

# ASIAN HOCKEY FEDERATION



## CONSTITUTION

**Approved by AHF Congress  
On 18<sup>th</sup> September 1998  
Ratified by FIH Council  
On 28<sup>th</sup> November 1998**

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# **CONSTITUTION OF THE ASIAN HOCKEY FEDERATION**

## **ARTICLE 1. NAME**

- 1.1 The Federation shall be called the ASIAN HOCKEY FEDERATION.
- 1.2 The official initials of the Federation shall be AHF.

## **ARTICLE 2. AUTHORITY**

The Federation derives its authority from and works in collaboration with the FIH. In carrying out its responsibilities the Federation shall at all times work in conformity with such directions as may from time to time be given by the Council of the FIH. Authority in respect of any area of responsibility may be withdrawn by the FIH at any time.

## **ARTICLE 3. OFFICIAL SEAT**

The official seat of the Federation shall be the city of residence of the Hon. Secretary General of the Federation or such other places as may from time to time be decided by the Council.

## **ARTICLE 4. INTERPRETATION**

- 4.1 In this Constitution, the Bye-Laws, and the Rules and Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions have the meanings set out opposite:

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Asia       | The geographical boundaries of the continent of Asia as recognized from time to time by the FIH as being within the jurisdiction of the Federation; |
| Athlete    | Any player who takes part in any tournament, competition or match approved and/or controlled by FIH and/or a CF;                                    |
| Bye-Laws   | The bye-laws of the Federation as made and approved by the Congress or the Council and includes all amendments, alterations and re-enactments;      |
| C.A.S      | The Court of Arbitration of Sports in Lausanne, Switzerland;  |
| Committees | The Committees appointed by the Council under Article 9.6 (c);  |

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Congress                      | The Congress of the AHF referred to in Article 8;  |
| Continental Federation and CF | A hockey federation of a continent named in paragraph M of the Bye-Law to Article 8.5 (g) of the FIH statutes whose jurisdiction shall be limited to the relevant geographical boundaries as recognized by the FIH;  |
| Council                       | The Council of the AHF referred to in Article 9;   |
| Country                       | The whole country, state, territory or part of a territory as recognized by the FIH in its absolute discretion to be the zone of judicial control of a NA and identical to that of the NOC of the country as recognized by the IOC in so far as a NOC exists;    |
| FIH                           | The International Hockey Federation;   |
| The Federation and AHF        | The Asian Hockey Federation;   |
| Hockey                        | The game of field hockey including both outdoor and indoor hockey;   |
| Hockey Rules Board            | The body which is responsible for the Rules of Hockey whether played outdoors or indoors;  |
| IOC                           | The International Olympic Committee;   |
| Jurisdictional Body           | The Congress, the Council (or any body or official designated by the Council) and the Disciplinary Committee who are by this Constitution, the Bye-Laws and the Rules and Regulations vested with the Jurisdictional powers of the AHF.                          |
| Member                        | A NA duly affiliated both to the FIH and to the Federation;  |
| NA                            | A national hockey association or federation of a country which is the central authority responsible for all matters relating to the administration, organisation and playing of Hockey in that country and recognized as such by its respective NOC and the FIH; |
| NOC                           | The National Olympic Committee of a county recognized by the IOC;  |
| Office Bearers                | The President, Hon. Secretary General and Hon. Treasurer;  |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Simple Majority       | Majority of votes cast;  |
| Absolute Majority     | More than ½ of those present and entitled to vote;   |
| Special Majority      | More than ¾ of those present and entitled to vote;   |
| Rules and Regulations | Any rules or any regulations made in accordance with this Constitution and includes all amendments, alterations and re-enactments thereof. |

4.2 For convenience and clarity the masculine gender is used and shall be interpreted to include the feminine gender as appropriate. Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

4.3 For the avoidance of doubt in the event of any conflict between this Constitution and the Statutes of the FIH, the FIH Statutes shall prevail.

**ARTICLE 5. OBJECTS**

The objects of the Federation are to:

- 5.1 Undertake such activities and assume such responsibilities for Hockey in Asia in accordance with the scope and extent of activities and responsibilities delegated to the AHF from time to time by the FIH;
- 5.2 Control, promote and develop Hockey at all levels throughout Asia in conformity with guidelines as may be given by the FIH and in accordance with the Rules of Hockey from time to time made by the Hockey Rules Board;
- 5.3 Support and maintain the ideals and objects of the Olympic movement and in particular the fight against doping by means of appropriate tests;
- 5.4 Exercise jurisdiction over and determine disputes or disagreements between Members and between Athletes and AHF;
- 5.5 Establish and maintain an efficient administration;

- 5.6 Preserve the independence of the AHF in all matters directly or indirectly concerning Hockey without the intervention of any outside authority;
- 5.7 Receive donations, gifts and bequests and make the same in line with the policies from time to time of the AHF for the welfare and benefit of players and others as the Council deems fit;
- 5.8 Conduct itself and take such administrative, financial and other actions as are necessary and in conformity with and in furtherance of its objects

## **ARTICLE 6. POWERS**

In furtherance of its objects the AHF may :

