



IIHF Statutes and Bylaws

20241 – 20284

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Definitions

The following terms shall have the meaning as indicated in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and [Codes/Regulations/Codes](#):

Agenda: The list of the subjects handled and the matters to be acted or voted upon during an Annual or a Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#). See Annex 1 for full Annual and Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#) Agenda.

Annual Congress Meeting: Shall have the meaning as described in Statute 14.3.

Associate MNA: Associate membership as defined in accordance with Statute 11.2.

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Category: Means any of the general age and gender classifications (WM, WM20, WM18, WW, WW18) in which the IIHF holds annual World Championships.

Championship Season: Means the hockey season in which the applicable IIHF Championship is held and ends immediately after the IIHF Ice Hockey Men's World Championship (Top Division).

Commercial Partner: As of 202418, Infront.

Controlling/controls solely ice hockey: An association controlling solely ice hockey, is an association that is not controlling other sports in addition to ice hockey.

Country: Geographical land mass.

[Covered Party shall have the meaning as defined in the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.](#)

Division: A group within a Category which competes for an IIHF World Championship.

[Eligible Player: A player who meets the requirements described in By-Law 4.1.](#)

Emergency Legislation: An amendment, alteration or repeal of an IIHF

[Codes/Regulation/Code](#) or Official Playing Rule which is determined by Council in cases of urgency and which requires Congress' ratification at the next Ordinary Congress or Extra Ordinary Congress.

Extra Ordinary Congress Meeting: As defined in Statute 14.4.

Full MNA: Full membership as defined in accordance with Statute 11.1.

Good Standing: Good Standing refers to any MNA who has fulfilled all requirements within its membership class, who has neither voluntarily withdrawn from membership nor has been expelled or suspended from membership, who is current on all financial obligations with the IIHF and/or other MNAs, and who fully complies with all IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code requirements and ~~IIHF Decisions of the IIHF~~, specifically including, but not limited to Statute 12.2 and minimum participation standards in the Senior Men's or Senior Women's Category.

[Governing Documents: IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Codes/Regulations, Policies and Official Playing Rules](#)

IIHF: International Ice Hockey Federation.

IIHF Activities: All operations organized, legislated, sanctioned or governed by the IIHF.

[IIHF Decision: Any official ruling, determination or resolution made by the IIHF Congress, Council, Office or Judicial Bodies](#)

IIHF Championships: Means the championships indicated in Bylaw 1.1(A).

IIHF Competitions: Means the competitions indicated in Bylaw 1.

IIHF Events: Shall include, but is not limited to, IIHF Competitions, IIHF Congress Meetings, IIHF meetings, IIHF forums, IIHF camps and other events as designated by the IIHF.

IIHF Office: Shall have the meaning as described in Statute 17.

International Community: The countries of the world and their political leaders, considered collectively.

IOC: International Olympic Committee.

League: Shall be defined as not less than four (4) teams competing in a League Competition (or as indicated in Bylaw 3.2.1(d)), which may be a private entity, and which is affiliated with its MNA.

League Competition: Shall be defined as a schedule of games between League member teams numbering not less than fifteen (15) games per team in a season [on a consistent basis over a three \(3\) month period](#).

Member: Means an MNA.

MNA: Member National Association.

MNA Expulsion: An expelled MNA is no longer a Member of the IIHF. All rights and duties pertaining to membership shall cease on the date of expulsion.

MNA Suspension: A suspended MNA is temporarily not a Member of the IIHF. All rights and duties pertaining to membership shall cease for the duration of the period of the suspension.

National Olympic Committee: A National Olympic Committee is the national component of the Worldwide Olympic Movement. Together with all other National Olympic Committees, it forms the Worldwide Olympic Movement. They reside under the supervision and the control of the International Olympic Committee.

Non-Member Organization: [a hockey team, league or other organization that is not a part of the International Ice Hockey Federation but is recognized by the IIHF under the IIHF Authorization Guidelines](#).

Ordinary Congress Meeting: IIHF Annual Congress and IIHF Semi-Annual Congress Meeting as defined in Statute 14.3.

Roberts Rule of Order: [A standard set of procedures for conducting meetings and making decisions in an organized and fair manner. For IIHF Congress Meetings, these rules apply unless otherwise specified in the Statutes or Bylaws](#).

Semi-Annual Congress Meeting: Shall have the meaning as described in Statute 14.3.

Sovereign State: Is a nonphysical jurisdictional entity that is represented by one centralized government that has sovereignty over a geographic area; e.g. the United Kingdom.

Top Division: The highest division in a Category.

WADA: World Anti-Doping Agency.

WADC: World Anti-Doping Code.

STATUTES

Chapter 1 GENERAL

Statute 1 Name and Authority

1.1. The International Ice Hockey Federation (“IIHF”), was founded in 1908 and, is an independent association, in accordance with Swiss Law, composed of member national ice hockey associations worldwide.

1.2. The IIHF is the governing body for ice hockey, recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

1.3. The IIHF does not permit discrimination against a private person or group of people on account of race; skin color; ethnic, national or social origin; gender, gender expression or gender identity; physical and mental disability; language; religion; political associations; birth or other status; sexual orientation or any other reason.

1.4. All Covered Parties MNAs and their Leagues, clubs, players and other persons under the MNA’s jurisdiction and/or under contract and/or license with the MNA, and other bodies or officials of the MNA must observe the IIHFGoverning Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code and IIHF dDecisions_ of the IIHF.

1.5. Unless indicated otherwise herein, the IIHF Office shall have authority to take all decisions on behalf of the IIHF.

1.6. The IIHF may always, at any time, overrule or expand any decision or omission of a decision related to or potentially affecting international ice hockey, by any MNA which is inconsistent with the principles of the IIHF Governing Documents Statutes and Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules, or IIHF dDecisions of the IIHF. The same principle shall apply to all Doping and Competition Manipulation, Ethics or Abuse and Harassment matters in accordance with Bylaw 23.

1.7. The IIHF processes personal data to fulfill its Mission and Role as indicated in Statute 4, and in particular in operating IIHF Competitions Championships. The IIHF processes all personal data in accordance with its Privacy Policy and/or any further terms and conditions created for a particular IIHF Event.

Statute 2 Headquarters and Place of Jurisdiction

2.1. IIHF headquarters are located in Zurich, Switzerland and may only be changed following a vote of the IIHF Congress.

2.2. The IIHF is subject to the Laws of the Switzerland and is registered in the Commercial Register in accordance with Swiss Civil Code art. 60 ff.

Statute 3 Non-profit Organization

The IIHF is a non-profit association organization organized under Swiss Law. It functions as a trustee in financial matters for its MNAs and does not seek pecuniary rewards from its operations.

Statute 4 Mission and Role

The IIHF's mission is to promote ice hockey throughout the world and to lead the ice hockey movement as recognized by the International Olympic Committee. The IIHF's roles, include but are not limited to:

- a) Govern, develop and promote ~~men and women's~~ ice hockey, in all forms as approved by Congress and at all ages, including the development of coaches and officials, worldwide;
- b) Control international ice hockey;
- c) Adopt, formulate, issue, interpret, implement and amend Statutes, ~~b~~Bylaws Codes/~~r~~Regulations/~~codes~~ and guidelines as are necessary for the governing, development, control and promotion of ice hockey, specifically including but not limited to eligibility for IIHF Competitions, the orderly movement of players internationally and the establishment of International Playing Rules;
- d) Formulate or adopt and implement appropriate policies and programs in relation to equality and equity, abuse and harassment, discrimination, sexual harassment, equal opportunity, equality, drugs and doping, ethics and good governance, competition manipulation, integrity, health and, safety, ~~ethical governance and environmental sustainability,~~ and such other matters that arise from time to time as issues that are in the best interest of ice hockey;
- e) Legislate for and govern IIHF Activities in compliance with good governance principles;
- f) Establish and maintain the IIHF judicial system, providing processes for the appeal of decisions and the settlement of disputes;
- g) Allocate and organize all IIHF Events and competitions and, where appropriate, approve international ice hockey games where this is in the interests of furthering its mission and role;
- h) Arrange sponsorship, media coverage, licensing rights, advertising and merchandising in connection with IIHF Competitions; and
- i) Co-operate with, join with, and/or support any association, organization, foundation, society or individual where the activities or purpose are similar to those of IIHF or which advance ice hockey throughout or in specific parts of the world.

Statute 5 Statutes, Bylaws and Codes/Regulations/Codes

5.1. The IIHF shall establish Governing Documents~~Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and, Official Playing Rules~~ to govern the game of ice hockey and the relations between the MNAs, and shall also establish the rights of the IIHF towards the MNAs and to other national and international federations and organizations.

5.2. The ~~IIHF~~ Governing Documents~~Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes~~ apply to all IIHF Covered Parties, bodies and committees, ~~to all MNAs, including their constituent bodies, clubs, teams, players, officials, members and any person or body whatsoever and howsoever associated,~~ unless indicated otherwise in the respective Governing Document Statute, Bylaw or Regulations/Codes.

5.3. Statutes shall take precedence over Bylaws, Bylaws shall take precedence over Codes/Regulations/Codes, and Codes/Regulations/Codes shall take precedence over Guidelines. IIHF Policies are rules governing the internal organization of the IIHF and must be consistent with the Governing Documents.

5.4. Any waiver by the IIHF of any MNA's, or other Covered Party's, obligation within the IIHF Governing Documents~~Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes~~ does not operate as, and should not be construed as, a waiver of any other provision within the Governing

~~Documents Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes~~. Failure of the IIHF to enforce any rights granted within the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes~~ or to take action against an ~~MNA, or other Covered Party~~, in the event that the ~~MNA, or other Covered Party~~, does not meet all requirements contained therein, shall not be deemed as a waiver by the IIHF of future enforcement rights.

Statute 6 Languages and Communication

6.1. English is the official IIHF Language.

6.2. ~~At all Congresses, the IIHF shall provide simultaneous translation from German to English and Russian to English and vice-versa.~~ Any delegate(s) who has difficulties in expressing ~~their his~~-views in English, ~~German or Russian~~ has the right to do so in ~~his~~their own language, provided ~~they he has~~have an interpreter.

6.3. All correspondence with the IIHF must be in English. All IIHF documentation will only be published in English. All official IIHF communication to and from the IIHF Office shall be delivered either via mail or email.

6.4. For deadline purposes mentioned in the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code~~ and ~~IIHF d~~Decisions of the IIHF, unless indicated otherwise in the relevant ~~Governing Document Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code~~ or ~~IIHF d~~Decision of the IIHF, for mail, the post-mark date shall control, and for email, the system-mark date shall control.

Statute 7 Dissolution

7.1. IIHF dissolution shall only be effected at an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting called especially for the purpose of dissolution.

7.2. Dissolution shall only be effected by a qualified majority (75% or more) of all MNA votes cast.

7.3. Council will fulfil the duties required to effect the dissolution, liquidation and distribution of IIHF assets.

7.4. The IIHF Congress shall determine the use of any potential excess of assets occurring from dissolution. Such resources must be used for the benefit of ice hockey, amateur sports, youth organizations or other similar activities or held in an earmarked account until a new international ice hockey federation with the same or similar objectives as the IIHF, and that is also tax exempt, is founded and/or established, at which time all excess assets shall be transferred to the newly created international ice hockey federation.

7.5. To the extent not addressed herein, any matters related to the dissolution of the IIHF shall be governed by Swiss Law.

Statute 8 Honors and Awards

8.1. Order of Merit

Upon the Council's approval, the IIHF may award the Order of Merit in gold or silver to persons who are outside the IIHF membership for extraordinary support and/or contribution to international ice hockey.

8.2. *Life Presidents, Life Members and Honorary Members*

8.2.1. Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, former Council members who have rendered exceptional service to the IIHF for at least two (2) terms may be awarded Life Member status. A Life Member shall have the rights as designated in the IIHF Expense Guidelines for Life Members.

8.2.2. Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, a former President who has rendered exceptional service to the IIHF may be awarded Life President status. A Life President shall have the rights as designated in the IIHF Expense Guidelines for Life Presidents.

8.2.3. Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, persons who have rendered exceptional service to the IIHF may be awarded Honorary Member status. An Honorary Member shall have the rights as designated in the IIHF Expense Guidelines for Honorary Members.

8.2.3-8.2.4. Upon the recommendation of Council that it is not appropriate for the person to continue to be so honored, the IIHF Congress shall have the right to remove the Life Member, Life President or Honorary Member status from any person who has been granted such status in accordance with Statute 14.8.2(c).

Chapter 2 IIHF MEMBERSHIP

Statute 9 Members of the IIHF

9.1. Subject to the conditions indicated herein, only ice hockey associations may be IIHF members.

9.2. The IIHF shall only admit one ice hockey association for membership per Sovereign State.

9.3. The IIHF has the authority to assume the responsibility for the governance of other forms of hockey on ice and related activities, with the approval of Congress and issue governing regulations.

Statute 10 Admission to IIHF Membership

10.1. An applicant national association seeking membership with the IIHF must

- (a) be the governing-controlling body of ice hockey in a Sovereign State; and must
- (b) be recognized by and in good standing as the governing body of ice hockey by the national sports confederation and/or National Olympic Committee of that Sovereign State and/or other applicable authority deemed acceptable in the IIHF's sole opinion;
- (c) meet all applicable membership requirements in the IIHF Membership Guidelines;
- (d) if requested by the IIHF in its sole discretion, establish through relevant evidence/documentation that the applicant has the ability to meet all IIHF membership obligations as indicated in Statute 12.2; and
- (e) establish to the IIHF's comfortable satisfaction that it is taking appropriate steps to develop ice hockey within the Sovereign State including without limitation development of ice rinks, structure of the organization, and growing and developing ice hockey.

10.2. Congress shall approve the membership of a new ice hockey association as an Associate MNA after Council has determined that the applicant national association meets all standards as indicated in Statute 10.1 ~~controls and governs both men's and women's ice hockey in its Sovereign State, meets the applicable membership requirements, and is in Good Standing with the relevant government authorities within that Sovereign State.~~ In exceptional circumstances, Council may grant probationary membership to an applicant national association for a pre-defined period (Congress must approve such probational membership at the next Semi-Annual Congress Meeting).

10.3. Strict compliance with the IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and IIHF dD ~~Decisions of the IIHF~~, both in letter and spirit, is a requirement in becoming an IIHF Member.

10.4. Application procedures are set out in the IIHF Membership Guidelines.

10.5. Once admitted as an MNA, the applicant must pay a CHF 3,000 affiliation fee.

Statute 11 Membership Classes

Membership of the IIHF shall be accorded as follows:

11.1. Full Membership

11.1.1. Full membership may be accorded to an Associate MNA ice hockey association that controls solely ice hockey, operates independently of any other organization, meets minimum participation standards as specified in Bylaw 3.1.1 and/or Bylaw 3.2.1 and has taken part in an IIHF Championship in the Senior Men or Women Category.

11.1.2. Where an Associate MNA's has been granted associate membership status in accordance with Statute 11.2.1, but the laws and/or political environment of its independent Sovereign sState preclude it from becoming an independent organization controlling solely ice hockey, the IIHF may grant full membership status, using such criteria as it deems appropriate, including, without limitation, the requirements that the MNA meets minimum participation standards as specified in Bylaw 3.1.1 and Bylaw 3.2.1 and has taken part in an IIHF Championship in the Senior Men or Women Category.

11.2. Associate Membership

11.2.1. Associate membership may be accorded to ~~either (a) an ice hockey association which meets all requirements in Statute 10.1, including any association does not operate independently of any other organization provided it meets the requirements of Statute 11.2.2. that does not operate independently of any other organization or that does not control solely ice hockey, or (b) an independent ice hockey association controlling solely ice hockey but whose operations do not fulfil the minimum participation standards specified in Bylaw 3.1.1 and/or Bylaw 3.2.1.~~

11.2.2. Where the national organization controls other sports in addition to ice hockey, then to have Associate membership status there must be a

special committee within the national organization that: (a) solely controls ice hockey and (b) is granted the right by the national organization to deal directly with the IIHF on all matters pertaining to ice hockey, including having a separate and exclusive bank account for financial dealings with the IIHF. The IIHF shall deal exclusively with that committee. Such special committee shall assume the same obligations to the IIHF as an independent MNA.

Statute 12 Membership Rights and Obligations

12.1. Membership Rights

- 12.1.1. Full ~~MNA~~~~members~~ have the right to:
- a) Take part and vote (one (1) vote) at IIHF Congress Meeting in accordance with Statute 14;
 - b) Call an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting in accordance with Statute 14.4;
 - c) Participate in all IIHF Activities;
 - d) Submit applications to Host IIHF Competitions in accordance with Bylaw 5;
 - ~~d)e)~~ Submit proposals for inclusion on the Congress Meeting Agenda ~~five (5) six (6)~~ weeks prior to the respective Congress;
 - ~~e)f)~~ Nominate candidates for (i) Council, ~~(ii) Auditors~~ (iii) Disciplinary/~~Appeal~~ Board and (iv) Ethics Board by 30 June of the respective Semi-Annual Congress Meeting;
 - ~~f)g)~~ Nominate candidates for IIHF committees;
 - ~~g)h)~~ Take part in IIHF Events in accordance with the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and ~~IIHF d~~Decisions of the IIHF;
 - ~~h)i)~~ Take part in and benefit from IIHF assistance, development and educational programs;
 - ~~i)j)~~ Have its teams exclusively recognized by the IIHF as their Country's "national team", "national junior" team, and "national selection" team and/or any like description for their respective Country with respect to ice hockey; and
 - ~~j)k)~~ Exercise all other rights arising from the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code~~ and ~~IIHF d~~Decisions of the IIHF in accordance with Full Membership.

