

WBSC



WORLD
BASEBALL SOFTBALL
CONFEDERATION

~~ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION~~ **WBSC STATUTES**

This is the final version containing all the modifications and amendments to the Articles of Association that were approved and ratified by the I WBSC Congress held in Hammamet, Tunisia, on 10th May 2014.

This final version and all its amendments have been approved as a draft first by the WBSC Executive Board in its meeting in Rome, Italy, on 25th February 2017,

and then are intended to be approved by the WBSC Extraordinary Congress to be held in Botswana on 13th October 2017.

WBSC ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Adopted 2013
Revised and adopted 2014

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND FOUNDING PURPOSE

- 1.1 The name of this organisation shall be the World Baseball Softball Confederation, and hereinafter may sometimes be referred to as “WBSC” or the “Confederation.” WBSC is and shall remain a not-for-profit entity, organised as an Association according to the provisions of Swiss Civil Code, Part One, Title Two, Chapter Two.
- 1.2 WBSC has been formed by the International Baseball and Softball Federations (IBAF and ISF) to provide a unified voice and governance for all disciplines of Baseball and Softball (the “sports”) throughout the world. ISF and IBAF each recognises and adheres to the Confederation Articles of Association. The WBSC will supersede the authority of ISF and IBAF to govern those sports internationally and will replace the ISF and the IBAF on the list of IFs for core sports as found in the IOC By-Law to Rule 45, ¶ 2.1.2.

ARTICLE 2. LOCATION

CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND FOUNDING PURPOSE

1.1 - The name of this organisation shall be the World Baseball Softball Confederation, and hereinafter may sometimes be referred to as “WBSC” or the “Confederation.” WBSC is and shall remain a not-for-profit **and apolitical** entity, organised as an Association according to the provisions of Swiss Civil Code, Part One, Title Two, Chapter Two.

1.2 - **The WBSC is the only recognised International Governing Body for the Sport of Baseball/Softball, legally established in accordance with its own Statutes as well as Swiss Civil Code and it shall be in charge of all Baseball Softball activities in all categories thereof in all the countries and territories of the world, which accept its Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.**

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: clarify the name Baseball Softball; WBSC: from now on to be indicated as Baseball/Softball, as suggested by the International Olympic Committee]

[proposed by ESF: avoid the use of the word category; WBSC: cancelled]

1.3 - WBSC **was** formed in 2014, and such recognised by the International Olympic Committee and other world recognition organisations, by the merge of the International Baseball and Softball Federations (IBAF and ISF), to provide a unified voice, governance and control for the sport of Baseball Softball (the “Sport”) and all disciplines of Baseball Softball (the “disciplines”) throughout the world. Where used in these Statutes the Sport of Baseball Softball shall include the disciplines of Baseball and Softball. The WBSC will have the sole authority to govern the Sport internationally and will replace the ISF and the IBAF (which are no longer recognised as International Federations by the IOC) on the list of IFs for core sports as found in the IOC By-Law to Rule 45, ¶ 2.1.2.

1.4 - **The WBSC is constituted of the Member Federations, Associations or Organisations, which organise, promote and develop the Sport in their respective countries or territories.**

1.5 - **The WBSC is an association whose Member Federations, Associations or Organisations join the WBSC voluntarily; Full Member Federations are recognised in each country or territory as being the sole governing body for Baseball and/or Softball in that particular country or territory. By voluntarily affiliating with the WBSC, the Member Federation and/or their individual members/organisations/athletes/officials belonging to that Member Federation by participating in WBSC events and/or Tournaments in any capacity whatsoever, implicitly and explicitly agree to adhere to the principles and specific conditions expressed in the Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations of the WBSC as in effect at any particular time.**

ARTICLE 2. LOCATION

2.1 - The world headquarters of WBSC shall be located in **Lausanne**, Switzerland. The city may

2.1 The world headquarters of WBSC shall be located in Switzerland. The city may be selected by the WBSC General Meeting (the “General Meeting”).

ARTICLE 3. DISCRIMINATION

3.1 WBSC shall not allow any discrimination against National Federations or individuals (competitors, officials, umpires, delegates, and the like) on the grounds of race, national origin, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability, or political affiliation.

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTIVES

4.1. The Objectives of this Confederation shall be as follows:

- (a) To encourage the development of all types of Baseball and Softball throughout all nations;
- (b) To fully comply with the Olympic Charter;
- (c) To promote clean sport, fight against doping through prevention and education and adhere to the World Anti-doping Code (WADC);
- (d) To promote and encourage the development of international relations;

be **changed** by the WBSC **Extraordinary Congress**.

ARTICLE 3. DISCRIMINATION

3.1 - WBSC shall not allow any discrimination against **Member Federations, Associations or Organisations** or individuals (**athletes**, officials, umpires, delegates, and the like) on the grounds of race, national origin, sex, **colour**, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability, or political affiliation.

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 - The Objectives of this Confederation shall be as follows:

- a) To encourage the development of all **disciplines of our Sport of Baseball Softball** throughout all **countries and territories**.
- b) **To promote and encourage the development of physical attributes and moral values and ethical principles, mutual respect and worldwide peace, which are the basis of our Sport, through the organisation of world, continental, regional, sub-regional and national competitions.**
- c) To fully comply with the Olympic Charter **and to contribute to the realisation of its objectives.**
- d) To promote clean sport, fight against doping through prevention and education and adhere to the World Anti-doping Code (WADC).
- e) To promote and encourage the development of international relations **through the greatest bonding and fairest and most amicable cooperation between its Member Federations, Associations and Organisations.**
- f) **To promote, sponsor and, if needed, found such bodies as may be deemed necessary for the best development and functioning of Baseball Softball and the disciplines of Baseball and Softball throughout the world.**

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: clarify the terms found such bodies; WBSC: the article should not be changed as it gives the possibility to WBSC to achieve the best functioning of Baseball/Softball and, if needed, creating / funding bodies that can be considered of some specific utility]

- g) **To form partnerships, cooperations or amalgamations with other International Sporting Organisations (ISOs) to further the promotion and development of Baseball Softball and the disciplines of Baseball and Softball throughout the world.**
- h) **To subscribe to, apply to or join any other ISOs whose objectives are consistent with**

- (e) To adopt, approve, administer, revise, and enforce uniform rules and regulations governing competitions in Baseball and Softball;
- (f) To organise Olympic Competitions;
- (g) To ensure that other competitions are sanctioned under, and comply with, these Articles of Association and any relevant Codes of the Baseball and Softball Divisions (as defined below at Article 11.1), and are open to eligible National Federations;
- (h) To decide any dispute that may arise between, among or involving member National Federations that is referred to WBSC by an interested party, and to provide for the uniform recognition and application of disciplinary actions;
- (i) To establish, organise and administer training, qualification and development programs for players, administrators, coaches, managers, umpires, scorers and technicians;
- (j) To establish, collect or cause to be collected and to approve and maintain statistics, statistical compilations and records for access via the web site and elsewhere;
- (k) To recognise appropriately the contributions of those involved in Softball and Baseball;
- (l) To cooperate with the IOC and the Olympic Movement to promote, implement, and achieve these Objectives, and to preserve and guarantee the interests of WBSC and its member National Federations, and to support and maintain the ideals of the Olympic Movement in all aspects of Softball and Baseball;
- (m) To carry out such other activities as may be desirable to promote the sports of Softball and Baseball.

ARTICLE 5. LANGUAGE

5.1 The official languages of WBSC shall be English and Spanish. In case of doubt, the English language shall prevail.

those of WBSC.

- i) To guard and protect the general interests of Baseball Softball throughout the world and before such organisations and institutions as may be required.
- j) To adopt, approve, administer, revise, and enforce uniform rules and regulations governing competitions in Baseball Softball.
- k) To organise Olympic Competitions.
- l) To ensure that other competitions are sanctioned by WBSC under, and comply with, these Statutes, the Code of the Divisions and any relevant Tournament Regulations of the respective Baseball and Softball Divisions (as defined below at Article 12.1), and such competitions are open to eligible National Federations.
- m) To decide any dispute that may arise between, among or involving Member Federations, Associations and Organisations, including that between, among or involving any individual athlete or official, that is referred to WBSC by an interested party, and to provide for the uniform recognition and application of disciplinary actions.
- n) To establish, organise and administer training, qualification and development programs for athletes, administrators, coaches, managers, umpires, scorers, technicians and any other official.
- o) To carry out studies and investigations and promote and organise seminars, workshops, conferences and other events for the improvement and development of Baseball Softball throughout the world.
- p) To establish, collect or cause to be collected and to approve and maintain statistics, statistical compilations and records for access via the web site and elsewhere.
- q) To establish, calculate and promote the World Rankings for Baseball Softball at different levels, including for all international, continental, regional and sub-regional Baseball Softball competitions.
- r) To recognise appropriately the contributions of those involved in Baseball Softball.
- s) To cooperate with the IOC and the Olympic Movement to promote, implement, and achieve these Objectives, and to preserve and guarantee the interests of WBSC and its Member Federations, Associations and Organisations and to support and maintain the ideals of the Olympic Movement in all aspects of Baseball Softball.
- t) To carry out such other activities as the Executive Board may deem desirable to promote and/or develop the sport of Baseball Softball.

ARTICLE 5. LANGUAGE

5.1 - The official languages of WBSC shall be English and Spanish. In case of doubt, the English language shall prevail. Additional official languages may be adopted by simple majority

ARTICLE 6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 The national sports governing bodies governing Baseball and those governing Softball, or a single body jointly governing Baseball and Softball, which meets the requirements as set forth by the WBSC, shall be eligible for membership in WBSC as a National Federation if qualified, or such other condition of membership as may be established by the WBSC.
- 6.2 The constitution, by-laws or articles of association and rules of a Member must not be in conflict with those of WBSC. Where there is a conflict, the WBSC Articles of Association and Codes shall prevail.
- 6.3 Each Member, by accepting membership of WBSC, acknowledges that WBSC is the only recognised body in the world that governs Baseball and Softball internationally.
- 6.4 A National Federation or other Member which governs both Baseball and Softball in its country, may nevertheless choose to organise itself in the form of separate organisations with responsibility for Softball and for Baseball, so long as the Member gives notice to WBSC of the identity of each such organisation and assumes all ultimate responsibility for the actions of such organisations.

of either the WBSC Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.

CHAPTER 2 – MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 - The **recognised** national **or territorial** sports bodies governing Baseball **or** Softball, or those single bodies jointly governing Baseball and Softball, shall be eligible for membership in WBSC as a National Federation if qualified, or such other condition of membership as may be established by the **Executive Board**.
- 6.2 - The constitution, by-laws or articles of association and rules of a Member must not be in conflict with those of WBSC. Where there is a conflict, the WBSC **Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations** shall prevail.
- 6.3 - Each Member, by accepting membership of WBSC, acknowledges that WBSC is the only recognised body in the world that governs Baseball Softball internationally.
- 6.4 - **The WBSC shall have the following classes of membership:**
- a) **Affiliated members, which will be categorised as either Full Members or Provisional Members; or**
 - b) **Associate members, officially approved by the WBSC Executive Board.**

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: membership must be a Congress decision; WBSC: Associate Members have specific requirements requested by the WBSC Executive Board; furthermore Associate Members don't have the right to vote]

- 6.5 - **To be a Full Member of the WBSC, the following is required:**
- a) **The applicant must officially apply to the WBSC.**
 - b) **That there exists a National Olympic Committee (NOC) in the country or territory of the Federation, Association or Organisation applying for affiliation.**
 - c) **The applicant Federation, Association or Organisation must exercise a specific, real and on-going sports Baseball Softball activity and be governed by and comply in all aspects with both the Olympic Charter and the WBSC Statutes, Division Code, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.**
 - d) **When a country or territory wishes to set up its own NOC and requires a minimum national Federations, Associations or Organisations in order to obtain such status, the WBSC may accept from the applicant its request for incorporation into and recognition by the NOC in the process of the NOC's incorporation and in such case, WBSC may admit it**

as a provisional member. Such provisional acceptance shall remain in force pending the decision of the International Olympic Committee in relation to recognition of the corresponding NOC.

e) The Federation, Association or Organisation affiliated to the WBSC shall be the only authorised body to legislate and pass resolutions, motions and provisions in its country or territory, in all Baseball Softball competitions organised within its jurisdiction or territory, and shall be authorised to set up relations with other members, in accordance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

6.6 - To be a Provisional Member of the WBSC, the following is required:

a) The applicant must officially apply to the WBSC.

b) The applicant Federation, Association or Organisation does not have an IOC-recognised NOC in its country or territory but is recognised by WBSC to be the only Federation, Association or Organisation authorised to legislate and pass resolutions, motions and provisions in its country or territory, in all Baseball Softball competitions organised within its jurisdiction or territory and to set up relations with other members, in accordance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

6.7 - To be an Associate Member of the WBSC, the following is required:

a) The applicant must officially apply to the WBSC.

b) The applicant must be a self-administered international or major organisation, other than a National Federation, recognised by the WBSC and whose activities or objectives involve the development of the sport of Baseball and/or Softball and whose objectives are not in conflict with those of WBSC.

c) The applicant must meet such other criteria and conditions as may be set by the WBSC.

d) The applicant must agree to and must respect and abide by the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

6.5 For the purposes of the Confederation, there shall be five (5) world regions ("s"): Africa; Asia; Europe; the Americas (North America, Central America, the Caribbean and South America); and Oceania. Each Region may organise itself with either a Regional Confederation, or separate Regional Confederations for Baseball and for Softball. Each Regional Confederation, whether joint or separate, shall provide an organisational structure within its Region for the purposes of its own prudential matters and for Regional Competitions, which may or may not be a WBSC Competition.