- 6.1 Enforce the rules for Hockey as made from time to time by the Hockey Rules Board and enforce them uniformly for all hockey matches throughout Asia;
- 6.2 Define the rules governing eligibility for Hockey played under the jurisdiction of the AHF in conformity with the rules made by FIH to be observed by all its members;
- 6.3 Raise funds for the activities of the AHF by all available means including from fees, levies and subscriptions and, subject to the prior consent of the FIH in writing, from royalties, sponsorships, and the licensing or assignment of commercial and other rights;
- 6.4 Make rules and/or regulations, subject to the prior approval of the FIH, for the conduct of competitions under the jurisdiction of the AHF;
- 6.5 Make rules and/or regulations for the resolution of disputes, disagreements, or misconduct with respect to the affairs of the AHF and the game of Hockey;
- 6.6 Employ and pay and terminate the employment of, any person or persons to supervise, organise and carry out the work of the AHF;
- 6.7 Purchase, take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire any property or other rights and privileges necessary for the promotion of its objects and construct, maintain and alter any buildings or premises necessary for the work of the AHF;
- 6.8 Sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of the AHF;

- 6.9 Invest the funds of the AHF not immediately required in or on such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit by the Council subject to any conditions as may from time to time be imposed by the Council or required by law; and
- 6.10 Take such lawful action as is necessary or desirable for the attainment of the objects of the AHF.

## **ARTICLE 7 MEMBERSHIP**

- 7.1 Only NA's of countries in Asia which are formally affiliated to the FIH shall be eligible to become members of the AHF.
- 7.2 Upon obtaining formal membership of the FIH, it shall be obligatory for a NA of a country in Asia to become a member of the AHF.
- 7.3 The activities of the Members of the AHF shall be solely and exclusively concerned with Hockey in their own country, unless the FIH has agreed to make a special and temporary allowance in this regard in respect of new small NA's.
- 7.4 Members shall pay such fees and subscriptions as required by the AHF in United States Dollars or such other currencies as the Council may from time to time decide.
- 7.5 Every Member must when required by the AHF declare :
- Its opposition to any discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, politics, religion or creed; and
  - That it has exclusive right to govern Hockey in its own country.
- 7.6 Any Member may withdraw from the AHF at the end of any calendar year provided it has given at least six months notice in writing to the AHF and settles all outstanding dues, fees, levies and other moneys payable to the AHF.
- 7.7 This Constitution, the Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations and decisions of the AHF and its Committees are binding upon all Members.
- 7.8 The Congress may at any time by resolution of which proper notice has been given in accordance with the Bye-laws and by a Special Majority, expel a Member of conduct which is inconsistent with its responsibilities as a Member.
- 7.9 Unless it settles its outstanding debts at least 3 months beforehand, no team representing that Member may participate in any AHF controlled or approved international match, tournament, competition or other event without the approval of the Council or, if there is insufficient time, the Office Bearers.

- 7.10 Expulsion, withdrawal, suspension or striking off of any Member by the FIH will mean simultaneous expulsion, withdrawal, suspension or striking off from the AHF.

## **ARTICLE 8 CONGRESS**

- 8.1 The Congress is the ultimate authority governing the conduct of the AHF.
- 8.2 All Members shall be represented at the Congress in accordance with the provisions of such Bye-laws as are made from time to time by the Council.
- 8.3 Ordinary meetings of the Congress shall be held once in every two years at a venue decided by the Council.
- 8.4 Extraordinary meetings of the Congress shall be held at a venue proposed by the President and the Hon. Secretary General unless decided otherwise by the Council :
- (a) when requested by a decision of the Council;
  - (b) within three months of the receipt by the AHF of a requisition signed by more than ten Members;
  - (c) on the request of the President; or
  - (d) within three months of the death, resignation or permanent incapacity of the President.
- 8.5 Not less than two months' notice shall be given to convene a meeting of the Congress and such notice shall specify the place, the day and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at such meeting.
- 8.6 The procedure to be observed at meetings of the Congress shall be in accordance with the relevant Bye-laws.

## **ARTICLE 9 COUNCIL**

- 9.1 There shall be a Council of the AHF which shall be responsible for ensuring the proper performance and observance of the objects of the AHF and its Constitution, Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations and for directing the policy, management and activities of the AHF.
- 9.2 The Council shall consist of the Office Bearers and such number of Vice-Presidents and ordinary members as decided by the Council from time to time and not more than 3 members nominated by the President from any of the affiliated NA's.

- 9.3 All ordinary members of the Council elected at each ordinary meeting of the Congress shall hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth following year.
- 9.4 All members of the Council nominated by the President shall hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth year following their appointment but may, from time to time, be renominated for appointment by the President.
- 9.5 All members of the Council shall hold office in their personal capacity and not as representatives of any NA or any other organisation.
- 9.6 The Council shall have power to make Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations inter alia on the following matters :
- (a) the qualifications necessary for membership of the Council;
  - (b) the procedure for filling casual vacancies of the Council;
  - (c) the appointment and dissolution of such Committees as it shall from time to time consider necessary and the delegation to the Committees of such duties or powers as it deems fit;
  - (d) the procedure to be observed at meetings of the Congress, the Council and Disciplinary Committee;
  - (e) the appropriate accreditation of umpires, coaches, trainers and other officials;
  - (f) the granting of Honorary Life Membership to those who in the opinion of the Council have rendered outstanding services in furtherance of the aims and objectives of the AHF and such other awards as may from time to time be decided by the Council;
  - (g) the system of qualification for competitions under the jurisdiction of the AHF.
- 9.7 Approval of Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations by the Council requires a Special Majority.
- 9.8 The Council shall meet at least once in each year at a venue decided by the President and the Hon. Secretary General.