12.1.2. Full ~~MNA~~~~member~~ Additional Voting Rights

- 12.1.2.1. A Full ~~MNA~~~~member~~ whose national team has competed in three (3) consecutive IIHF Championships (either three (3) Senior Men or three (3) Senior Women) including a Championship taking place concurrently with the Annual Congress Meeting, and during which time fulfilled minimum participation standards as defined in Bylaw 3.1.1 and/or 3.2.1, is entitled to one (1) additional vote at Congress Meeting.

- 12.1.2.2. A Full Member whose national team is competing in the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (top division) and/or the next IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship (top division) is entitled to

one (1) additional vote (three (3) in total) when allocating the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in accordance with Bylaw 6.1.

- 12.1.3. Associate ~~Members~~ MNAs have the right to:
- a) Take part at IIHF Congresses Meetings in accordance with Statute 14, but not vote;
 - b) Participate in ~~all~~ relevant IIHF Activities;
 - c) Submit proposals for inclusion in the Congress Meeting Agenda ~~fivesix (6)~~ (5) weeks prior to the respective Congress Meeting;
 - d) Nominate candidates for IIHF committees;
 - e) Take part in IIHF Events in accordance with ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and IIHF ~~d~~Decisions of the IIHF;
 - f) Take part in and benefit from IIHF assistance, development and educational programs;
 - g) Have its teams exclusively recognized by the IIHF as their Country's "national team", "national junior" team, and "national selection" team and/or any like description for their respective Country with respect to ice hockey; and
 - h) Exercise all other rights arising from the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and decisions in accordance with Associate ~~M~~membership.

12.2. Membership Obligations

- 12.2.1. An MNA has the following obligations:
- a) Be the only entity recognized as the governing body of ice hockey by the national sports confederation and/or National Olympic Committee of that Sovereign State and/or other applicable authority deemed acceptable in the IIHF's sole opinion as indicated in Statute 10.1;
 - ~~a)b)~~ Comply fully with the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and IIHF ~~d~~Decisions of the IIHF;
 - ~~b)c)~~ To submit all disputes to IIHF jurisdiction as specified in the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes~~;
 - ~~e)d)~~ Accept the WADC and ensure that its internal policies, rules and programs comply therewith including, but not limited, to ensuring its members comply with the Code;
 - ~~d)e)~~ Adopt competition manipulation, ethics and abuse and harassment rules or regulations similar to the IIHF's ~~competition manipulation~~ rules found in the IIHF Integrity Code ~~Competition Manipulation Regulations~~ and/or promulgated by the MNA's state regulatory authority;
 - ~~e)f)~~ Pay a CHF 1,000 membership subscription due August 31 of each respective year;
 - ~~f)g)~~ Use best efforts to ensure that their own members comply with the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and IIHF ~~d~~Decisions of the IIHF;
 - ~~g)h)~~ Use best efforts to ensure that all clubs, teams, players, team officials and game officials under an MNA's jurisdiction only participate in international games against teams under the jurisdiction of other MNAs;
 - ~~h)i)~~ Ratify statutes and/or bylaws and regulations, rules or codes for the operations and organization of ice hockey that are in accordance with the IIHF's requirements for Full Membership indicated in Statutes 12.2.2;

- h)j) Remain in Good Standing (an MNA must be in Good Standing to exercise any membership rights);
- h)k) Maintain full control and governance of ice hockey under its jurisdiction in its Country, including without limitation, control over its national competitions, and ensure that its constituent bodies, Leagues, clubs, players, members, officials and any person or body whatsoever or howsoever associated are under the final and binding authority of the IIHF;
- h)l) At the IIHF's request, provide any requested document/record to the IIHF to allow the IIHF to ensure MNA compliance with the [IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes](#), Good Governance Principles and [IIHF eDecisions of the IIHF](#);
- h)m) At IIHF's request, provide all necessary financial documents/records, including but not limited to, bank accounts, invoices, account receivable, audited financial statements, etc., to allow the IIHF to conduct a review of the MNAs accounts (excluding League or club accounts where applicable). At the IIHF's request, the MNA shall also provide such documents to the IIHF to allow an independent audit by an independent auditor of the MNAs accounts in accordance with internationally recognized accounting standards (if irregularities are discovered during the audit, the IIHF may assess the costs of the Audit to the MNA);
- h)n) Comply with requests of the IIHF and its applicable panels, boards and committees;
- h)o) Recognize that the right to use the name "international" team, "IIHF" team or "continental" team (European team) or "International All Star" team or any like descriptions is the exclusive property of the IIHF and ensure that neither the MNA nor any team within the MNA plays with a team under these names, unless with IIHF prior written approval;
- h)p) Only use the names of geographical areas exceeding the territory of the respective MNA (such as World Cup, European Cup, World Tournament, and/or Continental Tournament, etc.) with IIHF prior written approval; and
- h)q) Recognize other MNAs as being solely empowered to control ice hockey in their respective countries.

- 12.2.2. An MNA's statutes and/or bylaws (and/or constitution) and regulations, rules or codes must comply with principles of good governance, and shall, at a minimum:
- a) Not stand in contradiction to the [IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws or Regulations/Codes](#);
 - b) Contain disciplinary and dispute resolution mechanisms;
 - c) Ensure that its members and all relevant stakeholders agree to and recognize the jurisdiction and authority of the IIHF;
 - d) Ensure that its members and all relevant stakeholders agree to and recognize the jurisdiction and authority of the CAS and give priority to arbitration as a means of dispute resolution;
 - e) Avoid conflict of interest in decision making; and
 - f) Contain the following clause confirming that it and its members accept the final and binding authority of the IIHF in relation to all international matters and ensure that it and its members comply with necessary membership obligations:

“All Leagues, clubs, teams and persons under the jurisdiction of or under contract and/or license with the [insert title of the National Association], where such contracted and/or licensed body or person shall include any person or persons, organizations or Leagues authorized to organize ice hockey games, are as regards all international matters subject to the Statutes, Bylaws, [Codes/Regulations/Codes](#), Official Playing Rules and related decisions of the IIHF and undertake not to involve any third party whatsoever in the resolution of any dispute arising therefrom excepting where having exhausted the appeal procedures within the IIHF, in which case, such dispute may be submitted only to the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland. The Anti-Doping and Integrity Bylaws and Regulations of the IIHF, specifically including but not limited to adherence to the World Anti-Doping Code, ~~and~~ [the IIHF Competition Manipulation Regulations, Rules, IIHF Ethics Regulations, and IIHF Abuse and Harassment Regulations](#) shall apply to the [insert title of the Member National Association].”

Statute 13 Membership Class Changes and Cancellations

13.1. Change of Membership Class

An Associate ~~MNA~~ [Member](#) shall be accorded Full Membership status as soon as it fulfills the specified criteria for Full Membership and receives Congress approval.

13.2. MNA Suspension

- 13.2.1. The Council may suspend, with immediate effect, an MNA that materially violates its obligations contained in Statute 12.2.
- 13.2.2. The IIHF will inform the MNA and/or relevant bodies or persons about Council's suspension.
- 13.2.3. A suspended MNA will not be allowed to exercise its membership rights indicated in Statute 12.1.
- 13.2.4. Council's decisions to suspend an MNA may be appealed in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.

13.3. MNA Expulsion

- 13.3.1. The Congress may expel an MNA only at Council's request if it:
 - a) Ceases to be an association of a Sovereign State;
 - b) Repeatedly fails to fulfill its financial obligations to the IIHF or other MNAs;
 - c) Loses its status as an association which fully controls and governs both men's and women's ice hockey in its Country, or is not in Good Standing with the relevant government authorities within that Country;
 - d) Continues to materially violate its obligations contained in Statute 12.2 after a Council suspension;
 - e) Brings ice hockey into disrepute; or
 - f) Fails to participate in any IIHF Activities for four consecutive years.

- 13.3.2. The IIHF Office will inform the MNA and/or relevant bodies or persons about Congress's expulsion.

13.4. MNA Resignation

An MNA may resign from the IIHF with effect upon the end of the IIHF's fiscal year. Notice of the resignation must be sent by registered letter and reach the IIHF no later than three (3) months before the end of IIHF's fiscal year.

13.5. Termination of Membership Rights and Duties

All rights and duties pertaining to membership shall cease with resignation or expulsion – excepting the payment of outstanding debts to the IIHF and MNAs. A Full or Associate Member that has been expelled or has resigned is not entitled to IIHF assets.

Chapter 3 IIHF BODIES

The Bodies of the IIHF shall be divided into the Legislative Body (Congress), Executive Bodies, Judicial Bodies and Committees.

Statute 14 Congress (Legislative Body)

14.1. Congress

The Congress shall be the supreme, legislative body of the IIHF. ~~A~~The Congress shall exercise its powers at ~~may be~~ an Ordinary Congress Meeting or an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting. Congress Meetings shall consist of ~~IIHF MNAs~~: The following persons may attend the Congress Meeting:

- a) A maximum of two (2) delegates per MNA who have the authority to bind their MNA on all matters relating to IIHF business.
- b) The President; and
- c) The Council Members.

IIHF Staff, IIHF approved guests and IIHF approved MNA guests can attend the Congress Meeting in an unofficial capacity.

~~MNAs must register Congress delegates, including providing the Final MNA-delegates names and positions must, via an online system and in accordance with the IIHF registration procedures and deadlines, be submitted to the IIHF in writing prior to the opening of Congress. Delegates can only be substituted thereafter with the approval of the President upon a written confirmation from the respective MNA that the substitute has binding authority for that MNA.~~

14.2. Congress Powers

The Congress has the powers assigned to it in the Statutes and Bylaws, including but not limited to:

- a) Approving the Agenda including the addition of items at the start of the Congress Meeting if necessary;
- b) Approving the minutes from the last Congress Meeting;
- c) Reporting on IIHF Activities;
- d) Adopting and modifying the Statutes and Bylaws (~~2024~~, 2028, 2032, 2036 Semi-Annual Congress Meeting)
- e) Adopting and modifying the Codes/Regulations/Codes (alternating Semi-Annual Congress ~~2023~~, 2025, 2027, 2029 etc.), except for Financial Regulations and the Event Code for the Continental Cup ~~Regulations~~ which only require Council approval;

- f) ~~Annually~~ Subject to Statute 15.4.1, approve Council stipend amounts for the four-year Council term (~~Semi-Annual Congress~~ Meeting ahead of Election Congress Meeting);
- g) Adopting and modifying the Official Playing Rules;
- h) Electing the IIHF Council in accordance with Statute 15.3 (2026, 2030, 2034 Semi-Annual Congress Meeting); ~~Electing Internal Auditors (2026, 2030, 2034 Semi-Annual Congress)~~;
- i) Electing members to the Disciplinary Board ~~and Appeal Board~~ (2026, 2030, 2034 Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- j) Electing members to the Ethics Board (2026, 2030, 2034 Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- k) Ratifying urgent Council decisions;
- l) Examining and approving reports, ~~and relevant contracts~~, including but not limited to ~~the budget for the upcoming year (Annual Congress)~~, yearly accounts and auditors report and examining and approving key terms of significant contracts as decided by the Council (Semi-Annual Congress Meeting); ~~Council appointment of Directorate Chairmen~~;
- m) Approving external auditors (Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- n) Allocating of IIHF Championships;
- o) ~~IIHF Championship (chairman reports (Annual Congress), approval of game schedules and confirmation of nominated referees and linesmen) (Semi-Annual Congress)~~;
- p) Admitting and expelling MNAs and change of MNA membership class (Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- q) Providing honors and awards (Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- r) Discharging the President and Council responsibilities (Semi-Annual Congress Meeting);
- s) Dissolution of the IIHF (Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting);
- t) Deciding on P participation in all Olympic Games and qualifications thereto;
- and
- ~~t~~u) All other items identified by the IIHF Council.

14.3. Ordinary Congress Meetings

- 14.3.1. The IIHF shall have two (2) Ordinary Congress Meetings per year; an Annual Congress Meeting held during the IIHF World Championship and a Semi-Annual Congress Meeting held between 1 September and 15 October. The IIHF shall provide notice to the MNAs in writing no later than ~~eight (8)~~ six (6) weeks prior to an Ordinary Congress Meeting, with all relevant documents, including the Agenda, being provided and/or made available to MNAs ~~four (4)~~ three (3) weeks prior to the Ordinary Congress Meetings. The Ordinary Congress Meetings shall be organized in cooperation with the hosting MNA, ~~and as specified in the IIHF Congress Guidelines~~.
- 14.3.2. An Ordinary Congress Meeting may be held in person, electronically by any means of communication through which the members may simultaneously hear each other during the conference or a combination of in-person and electronically (“Hybrid”). The Council shall decide if the Ordinary Congress Meeting is held in an in-person, electronic or Hybrid format. All ballots during an electronic or a Hybrid Ordinary Congress Meeting shall be by a Council approved electronic means.

14.4. Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting

- 14.4.1. An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting shall be called upon written request of Council or at least one fifth of the Full MNAs. An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting can be called for any reason indicated in Statute 14.2, including items designated for a specific Congress Meeting. The written request shall specify the purpose of the Meeting, items on the Agenda and any proposals. An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting shall occur within twelve (12) weeks following the request for such Meeting. The IIHF shall provide notice and purpose of the Meeting to the MNAs in writing no later than two (2) weeks prior to the Meeting. Matters discussed and decided at an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting are limited to the Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting purpose indicated in the written request.
- 14.4.2. An Extra-Ordinary Congress [Meeting](#) may be held in person, electronically by any means of communication through which the members may simultaneously hear each other during the conference or a combination of in-person and electronically (“Hybrid”). The Council shall decide if the Extra-Ordinary Congress [Meeting](#) is held in an in-person or electronic, or Hybrid format. All ballots during an electronic or Hybrid Extra-Ordinary Congress [Meeting](#) shall be by a Council approved electronic means.

14.5. *Congress Decisions*

All Congress decisions shall become valid immediately after the conclusion of the respective Congress [Meeting](#), except for (a) decisions taken at Annual Congress [Meeting](#) which will take effect after the conclusion of the Championship running concurrent to the Annual Congress [Meeting](#); (b) modification of the Official Playing Rules which shall become valid [either after the conclusion of the Championship running concurrent to the Annual Congress Meeting or](#) immediately following the respective Congress [Meeting](#) of which the modification was approved, unless Council decides otherwise; (c) modifications of the [Codes/Regulations/Codes](#) shall become valid 1 June the following year, unless Council decides otherwise. [Congress Decisions of Congress](#) are final and not subject to appeal, except to the extent that a decision is appealable to the CAS.

14.6. *Congress Proposals*

- 14.6.1. The IIHF must receive all general proposals, including proposals for the modification of [Codes/Regulations/Codes](#), at least ~~fivesix~~ [\(65\)](#) weeks prior to the respective Congress [Meeting](#).
- 14.6.2. The IIHF must receive all proposals for the modification of the Statutes and/or Bylaws ~~and Official Playing Rules~~ not later than 1 July~~ne~~ in the respective Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#) year indicated in Statute 14.2.
- 14.6.3. All proposals should include the precise wording of the proposed amendment to the ~~Governing Documents Statute, Bylaw, Regulation/Code or Official Playing Rule~~, together with the reasons for the proposal. [If the proposal does not contain the precise wording of the proposed amendment, the IIHF shall draft the wording, in conjunction with the submitting MNA, prior to submitting the proposal to Congress.](#)
- 14.6.4. The timelines indicated in Statute 14.6.1 and 14.6.2 do not apply to Extra-Ordinary Congress Meetings.

14.7. *Congress Meeting Minutes*

The IIHF shall take minutes of each Congress Meeting. The Minutes shall include all Congress decisions including, when necessary, the total number of votes cast and number of votes for and against a specific proposal. The IIHF will provide the Congress Meeting minutes to all MNAs and the Council as soon as reasonably possible, but not later than six (6) weeks following the respective Congress Meeting. Objections to the minutes must be provided to the IIHF within one (1) month after their distribution to MNAs and the Council. Congress will adopt the respective minutes at the following Congress Meeting.

