



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES LUTTES ASSOCIEES
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATED WRESTLING STYLES

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FILA CONSTITUTION



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TITLE I – CREATION, AIM, OBJECT OF ACTIVITIES AND COMPOSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATED WRESTLING STYLES (FILA)

PREAMBLE

In 1905 wrestling was part of the « Amateur Athleten Weltunion », an organisation created in Duisburg (Germany). In 1912, at the occasion of the Stockholm Olympic Games in Sweden, the “Internationaler Ringverband” was founded. In 1921 it is reconstituted under the name “International Amateur Wrestling Federation” (from 1954 “Fédération Internationale des Luttes Amateur”). In 1994 it takes the name of “International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles”, abbreviated FILA.

Article 1 – Name, duration and headquarter

The Fédération Internationale des Luttes Associées (further referred to as “FILA”) (in English “International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles”) is an association constituted in accordance with the article 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code. Its duration is unlimited.

The FILA headquarter is in Corsier-sur-Vevey (Switzerland). It may be transferred to another city or another country by decision of the Bureau ratified by the Congress.

Article 2 – Aim

The aims of the FILA shall be, in particular:

- a. To encourage the development of all wrestling styles and to promote the sport in all countries of the world, to bring its support and technical assistance to developing countries.
- b. To contribute to the development of friendly relations between all wrestlers and between the National Federations, and to encourage and support all actions aimed at achieving the objectives it has set itself in practical terms.
- c. To establish and distribute the international Rules for the different wrestling styles.
- d. To exercise control over wrestling throughout the affiliated National Federations and associated members.
- e. To supervise the application of Wrestling Rules and Regulations at Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cups, continental competitions and all international events which are held, without exception, under its control.
- f. To designate, select, train, perfect and control international referees, coaches and leaders.
- g. To represent the sport of wrestling and to protect its interests at the International Olympic Committee and other associations with which FILA has an agreement, as well as at all other meetings where the FILA is invited to attend.
- h. To arbitrate and take all necessary decisions in all cases of litigation or disputes which may arise between the affiliated National Federations when practicing the sport of wrestling.



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- i. To refrain from and be opposed to all political, racial or religious discussion and discrimination. Considering that the wrestlers are under the moral responsibility of the Federations, any discriminatory behaviour, act or word of political, racist or religious nature against an opponent, a team, an organizer or a FILA member will lead to the immediate disqualification of the involved wrestler as well as all members of the team in the style of the wrestler involved.

Article 3 – FILA object of activities

FILA is a worldwide organisation working in favour of the practice of wrestling in the spirit of its traditions, the requirements of the Olympic Charter and the current tendencies in the world sports development.

It gathers all countries that have a competent national federation for wrestling committed to complying with the FILA Constitution and Regulations.

The recognized styles governed by FILA are:

- Greco-Roman Wrestling, Freestyle Wrestling, Female Wrestling (included in the Olympic Games)
- Beach Wrestling
- Pankration
- Traditional and historical wrestling styles

Article 4 –Official languages, emblem and other FILA properties

The correspondence, the regulations, the protocols and the minutes of all kinds shall be written exclusively in French and English. Similarly, all debates shall be conducted in these two languages. German, Arabic, Spanish and Russian are also considered as official working languages when accompanied by written and verbal translation in French and English provided by the reporter concerned.

However, in case of disagreement on the interpretation of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the French text alone shall be authentic.

The emblem of the Federation, which is reproduced on a white background on its flag, represents the two halves of the globe (blue and gold) and comprises the FILA initials.

The name FILA, the flag, the symbol, the emblem and the FILA anthem are also FILA's exclusive property. Championships and Cups for all age groups are also FILA's property, as are the audio-visual, video, Internet and advertising rights which accompany them. Any use and reproduction without FILA's agreement is forbidden.

Article 5 – Composition

The FILA is composed of:

- Affiliated Members
- Associated Members



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- 5.1 The National Federations governing Olympic wrestling styles in their respective countries and complying with the formalities of affiliation can be recognized by FILA and affiliated as such and on the basis of one Federation per nation. Only National Federations governing Olympic wrestling in their country and having a National Olympic Committee may participate in the Olympic Games, in accordance with to the qualification system of wrestlers which is in operation for the Olympic cycle in question and which is adopted by the IOC and the FILA Congress.
- 5.2 Shall be admitted as associated members the National Associations of traditional wrestling or any other wrestling style recognized by FILA and whose National Olympic Wrestling Federation affiliated to FILA is not willing to manage and develop these wrestling styles at the national level for reason of their own.
- 5.3 In order to promote wrestling and contribute to its development in regions of a territory belonging to a country in another Continent FILA may recognize these countries and consider them as associated members according to the terms of regulations.