## **ARTICLE 10. PRESIDENT**

- 10.1 The President of the AHF shall be elected by the Congress and shall hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth following year. On the expiration of any of his terms of office he shall be eligible for re-election.
- 10.2 The President shall:
- (a) represent the AHF;
  - (b) preside at all meetings of the Congress and the Council;
  - (c) be an ex officio member of all Committees;
  - (d) deal with any matters of urgency arising between meetings of the Council after consultation with as many of the members of the Council as is possible; and
  - (e) report to the Council on all matters of significance to the AHF and Hockey which may have arisen since the last Council Meeting.

## **ARTICLE 11. VICE PRESIDENTS**

The Vice-Presidents shall:

- (a) be elected by the Congress in accordance with the Bye-Laws in force at the time of the Congress;
- (b) hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth following year and on the expiration of any of their terms of office shall be eligible for re-election;
- (c) assist the President in carrying out his duties and deputise for him as requested.

## **ARTICLE 12. HON. SECRETARY GENERAL**

- 12.1 The Hon. Secretary General of the AHF shall be elected by the Congress and shall hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth following year. On the expiration of any of his terms of office he shall be eligible for re-election.
- 12.2 The Hon. Secretary General shall :
- (a) cause minutes to be kept of all meetings and be the custodian of all papers and records pertaining to the affairs of the AHF;
  - (b) be responsible for the correspondence of the AHF and for implementing the decisions of the Congress and the Council;
  - (c) be an ex officio member of all the Committees;
  - (d) deputise for the President whenever requested by him and assist him in carrying out his duties;
  - (e) be responsible for supervising membership, administration and legal matters in accordance with the Constitution, the Bye-Laws and the directions of the Council; and
  - (f) ensure compliance of technical and other rules and regulations of the FIH and the AHF in respect of all competitions under the jurisdiction of the AHF.

## **ARTICLE 13. HON. TREASURER**

- 13.1 The Hon. Treasurer of the AHF shall be elected by the Congress and shall hold office until the closure of the ordinary meeting of the Congress to be held in the fourth following year. On the expiration of any of his terms of office he shall be eligible for re-election.
- 13.2 The Hon. Treasurer shall:
- (a) collect all dues, fees, levies and other moneys payable to the AHF and deposit them in the AHF's accounts;
  - (b) make all necessary disbursements on behalf of the AHF;
  - (c) on behalf of the AHF and subject to the prior consent of the FIH, participate in negotiations for payment for royalties, sponsorships and television and other commercial rights;
  - (d) submit a statement showing the current financial position of the AHF for each meeting of the Council;

- (e) prepare for each ordinary meeting of the Congress an audited balance sheet and a receipts and payments account made up to the 31<sup>st</sup> December immediately preceding that meeting; and
- (f) make recommendations on the management of the funds of the AHF and prepare budgets as and when requested by the Council.

#### **ARTICLE 14. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

- 14.1 At each ordinary meeting, the Congress shall appoint for the audit of the accounts of the AHF for the ensuing two years a reputable firm of public accountants having a representation in the country of residence of the Hon. Treasurer.
- 14.2 The auditing firm shall be eligible for re-appointment at each Congress.

#### **ARTICLE 15. RESOURCES**

- 15.1 The AHF shall receive fees in accordance with a scale proposed by the Council and adopted by the Congress. The AHF may also receive donations, gifts and bequests.
- 15.2 The FIH is the sole owner of the television and radio rights and of all other commercial rights relating to international hockey competitions, as defined by the Council of the FIH. The AHF may, within the framework of its non commercial purpose, raise other funds by assigning or licensing all or part of such rights, as well as by concluding any agreements relating to such rights, especially sponsorship or other similar agreements subject to the prior consent of the FIH.
- 15.3 The AHF may also claim payment in respect of rights for organization, participation, supervision or otherwise of competitions, matches, seminars, courses or other activities as determined by the Council.

#### **ARTICLE 16. JURISDICTION**

##### 16.1 Agreements

Any person dealing with the AHF or participating in its activities including any person who: -

- (a) plays or acts as an official of any term in any tournament organised by or under the jurisdiction of the AHF;
- (b) acts as an umpire or tournament official in any tournament organised by or under the jurisdiction of the AHF;
- (c) organises or participates in the organisation of any tournament approved by the AHF; or

- (d) holds any position whatsoever in the AHF including but not limited to the Council and the Committees.

Thereby acknowledges:

- (e) the AHF has full jurisdiction and authority over everything concerning Hockey and the playing of Hockey in Asia.
- (f) the Constitution, Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations for the time being in force are legal and binding and agrees to comply with them without reservation;
- (g) The AHF has full jurisdiction, power and authority to take any decisions and apply any sanctions in accordance with the Constitution, Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations and agrees to be bound by such decisions and sanctions; and
- (h) The FIH and the CAS are the only other bodies, outside the AHF having jurisdiction to the exclusion of all other courts or arbitration bodies of any country or organisation whatsoever;
  - (i) to resolve any conflict involving the AHF or any of its Jurisdictional Bodies, Office Bearers, tournament officials or Members; and
  - (ii) to rule as an external appeals body on any disciplinary decision or sanction of any nature whatsoever taken by the AHF or any Jurisdictional Body;
- (i) the definition and unappealable nature of decisions handed down by the CAS with which they pledge to comply in good faith without seeking to hinder their application.