14.8. Congress Quorum and Voting Procedures

- 14.8.1. Congress may only vote if a quorum representing a simple majority of the voting entitlement is present at the beginning of the Congress Meeting. Electronic, paper ballots or voting cards may be used. No proxies are allowed. MNAs are not obliged to vote unless indicated otherwise in these Statutes or Bylaws. Abstentions and invalid ballots will not count as a cast vote. Open ballot shall be used for all votes unless a secret ballot is requested by any Full MNA or Council. Roll call votes shall not occur. The IIHF shall honor any request for an MNAs vote to be recorded in the minutes. The Council may request an electronic voting system. If the required majority indicated herein is not reached the motion is defeated.
- 14.8.2. A super majority (75%) of votes cast is required for:
- a) MNA Expulsion from the IIHF;
 - b) Removal from the IIHF of any or all members of the Council, Auditors, and/or Ethics Board and Disciplinary/Appeal Board before the end of their term;
 - b)c) Removal of a Life President, Life Member or Honorary Member status; and
 - e)d) Dissolution of the IIHF.
- 14.8.3. A qualified majority (2/3rds) of votes cast is required for:
- a) Adoption or modification of a Statute; and
 - b) Appointment of Life President, Life Members and/or Honorary Member.
- 14.8.4. A simple majority (greater than 50%) of the votes cast is required for:
- a) Subject to Statute 15.3.4, elections of the Council Members, Auditors and, Ethics Board and Disciplinary/Appeal Board Member(s);
 - b) Allocation of IIHF Championships;
 - c) Adoption or modifications of the Bylaws and Codes/Regulations/Codes;
 - d) Adoption or modification of the Official Playing Rules; and
 - e) All other Congress decisions not herein specified.
- For the elections of the Council Members, Auditors, Disciplinary/Appeal Board Member(s), and Ethics Board Members a simple majority shall mean greater than 50% of the ballots cast.
- 14.8.5. With respect to IIHF Championship allocation, if after the first ballot none of the bids achieves the required majority, the bid with the least number of votes cast will be withdrawn and another ballot will be cast. This procedure will be repeated until a bid gets the required majority of votes. In the event of a tied vote, the IIHF President, or in his the President's

absence ~~the President's~~ his designated Vice-President, may call for a new ballot to be cast before casting the deciding vote.

14.9 Congress procedures shall follow Roberts Rules of Order except as specified herein.

Statute 15 Council (Executive Body)

15.1. *Council Composition*

15.1.1 The Council shall consist of ~~fourteen~~fifteen (15) voting members of which at the time of the 2026 election, at least three (3) must be female and at least three (3) must be male
~~, at least two (2) must be female and at least two (2) must be male~~, incorporating:

- (i) One (1) President
- (ii) One (1) Senior Vice-President
- (iii) Three (3) Regional Vice-Presidents; and
- (iv) ~~Nine (9)~~Ten (10) other members.

The IIHF General Secretary is a non-voting member of the Council.

A Working Group must be composed to create a plan to ensure an increase of female representation on the Council by 2030 to align with the Olympic Charter.

15.1.2 The Senior Vice-Presidents ~~are~~is not bound to represent any specific geographical region.

15.1.3 ~~One (1) Three (3)~~ Regional Vice-Presidents shall ~~each be drawn from~~represent the MNAs in ~~each one~~ of the following geographical regions: (i) Asia and Oceania, (ii) Europe and Africa and (iii) the Americas. The Council shall designate each MNA as belonging to one of those geographical regions. The nominated Vice-President for a respective region must be a citizen of an MNA within the respective region and must be nominated by that MNA.

15.1.4 The President may invite external specialists and/or representatives to attend Council meetings subject to the approval of the Council; such persons do not have the right to vote.

15.2. *Council Nominations*

- 15.2.1. All Council members must meet and maintain the following eligibility requirements:
- a) Cannot be a paid employee of an IIHF Commercial partner or a competitor of an IIHF Commercial partner;
 - b) Must declare any equity ownership interest in an IIHF Commercial partner and/or an IIHF Commercial partner's competitor;
 - c) Must have had their 25th or later birthday and their 73rd or earlier birthday in the appointment year;
 - d) Must not have been ~~committed~~convicted of a crime, or committed another action, that violates the IIHF Integrity CodeBook;
 - e) Must have a minimum of five (5) years ice hockey experience (business and/or operations).

All Council candidates shall be vetted by [the IIHF Ethics Board after a background check has been conducted](#)~~external auditors~~ to ensure the requirements are met.

- 15.2.2. The Council Members are elected for a four (4) year term, except for the Council elected in 2021 which shall be elected for a five (5) year term (2021 – 2026). A Member cannot serve in any one Council position longer than three (3) terms (three (3) terms as President, three (3) terms as a Vice-President and three (3) terms as a Member) [and can serve a maximum of six \(6\) total terms](#), starting at the 2021 elections.

Any person serving two and a half or more years in a Council position shall be deemed to have served a Council term.

- 15.2.3. A candidate must be a citizen in the nominating MNA's Country.
- 15.2.4. MNAs may nominate a total of one (1) candidate per position (President, Senior Vice-President, Regional Vice-Presidents and Council Member); however, if one of these respective candidates has been elected, the other candidate is automatically withdrawn.
- 15.2.5. MNAs must submit Council nominations to the IIHF Office in writing (including required information about the candidate) by 1 June prior to the elections. The incumbent President shall automatically stand for reelection unless he withdraws or is not eligible.
- 15.2.6. All candidates must comply with the prerequisites and the conduct guidelines as specified in the pre-election procedures.

15.3. *Council Elections*

- 15.3.1. The Council elections shall take place at the designated Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#) in accordance with the Agenda and the voting rights specified in Statute 12.1. Council elections shall occur in the following order: (a) President, (b) Senior Vice-Presidents, (c) Regional Vice-Presidents, and (d) Council Members. ~~From the nominated candidates (male and female) at least two (2) must be male and at least two (2) must be female.~~
- 15.3.2. President, Senior Vice-Presidents and Regional Vice-Presidents ((a) Asia/Oceania, (b) Europe and Africa and (c) the Americas) elections shall occur in turn. A candidate receiving a simple majority of votes cast on the first ballot or any subsequent ballot shall be elected. When a second or subsequent ballot is necessary, the candidate(s) with the lowest number of votes shall be removed from the ballot with voting continuing until one candidate receives a simple majority. However, if only three (3) candidates remain, and no candidate receives a majority and there is a tie for the fewest number of votes, a vote shall be cast to break the tie to determine which candidate shall be removed from the final ballot.
- 15.3.3. After the President, Senior Vice Presidents and Regional Vice Presidents' elections, if the required number of female candidates have not been elected, then the next ballot will elect only female candidates to meet the required minimum ~~of two (2)~~ female Council ~~m~~Member

[requirement as indicated in Statute 15.1.2 s.](#) Following the election of the required number of female candidates, general elections shall occur to fill the remaining Council positions. Any female candidate not elected in the preceding rounds of voting may participate in the general Council elections.

15.3.4. Council elections shall be conducted using the following procedure:

15.3.4.1. MNAs shall cast ballots to fill the vacant Council positions. Each ballot may contain a vote for any number of candidates up to the number of available positions. Any ballot containing votes for a number of candidates in excess of the number of available positions is not valid.

15.3.4.2. Except in the circumstances described in Statute 15.3.4.3 to 15.3.4.7, in order to be declared elected to Council, a candidate must receive a vote on a simple majority of the ballots cast. If more candidates achieve the required majority vote than there are available positions, the available positions shall be filled by the candidate(s) in their order of ranking in that voting round, until all available positions have been filled.

~~15.3.4.3. If in any round of voting, no candidate receives a vote on the simple majority of the ballots cast, the candidate (or candidates if there is a tie for the highest number of votes) that received the greatest number of votes in that round will be declared elected and, another round of voting, if necessary, will occur to fill the remaining available positions.~~

~~15.3.4.4.~~ 15.3.4.3. If an insufficient number of candidates meet the requirements to fill all of the available positions in any round of voting, the candidate (or candidates if there is a tie for the fewest number of votes) that received the fewest number of votes shall be removed from the ballot, and another round of voting shall occur to fill the remaining available positions.

~~15.3.4.5.~~ 15.3.4.4. If at any time the number of remaining candidates is equal to the number of remaining available positions, all of those candidates shall be declared elected by acclamation, without the need for an additional round of voting.

~~15.3.4.6.~~ 15.3.4.5. If there is a tie vote for the final available position(s), a runoff vote between the tied candidates shall occur to fill the final position(s), with the candidate(s) receiving the most votes in that runoff being declared elected.

~~15.3.4.7.~~ 15.3.4.6. If two or more candidates tie for the fewest number of votes in any round of voting, and the removal of all of those candidates from the next round of voting would cause there to be fewer remaining candidates than there are available positions to be filled, all of the other remaining candidates shall be declared elected by acclamation, and the candidates who received the fewest number of votes shall participate in a runoff vote to fill the remaining available position(s), with the candidate(s) receiving the most votes in that runoff being declared elected.

- 15.3.5. Should a vacancy occur in the Council, then except for the President position, the Council shall decide whether the particular vacancy should be filled before the next Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#) where elections are ordinarily held and shall determine the Congress [Meeting](#) in which such election shall occur.
- 15.3.6. Council Members, including the President, shall take office either the day following the respective Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#), or [in](#) the case of election occurring at an Annual Congress [Meeting](#) in accordance with Statute 15.3.5 [following the](#), respective World Championship.

15.4. *Council Duties and Responsibilities*

15.4.1. President

The President has the following authority, duties, rights and responsibilities:

- a) Chairing all Congress [Meeting](#) and Council meetings [including making all decisions that ensure the smooth, effective and safe operation of the Congress Meeting](#);
- b) Supervising the [Director General](#), ~~Secretary and IIHF Office~~ in the execution of all IIHF Council and Congress decisions and ensuring such are taken in accordance with the [IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes](#);
- c) Making decisions normally under the authority of the Council in cases of extreme urgency where there is not sufficient time to convene and/or obtain the approval of Council;
- d) Making any decisions or taking any actions delegated to the President by the Council;
- e) Resign [their](#) membership with ~~his~~ [their](#) current MNA once elected;
- f) Representing the IIHF as appropriate; and
- g) Such other duties described in the [Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes](#).

The President shall not be an employee of the IIHF, but in recognition of his service, shall receive an appropriate remuneration as recommended by the Finance Committee and determined by Council at least twelve (12) months prior to the election [for the President's four-year term](#).

15.4.2. Vice-President

- 15.4.2.1. The Senior Vice-President shall have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:
 - a) In the absence of the President, and upon the President's request, execute IIHF affairs normally within the President's authority indicated in Statute 15.4.1;
 - b) Act as the President in the event that the President is incapacitated;
 - c) Succeed to the position of President in case of vacancy in the office of presidency and subject to all other qualifications for election, shall be eligible to seek election for up to three [\(3\)](#) terms as President; and
 - d) Perform other duties and/or tasks assigned to ~~them~~ [him](#) by the President from time to time.

- 15.4.2.2. The Regional Vice-Presidents have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:
- a) Monitor the development of ice hockey in their respective geographical regions;
 - b) Report on the interests of their respective geographical regions to the Council; and
 - c) Any other duty and/or task assigned to them by the President from time to time.

15.4.3. Treasurer

The Treasurer, as appointed by Council, shall have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:

- a) Chairing the Finance Committee;
- b) Calling Finance Committee meetings and overseeing the tasks and responsibility of the Finance Committee; and
- c) Reporting to the IIHF Council on the outcome of the Finance Committee's work, including but not limited to its recommendations, opinions and decisions.

15.4.4. Council

- 15.4.4.1. The Council shall be the supreme executive body of the IIHF with the corresponding fiduciary duty to the IIHF. The Council shall be responsible for strategic, governance and financial matters of the IIHF, and without limitation, shall have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:

- a) Governing and promoting international ice hockey, including developing and updating a strategic plan for the IIHF;
- ~~b)~~ b) Overseeing the operational decision making of the IIHF;
- ~~b)c)~~ c) Adopting policies for the IIHF which are consistent with the Governing Documents;
- ~~d)~~ d) Attending Congress Meetings and voting on all Congress proposals except (i) elections; (ii) discharging of President, Treasurer and Council responsibilities; (iii) appointment of external auditors and (iv) amendments to any Governing Documents.
- ~~e)~~ e) Making decisions of ~~n~~ a political ~~and/or~~ strategic nature, and on commercial matters of a long-term character involving the IIHF;
- ~~f)~~ f) Overseeing the IIHF financial policy as proposed by the Finance Committee;
- ~~e)g)~~ g) Approving the budget and adjustments thereto;
- ~~f)h)~~ h) Employing a Director General ~~Secretary~~ and supervising and monitoring the performance of the Director General ~~Secretary~~;
- ~~g)i)~~ i) Appointing a Treasurer from the members of Council;
- ~~h)j)~~ j) Acting as a point of contact for MNA Presidents;
- ~~i)k)~~ k) Leading sustainability social responsibility discussions;
- ~~j)l)~~ l) Accepting or rejecting membership applications from potential MNAs and recommending to Congress the acceptance or rejection of potential members to the IIHF;
- ~~k)m)~~ m) Granting temporary Full Membership status to an Associate MNA that has made progress towards full independent status and has a clear transition plan;
- ~~l)n)~~ n) Suspending MNAs in accordance with Statute 13.2;
- ~~m)o)~~ o) Reviewing and making recommendations on all proposals to be submitted to Congress including proposals for

the ~~IIHF Governing Documents; Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules~~

- ~~n)p)~~ _____ Overseeing the execution of Congress decisions;
- ~~o)q)~~ _____ Observing and enforcing the Governing Documents~~Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes~~;
- ~~p)r)~~ Recommending external auditors to the Congress;
- ~~q)s)~~ Approving all contracts that exceed a value equal to or more than one million CHF per year;
- ~~t)~~ Appointing operational ~~ad hoc~~ committees and appointing/dismissing their members;
- ~~t)u)~~ Appointing a Chief Medical Officer for the IIHF who shall have the tasks and responsibilities as indicated in the Medical Guidelines.
- ~~s)v)~~ Approving IIHF membership with any other federation or organization;
- ~~t)w)~~ Establishing separate bodies and related regulations for IIHF Club Competitions;
- ~~u)~~ Instituting and observing practices and principles associated with good governance;
- ~~v)x)~~ Making Emergency Legislation by a vote of at least 2/3rds; and
- ~~w)y)~~ _____ All duties and matters arising that are not specifically addressed herein or assigned to other IIHF bodies in the Statutes and Bylaws.

- 15.4.4.2. Council members shall not be employees of the IIHF, but are entitled to receive an appropriate remuneration as approved by Congress per the IIHF Financial Regulations. However, a Council member can receive appropriate remuneration for a special duty performed for the IIHF with the Council's approval upon recommendation of the Audit Committee.
- 15.4.4.3. The Council meets:
- a) During or in association with Congress Meetinges and at least two (2) more times during the year either in person or by means of video or teleconference;
 - b) When the President deems it necessary; or
 - c) Upon request of not less than three (3) Council members.
- 15.4.4.4. The Council makes decisions by a majority of the Council, except as indicated in Statute 15.4.4.1(~~v)x~~). In case of urgent decisions, the Council may make decisions via conference call or email. The President shall have the tie breaking vote.
- 15.4.4.5. Any Council member with a conflict of interest shall remove themselveshimself from deliberations and abstain from voting on the respective matter(s).
- 15.4.4.6. All Council members are subject to the IIHF Integrity Code and can be removed from office in accordance therewith.
- 15.4.4.7. The Council may make decisions normally under the authority of Congress only in cases of urgency where a decision is required before it is possible to convene a Congress Meeting. Except with respect to Statutes 15.4.4.1(~~v)x~~), the Council must call an Extra-

Ordinary Congress [Meeting](#) as soon as reasonably possible after the Council's urgent decision to ratify the respective decisions. The Council decision remains in effect pending Congress ratification. For all decisions made by the Council in accordance herewith, an MNA's sole remedy prior to the Extra-Ordinary Congress [Meeting](#) is to appeal to the IIHF Disciplinary Board in which case the MNA must establish that the Council's decision need not have been taken by the Council in accordance with its powers to take decisions in cases of urgency.

- 15.4.4.8. If Congress does not ratify a Council decision when required, the decision shall be declared void and, to the extent permissible and possible, the status quo prior to the decision shall be re-established without compensation to any party that may have been affected either by the original decision or the re-establishment of the status quo.

Statute 16 Directorate (Executive Body)

16.1. The Directorates are temporary IIHF executive bodies with the responsibility for conducting IIHF ~~Ice Hockey~~ [Ice Hockey](#) Competitions.

16.2. The Directorate of all IIHF Competitions will be chaired by one or more of the following: (i) the IIHF President; (ii) an IIHF Vice-President; (iii) an IIHF Council Member or (iv) a designee of the IIHF President.

16.3. The Directorate of all IIHF Competitions shall be comprised of the Directorate Chairperson, one representative of each competing MNA and a representative of the hosting Country. The Directorate Chairperson cannot represent ~~his~~ [his](#) own Country. [The representative of the hosting Country, cannot be an IIHF Council member.](#) In all Directorates, every member has one (1) vote. In the case of a tie vote, the Directorate Chairperson must exercise the casting vote.