Article 6 – Affiliation of members of each category

6.1. Affiliated Members

Any regularly established National Federation governing the Olympic Wrestling styles and recognized by its National Olympic Committee, itself recognized by the International Olympic Committee, shall be admitted to FILA providing that:

- a. It expresses its intention in writing, signed by its President and Secretary General and attesting its autonomy and independence.
- b. It adheres to the FILA Constitution and Regulations and recognizes the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as the only external judicial instance.
- c. It commits to imposing the FILA Constitution and Regulations on all its affiliated societies and members under FILA's competence.
- d. It commits to settling the membership fee(s) and due(s) as laid down in the FILA Financial Regulations.
- e. Each National Federation whose Constitution and Regulations are in harmony with the FILA Constitution and Regulations shall attach to its affiliation request an authenticated copy of its Constitution and Regulation signed by its President and Secretary General with a request of recognition.
- f. If several Federations exist in a single country and practice Olympic wrestling styles covered by FILA, only one of them can be affiliated to FILA. However, it is specified that, in the case of a unique Federation only governing the Olympic wrestling styles in a country and which does not accept the management of traditional wrestling styles, it shall not be opposed to the recognition by FILA as associated members of National Traditional Wrestling Federations that would request it.

6.2. Associated Members

With the aim of ensuring the development of wrestling worldwide and on the regional level, National Federations or National Sports Associations governing a non Olympic wrestling style (Traditional Wrestling etc) that have no relation at all with a possible National Federation affiliated to the FILA may be admitted as Associated Members.



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

- To adhere to the FILA Constitution and Regulations and to recognize the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as the only external judicial instance.
- To commit to imposing the above requirements on all its affiliated societies and members under FILA's competence.
- To agree to settle the membership fee(s) and due(s) as laid down in the FILA Financial Regulations.

Associated Members may attend the Congress as auditors. They shall not take part to the votes and decisions. The Associated Members may participate in all friendly competitions and wrestling tournaments on invitation. They shall not organize nor enter wrestlers for Olympic wrestling championships in Greco-roman, Freestyle and Female wrestling.

FILA shall not recognize the bodies of the National Federations or the decisions of bodies that have not been elected or nominated in compliance with the provisions of article 6.5 hereunder.

6.3. Autonomy of National Federations

Affiliated or associated National Federations shall manage their internal affairs independently and make sure that no third party interferes with their functioning. They shall preserve their autonomy and resist to any political, religious or economic pressures that may offend their commitment to comply with the FILA Constitution.

Any external interference or external attempt to interfere shall be reported to FILA.

The control of governments shall be limited to the control of the use of their financial grants by the National Federations and under no circumstances should they interfere with the strategy and the functioning of the National Federations.

6.4. Independence of elections

The Constitution of affiliated or associated National Federations shall provide an internal election or nomination system which guarantees a complete independence towards governments and other public authorities.

The National Federations shall not accept that governments and other public authorities appoint members of the governing bodies of the National Federations.

However a National Federation may decide at its discretion to elect a representative of these authorities as a member.

In the same time a Federation may decide for instance that a limited number of seats within its management committee be taken by representatives of public authorities without right to vote since it is understood that members with a right to vote shall be exclusively elected by the General Assembly among candidates who are exclusively proposed by the National Federation members.

6.5. Compliance of National Federations' Constitution with the FILA Constitution

The Constitution of the affiliated National Federations and the associated National Federations shall be compliant with all provisions of the FILA Constitution. Failing that, the National Federation will be suspended by the FILA Bureau.



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The National Federations applying for affiliation or for the status of associated member which Constitution is not compliant with the FILA Constitution shall not be accepted as affiliated or associated members of FILA.

Article 7 – Resources, subscriptions, taxes and fees

The various contributions, dues or fees payable to the FILA, the sums, terms of payment and methods of collection of which are established in the Financial Regulations, include in particular:

- Annual membership fee
- License stamps of all kinds
- Television and advertising rights
- Sponsors
- Organisation fees: championships, international competitions
- Entry fees
- Referees' course, coaches' course or other courses fees (candidates and promotion)
- Penalty fees and fines of all kinds
- Income from any goods, funds created in exceptional circumstances
- Bequests and gifts

Once paid, and unless an obvious error has been made, the various subscriptions, dues, fees, fines and penalties, bequests and gifts become the property of FILA and cannot be refunded under any circumstances whatever.

Article 8 – Loss of FILA membership

FILA membership may be lost under the following circumstances: resignation, cessation of wrestling activity, permanent expulsion from FILA, proposed by the FILA Bureau and ratified by Congress under the conditions and procedures established in the Disciplinary Regulations, as a result of:

- Failure to pay subscriptions, fees or fines
- Serious offences
- The pursuit of aims prejudicial to those of FILA
- Serious infringements of the Constitution and Regulations
- Refusal to comply with decisions

The decision leading to expulsion of a Federation can only finally be taken by a majority vote at Congress.

Article 9 – Definition of the concept of admitting wrestlers to contest

9.1 Olympic styles wrestlers of affiliated Federations

In order to be allowed to participate in Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships and all competitions under the authority of FILA, wrestlers with high competitive level must comply with the definition given in the Olympic Charter.

However, as part of their prerogatives, the supreme sporting bodies of a particular country, the National Olympic Committee or National Federation, may grant the high level wrestler financial assistance, through his Club or National Federation, with a view to ensuring his social and sporting promotion.

All wrestlers participating in any international competition shall have a valid FILA license and be entered by their regularly affiliated National Federation.



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This licence entitles to take part in all competitions in every styles entered in the FILA calendar.

9.2 Wrestler of an associated style, member of a Federation or association

FILA license-holders in this category shall be admitted to take part in their own style in Championships and international competitions that are on the FILA calendar and taking place under FILA's authority. They shall be entered by their National Federation or by the National Committee managing the associated style and regularly associated.

