

#### **PREAMBLE**

Following the dissolution of the CONFÉDÉRATION MONDIALE DES SPORTS DE BOULES (CMSB) it was decided to restructure the governance of boules sport at world level in the form of an International Sports Federation whose members are national federations, with the objective to have one single from each country, and who each have representation in the General Assembly, which elects the members of its Executive Committee, including the President.

## STATUTES OF THE WORLD BOULES AND PÉTANQUE FEDERATION (WBPF)

# I. NAME, DURATION, SEAT, PURPOSE AND POWERS OF WBPF, OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

#### Article 1: Name and duration

WBPF is an Association constituted for an unlimited period of time and governed by Articles 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code and by its Statutes.

## Article 2: Headquarter

WBPF's headquarter is in Prilly (Switzerland). It may be transferred to another location in Switzerland by decision of the General Assembly, on the proposal of the Executive Committee.

## Article 3: Goals

The WBPF's aims are, among others, to:

- a) to promote a sports policy for boules at the international level with a view to developing the Recognized Disciplines, which are represented within WBPF in the Colleges, practised by the member national federations, to encourage their entry into the various multi-sport competitions and to make boules an Olympic discipline;
- b) to set up regular training activities, either common to several Recognized Disciplines, or individualized on the essentially technical aspects of a Discipline;
- c) to implement a sports policy to this end:
- ° in accordance with the principles of the international Olympic organisation as defined in the official acts governing the activity of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in particular the Olympic Charter and the Agenda 2020.
- ° of such a nature as to make the international and national public and sporting authorities accept that human and social values are primordial and inherent in the practice of boules sport and in the spirit of fraternity and human solidarity between peoples, linked to the organisation of sporting competitions;

- ° able to develop the technical components of competition and self-discipline in terms of physical and intellectual preparation;
- ° to enhance the attachment of political authorities and public opinion, in particular the written, spoken and televised media, to the sport of boules;
- ° to develop our Recognized Disciplines in favour of women, and to facilitate the access of their representatives to leadership positions;
- ° taking into account the preservation of the environment;
- ° to harmonize the period in which the championships are held in the various Recognized Disciplines, taking into account the main international competitions;
- ° Affirming its willingness and determination to relentlessly pursue the fight against doping in sport, within the strict framework of the regulations drawn up by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), to respect the principles of ethics and fair play, and to promote sports-healthy actions.

The WBPF does not pursue any profit-making goal.

Within and outside the Association and for all its activities any discussion, demonstration, position-taking, display or communication of a political, religious, racial or discriminatory nature is prohibited.

#### Article 4: Functions of WBPF

WBPF will represent all its Members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) and will be the only recognised contact for the IOC, organisations comprising international federations (in particular, the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) and the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF)), as well as organisers of multi-sport competitions in which at least one of its Recognized Disciplines is called upon to participate.

WBPF ensures that its Statutes and regulations are respected. It applies and enforces the decisions taken in particular by the General Assembly or its Executive Committee within the framework of their powers.

The WBPF regulates international competitions organised by itself, by the Continental Confederations whose constitution it decides and supervises, or by its members (member national federations and/or Associate Members).

The WBPF enacts the rules of the game developed by the Colleges of the Recognized Disciplines, as well as any other regulations necessary for the pursuit of its goals.

WBPF defines the criteria and methods for the selection and running of multi-sport competitions in liaison with the organisers.

The WBPF establishes the official international calendar of competitions, in particular the World Championships, World Cups and international tournaments that its Executive Committee will have selected for registration. This official international calendar will be communicated to the IOC.

WBPF defines the conditions allowing the use of the qualifier "international" for competitions which must be organised under the aegis and with the agreement of a WBPF member national federation. This member national federation will be responsible for the respect of the rules thus established and may be sanctioned in case of failure to do so, in accordance with the Code of Discipline.

These competitions may be included in the official competition calendar.

## Article 5: Official Languages

The official languages of WBPF are French and English.

