

WORLD BOWLING – REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL – CURRENT WORLD BOWLING STATUTES SHALL BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS

1. All references to “FIQ” and “WTBA” shall be deleted, and “World Bowling” shall be inserted where appropriate.

2. 1.1 shall be:

1.1 Offices

- a) This organization shall be known as World Bowling. World Bowling was founded in Hamburg, Germany, on January 27, 1952.
- b) World Bowling is an international non-governmental not-for-profit organization of unlimited duration, in the form of an association of national member federations with the status of a legal person.
- c) World Bowling is an International Federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- d) The object of World Bowling is to fulfill the mission, role and responsibilities as assigned to it by the Congress and as specified in the Statutes.
- e) The decisions of the Congress are final. Any dispute relating to their application or interpretation may be resolved by the Executive Board and, in certain cases, by arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).
- f) The location of the principal offices shall be as determined by the Executive Board time to time.

3. 1.3.2 shall be:

1.3.1 The official language for meetings shall be English and translations shall be made to Spanish. The English language shall apply where there are varying interpretations.

4. 1.4.1 to 1.4.17 shall be:

1.4.1 WORLD BOWLING's membership shall include all national federations, which have been admitted by WORLD BOWLING as members. They can be provisional or ordinary members. Only one organization from a country may be admitted to membership, except that additional national organizations may be admitted as members where the Congress determines that it is in the best interests of the sport and WORLD BOWLING receives separate applications from traditionally distinct and separate sporting territories within a country, provided that other international sports federations consider them as separate organizations, and provided also that for the Olympics and for the Games under its auspices (e.g., the Asian and Pan American Games) they shall cease to be separate and shall come under the jurisdiction of the National Olympic Committee of the said country, and provided also that the original World Bowling member federation has no objection to such application for the separate membership.

1.4.2 Supporting documentation. A national organization can qualify for membership only if it submits:

- a) A written application with a copy of its own minutes showing that authorization for the

application was approved by an appropriate body of the organization and acknowledging acceptance of WORLD BOWLING'S Articles of Incorporation, Statutes and other organizational documents;

- b) A copy of its own constitution, statutes, rules and other organizational documents;
- c) Evidence that the organization is an established national federation, which is recognized by its National Olympic Committee, government or by another body already recognized by its National Olympic Committee or government provided that body is not already a member of World Bowling, and that the majority of its members hold either citizenship of that country or permanent domicile status; and
- d) A list of officers and information as to the number of male, female and/or junior members of different systems of bowling and bowling facilities in the country;

1.4.3 Action on membership. Action on each application for membership shall be taken by the Congress following recommendation by the Executive Board. The Congress shall make the decision regarding acceptance in simple majority. A provisional membership can be given when the members of the Executive Board have approved it.

1.4.4 Alternative approval process. Notwithstanding the requirements above, the Congress may accept new member federations in special and exceptional circumstances provided there is at least a three-quarter (3/4) majority of votes given.

1.4.5 Rights of the ordinary members

- a) To take part in the Congress in accordance with the stipulations, propose a motion and make election proposals. Each member federation has one vote at the Congress. The vote may be transferred by proxy to another member federation, but only one proxy vote may be assigned to a member organization
- b) To participate in all WORLD BOWLING activities
- c) To allow individual bowlers to have membership in more than one national federation which is a member of WORLD BOWLING
- d) To appeal to the Executive Board in cases of controversies
- e) To appeal a decision of the Executive Board or the Congress to the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS); any such appeal must be filed within 30 days of the WORLD BOWLING decision
- e) To receive current information about important proceedings within WORLD BOWLING
- f) To display the membership insignia of WORLD BOWLING in rules and correspondence

1.4.6 Provisional members shall have the rights of the ordinary members, except that they shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or at a Zone Congress.

1.4.7 Suspended member federations shall have the rights of the ordinary member federations except that they shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or at a Zone Congress, nor to participate in any WORLD BOWLING or Zone activities.