Article 10 – Doping

The absorption of any substance intended to artificially improve the performance of the athlete is strictly prohibited. The IOC/WADA's official list is authoritative.

In events supervised by FILA, examinations or tests shall be carried out under the conditions laid down in the FILA Anti-Doping Regulations, and under no circumstances may the competitors, directors or officials oppose these controls, under penalty of sanctions provided by the FILA Anti-Doping Regulations and WADA's Worldwide Anti-Doping Code. FILA will carry out an out-of-competition drug testing programme of under the same conditions.

However, in order to fight against doping, it is reminded that in the first place the responsibility for controlling the health and the doping of athletes belongs to the National Federations, National Olympic Committees and to the public power of the countries of the athletes concerned.

Doping controls may be carried out at FILA's request on athletes several times a year, in or out of competitions, by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), according to the agreement signed by FILA and WADA, at any time and in any country.



TITLE II – CONGRESS

Article 11 – Composition

The Congress is the governing body of FILA, and in particular is called upon to elect the Bureau members and the FILA President. It is composed of the delegates of each of the affiliated Federations and the members of the FILA Bureau. Only three representatives (maximum number) per affiliated Federation are authorized to attend the Congress. Only one of them shall have the right to vote and will be authorized to speak. He must have an authorization from his/her Federation (proxy).

11.1 Associated Members can be represented at the FILA Congress by a delegate acting as an auditor.

Article 12 – Electoral power

Each affiliated Federation is entitled to one vote provided that it is up to date with the payment of its dues to FILA and is present at the Congress. This vote cannot be delegated.

The FILA Bureau members elected by the Congress have the right to one vote which may not be delegated.

The Presidents of the Continental Councils have the right to one vote which may not be delegated.

Article 13 – Operation

The FILA Congress must meet once every two years, in principle during Olympic Games and during World Championships, between Olympic Games

Before the opening of the session, in order to be registered, the representatives of the National Federations must present their signed voting powers to the Congress Secretariat who will verify that the document is authentic by comparing it with the copy received at the FILA Secretariat not later than seven days before the Congress date.

Notwithstanding the individual provisions of the Procedural Regulations, the Congress shall deliberate on the moral and financial reports for the past two-year period, as well as on the items on the agenda, details of which will have been submitted to the Federations two months prior to the date of the Congress. The Congress is directed by the FILA President or, in his absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Secretary General, appointed by him.

The FILA Bureau shall supervise the agenda and only the items placed on the agenda can be examined. However, the Congress may decide, with a majority of two-thirds of the votes, to examine a question which is not placed on the agenda.

The motions which the affiliated Federations request to be placed on the agenda must reach the FILA secretariat three months before the date of the Congress meeting. Two months before Congress, the FILA Secretariat shall submit proposed motions to the National Federations for study.

Within the two months following the Congress meeting, the minutes of the proceedings, signed by the President and the Secretary General and checked by the verifiers nominated by the Congress, shall be forwarded to the National Federations and submitted for approval at the following Congress meeting.



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Article 14– Validity of decisions

Decisions are taken at the majority of valid ballot papers, plus one, of the affiliated National Federations having the power to vote and the Bureau members present.

Unreadable ballot papers, void or blank ballots as well as abstentions are not taken into account in the counting of validly expressed votes. Ballots shall be processed through a voting machine.

In personal matters and for the elections, there must be a secret ballot. In the case of an equality of votes in the secret ballot, the subject of the vote shall be considered as rejected.

In the case there would be only one candidate (for example: election of the President), the election shall be processed by secret vote.

The President shall not take part in open ballots, but has a casting vote if there is a tie.

Article 15 – Rights and role

As the governing body of FILA, the Congress is in particular invested with the following powers:

- a. Approval and possible modifications to the Constitution.
- b. Approval of the FILA Bureau's balance sheets and FILA Bureau's financial report.
- c. Election of the FILA President.
- d. Election of the Bureau members.
- e. Nomination by acclamation of the Honorary President and of the Honorary Members.
- f. Affiliation of National Federations wishing to become FILA members and recognition of associated members.
- g. Radiation of an affiliated or associated Federation for non respect of the Constitution and the Regulations.
- h. Decisions on all matters and all suggestions of general interest put forward by the Bureau or the National Federations.
- i. Determining the amount of subscription fees and the sources of FILA revenues.
- j. Deliberation on all problems submitted to it by the FILA Bureau.
- k. Recognition and management of new wrestling styles
- l. Approval of the FILA Bureau general working program

More generally, the Congress shall propose, examine, discuss and take decisions on the motions proposed and shall determine the general guidelines for action to be taken by the FILA.



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Article 16 – Extraordinary Congress

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 13 above, an extraordinary Congress meeting may be held if requested by the FILA Bureau or in writing by at least one third of the affiliated National Federations. These requests, properly justified, shall be addressed and submitted to the FILA Bureau.

During such Congress meeting, issues that are not scheduled on the agenda may not be reviewed.

The Bureau decides on the place, the date and the agenda of the Extraordinary Congress on the proposal of the President.



