

CONSTITUTION

International Federation of Muaythai Amateur (IFMA)

Preamble

Muaythai develops the continuous improvement of physical and mental faculties in the athletes practicing the sport. To compete in Muaythai requires regular and comprehensive training. The purpose of this sport is that those participating in it endeavor to score victory by means of technical skills and not to win the contest by bringing about an early stoppage. Muaythai may be practiced as a competitive sport by male and female athletes. Competition shall be limited to participation between males and males, and females and females. IFMA recognizes Muaythai as part of the cultural heritage of Thailand.

Article I Title and Introduction

- A. Title**
The title of the Federation shall be the “International Federation of Muaythai Amateur” abbreviated as IFMA.
- B. Emblem**
The emblem is a Muaythai boxer in the position of “Wai Kru” over the full name of the Federation and the abbreviation IFMA.
- C. Affiliation**
1. IFMA is a non-profit making international organization comprising the National Muaythai Associations of all countries which have a national governing body controlling Muaythai and which having agreed to abide by the Articles herein contained, have become affiliated members. Its Principal office shall be situated in Thailand.
 2. Only one association shall represent a country in Muaythai. If two or more associations within the country claim representative status, such status will be awarded to the association which is recognized by that country’s highest government sport organization as representing only Muaythai. If there is no such recognition such status will be awarded to the association which is recognized by IFMA as the National Muaythai Association.

3. An association affiliated to IFMA may not be affiliated with any other organization not recognized by IFMA.
4. Affiliation will not be granted to any association which purports to represent both Muaythai, and Kickboxing or any other sport.

D. Official Languages

The official languages of the IFMA are Thai and English. All official documents of the IFMA must be published in the English language. Congresses, meetings and sessions must be held in the English language. The IFMA may direct that other languages be used as a means for communication where appropriate.

Article II Objectives

The Objectives of the International Muaythai Federation shall be:

1. To promote cordial and friendly relations between its members and to supervise Muaythai activities throughout the world.
2. To frame the regulations under which international championships and competitions shall be organized.
3. To organize, in collaboration with National Associations, the IFMA events and Muaythai competitions for international events. The right to organize the World Championships and international events will only be granted to countries which are able to grant entry into their territory of participants of member countries wishing to participate.
4. To ensure that all international competitions open to the affiliated Associations shall be organized and held under the Rules of IFMA.
5. To ensure that no discrimination is allowed against any country or person on grounds of race, religion, or political affiliation.
6. To promote mutual respect among affiliated National Associations in their relations and the reciprocal recognition of penalties and suspensions.
7. To ensure that the income and property of the IFMA shall be applied toward the promotion of the objectives of the Federation.
8. To encourage and improve the proficiency of the Muaythai technical groups and officials.
9. To support and maintain the ideals and objectives of the Olympic Movement.

Article III The Congress

A. Authority

The IFMA shall be governed by the Congress thereof.

B. Quorum

A Quorum at Congress shall consist of not less than 50% plus one of the affiliated National Associations of IFMA.

C. Notice of Appointment

Notice of appointment of delegates shall be handed, prior to the commencement of the Congress, to the Commission of Scrutineers for the assessment of mandates and such notifications must be signed by the President and General Secretary of the affiliated National Associations.

D. Representation

The Congress shall consist of IFMA's President, General Secretary, Vice Presidents and other Executive Committee members, and the delegates of the affiliated National Associations. Each affiliated National Association may be represented by not more than three delegates but shall be entitled to only one vote at Congress. Every delegate shall be a member of and authorized by the Association that he represents. A member shall not be less than 21 years of age and shall not represent any other affiliated National Association. A member of the Executive Committee shall not be entitled to a separate at Congress in their capacity as such member.

E. Commission of Scrutineers

On questions of voting and elections, the Congress will appoint a Commission of Scrutineers consisting of the Head of IFMA office and four other delegates. Candidates for election can not sit on this Commission. The Commission of Scrutineers informs the Congress of members good standing and entitlement to vote.

F. Adoption of new Articles and Rules

Articles and Rules adopted at the Congress shall come to effect on January 1st immediately following the Congress and can not be changed for a four year period or until the next Congress whichever first occurs.

1. Ordinary Congress

a. Time:

A meeting of the Ordinary Congress of IFMA shall be held every four years, the first to be held in the second half of 2007.

- b. Venue:
Nations desiring to host a Congress will submit a proposal two years before the next Congress. The Executive Committee will decide the venue and date not less than one year prior to the next Congress, and then shall notify the affiliated National Associations.
- c. Notices of Motion and Nominations of Office Bearers:
Notices of motion and nominations of officers for election to the Executive Committee shall be sent by any reliable means so as to be received by the IFMA office not later than four (4) months before the date of the Congress. Notices of motion shall be considered by the Executive Committee who will only include them in the Agenda if it considers them sufficiently important for discussion. In the event of the death or withdrawal before Congress of a member nominated for election, his or her National Association shall be entitled to substitute the name of another member of its Association.