In the event of discrepancies in the translations of official documents (Statutes, regulations, etc.) - including those in another language - the French version shall prevail.

#### II. MEMBERS

#### Article 6: WBPF Members

The WBPF may admit as member national federations whose object is at least a boules sport, committed to promote all Recognized Disciplines.

The conditions and procedure for the admission of members shall be laid down in an Admission Regulation to be drawn up by the Executive Committee.

There should only be one member national federation per country. When, in a country, the different Recognized Disciplines of boules sport are divided between several national federations each managing one or more distinct Recognized Discipline(s), these federations must set up a body to determine the conditions of participation within the WBPF. Failing this, the decision on their representation within the WBPF will belong to the Executive Committee after the advice of the Commission of Admission.

The WBPF may ask the NOC, the National Sports Committee (when non-Olympics are not concerned by the NOC) or the Ministry in charge of sports in these countries to enlighten us on the presence of these national organizations, their real existence and their functioning.

It will even be possible to temporarily or definitively admit two or more national federations of different boules disciplines if they are all recognized, individually and officially, by the bodies mentioned above and have participated in at least two World Championships or Continental qualifying events. However, they will all have to pay full membership fees.

The WBPF is the sole master of the recognition of the member national federations that it may accept as members within it, as well as of the Continental or Regional Confederations whose creation the WBPF may authorise.

The constitution of other functional or sporting geographical entities by the members must also obtain the prior approval of WBPF.

International Federations managing one of the Recognized Discipline at world level, may apply to become WBPF's Associate Member. The current Associations designated under the acronyms CBI, FIB and FIPJP and other international entities managing other Recognized Disciplines will be admitted as "Associate Members" of WBPF automatically where requested, with the objective to transfer the full management of the concerned Recognized Disciplines to the Colleges of WBPF, as described in itsWBPF Statutes and regulations.

The Associate Members will be stakeholders in the functioning and powers of the Colleges whose respective presidents will sit ex officio on the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 18.

After the admission into WBPF the Associate Members should commit to start the

process to cease their activities as separate legal entities, so that their respective national federations may become or be a part of a member national federation of WBPF and recognize exclusively the authority of WBPF.

## Article 7: Admission of new members

Applications for new members should be addressed to the WBPF headquarters. During the transitional period, preceding the first General Assembly, a temporary Commission of Admission, composed by Representatives of the Recognized Disciplines as well as by external experts based on the Organizational Regulation, will evaluate the eligibility of the membership request. Only the national federation of Recognized Disciplines complying with the conditions foreseen in article 6, fifth chapter, may be admitted as member national federation before the first General Assembly.

The Executive Committee is entitled to accept them as provisional members without voting rights until a decision is taken by the next General Assembly.

Afterwards, the admission of a new member national federation shall only become final with voting rights after a favourable vote of the General Assembly obtained in the presence of its representatives.

The admission of a member national federation on a provisional basis allows it to participate in international events organized by WBPF, its confederations and/or its members (Associate Members and/or its member national federations).

#### Article 8: Loss of membership

Membership (member national federation and/or Associate Member) is lost:

- a) by resigning. The resignation must be notified by registered letter to WBPF. In any event, the full membership fee for the year in which the resignation occurs remains due and is not subject to reimbursement.
- b) by exclusion on just grounds. In particular, "just grounds", which allow the Executive Committee to expel a member national federation and/or an Associate Member from the WBPF, are considered to include violation of these Statutes and other regulations, decisions and directives promulgated by the WBPF, prejudice to the interests of the WBPF or its members, or failure to meet its financial obligations despite prior warning.

The excluded member national federation and/or Associate Member has a period of two months to appeal against the decision of the Executive Committee to the General Assembly, which will make a final decision.

#### Article 9: Attribution of members

The members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) shall ensure that the Statutes, Regulations, Decisions and Directives of WBPF are applied in their territories and, where appropriate, incorporated into their respective Statutes and Regulations.