TITLE III – ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

CHAPTER I – FILA BUREAU

Article 17 – Composition

- a. FILA is managed and administered by a Bureau of 19 elected members including the President and three seats reserved for women and three seats reserved for Olympic and/or World Champions. The Honorary President and the Presidents of the Continental Councils are also part of the Bureau.
- b. Bureau members sit in person and under no circumstances do they represent their own country or their National Federation. Therefore they cannot be automatically replaced by an individual from their National Federation if they resign from the FILA Bureau.
- c. However, the FILA Bureau may not comprise more than one elected member of the same nationality, including the seats reserved for women and the seats reserved for Olympic and/or World Champions.
- d. The presence of the President of a Continental Council in the FILA Bureau does not prevent his/her country of origin to nominate an individual for the Bureau elections since these two positions are not incompatible.
- e. The position of president of the Continental Council and FILA Bureau member can be held concurrently.

Article 18 – Eligibility

Only one candidate per country with an affiliated Federation is eligible as a candidate for the membership of the FILA Bureau. A candidate shall be nominated by his/her National Federation by registered letter sent to the FILA secretariat at least three months before the elections.

Any nomination must be justified.

Re-election of the Bureau members:

- a. Bureau members can stand for re-election.
- b. Bureau members and the FILA President are elected in an official capacity. In no way do they represent their National Federation.
- c. A Bureau member, including the President, who comes to the end of his mandate, can put himself forward without having his National Federation's agreement.
- d. In the event of two members from the same National Federation being candidates at the same election and having the majority in the first round of the ballot, the one with the highest number of votes will be elected to the FILA Bureau.
- e. In the second round, the candidate(s) with the highest number of votes will be elected as FILA Bureau member.



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- f. In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, the member of the Bureau leaving office will be declared re-elected; otherwise, the older individual by default.

Article 19 – Term of Office

The term of office of the members elected to the FILA Bureau is six years. However, at the end of their six year term, one third of the members are eligible for re-election every two years, at the Congress meeting.

In case of vacancy in the FILA Bureau for any reason, arrangements must be made for the member(s) concerned to be replaced at the following Congress meeting.

In this situation, the term of office of the newly elected member shall end at the expiration of the term of office of the member they replace.

The new elected President and Bureau members come into office after the end of the Congress.

The Presidents of the Continental Councils are part of the FILA Bureau for their term of office as Presidents of the Continental Councils.

Article 20 – Elections

The FILA Bureau members are elected by secret ballot, by the Congress, as stipulated in Article 11, for a duration established in Article 19 above. Only votes held by the representatives of the affiliated National Federations, (according to the provisions of Article 12 above), and by the Bureau members attending the Congress meeting, may be cast.

Elections shall be held on the basis of an absolute majority on the first ballot. If necessary, on the second ballot, the candidates shall be elected by relative majority depending on the number of votes cast. In case of a tie on the second ballot, the person who is an outgoing Bureau member or the oldest candidate will be elected.

Article 21 – Structure, powers and operation

21.1 The FILA Bureau comprises:

- 1 President
- 1 Secretary General
- 5 Vice-presidents among who compulsorily one woman at minimum
- 12 elected members
- The Continental Councils Presidents
- The Honorary President

The Vice-Presidents are nominated by the FILA Bureau at the FILA President's suggestion for a period of four years between two Olympiads.

The Continental Presidents sit on the FILA Bureau, with the right to vote, during their term of office which is equal to that of their continental presidency, i.e. four years. The Continental Councils must organize their elections the year following the Olympic Games on the occasion of the Continental Championship.



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21.2 All FILA Bureau members mentioned in article 21.1 above are entitled to one vote for the Bureau decisions.

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

21.3 The FILA Bureau has full powers to carry out the FILA's financial, technical and moral administration. It approves all regulations and the wrestling rules. It shall control and supervise the activity of the FILA between Congress meetings. It may delegate some of its powers to its President, to its Executive Committee and to its auxiliary bodies. It prepares and submits to Congress the report on its activities and financing, as well as on any propositions for the Congress to decide upon.

In the event of circumstances arising beyond the control of the FILA Bureau, due to international economic conditions, and when a situation makes it difficult, even impossible, to implement a statutory provision (state of war, epidemics, various decisions, government positions, etc.), the FILA Bureau may use any adequate means at its disposal to ensure that this provision is nevertheless complied with.

However, the Bureau is entitled to take suitable justified decisions to safeguard the general interests of the FILA, as dictated by the current situation, without this decision creating a precedent. The FILA Bureau must inform the following FILA Congress meeting of its decision.

The FILA Bureau:

- On the proposal of the President, adopts the composition of the disciplinary bodies and the commissions and takes decisions on the questions they submit;
- Selects the trust company which shall be appointed by the Congress;
- On the proposal of the President, proposes to the Congress the nominations of the Honorary President and the Honorary Bureau members;
- On the proposal of the President, approves all FILA agreements and contracts for partnerships, sponsoring, acquisition and change of propriety and submits them to the Congress for approval;
- Selects the dates and the organizers of all world and continental championships as well as the world and continental cups;
- On the proposal of the President, approves all decisions taken by the Executive Committee.

21.4 The FILA Bureau shall meet whenever convened by its President, or at the request of one third of its members, but at least once a year. Any member absent from three consecutive meetings shall lose his FILA Bureau membership. This also applies to the Continental Presidents. The presence of three fifths of the members of the FILA Bureau is required for resolutions to be valid. Resolutions shall be passed by a majority vote of the members present.

