

Statutes

According to resolution by Congress of Delegates in Neuried/Kehl (Germany) on August 23, 2022

§ 1

Name, Location and Purpose of the Federation

- (1) The world organisation is known as the “Internationaler Volkssportverband e.V.” (English: “The International Federation of Popular Sports” eV = Registered Club). The abbreviation of the name is “IVV”.
- (2) The IVV has its registered office at: Fabrikstrasse 8, 84508 Altötting, Germany, and is entered in the Register of Clubs.
- (3) The place of jurisdiction and completion is the competent court for the location of the registered office.
- (4) The IVV holds a world outlook and is politically neutral.
- (5) The federation languages are German and English. Should there be anomalies in the text, the German text is the authoritative version.
- (6) The financial year is the calendar year.
- (7) The IVV is the union of national popular sports federations at a worldwide level. Those IVV member countries which belong to the same continent can confederate to Continental Confederations, if at least three National Associations at a continent exist. In exceptional cases IVV can allow a Continental Confederation to admit an association as member that geographically belongs to another continent but not to this continent's Confederation. A statement of the geographically responsible Continental Confederation is necessary.

§ 2

Charitable (Non-Profit) Status

- (1) With the promotion of popular sport, the IVV exclusively, directly and selflessly follows non-profit purposes in the spirit of the section “preferential tax aims” of the tax regulations.
- (2) The IVV does not follow any commercial or profit-orientated aims. The financial means of the federation may only be used for purposes in accordance with the statute. The Congress of Delegates alone is responsible for authorising the granting of funds to member federations for the promotion of popular sports.
- (3) No-one, neither a person nor a legal entity, shall benefit through grants, the purpose of which is alien to that of the IVV, or through excessively high reimbursement.

- (4) The IVV functions in a financially independent manner. Consequently, when purchasing the materials necessary to carry out its functions, the federation shall be guided by the rules of economic best practice.

§ 3

The Duty of the IVV

- (1) The duty of the IVV is
- a) to encourage non-competitive sporting activity for all levels of society in the open air, thus benefiting the general health of the population.
 - b) by establishing international friendships, to serve peace and to lead to a better understanding among nations on the foundation of popular sport and
 - c) thus to promote the cultural and historical exchange between all people of the world.
 - d) at the same time the IVV supports the aims of nature conservancy and environmental protection as a way of maintaining and developing its sporting aims. It aims to maintain a balance between the needs of popular sport and the environment.
- (2) The aims of the IVV are:
- a) To encourage the organisation of popular sports events of a non-competitive character on all continents.
 - b) To support the national federations through co-operation and exchange of views about their experiences and opinions.
 - c) To authorise the member federations to recognise continued participation in popular sports events by awarding the “International Popular Sports Award”.
 - d) To encourage and gain the participation of young people and families in popular sport through special promotional schemes.
- (3) The production of an official federation publication.

§ 4

Acquisition of Membership

- (1) The members of the IVV are the national popular sports federations.
- (2) As a temporary solution, in countries where no national popular sports federation exists, direct member clubs can be admitted to IVV and be authorised to carry out popular sports events.
- (3) Membership will be established by means of a written application to the IVV Head Office. All further details are covered by the “Rules of Admission”.
- (4) The Continental Confederations are legally independent organizations and members without a right to vote at IVV. A written application has to be sent to IVV Head Office. Further details are according to Rules of Admission.

§ 5

Rights and Responsibilities of Member Federations

- (1) The member federations are entitled to carry out the following via their own executive:
 - a) To make proposals to the IVV and the Congress of Delegates.
 - b) To make use of the official IVV emblems in accordance with current regulations.
 - c) To issue the approved International Popular Sports Award. The IVV accepts no responsibility for the validation of the record books sold by national federations.
 - d) To use the name IVV-(country) e.g. IVV-Deutschland, IVV-Germany as subtitle.

- (2) The member federations are responsible to carry out the following:
 - a) To include the membership of the IVV in their own statutes and to include an indication of that membership in their own designation.
 - b) To promote and maintain the aims and purpose of the IVV.
 - c) To comply with the statutes, regulations and policy.
 - d) To participate in the Congress of Delegates.
 - e) To meet the annual subscriptions, payments and fees. The level, due date and method of payment is covered by the subscription and finance regulations, which are decided by the Congress of Delegates.

- (3) Continental Confederations are authorized
 - a) to make motions to the IVV Presidium and the Congress of Delegates via their responsible confederation organ
 - b) to use the official IVV emblem according to the effective regulations
 - c) to participate the IVV Congress of Delegates with one Continental Confederation Board Member in advisory function
 - d) to have own Rules and Standards approved by the IVV and
 - e) to organize own continental public sports events in accordance with the IVV

- (4) The Continental Confederations are obligated
 - a) to follow the IVV statutes, orders and guidelines.
 - b) to promote and protect the IVV intentions and aims
 - c) to define the collaboration and cooperation with the IVV in their Rules and Standards and to have an addition in their name referring to the IVV.
 - d) to take measures in close coordination with the IVV which seem to be necessary for the development of popular sports at the particular continent.