6.6 Associate Membership of WBSC is available for self-administered international or major organisations, other than a National Federation, whose activities or objectives involve the development of the sports of Baseball and/or Softball and whose objectives are similar to, but are not in conflict with, those of WBSC, which organisation applies to and is recognised by WBSC and, if recognised by WBSC, must respect and abide by the WBSC Articles and regulations.

6.8 - For the purposes of managing and organising all championships and events at regional and continental level, WBSC ~~founds and~~ recognises five (5) world regions ("Continents"): namely, Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and Oceania.

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: change wording; WBSC: term "founding" cancelled]

6.9 - The Continental Associations, constituted of WBSC affiliated members geographically situated within their continent, shall have proper authority within the limits of their jurisdiction following the WBSC policies and shall, under WBSC control, supervise Baseball Softball activities in their respective areas. **The Statutes of the Continental Associations must comply with the Olympic Charter and the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and must be approved the WBSC.**

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: do not change the status of the Continental Associations; WBSC the article is modified as indicated]

<p>ARTICLE 7. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>7.1 Subject to Article 8.1, eligibility for membership is open to any organisation that files an application, satisfies the criteria for membership, and demonstrates that it is eligible for membership in accordance with the provisions of these Articles of Association. Any ISF National Federation or IBAF National Federation shall automatically be recognised by the</p>	<p>6.10 - The duties and responsibilities of the Continental Associations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To promote, develop and control Baseball Softball and implement the WBSC policies within its geographical limits, ensuring compliance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations. b) To approve and implement its own rules and regulations and ensure they are in accordance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations. c) To apply within their geographical limits, the specific aspects marked in WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations concerning the membership fee, members' obligations and other duties and responsibilities of Members. d) To authorise, organise and control, with the prior approval of the WBSC, continental, regional and sub-regional tournaments and competitions, including those in continental, regional and sub-regional multi-sports Games and events, with the exception of championships and events related to the qualifications for the Olympic Games, which remain under the sole competence and authority of the WBSC. e) The President of the WBSC and/or his or her representative may attend all meetings of the Continental Associations' Executive Committees, Congresses and all other meetings and events as may be held at any time. The Continental Associations shall ensure that the WBSC Executive Office shall be notified of the Meetings of the Continental Associations' Executive Committees, Congresses and all other meetings and events at the latest when the official call is made to ensure that the President and/or his or her representative is able to attend these meetings. f) When a Continental Association imposes a penalty and/or a sanction on an athlete, official or any individual or organisation, such matter and decision shall be brought to the attention of the WBSC for the WBSC's decision as to whether such penalty and/or sanction would affect the affected person or organization in relation to WBSC competitions, events and activities. <p>6.11 - Non-compliance with these provisions and Statutes and in the event of conflict between decisions of the Executive Board and the Continental Associations may lead to the intervention of WBSC as appropriate, including sanctioning provided in these Statutes and in the Disciplinary By-Laws.</p> <p><i>[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: verify the necessity of sanctioning; WBSC: sanctions are a necessary tool of WBSC to guarantee harmony among all Members]</i></p> <p>ARTICLE 7. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>7.1 - Subject to Article 8, eligibility for membership is open to any organisation that files an application, satisfies the criteria and requirements for membership, and demonstrates that it is eligible for membership in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes.</p> <p>7.2 - WBSC shall recognise only one National Federation for Softball and only one National</p>
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<p>WBSC upon adoption of these Articles of Association and without application or additional fee.</p> <p>7.2 WBSC shall recognise only one National Federation for Softball and only one National Federation for Baseball, or only one joint National Federation which will govern both Baseball and Softball as the case may be, in a country for which an application is made and approved, the jurisdiction of which shall be limited to the internationally recognised political boundaries of that country.</p> <p>7.3 For new Members, an applicant for membership as a National Federation shall submit an application for recognition as a Member, in such form as WBSC may require, which application shall include all supporting documentation and any additional information as is considered necessary or appropriate by WBSC. In addition, an applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be a separate legal entity under the laws of the country in which it is organised; (b) be a charitable, public service, or not-for-profit entity having as its purpose the advancement of Baseball and/or Softball competition and activities within its country, and have the managerial and financial capability to plan and execute its obligations; (c) be recognised by the NOC for its country as the sole national federation for Softball or Baseball (or both, if so organised). (d) acknowledge WBSC as the sole governing body for international Baseball and Softball and as the sanctioning authority for all WBSC Competitions, and comply with the provisions of these Articles of Association and each applicable Code; (e) acknowledge all other member National Federations as the only governing authorities for Baseball and/or Softball in their respective nations and all Regional Confederations as the governing body for Baseball and/or Softball on a Regional basis, subject to the constitutional limitations of such organisations; (f) provide a means for and act as a conduit for all correspondence or communications regarding international Baseball and/or Softball affairs; (g) timely pay such fees, dues, or other financial assessments in full and timely provide such information to WBSC as may be required of member National Federations. The amount of annual membership dues or other financial assessments shall be set by the Board. Dues must be paid on or before March 31 of each year in US Dollars; (h) not discriminate in its membership policies and is open to any individual who is an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, official active in Baseball and/or Softball in its country and not subject to a disciplinary action; (i) provide any person over which it may have authority to determine eligibility to compete in Softball and/or Baseball or for membership in its organisation, with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring such person ineligible to participate, or revoking such membership; (j) be governed by a board of directors or other such governing board whose 	<p>Federation for Baseball, or only one joint National Federation which will govern both Baseball and Softball in a country or territory for which an application is made and approved. The jurisdiction shall be limited to the internationally recognised political boundaries of that country or territory. The WBSC may not recognise more than one such Federation in any country or territory.</p> <p>7.3 - For new Members, an applicant for membership as a National Federation shall submit an application addressed to the WBSC President and sent to the WBSC Headquarters for recognition as a Member, in such form as the WBSC may require, which application shall include all supporting documentation and any additional information as required by the Executive Board. In addition, an applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be a separate legal entity under the laws of the country or territory in which it is organised; b) be a charitable, public service, or not-for-profit entity having as its purpose the advancement of Baseball Softball competitions and activities within its country, and have the managerial and financial capability to plan and execute its obligations; c) acknowledge WBSC as the sole governing body for international Baseball Softball and as the sole sanctioning authority for all WBSC Competitions, and comply with the provisions of the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and each applicable Tournament Regulations; d) acknowledge all other member National Federations as the only governing authorities for Baseball and/or Softball in their respective nations and all Continental Associations as the governing body for Baseball and/or Softball on a continental basis, subject to the constitutional limitations of such organisations; e) provide a means for and act as a conduit for all correspondence or communications regarding international Baseball Softball affairs; f) timely pay such fees, dues, or other financial assessments in full and timely provide such information to WBSC as may be required of member National Federations. The amount of annual membership dues or other financial assessments shall be set by the Executive Board. Dues must be paid on or before March 31st of each year in US Dollars; g) not discriminate in its membership policies and is open to any individual who is an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, official active in Baseball Softball in its country and not subject to a disciplinary action; h) provide any person over which it may have authority to determine eligibility to compete in Baseball Softball or for membership in its organisation, with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring such person ineligible to participate, or revoking such membership; i) be governed by a board of directors or other such governing board whose members are selected without discrimination of any form, except that, in sports where there are separate male and female programs, it provides for representation of both males and females on
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<p>members are selected without discrimination of any form, except that, in sports where there are separate male and female programs, it provides for representation of both males and females on such board of directors or other such governing board;</p> <p>(k) provide and enforce proper procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances of its members, providing due process in all instances; and</p> <p>(l) be approved by the Executive Board, and by a majority vote of National Federations, Members of WBSC, present and eligible to vote at the General Meeting during which such a vote is taken.</p> <p>7.4 If an application for membership as a National Federation is not accepted by the Executive Board or by a General Meeting under Article 7.3(i) hereof, the applicant may reapply prior to a subsequent General Meeting. If the membership is not accepted a second time, then the applicant may only reapply after allowing at least one regular General Meeting to pass.</p> <p>7.5 An applicant to be a Member from a geographic territory that does not have a recognised National Olympic Committee may be admitted as an Interim Member if it meets all the other criteria of Article 7.3. The General Meeting, in future, may approve other classes of Member by Special Resolution.</p> <p>7.6 An applicant to be an Associate Member of WBSC must be accepted by the Executive Board or by a General Meeting under Article 7.3(l).</p> <p>ARTICLE 8. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS</p> <p>8.1 A Member in Good Standing has the following rights (“Rights”):</p> <p>(a) to use the services of WBSC;</p>	<p>such board of directors or other such governing board;</p> <p>j) provide and enforce proper procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances of its members, providing due process in all instances; and</p> <p>k) be approved by the Executive Board, and by a majority vote of National Federations, Members of WBSC, present and eligible to vote at the Congress during which such a vote is taken.</p> <p>7.4 - If an application for membership as a National Federation is not accepted by the Executive Board or by a Congress under Articles 7 and 8 hereof, the applicant may reapply prior to a subsequent Congress. If the membership is not accepted a second time, then the applicant may only reapply after allowing at least one regular Congress to pass.</p> <p>7.5 - An applicant to be a Member from a geographic territory that does not have a recognised NOC may be admitted as a Provisional Member if it meets all the other criteria of Articles 7 and 8. The Congress, in future, may approve other classes of Member by Special Resolution.</p> <p>7.6 - For new Members, an application for membership as a National Federation shall include the following documents:</p> <p>a) A certified copy of its Statutes and Regulations.</p> <p>b) The original admission certificate of its NOC/Ministry of Sports/National Sport Institute or a copy of the application for registration with the NOC/Ministry of Sports/National Sport Institute. If said application is denied, it must attach a copy of the correspondence pertaining thereto. No admission certificate from a NOC is required for those applicants seeking Provisional or Associated Member status.</p> <p>c) The composition of its Board of Directors or such other governing committee as well as its members, with the position, name and addresses of all of its officers and members.</p> <p>d) A short description of the national and other competitions, activities and events organised within the country or territory for a period of three (3) years preceding the application and the 3-year plan for the future development of Baseball Softball in the country or territory.</p> <p>e) The application form must include a formal statement from the applicant that it will comply with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and any WBSC resolution or directive.</p> <p>7.7 An applicant to be an Associate Member of WBSC must be accepted by the Executive Board under Article 6.4(b).</p> <p>ARTICLE 8. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS</p> <p>8.1 - A Full Member in Good Standing has the following rights (“Rights”):</p>
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- (b) to take part in Olympic Competitions and other WBSC sanctioned competitions for which they are eligible;
- (c) to be recognised as the only Softball and/or Baseball National Governing Body of its Country by everybody, including its National Olympic Committee; and
- (d) to do or engage in any other act to which a Member that is in Good Standing is otherwise entitled to do.