2. Extraordinary Congress

- a. In addition to the Ordinary Congress, an Extraordinary Congress may be called by the Executive Committee or if 20% of the affiliated National Associations representing at least one Association from each continent shall present a demand to the IFMA office by registered post or courier. In the latter case such demand shall state the reason for the convening of such Extraordinary Congress and specify the proposed Agenda of such Extraordinary Congress and the proposed Notices of Motion. When the General Secretary receives such demand, he shall call an Extraordinary Congress within a period not exceeding four months from the date of receipt of such demand and all affiliated National Associations shall be immediately notified. The venue and the actual date shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.
- b. No business other than that mentioned in the demand and/or authorized by the Executive Committee may be included in the agenda.
- c. The General Secretary shall send notification of matters on the Agenda to affiliated National Associations three months before the date of Congress.

Article IV Executive Committee

A. Authority

During the period between Congresses, the highest executive body of the IFMA shall be the Executive Committee, the rights and duties of which are set out in this Article. In the intervals between Congresses, the Executive Committee and its Vice Presidents Bureau shall transact the business of the IFMA. It shall render reports to each Congress and shall carry out the decisions made by each Congress and the duties laid down by the Articles and Rules of IFMA. During the period between the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Vice Presidents Bureau shall act as necessary at its bi-annual meeting. It shall report its actions to the Executive Committee who may confirm or modify the action.

In between meetings of the IFMA Executive Committee or Vice Presidents Bureau, the President shall act for IFMA as necessary. If the action specifically involves a Continent or one of the IFMA Commissions, the President shall consult beforehand the President of such Continent or the Chairman of the Commission concerned about the action to be taken. If not practical to give advance notice, he must inform the Continent or Commission concerned as soon as practical. Actions other than normal routine will be reported to the Executive Committee for approval.

B. Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Eleven (11) Vice Presidents, the General Secretary, Treasurer, eighteen (18) members, who shall be elected as representatives of the different Continents, as set out below and three (3) additional members. Each member of the Executive Committee shall belong to a different National Association, except only that the President, the General Secretary, Treasurer, and additional members may belong to an Association which may also have a Vice President on the Executive Committee, provided that in no case shall it ever be possible for any one Association to have more than four (4) members on the Executive Committee. Each National Association shall have only one vote on the Executive Committee of IFMA.

C. Duties of the Executive Committee

1. To observe the Articles and Rules. To make decisions in case of emergency and where necessary to put such decisions into effect, such decisions and actions to be reported to the next Congress for approval.
2. To decide upon the affiliation to the IFMA of any unaffiliated Association.
3. To decide any dispute that may have arisen between affiliated National Associations if called upon to do so. In case any affiliated National Association does not agree with the decision or recommendation of the

IFMA Executive Committee the dispute shall be considered at the next Congress.

4. To consider any matter referred to it by Congress of the IFMA or by any Bureau of the Executive Committee.
5. To give a ruling on any matter pertaining to the rules of the IFMA that may be referred to it by any Association or Bureau, such ruling to be acted upon until the next Congress and subsequently, unless rejected by Congress.
6. To put motions before the Congress of IFMA at any time if the Executive Committee thinks it desirable to do so.
7. To issue the minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee as soon as convenient, and to forward copies to affiliated National Associations.
8. To arrange the organization of all matters concerning World Championships and Challenge matches, and to control through its Continental Bureau other international championships. Additionally, to appoint at least one technical delegate to supervise the technical arrangements for the abovementioned championships.
9. To maintain a list of recognized Referees and Judges who are qualified to officiate at the World Championships, and other international competitions.
10. To select a Jury for the World Championships, Challenge matches and other international competitions.
11. At its first meeting after each Ordinary Congress, to appoint members to the Standing Commissions who shall remain in office until the next Ordinary Congress.
12. Work in close contact with those organizations and individuals with whom IFMA has working agreements or contracts.

D. Terms of office

The President, General Secretary, Treasurer and the Executive Committee shall be elected at an Ordinary Congress for a term of four years.

E. Vacancies

If any vacancy arises in the Executive Committee through the death of a member or as a result of a member's resignation, it shall be filled by the Executive Committee. In the event of withdrawal, suspension or expulsion by

his affiliated National Association, and/or if a member fails to attend two consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee without any valid reasons as determined by the Executive Committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Committee from a member belonging to any affiliated National Association in the continent concerned at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Should the vacancy be for the position of President an interim President shall be nominated by vote of the Vice Presidents and shall serve until the next Congress when the Congress will elect the President.

F. Elections

1. Nominations:

The election of the Vice Presidents and members of the Executive Committee representing the affiliated National Associations of AFRICA, AMERICA, ASIA, EUROPE, and OCEANIA shall be from among the candidates nominated by the National Associations of the respective continents. Every candidate for election to the Executive Committee must be a member of one of the affiliated National Associations and except in the case of the President, must be nominated by that Association. – An Association may nominate a candidate from any Association within its continent, who must also be nominated by the candidate’s Association in order to be eligible. It is permissible to nominate one candidate to several offices in the Executive Committee. In this case, the National Association which makes such nomination shall indicate in its nomination that its candidate, if not elected, e.g., as President, is being nominated for election to the office of, e.g., a Vice President, and if not elected to this office is being nominated for election, e.g., as a member of the Executive Committee. A nominated candidate may not be elected to more than one position.

2. Order:

The Executive Committee of the IFMA shall be included/be elected in the following order:

- a. The President – who shall be nominated by and elected from any affiliated National Association in any part of the world.
- b. The General Secretary – who shall be nominated by and elected from any affiliated National Association and shall not belong to the same continent as the President.
- c. The Asian Continental President and Two (2) Vice Presidents – elected by Congress from among the respective affiliated National Associations of the Continent of Asia and one of whom has to be from the National Association of Thailand.