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

The President may be represented at FILA Bureau meetings by a Vice-President or the FILA Secretary General. The President has the casting vote in the case of an equality of votes of the FILA Bureau.

21.5 FILA Bureau members have the right to be reimbursed for their travel, hotel and daily representation expenses for all travel incurred for FILA, at the orders of the FILA President.



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Article 22 – Executive Committee

The FILA Executive Committee is made up of the President, the Secretary General and the Vice-Presidents. All members of the Executive Committee are invited to take part in all Executive Committee meetings.

The Executive Committee has full powers to carry out the administration, the financial management and all the FILA's activity proposed by the President.

CHAPTER II – THE PRESIDENT

Article 23 – Election

Only elected FILA Bureau members who have fulfilled a minimum of one term as Bureau member may be candidates. The FILA President is elected for a term of six years, by secret ballot, at an ordinary Congress meeting, on the basis of a justified nomination put forward by the FILA Bureau after an examination and study of the candidacies, which must be sent by registered mail to the FILA secretariat at least three months prior to the date of the Congress meeting, the post-mark will be proof of posting.

Once his/her term of office is ended the President is entitled to submit his/her nomination for re-election.

The candidates for the FILA Presidency that are not selected by the Bureau may submit their nominations to the Congress by themselves.

The election of the President by secret ballot is carried out in accordance with the conditions and the order mentioned in article 20 here above.

Article 24 – Role

The President shall manage FILA's current affairs and business as well as following FILA's activities and its general policies. The President's sphere of activity includes, in particular, representing the FILA at international meetings, at the sessions of the International Olympic Committee and before authorities in general. The President legally represents FILA in all acts of civil life. The President sanctions the expenditures within the framework of the budget. He may delegate certain tasks to the Secretary General.

The President runs the work of the Bureau, the Executive Committee, the Commissions, the FILA Secretariat and all the affairs that the running of the FILA requests in accordance with article 21 here above.

In the event of legal action, the President can only be replaced by a person having a special proxy.

The President or his deputy shall be entitled to be reimbursed for travelling and hotel expenses, as well as representation expenses for all travels in connection with all FILA activities. Furthermore, he shall be entitled to receive an official allowance for his work the amount of which being fixed by the Bureau.

Article 25 – Vacancy

Should a vacancy arise for the position of President, for any reason whatever, the FILA Bureau shall elect one of its members, by secret ballot, to provisionally fulfil the presidential functions.



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A new President must necessarily be elected during the following Congress meeting, under the conditions laid down in Article 23 above.

CHAPTER III – THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Article 26 – Nomination, role and competence

The Secretary General is nominated from the members of the FILA Bureau at the President's suggestion. However, the FILA Bureau may decide to choose a Secretary General outside its members. His mandate lasts six years and is renewable.

The Secretary General seconds the President in the leading and running of FILA and assumes the responsibility of secretary of Bureau and Congress meetings. He draws up the minutes. After receiving approval from the FILA President, he can sanction FILA expenditure.

The Secretary General is responsible for the smooth running of the FILA secretariat and accomplishes all tasks given by the FILA President, the Executive Committee or the FILA Bureau. He is responsible for the relations with the Continental Councils, the Commissions, the working groups, the National Federations and other bodies or individuals, etc. under the direction of the FILA President.

To fulfil his duties, the Secretary General shall be entitled to be reimbursed for travelling, hotel and representation expenses, and to receive an allowance for his work fixed by the Bureau.



TITLE IV – CONTROL BODIES AND DISCIPLINARY BODIES

CHAPTER I – ACCOUNTING, CONTROL AND AUDIT

Article 27 - Functions

The FILA accounts are kept each month by a trust company appointed by the Bureau and audited every year by an external audit firm approved by the Swiss Confederation and totally independent from the FILA. Its duties are to verify the accounts and to submit its report to the Congress together with its conclusions and recommendations, in particular concerning the approval of the financial statements by the Congress.

The trust company is appointed by the Congress following a proposition by the Bureau for a four year term. Its mandate may be renewed.

CHAPTER II – SPORTS JUSTICE

Article 28 – Disciplinary procedure

a) Preamble

In order to deal with legal disputes in sporting matters which cannot be settled by FILA's judicial bodies, an arbitration institution called the "Court of Arbitration for Sport" (CAS) has been created under the aegis of the International Council of Arbitration for Sports (ICAS).

b) Procedure

In the event of an infringement of the FILA Constitution, Wrestling Rules and other Regulations of the FILA, a case will be opened and measures taken. FILA's disciplinary bodies are as follows:

- The FILA prosecutor
- The Sports Judge – the only judge
- The FILA Appeal Commission (three members)

Members are nominated to these posts by the FILA Bureau at the suggestion of the FILA President. The FILA judicial bodies decide whether leave to appeal the first decision will be given. The Affiliated National Federations and all the FILA members (FILA Bureau members, wrestlers, coaches, referees, doctors and leaders) can only, through their FILA membership, appeal to the FILA in the event of disputes arising from the current Constitution and all the FILA Regulations and its Associated Disciplines or in the event of all sporting conflicts that may arise between them and which they cannot settle amicably.

Article 29 - Exceptional judicial power

The FILA Executive Committee has the ability to grant amnesty and remissions pursuant to the FILA Disciplinary Regulations.

The FILA President has the ability, on the concerned individual's demand, to grant the presidential pardon under the conditions established by the FILA Disciplinary Regulations.