- a) to attend the Congress;**
- b) to use the services of WBSC;
- c) **to have the right to speak in all deliberations at the Congress;**
- d) **to vote in all deliberations and matters submitted to the Congress;**
- e) to take part in Olympic Competitions and other WBSC sanctioned competitions for which they are eligible;
- f) to be recognised as the only Baseball Softball National Governing Body of its Country by everybody;
- g) to do or engage in any other act to which a Member that is in Good Standing is otherwise entitled to do; and
- h) **to make proposals and submit resolutions to the WBSC for the consideration of the Executive Board and/or the Congress.**

8.2 - **A Provisional Member in Good Standing has the following rights ("Rights"):**

- a) to attend the Congress;**
- b) **to use the services of WBSC;**
- c) **to have the right to speak, but not to vote, in all deliberations or in all matters submitted to the Congress;**
- d) **to do or engage in any other act to which a Member that is in Good Standing is otherwise entitled to do; and**
- e) **to make proposals and submit resolutions to the WBSC for the consideration of the Executive Board and/or the Congress.**

8.3 - **An Associate Member in Good Standing has the following rights ("Rights"):**

- a) to attend the Congress;**
- b) **to have the right to speak, but not to vote, in all deliberations or in all matters submitted to the Congress; and**
- c) **to make proposals and submit resolutions to the WBSC for the consideration of the Executive Board and/or the Congress.**

8.4 - **The rights of the Members are exclusive and particular to each member as an organisation and as such, these rights cannot be delegated by the Member to any other Member or others. Similarly, a Member can only exercise its rights in a Congress of the WBSC through a delegate duly and properly appointed and authorised by the Member. A delegate so appointed and authorised by a Member may only represent and vote exclusively on behalf of that Member. A delegate may therefore represent only one Member.**

- 8.2 All Members are obligated to do the following (“Obligations”):
- (a) to support WBSC in its efforts to achieve its objectives;
 - (b) to act in accordance with the decisions of WBSC and the General Meeting;
 - (c) to pay the annual fee and all other financial obligations;
 - (d) to maintain itself as a Member in Good Standing;
 - (e) to seek approval of WBSC for any change of name and/or articles of association or rules before any such changes are valid.

ARTICLE 9. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 9.1 Any Member, member of a Member, or competition participant may be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Board:
- (a) if duties and/or Obligations to WBSC are not fulfilled;
 - (b) for violating the Articles of Association, the Codes, Rules, and/or decisions of the General Meeting; or
 - (c) for bringing the sport of Baseball or the sport of Softball into disrepute.
- 9.2 Possible disciplinary orders include:

- 8.5 - All Members are obligated to do the following (“Obligations”):
- ~~a) to attend the Congress;~~
- [proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: is attending an Obligation? WBSC: ok to modify and have it as a Right]*
- a) to support WBSC in its efforts to achieve its objectives;
 - b) to act in accordance with the decisions of WBSC and the Congress;
 - c) to faithfully carry out the duties and responsibilities entrusted to them, maintaining ethical principles and moral values proper to the organisation;
 - d) to pay the annual fee and all other financial obligations timeously;
 - e) to maintain itself as a Member in Good Standing;
 - f) to inform the WBSC concerning the organisation of their national and other competitions, activities and events and the results of the same, and update the WBSC of the number of its own membership, athletes and such other information as may be required by the WBSC;
 - g) to ensure and where necessary, amend, their own Statutes, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Policies so that they are in consistent with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations;
 - h) to obtain approval of WBSC for any change of name and/or its own Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations before any such changes are valid; and
 - i) to ensure that all athletes and other individuals and organisations under the jurisdiction of that Member are bound by and comply with the responsibilities and duties of the Member and with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE 9. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

9.1 - Any matter related to disciplinary actions will be decided by the Executive Board and in accordance to the WBSC Disciplinary By-Laws.

ARTICLE 10. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 10.1 - The membership status of a WBSC Member may be forfeited on any one or more of the following grounds:
- a) By the Member’s written notice of resignation from membership, addressed to the

<p>(a) a warning;</p> <p>(b) a fine;</p> <p>(c) a declaration that a Member is not in Good Standing;</p> <p>(d) suspension;</p> <p>(e) termination of membership; and/or</p> <p>(f) expulsion or exclusion from WBSC Competitions or events.</p> <p>9.3 Disciplinary decisions may be imposed by the specifically designated investigative body, which shall be appointed by the WBSC Executive Board to investigate and decide the issue, pursuant to the protections of these Articles of Association.</p> <p>9.4 Any discipline imposed on a competitor or other Person by WBSC, a Member, or a WBSC-recognised body shall be recognised and enforced by all Members across all countries and territories governed by a Member.</p> <p>9.5 Before any Member or individual is disciplined, except when the action is merely a warning, the individual or a representative of the Member will be given the right to appear before the designated Committee, either in person or in writing. The Secretary General of WBSC shall inform the respective Person about this right, in writing, in sufficient time to allow the Person to exercise this right. The Person who is the subject of the hearing shall have the right to be represented by counsel. In cases where the integrity of the sport and/or exigent circumstances demand prompt action, a temporary restriction may be put into force before any hearing during which the individual or Member has the opportunity to exercise this right.</p> <p>9.6 Disciplinary decisions shall be in force immediately upon the decision being made unless the deciding body rules otherwise.</p> <p>9.7 Appeals</p> <p>(a) Any Person disciplined by a body other than the Executive Board may appeal the action to the Executive Board, except in cases involving doping, which may only be appealed as set out below in Article 9.7(d).</p> <p>(b) Any appeal must be submitted by the appealing party to the WBSC Office within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision. The person appealing to the Executive Board shall be given notice and shall have the opportunity to present arguments to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall decide the appeal within sixty (60) days of submission, whether on the written arguments, or following oral arguments if scheduled by the Executive Board in its discretion.</p> <p>(c) An individual or Member who has appealed an action and who is dissatisfied by the decision by the Executive Board may further appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), Lausanne, Switzerland, within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision by the Executive Board.</p>	<p>WBSC President and dispatched to the WBSC Headquarters.</p> <p>b) Through suspension by the Executive Board for such period as the Board deems fit and proper or de-registration, after a preliminary hearing on the matter concerned.</p> <p>c) Through failure to fulfil financial obligations in a period of two (2) consecutive years, after a period of sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the notice from WBSC to pay the same, whereupon the membership shall be automatically forfeited immediately.</p> <p>10.2 - All matters relating to the termination of membership will be decided by the Executive Board and in accordance to the WBSC Disciplinary By-Laws save and except that decisions on the forfeiture and de-registration of membership must be endorsed at the next following Congress.</p> <p>All this matter will be legislated by the Disciplinary By-Laws</p>
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- (d) In the case of a doping charge or in the case of a Person disciplined by the Executive Board, any individual who has been disciplined may appeal directly to the CAS within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the decision.
- (e) In any matter brought before the CAS, the CAS shall have exclusive jurisdiction, including over interlocutory orders, and no other court or tribunal shall have authority to issue interlocutory orders relating to matters before the CAS. Decisions by the CAS shall be final and binding, subject only to the provisions of the Swiss Private International Law Act, section 190.

9.8 A Member's affiliation to WBSC shall automatically end if the Member no longer exists as a legal entity or if the Member withdraws its affiliation by giving written notice thereof to the WBSC, but terminating the status as a National Federation shall not terminate the Member's obligations to the WBSC.

9.9 In any case where a Member affiliation with WBSC ends, no refunds of fees previously paid to WBSC (such as under Article 10) shall be made, and all WBSC property shall be returned and materials indicating that it is a Member shall immediately be returned to WBSC or destroyed.

ARTICLE 10. FEES, REVENUES, AND EXPENSES

10.1 WBSC shall be empowered to raise funds to the maximum extent permitted by law, and by whatever means proper under these Articles of Association. The income and property of WBSC shall be used towards the fulfilment of the Objectives as determined by the Executive Board in the proper exercise of its powers, or the management of WBSC under the control of the Executive Board.

10.2 Both the Baseball Division and the Softball Division (as defined in Article 11.1) shall be considered and treated as of equal importance and shall each be allocated revenues from WBSC on an equal basis for all purposes, including but not limited to operating budgets for their offices and employees, conduct of Olympic and other Competitions, and development of their respective sports worldwide.

10.3 The Executive Board of the WBSC shall be charged with ensuring compliance with this goal.

10.4 WBSC is liable for its obligations with its assets. Such liability is limited to these assets. The liability of Members is limited to their dues.

CHAPTER 3 – FEES, REVENUES AND EXPENSES

ARTICLE 11. FEES, REVENUES AND EXPENSES

11.1 - WBSC shall be empowered to raise funds to the maximum extent permitted by law, and by whatever means proper under these **Statutes**. The income and property of WBSC shall be used towards the fulfilment of the Objectives as determined by the Executive Board in the proper exercise of its powers, or the management of WBSC under the control of the Executive Board.

11.2 - Both the Baseball Division and the Softball Division (as defined in Article 12.1) shall be considered and treated as of equal importance and shall each **bear the responsibility of WBSC expenses** and be allocated revenues from WBSC on an equal basis for all purposes, including but not limited to operating budgets for their offices and employees, conduct of Olympic and other Competitions, and development of their respective sport worldwide.

11.3 - The Executive Board of the WBSC shall be charged with ensuring compliance with this goal.

11.4 - WBSC is liable for its obligations with its assets. Such liability is limited to these assets. The liability of Members is limited to their dues.

CHAPTER 4 – ORGANISATION OF WBSC

ARTICLE 11. ORGANISATION OF WBSC

- 11.1 (a) The sports shall be responsible, through the respective divisions (the Divisions) of Baseball (which Division shall be constituted by and through the IBAF) (the Baseball Division) and of Softball (which Division shall be constituted by and through the ISF) (the Softball Division) under the aegis of the WBSC, for the technical rules and competition supervision and organisation, and international development, respectively of the sport of Baseball and all its disciplines and the sport of Softball and all its disciplines. The VP for the Baseball Division and the VP for the Softball Division may be referred to as the Chair of the respective Baseball and Softball Divisions.
- (b) The Baseball and Softball Divisions are authorised and entitled to raise revenue to benefit their respective sports and shall create, manage and control competitions in their respective sports, provided, however, that any sponsorship or third party contract to be entered into by the Baseball or Softball Division which proposes to reference the WBSC name or logos, or any broadcast agreement to be entered into by the Baseball or Softball Division which would permit the use of the WBSC name or logos shall be submitted to the Executive Board for its approval. Should the Executive Board believe that the proposed competition, the proposed sponsorship or third party contract or the proposed broadcasting contract would conflict with other WBSC agreements or would reflect negatively on the WBSC, the Executive Board may withhold approval for the Baseball or Softball Division to grant such rights.
- 11.2 The following entities are established to govern and administer WBSC:
- (a) the General Meeting;
 - (b) the Executive Board; and
 - (c) any Commissions.

ARTICLE 12. THE GENERAL MEETING

- 12.1 The General Meeting is the highest authority of WBSC and shall have the power to decide upon any matters arising in WBSC.
- 12.2 The General Meeting shall consist of the following:

ARTICLE 12. ORGANISATION OF WBSC

- 12.1 - The **WBSC** shall be responsible, through the respective divisions (the Divisions) of Baseball (the "Baseball Division") and of Softball (the "Softball Division"), for the technical rules and competition supervision and organisation of the Sport and all disciplines. The **Executive VP** for the Baseball Division and the **Executive VP** for the Softball Division may be referred to as the Chair of the respective Baseball and Softball Divisions.
- 12.2 - The Baseball and Softball Divisions are authorised and entitled to raise revenue and shall create, manage and control competitions in their respective **Division**, provided, however, that **all such competitions shall use the name of the WBSC**. Any sponsorship, any broadcast agreement or third party contract to be entered into by the Baseball or Softball Division **with the use of the WBSC name or logos**, shall be submitted to the Executive Board for its approval **and such agreement shall be signed by the WBSC**. Should the Executive Board believe that the proposed competition, the proposed sponsorship, the proposed broadcasting or third party contract would conflict with other WBSC agreements or would reflect negatively on the WBSC, the Executive Board may withhold approval for the Baseball or Softball Division to **use** such rights.
- 12.3 - The following entities are established to govern and administer WBSC:
- a) the **Congress**;
 - b) the Executive Board; and
 - c) **such WBSC Commissions as the Executive Board may deem appropriate**.
- In accordance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Commissions may be appointed to exercise their respective functions as delegated to them by the Executive Board. The Commissions shall report to and be subject to the authority of the Executive Board.**
- 12.4 - **The WBSC Executive Office shall perform the administration and management of the WBSC and shall report to and be responsible through the President to the Executive Board.**

ARTICLE 13. THE CONGRESS

- 13.1 - The Congress is the highest authority of the WBSC and shall have the power to decide upon any matters arising in the WBSC. **Its legally-adopted resolutions, decisions and dispositions are binding on the Executive Board and its Delegate Organs, for the Member Federations, Associations or Organisations and for the Continental Associations.**
- [proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: Continental Associations are not Members; WBSC: in respect of the Olympic Charter, the Congress must be the highest authority and its legally-adopted resolutions, decisions and dispositions must binding at all levels, for all Members or all Associations of Members]***
- 13.2 - The Congress shall consist of the following:

(a) up to two (2) delegates for each National Federation in Good Standing who have been appointed by the National Federation and whose credentials are accepted by WBSC (“Accredited Delegates”). A National Federation which governs only baseball or only softball in its country shall have a single delegate; a National Federation which governs both baseball and softball in its country may have up to two (2) delegates, one for each sport. Notice of the appointment of delegates, certified in writing by the National Federation they represent must be lodged with the WBSC Secretary General no less than seven (7) days prior to the opening of the General Meeting. Each delegate representing a National Federation for Softball and each delegate representing a National Federation for Baseball shall have one vote, provided, however, if a National Federation for both Softball and Baseball is represented by only a single delegate, such delegate shall be entitled to two votes. A Member that is not in Good Standing on the date of the General Meeting may attend only through a non-voting representative. Accredited Delegates and non-voting representatives shall not be recognised if they are subject to a disciplinary decision that prohibits participation in a General Meeting. No Accredited Delegate or representative shall represent more than one Member.