16.4. No Directorate decision, including disciplinary matters concerning the participation in and operation of the IIHF Championships and the Olympic competitions, establish a precedent for future Directorates ~~or the IIHF~~. The Directorate ~~and Directorate Chairperson~~ decision-making power is limited to the respective IIHF Competition. Any violation for which a sanction beyond the IIHF Competition is sought must be referred to the IIHF Disciplinary Board, unless indicated otherwise in ~~a Governing Document, the Disciplinary Guidelines for the respective Competition.~~

16.5. The Directorate shall be responsible for:

- ~~Verifying player eligibility documents;~~
- a) Overseeing the host's responsibilities;
- b) Overseeing the participating MNA teams' responsibilities;
~~Overseeing media and marketing issues;~~
~~Making disciplinary decisions in accordance with Statute 20.3;~~
~~Overseeing compliance with medical requirements;~~
~~Overseeing doping control and adherence to the Medical Regulations and the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations when a Medical Supervisor is not assigned;~~
- c) Awarding trophies, medals, diplomas and all individual recognitions;
- d) Confirming the nominations of the best three players of each team in the competition;
- e) Selecting the best goalkeeper, defenseman and forward of the competition; and
- f) Authorizing any other awards of the competition.

- 16.6. The Directorate Chairperson shall be responsible for:
- a) Ensuring compliance with the host's responsibilities as indicated in the Governing Documents, including but not limited to the respective Event Code;
 - b) Ensuring compliance with the participating MNA teams' responsibilities as indicated in the Governing Documents, including but not limited to the respective Event Code;
 - c) Making disciplinary decisions in accordance with Statute 20.3;
 - a)d) Ensuring that all game sheets are submitted to the IIHF Office; and
 - b)e) Sending written report(s), including any requested IIHF reports and the Directorate meeting minutes, to the IIHF Office within two (2) weeks after the completion of the Competition.

Statute 17 IIHF Office (Executive Body)

- 17.1. The IIHF Office shall consist of a Director General Secretary and IIHF Staff.
- 17.2. The Director General Secretary shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the IIHF.
- 17.3. Employees of the IIHF will be employed under contract. Their contracts will be in accordance with Swiss Law.
- 17.4. The President and at least one Vice-President must sign the Director General Secretary's employment contract on IIHF's behalf.
- 17.5. The Director General Secretary leads and manages the day-to-day operation of the IIHF and assumes all responsibility related thereto. He may not hold any official position within an MNA.
- 17.6. The Director General Secretary, personally and as delegated through IIHF Staff, is responsible for the implementation of the operation, development and promotion of international ice hockey, including, but not limited to:
- a) Leading, staffing and managing the IIHF Office, including using best efforts to ensure that 40% of the office is female and 40% of the office is male, running the day-to-day administration and being responsible for all day to day operative tasks of the IIHF;
 - b) Negotiating, preparing and proposing decisions on political, strategic and commercial matters involving the IIHF of a long-term character to the Council;
 - c) Implementing the mission described in Statute 4;
 - d) Executing Council decisions and reporting on the IIHF Office activities to the Council;
 - e) Overseeing compliance with IOC and WADA regulations;
 - f) Convening, ~~and~~ preparing and attending the Congress and Council meetings, other than executive sessions, including compiling necessary meeting minutes;
 - g) Publishing the Governing Documents, Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules;
 - h) Drafting and circulating official IIHF communications;
 - i) Overseeing event management and administration of all international and Olympic competitions;
 - j) Coordinating and implementing all developmental projects;
 - k) Assigning Tournament Directorate Chairpersons;
 - l) Managing all day-to-day financial matters, in particular: accounting, invoicing, controlling and asset management; overseeing the proper administration of IIHF finances, establishing an annual budget that forecasts the total income and expenditures of the IIHF and maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the IIHF;

- m) Enforcing compliance of the [Governing Documents](#)~~IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes~~ and [IIHF d](#)~~Decisions of the IIHF~~, monitoring/controlling the relations between MNAs and administering all day-to-day membership matters;
- n) Leading new business development including, but not limited to, data, media and social media management, strategy and development;
- o) Organizing the necessary IT infrastructure;
- p) Having the authority to approve all contracts not required to be approved by Council and signing all legal documents on behalf of the IIHF; and
- q) Making decisions and/or imposing sanctions within ~~his~~[their](#) authority as provided for in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws or Regulations/Codes.

Statute 18 IIHF Committees ~~and~~, Boards ~~and~~ Auditors

18.1. *Finance Committee*

- 18.1.1. ~~As of the 2026 term, T~~[he Finance Committee shall be composed of the Treasurer \(Chairperson\), up to a maximum of six \(6\) members, the IIHF Director General \(non-voting\) and an executive assistant from the IIHF Office \(non-voting\). the three \(3\) Vice-Presidents, the IIHF General Secretary \(non-voting\), an executive assistant from the IIHF Office \(non-voting\), and three \(3\) other members](#) (for avoidance of doubt, [the members of the Audit Committee the IIHF Internal Auditors](#) cannot be members of the Finance Committee). [As of the 2026 term, the Finance Committee shall have at least 1/3 representation of female and at least 1/3 representation of male members \(excluding the Chairperson and the executive secretary\).](#) The Council shall appoint the Finance Committee members for a four (4)-year term, except for the 2021 Finance Committee which shall be appointed for a five (5)-year term (2021 – 2026).
- 18.1.2. Candidates for the Finance Committee shall be experts in one or more of the fields of accounting and financial reporting, financial controlling and analysis, internal controls over financial reporting, asset management, non-profit accounting and taxation and/or budgeting and forecasting.
- 18.1.3. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for:
 - a) Consulting on the financial affairs of the IIHF by advising on the investment of IIHF liquid resources; reviewing IIHF financial guidelines, policies and procedures to safeguard, manage and provide for appropriate utilization and investment of IIHF resources, reviewing internal control systems and financial processes; and safeguarding IIHF assets by ensuring that reasonable steps have been taken to prevent and detect fraud or other irregularities;
 - b) Assessing and proposing a long-term financial strategy to the Council for each four (4)-year cycle;
 - c) Providing recommendations on long-term financial matters to the Council and reporting on its work to the Council;
 - d) Consulting on the financial affairs of the IIHF and making recommendation so that financial affairs are transparent to Congress;
 - e) Making recommendations to ensure sufficient financial reserves are available to the IIHF; and
 - f) Making recommendations to ~~Congress-Council~~ on the financial remuneration for the [Council and the President applicable to the next Council term](#).

- 18.1.4. The Finance Committee may (a) invite other members of the Council as needed or (b) employ the services of internal or external professional advisors as needed.

18.2. Internal Auditors Committee

18.2.1. The Audit Committee shall be composed of Congress shall elect two (2)three (3) membersAuditors, and an executive secretary from the IIHF Office (non-voting), vetted by external auditors, in accordance with the Council voting procedures in Statute 15.3.4, for a four (4)-year term, except for the Auditors appointed in 2021 who shall have a five (5)-year term (2021—2026). Only candidates who have had their 25th or later birthday and their 73rd or earlier birthday in the election year are eligible to become Auditors. The Audit Committee shall have at least 1/3 representation of female and at least 1/3 representation of male members. The Council shall appoint the Audit Committee members for a four (4)-year term, except for the 2021-2026 Audit Committee which shall be appointed for a five (5)-year term (2021-2026).

For clarity, the two current Internal Auditors shall automatically be elected to the Audit Committee for the remainder of the 2021-2026 term.

18.2.2. The members of the Auditors Committee shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of the IIHF. At least one (1) member of the Auditor Committee must be knowledgeable in the financial and legal requirements of the Country where the IIHF is headquartered.

18.2.3. The members of the Auditors Committee are equals and completely independent of the Council. They shall distribute tasks fairly and equitably and report to the Council and directly to Congress where necessary.

18.2.4. The Auditors Committee shall perform the following duties:

- a) Oversee, and monitor and review the completeness and reliability of the External Audit, including ensuring that a full external audit is completed by the IIHF External Auditors; financial accounting, and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the external auditors' report;
- b) Report to the Council and the Congress on the results of the External Audit including making recommendations related thereto;
- b)c) Advise and assist the Council in monitoring IIHF's financial and compliance matters and issues;
Monitor compliance with IIHF Regulations;
- e)d) Monitor IIHF internal operational controls;
- d)e) Annually review the effectiveness of financial risk assessment and financial risk management; and
- e) Monitor and review related-party transactions at least annually; and
- f) Issue compliance guidelines.

As part of performing its duties as set out above, the Audit Committee ers may request any relevant information from all bodies, committees, officials and other individuals within the IIHF and shall be entitled to

conduct or authorize reviews into any matters within the scope of its duties. ~~Auditors may also take part, as observers, in all meetings and other activities of IIHF bodies and committees at any time, subject to applicable confidentiality obligations.~~

18.3. *Ethics Board*

- 18.3.1. Congress shall elect five (5) members, vetted by external auditors, in accordance with the voting procedures for the Council in Statute 15.3.4, to the Ethics Board, for a four (4)-year period, except for the 2021 Ethics Board which shall be elected for a five (5)-year period (2021 – 2026). As of the 2026 term, the Ethics Board shall have at least 1/3 representation of female and at least 1/3 representation male members. From the five (5) elected members, as voted on amongst the five (5) members, one (1) member shall be appointed Chairperson and one (1) member shall be appointed Co-Chairperson. The Ethics Board shall have an executive assistance from the IIHF Office. Only candidates who have had their 25th or later birthday and 73rd or earlier birthday in the election year are eligible to serve on the Ethics Board.
- 18.3.2. The Ethics Board members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in governance, ethics and legal matters, as well as familiar with the IIHF Integrity Book.
- 18.3.3. The Ethics Board members are completely independent of the Council. The Chairperson shall distribute tasks fairly and equitably. Any Ethics Board member with a conflict of interest shall remove ~~themselves~~~~himself~~ from deliberations and abstain from voting on the respective matter(s).
- 18.3.4. The Ethics Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- Review and submit proposed IIHF Integrity Code revisions to the Council Semi-Annual Congress;
 - In accordance with the IIHF Integrity Code, ~~C~~consider all alleged breaches of the IIHF Integrity Code (except the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations) and report all substantive violations to the IIHF Disciplinary Board for adjudication in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations; and
 - Advise the IIHF Office, IIHF Council or any IIHF Committee/Body on ethical issues and/or questions related to the IIHF Integrity Code.
- 18.3.5. As part of performing its duties as set out above, the Ethics Board may request any relevant information from all bodies, committees, officials and other individuals within the IIHF and shall be entitled to conduct or authorize reviews into any alleged violation of the IIHF Integrity Code (except the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations). For avoidance of doubt, the scope of the review is limited to the alleged violation and shall be completely confidential.
- 18.3.6. The Ethics Board shall decide all matters by a Panel of three members including either the Chairperson or the Co-Chairperson, unless an exceptional situation requires all five (5) members. All decisions of the Ethics Board are final and not subject to appeal, except to the extent that a decision is appealable to the CAS.

18.4. Operational Committees

- 18.4.1. Operational Committees are established at the Council's discretion for a four (4)-year period, except for the eOperational eCommittees established in 2021 which shall function for a five (5)-year period (2021 – 2026). As of the 2026 term, Operational Committees shall have at least 1/3 representation female and at least 1/3 representation male of members excluding the Chairperson and the executive secretary. The Council may vary the number, structure, activities and mandate of the Operational Committees. Committees are recommending bodies to the Council.
- 18.4.2. As of the 2026 term, the Operational eCommittees shall be chaired by a Council member. Each Operational Committee shall contain a Chairperson, an executive secretary from the IIHF Office and a maximum of sixfour (64) other members. The Chairperson, together with the Director General-Secretary shall put forward a list of candidates to the Council for appointment to each eCommittee. In creating the list, the Chairperson must consider candidates nominated by MNAs, candidates with expertise in the competency of the respective eCommittee and candidates from diverse backgrounds. On relevant eCommittees - Committee, with a mandate involving scheduling, playing rules, infrastructure and release of national players, one (1) seat shall be reserved for a League representative and shall be defined in the respective eCommittee's mandate.
- 18.4.3. The Committee Chairperson shall conduct the eCommittee's affairs in accordance with the mandate and must control the committee's financial expenditures within the framework of the approved budget.
- 18.4.4. The Council must approve all financial adjustments within each eCommittee's budget which exceed 10% of the originally approved budget.
- 18.4.5. With the Director General's General-Secretary's approval, the Committee Chairperson may invite external specialists and/or form a working group on an ad hoc basis (such members do not have the right to vote).
- 18.4.6. Quorum is not required for meetings of the eCommittees. Simple majority is required for eCommittee decisions, except that quorum and 75% majority is required for the Historical Committee to approve inductees to the Hall of Fame. Each eCommittee member has one (1) vote. In case of a tie vote, the Chairperson must exercise the casting vote. In case of urgency, decisions can be made by email.
- 18.4.7. Each Committee Chairperson, except the Legal Committee, will submit an annual written report on the Committee's activities to the Council and to the Annual Congress.

18.5. Committee Minutes

Minutes of eCommittee meetings containing all recommendations and decisions taken must be recorded for every meeting. As soon as reasonably possible, the minutes shall be made available to all Council members and eCommittee members and, where appropriate, shall be made available to MNAs.

Chapter 4 JUDICIAL AND DISCIPLINE

Statute 19 Discipline

19.1. IIHF Disciplinary Power

~~Unless indicated otherwise in the Governing Documents, the IIHF may sanction any Covered Party person or entity, including but not limited to, MNAs, clubs, officials, coaches and players~~ if they (a) infringe the ~~IIHF Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes or Official Playing Rules~~, (b) violate the good order of ice hockey, (c) bring the sport of ice hockey into disrepute or (d) violate the decisions of the Council, Directorates or officials of the IIHF who are entrusted with the implementation of the ~~Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and/or Official Playing Rules~~.

19.2. Disqualification

- 19.2.1. A disqualified player shall be dismissed from the respective IIHF ~~e~~Competition, ~~have their results annulled to zero~~ and may have ~~his~~their case investigated by the IIHF Disciplinary Board for possible further sanctions.
- 19.2.2. A disqualified team shall be dismissed from the respective IIHF ~~e~~Competition, relegated into the next lower division, ~~have all~~ from the respective competition its results annulled to zero and ~~its~~the competition and world ranking adjusted accordingly. All cases may be investigated by the IIHF Disciplinary Board for appropriate and further sanctions.

19.3. Suspension

- 19.3.1. MNAs must honor all IIHF suspensions. A player currently under an IIHF suspension is not eligible to participate in IIHF Competitions and may be ineligible to participate in other activities.
- 19.3.2. All MNAs must immediately advise the IIHF of any penalty or suspension that might affect a player's ability to participate for ~~his~~their National Team in any IIHF Competition. If circumstances warrant, the IIHF Office may determine a player, who is suspended by an MNA, League or club, including non-affiliated IIHF recognized organizations, is not eligible to participate in an IIHF Competition which runs concurrently to the player's suspension.
- 19.3.3 All MNAs must immediately report any conduct that happens in an exhibition game that occurs within seven (7) days of the respective IIHF Competition, which might affect a player's eligibility to participate for ~~his~~their National Team in any IIHF Competition to the Championship Disciplinary Panel Secretary. Additionally, all MNAs participating in a Top Division Championship as defined in Bylaw 11 through Bylaw 15, must provide the footage of all exhibition games within seven (7) days of the respective IIHF Championship to the IIHF Situation Room. The Championship Disciplinary Panel shall decide on any necessary sanctions in accordance with Article 13.1.3 of the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations. The Championship Disciplinary ~~Panel~~Secretary shall decide any necessary sanctions within forty-eight (48)

hours of being advised of the conduct and being provided with all additional information necessary to make the decision.

19.3.4 Any team suspended for a period of time exceeding the start day of the next IIHF Championship, Olympic Competitions or qualification to these competitions for which they are qualified, will be relegated into the next lowest division.

19.3.5 Any Covered Party who is issued a suspension in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations but leaves the IIHF jurisdiction either prior to the start of the suspension or while under the suspension, will be required to serve the remaining period of the suspension when they return to the IIHF jurisdiction.

Statute 20 Judicial Bodies

The Judicial Bodies indicated in this Statute shall have the power to decide on disputes, impose disciplinary measures and/or issue directives in accordance with their respective mandates and as specifically defined in the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations and/or the applicable Regulations.