## 16.2 Confirmation of Agreements

Notwithstanding the binding nature of this Constitution and the provisions of Article 16.1, the AHF may require agreements in a form to be determined by the AHF from time to time from any of the following:

- (a) any NA;
- (b) any player (senior or junior) or any official of any team;
- (c) any umpire or other official appointed by or with the authority of the AHF; and
- (d) any other person or body with whom the AHF has any associations.

## **ARTICLE 17. SANCTIONS**

The Jurisdictional Bodies may make decision and impose sanctions in accordance with the powers conferred upon them by the Constitutions, Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations and may impose the following disciplinary measures:-

- Reprimand
- Disqualification
- Suspension
- Fine
- Costs

## **ARTICLE 18. COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)**

- 18.1 All legal disputes which cannot be settled in accordance with this Constitution, the Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations and by the FIH shall be settled by a panel of arbitration of the CAS in Lausanne appointed in conformity to the Statutes and Rules of the CAS to the exclusion of all recourse to other courts and tribunals.
- 18.2 All decisions made by the CAS are final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 18.3 In all its decisions the CAS must examine the appeal and issue its ruling in accordance with its own rules.
- 18.4 Pending the decision of the CAS, any sanction imposed by a Jurisdictional Body or by the FIH (other than a sanction imposed under the FIH Doping Policy which shall remain in force) shall be suspended.

## **ARTICLE 19. PROCEDURES**

### **19.1 Procedures for Jurisdictional Bodies**

- (a) The Jurisdictional Bodies must ensure that procedures are fair to all interested parties and uphold those parties' basic rights. In particular, they must ensure that:-
- (i) no person who has a conflict of interest participates in a decision-making body;
  - (ii) the accused person is informed of the charges against him and the potential sanctions if the charges are upheld;
  - (iii) the accused person or body is given access to all relevant material in the possession of or under the control of the AHF, is given every reasonable opportunity to defend the charges and to be heard and is given the right to produce evidence and to be accompanied and/or assisted by an advisor.

- (b) In doping cases, the burden of proof falls first on the FIH or AHF to establish that a prohibited substance was present in the body of the Athlete and/or official. If the FIH or AHF satisfies this burden, then the burden of proof falls on the Athlete and/or official to rebut the presumption. In all other cases the burden of proof falls on the party bringing the matter before the Jurisdictional Body.
- (c) There is no internal appeal from a decision of a Jurisdictional Body. Appeal first to the FIH and thereafter to the CAS from a decision of the FIH is the only recourse available except that for doping cases an appeal may be made directly to the CAS.

## 19.2 Appeals Arbitration Procedures

- (a) Any person or body who is or which is subject to a disciplinary sanction by a Jurisdictional Body may appeal first to the FIH and thereafter to the CAS;
- (b) All appeals must be in writing and contain reasons for the appeal and a copy given to the AHF at the same time as it is given to the FIH or the CAS, as the case may be;
- (c) Any appeal to the FIH from any decision of a Jurisdictional Body shall be made in writing to the FIH within fourteen (14) days of the notification of the decision in question by the AHF to the person concerned or his NA:
- (d) Any appeal to the CAS from any decision of the FIH shall be made in writing to the CAS within fourteen (14) days of the notification in question by the FIH to the person concerned or his NA.

## **ARTICLE 20. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION**

- 20.1 This Constitution may be amended, added to or repealed by a resolution of the Congress passed by a Special Majority.
- 20.2 No such resolution shall be submitted to the Congress unless the prior notice, as prescribed by the Bye-Laws, has been given to all NA's.
- 20.3 No such resolution passed by the Congress shall have any force or effect until it has been ratified by the Council of the FIH.

**ARTICLE 21. DISSOLUTION**

21.1 The AHF shall not be dissolved except at an Extraordinary meeting of the Congress convened for the purpose and by a resolution supported by a Special Majority.

21.2 If dissolved, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the AHF shall be fully discharged and the remaining assets shall be donated to a similar body established for the promotion and development of Hockey.

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# **ASIAN HOCKEY FEDERATION**

# **BYE-LAWS**

**Approved by AHF Congress  
on 18 September 1998**

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## **BYE-LAWS OF THE AHF**

### **1. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 4 Interpretation**

- (i) Correspondence with the Federation must be in English.
- (ii) No correspondence of any kind will be deemed official and valid if in another language.
- (iii) With the prior approval of the Council and under special circumstances other languages may be used in non-official documents.
- (iv) Unless the context otherwise requires, every reference in these Bye-Laws to Committees includes Subcommittees.

### **2. BYE-LAW (A) TO ARTICLE 6.2 Representation, Suspensions, Disqualifications and Authorizations to play non-affiliates.**

- (i) A senior Athlete who holds a valid passport of two or more countries at the same time, may choose to represent one of these countries. Having represented the selected country at senior level he cannot then represent another country unless the conditions detailed in paragraph (iii) are fulfilled.
- (ii) A junior Athlete who holds a valid passport of two or more countries at the same time may choose to represent only one of these countries. However, while a junior he may, with the approval of the Council or (if time does not permit) the Office Bearers, choose to represent another country for which he holds a valid passport. Having represented a selected country at junior level he cannot then represent another country at senior level unless the conditions of paragraph (iii) are fulfilled.
- (iii) An Athlete who has represented a country at senior level and who has changed his nationality or acquired new nationality may not represent his new country for three years after the date of change of nationality:-
  - For Olympic Games – without the prior written approval of his NOC, the FIH and the Executive Board of the IOC; and
  - For other international hockey tournaments and matches – without the prior written approval of the NA's concerned and the FIH.
- (iv) If an associated country, a province or a department overseas of a country or a colony gains its independence, or if a country is merged with another due to changes in frontiers, or if a new NA is recognized by the FIH, an Athlete may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or used to belong, however, he can, if desired, choose to represent his new country or be registered for the

Olympic Games by the new NOC if one exists. This choice can only be made once.