- d. The European Continental President and Two (2) Vice Presidents – elected by Congress from among the respective National Associations of the Continent of Europe one of whom must be the President of the Continental Federation.
- e. The African and American Continental Presidents and One (1) Vice Presidents – elected by Congress from among the respective affiliated National Associations of each of the Continents of AFRICA and AMERICA one of whom must be the President of the Continental Federation.
- f. One (1) Vice-President – from among the affiliated National Associations of the continent of OCEANIA who shall be the President of the Continental Federation.
- g. The Treasurer – who shall be nominated by and elected from any affiliated National Association.
- h. Four (4) Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Congress from among the respective affiliated National Associations of each of the continents except OCEANIA which shall have two (2) elected Members.
- i. Three (3) additional members nominated by the President of IFMA from any affiliated National Associations.

3. Procedures:

Where an individual and a group of individuals are to be elected, relative majorities shall be sufficient, and the appropriate number of candidates polling the highest number of votes shall be elected, according to the number of vacancies to be filled. In any case where a ballot is necessary, it shall be a written ballot.

G. Vice Presidents Bureau

The Bureau of the Vice Presidents of IFMA shall comprise the President, the General Secretary, Treasurer and eleven (11) Vice Presidents, and will hold its meetings at least twice a year and will conduct the current business of the Federation and implement the decisions taken by the Executive Committee as a whole.

H. Continental Bureau

Each Continent shall have a Bureau comprising of the President of the Continent and the elected members of the Executive Committee from that continent. The Continental Bureau shall assist the Executive Committee in the

administration of the Continental Federation and advise the Continental Federation in relation to IFMA matters.

Article V Executive Committee Meetings

A. Frequency

The Executive Committee and the IFMA Commissions shall hold their meetings once a year (and more often if a minimum of eleven members so desire and request the General Secretary to call a meeting) to consider general matters concerning the activities of the Association and the development of Muaythai throughout the world. It shall also meet not more than 4 months or less than 3 months before the date of any Congress in order to prepare the Agenda for such Congress.

B. Quorum

In order to form a quorum for dealing with the business, fifteen members of the Executive Committee must be present.

C. Chair

The President shall act as Chair and shall have a vote, and in the event of a tie, a second or casting vote. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice Presidents shall be elected to officiate in the capacity of the President with all rights of the President.

Article VI Honorary Members

A. Honorary Members

In order to reward exceptional merit in or service to the advancement of international Muaythai, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Congress shall be entitled to elect Honorary Members who may attend and speak, but not vote at meetings of the Congress, unless representing their national association as a delegate in which case normal rights shall apply. The name (s) of the person (s) to be considered for election as Honorary Member (s) will be notified to the affiliated Associations three months before the date of Congress. The election will be conducted in the same manner as other elections at the Congress. The Congress may, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, terminate any honorary membership.

B. Honorary Life President

The Congress may confer the title of Honorary Life President of IFMA which, once accorded by the Congress shall be retained by those so honored for the rest of their lives.

C. Honorary Vice President

The Congress may confer the title of Honorary President of IFMA which, once accorded by the Congress shall be retained by those so honored for one term of office.

D. Honorary Life Vice President

The title of Honorary Life Vice President may be designated by Congress to an IFMA Vice President who has functioned for at least three (3) terms of office with twelve (12) consecutive years of service.

Article VII Continental Associations

A. Composition

The Executive Committee of IFMA shall recognize as the governing body one Continental Association in each Continent, which must observe the Rules and Constitution of IFMA and organize on this basis its activities for the promotion of Muaythai. The recognized body must work under the guidance of the Executive Committee of IFMA and must follow all its directives in accordance with the IFMA Articles and Rules. Members of the Continental Association must be National Associations affiliated to IFMA.

Article VIII Organization and Functions of the Commissions

A. Ad-hoc Commissions

The President at his discretion may appoint an Ad-hoc Commission or an advisor with Vice President status for a special purpose. The composition of such Commission may be made up of IFMA members, individuals from the public sector, or a combination of the above. Each member of such Ad-hoc Commissions shall have voice and vote at commission meetings.

B. Composition

The composition of the Commissions shall be decided by the Executive Committee. The principle of continental equality in the formation of all commissions shall be taken into consideration. Each Commission shall have at least six (6), but not more than eleven (11) members, except the Medical Commission which may have (12). The President may appoint members from the public sector who are experts on various Commissions. Such a member shall be designated a special member with voice, and with vote.

C. Chair

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Secretary of each of the Commissions shall be appointed by the Executive Committee at its first meeting after Congress.

The following commissions shall be formed:

- The Technical and Rules Commission
- The Refereeing and Judging Commission
- The Medical Commission
- The Finance Commission
- The Youth Commission
- The Women Commission
- The Press and Public Relations Commission
- The Business Commission
- The Legal Commission

D. Reports

The above Commissions shall all base their activities on annual and four-year working programs to be submitted to the Executive Committee at the first Executive Committee Annual Meeting following the Congress. The Commissions shall render reports to the Executive Committee so as to keep the latter informed as to their activities, and shall be subject to the directions of the Executive Committee.