20.1. *Disciplinary Board*

- 20.1.1. Congress shall elect one (1) Chair, one (1) Deputy Chair and not less than four (4) other members, vetted by external auditors, in accordance with the voting procedures for the Council indicated in Statute 15.3.4, to the IIHF Disciplinary Board, for a four (4)-year period, except for the Disciplinary Board elected in 2021 which shall be elected for a five (5)-year period (2021 – 2026). As of the 2026 term, the Disciplinary Board shall have at least 1/3 representation of both female and male members. Only candidates who have had their 25th or later birthday and their 73rd or earlier birthday in the election year are eligible for the IIHF Disciplinary Board.
- 20.1.2. The Disciplinary Board should be highly experienced, competent and well versed with the sport, its rules and procedures. It is completely independent of the Council, not bound by instruction and not accountable to anyone for their decisions.
- 20.1.3. The Disciplinary Board may take external advice if the Chair determines that additional expertise is required in a specific case.
- 20.1.4. The Disciplinary Board shall act in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations. The Disciplinary Board meets when convened by the Chair.
- 20.1.5. Decisions regarding the application, interpretation and/or violation of the Governing Documents Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules shall be made by the IIHF Disciplinary Board, unless specifically indicated otherwise in the respective Governing Document Statute, Bylaw, Regulations/Code and Official Playing Rule, in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.

- 20.1.6. The Council and the Auditors may refer any incident or activity to the IIHF Disciplinary Board for adjudication in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.

20.2. *Championship Disciplinary Panel*

- 20.2.1. At all IIHF Competitions (as defined in Bylaw 1) an independent Disciplinary Panel (Championship Disciplinary Panel) must be established. Such Panels shall have the authority and responsibility to decide all disciplinary matters relating to Official Rule Book violations that occur during the competition.
- 20.2.2. The Championship Disciplinary Panel must utilize the Championship Disciplinary Guidelines approved by Council for each respective IIHF Season.

20.3. *Directorate Disciplinary ~~Panel~~*

- 20.3.1. The Directorate Chair shall make all disciplinary decision occurring during the respective IIHF Competition, shall establish an ad hoc disciplinary panel composed of Directorate members whose team is not directly and/or indirectly involved in the incident giving rise to the disciplinary matter, for all violations of the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Codes/Regulations, excluding violations of the IIHF Official Rule Book or the IIHF Integrity Code when indicated therein. All Directorate Chairperson disciplinary decisions are limited to the respective championship and do not establish a precedent.
- 20.3.2. The Directorate Chairperson must utilize the Directorate Disciplinary Guidelines approved by the Council for each IIHF Season for all disciplinary matters.

20.4 Ice Hockey Tribunal

20.4.1 The Ice Hockey Tribunal is composed of not less than three (3) arbitrators, vetted by the Ethics Board. The Council appoints the president of the Ice Hockey Tribunal for a renewable term of four (4) years after each elective IIHF Congress Meeting.

20.4.2 The Ice Hockey Tribunal arbitrators must be highly experienced jurists that are well-versed in the resolution of international sports disputes.

20.4.3 The Ice Hockey Tribunal shall be empowered to resolve disputes within the world of ice hockey as provided for in the applicable Regulations.

Statute 21 Finality

Decisions of the Disciplinary Board when acting within its appeal authority, Directorate Disciplinary Panel and Championship Disciplinary Panel are final, subject to Statute 22.2.

Statute 22 Court of Arbitration for Sport

22.1. IIHF recognizes the independent CAS, with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland), to resolve disputes arising from the Governing Documents-IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code between (a) IIHF and (b) MNAs, Leagues, clubs, players and/or officials.

22.2. Subject to Statute 20, any final IIHF ~~d~~Decision in accordance with Statute 21 may only be appealed at the CAS, with the exclusion of the state courts, in accordance with its Code of Sport-related Arbitration. CAS shall apply [the Governing Documents IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, and Regulations/Code](#) and Swiss Law.

22.3. The CAS shall only have jurisdiction if all remedies within the IIHF have been exhausted.

22.4. An appeal to CAS shall not stay the effect of any IIHF disciplinary sanction, subject to the CAS's power to order that any disciplinary measure be stayed pending the arbitration.

Statute 23 Liabilities

23.1. MNAs have an ongoing obligation to understand and apply [the Governing Documents IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes](#) and [IIHF d](#)Decisions ~~of the IIHF~~.

23.2. If an MNA challenges or allows one of its constituent bodies, clubs, teams, players or officials to challenge the validity or interpretation of a [Governing Document IIHF Statute, Bylaw, Regulation/Code](#), or contract in arbitration or court, and the challenge is unsuccessful, the unsuccessful MNA shall be held liable for all expenses incurred by the IIHF. Notwithstanding the above, any dispute regarding the expenses incurred by the IIHF will be resolved by a sole arbitrator agreed by the parties.

Chapter 5 FINANCIAL

Statute 24 Commercial

24.1. The IIHF is the sole owner of all commercial rights pertaining to all IIHF Competitions and related activities, without any restriction as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, but are not limited to, [hosting rights](#), audio-visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, sponsorship, advertising and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as IIHF general and event marks, rights arising under copyright law and any right which has the potential to yield financial benefit.

24.2. The exercise of IIHF commercial rights by the IIHF (and/or contracted Commercial Partner) is binding on all MNAs and their constituent bodies, Leagues, clubs, teams, players, officials and any person or body whatsoever or howsoever competing or participating in competitions and/or related activities of the IIHF.

24.3. The exercise of IIHF commercial rights includes but is not limited to the supply of on-ice uniforms, the design of which shall be subject to the IIHF's approval. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all MNAs retain all rights related to their national team logo, emblem and uniform design. The IIHF shall have the right to use MNA team jerseys for promotional, non-commercial purposes, related to IIHF Competitions. For the avoidance of doubt, the IIHF shall not use MNA team jerseys for commercial purposes unless approval is provided by the respective MNA.

24.4. Where any IIHF rights mentioned in Statute 24.1 are designated by international or national law to be under the ownership of an MNA or one of its constituent bodies, then by virtue of its membership with the IIHF, the MNA assigns such rights on a worldwide basis to the IIHF from the moment of creation in perpetuity. All MNAs shall execute any necessary documentation according to national law to effect the assignment.

Statute 25 Fiscal Year

The IIHF's fiscal year starts on 1 July and ends on 30 June of the following year.

Statute 26 Annual Budget and Yearly Accounts

26.1. The [Director](#) General ~~Secretary~~ is responsible for establishing an annual budget that forecasts the IIHF's total income and expenditures. The annual budget shall be provided to the Council two (2) weeks prior to the relevant Council meeting and shall be provided to the Congress two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Congress [Meeting](#). The Council shall provide its recommendation to the Congress and the annual budget shall be final upon Congress approval.

26.2. The [Director](#) General ~~Secretary~~ shall provide a draft of the yearly accounts to MNAs by August 31st of the respective year for Congress approval at the Semi-Annual Congress [Meeting](#).

Statute 27 IIHF Accounts and Currencies

27.1. The IIHF's currency of reference is the currency of the IIHF's headquarters. However, the IIHF may maintain bank accounts in other currencies for operational purposes.

27.2. IIHF shall administer all funds according to the budget approved by ~~Council~~ [Congress](#) and decisions within the authority of Council.

27.3. All IIHF contracts shall be executed in accordance with the Swiss Commercial Register. All contracts (committing or generating funds) or committed expenditure which do not exceed 50,000 CHF require one (1) signature, all other contracts (committing or generating funds) or committed expenditures which exceed 50,000 CHF require two (2) signatures. [All contracts and expenditures must be executed in accordance with the IIHF Signature Authorization Policy.](#)

Statute 28 IIHF Audits

An independent, external auditor registered in Switzerland must audit IIHF's accounts annually consistent with Swiss Law. The Council shall recommend the external auditor whose appointment is subject to Congress approval. The external auditor's report shall be submitted to the IIHF Auditor ~~Committees~~, the Council and Congress.

Statute 29 IIHF Procurement and Sales

The IIHF must conduct all IIHF operational activities related to the commitment of the IIHF income/expenses in accordance with IIHF Procurement Guidelines, including, but not limited to, tender rules. The IIHF Procurement Guidelines must be in accordance with all applicable laws.

Statute 30 Insurance

30.1. The IIHF will provide liability insurance for all persons authorized to act on behalf of the IIHF, including but not limited to, Council, Committee and judicial bodies, elected or nominated officials and staff who act and make decisions on behalf of the IIHF.

30.2. The IIHF hereby consents and declares that each Council Member, IIHF Staff, chairperson, IIHF committee/board member and other official representatives of the IIHF shall be deemed to have assumed office or assignment on the express understanding that each of them shall to the fullest extent permitted by law be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the IIHF from and against all liabilities, judgments, costs, charges and expenses that such person sustains or incurs in any action, suit or proceeding which is brought against them arising from the execution of the duties of their office and also from and against all other costs, charges and expenses which they sustain or incur in or about or in relation to the affairs thereof, except in relation to matters as to which they shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for willful misconduct in the performance of a duty.

30.3. The IIHF shall provide accident and medical treatment insurance coverage for IIHF Council, committee/board members, IIHF Staff as well as other persons assigned to duties and acting on behalf of the IIHF and, where authorized, their accompanying person when traveling on behalf of the IIHF.

BYLAWS

Chapter 1 EVENT/COMPETITION

Bylaw 1 IIHF Competitions

- 1.1. The IIHF Competitions include:
- A. Championships
- IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM);
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Divisions (e.g. WMIA, WMIB, WMIIA, WMIIB, WMIII, WMIV);
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Junior Championship and Divisions (WM20, and e.g. WM20IA, WM20IB, WM20IIA, WM20IIB, WM20III);
 - IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship and Divisions (WM18, and e.g. WM18IA, WM18IB, WM18IIA, WM18IIB, WM18IIIA, WM18IIIB);
 - IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship and Divisions (WW, and e.g. WWIA, WWIB, WWIIA, WWIIB, WWIIIA, WWIIIB);
 - IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship and Divisions (WW18, and e.g. WW18IA, WW18IB, WW18IIA, WW18IIB);
- B. Olympic Competitions
- Olympic Games (OG);
 - Qualifications to the Olympic Competitions (OGQ);
 - [Youth Olympic Games \(YOG\)](#);
 - [Qualification to the Youth Olympic Competitions \(YOGQ\)](#);
- C. Other Competitions and Championships
- [World and Continental National Team Championships such as the IIHF Asian World Championship](#);
 - World and Continental Club Competitions such as the IIHF European Cup, IIHF Continental Cup (CC), Victoria Cup (VC), and European Women Continental Cup (EWCC); and
 - Any other IIHF designated international competition.

1.2. All clubs, teams, players, team officials, game officials and members of the Directorate who participate in games organized or conducted by the IIHF are under IIHF jurisdiction.

1.2.1.3. [All Competitions shall be organized in accordance with the Governing Documents including the applicable Event Code. The IIHF shall decide the applicable Event Code \(and any necessary deviations\) if the Competition does not have an Event Code or the IIHF Bylaws do not indicate the applicable Event Code.](#)

Bylaw 2 National Team Allocation in IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships

2.1. National teams will start participation in IIHF Championships in the bottom division or qualification of the respective Championship subject to meeting IIHF minimum participation standards as specified in Bylaw 3 and shall have the opportunity to advance to higher divisions through the promotion system described in Bylaw 16.

2.2. If, (a) a new Sovereign State has been established by separation from an existing Sovereign State; (b) a Country is incorporated into another existing Sovereign State with an

MNA affiliated to the IIHF; (c) two or more ~~e~~Countries are united into a Sovereign State and the MNA representing that Sovereign State is granted membership status with the IIHF; or (d) a Sovereign State is divided into two or more Sovereign States with MNAs affiliated to the IIHF and the previous Country does not exist anymore, then the IIHF Competition Committee shall make a recommendation to Council which shall seed the respective MNA(s)' national team(s) in IIHF Championship(s).

Bylaw 3 Minimum Participation Standards for the IIHF Ice Hockey Men's and Women's Championship Program (Senior and Junior)

3.1 IIHF Ice Hockey ~~Men's~~ World Championship ~~(WM)~~ Programs

3.1.1 MNAs must meet the following minimum participation standards to be eligible to participate in the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship ~~(WM)~~ and ~~U20 Men's Championship~~:

- a) The Country in which the MNA is located, must have at least one permanent operational ~~artificial/manmade~~ indoor ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book ~~including a permanent seating capacity of not less than five hundred (500) spectators~~;
- b) Players registered with the MNA must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's Country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size;
- c) The MNA must have not less than sixty (60) participating players in the Category in which the MNA has applied to participate, each of whom must be registered with the MNA;
- d) The MNA must have not less than four (4) teams participating in League Competition in their own Country (and/or in a cross-border League operating in accordance with Bylaw 19.2) in the Category in which they have applied to participate. The League must meet the League Statistical Requirements as indicated in the ~~Sport Guidelines IIHF Sport Regulations~~; and
- e) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than one hundred (100) registered participants; and (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program and either a Recruitment Program, Administrators Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

3.1.2 MNAs must meet the following minimum participation standards to be eligible to participate in the IIHF Ice Hockey ~~U20 and~~ U18 ~~Men's~~ World Championship:

- a) The Country in which the MNA is located, must have at least one permanent, operational indoor ~~manmade~~ ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book ~~including a permanent seating capacity of a minimum of five hundred (500) spectators~~;
- b) Players registered with the MNA must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's Country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size;
- c) The MNA must have not less than forty-five (45) participating players in the ~~U20 Category or~~ U18 Category, each of whom must be registered with the MNA; ~~and must compete in a minimum of twelve (12) games per season at any level~~
- d) The MNA must have not less than four (4) teams participating in a League Competition in their own country (and/or a cross-border

[League operating in accordance with Bylaw 19.2\) in either the U20 Category or the U18 Category if wishing to participate in the U20 Men's World Championship. The League must meet the League Statistical Requirements as indicated in the Sport Guidelines](#); and

- e) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than sixty (60) registered participants (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program and either a Recruitment Program, Administration Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

3.2 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship Programs

3.2.1 MNAs must meet the following minimum participation standards to be eligible to participate in the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship:

- a) The Country in which the MNA is located must have at least one permanent, operational indoor [manmade](#) ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book ~~including permanent seating capacity of not less than five hundred (500) spectators~~;
- b) Players must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's Country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size;
- c) The MNA must have not less than forty-five (45) participating players in the World Women's Category, each of whom must be registered with the MNA;
- d) The MNA must have not less than three (3) teams participating in League Competition in their own Country (and/or in a cross-border League operating in accordance with Bylaw 19.2) in the Category in which they have applied to participate. The League must meet the League Statistical Requirements as indicated in the [Sport Chapter of the respective Event Code-IIHF Sport Regulations](#); and
- e) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than sixty (60) registered participants; and (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program, Official Women's Development Program and either a Recruitment Program, Administration Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

3.2.2 MNAs must meet the following minimum participation standards to be eligible to participate in the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship:

- a) The Country in which the MNA is located must have at least one permanent, operational indoor [manmade](#) ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book ~~including a permanent seating capacity of a minimum of five hundred (500) spectators~~;
- b) Players must play on an indoor ice rink in the MNA's Country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size;
- c) The MNA must have not less than forty-five (45) participating players in the Category in which the MNA has applied to participate, each of whom must be registered with the MNA ~~and compete in minimum of twelve (12) games per season at any level~~; and
- d) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than sixty (60) registered participants; and (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program, Official Women's Development Program and either

a Recruitment Program, Administration Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

3.3 The IIHF reserves the right to request proof from an MNA regarding it meeting minimum participation standards.

3.4 The Programs indicated in Bylaw 3 must meet the following requirements:

- a) Human Resource; the MNA must have a person/representative dedicated overseeing the respective program (for avoidance of doubt, the MNA person/representative can be dedicated to multiple programs).
- b) Education; all programs requiring an education component must set minimum standards for the education including but not limited to (i) number of levels (e.g. two levels for coaching education); (ii) duration of the program (e.g. one to three years consisting of eight to 12 hours each year for coaching education) and (iii) education deliver method (e.g. 50% virtual and 50% in person).
- c) Yearly activities; all programs must contain yearly activities and document such.
- d) Recruitment; all programs with a recruiting component must organize at least one recruitment and retention activity per year and must document all such activities and results.
- e) Registration; all programs must contain a registration system where all participants can be registered and results tracked.
- f) any other requirements as indicated by the IIHF on a case-by-case basis.

3.5 Any MNA that has not paid a fine or, where applicable, compensation arising in connection with Bylaw 8.2.1 (Withdrawal from IIHF Championships) shall not be permitted to enter a team in any IIHF Competition.

~~The Council may temporarily grant an MNA that does not meet minimum participation standards, the right to participate in a Men's or Women's Championship.~~

Bylaw 4 Player Eligibility to Participate in the IIHF Championship Program and Olympic Competitions

4.1. Subject to Bylaw 4.2 through 4.8, players must meet the following requirements to participate in the IIHF Championships, Olympic ~~Competitions~~ and Olympic Qualification competitions:

- a) Hold permanent citizenship in the representing Country and submit to the jurisdiction of the representing MNA;
- b) Satisfy the eligibility requirements for the applicable championship or competition as described in Bylaw 11-15 and 17;
- ~~b)c)~~ c) Complete and submit to the IIHF ~~Directorate~~ the IIHF Player Entry Form; and
- ~~e)d)~~ d) Submit to the IIHF ~~Directorate~~ a national passport of the representing Country that is valid for the duration of the event.