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Article 30 – Principles of the Sports Justice

A. The dual instance sports jurisdiction is the fundamental principle of the FILA Federal justice.

B. Each Sports Judge shall act as an impartial third party. The Sports Judges are selected on their objective technical competencies and possibly outside FILA's members. The term of office of the judges is four years renewable.

C. Any accused person is entitled to his/her defence.

The Sports Judges work in total autonomy and their term of is independent from the duration of the bodies that appointed them.

The sports justice must be fast. In this respect, any sports trial may not exceed 50 days.

The decisions in first instance are immediately enforceable. Only the Federal Appeal Commission may dismiss them on request by a party and in case of serious motivations.

The judgments shall always be motivated, even synthetically, and the hearings must always be public. The norms here above apply to the federal prosecutor if compatible.

Any sanction and conservation measure may be appealed. The right to defence and the possibility of revising a judgment are guaranteed.

The decisions that have force of *res judicata* may be appealed to the Federal Appeal Commission under the following conditions:

- a) Incompatible nature of the facts underlying the judgment with the facts of another irrevocable decision
- b) Emergence of new proofs of innocence
- c) Proved false facts or false judgments

The request may be filed at any time.

The Disciplinary Regulations define the aggravating and extenuating circumstances as well as the support of them.

The rehabilitation may be granted at least after five years from the execution of the penalty or the extinguishment of it. It is the responsibility of the Federal Appeal Commission in case the sanctioned subject has proved a good behaviour, really and constantly.

The provisional suspension may be decided by the federal prosecutor provided it is motivated and remains in force until the decision of the judge.

Concerning the anti-doping rules violations, the World Anti-doping Code and the FILA Anti-doping Regulations apply.

Article 31 – The Appeal Commission

The Federal Appeal Commission is composed of a president, two members and two substitutes appointed by the Bureau following a proposal by the FILA President. The term of office is four years renewable. The mandate is independent from the term of office of the body which appointed it.

The ruling body is validly constituted in the presence of a president and two members. The decisions are taken at the majority. In case of a definitive absence of the president or the members on the occasion of its first meeting the Bureau shall make the necessary appointments.

The decisions of the Federal Appeal Commission are final. The disciplinary measures are disclosed on the FILA website.



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Article 32 - The Sports Judge

The Sports Judge is appointed by the Bureau following a proposal by the FILA President. The term of office is four years renewable. The mandate is independent from the term of office of the body which appointed it. The Sports Judge rules in first instance on all disciplinary infringements submitted to him by the Federal Prosecutor.

The Sports Judge may carry out further investigation in addition to those carried out by the Federal Prosecutor. The disciplinary measures are disclosed on the FILA website.

Article 33 - The Federal Prosecutor

The Federal Prosecutor is appointed by the Bureau following a proposal by the FILA President. The mandate is independent from the term of office of the body which appointed it.

The Federal Prosecutor:

- a) Receives the denunciations and claims concerning disciplinary violations;
- b) Investigates the files pursuant to the provisions of the regulations and opens the disciplinary action autonomously by referring it to the Sports Judge;
- c) Closes a case without further action in case the disciplinary denunciation lacks of grounds
- d) Is entitled to appeal to the Federal Appeal Commission against the decisions taken by the Sports Judge
- e) May attend the hearings convened by the Sports Judge and the Federal Appeal Commission and ask questions

Article 34 – System of Justice and Arbitration for sport

The measures adopted by the FILA bodies are enforced fully and definitively in the framework of the federal jurisdiction towards all its members.

Any decision by the federal bodies may be appealed to the *Court of Arbitration for Sport* in the disputes between the FILA and its members once all the internal rights of appeal are exhausted or in the case the decisions may not be appealed to the federal justice.

During the first arbitration hearing, conciliation shall obligatorily be attempted. The violation of these provisions may lead to measures up to the radiation.



TITLE V – AUXILIARY BODIES

CHAPTER I – CONTINENTAL COUNCILS

Article 35 – Definition

While respecting the principle of FILA's integrity and authority concerning all questions relating to the management and the practice of the sport of wrestling through the world, and with a view to obtaining efficient dialogue and co-operation between them, the National Federations in one continent which are correctly affiliated to the FILA, as well as associated member Federations, are grouped in a Continental Council, whose role and abilities are laid down by internal Regulations drawn up by FILA and adopted by the FILA Congress.

As it does not have any legislative power in the technical and regulation areas for wrestling as governed by FILA, powers which remain the FILA Bureau's, the Continental Council remains an internal organization of FILA belonging to the continent concerned, not a member but an auxiliary body of FILA which cannot be affiliated as such.

The main aim is to promote and develop wrestling on the continent concerned, to apply FILA's directives and to ensure that the FILA Constitution and Regulations are followed.

Article 36 – Structures and competence

The Continental Councils are managed by an Executive Commission comprised of seven individuals, including compulsorily one female, elected by the General Assembly (President, Vice-President and five members) whose mandate last four years and is renewable. The headquarters and the secretariat of the Continental Council must be in the President's residence and all the equipment must be assured by the National Federation who put forward the candidature for the presidency of the Continental Council.

The General Assembly meets every year during the Continental Championships. The Continental Council's General Assemblies follow the same procedures as the FILA Congress.