- (5) Offences against the responsibilities shown in (2 and 4) are dealt with in the “Order of Punishment”.

§ 6

Expiration of Membership

- (1) Membership of the IVV expires by virtue of:
 - a) Disbandment
 - b) Resignation
 - c) Expulsion

- (2) Resignation can only be made by giving notice in writing, sent by registered post, to the IVV Head Office, three months before the end of the financial year.

- (3) A member federation can be expelled if it commits a serious offence, deliberately or negligently, against the interests of the IVV, particularly against the IVV-statutes, regulations or IVV policy.
- (4) The Congress of Delegates will decide on matters of expulsion, at which the accused federation has no vote. Before the expulsion the accused federation is granted a hearing. In the case of non-appearance before the Congress of Delegates, the case will be decided on documentary evidence. The decision must be made by a 2/3 majority of the eligible delegates present. The decision is to be confirmed and made known in writing. An appeal against the decision can be made to the IVV-Arbitration Board.
- (5) With the disbandment, resignation or expulsion of the member federation, all rights and responsibilities connected with membership of the IVV become null and void. The departing federation has no legal financial claim against the IVV, but is obliged to meet all outstanding obligations to the IVV immediately.
- (6) These regulations apply correspondingly to direct member clubs.

§ 7

Federation Executives

The executives of the IVV are:

1. Congress of Delegates
2. Executive Presidium and United Presidium
3. Disciplinary Board and Arbitration Court

§ 8

Congress of Delegates

- (1) The Congress of Delegates is the supreme executive. It consists of the members of the United Presidium and the elected or appointed members of the individual National Federations.
- (2) Every National Member Federation has, irrespective of size, three delegates. Member countries, which have more than 150 member clubs, have, for each 150 member clubs or part thereof, one additional delegate; the maximum number of delegates is limited to 8 per member country. The base for calculations is the declared membership at 31.12. of the year preceding the Congress of Delegates.
- (3) All members of the Congress of Delegates have voting rights, which may only be made in person. National Member Federations who are present may proxy their voting rights to their own delegates.
- (4) The President is to call the Congress of Delegates to an ordinary general meeting every two years. The notification of the Congress of Delegates must be issued three months in advance, giving details of location, time and agenda. The invitation is to be accompanied by an appendix with the budget and a list showing the number of authorised delegates from the individual member federations.

- (5) Following the correct notification of the AGM, the Congress of Delegates is quorate when one more than half the declared number of delegates is present. The confirmation of the quorum is the responsibility of the meeting chairman. Should the meeting not be quorate at the beginning of the meeting, half an hour later, a meeting with the same agenda will in any case be quorate.
- (6) The management of the meeting is the task of the president, or a chairman named by him.
- (7) The decisions are made by the Congress of Delegates by a majority of delegates present. Changes to the statutes and dissolution of the federation require a two-thirds majority of the delegates present. In calculating the majority, abstentions and invalid votes are not to be counted. Further details are covered by the rules of procedure.
- (8) Minutes of the Congress of Delegates are to be made, containing course of the negotiations, results in wording and exact result of votes and signed by the secretary and the meeting chairman. The member federations must receive the minutes of the Congress of Delegates in writing within 6 weeks of the meeting.
- (9) The Congress of Delegates decides on all matters, which are not exclusively the preserve of the Executive Presidium and/or United Presidium, particularly: -
 - a) Receiving the annual report of the Executive Presidium and/or United Presidium
 - b) Having received the business reports and audit report, to approve the Executive Presidium and/or United Presidium concerning the accounts and conduct of management
 - c) Electing the Executive Presidium, the Audit Committee, the IVV Arbitration Court and the Disciplinary Board.
 - d) Voting on resolutions on changes to the statutes, federation regulations and IVV policy
 - e) Voting on resolutions over correctly presented motions
 - f) Voting on resolutions over nomination of honorary presidents
 - g) Voting on dissolution of the World Federation
- (10) An extraordinary Congress of Delegates is to be called,
 - a) when the Congress of Delegates decides this or
 - b) when at least half the member federations request this in writing, giving the reason for the meeting.