The members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) undertake to participate in the development of WBPF and to safeguard its unity.

# Article 10: Responsibility

WBPF members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) cannot be held personally liable for WBPF's obligations, debts or other commitments.

#### III. ORGANISATION

## Article 11: Organs of WBPF

The organs of WBPF are:

- the General Assembly;
- the Executive Committee;
- the Permanent Bureau;
- the Revision Body.

#### Article 12: The General Assembly

The General Assembly brings together the members of WBPF. It is the supreme body of WBPF.

The Ordinary General Assembly takes place every year, as far as possible in one of the cities hosting a World Championship. For practical reasons or in the event of exceptional circumstances duly noted by the Executive Committee, the latter may decide to organize the General Assembly virtually.

The General Assembly is chaired by the President of WBPF or, in his/her absence, by one of the members of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may also decide that the General Assembly may take its decisions by circulation.

#### Article 13: Convening; items and questions on the agenda

The General Assembly is convened at least 60 days in advance by the Secretary General, on behalf of the Executive Committee, by mail or email.

The invitation shall be accompanied by the agenda and the proposals of the Executive Committee.

Members who are up to date with their subscriptions may, individually or as a group in their Continental Confederations, request the inclusion of additional items on the agenda.

Their proposals must reach the Executive Committee at the latest 30 days before the General Assembly.

The Executive Committee will study the proposal, with a view to their inclusion on the agenda of the next General Assembly. They must be detailed and may, if necessary, be accompanied by a comment or counterproposal from the Executive Committee, which will be presented to the General Assembly before the proposals are considered.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at any time by the Executive Committee or when one-fifth of the member national federations so request, specifying the items they wish to be placed on the agenda.

At least one week before the date of the General Assembly, members may also send to the President or secretary general various matters which will be included in the agenda and be

discussed at the end of the agendabut which cannot be the subject of a decision or vote at the General Assembly.

Article 14: Composition of the General Assembly, representation, quorum, voting procedures

A member national federation may delegate its powers to another member national federation, provided that both are up to date with their contributions. Each member national federation may receive only one mandate to represent another. The modalities of representation shall be defined by the Executive Committee and appear in the Organizational Regulations.

The General Assembly can only validly deliberate if half plus one of the members, up to date with their subscriptions, are present or represented.

Each member national federation may be represented at the General Assembly by one or more delegates, but only the President or his/her official delegate duly authorised by his/her federation takes part in the voting.

Voting shall normally be by show of hands, by electronic means or by roll call, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

At the request of a simple majority of the votes validly cast, votes may be taken by secret ballot. Voting by ballot is required for elections unless there is unanimity among the member national federations present or represented.

#### **Article 15**: Powers of the General Assembly

The General Assembly has the following inalienable powers:

- a) approval of the annual accounts;
- b) take note of the report of the Revision Body;
- c) give discharge to the Executive Committee;
- d) approval of the budget;
- e) approval and amendment of the Statutes;
- f) transfer of WBPF's headquarters on the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- g) election of the members of the Executive Committee (elected) and dismissal of all members of the Executive Committee (including ex officio) in accordance with Article 18;
- h) affiliation of new members, and decision in case of appeal on exclusions;
- i) dissolution of WBPF.

## Article 16: Decisions

Each member national federation, up to date with their subscription, is entitled to one vote. During the transitional period, where it will be allowed to have more than one member national federations per country complying with the conditions foreseen in article 6, fifth chapter, those member national federation will be entitled to one vote each, if they will be up to date with their membership fees.

Decisions and elections shall be taken by a majority of the votes validly cast, with the exception of amendments to the Statutes, which must receive two-thirds of the votes validly cast, and other specific provisions of these Statutes (in particular, Article 14 Article 21 Article 22; Article 38; Article 39).

With regard to all decisions and elections referred to in these Statutes, abstentions and other blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any other way, shall not be taken into account in the calculation of the required majorities.