1.4.8 Termination of Membership

- a) Voluntary - A member federation may voluntarily surrender its membership by notifying the President, in writing, of its desire to do so at least one month before the end of the year.
- b) Involuntary – Permissible - The Executive Board, acting on behalf of the Congress, may terminate a member federation's membership for the following causes:

- i. Failure to pay any annual membership and/or other dues to WORLD BOWLING or any zone(s) of WORLD BOWLING for at least a year;
 - ii. Continued violations of these Statutes or actions that the Executive Board deems to bring discredit to World Bowling; or
 - iii. Failure to satisfy the membership admission criteria on an ongoing basis.
- c. Involuntary – Procedures - The Executive Board shall notify a member federation that its suspension or termination is under consideration and accord the member federation an opportunity to address the issues for which its membership may be suspended or terminated. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board will be necessary for any suspension or expulsion. A suspended member also may appeal any such decision by the Executive Board to the Congress. The Congress may overrule a suspension or expulsion decision of the Executive Board where such action is approved by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all registered for the Congress, including proxies. WORLD BOWLING may decide on procedures for suspension of a member federation, which has failed to pay the stipulated membership and/or other dues within due time. Such suspension shall be revoked immediately when all arrears including eventual fines have been paid. If payment has not been made within one year, it shall be reported to the Executive Board for decision about eventual termination of the federation's membership.

1.4.9 Obligations of the member federations

- a) To adhere to the WORLD BOWLING Statutes and Playing Rules and to decisions taken by the Congress and the Executive Board
- b) To formulate their own statutes in such a way that they are not in contradiction with WORLD BOWLING Statutes and Playing Rules.
- c) To adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship at international events
- d) To submit immediately the fees, which have been stipulated by WORLD BOWLING and its Zones
- e) Membership fees must be paid to WORLD BOWLING and its zones as well as other financial obligations owed to WORLD BOWLING in order to be eligible for vote or voice at the Congress or participate in championships and/or tournaments conducted by WORLD BOWLING
- f) To report immediately to WORLD BOWLING and the Zones suspension of any individual member

A suspended individual member shall be deprived of all his/her privileges. Such a suspended individual member shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or Executive Board or at the Zone Congress or Executive Board, nor to participate in any WORLD BOWLING or Zone committees and/or activities.

Such suspended individual member will be relieved of any title or position in WORLD BOWLING or the Zone. An individual suspension can be at most for 2 years. After that period the individual may be member of any federation.

In the event of loss of title or position in WORLD BOWLING, the suspended individual shall have the right to appeal the suspension of WORLD BOWLING title or position to the Executive Board, which may uphold or reverse only that portion of the suspension.

- g) To supply immediately such information as may be required by WORLD BOWLING
- h) To inform WORLD BOWLING Secretary General immediately of all changes of address and officers

- i) To encourage friendly relationships between the members of WORLD BOWLING
- j) To adopt a regulation which subjects each of their individual members to the jurisdiction of WORLD BOWLING
- k) To avoid any sports contact, official or otherwise, with sports federations or athletes of a country, which follows the principles of apartheid
- l) A member federation which does not fulfill its financial obligations to WORLD BOWLING after given a deadline of 30 days will not be allowed to take part in official WORLD BOWLING championships as well as no right to vote in WORLD BOWLING Congress until such obligation is fulfilled

1.4.10 Upon recommendation of the Executive Board, the Congress shall from time to time prescribe the amount of fees to be paid by its member federations.

1.4.11 The Executive Board may review all matters related to the continued recognition of any member and may take such action as it deems appropriate, including placing conditions up-on continued recognition of any member. In the event the Executive Board recommends membership termination, the matter shall be referred to the Congress for a final decision.

1.4.12 Dispute resolutions for championships/tournaments (excluding eligibility)

- a) For championships/tournaments conducted by WORLD BOWLING or Zones disputes are to be resolved as described in Chapter 4, with the jury of appeal making all final decisions
- b) For tournaments approved by WORLD BOWLING or Zones disputes are to be resolved as described in Chapter 3, with the Executive Board making all final decisions

1.4.13 Eligibility questions and other disputes not arising from tournament decisions

- a) All such disputes are to be resolved by submitting a written appeal to the President
- b) If a further appeal is desired, it must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board within 30 days after the receipt of the President's decision
- c) There shall be no further appeal from the final decision making body described above nor shall there be any right to commence private litigation thereafter

1.4.14 Upon recommendation of the Executive Board, the Congress shall from time to time prescribe the amount of fees to be paid by its member federations.

