules shall be submitted to the Executive Committee to act upon with final approval by the World Congress. The passage of a changed regulation will take effect on September 1 of the year that it passes.
D. In the case of a formal proposal on the dissolution of the IPSF within the fixed term, an Extra-Ordinary Congress shall be called.
E. The reasons for proposed changes must accompany any proposal presented for consideration.

Section 4 - Delegates

Any affiliated National Federation may be represented by a maximum of one delegate, who must be a member of that National Federation (if the delegate does not speak English, the delegation is entitled to bring one interpreter at their own expense). The National Federation may nominate a second delegate (reserve) who can replace the delegate. Only two delegates are entitled to attend the Congress. Names of the delegate and the reserve must be given to the Secretary before the opening of the Congress. The first delegate to vote shall be marked. Only the alternate delegate can replace him. Any change must be submitted to the Secretary. Controversies will be settled by Congress.

Section 5 - Voting Rights

Only full member Federations have voting rights at the Congresses. For the elections of the Executive Committee, the members of the Executive Committee have no vote. The President of the IPSF or his substitute have the right of the casting vote. Honorary Life Presidents and Honorary Life Members may speak, but have no vote. The voting is executed by IPSF voting cards distributed by authorized officials. Executive Committee may vote if no other members from their Federation are available to vote.

Section 6 - Voting

For voting in Congress, a simple majority of the votes cast, for or against, is required for the adopting of a proposal. In case of a tie, President votes. No proxies shall be allowed. No National Federation is obliged to vote and any abstentions are not counted and will be considered as absentees. When various proposals about the same matter are to be decided and none get the required majority, a second vote will take place in which the relevant majority decides. By voting for the elections of the Executive Committee, Article 5, Section 7B is valid. Voting is open ballot unless a secret ballot is requested by one delegate who is entitled to vote. No vote shall be valid unless a quorum representing 50% of the votes is present for such a vote.

Section 7 – Elections

A. The current Executive Committee shall serve as the Nominating Committee and may bring forth a slate of candidates to the General Assembly for action.

B. The elections of the President, Executive Vice President, Regional Vice presidents (Africa; Asia; Europe; North America, Central Americas and the Caribbean; Oceania; South America), Treasurer, Secretary General, and two Elite Athletes shall occur as part of the World Congress held in conjunction of the same year as the Summer Olympics and the Quadrennial of the I.O.C.

C. Vacancies occurring between World Congresses will be filled in accordance with the following procedure:

1. At least 20% of the Executive Committee must be active Pole Sports players.
2. The President of the IPSF may appoint a successor from that area of the World now vacant to fulfill the term of the resigned Vice President.
3. All appointments are subject to approval by the Executive Committee.
4. A candidate for office as Officer or Executive Committee Member may be nominated only by a full member Federation.
5. Each candidate must submit a letter from their Federation (on its official letterhead) supporting the candidate's nomination and approved by its Board of Directors.
6. The simple majority of all votes present decides at the first ballot. If a second ballot is necessary, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will drop out until there are only two candidates left and from then on, the simple majority will decide.

Section 8 – Majority Decisions

For the following decisions, a qualified majority of the votes of all Federations taking part in the relevant Congress is required:

A. Adoption of new member Federations, based on Executive Committee approval and Congress accepting,

B. Nomination of Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members,

C. Removal of any, various or all members of the Executive committee or other bodies of the IPSF, before the end of their term,

D. Expulsion of a national member Federation,

E. Dissolution of the IPSF, provided the necessary resolution, is only possible by 4/5 majority of all member votes.

Section 9 - Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, which shall have been circulated, shall be taken as read and no motion or discussion shall be allowed on the minutes except in regard to their accuracy. After the confirmation of the minutes they shall be signed by the President and Secretary General and the members of the IPSF shall be at liberty to ask any questions in regard to matter arising out of them. Such questions shall be allowed for purposes of information only, and no debate on the policy outlined in the minutes shall take place.

Section 10 - Agenda

The Agenda of the World Congress is as follows:

A. Open
   1. Notice of meeting
   2. Adoption of Agenda

B. Appointment of minute keepers and scrutinizers'

C. Minutes of last Congress

D. Report of the President

E. Report of the Secretary General

F. Report of Committees

G. Admission of new member Federations and expulsions

H. Modifications to the Constitution

I. Modifications to the By-Laws

J. Modifications to the Regulations

K. General proposals

L. Finances

M. Elections:
   1. President
   2. Executive Vice-President
   3. Regional Vice-Presidents
   4. Treasurer
   5. Two (2) Elite Athletes

N. Auditors

O. Honors

P. Any other business

Section 11 – Extra-Ordinary Congress

An Extra-Ordinary Congress has to be called upon request of one third of the full member Federations in good standing. Only the requested items appear on the agenda of the Extra-Ordinary Congress.