#### Article 17: Minutes

A list of decisions must be communicated to the members of the WBPF (member national federations and/or Associate Members) within one month following the General Assembly.

The complete minutes of the General Assembly is submitted to the vote of the next General Assembly then duly signed by the President for archiving after any modifications.

#### Article 18: The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is composed of 15 members elected by the General Assembly as follows with a maximum of two members per country. As an exception, during the transitional period of the first 2 years, the representatives appointed by the Associate Members will not be taken into account for this limitation:

The Executive Committee will include:

- a) the President; elected by the GA
- b) the Secretary General; elected by the GA
- c) the Treasurer; elected by the GA
- d) 12 members elected by the GA

In order to ensure gender representation and to promote the access of women to directive roles, the Organizational Regulation will establish a minimum number of Executive Committee member reserved to women. This number will increase over the terms and in accordance with the rise on the number of women accessing to directive roles within the member national federation.

The Presidents of the Colleges are automatically members (ex officio) of the Executive Committee. If one of them loses this function during the term of office, his/her successor in this position takes his/her place for the remaining period of the mandate. They have only an advisory role and they do not have right to vote.

The members of the Executive Committee are not remunerated; only activities in favour of WBPF that go beyond the scope of the Committee member's function are reserved.

Candidates for the Presidency or the Executive Committee are presented by their member national federation of WBPF provided that the latter is up to date with its subscriptions during the four previous years. Each member national federation undertakes to assume the expenses of its representative when these are not caused by a specific mission entrusted by WBPF.

During the transitional period, which is the first 2 years of the WBPF, every Associate Members will appoint one Representative, the President or another person, to sit on the Executive Committee. Consequently, for the first elections, the number of Executive Committee members to be elected by the General Assembly will be reduced according with the number of Representatives so designated.

#### Article 19: Term of office; renewal

The term of office of the elected members of the Executive Committee shall be four years.

The President and the newly elected members of the Executive Committee shall take office at the end of the General Assembly during which they are elected. They may be re-elected, but the President cannot take office more than three terms.

However, in order to ensure a form of continuity in the Executive Committee, its renewal is gradual.

- a) The first General Assembly will elect:
- The President,
- The Secretary General,
- The Treasurer
- The number of Members available after the deduction of the Representatives appointed by the Associate Members.

Those members will all be elected for a term of 4 years.

- b) After the transitional period of 2 years, the General Assembly will elect, for a term of 4 years, the number of Executive Committee members that were occupied previously by the Representatives appointed by the Associate Members and they could be candidates.
- c) Afterwards the General Assembly will elect the members that will have their term expired. When a seat will become vacant, for whatever reasons, the next General Assembly will proceed to a partial election but the newly elected member will take office only for the remaining of the period related the concerned vacant seat.

## Article 20: Eligibility requirements

To be elected to the Executive Committee, candidates must be of legal age, of good character and enjoy full civil rights in their country of residence.. The member national federations which propose candidates ensure that they have sufficient professional experience and knowledge of the sport of boules to carry out their duties.

The Executive Committee, or a Commission set up by it, may implement procedures to evaluate applications and verify the conditions of eligibility and, where appropriate, make recommendations to the General Assembly.

#### Article 21: Election and powers of the President

To be elected President, a candidate must obtain an absolute majority of the votes cast in the first round.

For the second round, only the two candidates who obtained the most votes in the first round may remain in contention.

If there is only one candidate, in both the first and second rounds, he or she must obtain a majority of affirmative votes.

The President represents WBPF in all acts of civil life and in all official and sporting events. In case of impediment he/she may delegate his/her powers to a member of the Executive Committee chosen by him/her.

If the President is temporarily or permanently unable to perform his or her duties, the Executive Committee shall appoint from among its members the person who will assume his or her powers and responsibilities until the next General Assembly. This Assembly shall elect a new President, if the President in office is still unable to exercise his/her functions.

The organisation and the respective powers of the President and the Executive Committee are detailed in the Organisational Regulations issued by the Executive Committee.