- (b) all members of the Executive Board, without vote;
- (c) the Immediate Past President (if any), without vote;
- (d) all other categories of Members, including Associate Members, without vote;
- (e) all others whose attendance is authorised by the General Meeting, without vote.

12.3 The President shall control the conduct of a General Meeting (“Chair”). Should President for any reason be unavailable, then one of the Executive Vice Presidents chosen by the Executive Board shall preside and thereafter alternating between them if the President is again not available, or if no Executive Vice President is available then the Secretary

a) up to two (2) delegates for each Member Federation in Good Standing who have been appointed by the Member Federation and whose credentials are accepted by WBSC (“Accredited Delegates”). A Member Federation which governs only Baseball or only Softball in its country shall have a single delegate; a Member Federation which governs both Baseball and Softball in its country may have up to two (2) delegates, one (1) for each sport.

Notice of the Appointment of all delegates, certified in writing by the Member Federation’s President or Secretary they represent must be lodged with the WBSC Secretary General no less than ten (10) days prior to the opening of the Congress. Only one (1) delegate representing a Member Federation for Softball and one (1) delegate representing a Member Federation for Baseball shall have one (1) vote, provided, however, if a Member Federation for both Softball and Baseball is represented by only a single delegate, such delegate shall be entitled to two (2) votes. A Member that is not in Good Standing on the date of the Congress may attend only through a non-voting representative. Accredited Delegates and non-voting representatives shall not be recognised if they are subject to a disciplinary decision that prohibits participation in a Congress. No Accredited Delegate or representative shall represent more than one (1) Member.

If a Full Member wishes to send more than the permitted voting Accredited Delegate(s), it may do so, by registering the delegate in the Notice of Appointment. Such extra registered Delegate(s) have the right to attend, but only the permitted Accredited Delegate shall have the right to speak and to vote as previously stated. In the said Notice of Appointment, the Member Federation, Association or Organisation, the name of the voting Accredited Delegate with the right to vote, must be clearly stated and indicated. In his or her absence, the vote may be exercised by the other registered Delegates, in the order in which they appear on the Note of Appointment.

All Delegates must be a Member of the Board of a Member Federation authorised in writing by that Member Federation; nevertheless, subject to the prior approval of the Executive Board, a diplomat from the corresponding country or territory of a member of the WBSC may be appointed as a Delegate for a Congress held in the country or territory in which he/she is accredited.

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: no necessary that Delegates are Executive Members of the National Federations; WBSC: it is a matter of responsibility and therefore Delegates must be legal representatives of their National Federations]

- b) all members of the Executive Board, with the right to speak but no right to vote;
- c) Provisional and Associate Members, with the right to speak but no right to vote;
- d) all others whose attendance is authorised by the Executive Board, with the right to speak but no right to vote.

13.3 - The President shall control the conduct of a Congress (“Chair”). Should President for any reason be unavailable, then one of the Executive Vice Presidents chosen by the Executive Board shall preside and thereafter alternating between them if the President is again not available, or if no Executive Vice President is available then the Secretary General shall be the

<p>General shall be the Chair, in that order. If no such person is available, the Executive Board shall elect one among them to serve as Chair.</p> <p>12.4 WBSC will meet in General Meeting every second calendar year, in the odd numbered year (commencing in 2017) and at a time and in a place determined by the Executive Board, save for a Special General Meeting that shall be convened pursuant to Article 12.10. The Secretary General shall advise the exact date and location of every General Meeting at least three (3) months prior to the fixed date of the meeting, and the exact date and location of every Special General Meeting as soon as that Special General Meeting is validly called in conformance with Article 12.10. The Secretary General shall send an invitation to all Members, together with the agenda for the General Meeting and any reports as in Article 12.6(c) below and together with all duly submitted motions and applications at least one (1) month prior to the date fixed for the meeting.</p> <p>12.5 The General Meeting has a quorum if more than half of the eligible voting delegates are represented. If within a reasonable period after the designated start time for a General Meeting the Secretary General has conducted the Roll Call and established that a quorum is not present, then and for that time deliberations may be had but no Motion or resolution shall be adopted. The eligible voting delegates then present, even if not a quorum, may delegate to the Executive Board any matter to be considered at that General Meeting for its deliberations and any action other than the election. Any such matter shall be considered and acted upon by the Executive Board in the same period scheduled for the General Meeting.</p> <p>12.6 Except for the inaugural General Session which will be as set by the Executive Board, the order of business of the General Session of a General Meeting shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Roll call and declaration of a quorum; (b) Approval of the minutes of the previous General Meeting; (c) Reports; (d) Approval of new Members; (e) Consideration and approval of bids; (f) Amendments to the Articles of Association, the Codes or Rules; (g) Election of Officers; (h) Consideration whether to take up Motions under Article 12.7 (i) Any other business; and (j) Adjournment. <p>12.7 Motions, applications and proposals for alteration of or addition to the Articles of Association or any Rules of WBSC shall be considered only if submitted by a Member or by the Executive Board. Any proposal for alteration of any Code may only be generated by the responsible Division. All motions, applications, and proposals to be considered by the General Meeting must reach the Secretary General at least two (2) calendar months</p>	<p>Chair, in that order. If no such person is available, the Executive Board shall elect one among them to serve as Chair.</p> <p>13.4 - WBSC will meet in Congress every second calendar year, in the odd numbered year (commencing in 2017, in exactly the first and the third year of the four-year Olympic cycle) and at a time and in a place determined by the Executive Board, except for an Extraordinary Congress that shall be convened according to Article 13.10. The Secretary General shall advise the exact date and location of every Congress at least three (3) months prior to the fixed date of the meeting, and the exact date and location of every Extraordinary Congress as soon as that Extraordinary Congress is validly called in conformance with Article 13.10. The Secretary General shall send an invitation to all Members, together with the agenda for the Congress and any reports as in Article 13.6 below and together with all duly submitted motions and applications at least one (1) month prior to the date fixed for the meeting.</p> <p>13.5 - The Congress has a quorum if more than one-half of the eligible voting delegates are represented. If within a reasonable period after the designated start time for a Congress the Secretary General has conducted the Roll Call and established that a quorum is not present, any duly summoned Congress may, nevertheless, act as it goes along with the affirmative vote of at least an absolute majority of the votes constituting the normal quorum in the WBSC. If this action refers to a change in the Statutes, an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes normally constituting the quorum (Members that have the right to vote) will be required.</p> <p>13.6 – The Executive Board shall propose the order of business to submit to the approval of the Congress.</p> <p>13.7 - Motions, applications and proposals for amendments of or addition to the Statutes or any Rules of WBSC shall be considered only if submitted by a Member or by the Executive Board. Any proposal for amendments of any Tournament Regulations may only be generated by the responsible Division. All motions, applications, and proposals to be considered by the Congress must reach the Secretary General at least two (2) calendar months prior to the date for the</p>
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<p>prior to the General Meeting and must appear on the agenda given to the Members in accordance with Article 13.4. On a motion of urgency approved by a two thirds majority of those Members present and voting, the General Meeting may deal with new proposals not appearing on the agenda.</p> <p>12.8 Any alteration of or addition to the Articles of Association agreed upon by the General Meeting shall become effective immediately unless otherwise determined at the time of such approval. Any alteration of or addition to the Codes or Rules agreed upon by the General Meeting shall not become effective earlier than two (2) months after the decision has been made.</p> <p>12.9 The Codes are the operating documents of the respective Baseball and Softball Divisions, and may be amended only by vote at the general meeting or Congress of the respective Baseball and Softball Division, and upon subsequent ratification at the General Meeting.</p> <p>12.10 A Special General Meeting may be requested by a petition signed by at least a fifth (1/5) of the current Members in Good Standing, or by the Executive Board. It shall be summoned by the Secretary General within forty-five (45) days following the appropriate request, to convene no later than ninety (90) days after receipt of the petition or the decision of the Executive Board. The Secretary General shall provide notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled start of the Special General Meeting. Within the same period of time, the Secretary General shall send the Agenda to all the Members, including the location, the time of the first session opening and notification of all the topics to be dealt with which, in any case, will be the only ones on which valid resolutions can be passed. At a Special General Meeting, board and lodging expenses from the day prior to the start of the General Meeting to the day after its conclusion, for a single Delegate of each member Federation, Association or Organisation of the WBSC present at the General Meeting throughout the duration of the same shall be at the WBSC's charge.</p>	<p>Congress and must appear on the agenda given to the Members in accordance with Article 13.4. On a motion of urgency approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those Members present and voting, the Congress may deal with new proposals not appearing on the agenda.</p> <p>13.8 - Any amendment of or addition to the WBSC Statutes, Rules and Regulations agreed upon by the Congress shall become effective immediately unless otherwise determined at the time of such approval.</p> <p>13.9 - The Code of the Divisions is the operating document of the Baseball and Softball Divisions and may be amended only by vote of by the WBSC Executive Board and subject to approval of the WBSC Congress. All the By-Laws are operative documents for the WBSC and may be amended only by vote of the WBSC Executive Board.</p> <p><i>[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: the Code should be approved/amended by the Biennial Meetings; WBSC: it is important to keep consistency among the Divisions, but it is agreed to have the final approval of the WBSC Congress]</i></p> <p>13.10 - An Extraordinary Congress may be requested by a petition signed by at least a fifth (1/5) of the current Members in Good Standing, or by the Executive Board (the majority of its members having voted in favour thereof), or by the President. It shall be summoned by the Secretary General within forty-five (45) days following the appropriate request, to convene no later than ninety (90) days after receipt of the petition or the decision of the Executive Board. The Secretary General shall provide notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled start of the Extraordinary Congress. Within the same period of time, the Secretary General shall send the Agenda to all the Members, including the location, the time of the first session opening and notification of all the topics to be dealt with which, in any case, will be the only ones on which valid resolutions can be passed.</p> <p>13.11 - The functions and responsibilities of the Congress shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To elect the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the four Members-at-Large in accordance with the Election By-Laws. b) To ratify the Vice Presidents and the Athletes representatives in accordance with the By-Law. c) To suspend on justifiable grounds and/or to accept the resignation of Members of the Executive Board in accordance with the Election By-Laws. d) To be aware, analyse, and approve such resolutions, decisions and dispositions deemed appropriate on any WBSC matter or anything related to it or to its objects. e) To analyse and decide any point submitted by the Executive Board or, by due process, by any of its affiliated members. f) To examine, and approve or reject the balance-sheets, financial statements and reports presented by the Treasurer and/or by the Executive Board. g) To establish the financial fees and any other amounts payable by Members to the WBSC. h) To confer upon Members and/or individual and/or other organisations, such honours
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and awards as may be recommended by the Executive Board.

i) Any other business or matter as may be deemed appropriate by the Congress.

ARTICLE 13. EXECUTIVE BOARD

13.1 The Executive Board shall be composed of the following:

- (a) President;
- (b) Executive Vice President for Baseball (appointed by the Executive Board of the Baseball Division);
- (c) Executive Vice President for Softball (appointed by the Executive Board of the Softball Division);
- (d) Vice President for Baseball (appointed by the Executive Board of the Baseball Division);
- (e) Vice President for Softball (appointed by the Executive Board of the Softball Division);
- (f) Secretary General;
- (g) Treasurer;
- (h) Athlete Representative – Baseball;
- (i) Athlete Representative – Softball;
- (j) Four (4) At Large Members, at least one (1) from each gender and two (2) representing Baseball and two (2) representing Softball;
- (k) Executive Director, without vote;
- (l) Any IOC member that holds or has held a position on his or her National Federation and is appointed by the Executive Board as a member of the Executive Board, without vote.

13.2 All members of the Executive Board shall have a vote on matters before the Executive Board. Decisions of the Executive Board shall be by simple majority. Voting may be conducted remotely such as by phone, facsimile or other means, including signed circular resolutions and other electronic means.