STATUE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Composition and Principals

The general management of the IPSF under the control of the Congress is in the hands of the Executive Committee for a four year term, and it consists of:

A. President
B. Executive Vice President
C. Secretary General
D. Treasurer
E. Committee Chairs
F. Eight Regional Vice-Presidents
G. Two Active Elite Athletes
H. Immediate Past President—non voting

Executive Committee Members must be non-paid volunteers.

A. When a member of the Executive Committee resigns before the end of his term, the President elects a substitute member subject to Executive Committee's approval. In urgent cases, the Executive Committee has the authority to appoint a substitute member until the next Congress. The Executive Committee can make decisions when more than half of its members are present. In case of urgency, decisions of the Executive Committee can be taken by telephone, postal mail or email. In the event of an equality of votes, the President has the casting vote. The Executive Committee will assemble when the President deems it necessary or upon request of three members. The Executive Committee shall assemble usually during Congresses. In urgent cases, it meets also at other times. All members of the Executive Committee shall defend the general interests of IPSF and the decisions of the Executive Committee.
B. If an elected member or chairperson of a commission loses the support of their National Federation they must have the support of 80% of the Executive Committee to remain in office. If that member wants to run for office in the General Election they must have written approval from their National Federation.

Section 2 - Decisions by Executive Committee in Case of Urgency

In case of urgency, the Executive Committee may make decisions which are under the authority of Congress, subject to adoption by Congress afterwards. Decisions of the Executive Committee are made by a majority of the members present at the meeting provided a quorum exists.

Section 3 - Representation to the Outside

The President or his substitute represents the IPSF on all external matters. The signature authority regarding financial matter is fixed in the Financial By-Law. The signature authority of the IPSF is settled by the By-Laws.

Section 4 - Committees

The Executive Committee may assign the duties of the IPSF into different committees. The Chairman of a committee can be replaced by another Executive Committee member when at the time they are absent. The details are settled in the By-Laws.

Section 5 - Decisions of the Committees

The committees can make decisions when more than half of the total number of members are present. The committees of the IPSF decide by simple majority. Financial adjustments by the committees within their budget must be approved by the President in consultation with the Secretary General. In case of urgency, decisions of the committees can be taken by way of a conference call by telephone or by mail. No committee member has more than his vote. In the case of equality, the chairman will have the casting vote.

Section 6 - Financial Regulations

A. The Treasurer establishes annually a budget that observes the total probable income and expenditure of the IPSF.

B. After adoption of the budget by the Executive Committee and the Congress, the Executive Committee can work within this frame.

C. Shifting within this budget is allowed with the permission of the President in consultation with the Executive Committee.

D. Signatures competencies in financial matters are covered in Financial By-Laws.

E. All finances of the IPSF through the bank accounts or account of the IPSF and are subject to the same regulations as decided by the Executive Committee.

F. The Annual Accounts together with the report of the auditors will be reported to the Congress for approval.

G. All further details will be covered by the Financial By-Laws.

Section 7 - Duties of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has to meet in particular the following obligations:

A. Observance of Statutes and By-Laws

B. Execution of decisions of the Congress

C. Ratification urgent decisions of the office of the executive board

D. Resolution of Regulations and stipulations

E. Executions of decisions of disciplinary measures

F. Urgent decisions (to be adopted by Congress afterwards)

G. Pre-discussion of matters for Congress

H. Elaboration of proposals

I. Suspension of membership rights

J. Nomination of committee members

K. Appointment of temporary special committees

L. Preparation of budget and control of finances

M. Decisions of financial nature out of budget

N. Agreements (TV, radio, advertising, etc.)

O. Negotiations with I.O.C., other Sports Federations and groups

P. Controller of all Championships of the IPSF

Q. Serves as Nominating Committee and presents a slate of officers to the General Assembly for the next quadrennial.

Section 8 - General Duties

All duties and matters of international aspects that are not especially outlined in the Statutes and By-Laws are under the authority of the Executive Committee.

Section 9 - Disciplinary Authorities of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has the duty to settle conflicts for which it is competent according to the Statutes and By-Laws of the IPSF.