## Article 22: Election of the members of the Executive Committee

The election of the members of the Executive Committee shall be by a multi-member ballot with one round of voting. The candidates obtaining the most votes shall be elected within the limit of the seats available, taking first into account those allocated to the Women.

In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, for the last position available, a second ballot shall be held among them only. If the equality persists, the post is declared vacant until the next General Assembly.

#### Article 23: Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is in charge of the administration and management of WBPF's affairs.

The Executive Committee sets up Colleges in which the representatives of the member national federations concerned will sit to organize the practice of the Recognized Disciplines administered by the member national federations. These Colleges operate according to the principles laid down in article 27 and to the modalities defined in the WBPF's Organizational Regulations.

It may also create Commissions or delegate particular tasks under its supervision to members of WBPF or to third parties designated by it.

The Executive Committee shall designate the persons authorised to represent WBPF and decide on the method of signature.

It shall deal with any matter which is not within the competence of another body of WBPF according to the law or these Statutes. It adopts and amends WBPF's regulations and guidelines, including the communication and marketing strategy, the selection of the communication agency, the strategy of partners including the sponsorship and partnerships contracts and the sport political strategy.

## Article 24: Organisation of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets, either in-person or virtually, at the call of the President, as often as the business of WBPF requires, but at least twice a year, including once as a prelude to a World Championship, where possible.

It must be convened when at least eight (8) Executive Committee members request it.

There is no delegation of powers between the members of the Executive Committee. However, the Members of the Executive Committee who are unable to attend a meeting may participate by telephone or video conference.

The Executive Committee may take its decisions when two thirds of its members are present, either physically or by telephone or video conference.

If a quorum is not present at a sitting, the President shall convene a further sitting with the same agenda to be held within 5 days of the sitting at which the quorum was not present. No quorum shall be required at this meeting for the Executive Committee to take valid decisions.

The Executive Committee takes its decisions by a majority of the votes of the members of the Committee present. Each member of the Committee has one vote. In the event of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote. In the absence of the President, the members of the Executive Committee shall designate one of themto chair the meeting and shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

The decisions of the Executive Committee may also be taken, by a majority of all members of the Executive Committee, in the form of an approval given in writing in the form of a PDF, fax, e-signature or an e-mail indicating approval, unless a member of the Executive Committee requests discussion.

The travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Executive Committee (except the President) shall be borne by the member national federations to which they belong, except for missions specifically entrusted to them by the President or by the Executive Committee, in particular on the occasion of World Championships or for particular meetings, for example in matters of discipline.

In addition, the Executive Committee shall issue the Organisational Regulations in order to specify its organisational arrangements.

## Article 25: Permanent Bureau

The Permanent Bureau is composed of the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.

The organisation and functions of the Permanent Bureau are defined in the Organisational Regulations.

#### Article 26: Revision Body

The General Assembly appoints a Revision Body for a period of one-year renewable.

It carries out the tasks assigned to it by law in the area of limited auditing. The Revision Body can be renewed.

#### IV. COLLEGES AND COMMISSIONS

## Article 27: The Colleges

The Colleges bring together representatives of the Recognized Disciplines practiced by the member national federations of WBPF. They may not admit other bodies to their membership.

Each College deals with a single Recognized Discipline and has full competence to elaborate texts and technical regulations concerning the Recognized discipline and to organise the World Championships of that Recognized Discipline or any other official competition of a world/international nature.

The list of Colleges of Recognized Disciplines is contained in the WBPF's Organisational Regulations, which are updated as necessary by the Executive Committee.

Each College constitutes its own organizational structure and organizes itself.

An Associate Member may take on the role and functions of the College for the concerned Recognized Discipline. In this case, it will naturally have full power of management and organization (including the organization of Competitions) in areas for which the Statutes and Organizational Regulations do not confer jurisdiction to the WBPF.