ARTICLE 14. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

14.1 - The Executive Board shall be composed of the following officers elected or appointed in accordance with the Election By-Laws:

- a) a President;
- b) an Executive Vice President for Baseball (the Chairman of the Baseball Board; in case the Chairman is already elected on the WBSC Executive Board, the Baseball Board will appoint any other member by vote of majority as Executive Vice President for Baseball);
- c) an Executive Vice President for Softball (the Chairman of the Softball Board; in case the Chairman is already elected on the WBSC Executive Board, the Softball Board will appoint any other member by vote of majority as Executive Vice President for Softball);
- d) a Vice President for Baseball (appointed by the Baseball Board);
- e) a Vice President for Softball (appointed by the Softball Board);
- f) a Secretary General;
- g) a Treasurer;
- h) an Athlete Representative – Baseball;
- i) an Athlete Representative – Softball;
- j) Four (4) At Large Members, at least one (1) from each gender and two (2) representing Baseball and two (2) representing Softball;
- k) the Executive Director, without vote;
- l) an Honorary President, upon proposal by the Executive Board, without vote;

The President may invite any other person the President deems appropriate for his or her knowledge in special areas to attend meetings with the Executive Board, from time to time.

The WBSC Executive Board/Officers are holding an office for a four (4) year term, with the exception that the term of the first elected Officers in 2014 will be until the elective Congress in 2021.

14.2 - All members of the Executive Board shall have a vote on matters before the Executive Board. Decisions of the Executive Board shall be by simple majority and in the case of a tie the President shall have a casting vote. Voting may be conducted remotely such as by phone, facsimile or other means, including signed circular resolutions and other electronic means.

<p>13.3 Membership on the Executive Board shall not render such member personally liable for the debts and obligations of WBSC. WBSC hereby indemnifies each member of the Executive Board against any liability of that member arising from the discharge of his or her duties whilst acting in good faith and honestly.</p> <p>13.4 Members Athlete Representatives and At Large Members of the Executive Board shall be elected or appointed as follows:</p> <p>(a) The Athlete Representatives shall be elected during an election year by eligible players (which eligibility shall be determined by the Baseball and Softball Divisions respectively pursuant to standards which shall have been established by the Executive Board) in accordance with such election process and procedure determined by the Baseball and Softball Divisions respectively and which is approved by the Executive Board. The voting for Athlete Representatives is to be conducted by and within each of the Baseball and Softball Divisions. The term of an Athlete Representative on the Executive Board shall be four (4) years with the exception that the term of the first elected Athlete Representatives will be until the elective General Meeting in 2021.</p> <p>(b) The Members At Large shall be nominated by the National Federation Members of each of the Baseball and Softball Divisions and elected by the General Meeting of the WBSC. A National Federation may nominate no more than one person to stand for election as a Member At Large to the Executive Board. The term of a Member At Large position on the Executive Board shall be four (4) years with the exception that the term of the first elected Members At Large will be until the elective General Meeting in 2021.</p> <p>13.5 For gender equality purposes, WBSC's target shall be that neither gender shall have less than 30% of the total number of positions on the Executive Board.</p> <p>13.6 The members of the Executive Board shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.</p> <p>13.7 The Executive Board shall have the authority to fill any vacancy which occurs through death or resignation of any Member of the Executive Board, except for Athlete Representatives. Should a vacancy occur in an Athlete Representative position, the Executive Board shall establish a mechanism, if necessary, for the eligible athletes to elect a replacement. The person elected shall serve until the expiration of the term of office for which the person has been elected.</p> <p>13.8 Where an Executive Board member has been absent from two consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall have the right to declare that such a member has forfeited his position. The Executive Board according to Article 13.7 may then fill the vacancy.</p> <p>13.9 The rights and duties of the Executive Board shall include the following:</p> <p>(a) to discuss and make decisions on all matters assigned to them by the General Meeting;</p>	<p>14.3 - Membership on the Executive Board or the Divisions Boards of Baseball and Softball shall not render such member personally liable for the debts and obligations of WBSC. WBSC hereby indemnifies each member of the Executive Board against any liability of that member arising from the discharge of his or her duties whilst acting in good faith and honestly.</p> <p>All this matter will be legislated by the Election By-Laws</p> <p>14.4 - All the members of the Executive Board elected by the Congress must be from different Member Federations, Associations or Organisations of the WBSC, except in the case of the Secretary General, who may be from the same country as the President.</p> <p>14.5 - For gender equality purposes, WBSC's target shall be that neither gender shall have less than 30% of the total number of positions on the Executive Board.</p> <p>14.6 - The members of the Executive Board shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.</p> <p>All this matter will be legislated by the Election By-Laws</p> <p>14.7 - Where an Executive Board member has been absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, his or her position shall be forfeited. The Executive Board may then fill such vacancy in accordance with the Election By-Laws.</p> <p>14.8 - The rights and duties of the Executive Board shall include the following:</p> <p>a) to discuss and make decisions on all matters assigned to them by the Congress;</p> <p>b) to interpret and enforce the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations;</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) to interpret and enforce the Rules of WBSC; (c) to decide and take action on any matter pertaining to the affairs of WBSC; (d) to submit proposals and motions to the General Meeting; (e) to decide on and publish administrative by-laws, including time and manner of payment of any financial obligations; (f) to decide on and publish regulations for WBSC competitions, promulgated by the sports for submission to the Executive Board; (g) to decide on WBSC awards; (h) to make decisions in case of emergency; (i) to establish rules of order for the meetings of the General Meeting, Executive Board, Commissions, etc., provided that they will not be in conflict with the Articles of Association of WBSC; (j) to determine the dates and sites of WBSC competitions and to organise and control all WBSC competitions, including the Olympic Games. (k) provide a written report of its activities to every General Meeting; (l) propose or in the proper delegation of its authority cause a Commission to propose amendments to the Articles of Association or a Code or a Rule; (m) monitor, supervise and orient the activities of Commissions; (n) ensure that the decisions of a General Meeting are timely and properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) to decide and take action on any matter pertaining to the affairs of WBSC; d) to submit proposals and motions to the Congress; e) to impose penalties and/or sanctions on Members and/or athletes, officials and others and/or on members of such WBSC Members on valid grounds and where they fail to observe, or are in breach of, the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and and/or any other Tournament Regulations or directives; f) to do everything possible to maintain harmony between its Members and to decide on disputes that might occur between, among or involving Members and/or its athletes, officials and others; g) to handle and decide on all matters relating to disputed competitions under the jurisdiction of the WBSC; h) to decide on and publish administrative By-Laws, including time and manner of payment of any financial obligations; i) to deal with the applications for affiliation in accordance with these Statutes; j) to prepare the annual budget, balance sheets, financial statements and annual reports on the financial activities, duly audited, that should be approved by the next Ordinary Congress; k) to decide on and publish regulations for WBSC competitions, promulgated by the sport for submission to the Executive Board; l) to decide on WBSC awards; m) to make decisions in case of emergency; n) to establish rules of order for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Board, Commissions, etc., provided that they will not be in conflict with the Statutes of WBSC; o) subject to consultation with the Baseball Division or Softball Division, to determine the dates and sites of WBSC competitions and to organise and control all WBSC competitions, including the Olympic Games; p) to approve and compile Baseball Softball records achieved in competitions under the jurisdiction of the WBSC, once they have been confirmed by the Technical Commission; q) to provide a written report of its activities to every Congress; r) propose or in the proper delegation of its authority, cause a Commission to propose amendments to the Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations; s) monitor, supervise and orient the activities of Commissions, whose members should be appointed at the President's proposal and confirmation of the Executive Board; t) ensure that the decisions of a Congress are timely and properly implemented;
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<p>implemented;</p> <p>(o) review materials to be presented to a General Meeting and, if required, approve the documents to be presented to the General Meeting when they are issued under its responsibility or its authority, and issue any recommendations and comments that it deems necessary; and</p> <p>(p) otherwise take all actions as required or necessitated by these Articles of Association and every Code.</p> <p>13.10 The Executive Board is not authorised to make any changes in the Articles of Association, the Codes or Rules.</p> <p>13.11 Except for Athlete Representatives, members of the Executive Board shall not participate or otherwise be involved in WBSC competition as a player, manager, coach, umpire, or scorer.</p> <p>13.12 The Executive Board shall operate as follows.</p> <p>(a) The Executive Board shall meet at least once every calendar year, which, during a year in which a General Meeting is held, may or may not be during the General Meeting, and a meeting of the Executive Board may take place in whole or in part via electronic means (a “Meeting”). Unless the Executive Board shall approve a meeting on short notice (“Extraordinary Meeting”), notice must be given not less than sixty (60) calendar days before a meeting of the Executive Board, with a request for items or information for the agenda. Any matter to be discussed at a Meeting other than an extraordinary Meeting must be received by the Secretary General at least twenty-one (21) calendar days before the Meeting. The Secretary General shall publish a written notice of such Meeting confirming the date, time, and location of the meeting, and provide agenda items and supporting documentation not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to each Meeting. Once a final written notice of a Meeting has been made, the Meeting may only be cancelled by majority vote of the Executive Board.</p> <p>(b) A quorum of the Board shall consist of 50% of the persons then holding a position on the Board. The President shall preside at every Meeting of the Executive Board, failing which one of Executive Vice Presidents shall preside in his or her place, and then alternating between them for subsequent meetings at which the President may be absent, and in the absence of either Executive Vice President, the Secretary General shall preside, failing which the members of the Executive Board in attendance shall elect a chair of the meeting.</p> <p>(c) The Secretary General shall take or cause to be taken the minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board, provide draft minutes within twenty (20) calendar days after the Meeting and publish them within thirty (30) calendar days to every Member and on the WBSC web site. At every Meeting of the Executive Board, each member of the Executive Board shall declare any conflict of interest involving any matter on the agenda or otherwise discussed at the Meeting, which conflict(s) shall be recorded in the minutes. A member of the Executive Board may, with the</p>	<p>u) review materials to be presented to a Congress and, if required, approve the documents to be presented to the Congress when they are issued under its responsibility or its authority, and issue any recommendations and comments that it deems necessary;</p> <p>v) to approve, at the President's proposal, the employment of the WBSC Executive Office; and</p> <p>w) otherwise take all actions as required or necessitated by these Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.</p> <p>14.9 - The Executive Board is not authorised to make any changes in the Statutes and/or the Code of the Divisions.</p> <p><i>[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: not only the Statutes; WBSC: agreed]</i></p> <p>14.10 - Except for Athlete Representatives, members of the Executive Board shall not participate or otherwise be involved in WBSC competition as an athlete, manager, coach, technical official, umpire, or scorer.</p> <p>14.11 - The Executive Board shall operate as follows:</p> <p>a) The Executive Board shall meet at least once every calendar year, which, during a year in which a Congress is held, may or may not be during the Congress, and a meeting of the Executive Board may take place in whole or in part via electronic means (a “Meeting”). Unless the Executive Board shall approve a meeting on short notice (“Extraordinary Meeting”), notice must be given not less than sixty (60) calendar days before a meeting of the Executive Board, with a request for items or information for the agenda. Any matter to be discussed at a Meeting other than an extraordinary Meeting must be received by the Secretary General at least twenty-one (21) calendar days before the Meeting. The Secretary General shall publish a written notice of such Meeting confirming the date, time, and location of the meeting, and provide agenda items and supporting documentation not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to each Meeting. Once a final written notice of a Meeting has been made, the Meeting may only be cancelled by majority vote of the Executive Board.</p> <p>b) The President shall preside at every Meeting of the Executive Board, failing which one of Executive Vice Presidents shall preside in his or her place, and then alternating between them for subsequent meetings at which the President may be absent, and in the absence of either Executive Vice President, the Secretary General shall preside, failing which the members of the Executive Board in attendance shall elect a chair of the meeting.</p> <p>c) The Secretary General shall take or cause to be taken the minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board, provide draft minutes within twenty (20) calendar days after the Meeting and publish them within thirty (30) calendar days to every Member. At every Meeting of the Executive Board, each member of the Executive Board shall declare any conflict of interest involving any matter on the agenda or otherwise discussed at the Meeting, which conflict(s) shall be recorded in the minutes. A member of the Executive Board may, with the prior written consent of the Secretary General, participate in a Meeting not called as a fully electronic meeting of the Executive Board and be present by telephonic or other means of electronic communication as long as all participants can be clearly heard. A member of the Executive Board attending a Meeting in this way shall be deemed to be present and this</p>
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prior written consent of the Secretary General, participate in a Meeting not called as a fully electronic meeting of the Executive Board and be present by telephonic or other means of electronic communication as long as all participants can be clearly heard. A member of the Executive Board attending a Meeting in this way shall be deemed to be present and this will not count as an absence.