1.4.15 The Executive Board may review all matters related to the continued recognition of any member and may take such action as it deems appropriate, including placing conditions upon continued recognition of any member. In the event the Executive Board recommends membership termination, the matter shall be referred to the Congress for a final decision.

1.4.16 Dispute resolutions for championships/tournaments (excluding eligibility)

- a) For championships/tournaments conducted by World Bowling or Zones disputes are to be resolved as described in Chapter 4, with the jury of appeal making all final decisions
- b) For tournaments approved by World Bowling or Zones disputes are to be resolved as

described in Chapter 3, with the Executive Board making all final decisions

5. 1.5.1 to 1.5.10 shall be:

1.5 Organisational structure

1.5.1 WTBA is divided into five geographical Zones; The American Zone, The Asian Zone, the European Zone, the African Zone and the Oceania Zone.

1.5.2 The American Zone membership shall include all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling from the Americas and adjacent waters otherwise known as the Western Hemisphere.

1.5.3 The Asian Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling bounded in the North by the Arctic, in the South by Indonesia, in the East by Japan in the North West by the Continent of Europe and in the South West by the East Coast of the Continent of Africa and Madagascar.

1.5.4 The European Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling on the Continent of Europe, British Isles, Israel, and the islands of the North Atlantic

1.5.5 The African Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling on the Continent of Africa, and bordering islands to the East bordered by Mauritius and to the West by Cape Verde.

1.5.6 The Oceania Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling in an area in the Pacific Ocean between the West Coast of the American Continent, the East Coast of the Asian Zone, the Southern tips of Russia and Alaska, and Antarctica, with the exception of Hawaii.

1.5.7 Any deviation from Rule 1.5.1-6 shall be resolved by World Bowling in consultation with the Zones involved and the decision shall be recorded in this Rule.

1.5.8 The objectives of the Zones

- a) Support the efforts of World Bowling
- b) To foster international goodwill through their Zone tournaments/activities
- c) Otherwise stimulate interest in and development of tenpin bowling

1.5.9 The rights of the Zones

- a) To prescribe fees to help finance their activities as authorized by their Congress
- b) To suspend member federations, which have failed to pay any prescribed fee in due time. Such suspension shall be immediately revoked when the arrears have been fully paid including eventual fines.
- c) To recommend to World Bowling the termination of membership of a member federation, which has failed to settle all arrears within one year.
- d) Establish special rules for their activities provided they are not contrary to World Bowling regulations.

e) To establish such Zone Championships as it deems appropriate for the exclusive benefit of its members; however, member federations of the African Zone and Oceania Zone may continue to participate in Zone Championships they have historically been included in prior to January 1, 2016 upon payment of a fee agreed upon between the federation and that Zone, provided it cannot exceed normal Zone dues. Commencing January 1, 2023 all Zone members may only participate in their own Zone Championship events; provided, however, that two Zones with common boundaries may jointly agree on combined Zone Championships beyond January 1, 2023.

1.5.10 Ninepin bowling shall fall under the auspices of World Bowling as an Associate Discipline. Ninepin bowling shall be governed by a management committee. The Ninepin Committee shall determine and shall be responsible for enforcing separate rules and regulations for Ninepin bowling.. The Committee may determine any manner of financial arrangements within its Associate Discipline, including the funding of its Committee governance. Neither World Bowling nor Ninepin bowling shall have any financial obligation to the other in any event. Ninepin bowling shall have none of the membership rights and duties as are set forth under Article 1.4.5 and 1.4.9. A maximum of three (3) Ninepin bowling representatives may attend the Congress meetings without vote.

6. 1.19 shall be:

1.19 Dissolution

1.19.1 World Bowling shall not be dissolved except at a special meeting of the Congress convened upon three months' notice for the purpose and by a resolution adopted by a four-fifth (4/5) majority vote of the votes cast.

1.19.2 In the event of such dissolution and after payment of its financial obligations, any remaining assets are to be divided among the member federations in relation to the last year's membership fee.