- (v) In all other cases not expressly dealt with in the Constitution or Bye-Laws where an Athlete would be representing a country other than that which has jurisdiction over him or would have to choose which country to represent, the Council of the FIH may make all decisions and especially may make decisions relevant to the nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of Athletes, including the length of the period of waiting time.
- (vi) The Council is empowered to recognize suspensions, or disqualifications of clubs declared by the NA to which they belong and, if so, to see these decisions are applied by all NA's.
- (vii) The Council may authorize NA's to play against non-affiliated ones. Such authorization may be given for each occasion and only when the non-affiliated association has shown interest in seeking affiliation to the FIH and the AHF.

## **BYE-LAW(B) TO ARTICLE 6.2 Rules governing eligibility for the Olympic Games and International Hockey Competitions**

### **A. General Principles**

A1. All Athletes shall :

- (i) Respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence and behave accordingly on the field of play; and
- (ii) Abstain from using substances prohibited by the rules of the IOC and/or the FIH

A2. An Athlete may not :

- (j) Have been expelled for life from an International Sports Federation or a National Sports Association.
- (ii) Allow his person, name, picture, or sports performance to be used for advertising purposes during the Olympic Games, unless permitted by the IOC Executive Board.

### **B. Prizes**

- B1. Organizers of Invitational Tournaments may provide prizes in addition to the medals and trophies approved by the FIH or its official tournament representative.
- B2. Application for permission to present prizes in cash or kind must reach the offices of the FIH not less than 2 weeks before the first day of the tournament.

- B3. Upon the FIH granting approval for an Invitational Tournament the host NA must notify the FIH of the total value of any cash prizes, and agree to pay to the FIH, by way of an additional fee, 10% of that value which must be paid to the FIH within 28 days of completion of the tournament. These funds will be utilised by the FIH to develop and promote Hockey throughout the world.
- B4. Prizes in cash can only be given to the NA of the team concerned and all cash should be in convertible currency.
- B5. Prizes in kind awarded to players should be determined by objective considerations and under no circumstances may prizes be awarded to umpires or officials. No prize or financial remuneration for the performance of a player or team is permitted during the Olympic Games.

### **C. Penalties**

The Council or its appointed disciplinary body or official is fully empowered to take decisions relating to violation of these eligibility rules.

### **D. Advertising**

#### D1. Manufacturer identification

An article of clothing or equipment may display as follows the manufacturer's identification, i.e. the name, designation, trademark, logo, or any other distinctive sign of the manufacturer of the item, when worn or used by a player, official or umpire whilst playing or officiating in an event:

(i) At Olympic Games and Events which fall under the jurisdiction of the IOC:-

The display may appear once only on any item and the size thereof may not exceed the following overall areas:-

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Clothing       | - 12 sq.cm. |
| Equipment      | - 60 sq.cm  |
| Headgear/shoes | - 6 sq.cm   |

(ii) Other Inter-Nations events

The display may appear once only on any item of clothing, except on shirts/blouses where it may be repeated in the one or two figure(s) on the number on the back of the player. Any such display may not exceed the overall size of 12 sq. cm. (no restrictions on equipment, headgear or shoes).

## D2. Sponsor's advertisement

(i) Olympic Games and Events which fall under the jurisdiction of the IOC:-

**ADVERTISING IS NOT PERMITTED** on clothing or equipment during these events – See also Bye-Law D1 (i) to Article 6.2.

(ii) Other Inter-Nations events

### 1. Athletes' Uniforms

**Advertising is permitted**, when expressly authorised by the FIH. A single advertisement for one team sponsor only, the same for all players of the team, shall appear on the front of Athletes' shirts/blouses only and not on any other article of clothing or playing equipment during inter-nations events (whether invitation or not) not under the IOC jurisdiction subject to the following regulations:-

- (a) The size of the advertisement shall not exceed an overall area of 350 sq. cm.
- (b) The FIH must be advised by the NA not less than two weeks prior to the date of the first event during which the NA wishes to advertise on its Athletes' shirts/blouses as to the following:
  - (1) the product/company and country of origin
  - (2) the size of advertisement (sample in full scale to be submitted)
  - (3) the text of the advertisement
  - (4) the position of advertisement on the Athletes' shirts/blouses

Only written approval by the FIH is valid. Such approval will be given or denied not less than one week prior to the date of commencement of the first event.

The approval, when given, is valid for any subsequent event as long as points (1) to (4) of this paragraph (b) remain unchanged and the provisions of paragraph (c) are observed.

- (c) NA's should advise the host nation in writing, not less than two weeks prior to the date of commencement of the event, details as regards the product/company and country of origin of the advertisement.

The host nation must approve or, if there is any conflict with the commercial interests of the event sponsors or relevant contractual management agreements or media criteria or a contravention of national restrictions of the host nation's country, otherwise refuse the advertising. In case of refusal, only written notice is valid, which must be provided not less than one week prior to the date of commencement of the event. The host nation must immediately inform the FIH of any refusals.