- (d) No member of the Executive Board shall attend by or give a proxy to another person and no vote shall be taken by or opinion expressed by proxy. A resolution shall be validly passed if adopted by a majority of members of the Executive Board present and voting. Unless otherwise agreed by the Meeting of the Executive Board in question, the minutes of that meeting, in whole or in part, shall be public. If a quorum of members of the Executive Board is not present at the start of a Meeting of the Executive Board, that Meeting shall be adjourned until such time as a quorum is established. No business can be conducted or actions taken without a quorum.
- (e) Notwithstanding the above, a member of the Executive Board may request that the Executive Board meet on an expedited basis provided that more than two-thirds of the members agree in writing to hold such a meeting ("Special Board Meeting"). The procedures in this Article which apply to regular Meetings shall apply to every Special Board Meeting, but the notice, agenda, and distribution requirements may be waived by vote of the Executive Board.

will not count as an absence.

d) No member of the Executive Board shall attend by or give a proxy to another person and no vote shall be taken by or opinion expressed by proxy. A resolution shall be validly passed if adopted by a majority of members of the Executive Board present and voting. Unless otherwise agreed by the Meeting of the Executive Board in question, the minutes of that meeting, in whole or in part, shall be public.

e) **The quorum shall be constituted with the concurrence of at least eight (8) of its officers. In the absence of a quorum, the Executive Board, duly convened, may nevertheless proceed to discuss the matters on the agenda and act with the affirmative vote of at least five (5) of its officers present and voting. In the case of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote (changes to reflect the motion presented by Softball Ireland).**

f) Notwithstanding the above, a member of the Executive Board may request that the Executive Board meet on an expedited basis provided that more than two-thirds (2/3) of the members agree in writing to hold such a meeting ("Special Board Meeting"). The procedures in this Article, which apply to regular Meetings, shall apply to every Special Board Meeting, but the notice, agenda, and distribution requirements may be waived by vote of the Executive Board.

14.12 - The Executive Board has the power to make By-Laws, Rules and Regulations for the good functioning of the WBSC and all its activities.

The By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, once approved by the Executive Board, shall come into immediate effect or at such time as determined by the Executive Board.

The Congress, at its absolute discretion, may disallow a particular section, or part, or clause, of the By-Laws, Rules, Regulations upon a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of Accredited Delegates present and voting at a valid Congress.

All By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, shall be advised to all Members within thirty (30) days of its adoption.

ARTICLE 15. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

15.1 - Pertaining to the President:

The President is the legal representative of the WBSC and his or her duties and responsibilities include:

- a) **To officially represent the WBSC with full powers of attorney in accordance with what is stated in these Statutes and in the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the same.**
- b) **To summon and preside the sessions of all Congresses and the Executive Board and to sign the corresponding minutes together with the Secretary General.**
- c) **To elaborate together with the Secretary General and the Treasurer the annual report,**

distributed to Members of the WBSC and to record in writing and present at the Congress, all WBSC activities to the end of his or her mandate.

d) To manage and supervise the execution of the decisions of the Congress and the Executive Board, and to present to the latter such reports as may be requested.

e) To sign all WBSC's contracts (including opening bank accounts) with the authorisation of the Executive Board.

f) To propose to the Executive Board the appointment and hire the WBSC Executive Office.

g) To propose to the Executive Board the appointment of the Chairmen of the WBSC Commissions and all their members.

h) In consultation with the Baseball Division or the Softball Division, to propose to the Executive Board the appointment of the Tournament Director and the Jury of Appeal for each official competition of the WBSC.

i) To appoint persons to be responsible for carrying out investigations required by the WBSC.

j) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress.

[proposed by ESF and Softball Ireland: eliminate conflict of positions; WBSC: it would be against the Olympic Charter and the liberty of people's choices]

15.2 - Pertaining to the Vice Presidents:

The duties and responsibilities of the Vice Presidents are:

a) to chair and provide direction for the Divisions; and

b) such duties and functions as the Board may deem appropriate to each of the Vice Presidents (the Protocol Order is in the Protocol By-Laws).

15.3 - Pertaining to the Secretary General:

The duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General are:

a) To send out the relevant notices to attend the Congress and the meetings of the Executive Board.

b) To draw up the minutes of the sessions of the Congress and the Executive Board, jointly

signing them together with the President.

c) To transcribe the minutes of the Congress and the Executive Board and send them in the official WBSC languages to all the Members, within sixty (60) days of the end of each meeting.

d) To receive all suggestions, requests, queries and any other business and inform the President accordingly and to follow up with necessary action pertaining thereto and to inform Members of the decisions and resolutions taken.

e) To supervise the functioning and operations of the WBSC Executive Office in its administrative and management functions, including the proper filing and keeping of records and documents at the WBSC Headquarters.

f) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Statutes, Codes of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress.

15.4 - Pertaining to the Treasurer:

The duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer are:

a) To deal with all financial matters related to the WBSC management, organisation and administration including formulating the necessary checks and internal audit processes and procedures.

b) To keep the books containing all entries relating to the assets and liabilities, income and expenditures of the WBSC up-to-date and ensure that the WBSC accounts are audited by a competent independent audit company appointed by the Congress.

c) To supervise the administrative and management of WBSC's accounts by the WBSC Executive Office, including the proper filing and keeping of all accounting books and documents up-to-date.

d) To oversee the payment of fees by Members, and ensure due and proper communication and notification of account statements in relation thereto, including notification of annual fees due by 1st January of the corresponding year.

e) To prepare the balance sheets and the financial statements and reports within the prescribed period and ensure that the same are sent to the Executive Board, and subsequently to Members of the Congress.

f) To remit to the President monthly reports on income and expenditures and whenever the Executive Board meets.

g) To control the financial implementation of contracts and agreements entered into by the

WBSC and keep the President informed accordingly.

h) To control the financial and merchandising aspects of all competitions falling under the jurisdiction of WBSC and propose to the President, whenever he or she deems this necessary, the appointment of a representative charged with checking the fulfilment of the financial commitments contracted with WBSC by the corresponding Organising Committee.

i) Send out the vouchers relating to WBSC's income and expenditures whenever necessary.

j) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress

To carry out his or her duties, the Treasurer shall use the services of the WBSC Executive Office.

15.5 - Pertaining to the Members At-Large:

The Executive Board shall assign such duties and functions as the Board may deem appropriate to each of the Members at-Large.

15.6 - Pertaining to the Athletes' Representatives:

The Athletes' Representatives are the legal representatives of the athletes in the WBSC. Their duties and responsibilities are to be the athletes voice in all matters in the WBSC and the Executive Board and carry out such duties and responsibilities that the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, the Division Boards and the WBSC Executive Board shall entrust upon them.

ARTICLE 16. THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL

16.1 - The Presidential Council shall exercise, on behalf of the Executive Board, such powers and responsibilities as would normally be the responsibility of the Executive Board between meetings of the Executive Board, or as the Executive Board may delegate.

16.2 - The Presidential Council shall comprise (8 officers):

- a) the President;
- b) the Vice President for Baseball;

- c) the Vice President for Softball;
- d) the Executive Vice President for Baseball;
- e) the Executive Vice President for Softball;
- f) the Secretary General;
- g) the Treasurer; and
- h) the Executive Director

16.3 - The Presidential Council shall have the following functions:

- a) to prepare proposals and documents for consideration by the Executive Board;
- b) to act on behalf of the Executive Board between the meetings of the latter and to exercise such functions as are delegated by the Executive Board;
- c) to determine issues that may arise between meetings of the Executive Board;
- d) to advise the Executive Board on policy issues and any other matters which affect the good functioning and operations of the WBSC;
- e) to make such decisions as are necessary between meetings of the Executive Board for the good functioning of the WBSC and/or its activities;
- f) the Presidential Council cannot make By-Laws, Rules or Regulations by its own authority. All decisions and actions of the Presidential Council must be subject to ratification of the Executive Board at its subsequent meeting.

All this matter will be legislated by the Election By-Laws

ARTICLE 14. OFFICERS

14.1 The following are the Officers of this Confederation, each holding an office (“Office”) as defined below for a four (4) year term, with the exception that the term of the first elected Officers will be until the elective General Meeting in 2021:

- (a) The President;
- (b) Executive Vice President for Baseball;
- (c) Executive Vice President for Softball;
- (d) Vice President for Baseball;
- (e) Vice President for Softball;
- (f) Secretary General, and
- (g) Treasurer.

14.2 Officers shall be elected as follows:

- (a) The President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the Members At Large shall be elected at a General Meeting by majority vote of all Accredited Delegates present at that General Meeting, and shall hold only one Office at a time.

- (b) The Vice Presidents shall be International Olympic Committee members and shall be nominated and appointed by the Executive Board of the relevant Division, shall hold only one Office at a time and shall assume office on the day that the other Officers assume office.
- (c) The Executive Vice Presidents shall be the President or Chairman of each respective Baseball and Softball Division, or such other person who may be nominated and appointed by the Executive Board of the relevant Division, and shall assume office on the day that the other Officers assume office.
- (d) All the Officers, other than the Vice Presidents and Executive Vice Presidents, must be of different nationalities.
- (e) Each Member At Large must be active in and affiliated with the Baseball or Softball Division for which elected.

14.3 The election of Officers by the General Meeting shall be governed by the following procedures.

- (a) Every Officer to be voted upon by the General Meeting shall be elected for a period of four (4) years and assume office at the conclusion of the General Meeting at which elected, with the exception that the Officers elected at the first or inaugural General Meeting in 2014 shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting in 2021. A member National Federation can nominate only one (1) candidate for each Officer position, which nomination must be signed by the President/Executive Director/Secretary/Administrator of the National Federation submitting that nomination. Notice of nomination for such an Officer position shall be made in accordance with the criteria for Motions in Article 12.7. The Secretary General shall assemble and deliver the list of candidates to each member National Federation with the Agenda pursuant to Article 12.4.
- (b) The election of Officers by the General Meeting shall be in the order of succession: President; Secretary General; and Treasurer. Each Elected Officer shall be elected to that Office by secret ballot. The candidate that receives a majority of the votes cast shall be elected to that Office.
 1. If there is only one (1) candidate for an Office, the candidate is automatically elected.
 2. If three or more individuals are candidates for an Office, any candidate that receives a majority of the votes cast shall be declared the winner of that election. If the tally of votes shall not result in a majority for one person, the individual with the lowest number of votes in that round shall be eliminated and voting in subsequent ballots shall continue involving the remaining candidates until one person receives a majority of the votes cast, which person shall be declared the winner.
 3. If there is no valid nomination for an Office or if a single nominee does not attain a majority as provided for in Article 14.3(b), nominations for that Office may be made from the floor of the General Meeting, but an individual may be nominated for an Office only by his or her National Federation. Only

an Accredited Delegate shall make such a nomination. There may be more than one such nomination for an Office. Voting shall continue as provided for in this Article until one nominee receives a majority of votes cast, who shall be declared the winner of the election. If no individual receives the required majority of votes cast after exhaustion of the process set out in Article 14.3(b)2, and there are no additional nominations from the floor as provided for in this Article 14.3(c) 2, then the Chair of the General Meeting shall declare that Office vacant and that Office shall be filled as provided for in Article 13.7.

14.4 The President may, from time to time, call persons with knowledge in special areas to attend meetings with the Executive Board.

14.5 The following shall govern the removal of an Officer or other member of the Executive Board.

(a) The grounds for the removal of an Officer or other member of the Executive Board are as follows:

1. failure to properly discharge his or her duties under these Articles of Association;
2. the conviction of a criminal offense that in his or her country would result in the imposition of a monetary fine or a term of imprisonment, or the insolvency, bankruptcy or disqualification to serve as a director of a company of such person;
3. the commission or omission of an act that brings WBSC, Softball or Baseball into disrepute; or
4. the incapacity of the individual involved.

(b) The Officer or other member of the Executive Board subject to removal shall be timely notified of the receipt of any such motion for removal. The procedural and substantive provisions of Article 9 of the WBSC Articles of Association shall apply to every proceeding for a removal or suspension.

(c) In the case of a removal, the provisions for election of individuals in the event of a vacancy shall apply. In the case of a suspension, the individual shall be suspended from all activities as regards his or her Office and may not take part in any activities or deliberations of the Executive Board, in accordance with the terms of the suspension.