§ 9

Executive Presidium and United Presidium

- (1) The Executive Presidium is made up of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. It manages the continuous business activities of the association.
- (2) The Executive Presidium is elected by the Congress of Delegates for a period of four years. The period of office begins with the election. Should a member of the Executive Presidium vacate his post before the end of his period of office, the Executive Presidium will provisionally nominate another to the post. A bye-election must be held at the next Congress of Delegates to fill the vacant post.
- (3) The United Presidium consists of the members of the Executive Presidium and an elected member of each IVV approved Continental Confederation's board

- (4) The United Presidium is responsible for leading the federation in its entirety, to represent and coordinate all the functions of the federation and to promote the exchange between the Continental Confederations and the development of the popular sports worldwide. It is required to carry out the decisions of the Congress of Delegates and to respect the statutes, regulations and policy.
- (5) The United Presidium shares its duties out among its members proportionately according to the rules of procedure.
- (6) In accordance with §26 of the German Federal Law book the members of the Executive Presidium are the Board of Directors. The President is authorised to represent the IVV individually. It will be decided internally within the federation that, should the President not be available, two members of this committee (= Presidium) will represent the federation together.
- (7) A budget will be drawn up for each fiscal year by the Treasurer in agreement with the Executive Presidium. It will be approved by the Executive Presidium.

§ 10

Reimbursement of Expenses

- (1) All posts within the IVV are honorary posts.
- (2) Travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the Luxemburg Scale (for overseas travel).
- (3) If necessary the Presidium may decide to employ salaried personnel.
- (4) Details are covered in the Rules of Procedure for Finance and Subscriptions.

§ 11

Audit of Accounts

- (1) The Audit Committee will carry out an audit of the accounts annually. The Audit Committee consists of two members and two reserve members, who are not permitted to be members of the United Presidium, and have been elected by the Congress of Delegates for a period of four years. These persons have no voting rights at the Congress of Delegates.
- (2) Details are covered in the Rules of Procedure for Finance and Subscriptions.

§ 12

Disciplinary Board and Arbitration Court

- (1) A Disciplinary Board and an Arbitration Court are established within the IVV. Each consists of a chairman and two assessors who are elected by the Congress of Delegates for a period of four years. Additionally in each case two reserve assessors are to be elected.
- (2) Full procedural details are governed by the Rules of Procedure for the Disciplinary Board and the IVV Arbitration Court. Members of the Disciplinary Board and the Arbitration Court have the right to attend and speak as necessary, but no voting rights.

§ 13

Legal Basis and Jurisdiction Competence

- (1) The IVV regulates its own affairs through this statute, policy governing the organisation and running of popular sports events and decisions by the various executives, as well as the following regulations:
 - Rules of Admission
 - Order of Punishment
 - Honour Entitling Order
 - Rules of Financing and Dues
 - Rules of Order
 - Arbitration Order
 - Regulations for the allocation of the Popular Sports Olympiad and its execution
- (2) These regulations are an integral part of this statute.
- (3) The Congress of Delegates is able to enact further regulations.
- (4) The Members of the United Presidium, the Congress of Delegates, the Executives of the Federation, the National Member Countries, the Single Member Clubs and the participants in popular sports events, insofar as they are not registered with a National Member Federation, agree, through their position and participation in these events, to abide by the statute and regulations of the federation.
- (5) The IVV is responsible for ensuring the statutory and regulatory behaviour on the part of the member federations, the direct member clubs and their members within the framework of the respectively valid regulations.
- (6) In the case of offences against the IVV regulations or its statutory aims, the IVV will use its disciplinary powers and can punish federation members, their members, insofar as they are subject to federation powers, and such participating walkers, insofar as they are subject to the federation disciplinary powers, by the following actions and punishments:
 - Warning
 - Reprimand
 - Fines of from €250 to €1,500
 - Ban single member clubs from organising events for up to 3 years
 - Suspending functionaries for up to 3 years
 - Exclusion from participation in IVV events
 - Propose exclusion of a national member country or a direct member club from participation in the Congress of Delegates
- (7) Further details and the exact regulations of procedure themselves are laid down in the Order of Punishment and Arbitration Order.

§ 14
Dissolution of the Federation

- (1) The IVV can only be dissolved by a decision of the Congress of Delegates. Such a proposal must be specifically designated as such in the meeting agenda.
- (2) A proposal for the dissolution of the IVV must be made in writing, by at least two thirds of the member federations, to the Executive Presidium, which is obliged to call a Congress of Delegates immediately. The dissolution can only be agreed through a written vote, with a two-thirds majority of all participating eligible delegates.
- (3) With the dissolution or abolition of the IVV, or the demise of its purpose, all the IVV property will be donated to the children's charity of the UNESCO.

§ 15
Final Provisions

- (1) Insofar as nothing else is laid down within this Statute, the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany are applicable.
- (2) The Federation was entered into the Register of Clubs at the district court of Munich, register department, under No 7820 on the January 20, 1972. An amendment was made on April 29, 2003 at the district court in Schleswig 7VR 0684/ 0902 1050. An amendment was made on March 28, 2006, at the district court AG HH NR 19355 (399) 2007.
- (3) The revised version of the statute will take effect with the entry into the Register of Clubs. (Last entry: 22 February 2022, Altötting, VR 200655)