## 2. Umpires/Officials' Uniforms

Advertising is permitted on officials and umpires shirts/blouses whilst officiating in any inter-nations event not under the IOC jurisdiction. Such advertisements must not be the same sponsor as that of a participating team and are subject to the same regulations and restrictions as for Athletes in Inter-Nations events on the understanding that officials and umpires come within the regulations applicable to host teams (See paragraph D2 (ii) (1) of this Bye-Law).

## 3. Other Clothing and Equipment

Advertising is permitted in any event not under the IOC jurisdiction on outdoor clothing (tracksuits, etc), sports bags, masseur or medical bags, etc.

### (iii) Continental club events

#### 1. Athletes' Uniforms

Advertising is permitted during continental club events. All advertising, the same for all players of the team and being the name(s) of one or more of the team's sponsor(s), shall not exceed an overall area of 350 sq. cm. If the advertisement regulations of the NA of the participating club concerned are more restrictive than those laid down by the FIH then the NA's regulations will prevail.

#### 2. Umpires/Officials' Uniforms

Advertising is permitted on officials and umpires shirts/blouses whilst officiating in a continental club event. Such advertisements must not be the same sponsor as that of a participating team and are subject to the same regulations and restrictions as for Athletes on the understanding that officials and umpires come within the regulations applicable to host teams. (See paragraph D2 (ii) (1) of this Bye-Law)

#### 3. Other Clothing and Equipment

Advertising is permitted on outdoor clothing (tracksuits, etc), sports bags, masseur or medical bags, etc.

### D3. Advertising – Stadium

- (i) Field of Play – No advertising is permitted on the field of play.
- (ii) Over runs ) - Advertising is only permitted when
- (iii) Other Areas ) - expressly authorised. The relevant FIH regulation currently in force shall be applicable.

D4. Event Sponsors

(i) Senior Events

Any sponsorship or advertising for tobacco or for tobacco related products is not permitted.

(ii) Junior Events

Any sponsorship or advertising for tobacco or for tobacco related products, alcohol or for alcohol related products is not permitted.

D5. Penalties

Any infringement of the above Bye-Laws will be subject to a fine, which will be decided on a case by case basis by the Council of the FIH or its designated body, or, if in a continental club event, by the CF concerned.

**3. Bye-Law to Article 7.1 Application for Membership**

A. Applications for membership should be made to the Hon. Secretary General of the AHF and must be accompanied by the following for consideration for membership :

- (i) the constitution of the NA;
- (ii) the names and addresses of its officers;
- (iii) the number of its individual members, a member being any person whatever sex or age who is affiliated to the NA;
- (iv) An attestation, endorsement and confirmation by its NOC that the NA is the central authority responsible for all matters relating to Hockey in the country concerned. If a NOC has not yet been formed in the country, or if formed but not yet recognized by the IOC, the endorsement shall be given by the highest national authority in sport;
- (v) A financial document (audited annual accounts) indicating that the NA is solvent; and
- (vi) A written guarantee to adhere to and to abide by the Constitution, Bye-Laws, Rules and Regulations including Article 16 regarding the jurisdiction of the AHF.

B. NA's fulfilling the criteria for membership of the AHF may be provisionally admitted by the Council and formally admitted by the first Congress following their application for membership.

#### **4. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 7.4 Subscriptions**

- (i) Statutory subscriptions fixed at each ordinary meeting of the Congress, must be paid before 31<sup>st</sup> of March of the year concerned.
- (ii) The Council has the right to charge interest on any amount outstanding or in default.
- (iii) On special request from a NA having less than 300 members, and after making such enquiries as it considers appropriate, the Council may reduce at its discretion the amount of the subscription payable by such NA.
- (iv) Payment of subscriptions must be accompanied each year by a declaration signed by the President and by the Secretary of the NA stating the number of members as at 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year and certifying that this information is exact. NA's which pay for more than 30,000 members are exempted from this requirement.
- (v) The Council has the right to propose to the Congress the suspension or striking off of any NA owing more than two annual subscriptions.
- (vi) Although the subscriptions are payable in United States Dollars, the Council may decide that they be paid in other currencies and in such case may fix the rates of exchange.
- (vii) Any NA not having paid its subscriptions within the time limits is not entitled to take part in the work of the Congress and shall be considered as suspended.
- (viii) Any NA which has been struck off and which is readmitted to membership must pay all arrears up to the date of its expulsion.

#### **5. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 7.8 Expulsion**

At least six weeks' notice shall be given in writing to all NA's of any proposal to expel a Member.

#### **6. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 8 Congress**

- (i) The Congress shall be composed of up to three delegates from each NA, one of whom shall be the Head of the delegation to be named at the opening of the meeting. The Head of delegation must be a citizen of the country of the NA he represents. A delegate must speak in English.
- (ii) Members of the Council may attend Congress in their own right with no voting right.
- (iii) Non accredited persons may attend a Congress at the discretion of the President.
- (iv) An ordinary meeting of the Congress shall be held every two years at a place and on a date selected by the Council not less than six months in advance.

(v) The business of an ordinary meeting of the Congress shall be as follows :

- Verification of credentials
- President's address
- General Report
- Financial Report
- Auditors' Report
- Approval of the accounts and discharge of the Council
- Reports from the respective Chairmen of the Committees appointed by the Council
- Consideration of applications for membership
- Consideration of proposals of suspensions/striking off/expulsions/dissolutions
- Proposals for amendment of this Constitution
- Election of the President, the Hon. Secretary General and the Hon. Treasurer
- Election of Vice-Presidents
- Election of ordinary members of the Council
- Nomination by the President of not more than 3 nominated members of the Council
- Subscriptions
- Appointment of Auditor
- Any other items of which proper notice has been given by the Council.