1. TECHNICAL AND RULES COMMISSION

A. Composition

The Technical and Rules Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties

1. The Technical and Rules Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA and the Continental Bureau on questions relating to the observance of the Article and Rules of IFMA.
2. It shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the organization and technical aspects in connection with the staging of International Championships and World Championships and in these matters it shall work closely with the other Commissions.
3. With a view to ensuring a continuous development of Muaythai, the Technical and Rules Commission shall

advise the Executive Committee with regard to the amendment of the Articles and Rules.

4. It shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the promotion of Muaythai techniques to the affiliated National Associations

- C. Technical Delegates
A Member of the Technical and Rules Commission should always be one of the Technical Delegates to the World Championships, and Challenge matches.

2. REFEREEING AND JUDGING COMMISSION

- A. Composition
The Commission of Refereeing and Judging shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members, all of whom shall be experienced Referees/Judges selected by the Executive Committee from the International List with at least one representative from each Continent.

- B. Duties
 1. This Commission shall, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, deal with the appointment of Referees and Judges, the maintenance of the International list, the removal of persons therefrom, and all matters concerning Refereeing and Judging and instructions to Referees and Judges at the International Championships, World Championships and Continental Championships.

2. The Commission of Refereeing and Judging will advise the Executive Committee on questions relating to the selection of the Referees and Judges Jury.

3. The Commission, before the World Championships, on the basis of the proposals of the respective Continental Refereeing and Judging Commissions and Regional Bureaus, shall present to the Executive Committee a list of Referees and Judges whom it deems to be the most competent on the International list. To be eligible for selection to officiate at World Championships or Continental Championships or Challenge matches nominations must be sent to IFMA office in time to

enable the Executive Committee to select and nominate the necessary officials from those who are available.

- C. Continental Referee and Judging Commissions
The Referee and Judging Commission of each Continental Bureau shall appoint Referees and Judges from the International list of Referees and Judges to officiate in Continental Championships and Regional Championships on their continent. When Regional Championships involve more than one continent, the Commissions concerned may delegate such responsibilities to a Regional Commission.

3. MEDICAL COMMISSION AND MEDICAL JURY

- A. Composition
The Medical Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) members, all of whom shall be qualified Doctors of Medicine, nominated by affiliated Associations and appointed by the Executive Committee.

- B. Meetings
The Medical Commission shall arrange their own meetings at least once each year. The National Associations shall undertake to ensure the participation of their Commission members in the meetings. Those members who do not participate in two consecutive meetings without a valid reason may be excluded from the Commission.

- C. Medical Jury
At the World Championships and Challenge matches, there shall be a neutral Medical Commission of three Doctors nominated by the Executive Committee of IFMA. When bouts are held on more than one ring, the number of Medical Jury members will have to be increased from by two members for each additional ring. Continental Bureaus shall nominate similar Commissions for Continental Championships. The decision of this neutral Commission shall be final and without appeal. If possible, a member of the Medical commission of IFMA should act as a member of the neutral Medical Jury in any Championship under the auspices of IFMA.

- D. Duties
The Medical Commission shall make recommendations in the first place to the Executive Committee with regard to the

physical well being of boxers and collect information on medical matters relating to Muaythai.

4. FINANCE COMMISSION

A. Composition

The Finance Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-chairman, secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties

1. Exercise control over the financial position of the IFMA, study the budget of the Executive Committee, the Commissions and the Bureau, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on those matters.
2. Work closely with the President and the IFMA Business Commission in seeking additional funds for the operation of IFMA.
3. Make recommendations to the Executive Committee on measures to ensure prompt payment by the affiliated associations of their entry fee and annual subscription fees and other payments to the IFMA, on questions of the use of the assets, property, and equipment belonging to the IFMA, and on other financial and material matters.
4. Prepare a financial report submitted by the Executive Committee to the Ordinary Congress.
5. Make recommendations to the Executive Committee for the approval of financial regulations.

5. YOUTH COMMISSION

A. Composition

The Youth Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties

1. The Youth Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA on questions relating to the development of youth Muaythai.

2. It shall be responsible for popularizing youth Muaythai and may work with the Press and Public Relations Commission to accomplish this objective.
3. It shall work in close cooperation with the Medical Commission and the Technical Commission of IFMA to set up uniform principles for the development of Muaythai among youth and it should also create conditions for the protection of youth.
4. In close cooperation with the Technical and Rules Commission, the Youth Commission shall recommend rules and procedures for junior boxers and for the World Championships relating to junior boxers.

6. **WOMEN'S COMMISSION**

A. Composition

The Women's Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties

1. The Women's Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA on questions relating to the development of women's Muaythai.
2. It shall be responsible for popularizing women's Muaythai and may work with the Press and Public Relations Commission to accomplish this objective.
3. In close cooperation with the Medical Commission and the Technical Commission of IFMA it will set up uniform principles for the development of Muaythai among women and it should also create conditions for the protection of women.
4. In close cooperation with the Technical and Rules Commission it shall make recommendations for rules, regulations and procedures relating to women boxers and for the World Championships in relation to women boxers.

7. PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

A. Composition.

The Press and Public Relations Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties.

1. The Press and Public Relations Commission will advise the Executive Committee on all matters dealing with the media, publications and public relations.
2. Keep liaison with the world media and promote the cause of Muaythai.
3. Regularly provide information to member associations and the Press regarding all developments and activities of IFMA.
4. Take corrective action as necessary in case of any adverse publicity.
5. Supervise the publication of the IFMA magazine and publish other brochures or publicity material if and when necessary.
6. Subject to directions by the President, organize Press Conferences at Congresses, Championship events, and whenever appropriate.