4.2. *Players that have never played in an IIHF Championship*

- 4.2.1. An Eligible Player ~~male player~~ who has two legal citizenships or more, or has changed his citizenship or has acquired or surrendered a citizenship and wants to participate for the first time in an IIHF Championship described in Bylaw 11-13, and/or an Men's Olympic competition or a Men's ~~in qualification~~ Olympic Qualifications competition to these

~~competitions for their, then in order to play for his~~ Country of choice ~~the player~~ must:

- a) Prove that ~~they~~ ~~he~~ ~~have~~ ~~s~~ (i) participated in the League eCompetitions within ~~their~~ ~~his~~ Country of choice on a consistent basis, over at least sixteen (16) consecutive months (480 days) and during two (2) hockey seasons after ~~their~~ ~~his~~ 10th birthday (ii) resided in ~~their~~ ~~his~~ Country of choice during that period and (iii) neither transferred to another Country nor played ice hockey for a team registered or located within any other Country during that period; and
- b) If ~~their~~ Country of ~~his~~ choice is one to which ~~the~~ ~~player~~ ~~has~~ ~~ve~~ ~~s~~ transferred, ~~the~~ ~~player~~ ~~must~~ have had an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least sixteen (16) months (480 days) prior to ~~their~~ ~~his~~ proposed participation.

4.2.2. An Eligible female pPlayer who has two legal citizenships or more, or has changed ~~her~~ citizenship or has acquired or surrendered a citizenship and wants to participate for the first time in an IIHF Championship described in Bylaw 14-15, and/or an Women's Olympic competition or a Women's Olympic in eQualifications competition to these competitions for ~~their, then in order to play for her~~ Country of choice ~~the player~~ must:

- a) Prove that ~~they~~ ~~she~~ ~~have~~ ~~s~~ (i) participated in the League eCompetitions within ~~their~~ ~~her~~ Country of choice on a consistent basis, over at least eight (8) consecutive months (240 days) and during one (1) hockey season after ~~their~~ ~~her~~ 10th birthday (ii) resided in ~~their~~ ~~her~~ Country of choice during that period and (iii) neither transferred to another Country nor played ice hockey for a team registered or located within any other Country during that period; and
- b) If ~~their~~ Country of ~~her~~ choice is one to which ~~the~~ ~~player~~ ~~has~~ ~~ve~~ ~~s~~ transferred then ~~they~~ ~~she~~ must have had an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least eight (8) months (240 days) prior to ~~their~~ ~~her~~ proposed participation.

4.3. *Eligibility of players that have played in an IIHF Championship*

4.3.1. ~~If a~~ An Eligible- Player male player who has represented a Country in any IIHF Championship, ~~or in the~~ Olympic competition or ~~in the~~ Olympic eQualification competition to these competitions, ~~the~~ will not be eligible to represent another Country in an IIHF Championship described in Bylaw 11-13, a Men's Olympic competition or a Men's Olympic Qualification competition unless ~~except that he may apply to the IIHF to represent another Country if the player:~~

- a) ~~He~~ is a citizen of that Country;
- b) ~~He~~ has an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least four (4) years prior to the start of the IIHF competition in which ~~they~~ ~~he~~ ~~wish~~ ~~e~~s to participate;
- c) ~~He~~ has participated, on a consistent basis, and resided in the Country for at least four (4) consecutive years (1460 days) in the national League eCompetitions of ~~the~~ ~~his~~ new Country during which period ~~they~~ ~~have~~ ~~s~~ neither transferred to another Country nor played ice hockey for a team registered/located within any other Country; and
- d) ~~He~~ has not played for his previous Country in an IIHF competition during this four (4)-year period and between completion of this four (4)-year period and the start of the IIHF Championship ~~they~~ ~~wish~~ ~~e~~s to compete in.

- 4.3.2. ~~An~~ ~~if a female Eligible p~~Player who has represented a ~~e~~Country in any IIHF Championship, ~~or in the Olympic competition or Olympic Qualification competition, or in the qualification to these competitions, she~~ will not be eligible to represent another ~~e~~Country ~~in an IIHF Championship as described in Bylaw 14-15, a Women's Olympic competition or a Women's Olympic Qualification competition unless except that she may apply to the IIHF to represent another country if the player:~~
- a) ~~She~~ is a citizen of that ~~e~~Country;
 - b) ~~She~~ has an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least two (2) years prior to the start of the IIHF ~~e~~Competition in which ~~shethey~~ wishes to participate;
 - c) ~~She~~ has participated, on a consistent basis, and resided in the Country for at least two (2) consecutive years (730 days) in the national ~~League e~~Competitions of her new Country during which period ~~shethey~~ ~~haves~~ neither transferred to another Country nor played ice hockey for a team registered/located within any other Country; and
 - d) ~~She~~ has not played for her previous country in an IIHF competition during this two (2)-year period and between completion of this two (2)-year period and the start of the IIHF Championship ~~they she~~ wishes to compete.
- 4.3.3. ~~A p~~Players that ~~haves~~ represented a Country in any IIHF Championship, Olympic competition or in ~~the Olympic e~~Qualification ~~competitions to these competitions~~ and ~~haves~~ later acquired another citizenship may continue to represent ~~their his~~ old Country if ~~they he is~~are still a citizen of that Country.
- 4.3.4. If a Country or part of it becomes independent, or if a Country or part of it becomes incorporated into another Country, or if two or more ~~e~~Countries are united into a new Country, or if a Country is divided into more ~~e~~Countries, a player who has already represented a Country and whose citizenship was subsequently changed by decision of the state authorities, may apply to the IIHF to play for any one of the partitioned or united ~~e~~Countries without a waiting period upon providing proof of ~~their his~~ new citizenship. This decision may only be made once and is final and irrevocable subject to Statute 22.

4.4. When a player wishes to establish ~~his~~ eligibility under Bylaw 4, the MNA for which ~~the player~~ wishes to play must submit an application to the IIHF together with all applicable evidence at least four (4) weeks before the competition or game in which the player wishes to play.

4.5. Cases involving exceptional circumstances can be submitted to Council for a Council exception. All other IIHF eligibility decisions may only be appealed to the IIHF Disciplinary Board within fourteen (14) days of the IIHF eligibility notification in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.

4.6. Players of non-member organizations who participate in IIHF Competitions must, for the period of these events, be under the control and management of the respective MNA and be eligible in accordance with the applicable criteria to compete and shall be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the IIHF.

4.7. The player and the MNA registering a player for an IIHF Championship, Olympic ~~Competition~~ and ~~Olympic Qualification competition~~ thereto are at all times fully responsible for the player's eligibility, even if the IIHF approves the player's eligibility in accordance with Bylaw 4.4, and will be subject to the following disciplinary consequences:

- a) If one or more players is deemed ineligible during an IIHF Championship, Olympic ~~Competition~~ or ~~Olympic Qualification competition tournament thereto~~, then the games played by the team with an ineligible player shall be forfeited and the ineligible player disqualified from the tournament. In exceptional circumstances, the Directorate may vary the application of this clause in the best interests of the competition applying the principle that the team at fault should not take benefit of any ranking and with the objective not to disadvantage, even indirectly, other teams taking part in the competition. Any decision taken by the Directorate in this respect shall not be regarded as a precedent;
- b) If the player is deemed ineligible after the IIHF Championship, Olympic ~~Competition~~ or ~~Olympic Qualification competition tournament thereto~~, and before the following Semi-Annual Congress ~~Meeting~~, the team with the ineligible player shall be disqualified;
- c) If the player is deemed ineligible after the next IIHF Championship or qualification thereto, the team with the ineligible player shall be removed from the relevant Championship rankings, its results annulled, and the correct ranking established;
- d) An ineligible player may not receive any award;
- e) An ineligibility case may be submitted to the IIHF Disciplinary Board for further sanctions against the player and/or MNA in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations; and
- f) Where the effect of any of the above measures has resulted in a change in the rankings following the completion of the Championship, awards and payments shall be adjusted accordingly.

4.8. Eligibility rules for ~~the applicable~~ IIHF Competitions, ~~outside the IIHF Championship Program, Olympic competitions and Olympic Qualification competitions~~, may differ, and players must meet the applicable eligibility rules for each IIHF Competition.

Bylaw 5 IIHF Competition Host Applications

~~5.1. All IIHF Competitions must be organized and played in accordance with the respective Statutes and Bylaws, Regulations/Codes, and Official Playing Rules.¹~~

~~5.1. In accordance with Statute 12.1.1, all Full MNAs in good standing have the right to apply to host an IIHF Competition in accordance herewith and the Bidding Chapter in each respective Event Code.~~

5.2. An MNA is not eligible to host an IIHF Championship in the same Category in consecutive years unless there is no other applicant applying to host the Championship.

5.3. An MNA is not eligible to bid to host the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM) unless, at a minimum, it has participated in the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM) in two of the prior five years and/or in accordance with the ~~Bidding Procedure in the Event Codes-Regulations~~ for joint-hosting.

5.4. An MNA will not be eligible to apply to host the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A if it has been relegated from the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship

¹ Moved to Bylaw 1.

(WM) in the preceding season, unless there is no other application to host the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A.

~~5.5. The MNA applying to host an IIHF Competition must submit to the IIHF a properly completed and signed Competition Application Form in accordance with the Bid Regulations or the respective Competition Regulations.²~~

5.6. If no application has been made to organize a specified IIHF Competition, the Council may permit an exception to Bylaw 5.1 to 5.4⁵ and allocate the IIHF Competition in its discretion.

~~5.7. The allocation of any IIHF Championship is subject to mutual execution of a host Country contract between the IIHF and the Host MNA.³~~

~~5.7.—If there are more than six (6) teams in an IIHF Competition, the host must have two (2) arenas (depending on the playing system and the required ice time for games and practices) corresponding with the IIHF requirements. The games of an IIHF Competition may not be played in more than two arenas or in cities too far from each other according to the IIHF Championship or respective Competition Regulations. Council may permit an exception.⁴~~

Bylaw 6 World Championship Allocation Voting

6.1. All Full MNAs and Council shall have the right to vote on the allocation of IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM).

6.2. For the IIHF Ice Hockey World Junior Championship, the IIHF Ice Hockey World Women Championship, the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Championship and the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's U18 World Championship, the Full MNAs participating in the next respective applicable Championship ~~immediately preceding the voting Congress~~ and Council shall have the right to vote on the allocation of the respective Championship in accordance with Statute 14.8.4.

~~6.3.~~ For all other IIHF Championship divisions, all participating Full MNAs and Council shall have the right to vote on the allocation of the respective IIHF Championship in accordance with Statute 14.8.4.

~~6.3-6.4. Notwithstanding any provision in the IIHF Statutes and Bylaws, the IIHF shall have the right to award multiple iterations of a Championship to one or more MNAs if done so within a Commercial Rights Contract. The Full MNAs participating in the next respective applicable Championship and the Council shall have the right to vote on the allocation of these respective Championships in one ballot.~~

~~6.4-6.5. The allocation of any IIHF Championship is subject to mutual execution of a host country contract between the IIHF and the Host MNA.~~

Bylaw 7 World Championship Hosting Rights, Obligations and Penalties

7.1. *Hosting Rights*

² Moved to Event Codes.

³ Moved from Bylaw 6.

⁴ Relevant language moved to the Event Codes.

Once granted, the MNA cannot transfer the IIHF Championship hosting rights without IIHF prior written approval.

7.2. *Hosting Obligations*

7.2.1. The MNA must take full responsibility for the organization of the IIHF Championship in accordance with all provisions/rules of the [Governing Documents IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes](#) and host Country contract and/or separate agreement with IIHF.

7.2.2. Hosting MNAs must maintain full hosting and organization control of the IIHF Championship even if hosting rights and responsibilities are transferred to a hosting organization with IIHF written approval.

~~7.2.3. Violations of the IIHF Championship Regulations, the host Country contract and any separate agreement with the IIHF may result in penalties as defined in the Championship Regulations or host Country contract.⁵~~

~~7.2.4. The hosting MNA is responsible to provide a safe environment for spectators, players and officials. Any incident involving spectators will be investigated and may result in disciplinary sanctions in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations.⁶~~

~~7.2.5. The host shall cooperate with the IIHF to schedule and conduct an inspection of all facilities associated with the respective IIHF Competition and comply with directions from the IIHF as a result of such inspection. An IIHF inspection does not imply an IIHF warranty of any facility.⁷~~

~~7.2.6-7.2.3.~~ The hosting MNA must ensure that no other high-profile game of any MNA is allowed to occur during the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM) in the hosting Country.

~~7.2.7. The hosting MNA shall bear all costs and expenses related to the organization and hosting of the Championship in accordance with the Championship Regulations. The hosting MNA shall be required to indemnify the IIHF for any taxes levied by the authorities in accordance with the laws of the Country or countries in which an IIHF Championship is organized, including but not limited to, any taxes levied on any revenues, and similar levies and/or fees owed to the IIHF as a direct result of having hosted the Championship.⁸~~

7.3. *Hosting MNA withdrawal from Hosting Obligations*

7.3.1. Except in the case of force majeure, an MNA that does not intend to fulfil its commitment to host and organize a Championship and indicates such by 1 September of the respective Championship Season (except for the WM which must be indicated by 1 September two (2) years prior to the Championship) or where the IIHF has withdrawn hosting rights in accordance with Bylaw 9, shall be fined by the IIHF as follows:

⁵ Moved to Event Codes.

⁶ Moved to Event Codes.

⁷ Moved to Event Codes.

⁸ Moved to Event Codes.

- a) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship: CHF 500,000;
- b) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I: CHF 120,000;
- c) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division II and III: CHF 60,000;
- d) All other IIHF Championships: CHF 40,000.

This fine shall double if notification is received at any time after the deadline indicated above.

- 7.3.2. These fines do not restrict the rights of the IIHF and the MNAs to claim compensation for other damages arising from the withdrawal of a host organizer or because of the IIHF having withdrawn hosting rights.

Bylaw 8 Participating MNA Obligations and Penalties

8.1. *Participating MNA Obligations*

- 8.1.1. An MNA entering a team in any IIHF Championship must submit the respective Team Entry Form to the IIHF, unless indicated otherwise by the IIHF, no later than 15 April prior to the IIHF Annual Congress Meeting at which the respective Championship will be allocated. An MNA entering a team in the Olympic Competition must submit the respective Team Entry Forms co-signed by their National Olympic Committee, unless indicated otherwise by the IIHF, no later than 1 February two (2) years prior to the respective Olympic Winter Games, to enable the timely scheduling of the qualifications.
- 8.1.2. MNAs entering teams into IIHF CompetitionsChampionships must fulfill all conditions as specified in the Governing Documents-Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules including those rules relating to the use of IIHF supplied uniforms, advertising and the display of manufacturers' identification on equipment as specified in the respective Event Code-IIHF Championship Regulations and IIHF Media & Marketing Guidelines for Teams and Players at IIHF CompetitionsChampionship. All teams, players, team officials and game officials must follow these regulations, including but not limited to warranting that all players and team officials sign all required forms associated with the IIHF CompetitionChampionship.
- 8.1.3. During the period that an MNA participates in IIHF ChampionshipCompetition, no other national team of the same Category from that MNA shall participate in other international games or competitions.
- 8.1.4. An MNA and/or individual person participating in an IIHF Competition in any capacity whatsoever shall be independently responsible for any taxes (including but not limited to withholding tax) levied in accordance with the applicable tax regulations of the eCountries hosting the IIHF Competition, which shall include but not be limited to, taxes levied on prize money, premiums, salary, bonuses, participation fees or fees due to the MNA and/or individual persons as a direct result of participation in the respective CompetitionChampionship.
- 8.1.5. MNAs entering teams into the IIHF CompetitionsChampionships must fulfil all conditions relating to anti-doping, including availability for doping

control, submission of valid therapeutic use exemptions and updated whereabouts information as specified in the [Medical Chapter of the respective Event Code IIHF Medical Regulations, IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations](#) and WADC.

8.2. MNA Penalties

- 8.2.1. Except in the case of force majeure, an MNA that does not intend to fulfil its participation commitment and indicates such by 1 September or six (6) months prior to the respective Championship, whichever occurs first, shall be fined by the IIHF as follows:
- IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship: CHF 50,000;
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I: CHF 15,000;
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division II and II: CHF 7,500;
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Junior Championship: CHF 25,000;
 - IIHF Ice Hockey World Women's Championships: CHF 7,500; and
 - All other Championships: CHF 5,000.

This fine shall double if notification is received at any time after the time period indicated above. These fines do not restrict the rights of the IIHF and the host MNA to claim compensation for other damages arising from the withdrawal of a confirmed participant.

- 8.2.2. Violations of the [Event Codes IIHF Championship Regulations](#) and Team Entry Form shall result in penalties as defined in the [Compliance Chapter of the respective Event Code IIHF Championship Regulations](#).

- 8.2.3. Any participating MNA that has not been granted a visa in time to compete in an IIHF [Competition Championship](#) and, where the IIHF has determined that the participating MNA has not followed the IIHF Visa Guidelines, shall be sanctioned in accordance with Statute 8.2.1.