(vi) The President shall preside over the meetings of the Congress but he may request the meeting to appoint a Chairman in his place. If the President is absent, the Hon. Secretary General shall open the Congress and request the delegates to appoint a Vice-President to take the Chair.

(vii) The quorum at a meeting of the Congress shall be one third of the total membership of the AHF.

(viii) NA's shall be entitled to the following number of votes :

- In a country where there exists only one NA, it has two votes;
- In a country, where two separate NA's control women's and men's Hockey, each NA has one vote;
- Votes shall be registered by the Head of the delegation who may only vote on behalf of one NA.

- (ix) Voting at Congress shall be dealt with as follows:
- Amendment of the Constitution requires a Special Majority.
  - Election of Office Bearers and Vice-Presidents requires an Absolute Majority.
  - Election of ordinary Members of the Council requires an Absolute Majority.
  - Other decisions of Congress require a Simple Majority.
  - Any proposal receiving equality of votes shall be deemed to have failed.

(x) Elections at Congress will be dealt with as follows:

- President, Hon. Secretary General and Hon. Treasurer in this order.
- Vice-Presidents. The first concern is to ensure that there is one from the NA hosting the next Asian Games and that there is at least one woman and one man.
- Ordinary Members of the Council. The first concern is to ensure that there are at least three women and at least three men.
- For the election of the Office Bearers, and the ordinary Members of the Council there shall be a maximum of two ballots.

On the first ballot, each NA shall cast its vote(s) for each vacancy and the candidates who receive an Absolute Majority shall be elected.

If any vacancy still remains there shall be a second ballot for which the number of remaining candidates shall be reduced (if necessary) by removing those candidates receiving the least number of votes in the first ballot so that there are no more than twice the number of candidates as there are remaining vacancies.

Each NA shall again cast its vote(s) for each vacancy. Those candidates receiving an Absolute Majority shall be elected. In case any vacancy still remains, the seat will remain vacant until the next Congress.

## **7. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.2 Vice Presidents and Members of the Council**

- (i) There shall be a maximum of 6 Vice-Presidents including :
- at least 1 woman;
  - at least 1 man; and
  - 1 Vice President from the NA hosting the next Asian Games

- (ii) There shall be a maximum of 10 ordinary Members including at least 3 women and at least 3 men.
- (iii) There shall be not more than 3 members nominated by the President.

**8. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.3 Eligibility of Ordinary Members of Council for re-election**

All ordinary Members of the Council are eligible for re-election at the end of each term of office without any formal personal declaration.

**9. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.4 Eligibility of Nominated Members of Council for renomination**

All nominated members of the Council are eligible for renomination at the end of each term of office without any formal personal declaration.

**10. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6 Voting at Council**

- (i) All members of the Council including the Office Bearers shall each have one vote.
- (ii) Save where Special or Absolute Majorities are expressly required by this Constitution or the Bye-Laws, all decisions of the Council require a Simple Majority;
- (iii) Any matter or proposal receiving an equal number of votes shall be deemed to have failed.

**11. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6(a) Qualifications for Office Bearers and Members of Council**

- (i) Unless seeking re-election or unless nominated by the President pursuant to Article 9.2, candidates for any position on the Council including the Office Bearers must be nominated by their own NA and must be a citizen of the country by whom they are nominated.
- (ii) Candidatures must reach the Hon. Secretary General not later than one month before the date fixed for the ordinary meeting of the Congress.

**12. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6 (b) Filling of Casual Vacancies**

- (i) Should a vacancy arise through the resignation or death of a Vice-President or an ordinary member, the seat shall remain vacant until the next Congress.
- (ii) If the President dies, resigns or becomes permanently incapacitated, the remaining Office Bearers shall appoint an Acting President to hold office until an Extraordinary meeting of the Congress which must be held within three months.

- (iii) If the Hon. Secretary General or the Hon. Treasurer relinquishes office, the President shall appoint the acting Office Bearer who shall hold office until the next ordinary meeting of the Congress.
- (iv) The Council has the right to end the mandate of any member who has been absent for two consecutive meetings without valid reason and in such case the seat shall remain vacant until the next Congress.
- (v) Any member of the Council unable to attend a meeting in a country other than his own may appoint another member of the Council or of a Committee to represent him at the meeting.

**13. BYE LAWS TO ARTICLE 9.6 (c) Disciplinary Committee (“DC”)**

- (i) The Council shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee consisting of a Chairman, an Hon. Secretary and a Panel from which members shall be selected on a case by case basis and this DC shall be vested with the power to investigate and to take such action as may be necessary following any reported breach and/or act of misconduct on/or off the field.
- (ii) Breaches of this Constitution, the FIH Statutes/Bye-Laws, Rules or Regulations or acts of misconduct may be reported by the AHF, the FIH, other CF’s or NA’s against NA’s or individuals.
- (iii) If reported breaches are followed by a protest or a claim, the complainant or protesting party has the duty to discharge the burden of proof.
- (iv) A complaint or protest arising out of tournaments or matches, other than already dealt with by a Tournament Director during a tournament, must reach the AHF office not later than 3 days after the day of the competition of the tournament or match.
- (v) The decision of the DC is final unless there is an appeal against the decision under Article 18.
- (vi) All decisions of the DC are binding and shall be enforced by all Members.