8. BUSINESS COMMISSION

A. Composition

The Business Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members.

B. Duties

1. To provide expertise for the generation of funds through sponsorships, advertising, marketing, and the creation of income-producing activities.
2. To advise and assist in marketing IFMA Championship events.

3. To work in close collaboration with the Finance Commission of IFMA.
4. The Executive Committee members who are the Business representatives of each Continent will offer similar expertise to the Continental Bureau for their Continental Championships.

9. LEGAL COMMISSION

A. Composition

The legal Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than eight (8) other members. The commission should be composed of qualified lawyers.

B. Duties

1. To assist the President of IFMA in the legal representation of IFMA.
2. To mediate in the case of disputes between affiliated National Associations.
3. To give an expert opinion on contracts concluded by IFMA.
4. To assist the Executive Committee in overseeing the observance of the Articles and Rules of IFMA and the decisions taken by IFMA.

Article IX Office Bearers

A. The President

The President of IFMA is elected by the congress. He directs the IFMA and represents it before third parties.

In the case of inability to perform the duties of President for a period of more than three months for any reason, the Presidency shall be assumed by a Vice President of IFMA who is to be appointed by the Executive Committee.

B. The General Secretary

The General Secretary, shall be elected from any affiliated National Association. He shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee of IFMA and a member of the Vice Presidents Bureau of IFMA. He is responsible for the work and administration of the Secretary and other duties as follows:

1. To coordinate the activities and common actions of the Continental Bureaus of IFMA with a view to promoting and assisting the overall development of Muaythai and the implementation of the decisions of the Executive Committee.
2. To coordinate the activities of the various Commissions of IFMA and to consult the Commission Chairmen on all major issues and documents.
3. With the approval of the President, to prepare and organize the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Vice Presidents Bureau as well as the Congresses of IFMA including:
 - a. The drafting of the Agenda of the meetings.
 - b. The handling of organizational matters with the host association.
 - c. The drafting of a communiqué of the meeting which, after being approved by the Executive Committee, is handed to the press.
 - d. The organization of press conferences and assisting the President in relation to the press.
 - e. Assisting in the preparation of the minutes of the meetings.
4. To facilitate the development of Muaythai on all continents by winning new member associations of IFMA.
5. To provide ways and means, including the organization of training camps, coaching seminars and exchange training and work-out programs between advanced and less advanced countries, to render comprehensive assistance to the less advanced countries and continents and to organize seminars for coaches and medical staff.
6. To manage the office, keep archives and all documents of the IFMA.
7. To represent the Executive Committee of IFMA at International Congresses and other major international events, as decided by the President.

C. The Treasurer

The Treasurer is elected by the Congress. He is responsible for the treasury of the IFMA, keeping regular accounts. He shall represent IFMA before third parties, as directed by the President.

He shall oversee the preparation of budgets. All income and expenditures must be included in the budget as approved by the Executive Committee. For each Executive Committee meeting, the Treasurer shall provide an up-to-date report of the financial situation of the IFMA.

Article X IFMA Office

A. Authority

The IFMA office shall assist the President and the General Secretary and handle the administrative work for the Executive Committee. It shall have full-time employees whose number and salaries shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee. The IFMA office shall be located in Bangkok or such other place as decided by the Executive Committee and it shall be run by a person approved by the Executive Committee of IFMA. The President shall have his own office for assistance at his place of residence.

B. Duties

1. To maintain correspondence with affiliated Associations and other National and International Organizations, members of the Executive Committee, Standing and Temporary Commissions of IFMA, and with other persons in accordance with the instructions and decisions of the Congress, Executive Committee or President.
2. To prepare and ensure the smooth running of the meetings of Congresses, Executive Committees and Commissions of the IFMA, and where appropriate, jointly with National Associations and if requested, and where practicable, carry out these duties in connection with meetings of Continental Bureaus.
3. To keep the minutes of the meetings mentioned in paragraph (2) and circulate them to the affiliated Associations, members of the Executive Committee and Commissions.
4. To provide for translations into official languages of publications, documents and minutes of the Congress, Executive Committee and Commissions of the IMFA in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Committee.

Article XI IFMA Expenses

A. Administration of IFMA

The expenses in connection with the administration of IFMA shall be paid from IFMA funds.

B. Annual Budget

The guide for such expenses shall be from an annual estimated budget submitted by the President and approved by the Executive Committee after review by the Finance Commission in consultation with the Treasurer.

C. Traveling Expenses

The traveling and hotel expenses as well as daily allowance in connection with IFMA business by the President, General Secretary, and such other representatives as approved by the Executive Committee will be paid in accordance with the financial regulations of IFMA.

Article XII Application for Affiliation and Entrance Fee

A. Application

The Muaythai Association of a country wishing to become affiliated to the IFMA shall make an application to the Executive Committee in writing, signed by the President and General Secretary of such Association, accompanied by two copies of the Articles of Association under which the Association is constituted and the entrance fee and first annual subscription mentioned. The initial entrance fee payable by each National Association on applying for affiliation shall be U.S. \$2,000, or such other amount that the Executive Committee from time to time may decide.

B. Appeals

In the event of an application for affiliation being refused, the Association concerned may appeal in writing to the next Congress, such appeal to be sent to the IFMA Office not less than six months prior to the Congress.