Each College must elect a president who will sit on the WBPF's Executive Committee with consultative role and a treasurer who will be part of the WBPF's Finance Commission. During the transitional period – which is the first 2 years of the WBPF – the Presidents of the Associate Members will be automatically the presidents of their College and in this capacity, they will sit on the Executive Committee in accordance with article 18, unless their term expires or in case they do not wish so. In the latter case the College will appoint the Representative to sit on the Executive Committee.

Each College has a certain amount of financial autonomy. The budget allocated to the College will be determined by the Executive Committee following the proposal made by the WBPF's Finance Commission, in order to be able to manage the activities that fall within its remit, in particular as regards the organisation of competitions, compensation of delegates or trainers, travel assistance for Continental or World Championships, or for continental competitions under its aegis.

For its income, each College may establish a scale of fees in addition to the general membership fee due to WBPF by each member national federation. This complementary contribution may be imposed, for this Recognized Discipline, on the member national federations of WBPF. Only those which have paid their WBPF membership fee and the additional fee are authorised to participate in competitions organised under the aegis of the College. Refusal to pay this additional fee shall automatically result in the exclusion of the member national federation concerned from the corresponding College.

Each College may create commissions in particular fields not covered by WBPF, in particular for specific technical training, for the organisation of World Championships, for the drafting of specific technical texts.

#### Article 28: The Commissions

Specialised Commissions or working groups may be set up by the Executive Committee.

However, it is obligatorily constituted:

a) A Admission Commission which, on the basis of the WBPF Admission Regulations, will issue an opinion to be communicated to the Executive Committee on the application of a national federation to become a member of WBPF in view of the Recognized Discipline(s) practised and its links with the administrative and sports authorities of its country.

The Admission Commission will also oversee and issue opinion to the Executive Committee on the admission of Associate Members.

- b) A Medical and Anti-Doping Commission to liaise with the IOC and WADA. It is responsible for ensuring that WBPFs rules and practices comply with the World Anti-Doping Code, organising training in this area and ensuring that all members (member national federations as well as Associate Members where applicable) comply with the IOC Regulations and the World Anti-Doping Code;
- c) A Commission on Settlements and umpiring:
- d) A Media and Communication Commission which deals with sponsorship and partnerships as well as image rights;
- e) A Finance Commission consisting of the WBPF's treasurer, the Colleges Treasurers and, maximum, the same number of Executive Committee members;

- f) A Ethics Commission in charge to define and update the ethical principles to constitute the Code of Ethics of the WBPF, based on the values of the Olympic Charter and on the IOC's Code of Ethics;
- g) A Discipline Commission working on the basis of the Code of Discipline of the WBPF.

The WBPF Organisational Regulations may also provide for other commission or bodies, whether temporary or permanent.

Their powers, composition and operation shall be determined by the Executive Committee and laid down in the Organisational Regulations. The latter shall specify the task incumbent upon them and determine the procedures for its implementation.

Their work is monitored and, if necessary, directed by the Executive Committee. It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to give priority to studying the reports addressed to it

Each Commission should be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee, except the Ethics and Discipline Commissions.

Reports and minutes of Commission meetings are sent to the Executive Committee for information and follow-up.

#### V. FIGHT AGAINST DOPING - ETHICS

#### Article 29: Fight against doping

The WBPF affirms its willingness and determination to relentlessly pursue the fight against doping in sport by signing and enforcing the World Anti-Doping Code (named below the "Code"), the International Standards and other rules promulgated by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

The current provisions of the Code apply in full to all persons and competitions under the authority of WBPF or its members.

Each member (national member federation or Associate Member) commits himself:

- a) to include in its constitution and to apply anti-doping rules and regulations in conformity with the Code;
- b) to require as a condition of membership that their rules, regulations and programs comply with the Code;
- c) to require all athletes and athlete support personnel under the authority of members to comply with the rules and provisions of the Code;
- d) to require unlicensed athletes to be available for Testing and to provide accurate and up-todate whereabouts information on a regular basis if required by the conditions of participation of the member national federation or, where applicable, by the organisation responsible for major sports events;
- e) to monitor the anti-doping programmes of all their members and adherents;
- f) to take appropriate measures to prevent and punish non-compliance with the rules of the Code:

- g) to authorise and facilitate the programme of independent observers at national events;
- h) to discontinue all or part of the funding of clubs or affiliated bodies that do not comply with the Code.