**14. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6(c) Committees (other than the Disciplinary Committee)**

- (i) Unless they are incumbent members of FIH Committees or outgoing members of AHF Committees, as the case may be, who may personally give notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary General of their desire to be considered for appointment or re-appointment to an AHF Committee, all nominations of members for AHF Committees shall be sent to the Hon Secretary General by their own NA’s. All candidates shall be screened by the President and the Hon. Secretary General to see if they are suitable for the Committees for which they have requested to be considered or have been nominated before presentation to the Council for approval. Wherever possible, a candidate already serving on an FIH Committee may be considered for appointment to the corresponding AHF Committee.

- (ii) Committee Members shall be appointed by the Council at the Council meeting immediately following the ordinary meeting of the Congress and shall hold office for four years.
- (iii) The Chairman and the Secretary of each Committee shall be appointed by the Council.
- (iv) No meeting of a Committee may be held without the prior agreement of the President or Hon. Secretary General.
- (v) For any meeting of a Committee an official notice with agenda shall be circulated to the members concerned at least six weeks in advance, with the exception of the Disciplinary Committee who may meet with less notice if they consider it necessary. All Committees with the exception of the Disciplinary Committee shall submit a report of each meeting through the Hon. Secretary General to the Council for ratification of decisions.
- (vi) Decisions taken at any meeting of a Committee not convened in accordance with the Bye-Laws shall be void.
- (vii) In between their meetings the Committees are administered by their secretaries in liaison with their respective Chairmen but copies of all correspondence shall be sent to the Hon. Secretary General for information. However, any decision between meetings which varies an earlier decision/s made at a duly convened Committee meeting is subject to the prior approval of the President and the Hon. Secretary General.
- (viii) Committees are not permitted to send official correspondences or other forms of official communication on behalf of the AHF in respect of matters which do not fall within the ambit of the respective Committees' duties and responsibilities as delegated or determined from time to time by the Council. Such matters are the prerogative of the President or the Hon. Secretary General or persons to whom they may properly delegate their authority.
- (ix) Committees shall meet at least once a year.

**15. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6(d) Procedure at Council Meetings**

- (i) The President shall preside at all meetings. He may in his discretion request the meeting to appoint a Chairman in his place. If the President is absent, the Hon. Secretary General shall open the meeting and propose a Chairman to the members.
- (ii) The Council shall deal with, and make decisions on all business on its agenda. The agenda shall be circulated to all members at least six weeks before the date of the meeting.
- (iii) The Council may refer items to the appropriate Committees for their consideration and report.
- (iv) The primary duties of the Council shall be to :
  - Receive reports from the Hon. Secretary General
  - Receive reports from the Hon. Treasurer

- Appoint every four years the members of such Committees as are deemed necessary
  - Consider applications for membership
  - Recognize suspensions and disqualifications of clubs or individuals declared by NA's and ensure that such suspensions and disqualifications are recognized by all affiliated NA's.
  - To resolve any disputes as between NA's as referred to it by one or both parties to the dispute and such decision of the Council shall be final and binding upon the parties.
  - Notify NA's of any decisions and penalties imposed by Congress or Council
  - Ensure receipt of information by NA's of all AHF business
- (v) The quorum at a meeting of the Council shall be one third of the total membership of the Council or such other number as the Council may from time to time determine.

**16. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6(d) Procedure at Meetings of the Disciplinary Committee**

- (i) Any reported alleged breach and/or act of misconducts shall be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary General, who shall initially determine if there is a prima facie case.
- (ii) In the event of a referral to the DC, the Hon. Secretary General shall inform the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the DC. The Hon. Secretary of the DC shall immediately arrange a suitable date for a meeting of the DC and notify all eligible members of the Panel to determine their availability.
- (iii) The Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the DC shall determine which of the available members of the Panel shall be invited to attend and shall accordingly invite them.
- (iv) The DC shall be convened as soon as reasonably possible and the quorum for any meeting of the DC shall be three (3).
- (v) In case of unavailability of the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary of the DC, the members present shall appoint a Chairman and/or Secretary from their number.
- (vi) The decision of the DC shall be made as soon as possible and shall be conveyed in writing by the Hon. Secretary of the DC (or in case of unavailability his/her appointed replacement) to the Hon. Secretary General who shall inform all members of the DC and the parties concerned in writing. While the decision alone may be communicated immediately the reasons must be provided within a maximum of two (2) months from the date of the meeting.
- (vii) The DC has the power to award costs as it deems fit.

- (viii) Any party who is involved in a hearing of a DC is entitled to attend the meeting and in addition may have legal representation.

**17. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 9.6(f) Awards**

- (i) Members or individuals of the AHF or personalities outside the AHF who have given long and/or outstanding service to the AHF or Hockey may be honoured by the AHF by one of the following awards :
  - Member of Honour
  - Order of Merit
  - Diploma of Merit
  - President's Award
- (ii) NA's which have made major contributions to Hockey may be honoured by the award of a Trophy or other commendation as decided by the Council.

**18. BYE-LAW TO ARTICLE 20 Amendment of Constitution**

- (i) Any amendment of this Constitution must be proposed by a Member or by the Council;
- (ii) The proposal must reach the Hon. Secretary General not later than four months before the date fixed for the ordinary meeting of the Congress.
- (iii) The Hon. Secretary General shall communicate any proposal to the Members when convening the meeting of the Congress.
- (iv) A proposal may be withdrawn at any time but a withdrawal by a Member must be in writing unless it is made by the Head of the delegation of that Member during the meeting of the Congress.

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