Article XIII Annual Subscription

A. Administration of IFMA

Each affiliated National Association shall pay to the office of IFMA an annual subscription of U.S. \$1000 (or such other amount as the Executive Committee may from time to time decide) which shall be due on 1 January of each year and must be paid by 15 February of that year.

Article XIV Unpaid Subscription

A. Associations in Arrears

An Association which has not paid its full annual subscription, by the 31st of March will not be permitted to participate in any IFMA competition or against any IFMA Member. Likewise, the officials, Referees and Judges, Executive Committee members and so forth, of defaulting members, will not be permitted to participate in IFMA events or meetings. Associations not having paid their current subscriptions as required by Article XIII shall not be permitted to be present at any Congress or other meeting of the IFMA, and when more

than six months in arrears, namely by 30 June, and after notification has been made to the President or Secretary of the association in default, such Association shall be regarded in all respects as unaffiliated.

B. Re-affiliation

Such Associations shall not be re-affiliated except on payment of all arrears together with a fine which shall be the equivalent of the total amount in arrears, but the Executive committee shall have power in its discretion to waive such fine, or any part of it in cases where nonpayment has been due to causes outside the control of the Association in default.

Article XV Membership of Affiliated Association

A. Admission to Membership

An affiliated National Association shall not admit to membership of its Association a club affiliated to another Muaythai Association, nor allow a member from another affiliated association to join a club for the purpose of evading any Article, Rule or Regulation of IFMA or any affiliated National Association.

B. Executive Committee Members

An affiliated National Association which has a member on the IFMA Executive Committee should include that member in the Executive Council or governing organization of that association.

C. Participation in Competition

Only members of affiliated Associations will be permitted to take part in all IFMA's approved competitions and other activities as announced. Vice versa, members of affiliated Associations will not be permitted to participate in competitions or other activities organized by organizations not recognized by IFMA.

Article XVI Eligibility to compete in Muaythai

A. To be eligible to compete in Muaythai under IFMA rules a person should be a member of a National Association which is a member of IFMA and such person must also be a national of the country of the National Association which is entering the boxer as a competitor in World or Regional Championships. The same rules shall apply to any IFMA sanctioned regional competition.

B. The Executive Committee may in its discretion permit the participation in IFMA competitions by boxers from any country, by invitation of the Executive Committee.

- C. In all cases not expressly addressed in these eligibility rules, the IFMA Executive Committee may take all decisions of a general or individual nature and in particular issue of a specific requirement relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the competitor including the duration of any sanction period.
- D. All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in Continental or Regional Games or in World or Regional Championships recognized by the IFMA shall be resolved by the IFMA Executive Committee.
- E. The boxers obligations during competitions ruled by this article:
1. A boxer in Muaythai must not accept any compensation for advertising but may participate in advertising arranged by IFMA or by his/her National Association.
 2. A boxer shall allow the use of his/her person, name or record for publicity purposes only as authorized by IFMA or his/her National Association.
 3. A boxer may not refuse to be photographed by the official photographer of the IFMA or his/her National Association for use in films, television or sports publicity and sport sponsorship arranged by these official organizations.
 4. A boxer can wear on his/her clothing or sport equipment only trade names and logos as specified by the IFMA, or his/her National Association.
- F. Eligibility – code
To be eligible for participation in any of the tournaments ruled by these eligibility rules, a competitor must comply with the rules of the IFMA and must be entered by his/her National Association. He/she must respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence and behave accordingly on the Sports field. He/she must refrain from using substances and procedures prohibited by the Rules of the IOC, the IFMA and the National Association. He/she must respect and comply with all aspects of the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code.

Article XVII International Inter-Club Tournament

A. Sanctions

Competitions, Tournaments or contests shall not be arranged between the clubs or units of different Associations without the sanction of their respective National Associations.

B. Who may compete

Both males and females may compete in international IFMA competitions, or inter-nation Club exchanges. No female may compete or box any male in an IFMA sanctioned competition.

C. All sanctioned competitions.

Tournaments or contests sanctioned by IFMA shall be conducted under IFMA rules.

Article XVIII World Championships

A. Timetable

World Championships on a National entry basis shall be organized by the Executive Committee of IFMA every two years, which is one year before and one year after the Olympic Games.

B. Designation of Host

These Championships shall be allocated, upon applications from the affiliated National Associations, by the Executive Committee of IFMA.

C. World Rights

An affiliated National Association shall not institute or allow to be instituted within its jurisdiction, any other competition which shall have the title of a "World Championship".

Article XIX World Champion

A. Title of World Champion

The title of "World Champion" or "World Youth Champion" shall be held by the winner in each of the weight categories of the World Championships organized by IFMA.

Article XX IFMA Television and Marketing Rights

A. Supreme Authority

The Television and Marketing rights of all IFMA Championship Events and IFMA Challenge Matches are the property of IFMA.

B. Continental or Regional Championships

The television and marketing rights of Continental or Regional Championships being organized by a Continental Bureau or Regional body on the continent, are the property of the respective Bureau or body.

C. International Tournaments

The television and marketing rights of international tournaments are the property of the organizing National Associations.

D. Negotiating Rights

With regard to television and marketing contracts concluded under Paragraphs A and B, the National Association hosting the event shall be invited to participate in negotiating the contract so as to be able to protect their rights.