Section 10 - IPSF Office

The Executive Committee shall employ a Secretary General who reports to the President and an International Staff. They shall attend all Executive Committee and Congress Meetings. Additional office staff will be hired at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Salaries shall be set by the Executive Committee.

Section 11 - Permanent and Temporary Committees

The Executive Committee is entitled to appoint permanent and temporary committees as occasion demands. Initial permanent committees are Technical, Safety, Medical, Ethics, Accreditation, Marketing, Athlete, Finance, and Event.

Section 12 - Countries by Region

Official List of Countries and Territories defining eight Regions for the purpose of electing the Regional Vice-Presidents are:

AFRICA

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina, Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

EAST ASIA

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (People's Republic of), East Timor, Hong Kong-China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and Vietnam.

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kyrghizstan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Oman, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Yemen, Kazakstan, Palestine

EUROPE

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar, GB & NI, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and Ukraine.

NORTH AMERICA

Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Puerto Rico, United States of America, and US Virgin Islands.

CENTRALAMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Anguilla, Antigua, Aruba, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos,.

OCEANIA

American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Northern Marianas, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyane, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

STATUE VII - COMMITTEES

The general responsibilities of IPSF's permanent committees are defined in the sections below, the by-laws, and as directed by the Executive Committee.

Section 1 - Technical Committee

Assigns point values to moves; defines recognized moves; sets judging criteria and event scoring; specifies garments, performance aids, and accessories; defines competition events; approves musical accompaniment; designates required moves; keeps event scoring and records; and proposes competition rules.

Section 2 - Safety Committee

Oversees the safety of equipment; specifies authorized competition equipment; oversees the safety of participants interacting with equipment; inspects the safety and/or sets up equipment; and performs equipment, accessory, and garment research and advancement.

Section 3 - Medical Committee

Oversees meeting the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Control; defines medical qualifications/disqualifications for participation; medically clears participants to compete; defines event medical services; and protects participant medical information.

Section 4 - Ethics Committee

Enforces participant and judge rules, regulations, and ethical code; establishes of an ethical code of conduct; investigates violations and misconduct; and recommends disciplinary action to the Executive Committee.

Section 5 - Accreditation Committee

Ensures participant members meet eligibility requirements; specifies non-medical eligibility requirements; oversees athlete transfers; education and development of coaches and judges; and qualifies and credentials judges.

Section 6 - Marketing Committee

Seeks to promote and advance Pole Sports throughout the world; promote a positive and progressive image of Pole Sports; interacts with press and media; creates advertising; and ensures consistent and tasteful use of branding.

Section 7 - Athlete Committee

Disseminates IPSF and Pole Sports information to the athletes; gathers athlete feedback and facilitates communication between athletes and the Executive Committee; provides athletes with Pole Sport education and development; encourage involvement; promote IPSF values, social responsibility, and excellence; promote athlete welfare; and foster sportsmanship.

Section 8 - Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is chaired by the Treasurer and is charged with raising funds; identifying new sources of income; maintaining non-profit status and requirements; and securing funding from bank and government sources.

Section 9 - Event Committee

Establishes and coordinates official events; procures awards/medals/trophies; arrange lighting and music; oversees participant, coach, and judge event access credentials; and defines event activities and timeline.

STATUE VIII - AUDITORS

The Executive Committee shall hire Auditors for four years. The Auditors will examine the treasury of the IPSF and the accounts of the past financial year and present annually a written report and discharge proposal to Congress.

STATUE IX - ARBITRATION

Members of the IPSF shall not be permitted to bring before the Court of Justice disputes with the IPSF, and membership of the IPSF shall involve members in renouncing the right to take a dispute to court. Any dispute shall be referred to The Court of Arbitration as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

STATUE X - DISCIPLINE

The IPSF shall have the authority to take disciplinary action against any National Federation or individual for conduct which the IPSF considers to be prejudicial to the interests of the IPSF.

Definitions

Simple Majority

By "simple majority" is understood a majority of at least one vote more than 50% of the votes. The abstentions are not counted and will be considered as absentees. The same applies to a ballot that is invalid or blank.

Qualified Majority

By "qualified majority" is understood a majority that differs from a simple, statutorily laid down, majority. The qualified majority is 2/3 majority of the votes cast.