14.6 The daily operation of the WBSC shall be carried on by the employees of WBSC under the supervision of an Executive Director. The Executive Director's responsibilities are:

- (a) To implement, under the supervision of the Presidents, the decisions of the Executive Board.
- (b) To ensure that the minutes of the General Meeting and of the meetings of the Executive Board, to receive, transmit and file the WBSC's general correspondence, and to keep the official books containing the records,

ARTICLE 17. THE WBSC EXECUTIVE OFFICE

17.1 - The Executive Director and the staff are the management and administrative organ of the WBSC and are accountable and subject to the authority of the President and of the Executive Board.

registrations and certifications, all this under the supervision of the Secretary General.

- (c) To deal with the administration and accounts related to WBSC's financial matters, and to maintain custody the accounting documents, all under the supervision of the Treasurer.
- (d) To organise the WBSC's headquarters, its offices and to hire staff under the supervision of the Executive Board.
- (e) To manage all WBSC publications.
- (f) To organise the General Meeting and the meetings of the Executive Board and the Commissions.
- (g) To implement such tasks as may be directly requested by the President or the Executive Board.
- (h) The Executive Director may attend the General Meeting and the meetings of the Executive Board and Commissions and shall have the right to speak but no right to vote.

ARTICLE 15. COMMISSIONS

- 15.1 The Executive Board has the power to create any Commission that it deems necessary for the good administration of WBSC and, as applicable, the Objectives or the business of WBSC.
- 15.2 The President shall appoint and dismiss Chairpersons and members of Commissions with the approval of the Executive Board.
- 15.3 Commissions act on the authority and under the supervision of the Executive Board and report to the Executive Board and a General Meeting, if required. Every Commission shall have terms of reference and operating procedures, which shall be approved by the Executive Board.
- 15.4 The following Commissions are mandatory, shall have jurisdiction over the subject matters for which formed for both Baseball and Softball Divisions, and may only be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.
 - (a) Athletes Commission: The Athletes Commission advises on matters relevant to

17.2 - The Executive Director's responsibilities include:

- a) To implement, under the supervision of the President and/or Secretary General, the decisions and resolutions of the Executive Board and Congress.
- b) To draft the minutes of the Congress and of the meetings of the Executive Board, to receive, transmit and ensure the proper filing and keeping of all correspondence and necessary documents and to keep the official books containing the records, registrations and certifications under the supervision of the Secretary General.
- c) To deal with and manage the administration, accounts and WBSC's financial matters under the direction of the President and to ensure the proper custody of the accounting documents under the supervision of the Treasurer.
- d) To organise the WBSC Headquarters and any other WBSC offices and to recommend to the Executive Board for prior approval, the employment of the required staff for the proper and efficient functioning and operations of the WBSC Headquarters and offices and all competitions, activities and events of the WBSC.
- e) To manage all WBSC publications.
- f) To organise the Congresses and the meetings of the Executive Board and the Commissions.
- g) To implement such duties and responsibilities as may be requested or directed by the President or the Executive Board.

17.3 - The Executive Director shall attend the Congresses and the meetings of the Executive Board and Commissions and shall have the right to speak but no right to vote. Whenever possible he should also attend all competitions, activities and events of the WBSC and render a report in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. THE COMMISSIONS

- 18.1 - The Executive Board has the power to create any Commission that it deems necessary for the good administration of WBSC and, as applicable, the Objectives or the business of WBSC. **The composition and the functions of all Commissions are set out in the Commissions By-Laws.**
- 18.2 - The President shall appoint and dismiss Chairpersons and members of Commissions with the approval of the Executive Board.
- 18.3 - Commissions act on the authority and under the supervision of the Executive Board and report to the Executive Board and **the Congress**, if required. Every Commission shall have terms of reference and operating procedures, which shall be approved by the Executive Board.
- 18.4 - The following Commissions are mandatory, shall have jurisdiction over the subject

<p>players. It is comprised of at least three (3) members who have participated in at least one IBAF or WBSC Baseball Competition within the six (6) years immediately preceding his or her election and at least three (3) members who have participated in at least one ISF or WBSC Softball Competition within the six (6) years immediately preceding his or her election. WBSC will pay the expenses for the athletes attending meetings of the Athletes Commission. The initial Athletes Commission shall be composed of those athletes serving on the Athletes' Commissions of the ISF and the IBAF, until an election at the first General Meeting.</p> <p>(b) Anti-Doping and Medical Commission: The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission advises the Executive Board on all matters relating to athlete health and anti-doping, and for implementing the WBSC Anti-Doping Code.</p> <p>(c) Ethics Commission: The Ethics Commission shall establish a Code of Conduct and Disclosure which shall govern the actions of the Executive Board and employees of WBSC, its representatives, attorneys, Athlete Representatives and others acting on behalf of WBSC, which shall be modelled on the IOC Code of Ethics with the explicit aim as set out in the IOC preamble "to contribute to the realisation of the aims laid down in the Olympic Charter." The Code of Ethics shall specifically address issues of dignity, integrity, good governance and resources, all of which are key tenets of the WBSC Code of Ethics.</p> <p>(d) Legal Commission: The Legal Commission <u>reviews and submits recommendations or proposals by Members,</u> proposes <u>to the Executive Board</u> amendments to the Articles of Association, and advises the Executive Board and the General Meeting on legal, discipline and associated such matters.</p> <p>(e) Paralympic Commission: The Paralympic Commission reviews and submits to the Executive Board recommendations or proposals by Members, may itself propose matters to the Executive Board; and shall serve as the representative of the WBSC to other organisations involved in conducting competitions for persons with physical disabilities.</p> <p>15.5 Every member of a Commission shall declare any conflict of interest in connection with his or her involvement with that Commission and shall recuse himself or herself from any matter before the Commission and concerning that member or his or her National Federation.</p> <p>15.6 The Commissions shall meet whenever there is business to be transacted, all meetings being subject to the approval of the Executive Board. All Commission meetings may be held by electronic means, or in person</p> <p>15.7 If a member of a Commission has been absent from two consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall have the right to declare that such member has forfeited his or her membership. The Executive Board shall then fill the vacancy.</p> <p>15.8 For any Commission, the Executive Board may appoint ex officio an Executive Board member or other person who shall ensure and maintain communications between the</p>	<p>matters for which formed for both Baseball and Softball Divisions, and may only be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board:</p> <p>a) Athletes Commission: The Athletes Commission advises on matters relevant to players. It is comprised of at least three (3) members who have participated in at least one WBSC Baseball Competition within the six (6) years immediately preceding his or her election and at least three (3) members who have participated in at least one WBSC Softball Competition within the six (6) years immediately preceding his or her election. WBSC will pay the expenses for the athletes attending meetings of the Athletes Commission.</p> <p>b) Anti-Doping and Medical Commission: The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission advises the Executive Board on all matters relating to athlete health and anti-doping, and for implementing the WBSC Anti-Doping Code.</p> <p>c) Ethics Commission: The Ethics Commission shall establish a Code of Conduct and Disclosure which shall govern the actions of the Executive Board and employees of WBSC, its representatives, attorneys, Athlete Representatives and others acting on behalf of WBSC, which shall be modelled on the IOC Code of Ethics with the explicit aim as set out in the IOC preamble "to contribute to the realisation of the aims laid down in the Olympic Charter." The Code of Ethics shall specifically address issues of dignity, integrity, good governance and resources, all of which are key tenets of the WBSC Code of Ethics.</p> <p>d) Legal Commission: The Legal Commission reviews and submits recommendations or proposals by Members, proposes to the Executive Board amendments to the WBSC Statutes, and advises the Executive Board and the Congress on legal, discipline and associated such matters.</p> <p>e) Paralympic Commission: The Paralympic Commission reviews and submits to the Executive Board recommendations or proposals by Members, may itself propose matters to the Executive Board; and shall serve as the representative of the WBSC to other organisations involved in conducting competitions for persons with physical disabilities.</p> <p>18.5 - Every member of a Commission shall declare any conflict of interest in connection with his or her involvement with that Commission and shall recuse himself or herself from any matter before the Commission and concerning that member or his or her National Federation.</p> <p>18.6 - The Commissions shall meet whenever there is business to be transacted, all meetings being subject to the approval of the Executive Board. All Commission meetings may be held by electronic means, or in person.</p> <p>18.7 - If a member of a Commission has been absent from two consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, his or her membership shall be forfeited. The Executive Board shall then fill the vacancy.</p> <p>18.8 - For any Commission, the Executive Board may appoint ex officio an Executive Board member or other person who shall ensure and maintain communications between the Executive Board and the Commission.</p>
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CHAPTER 5 – APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES IN SPORTS LIFE

ARTICLE 19. THE INTERNATIONAL PLAY AND THE ATHLETES

19.1 - Any International Baseball Softball competition, match, game, tournament between teams and/or clubs that come under the jurisdiction and/or auspices of one or more Member Federations and/or comprising of one or more players that come under the jurisdiction and/or auspices of one or more Member Federations, shall come under the jurisdiction of the WBSC and shall be subject to the Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations as established by the WBSC.

19.2 - WBSC Full Members are the only authorities in each country to select their National Team and have the exclusive right to represent the country or territory name, flag and colours.

19.3 - In situations whereby teams/clubs and/or players are involved in an International Baseball Softball Game or Tournament in contravention of the WBSC Statutes, Codes of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Policies, the teams/clubs and/or players, as well as the Member Federation under whose auspices they belong, may be penalised in accordance with the WBSC Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations.

19.4 - For purposes herein, "International Baseball Softball competition, match, game, tournament" means a game or a series of games of Baseball Softball between national teams or teams representing the country or territory at any level or teams representing more than one WBSC Member Federation organised in advance in a formal manner.

19.5 - All International Baseball Softball competitions, matches, games, tournaments not related to the Olympic competition and/or its qualification competitions which belong to the WBSC, must have the prior sanction of the Continental Associations when it refers to activities between its member countries or territories, and that of the WBSC when it refers to activities between countries or territories belonging to different Continents, in accordance with the WBSC By-Laws, Code of the Divisions, Rules and Regulations.

19.6 - Failure to obtain this sanction would constitute a breach of the Statutes and such Member in breach thereof may be liable to disciplinary action under the Disciplinary By-Laws.

19.7 - Any athlete playing for his or her national team in a competition, match, game, tournament under the jurisdiction of the WBSC must be nationals of the country or territory or of the Federation, Association or Organisation, which registered him or her for their national team.

19.8 - All matters relating to nationality shall be in accordance with the WBSC By-Laws and with the Olympic Charter. Eligibility rules, in accordance with the Olympic Charter, are described in

ARTICLE 16. THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND THE CODES

- 16.1 These Articles of Association may be amended or supplemented, or rescinded and the corporation dissolved, only in a duly called and quorate meeting of a General Meeting and only if more than two thirds of the National Federations in Good Standing, Member of WBSC, and in attendance at such General Meeting vote affirmatively for such change. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be treated as a Motion to be presented before a General Meeting. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the Motion, every amendment shall come into effect at the close of the General Meeting at which such amendment was adopted.
- 16.2 The Codes of the sports respectively govern all WBSC competitions. The Codes may be adopted, amended or rescinded only upon the recommendation of the respective sports, on the vote of a simple majority of the Executive Board.
- 16.3 Save for applicable law, the Articles of Association and the Codes are the only governing documents of WBSC.
- 16.4 Every power, express or implied, for the administration of Baseball and/or Softball internationally shall be vested in and may be exercised by a General Meeting or the Executive Board (as the case may be). Each Code, the decision of a Commission and the action taken by a General Meeting or the Executive Board shall be consistent with these Articles of Association. In the event of any discrepancy or conflict, these Articles of Association shall prevail.
- 16.5 The jurisdiction to consider, interpret, or resolve any dispute, interpretation or matter arising under these Articles of Association or between these Articles of Association and a Code is vested in the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE 17. DISPUTES

- 17.1 Disciplinary Proceedings by National Federations
- (a) WBSC recognises the jurisdiction and right of a National Federation and the sports to discipline or disqualify in its own territory and its own sport any person in accordance with the rules of that National Federation or sport, in accordance with the obligations of that National Federation or sport to provide a full and fair opportunity for such person to be present, to be heard, to be represented by

the Tournament regulations of each WBSC tournament.

19.9 - In the Olympic Games and the Olympic Qualification competitions or tournaments where there could be an uncertainty between the WBSC By-Laws and the Olympic Charter, the provisions of the Olympic Charter shall prevail.

19.10 - Any player playing with a Team under the jurisdiction and/or auspices of a Member Federation, Association or Organisation of the WBSC who wishes to play in another country, must obtain an *International Player Transfer Certificate* issued by the Member Federation, Association or Organisation where the player comes from, in agreement with the By-Laws, Rules, Regulations as established by the WBSC.