Bylaw 9 IIHF Withdrawal, Cancellation and Postponement of IIHF Competitions Championships and withdrawal of National Teams

- 9.1. [Notwithstanding any other Statute or Bylaw, if](#) in the opinion of the IIHF Council, [after conducting the necessary review into the corresponding risks, and after having considered all reasonable remedies, with the hosting MNA:](#)

- The hosting MNA/[Club](#) has failed to meet any material condition on which hosting rights were granted;
- The hosting MNA/[Club](#) is unable to meet its obligations in accordance with the host Country contract;
- The hosting MNA/[Club](#) is in material breach of the host Country contract; or
- There is reason for concern that the well-being, [safety, security and/or](#) the safe freedom of movement of the players, officials, [travelling](#) spectators and media ~~is in doubt~~;

then the IIHF Council shall have the right to:

- Cancel the [Competition Championship](#) and withdraw the hosting rights from a hosting MNA/[Club](#) in which case the IIHF will not be liable to the hosting MNA/[Club](#) for any costs associated with the cancellation;
- Withdraw hosting rights from a Hosting MNA/[Club](#) in which case such rights to the [Competition Championship](#) shall revert to the IIHF without the IIHF being liable to the hosting MNA for any costs associated with the withdrawal, and allocate the [Competition Championship](#) to another MNA; or

3. Postpone the [Competition Championship](#) in which case the IIHF shall not be liable to the hosting MNA/[Club](#) for any costs associated with the postponement.

9.2 [Notwithstanding any other Statute or Bylaw, if in the opinion of the IIHF Council, after conducting the necessary review into the corresponding risks, the participation of a team, player, official or coach would lead or leads to concerns for the well-being, safety, security and/or the safe freedom of movement of the players, coaches, officials, spectators and/or media, the IIHF Council shall have the right to deny entry or remove a participating team, player, official or coach from an IIHF Competition.](#)

Bylaw 10 Competition Operations

10.1. *Seeding and Schedule*

Teams are seeded for an IIHF Championship in accordance with the [Sport Chapter of the respective IIHF Event Code](#).~~IIHF Sport Regulations~~. The hosting MNA must prepare the game schedules for the respective IIHF Championship in accordance with the [Sport Chapter of the IIHF Event Code](#).~~IIHF Sport Regulations~~.

10.2. *Operations*

Competition operations shall be administered in accordance with the IIHF Sport Regulations.

10.3. *Forfeits*

A game is forfeited when a team does not appear for the game at the assigned time or when a game official has forfeited the game in accordance with the Official Playing Rules. All forfeitures shall result in the disqualification of the team deemed to have forfeited the game, unless the cause of the forfeiture was outside the respective team's control. All forfeits shall result in a score of 5:0 for the non-forfeited team, unless the score for the non-forfeited team was higher or the forfeiture was outside the control of the team deemed to have forfeited the game, in which case the original score shall prevail. be handled in accordance with the Official Playing Rules. A forfeited game may be appealed to the Directorate.

10.4. *Award of Points*

Points shall be awarded in accordance with the ~~IIHF Sport~~ [Chapter of the respective IIHF Event Code](#)~~Regulations~~. The IIHF Council may authorize a different system for IIHF Competitions and Olympic competitions.

10.5. *Uniforms and Numbers*

All teams participating in an IIHF Competition shall comply with the rules governing uniforms and numbers contained in the ~~IIHF Sport~~ [Chapter of the respective IIHF Event Code](#) ~~Regulations~~, Uniform Guidelines, Market Guidelines and Official Playing Rules.

10.6. *Directorate Control of Players*

- 10.6.1. The players participating in the respective IIHF Championship must conform to the age restrictions applicable to that IIHF Championship as described in Bylaw 11 through 15.

10.6.2. Younger players outside the defined age limits participating in the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships or IIHF Ice Hockey Women World Championships may be permitted only on presentation of a waiver signed by two medical doctors, the MNA and the player's parents or legal guardian, confirming that the player has the physical ability to play ice hockey in the respective age Category. Nevertheless, the Directorate reserves the right to refuse entry of an underage player.

~~10.6.3. At the Championship Passport Control Meeting (or by midnight local time in the day of the Passport Control Meeting at the latest), each Team Directorate member must submit the following documents:~~

- ~~i) Player Entry Forms;~~
- ~~ii) Team Entry Forms;~~
- ~~iii) Team Official Registration Forms with applicable waivers; and~~
- ~~iv) All players' national passports that are valid for the duration of the Championship and that confirms their citizenship.⁹~~

~~10.6.4.~~ ~~10.6.3.~~ Team Entry Forms submitted to the Directorate must name a minimum number of fifteen (15) skaters and two (2) goalkeepers. Subject to Bylaw 11.1.3, 12.1.3, 13.1.3, 14.1.3, 15.1.3 and 16.1.3, if the minimum number of fifteen (15) skaters and two (2) goalkeepers indicated on the Team Entry Form are not present at the Championship by the time of the first Directorate Meeting, the respective team will be disqualified. Additional players up to the allowed maximum of players and goalkeepers can be submitted for player control at least two (2) hours prior to each respective game, after which time the team registration for a respective game is final.

~~10.6.5.~~ ~~10.6.4.~~ In Championships where three (3) goalkeepers may be registered, a team will be entitled to dress and play the third goalkeeper registered for the Championship if a goalkeeper entered on the Official Game Sheet is incapacitated and unable to play. During a normal stoppage of play, the captain or alternate captain shall inform the referee who will report the third goalkeeper to the official scorekeeper. When the incapacitated goalkeeper has left the ice and the players' bench, the third goalkeeper may join ~~his~~the team and no delay shall be permitted. The replaced goalkeeper shall not be allowed to return to that game. The appropriate changes shall be recorded on the Official Game Sheet.

~~10.6.6. In Championships where only two (2) goalkeepers may be registered for the respective competition, each participating MNA will have the right to register an emergency goalkeeper during the Championship if that MNA's Directorate member and the team doctor declare in writing that a registered goalkeeper is unfit to play. The replacement goalkeeper must be registered in accordance with Bylaw 10.6.4 once the unfit goalkeeper is deleted from the team's list. The unfit goalkeeper cannot participate any further in the respective Championship.¹⁰~~

⁹ No longer done as the IIHF office checks all passports.

¹⁰ Emergency Goalkeeper no longer necessary as the Bylaws have been updated to allow a 3rd goalkeeper at the MNAs cost.

~~10.6.7. Notwithstanding Directorate allowance for a player to participate in an IIHF Competition, a player's eligibility remains subject to all IIHF eligibility requirements.¹¹~~

10.7. Insurance for IIHF Competitions

- 10.7.1. The insurance responsibilities of host MNAs and participating MNAs are specified in the ~~Insurance Section of the respective Event Code IIHF Championship Regulations and Insurance Guidelines.~~
- 10.7.2. All insurance coverage obtained by the host MNA in connection with the organization of a ~~Competition Championship~~, including but not limited to insurance coverage that is required to be provided in accordance with the ~~Insurance Section of the respective Event Code Championship Regulations and Insurance Guidelines~~, shall name the IIHF as an additional insured party under those policies. The host shall be required to indemnify the IIHF from any and all claims in excess of the insurance recovery, whatsoever and howsoever they may arise.

Bylaw 11 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships (WM)

11.1. General

- 11.1.1. Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship will be played annually and shall be organized with a Top Division tournament and lower Division tournaments in accordance with the number of teams registered and eligible to participate.
- 11.1.2. Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in the various Divisions will be held as follows:
- i) Top Division: played in May.
 - ii) All other Divisions: played in March/April, and must be finished at least one (1) week before the beginning of the tournament in the Top Division.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

- 11.1.3. The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers, ~~unless the IIHF agrees to otherwise in exceptional circumstances, on a case-by-case basis.~~

11.2. Team Composition

- 11.2.1. Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship must be eligible to compete ~~as a male athlete in the male Category~~ and be at least eighteen (18) years of age on December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. Players who do not meet the minimum age requirements, but who will have their 16th or 17th birthday in the year in which the Championship Season ends, may

¹¹ Language is not necessary as it is indicated in the Eligibility Bylaw.

participate if they have a signed under-age waiver as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.2.

11.2.2. Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in each Division shall be as follows:

- i) Top Division: twenty-two (22) players, three (3) goalkeepers and eight (8) team officials. [Injury replacement is possible in accordance with the Injury Replacement Guidelines.](#)
- ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials [\(a MNA has the right to bring one \(1\) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, e.g. totaling three \(3\) goalkeepers registered\).](#)
- iii) Division III and lower: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials [\(a MNA has the right to bring one \(1\) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, e.g. totaling three \(3\) goalkeepers registered\).](#)

~~In every Division, except the WM Top Division, teams may register an emergency goalkeeper during the competition as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.5 with all additional costs being borne by the respective MNA.~~

11.3. *Tournament Format*

11.3.1. Teams/Format: The number of teams and playing format in the various Divisions shall be as follows:

- i) Top Division: will consist of sixteen (16) teams including the team of the hosting MNA(s) and/or as further stipulated in the [Bidding Chapter of the IIHF World Championship Event Code-Bid Regulations](#) for joint-hosting. The sixteen (16) teams will be seeded into two (2) groups based on their world ranking;
- ii) [Division I A/B: will each consist of six \(6\) teams including the team of the hosting MNA. The competition will be played in a round robin format as indicated in the IIHF Division IA/B World Championship Event Code.](#)
- iii) ~~ii)iii)~~ [All other Divisions: if two \(2\) teams are entered into a respective Division, the competition will be a playoff series as indicated in the Sport Chapter of the IIHF Division IA/B World Championships Event Code](#) ~~IIHF Sport Regulations~~. If three (3) to seven (7) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be one group playing games as indicated in the ~~IIHF~~ [Sport Chapter of the IIHF Division IA/B World Championships Event Code-Sport Regulations](#). If eight (8) or more teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be two (2) groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play. The Council, at the Competition Committee's recommendation, shall have the discretion to adjust the format if necessary. No Division shall consist of more than twelve (12) teams.

11.3.2. Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport [Chapter of the IIHF Division IA/B World Championships Event Code-Regulations](#). The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

Bylaw 12 IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship (WM20)

12.1. *General*

- 12.1.1. Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship will be played annually and shall be organized with a Top ~~Division Tournament~~ and lower Division tournaments ~~in~~ accordance with the number of teams registered and eligible to participate.
- 12.1.2. Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship in the various Divisions will be held as follows:
- i) Top ~~Division Tournament~~: played between 22 December and 6 January.
 - ii) All other Divisions: played in December/January.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

12.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in ~~the Top Tournament~~ any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World U20 Championships is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers, unless the IIHF agrees to otherwise in exceptional circumstances, on a case-by-case basis.

12.2. *Team Composition*

- 12.2.1. Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship must be eligible to compete ~~as a male athlete in the male Categor~~ and be no younger than fifteen (15) years of age, and no older than twenty (20) years of age, on December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.
- 12.2.2. Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:
- i) Top ~~Division Tournament~~: twenty (20) players, three (3) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring two (2) additional players at the cost of the respective MNA, e.g. totaling twenty-two (22) players registered). Injury replacement is possible in accordance with the Injury Replacement Guidelines.
 - ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).
 - iii) Division III and lower Divisions: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, e.g. totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).

In every Division, except the WM20 Top Tournament, teams may register an emergency goalkeeper during the competition as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.5 with all additional costs being borne by the respective MNA.

12.3. *Tournament Format*

[12.3.1](#) Teams/Format: The number of teams and playing format in the various Divisions shall be as follows:

- i) Top [DivisionTournament](#): will consist of ten (10) teams, [including a team from the hosting MNA](#), seeded into two (2) groups following their ranking from the previous Championship Season's tournament.
- ii) Divisions: if two (2) teams are entered in a respective Division, the competition will be a playoff series. If three (3) to seven (7) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be one (1) group. If eight (8) to twelve (12) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be two (2) groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play. The Council, at the Competition Committee's recommendation, shall have the discretion to adjust the format if necessary. No Division shall consist of more than twelve (12) teams.

[12.3.2](#) Seeding and play shall be as specified in the [IIHF Sport Chapter of the IIHF World Junior Championship Event Code Regulations](#). The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

Bylaw 13 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship (WM18)

13.1. *General*

13.1.1. Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship will be played annually and shall be organized with a Top [DivisionTournament](#) and lower Division tournaments in accordance with the number of teams registered and eligible to participate. If the number of teams exceeds forty-six (46), a qualification tournament will also be held.

13.1.2. Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships in the various Divisions will be held as follows:
i) Top [DivisionTournament](#): played as late as possible in April.
ii) Divisions: played in February, March or April.

Championships in each Division must be finished at least one week before the beginning of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

[13.1.3](#) The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in the Top [DivisionTournament](#) of any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World U18 Championships, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers, [unless the IIHF agrees to otherwise in exception circumstances, on a case-by-case basis](#).

13.2. *Team Composition*

13.2.1. Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship must be eligible to compete [as a male athlete in the male Category](#) and be no younger than fifteen (15) years of age, and no

older than eighteen (18) years of age, by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

- 13.2.2. Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:
- i) Top ~~Division~~~~Tournament~~: twenty (20) players, three (3) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring two (2) additional players at the cost of the respective MNA, e.g. totaling twenty-two (22) players registered). Injury replacement is possible in accordance with the Injury Replacement Guidelines.
 - ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).
 - iii) Division III and lower: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).

~~In every Division, except the U18 Top Tournament, teams may register an emergency goalkeeper during the competition as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.5 with all additional costs being borne by the respective MNA.~~

13.3. *Tournament Format*

- 13.3.1. Teams/Format: The number of teams and playing format in the various Divisions shall be as follows:
- i) Top ~~Division~~~~Tournament~~: will consist of ten (10) teams, including a team from the hosting MNA, seeded into two (2) groups following their ranking from the previous Championship Season's tournament.
 - ii) Divisions: if two (2) teams are entered in a respective Division, the competition will be a playoff series. If three (3) to seven (7) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be one (1) group. If eight (8) to twelve (12) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be two (2) groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play. The Council, at the Competition Committee's recommendation, shall have the discretion to adjust the format if necessary. No Division shall consist of more than twelve (12) teams.
- 13.3.2. Seeding and play shall be as specified in the Sport Chapter of the IIHF U18 World Championship Event Code IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

Bylaw 14 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship (WW)

14.1. *General*

- 14.1.1. Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship will be played annually and shall be organized with a Top ~~Division~~~~Tournament~~ and lower Division

tournaments in accordance with the number of teams registered and eligible to participate.

14.1.2. Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championships in the various Divisions will be held as follows:

- i) Top Division Tournament: played in March/April.
- ii) All other Divisions: played in March/April.

Championships in each division must be completed at least one week prior to the start of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM Top Division).

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

14.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championships, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers, unless the IIHF agrees to otherwise in exceptional circumstances, on a case-by-case basis.

14.2. Team Composition

14.2.1. Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship must be eligible to compete as a female athlete in the female Category and be at least eighteen (18) years old by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. Players who do not meet the minimum age requirements, but who will have their 16th or 17th birthday in the year in which the Championship Season ends, may participate if they have a signed under-age waiver as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.2.

14.2.2. Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:

- i) Top Division Tournament: twenty ~~two~~ (22) players, three (3) goalkeepers and ~~eight~~ six (6) team officials. Injury replacement is possible in accordance with the Injury Replacement Guidelines.
- ii) Divisions: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).
- iii) Division III and lower: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the respective MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).

~~14.2.3. In every Division, except the WW Top Tournament, teams may register an emergency goalkeeper during the competition as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.5 with all additional costs being borne by the respective MNA.~~

14.3. Tournament Format

14.3.1 Teams/Format: The number of teams and playing format in the various Divisions shall be as follows:

- i) Top [DivisionTournament](#): will consist of ten (10) teams, [including a team from the hosting MNA](#), seeded into two (2) groups following their world ranking. Five (5) teams will be seeded in Group A and the next five (5) teams will be seeded in Group B.
- ii) Divisions: if two (2) teams are entered in a respective Division, the competition will be a playoff series. If three (3) to seven (7) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be one (1) group. If eight (8) to twelve (12) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be two (2) groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play. The Council, at the Competition Committee's recommendation, shall have the discretion to adjust the format if necessary. No Division shall consist of more than twelve (12) teams.

[14.3.2](#) Seeding and play shall be as specified in the [Sport Chapter of the IIHF Women's World Championship Event Code](#), [IIHF Sport Regulations](#). The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

Bylaw 15 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship (WW18)

15.1. *General*

- 15.1.1. Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship will be played annually and shall be organized in a Top [DivisionTournament](#) and lower Division tournaments in accordance with the number of teams registered and eligible to participate.
- 15.1.2. Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships in the various Divisions will be held as follows:
 - i) Top [DivisionTournament](#) and all Divisions: played in January.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

[15.1.3](#) The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey Women World U18 Championship, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers, [unless the IIHF agrees to otherwise in exceptional circumstances, on a case-by-case basis](#).