Relative Majority

The "relative majority" is smaller than the simple majority. The relative majority is often practiced at Executive Committee elections, e.g. by the following regulation: The candidate who polls most votes is elected. However, in case this candidate declines the nomination, the candidate who achieves the second most votes is not automatically elected, but the voting has to be repeated.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Section 1 - Meetings

The meetings of the IPSF bodies are conducted by the President of the IPSF respectively by the competent Executive Committee Member. The Secretary General shall take the minutes containing all decisions recorded for every meeting, to be sent within 30 days to all Executive Committee Members and other committee members concerned.

Section 2 - Duties and Responsibilities of the President

The President of the IPSF has the following duties and responsibilities:

A. He looks after the execution of the decisions in accordance with the Statutes, By-Laws, and Regulations as well as the execution of the decisions of the Congresses and of the Executive Committee.

B. He represents the IPSF to the outside.

C. The President or his substitute has the right to sign on behalf of the IPSF in all matters, which have been approved by the Executive Committee, nevertheless, he cannot sign contracts exceeding the period for which he has been elected.

D. The President recommends chairs of Committees to the Executive Committee to be ratified by the Executive Committee.

E. President appoints Ad Hoc Committees to be ratified by The Executive Committee.

Section 3 - Duties and Responsibilities of the Executive Vice President

The Executive Vice President can replace in absence the President of the IPSF and execute the affairs delegated to them by the President or the Executive Committee.

Section 4 - Treasury

The Treasurer of the IPSF is charged with keeping the accounts of the IPSF and Chairman of the Financial Committee. Of all correspondence concerning financial matters, the Treasurer must get a copy.

Section 5 - Duties and Responsibilities of Committees

Members of the Executive Committee conduct the committees assigned to them according to these By- Laws. The committees' Chairs must control their financial matters within the framework of the approved budget. For reallocation inside the budget and other financial changes, they must consult the Executive Committee or the President. Each committee chairman will give the Annual Congress a short report on his activities.

Section 6 - Duties of Secretary General

The Secretary General is responsible to the President of the IPSF, conducts the day-to-day affairs of the IPSF, is a non-voting member of all IPSF committees, and is empowered to sign all checks of the IPSF in accordance with a policy set by the Executive Committee.

Section 7 - Duties of Regional Vice-Presidents

The Regional Vice-Presidents are responsible for assisting in identifying, developing, and representing in Executive Committee meetings, National Federations within their region.

Section 8 - Duties of Elite Athletes

Elite Athletes represent the athlete community on the Executive Committee by providing input on how rules, regulations, and policies affect the lives of athletes.

ARTICLE II - STATUS OF PLAYERS, TRANSFERS, AND QUALIFICATION

Section 1 - Application

These By-Laws apply to all international competition and the participating players.

Section 2 - Licenses

All players and officials who participate in international competition, must be licensed by their National Federation.

Section 3 - Competitions of the IPSF

All competitions organized by the IPSF such as:

A. World Championships

B. Other events of the IPSF are considered to be "competitions of the IPSF". All players, coaches, judges, and officials that participate in these games are under the jurisdiction of the IPSF.

Section 4 - Qualification as Participant in the IPSF Championships

Per the IPSF Competition Event Recognition Program until officially discontinued and then only players meeting the following qualification requirements can participate in the Championships of the IPSF:

A. Each player participating in an IPSF Championship must be under the jurisdiction of a National Federation affiliated to the IPSF.

B. To be eligible for participation in an IPSF competition, each player must prove citizenship of the country represented by producing a valid passport from that country, or by documentation from their national sports authority.

C. Each player participating must produce an approved eligibility status I.D. of their country, under the eligibility rules as governed by the IPSF.

Section 5 - Transfer Cards

Athletes cannot transfer from one Federation or country to another without a valid international transfer card. A valid card must have the confirmation of the old and the new National Federation or country, the signature of the athlete and finally the IPSF confirmation and will become valid from the day of the official IPSF registration.

Section 6 - Temporary Limited Transfer

International transfer may be limited as to duration and as to Federation and country.

Section 7 - Refusal of International Transfers

Should a National Federation refuse to give a player the international transfer, the player concerned shall have the right to appeal to the Executive Committee with supporting reasons and all evidence. The Executive Committee will investigate the appeal and give final decision.

Section 8 - Transfer Without a Transfer Card

Any player moving from one Federation or country to another for any reason without an international transfer card will have to establish 18-months permanent residence in the country of his new Federation or country before being permitted to participate. After this period of time, their new National Federation may apply to the IPSF for a new athlete's license. The IPSF will inform the old Federation about the decision.

Section 9 - Offenses Against the Transfer Rules

In the case of a player playing under an invalid transfer card or without a transfer card, the National Federation concerned shall be penalized and the player suspended.