ARTICLE 20. THE STATUTES AND THE TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

20.1 - These **Statutes** may be amended or supplemented, or rescinded and the corporation dissolved, only in a duly called and quorate meeting of a Congress and only if more than two-thirds (2/3) of the **Member** Federations in Good Standing **present and voting** at such Congress vote affirmatively for such change **or rescission**. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be treated as a Motion to be presented before a Congress. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the Motion, every amendment shall come into effect at the close of the Congress at which such amendment was adopted.

20.2 - The **Tournament Regulations** of the sport respectively govern all WBSC competitions. The **Tournament Regulations** may be adopted, amended or rescinded only upon the recommendation of the respective **discipline**, on the vote of a simple majority of the **respective Division** Board.

20.3 - Save for applicable law, the **Statutes, Code of the Divisions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations** and the **Tournament Regulations** are the only governing documents of WBSC.

20.4 - Every power, express or implied, for the administration of the Sport internationally shall be vested in and may be exercised by a Congress or the Executive Board (as the case may be). Each **Tournament Regulation**, the decision of a Commission and the action taken by a Congress or the Executive Board shall be consistent with these **Statutes**. In the event of any discrepancy or conflict, these **Statutes** shall prevail.

20.5 - The jurisdiction to consider, interpret, or resolve any dispute, interpretation or matter arising under these **Statutes** or between these **Statutes** and a **Tournament Regulations** is vested in the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE 21. DISPUTES

21.1 - Disciplinary Proceedings by National Federations:

- a) WBSC recognises the jurisdiction and right of a National Federation and the sport to

counsel and to appeal any such decision.

- (b) Subject to these Articles of Association, an applicable Code and applicable law, a National Federation shall have the right to discipline or disqualify a foreign person that, in a WBSC competition sanctioned by that National Federation, violates the rules of that National Federation. After a final determination is made and a decision is made to discipline or disqualify the person, the decision shall be provided to WBSC and the National Federation to which the person belongs. All National Federations and WBSC shall abide by the final determination (if appealed, a determination is not final unless and until affirmed on appeal). Should that foreign person contest any such decision of that National Federation, that person has the right to appeal such decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (“CAS”) under the applicable rules of CAS. The decision of the CAS shall be final.
- (c) WBSC may discipline or disqualify any person for any offense, which is a violation of these Articles of Association or a Code, pursuant to Article 9 of these Articles of Association.

17.2 Dispute Resolution

- (a) A complaint seeking a disciplinary ruling may be brought by the Executive Board, any National Federation or any Regional Confederation arising out of an act or omission that involves a matter under these Articles of Association or a Code, or arising out of a WBSC competition that is not otherwise provided for in these Articles of Association or a Code. All complaints shall be in writing, state the matter of concern, accompanied by any supporting documentation, and a list of witnesses or other persons having information on which the complaining party wants to rely. Resolution of that complaint is be governed by Article 9 of these Articles of Association.
- (b) A complaint for dispute resolution may not be filed with WBSC unless and until all available administrative remedies provided by any other organisation with authority over such complaint are exhausted.
- (c) The sole and exclusive means for dispute resolution shall be as provided for in these Articles of Association.

17.3 Arbitration

- (a) Any dispute against WBSC, or any appeal from a decision of the WBSC under Article 17 or Article 9, shall be resolved exclusively by arbitration before the CAS. No dispute or any other matter may be brought before a court.
- (b) The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the CAS, or pursuant to such other rules or modified rules as the parties agree. The decision of the CAS or other agreed arbitration body shall be final, binding upon the parties and non-appealable.

discipline or disqualify in its own territory and its own sport any person in accordance with the rules of that National Federation or sport, in accordance with the obligations of that National Federation or sport to provide a full and fair opportunity for such person to be present, to be heard, to be represented by counsel and to appeal any such decision.

b) Subject to these **Statutes**, an applicable Code and applicable law, a National Federation shall have the right to discipline or disqualify a foreign person that, in a WBSC competition sanctioned by that National Federation, violates the rules of that National Federation. After a final determination is made and a decision is made to discipline or disqualify the person, the decision shall be provided to WBSC and the National Federation to which the person belongs. All National Federations and WBSC shall abide by the final determination (if appealed, a determination is not final unless and until affirmed on appeal). Should that foreign person contest any such decision of that National Federation, that person has the right to appeal such decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (“CAS”) under the applicable rules of CAS. The decision of the CAS shall be final.

c) WBSC may discipline or disqualify any person for any offense, which is a violation of these **Statutes** or a Code, pursuant to Article 9 of these Articles of Association.

21.2 - Dispute Resolution:

a) A complaint seeking a disciplinary ruling may be brought by the Executive Board, any National Federation or any **Continental Association** arising out of an act or omission that involves a matter under these **Statutes** or a Code, or arising out of a WBSC competition that is not otherwise provided for in these **Statutes** or a Code. All complaints shall be in writing, state the matter of concern, accompanied by any supporting documentation, and a list of witnesses or other persons having information on which the complaining party wants to rely. Resolution of that complaint is be governed by Article 9 of these **Statutes**.

b) A complaint for dispute resolution may not be filed with WBSC unless and until all available administrative remedies provided by any other organisation with authority over such complaint are exhausted.

c) The sole and exclusive means for dispute resolution shall be as provided for in these **Statutes**.

21.3 - Arbitration

a) Any dispute against WBSC, or any appeal from a decision of the WBSC under Article 17 or Article 9, shall be resolved exclusively by arbitration before the CAS. No dispute or any other matter may be brought before a court.

b) The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the CAS, or pursuant to such other rules or modified rules as the parties agree. The decision of the CAS or other agreed arbitration body shall be final, binding upon the parties and non-appealable.

ARTICLE 18. DOPING CONTROL

- 18.1 WBSC has adopted and administers and enforces a comprehensive set of anti-doping control programs addressing both in-competition and out-of competition testing (“Anti-Doping Program”).
- 18.2 The initial Anti-Doping Program adopted by WBSC consists of the respective Anti-Doping Codes of the sports, which shall be replaced by a single unified and WADA qualified WBSC Anti-Doping Code at or after the first WBSC General Meeting.
- 18.3 The Anti-Doping Program shall be set forth in the WBSC Anti-Doping Code and given to all National Federations, the IOC, and the NOC of every National Federation.
- 18.4 Any violation of the Anti-Doping Program shall result in action being taken pursuant the final determination of the hearing body and as provided under the Anti-Doping Code.

ARTICLE 19. FINANCIAL MONITORING AND CONTROL

- 19.1 The fiscal year of WBSC is the calendar year. For each calendar year, the Treasurer shall cause to be produced a statement of accounts. These annual statements shall be audited and certified by a Certified Public Accountant, reviewed and approved by the Executive Board.
- 19.2 The statement of accounts for any year preceding a regular General Meeting, and for the multiple-year period since the last regular General Meeting, shall be sent to all Members in advance of the next scheduled regular General Meeting as part of the material provided by the Secretary General in accordance with Article 12.4.

ARTICLE 22. DOPING CONTROL

- 22.1 - WBSC has adopted and administers and enforces a comprehensive set of anti-doping control programs addressing both in-competition and out-of competition testing (“Anti-Doping Program”).
- 22.2 - The Anti-Doping Program shall be set forth in the WBSC Anti-Doping Code and given to all National Federations, the IOC, and the NOC of every National Federation.
- 22.3 - Any violation of the Anti-Doping Program shall result in action being taken pursuant the final determination of the hearing body and as provided under the Anti-Doping Code.

CHAPTER 6 – FINANCIAL MATTERS

ARTICLE 23. FINANCIAL MONITORING AND CONTROL

- 23.1 - The fiscal year of WBSC is the calendar year. For each calendar year, the Treasurer shall produce a statement of accounts. These annual statements shall be audited and certified by a Certified Public Accountant, reviewed and approved by the Executive Board.
- 23.2 - The statement of accounts for any year preceding a regular **Congress**, and for the multiple-year period since the last regular **Congress**, shall be sent to all Members in advance of the next scheduled regular **Congress** as part of the material provided by the Secretary General in accordance with Article 13.4.

ARTICLE 24. INCOME AND ASSETS

24.1 - WBSC's income shall derive from:

- a) The Membership fees and any other payment paid by all categories of Members, including new Members.
- b) The amounts payable to WBSC under all contracts and agreements signed by WBSC's President relating to the competitions, activities and events under WBSC's jurisdiction and those derived from the participation in the same.
- c) The amounts payable under sponsorships and media/broadcast rights of all competitions, activities and events under the WBSC's jurisdiction (which rights are the sole

property of WBSC).

d) All income derived from grants and donations by the International Olympic Committee and any other organisation and from all other source.

e) Any income and payment from all sources related to the WBSC's assets and properties, including WBSC's brand and merchandise revenues.

24.2 - The WBSC's assets consist of:

a) The name "World Baseball Softball Confederation", any publication by the WBSC like Newsletters, Magazines, Yearbooks, Documentaries, etc. and the acronym «WBSC» and the prevailing logos and brands of the organisation and all those that can be created in the future.

b) The World Rankings for all categories, for instance Men's Baseball, Women's Baseball, Men's Softball and Women's Softball.

c) All Official National Team Competitions that fall under WBSC's jurisdiction.

d) The name Baseball World Cup and Softball World Cup as well as all its various Age Categories (ie, U-15 BWC) and all other trademarked and registered (i.e., Baseball Champions league, Softball Champions league, Baseball World Cup and Softball World Cup).

e) The WBSC official competitions and tournaments and others that can be created with this character.

f) Any logo, official look and branding related to WBSC and its competitions, activities and events.

g) The balance sheets of the current bank accounts in its name.

h) All assets material, physical or of any other kind, personal and real estate properties, included here or created by reason of existence of the World Headquarters and/or any other international office it may have wherever located.

24.3 - In case of dissolution the WBSC assets should be given to another association or foundation, which works towards similar or analogous aims.

ARTICLE 25. MERCHANDISING

25.1 - A WBSC Full Affiliated Member taking part in competitions organised by the International Olympic Committee, such as the Olympic Games or Olympic Games classificatory competitions, Multidisciplinary Sports Games, and all the competitions organised by the WBSC, may use advertising brand or badges any time these correspond to what is authorised by the

ARTICLE 20. PRINTING OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, CODES AND RULES

- 20.1 The WBSC shall own all rights, including copyrights, in the Articles of Association and any Rules promulgated by the WBSC, which are published in the official languages of the WBSC solely for the benefit of Members. They may be reprinted or translated by Members for the use of those Members only, with the understanding that in all cases where the translated text differs in interpretation, the English version shall be accepted.
- 20.2 All persons other than Members wishing to publish the Articles of Association or any Rules must first obtain the permission of WBSC.

ARTICLE 21. DISSOLUTION

- 21.1 The dissolution of WBSC shall require a decision of the General Meeting by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the present voting Members.
- 21.2 In the event of a dissolution of WBSC, any remaining unallocated funds shall be used for any outstanding obligations, and the remainder shall revert to an institution of public utility with a similar purpose as WBSC and which is tax exempted. The remainder shall neither revert to the founders nor to the Members, and not be used totally or partially in their favour or for their profits and in whatever possible manner.

International Olympic Committee and the WBSC.

25.2 - The WBSC reserves itself the right to establish the conditions for the use of advertising in the uniforms, or under any other form, in the World-wide and Continental competitions, taking into account, whenever possible, the affiliate members' contracted commitments, these latter having requested the WBSC's authorisation before contracting any commitments regarding this matter.

25.3 - The WBSC is the only authorised entity for the use, with advertising or merchandising purposes, of the names, brands, logos, publications, emblems and symbols of the organisation. Any use of these must be authorised beforehand, deliberately in written, by the WBSC President.

CHAPTER 7 – FINAL DISPOSITIONS

ARTICLE 26. PRINTING OF THE STATUTES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 26.1 - The WBSC shall own all rights, including copyrights, in the Statutes and any Rules promulgated by the WBSC, which are published in the official languages of the WBSC solely for the benefit of Members. They may be reprinted or translated by Members for the use of those Members only, with the understanding that in all cases where the translated text differs in interpretation, the English version shall be accepted.
- 26.2 - All persons other than Members wishing to publish the Statutes or any Rules must first obtain the permission of WBSC.

ARTICLE 27. DISSOLUTION

- 27.1 - The dissolution of WBSC shall require a decision of the Congress by a majority of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the present voting Members.
- 27.2 - In the event of a dissolution of WBSC, any remaining unallocated funds shall be used for any outstanding obligations, and the remainder shall revert to an institution of public utility with a similar purpose as WBSC and which is tax exempted. The remainder shall neither revert to the founders nor to the Members, and not be used totally or partially in their favour or for their profits and in whatever possible manner.