The agenda and the invitations to the General Assemblies established by the Continental Council must be approved by the FILA President. The call for candidates for the Continental Council is handled by the FILA Secretariat who will validate and transmit the valid applications to the Continental President.

If a Continental Council President has not convened the general assembly, the FILA Bureau will convene one in place of him/her. The Continental Councils' main task is to co-ordinate and to promote all the initiatives in favour of the spreading and the development of wrestling of all styles on their continent.

The elective General Assembly of the Continental Council takes place every four years after the Olympic Games.



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Article 37 – Respect of the FILA Constitution and regulations

A decision taken by a Continental Council with regard to a National Federation may not be taken and considered, under any circumstances, as enforceable if it has not been pronounced by the FILA Bureau.

CHAPTER II – COMMISSIONS

Article 38 – Definition

The Commissions are auxiliary bodies set up by the FILA Bureau which aim at achieving the objectives assigned to them by the FILA, in particular, those laid down in Article 3 above.

Article 39 – Structures

The main Commissions which are necessary for running FILA are the following:

- Development Commission
- Technical Assistance Commission
- Athletes Commission
- Refereeing Commission
- Coaches Commission
- Medical & Anti-doping Commission
- Ethics & Legislative Commission
- Marketing & Sponsoring Commission
- Media Commission
- Masters & Promotion Commission
- Sport for All Commission
- Women & Sport Commission
- Historical Heritage & Hall of Fame Commission
- Scientific Commission
- Traditional Wrestling Commission
- Pankration Commission
- Beach Wrestling Commission
- Senators' Club

The FILA Bureau can create other Commissions or working groups for the study of problems or specific activities (for the internal control for example). The FILA Bureau can also appoint individuals responsible for specific areas and call on the services of experts, including persons outside FILA.

Article 40 – Composition

The Commissions comprise one President, one vice-president, one secretary and members. The Commission members are nominated by the FILA Bureau at the FILA President's suggestion.

They are taken from specialists in the field particular to that Commission and have working knowledge of one of the official FILA languages (French or English).

Each candidacy must be put forward by the National Federation of the candidate concerned, accompanied by a written statement from the National Federation assuring that it will bear the travel and accommodation costs for its candidate for the Commission's meetings to which he is convened.

The members' mandates last four years and are renewable after the Olympic Congress.



TITLE VI – GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I – BASIC RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Article 41 – Principles

- a. National Federations (and their affiliated sports clubs) may only participate in competitions organized by the Federations affiliated or associated with FILA. However, at the request of a National Federation, the FILA Bureau may agree that a National Federation not yet affiliated to FILA participates in a tournament provided that the competition concerned contributes to the development of wrestling in the participants' countries and provided that this Federation has indicated its intention to become affiliated to FILA. However, if the desired affiliation has not become effective within two years from the time the authorization was granted, no other authorization will be granted to the requesting affiliated Federation as long as the Federation, subject of the dispensation, is not affiliated.
- b. At the Olympic Games, the Olympic Charter and the FILA Regulations shall be applied.
- c. The Organization Regulations for the various Continental Championships, which remain under the same exclusive control of FILA, must conform to the principles established for the World Championships, and no special provisions which transgress the Regulations shall be allowed. Each Championship will be attributed by the FILA Executive Committee following a bidding process and following the signing of a contract between the host Federation and the FILA.
- d. The terms of organization and course of international events of all kinds are established by the General Regulations for Championships and International Competitions and by the schedule of conditions, the Rules and Regulations for each discipline.
- e. Any wrestling club or association where wrestling is practiced in any style may only organize or participate in an international competition if their National Federation is affiliated or associated to the FILA, and provided that it is not the subject of a suspension measure.
- f. Wrestling is an individual sport which can also include team events, such as the World Cup, Continental Cup, Clubs championships, etc.

The National Federations affiliated or associated to FILA shall not:

- Accept participation from wrestlers, leaders or officials who are members of associations not affiliated or associated to the FILA.
- Accept participation from wrestlers, leaders or officials who are non-affiliated or who are subject to a disciplinary measure of suspension.
- Organize any contest or event with associations not affiliated to or associated with the FILA, unless authorized to do so in writing by a National Federation which is a member of the FILA from the country of the associations concerned.

Moreover, with a view of ensuring the promotion of wrestling, wrestling associations or clubs under the authority of a National Federation affiliated or associated to FILA and having its head office on another continent may receive from FILA an authorization to participate in competitions organized on the continent where they reside and where they have their activities.



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Article 42 – Representation

At the Olympic Games, Continental or Regional Games, World Championships and Cups and Continental Championships and Cups no participant (wrestler or referee) may represent a nation or be part of its national team if he does not have the nationality of the nation concerned.

Article 43 – Foreign Participation, changing nationality, transfer

Every wrestler has the right to wrestle in any country of the world as long as he is in accordance with the FILA Constitution, the Regulations, the Wrestling Rules and the normative documents of the National Federation he is leaving and the host National Federation concerned.