Article XXI Rules governing World or Continental Championships

A. Rules of IFMA

World or Continental Championships and other International Championships shall be held only under IFMA Rules.

B. Award Ceremony

At all IFMA Championships, the National or Delegation Flags of the medal winners shall be hoisted. The National Anthem of the winner, in abbreviated version, shall be played.

Article XXII Conditions of International Competitions or Championships promoted by an affiliated Association

A. Sanctions

Contests and Competitions between boxers of different Associations shall be supervised and sanctioned by the National Associations to which the respective boxers belong. An affiliated National Association desiring to organize an International Championships, Tournament or Competition in which boxers from four (4) or more National Associations are invited to compete shall obtain the prior permission of the continental Bureau of the IFMA, and before the commencement of the Tournament, inform the IFMA office and the respective Continental Bureau of the tournament. The Executive Committee may require, as a condition of their sanction, the payment of a fee, the amount to be based on the importance of the event concerned and the probable financial results.

B. IFMA Membership

A boxer shall compete, only in Competitions which are organized by Associations affiliated to IFMA which have been sanctioned by the Executive Committee of IFMA. He shall not be permitted to compete against Nations of which the Governing Bodies controlling Muaythai are not affiliated to IFMA.

C. Competition Regulations

Competitors competing at competition in foreign countries shall observe and be bound by the laws of the Association under whose jurisdiction the competition takes place, provided that the Rules of such Association are not in contradiction to the Rules of the IFMA in essential matters.

D. National Regulations

If in a particular country the law of the country prevents the literal application of any of the Articles or Rules of the IFMA and if it be proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee that the Governing body of Muaythai in that country has used every endeavor to have the law annulled or amended, the Executive Committee may, if it thinks fit, relax such Articles or Rules pending the consideration by the next Congress, provided, however, that there shall be no relaxation of Article XVIII in respect to officials and boxers. World or Continental Championships may not be held in such countries unless conducted under IFMA Rules.

E. Guaranteed Visas and Facilities

Any country where the affiliated National Association wishes to organize an International Competition or Championship must be a country which in the normal course grants the necessary visas and facilities for the boxers and officials of the affiliated Associations concerned to attend the Tournament.

F. Technical Delegates

The Executive Committee shall appoint Technical Delegates to International Tournaments and Championships whose tasks have been defined by the Executive Committee. Any Technical Delegate appointed to categorize Referees and Judges at an IFMA or Continental calendar tournament must have passed the IFMA Referee and Judges examination.

G. Tournament Records

An affiliated National Association holding an International Championship or Competition shall report, in writing to the IFMA office, the place and date of the Tournament or Competition, the names of contestants, the results of each contest, including the names and nationalities of Medal winners.

The names and nationalities of all Referees and Judges who participate in the Tournament will be recorded, and the Technical Delegate or Chief judge should

advise as to whether their performance was average, below average, or above average.

H. Continental Associations

The above paragraphs shall apply equally to Continental Associations where appropriate.

Article XXIII Financial Arrangement for International Competitions

A. Agreements between National Associations

Financial and other agreements concerning International Contests shall be arranged only with the permission of the National Associations concerned.

B. Responsibility

After an agreement has been concluded between the National Associations concerned, the National Association arranging for the Tournament shall be legally and financially responsible for the observance of the conditions of the contract. In the case of non-observance of a contract, the National Association in default shall be called to account by IFMA through the Executive Committee.

C. World Championships

Financial arrangements for housing, food and transportation may be provided for nominated IFMA officials.

Article XXIV Inter-Nation Tournaments

A. Consent of National Associations

A Competition shall not be considered International without the consent of each country engaged.

B. Agreements

Agreements concerning Inter-Nation Tournaments shall only be made between the Associations of the countries in question.

C. Financial Arrangements

The financial arrangements of International and Inter-Nation Tournaments shall be a matter to be decided between the respective National Associations concerned. Such agreements shall be binding upon the Associations concerned.

In case of default, the IFMA may suspend the defaulting Association until it shall fulfill its contract.

D. Tournament Records and Results

The results of the Tournament, as well as the names and nationalities of the officials who have acted at same, shall be given in writing to the Continental Bureau concerned, who will file the result. The original scoring cards used at such tournaments, or duly certified copies thereof, shall be sent to the Continental Bureau concerned at the same time. Only the results officially acknowledged by the Continental Bureau can be recorded as Inter-Nation Tournaments.

E. National Teams

A team shall not be called by the title of a country unless the Team is comprised of boxers selected by their National Association.

Article XXV Disciplinary Action

A. Affiliated Association

Any breach of the Articles and Rules by an affiliated National Association shall render the Association committing such breach liable to suspension by the Executive Committee and to be deprived of membership of IFMA at the next Congress if not less than one half of those voting are so in favor.

B. Associations, Boxers and Officials

The Executive Committee shall have power, at any time, to disqualify or suspend for such a period as it thinks appropriate, any Association which conducts itself, or boxer or official who conducts himself, in a manner which is detrimental to IFMA or to Muaythai or brings IFMA or Muaythai into disrepute.

During such period, an Association, boxer or official so disqualified or suspended shall not be eligible to take part in any function, activities of IFMA or any affiliated National Association. If a boxing official, referee, Judge, Doctor or other IFMA official is found guilty of violating the health protection rules, he shall be suspended from any competition for a period of one year. In case of recurrence, suspension for life-time may be enacted.