ARTICLE III - INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

Section 1 - Permission for International Competition

All international competitions between IPSF member Federations need permission of the National Federations involved.

Section 2 – Judges for International Competition

International competition must be officiated by judges recognized by the IPSF Judge Recognition Programs.

Section 3 - IPSF Tournament Reports

Reports of all IPSF recognized tournaments/games must be distributed as follows:

A. Organizer
B. IPSF Office
C. Participating Federations

Section 4 - Games with Non-Affiliated Players

No international games involving players of unaffiliated organizations may be played without the approval of the Federation where the games will be played and the IPSF President.

Section 5 - Description of Selected Teams

The name "International" team, "IPSF" team, or "Regional" team (Europe team, team Europe, etc.) is the exclusive right of the IPSF. No National Federation or club of such Federation can have a team play under this name. The descriptions "National" team, "National Selection" team, etc., are the exclusive right of the National Federations. The description "International All-Star" team can only be used after previous authorization by the President of the IPSF.

Section 6 - Names of International Tournaments and Cups

Tournaments and Cups with names of geographical areas exceeding territory of a National Federation (such as World Cup, European Cup, World Tournament, Continental Tournament, etc.,) may be permitted by the IPSF only.

Section 7 - Organization of International Matches

Only the National Federations or clubs with their approval are authorized to organize international games and tournaments.

ARTICLE IV - FINANCIAL RULES

Section 1 - Administration

The IPSF Treasurer administers the financial matters according to the Statutes.

Section 2 - Currency

In all financial matters of the IPSF, the U.S. Dollar serves as official basic currency for all calculations.

Section 3 - Signature Competence

A. The President, Treasurer, and the Secretary General have the right to distribute the IPSF money on the bank accounts according to the budget and decisions of the Executive Committee.
B. The Chairmen of the committees cannot sign in financial matters, except Treasurer.
C. Statements of all bank accounts must be sent immediately to the Treasurer.

Section 4 - Income of the IPSF

The income of the IPSF consists of:

A. Subscription fee of a new National Federation and Athlete members as fixed by Congress

B. The annual subscriptions of the National Federation as fixed by Congress (due January 1 of the current season)
C. IPSF Tournament
D. TV rights of all IPSF Championships
E. Revenue from the advertising rights of all IPSF Championships
F. Proceeds from the IPSF assets
G. Fines
H. Proceeds from official publications
I. Revenues from the license from emblems rights, advertising pool, etc.
J. Incidental revenue
K. Donations
L. Sponsorships

Section 5 - Investment of the Liquid Resources and of the Assets

The President decides about the investment of the liquid resources of the IPSF and of the IPSF assets provided he informs the Executive Committee and Congress afterwards.

Section 6 – TV, Radio, and Advertising Rights

The President and Secretary General are authorized to negotiate TV, radio, and advertising contracts for the IPSF championships. They can delegate this authorization to another person.

All the TV, radio, and advertising and licenses rights in and outside the organizing country of the IPSF Championships are the exclusive property of the IPSF. All revenues from these rights go to the IPSF in as far no other regulations are established in these By-Laws. An exception may be granted the organizer for selling of souvenirs in their own country, upon an application to the IPSF.

The TV, radio, and advertising rights from national and international games belong to the organizing National Federations, but the National Federation of the visiting team is the exclusive owner of the television rights from the games played by their national team abroad, but for their own territory only.

ARTICLE V - COMPETITION RULES

Section 1 - Responsibilities of the Technical Committee

All IPSF competitions must be played according to the competition rules, which are controlled by the Technical committee. The Technical Committee examines the rule matters in connection with IPSF activities in the playing season, and forwards the correspondence proposals to the Executive Committee.

Section 2 - Application range

These competition rules apply to all games, players, judges, and officials in all championships and tournaments of the IPSF.

Section 3 - International Playing Rules

For all international competitions, the official IPSF rules shall be applied.

Section 4 - Tournament Format

The World Championships format will be that format adopted by the World Congress, or as modified by the Events Committee, approved under extraordinary circumstances as determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 5 - World Championships System

The World Championships of the IPSF are organized every year.

Section 6 - The Schedule of Games of the World Championships

The organizing National Federation and the Events Committee prepares the game schedule for the various IPSF championships according to the IPSF regulations (the schedule configuration based on the placing from the previous championships). The organizers will propose the dates, places, and times of the games.