The WBPF may also organise alcohol tests during competitions under its auspices. This possibility is also open to national federations and Continental Confederations. The maximum permissible rate is fixed by the statutes and regulations of the organisations concerned. In accordance with the Code, infringements in this respect may only give rise to sanctions relating to the current Competition and not to those provided for in a doping case.

The Executive Committee may enact special regulations entitled "Anti-Doping Regulations" making mandatory rules, regulations and programmes in conformity with the Code, respecting the models of good practice developed by the WADA and dealing in particular with doping control programmes and procedural aspects.

The WBPF may delegate all or part of its doping control programmes, including the procedural aspects of results management, to an independent entity.

#### Article 30: Ethics

The WBPF affirms its will and determination to promote ethics and fair play, in particular by applying and enforcing the rules of the Code of Ethics and other ethical texts established by the IOC.

#### VI. WBPF FINANCES

#### Article 31: WBPF Resources

WBPF's resources mainly include:

- amounts from applications for membership;
- the membership fees (including additional fees required by the Colleges) to be paid by its member national federations;
- public institutions subsidies;
- donations, legacies, sponsoring, partnerships;
- the income from its fortune;
- income from the exploitation and marketing of the rights relating to all sporting events organised under its aegis by the WBPF, in particular World Championships and World Cups;
- any other income collected within the framework of its statutes, aims and activities that the Executive Committee or its members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) may be able to provide.

All of WBPF's resources must be allocated exclusively to the aims of WBPF.

## Article 32: Budget

WBPF's expenses are set by the provisional budget, which is submitted annually to the General Assembly for approval.

It may be modified during the year as required by the Executive Committee.

## Article 33: Financial obligations of members

Each member (member national federations and/or Associate Members) undertakes to fulfil its financial obligations to WBPF.

Any member national federation who is not up to date with its membership fees due to WBPF or its Continental Confederation, cannot participate in the World or Continental Championships.

This obligation also applies to member national federations provisionally accepted.

Members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) who have not paid the sums due within the prescribed time limits shall be liable to sanctions and fines which shall be pronounced by the Executive Committee in application of the provisions of the Code of Discipline which it enacts.

#### Article 34: Fiscal Year

The financial year shall begin on 1st January and end on 31st December of each year. WBPF's first financial year shall be considered to run from the date of its establishment until December 31 of the following year.

#### Article 35: WBPF Accounts

In the month following the close of each financial year, the Executive Committee will draw up the annual accounts and the budget of WBPF for the following year.

## **Article 36**: Licensing – Insurance

Any licence or any equivalent document issued by a member (member national federations and/or Associate Members) must be recognised as valid by all the other members (member national federations and/or Associate Members) of WBPF, and a fortiori by all the associations of which they are composed.

National, regional and local championships are open only to members of member national federations organising them, unless special clauses concerning foreign players have been provided for in the statutes and regulations of the federation concerned.

As many member national federations do not issue licences or equivalent documents, players from their countries will only be admitted to competitions in countries where a licence is required on presentation of a list of names authenticated by their national federation and accepted by the host federation.

For World Championships and World Cups, players must present an identity document proving their nationality or the possession of a title giving them the same rights as nationals and officially recognised beforehand by the WBPF in a list which appears in the Organising Regulations.

A player may only hold one licence or equivalent document.

A player can take his/her license or an equivalent document wherever he wants in the world. However, each Continental Confederation may take measures to limit this possibility, and any host country will remain free to accept or refuse such licence applications and to set rules restricting access to certain competitions for players from other countries.

The Executive Committee shall lay down specific provisions in the Organisational Regulations for frontier workers, for players of school age and for those with dual nationality.