15.2. *Team Composition*

- 15.2.1. Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship must be eligible to compete [as a female athlete in the female Category](#) and be no younger than fifteen (15) years of age, and no older than eighteen (18) years of age, by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.
- 15.2.2. Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:
 - i) Top [DivisionTournament](#): twenty (20) players, ~~two~~[three](#) (23) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials [\(a MNA has the right to bring](#)

two (2) additional players at the cost of the MNA, e.g. totaling twenty-two (22) players registered). Injury replacement is possible in accordance with the Injury Replacement Guidelines.

- ii) Divisions: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials (a MNA has the right to bring one (1) additional goalkeeper at the cost of the MNA, totaling three (3) goalkeepers registered).

~~15.2.3. In every Division, teams may register an emergency goalkeeper during the competition as stipulated in Bylaw 10.6.5 with all additional costs being borne by the respective MNA.~~

15.3. *Tournament Format*

15.3.1. Teams/Format: The number of teams and playing format in the various Divisions shall be as follows:

- i) Top Division Tournament: will consist of eight (8) teams, including a team from the hosting MNA, seeded into two (2) groups following their rankings from the previous IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships. Four (4) teams will be seeded in Group A, and the next four (4) teams will be seeded in Group B.
- ii) Divisions: if two teams are entered into a respective Division, the competition will be a playoff series. If three (3) to seven (7) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be one (1) group. If eight (8) to twelve (12) teams are entered in a respective Division, there will be two (2) groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play. The Council, at the Competition Committee's recommendation, shall have the discretion to adjust the format if necessary. No Division shall consist of more than twelve (12) teams.

15.3.2. Seeding and play shall be as specified in the Sport Chapter of the IIHF U18 Women's World Championship Event Code IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

Bylaw 16 Promotion and Relegation

16.1. *Promotion*

Teams in the various Divisions of each Category will be promoted for the next Championship Season as follows:

- i) Division I Group A (WM): the two (2) top teams will be promoted to the Top Division.
- ii) Division I Group A (WW): the two (2) top teams will be promoted to the Top Division.
- iii) All other Division and categories: the winning team will be promoted to the highest group in the same Division or if there are no higher groups in the same Division, will be promoted to the lowest group of the next highest Division, subject to the Council's authority to adjust the format.

16.2. *Relegation*

16.2.1 Teams in the various Divisions of each Category will be relegated for the next Championship Season as follows:

- i) Top Division (WM): the last-placed team from each group (two (2) teams in total) will be relegated to Division I Group A. If one of those two last placed teams is a hosting

- [MNA the following year, then the 14th placed team in the final ranking will be relegated in place of that team to meet the requirements in Bylaw 11.3.1\(i\).](#)
- ii) Top Division (WW): the two (2) last-placed teams in Group B will be relegated to Division I Group A. [If one of those two last placed teams is a hosting MNA the following year, then the 8th placed team in the final ranking will be relegated in place of that team to meet the requirement in Bylaw 14.3.1 \(i\).](#)
 - iii) In all other Divisions and categories: the last-placed team will be relegated to the lowest group in the same Division or if there are no lower groups in the same Division, will be relegated to the top group in the next lowest Division, subject to the Council's authority to adjust the format. [If for the Top Division of the WM20, WM18 or WW18, the last placed team is the hosting MNA for the following year, then the next to last placed team in the final ranking will be relegated in place of that team to meet the requirement in Bylaw 12.3.1 \(i\), 13.3.1 \(i\), 15.3.1 \(i\), respectively.](#)

16.2.2 [A team that withdraws from a Championship once the Championship has been awarded at an IIHF Congress Meeting, and does not fulfil its participation requirement for any reason other than force majeure, shall automatically be relegated to the next lowest group in the same Division or if there are no lower groups in the same Division, will be relegated to the top group of the next lowest Division, with the last-placed team remaining in the respective Group.](#)

Bylaw 17 Olympic Competitions

17.1. *Olympic Games*

- 17.1.1. The IOC invites the IIHF to participate in the Olympic Winter Games (Men and Women). The IIHF operates the Olympic ice hockey competitions in accordance with the IIHF [Statutes, Bylaws, applicable rules of the IIHF World Championship Event Code Regulations/Codes](#) and [the IIHF Official Playing Rules](#).
- 17.1.2. Date: The Olympic Games take place every four (4) years in February, the next occurring in 2026.
- 17.1.3. Number of Players, Officials: the IIHF will determine the number of players and officials for the Olympic competition which will depend on its agreement with the IOC.
- 17.1.4. Number of Teams, Playing Format: The IIHF will determine the playing system for the Olympic competition based on participating teams and the agreement with the IOC.
- 17.1.5. Qualification: The system for qualification will be formatted depending upon the number of entries and geographical considerations. [The IIHF operates the Olympic Qualifications in accordance with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, applicable rules of the IIHF Division World Championship Event Code \(except for the Final Olympic Qualifications \(mens and womens\) where the IIHF Division IA/B World Championship Event Code shall apply\) and the IIHF Official Playing Rules.](#)
- 17.1.6. Eligibility: Player eligibility rules for Olympic competitions are in accordance with Bylaw 4, [11.2.1 and 14.2.1, as applicable](#). MNAs must meet minimum participation standards as indicated in Bylaw 3.

17.1.7. The IIHF will comply with the IOC Charter with respect to participation.

17.2. Youth Olympic Games

17.2.1. The Youth Olympic Winter Games (~~M~~men and ~~W~~women) take place every four years in the same year as the Summer Olympic Games, the next occurring in 2028⁴. The IIHF will only be part of the Youth Olympic Games if the IOC invites the IIHF to participate in the Youth Olympic Games. The number of participating teams, players and officials, ~~as well as eligibility criteria~~ and the format for competition and qualification will be determined by the IIHF depending on agreements with and stipulations by the IOC.

17.2.2. Player eligibility rules for Youth Olympic Winter Games are in accordance with Bylaw 4, 13.2.1 and 15.2.1, as applicable, except that player eligibility shall include players no younger than 14 years of age and no older than 15 years of age. MNAs must meet minimum participation standards as indicated in Bylaw 3.

Chapter 2 SPORT

Bylaw 18 International Player Transfers

18.1. Players who wish to move from one Country, irrespective of whether or not they are registered with the MNA of that Country, to the MNA of another Country are required to have a valid IIHF Transfer in accordance with the IIHF International Transfer Regulations.

~~18.2. In exceptional circumstances, the Council may authorize the transfer of a player.~~

Bylaw 19 International Games and Competitions

19.1. International Games

19.1.1. MNAs are authorized to participate in international games, Leagues or other competitions with teams from other MNAs. All MNAs and their teams, players and officials taking part in international games shall be subject to the applicable Governing Documents-IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules and must complete Official Game Sheets.

19.1.2. An MNA member team that wishes to participate in and/or organize an international game or other competition must first obtain the permission of its MNA.

19.1.3. Teams of MNAs wishing to host international games involving teams of non-member organization must obtain the approval of (a) the IIHF, (b) the MNA where the games will be played, (c) the MNA where the non-member organization is located, and (d) the MNA(s) participating team(s).

- 19.1.4. Teams of MNAs wishing to participate in international games hosted by a non-member organization must obtain the approval of their MNA and the IIHF.
- 19.1.5. All international senior club and national team games must be officiated by IIHF Licensed Officials in accordance with Bylaw 21.

19.2. *Cross-Border Leagues*

- 19.2.1. An MNA member team that wishes to play in a cross-border League and/or a League of an MNA where the club is not located must first obtain the permission of the MNA where the club is located. The MNA where the club is located must consult with the necessary national League before granting permission to the club to play in a cross-border League. If the club obtains the permission of the MNA where the club is located, it must then obtain the permission of the MNA of the Country where the club's future League is located. The IIHF Office shall operate oversight authority over the aforementioned approval and consultation process and shall refer all violations to the IIHF Disciplinary Board.
- 19.2.2. A League that wishes to operate cross-border must first obtain the permission of the MNA where the League is located. If the League obtains the permission of the MNA where the League is located, it must subsequently obtain the permission of each MNA where the clubs that wish to participate in the cross-border League are located.
- 19.2.3. For purposes of Bylaw 19.2, location means the place where the club or League is conducting its daily operations, specifically including but not limited to, the venue where the club is holding its home games and Country where the League is incorporated and operating.

Bylaw 20 IIHF Official Game Sheets

Official game sheets of IIHF Competitions indicated in Bylaw 1 and national team games where a match penalty and/or game misconduct has occurred must be submitted to the IIHF, the organizer and to the respective MNAs.

Bylaw 21 International Referees and Linesmen

21.1. *International Referees and Linesmen Licenses:*

~~International Referees and Linesmen are licensed by the IIHF in categories A, B and/or C specified as follows:~~

~~• 'A' License: WM, WW, WM20, WM18, WW18 and Olympic Winter Games Final Qualifications, Olympic Winter Games, Euro Hockey Tour, or any other international competition as specified by the IIHF.~~

~~• 'B' License: All other IIHF Championships not requiring an A License, competitions as specified by the IIHF, Olympic Winter Games Preliminary Qualifications, and all other international games involving a national team from men, women, men under 20, men under 18 and women under 18.~~

~~• 'C' License: All senior international club team games and all international games involving national teams not specified above.~~

~~21.2. International Referees and Linesmen licensed by the IIHF must meet and follow all requirements as indicated in the IIHF Sport Regulations.~~

The process and structure around nomination, licensing and assignment of IIHF Game officials (Referees and Linespersons) and IIHF Officiating coaches is regulated in the official documents named "IIHF Nomination Guidelines of Game Officials" and "IIHF Nomination Guidelines for Officiating Coaches" that is approved before every season by the IIHF Council on suggestion from the IIHF Officiating Committee.

Bylaw 22 Official Playing Rules

The Official Playing Rules for all IIHF Competitions, Olympic competitions and qualifications thereto and all other international games shall be established by the IIHF and contained within the IIHF Official Rule Book. The IIHF shall be responsible for establishing guidelines by which the official playing rules and any rule interpretations or adjustments shall be interpreted.

Bylaw 23 Integrity

23.1. Manipulation of Competitions

- ~~23.1.1. All persons bound by the IIHF Covered Party Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes including players, team officials, on and off-ice officials and IIHF representatives must fully comply with all Competition Manipulation rules established in the IIHF Competition Manipulation Regulations.~~
- ~~23.1.2. All MNAs must immediately report all incidents of Competition Manipulation, as defined in the IIHF Competition Manipulation Regulations and/or the MNAs relevant law, occurring within their Country to the IIHF including subsequently providing the final decision, and all information relating to the sanctions imposed and the due process elements provided at the national level.~~
- ~~23.1.3. The IIHF may review any sanction issued by a MNA and/or other national authority for a Competition Manipulation violation if the IIHF deems such necessary, but only with respect to the enforceability of the sanction outside of the MNA. The IIHF shall have the right to adopt and expand the national sanction internationally and/or adjust the sanction in accordance with the IIHF Competition Manipulation Regulations from an international perspective. Any person who has been sanctioned for a Competition Manipulation violation by an MNA and/or other national authority may have his case reviewed by the IIHF Disciplinary Board if the IIHF deems such necessary. The IIHF Disciplinary Board shall have the right to expand the national sanction internationally and/or adjust the sanction in accordance with the IIHF Competition Manipulation Regulations.~~

23.2 Abuse and Harassment

23.2.1 All Covered Parties must fully comply with the IIHF Abuse and Harassment Regulations.

23.2.2 All MNAs must immediately report all incidents of Abuse and Harassment in accordance with IIHF Abuse and Harassment Regulations and/or as required by the MNAs relevant law, occurring within their Country to the IIHF including subsequently providing the final decision, all available information relating to the sanctions imposed and the due process elements provided at the national level.

23.2.3 The IIHF may review any sanction issued by an MNA and/or other national authority for an Abuse and Harassment violation if the IIHF deems such necessary, but only with respect to the enforceability of the sanction outside of that MNA. The IIHF shall have the right to adopt and expand the national sanction internationally and/or adjust the sanction in accordance with IIHF Abuse and Harassment Regulations from an international perspective.

23.3 Ethics

23.3.1 All Covered Parties must fully comply with the IIHF Ethics Regulations.

23.3.2 All MNAs must immediately report all incidents of ethics violations as defined in the IIHF Ethics Regulations and/or the MNAs relevant law, occurring in their Country to the IIHF including subsequently providing the final decision, all information related to the sanctions imposed and the due process elements provided at the national level.

23.3.3 The IIHF may review any sanction issued by a MNA and/or other national authority for an ethics violation if the IIHF deems such necessary, but only with respect to the enforceability of the sanction outside of the MNA. The IIHF shall have the right to adopt and expand the national sanction internationally and/or adjust the sanction in accordance with the IIHF Ethics Regulations from an international perspective.

23.4 Anti-Doping

23.4.1 All matters relating to anti-doping shall be carried out in accordance with the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations and the WADC. The organizers of IIHF Competitions must ensure that the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations and the International Standards for Testing and Investigations are applied and respected. All clubs, teams, officials, players, team officials and game officials are subject to the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations at all times.

23.4.2 The IIHF shall decide at which IIHF Competitions and/or when out-of-competition doping controls are conducted. All doping control testing will be conducted in accordance with the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations.

23.4.3 The IIHF (and/or an IIHF designated Anti-Doping Organization) shall have the authority to conduct in-competition testing for: (a) all players who have signed the Player Entry Form to participate in IIHF Competitions, and (b) all players under the jurisdiction of an MNA. The IIHF (and/or an IIHF designated Anti-Doping Organization) shall have the authority to conduct out-of-competition testing at any time or place for all players under the jurisdiction of an MNA, including players serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension.

23.4.4 Violations of the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations will be sanctioned in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations in strict compliance with the

WADC. Any player suspended due to a doping offence will be subject to doping control prior to being eligible to play again.

23.5 *Doping Control Procedures in MNAs*

23.5.1 MNAs and their affiliated Leagues, teams and players are bound by the provisions of the WADC and subject to the IIHF Anti-Doping Regulations related thereto.

23.5.2 The results of positive doping tests carried out by MNAs or on players within their jurisdiction must be reported to the IIHF together with information about the sanction imposed.

23.5.3 Any players who have been sanctioned for a doping offence by an MNA may have their case reviewed by the IIHF Disciplinary Board if the IIHF deems such necessary. Should the IIHF take such action in relation to a decision rendered by an MNA, the IIHF Disciplinary Board shall have the right to impose additional sanctions and/or reduce sanctions in accordance with the WADC. WADA shall have the right to appeal IIHF Disciplinary Board decisions and MNA decisions, in accordance with the WADC.

23.5.4 In national-level cases where the MNA does not possess any anti-doping regulations, the disciplinary measures taken by the MNA must be substantially the same as those that would have been imposed by the IIHF in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Regulations and the WADC.

Annex 1 - Annual and Semi-Annual Congress Meeting Agenda

Agenda Annual Congress Meeting:

1. Notice of the Meeting;
2. Appointment of Minutes Keepers and Scrutinizers;
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Last Congress;
4. Report of the Director General ~~Secretary~~;
5. Report of the IIHF Activities;
6. Ratification of Urgent Decisions by Council;
7. Report of the Hosts of the coming IIHF Championships and Olympic Winter Games;
8. Allocation of IIHF Championships;
9. Participation in Olympic Winter Games;
10. Budget for the Upcoming Year;
11. Motion to Delete or Destroy ~~the~~ Ballots;
12. Other Business; and
13. Date and Place of Next Congress.

Agenda Semi-Annual Congress Meeting:

1. Notice of Meeting;
2. Appointment of the Minutes Keepers and Scrutinizers;
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Last Congress;
4. Elections: a. President, b. Senior Vice-President, c. Regional Vice-Presidents, d. Council Members, e. Auditors, f. Disciplinary Board, g. Appeal Board and h. Ethics Board;
5. Report of the IIHF Activities;
6. Modification of the Statutes;
7. Modification of the Bylaws;
8. Ratification of Urgent Decisions of the Council;
9. Elections in Case of Vacancies;
10. Admission of MNA and Expulsions and change of membership status;
11. Allocation of IIHF Championships (if necessary);
12. General Proposals (except for modifications to the Statutes and Bylaws);
13. Proposals for changing the Official Playing Rules;
14. Honors and Awards;
15. Proposals for changing the Codes/-Regulations/Codes;
16. Directorate Chairmen for IIHF Championships allocated by the Council;
17. IIHF Championships: a) Organizer's Report, b) Approval of Game Schedules, and c) Confirmation of Nominated Referees and Linesmen;
18. Yearly Accounts and Auditors' Report;
19. Discharge of the Responsibilities of the President, the Treasurer and the Council;
20. Approval of Appointed External Auditors;
21. Motion to Delete or Destroy ~~the~~ Ballots;
22. Other Business; and
23. Date and Place of next Congress.