Section 7 - Nomination of Judges

The judges are under the direct supervision of the IPSF Accreditation Committee Chairman and appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 8 - Organization of the IPSF Championships

The following committees shall be responsible for:

A. Technical – define events and validate scoring
B. Accreditation - the control with regard to the eligibility of the players and notification of judges appointment
C. Events - organizing matters and awards
D. Ethics - disciplinary cases and doping violations
E. Medical - doping matters with exception that doping violations are referred to Ethics
F. Safety - equipment
G. Marketing - promotion

Section 9 - Report on the IPSF Championships

The chairman of the Events committee shall bring to the next Congress a brief report on the IPSF championships entrusted upon him and is responsible to bring a summary of all televised games complete with dates, times, and countries where transmissions took place.

Section 10 - Information by the Organizing Federation

The organizing National Federation shall communicate all information with respect to the IPSF Championships to be organized by them to the participating Federations and the Executive Committee in due time, according to the regulations. The organizing Federation shall send to all participating Federations and the IPSF a closing report with complete documentation. The statistics shall be done according to the IPSF standards.

Section 11 - Qualification Requirements to the IPSF Championships

The qualification of a player for the IPSF championships has been established in Article II, Section 4.

Section 12 - Insurance of Participants

The IPSF is not responsible for insurance of players, participating officials, and spectators; however, it is recommended that the National Federations and the organizers of IPSF championships make every effort to have proper insurance.

ARTICLE VI - JUDGES

Section 1 - Responsibilities of the Accreditation Committee

The committee examines all matters connected with the judging of matches of the IPSF and the judges of the affiliated National Federation on an international level.

Section 2 - International Judges

The international games of the IPSF are conducted by judges with an international license.

Section 3 - International Judges Seminar

Upon proposal of the chairman of the Accreditation Committee, there will be organized central and regional international seminars for judges with an international license. The Accreditation Chairman settles the details. At the end of a judges seminar, the candidates should pass a theoretical and a practical examination to show their abilities and they should submit to a physical examination.

ARTICLE VII - SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Section 1 - Duties for Coaching

The Chairman of the Accreditation Committee examines all matters in connection with the education of coaches and development of coaching methods in the field of international Pole Sports.

Section 2 - Rules Control

The Chairman of the Technical Committee examines all matters connected with official rules of the IPSF and their interpretation. They study development of the games and prepares alterations or amendments of the rules and submits these to the Executive Committee.

Section 3 - Official Rules

The official rules are established by the Congress and may be reviewed at the World Congress. Modification or amendments of the rules as approved by the Congress shall be distributed to the affiliated Federations.

ARTICLE VIII - MEDICAL AND DOPING REGULATIONS

Section 1 - Duties of the Medical Committee

The committee examines the matters of the health of the players, the medical research in Pole Sports, collects medical statistics and information on prevention and medical care, rehabilitation from injuries and support on health control, rehabilitation, hygiene instructions, and examines protective equipment. The Medical Committee is also responsible for conferences and seminars for team doctors, as well as publication of results from conferences and other pertinent information. The committee executes doping control during championships according to the doping rules - see the Regulations.

Section 2 - Medical Arrangements for Championships

For all championships, the organizer is obliged to take care of all medical arrangements according to the health care and doping rules in the Regulations.

Section 3 - Doping Control Procedure

The IPSF accepts the I.O.C. guidelines on doping and will conform to the I.O.C. doping procedure for the Summer Games and as amended. The IPSF further accepts and recognizes The World Anti Doping Association as the International Anti Doping Organization and agrees to all provisions of this organization both procedural as well as disciplinary.

Section 4 - Sanctions with Doping

In the case of a positive result or the refusal of doping control, the following penalties shall apply as final:

A. A player with a positive test is automatically suspended for the rest of the championship and no replacement for him is allowed.

B. The points a of a team obtained with a doped player are not valid.

C. A player with a positive test on dope shall be suspended from all international games for a period of two years; a second offense by the same player shall mean his suspension for all international games for life.

D. If a positive doping test is found after the next game or games commenced, the player shall be suspended immediately for the rest of the tournament and the points and goals of a team obtained with a doped player are not valid. The following games are valid unless the player has been tested again and found positive.

E. A positive doping test on the last day may change the announced result of the championships.

F. A positive result in doping for anabolic steroids will result in suspension from all international games for a period of four years. A second offense shall result in suspension for life.

G. A doped player shall not be awarded a medal.

H. However, in all positive doping cases, the recommendations of WADA shall have precedence over any disciplinary action by the IPSF.