Any holder of a licence or equivalent document must be insured by his/her member national federation. Any deficiency in this area will be the responsibility of the member national federation concerned. The latter must cover this civil liability by a contract against accidents caused to third parties in official, friendly or training parties, failing which it would be obliged to compensate for the prejudice caused to others as a result of the practice of its sport.

The specific rules contained in annexed documents to the Organizational Regulations apply to members, in particular those concerning World championships and transfers between federations.

#### VII. DISCIPLINE

## Article 37: Discipline

The WBPF exercises its authority over international competitions - including World Championships - that fall within its jurisdiction.

A WBPF specific Code of Discipline, annexed to the Organisational Regulations deals in particular with offences committed by players during World Championships or World Cups. Its provisions are supplemented as necessary by the Executivet Committee.

If a member of a member national federation infringes the WBPF rules and regulations, the WBPF may request the member federation to which he belongs to take the necessary sanctions as provided for in its statutes and regulations.

If an officer of a member national federation or of a Continental Confederation transgresses the Statutes and other regulations of WBPF, the principles of international sports law, the prescriptions of the IOC and the Olympic Movement or any other provisions which may call into question his/her capacity to exercise his/her functions, he shall be invited to appear before the Executive Committee set up as a Disciplinary Commission or an Ethics Commission, or before a disciplinary body constituted for this purpose. The decisions taken by the bodies thus constituted shall be immediately applicable in all member federations.

If a member (member national federation and/or Associate Member) and/or Continental Confederation disregards a decision of suspension against one of its officers, it may be subject to a decision of suspension in accordance with Article 38 and/or the sanctions provided for in the WBPF Statutes and Regulations, which may go as far as exclusion in accordance with Articles 8 b and 38.

# **Article 38**: Suspension and exclusion

The Executive Committee may, without a vote of the General Assembly, temporarily suspend or exclude with immediate effect any member national federation or Associate Member which contravenes its obligations. If it is not revoked in the meantime by the Executive Committee, the suspension or the exclusion pronounced by the Executive Committee remains in force until the next General Assembly.

The temporary suspension or the exclusion of a member national federation and/or Associate Member made by the Executive Committee must be confirmed by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes validly cast at the next General Assembly, failing which it will be automatically lifted.

A suspended member national federation and/or Associate Member will no longer be able to exercise any of the prerogatives associated with its membership. Other members national federations and/or Associate Members are prohibited from having any sporting relationship with a suspended member national federation and/or Associate Member.

Other sanctions may be combined with suspension under the Statutes and the Organizational Regulations, in particular the Code of Discipline.

## VIII. DISSOLUTION, SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

#### Article 39: Dissolution

WBPF shall be dissolved by decision of the General Assembly, which must receive two-thirds (2/3) of the validly cast votes.

In the event of dissolution, the Executive Committee shall attribute the remaining credit balance to one (or more) Swiss public interest institution(s) pursuing a similar purpose and benefiting from tax exemption on account of its (their) public utility or public service purpose. It may also be allocated to the Swiss Confederation, the cantons, the communes and their institutions.

The assets of WBPF shall not be returned to its members (members national federations and/or Associate Members), their successors or assigns, or to members of the Executive Committee.

## Article 40: Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising between members national federations, Associate Members or a member national federation, Associate Members of WBPF and WBPF rendered by WBPF as the last internal body may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall decide the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Arbitration for Sport. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one days from receipt of the decision under appeal.

The CAS can only be seized when all other domestic remedies have been exhausted.

Furthermore, the provisions of the Regulations, in particular the Anti-Doping Regulations, are reserved. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) shall be entitled to appeal to CAS against any final and binding decision on doping taken by WBPF or its members (members national federations and/or Associate Members) in accordance with the provisions of the Anti-Doping Regulations.

Thus done in Lausanne	
The:	

For the WORLD BOULES AND PÉTANQUE FEDERATION (WBPF)