- a. A wrestler who lives abroad may not participate in events organized by the National Federation or affiliated association in the country in which he lives, unless he can produce an official certificate from the National Federation of his country while respecting the FILA Transfer Regulations. However, a wrestler who has been residing in the country where he works for one year or more may participate in club or national events if he is invited and without having received the authorization from the club and from the National Federation of his country.
- b. Invitations to foreign competitors or teams to participate in an event must always be extended through the National Federation of the wrestler or the team concerned. The National Federation will give its permission (or not) depending on the FILA Transfer Regulations. The organizing club must therefore send its invitation through its National Federation to that of the wrestler or club concerned.
- c. Any change of nationality will be subject to a prior request to FILA who will put together all the supporting documents related to this change of nationality in compliance with the Regulations for the Change of Nationality. The procedure for the change of nationality will be done in compliance with the International Regulations for the Change of Nationality.
- d. A wrestler who is the holder of dual nationality may only represent one country of his/her choice. A wrestler may only change his/her nationality once during his/her sports career according to the condition laid down under point (c) above.
- e. A wrestler can only change clubs during the transfer period - between 1st November of the year in question and the 1st January of the following year. In any given season, a wrestler cannot change club or wrestle for two clubs in the same period.
- f. The FILA Transfer Regulations are applicable to all wrestlers from all National Federations affiliated to FILA who apply to change clubs temporarily or permanently. A wrestler's transfer takes place with a contract signed by the Presidents of both the National Federations and the two clubs concerned, as well as the wrestler mentioned in the contract according to the provisions laid down in the FILA Transfer Regulations. Contracts are individual.
- g. FILA being the highest authority for all questions concerning World Championships and Cups, Continental Championships and all international competitions recognized by FILA it has total power. There is no right of appeal concerning its decisions. FILA may delegate its judicial power to the FILA Executive Committee reserving the right to exercise its power itself when it decides to.



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Article 44 – Binding conditions

All international competitions must be included in the annual calendar and approved by FILA. If, for some valid reason, an event is not included in the annual calendar, the organizer must request authorization from the FILA secretariat at least three months in advance stating the date and the place of the event.

The results and records of the international competitions and matches, signed by the officials in charge, must be forwarded to the FILA secretariat within seven days of the events and matches. If the organizers purposely fail to do this, the sanctions in the Disciplinary Regulations shall be applied.

The National Federations organizing international events must have settled all their financial obligations towards FILA, and must not be the subject of any disciplinary sanction or suspension. They must strictly apply the contract signed with FILA, as well as the general regulations for Championships and international competitions and all the obligations which follow at each Championship and international event.

In order to protect the wrestlers' health, more particularly on the occasion of Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships, World Cups, in every style and for all age groups, the organizers must obligatorily use FILA approved and new mats for competition, training and warming-up for each Championship mentioned above.

In the event of FILA signing contracts with suppliers or individuals, the organizer must use equipment from these contracted suppliers.

Article 45 – Patrimony

Any contracts signed by and on behalf of the FILA shall be its sole responsibility. No affiliated National Federation or individual member shall be held responsible for it.

Article 46 – Remuneration

The members of the FILA Bureau and National Federations may not receive any payment as members.

Article 47 – Participants' betting activities

A. Participants shall safeguard the integrity of the sport of wrestling by refraining from any attempt to influence the elements of a competition in a manner contrary to sporting ethics.

B. Are established as offences the following activities:

1. Direct or indirect betting in any forms, for participants (or their entourage) in any sport event, on events related to their own matches and/or wrestling competitions. These competitions comprise: national or international competitions, world or continental championships, Regional Games, Olympic Games and any competition organised under the aegis of FILA;
2. Failing, for reward, to perform to one's abilities;
3. Instructing, encouraging or facilitating any other party to bet;
4. Inducing, instructing or encouraging any participant to breach any of the established offences;



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5. Ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident, which the subject of a bet and for which he/she expects to receive or has received any reward;
6. Providing or receiving any gift, payment or other benefit in circumstances that might reasonably have been expected to bring the wrestler or the sport into disrepute;
7. Using any “inside information” for betting purposes, including disclosing “inside information” to any person (with or without reward) where the wrestler might reasonably be expected to know that his/her disclosure could be used in relation to betting;
8. Failing to disclose information to FILA’s competent body full details of any approaches, invitations to engage in conduct or incidents that would amount to a breach of FILA’s rules related to betting;
9. Failing to cooperate with any reasonable investigation carried out by FILA, including failure to provide any information and/or requested documentation;
10. To knowingly assist, cover up or otherwise be complicit in any acts previously described committed by a participant. The participant shall be treated as having committed such acts himself and shall be liable under FILA’s law or the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) accordingly.

Article 48 – Transitional provision

The principle described on article 17 c of the present Constitution (only one member per nationality) shall not be applied to members representing a same country at the moment of the Constitution approval by the Congress as long as they are re-elected by the Congress.

Article 49 – Internal regulations

By virtue of this Constitution and the operating principles of FILA, the FILA Bureau is authorized to establish all Internal Regulations and relevant documents.

Article 50 – Statutory Principle

For all questions or problems not mentioned in this Constitution, as well as any amendments which may be made to the latter due to circumstances arising, the FILA Bureau is empowered and authorized to take all necessary decisions which shall remain in force until the following meeting of the FILA Congress which shall be called upon to be informed of the contents of the decisions and to discuss them.

However, the decisions taken and all Regulations, of any kind, laid down by FILA, as well as the Regulations of the affiliated National Federations, may not be contrary to the provisions and spirit of this Constitution.



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Constitution approved by the Extraordinary Congress on 18th May 2013