C. Discipline of Members of IFMA Executives and commission Officers including IFMA National Executives

The IFMA International Executive has the power to discipline members of its International Executive, all members of its Commissions contained in Article VIII hereof and members of the National Executives of its member nations.

- (1) Where the International Executive is advised or considers that a Member has allegedly;
 - (a) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of these Rules, the Regulations or any resolution or determination of the Board or any duly authorized committee or sub committees; or
 - (b) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the purposes and interests of the Federation and/or Muaythai; or
 - (c) brought IFMA, it's regional representative bodies, it's member nations and any Affiliated Clubs into disrepute;

The International Executive may commence or cause to be commenced, disciplinary proceedings against that Member and that Member or members will be subject to, and submits unreservedly to the jurisdiction, disciplinary procedures and penalties and the appeal mechanisms of the IFMA.

- (2) The chair of the IFMA Legal Commission shall appoint a Judiciary Committee (which may contain him or herself), which need not be comprised of Member of the International Executive of IFMA to deal with any disciplinary matter referred to it, including but not limited to matters arising under these Rules. The Judiciary Committee shall be made up of a minimum of three (3) persons, and shall always be an odd number. The Judiciary Committee members shall elect a Chairman from one of its Judiciary Committee members.

- (3) (a) The Judiciary Committee shall have the power to impose an appropriate determination or penalty depending upon the facts of each particular case, which may include:
 - (i) requiring the Member or members to undergo counseling,
 - (ii) cautioning the Member,
 - (iii) reprimanding the Member,
 - (iv) imposing conditions, limitations or restrictions on the membership of the Member,
 - (v) require the Member to issue written apology/ies,

- (vi) imposing a fine to the Member,
 - (vii) suspending the membership of the Member,
 - (viii) canceling the membership of the Member,
 - (ix) other orders or determinations as the Judiciary Committee think appropriate.
- (b) Where a matter has been referred to the Judiciary Committee, the Secretary General must provide the Member with fourteen days written notice prior to any Judiciary Committee hearing setting out particulars of the complaint and provide the Member or members with copies of all relevant documents.
- (c) A Member is only entitled to address in writing the Judiciary Committee unless on request of the Member the Judiciary Committee (in their absolute discretion) agree to the Member having a right of personal appearance. A Member or members will be entitled to be represented by a barrister or solicitor with the leave of the Judiciary Committee, which will only be given in exceptional circumstances and if given, may be given unconditionally or on such other conditions as the Judiciary Committee thinks fit.
- (d) Any Judiciary Committee hearing must follow the rules of natural justice.

D. Doping

1. If in a doping control, a boxer is found guilty of doping, he shall be suspended from any competition pending disciplinary action that is to be taken by the IFMA Legal Commission (at Continental Championships similar action will be taken by the Continental Bureau of IFMA).
2. A boxer testing positive for a banned substance will be suspended in accordance with the IOC's policy unless stated otherwise in these Articles.
3. If in the Investigation into a doping offence, officials are also found guilty, sanctions may include temporary suspension and permanent expulsion.

4. In case of doping being proved, the result of the competition shall be declared invalid. The defeated boxer shall go on to the next round and compete unless medically ineligible.
5. The chairman of the Medical Commission/Medical Jury and the IFMA office shall be informed of the result of the analysis of sample "A" within 24 hours.
6. The testing procedure in case of a positive "A" sample shall be conducted according to the procedure listed in the Medical Handbook.
7. Any boxer testing positive for banned substances or any Association having several boxers test positive more than once may be subject to disciplinary action, or suspension, if deemed appropriate, by the Executive Committee.

Article XXVI Alteration of Articles or Rules

A. Required Majority

Any alteration, addition, or amendment to the Articles or Rules of the Association shall only be made at a Congress and then only if not less than two-thirds of those voting are in favor. If it is necessary to set aside a rule or any part of a rule in these Articles or Rules in order to comply with a mandate from the IOC, the Executive Committee may make such minimal changes as necessary to comply with the said mandates. Such changes will remain in effect until the next Congress.

Article XXVII Advertising

A. Control

IFMA controls advertising which athletes and officials wear at on-site final championship training, in official press interviews and on warm-ups immediately prior to the bout and in the corner. This control is normally delegated to the Continental Bureau concerned for Continental Championships and to the National Associations concerned for their competitions and for other National Team Matches.

B. Procedures

The usual IFMA procedures for advertising around the ring and on the athletes' competitive clothing in actual competition are sometimes superseded by host country's laws involving television exposure and by arena contracts with local sponsors.

It is necessary that these potentially conflicting points of interest be carefully co-ordinate with the host broadcaster and with the host country early in the planning so that IFMA sponsors can obtain full and adequate identification in the best available manner.

C. Advertising Measurements. Advertising shall be allowed on:

- a) the boxer's shorts
- b) the upper part of the boxer's gloves
- c) the sides of the headgear above eye level not exceeding 20 square centimeters and not longer than four centimeters and shall not cover the headgear manufacturers' names

Article XXVIII Withdrawal from Competition

Any Association withdrawing from a competition as a means of protest shall be suspended automatically and becomes ineligible to compete in any Continental or World Championship in any manner whatsoever for a period of one year beginning on the day of such withdrawal. At its discretion, IFMA's Executive Committee may, if it deems it appropriate, extend this suspension for up to two years.

