

# 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 recognises 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 athlete 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 recognised 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 recognised by IFMA as the National Muaythai Association.
3. An association affiliated to IFMA may not be affiliated with any other organization not recognised 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.

**E. Governance**

IFMA in compliance shall adopt the IOC Code of Ethics, Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement principles 1-7.

**F. Interpretation Clause for Muaythai**

1. Where the term “Muaythai” is used in the IFMA Statutes, Rules, Regulations or these Bylaws, such term shall be interpreted as inclusive of and referring to the terms Muay, Muay Boxing, Thai Boxing, Muay Boran and its derivatives and any other style, combat sport or martial art where Muaythai is a component part of such activity.

2. Where the term “Muaythai Championships” is used in the IFMA Statutes, Rules, Regulations or these Bylaws, such term shall be interpreted as inclusive of and referring to the terms Muay, Muay Boxing, Thai Boxing, Muay Boran and its derivatives and any other style, combat sport or martial art where Muaythai is a component part of such activity.

## **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 organised.
3. To organise, in collaboration with National Associations, the IFMA events and Muaythai competitions for international events. The right to organise 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 organised 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. To promote and encourage all aspects of Olympism as stated in the Olympic Charter in particular the recognition that the practice of sport is a human right and that every individual must have the possibility of practising sport without discrimination of any kind and that such rights and freedom as set forth in the Olympic Charter shall be secured without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
10. To adopt, develop and ensure compliance in the areas of integrity and social responsibility taking into account and recognition the provisions of the mission and role of the IOC as stated in the Olympic Charter.

## **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 cannot 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, Rules and Bylaws adopted at the Congress shall come to effect on April 1st immediately following the Congress and cannot 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 year.

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, Nine (9) 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. The Executive Committee shall also consist of one (1) representative each from the Youth Commission, Female Commission, Technical Commission, Ethics Commission and Medical Commission. 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. All commissions can be represented by a single member for each commission. In compliance with the Olympic Principle of gender equality, the composition of the Executive Committee shall comprise of a minimum of 8 women members.

**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 recognised 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. To decide at its discretion to appoint the IFMA Sports Director to a seat on the Executive Committee, such seat to be empowered with all rights and duties of an Executive Committee Member. Such appointment shall be exclusive and non-transferrable.
13. Work in close contact with those organizations and individuals with whom IFMA has working agreements or contracts.

**D. Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC)**

- a. The AHMC shall consist of 9-13 members selected from members within the Executive Committee by the Executive Committee. A representative of the Athletes Commission shall also be selected to sit as a committee member of the AHMC. The AHMC shall comprise of a chairman, two (2) vice chairmen and 10 committee members. The concept of gender equality applies *pari passu* to such composition of the AHMC.
- b. Duties of such AHMC shall be allocated for specific duties and roles in relation to projects, events, campaigns and/or all relevant IFMA functions.
- c. The AHMC shall report directly to the IFMA President or General Secretary or Sports Director on its activities.

**E. 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.

**F. 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.

**G. 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. In the event the President elected is not a Thai national, one of the elected Vice Presidents has to be from the National Associations of Thailand.
- 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 Treasurer – who shall be nominated by and elected from any affiliated National Association.

All the Continental Presidents shall be duly nominated and appointed as Vice Presidents of the Executive Committee:

- d. The Asian Continental President.
- e. The European Continental President.
- f. The African Continental President.
- g. The American Continental President.
- h. The Oceania Continental President.

General and Supplementary:

- i. Eighteen (18) Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Congress.
- j. Four (4) supplementary members nominated and elected to be Vice Presidents by the Congress.

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.

**H. Vice Presidents Bureau**

The Bureau of the Vice Presidents of IFMA shall comprise the President, the General Secretary, Treasurer and nine (9) 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.

**I. 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 recognise as the governing body one Continental Association in each Continent, which must observe the Rules and Constitution of IFMA and organise on this basis its activities for the promotion of Muaythai. The recognised 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 / Committees**

### **A. Ad-hoc Commissions**

- i) The President at his discretion or on the advice of the General Secretary 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 twelve (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 selected and appointed by their respective commission members.

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 Female Commission
- The Press and Public Relations Commission
- The Business Commission
- The Legal Commission
- The Athletes Commission
- The Ethics Commission
- The Entourage Commission
- The Muaythai Education Commission
- The Sport and Active Society 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 nine (9) 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.

D. One member of the Technical Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **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 nine (9) 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 athletes and collect information on medical matters relating to Muaythai.
- E. **One member of the Medical Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.**

#### **4. FINANCE COMMISSION**

- A. **Composition**  
The Finance Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) 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 nine (9) 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 athletes and for the World Championships relating to junior athletes.
5. One member of the Youth Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **6. FEMALE COMMISSION**

### **A. Composition**

The Female Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties**

1. The Female 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 athletes and for the World Championships in relation to women athletes.
5. One member of the Female Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee

## **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 nine (9) 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, organise 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 nine (9) 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 nine (9) 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.

## **10. ATHLETES COMMISSION**

- A. **Composition**  
The Athletes' Commission must comprise at least one member representing each continent, to liaise with the Continental Associations: European Muaythai Federation (EMF), Federation of Amateur Muaythai Asia (FAMA), Oceania Muaythai Federation (OMF), Pan-American Muaythai Union (PAMU) and the African Continental Association.

The members of the AC should be athletes elected by athletes actively practicing the sport of Muaythai as combat, fitness or martial art. For the purpose of electing the AC Executive Committee, each national federation should nominate a representative, who will vote on behalf of his or her national federation.

Structure of Athletes' Commission Executive Committee:

(8 elected, 4 appointed)

-Chair (2yrs): Chair of Athletes' Commission

-4 Vice chair (2yrs):

- 7 members (2 year term):

(Equal male and female)

## **B. Duties**

1. To make recommendations to the IFMA Executive Committee and liaise with the individual National Olympic Committees.
2. Every two (2) years, an Athletes Forum shall be organised where representatives and athletes from all National Federations shall meet to discuss topics of concern.
3. To connect active athletes with the IFMA organisation and working groups to ensure direct involvement in charity, youth and women's development projects (for example, engagement in 'Sport Is Your Gang' and contact with the IFMA Female Commission).
4. To assist the Executive Committee in overseeing the observance of the Articles and Rules of IFMA and the decisions taken by IFMA.
5. To be a monitoring organization at every World Championship, and can submit recommendations for improving the event programme.
6. To raise anti-doping awareness amongst athletes, supporting and participating in WADA/IFMA related programmes.
7. To provide athletes' services in three spheres.
  - a. Education: Providing information on how athletes can successfully pursue dual careers of sport and studies.
  - b. Life skills: Giving practical advice related to an athlete's daily life, including information on healthy nutrition, the fight against doping, financial planning advice etc.
  - c. Employment: Services for career preparation and management for athletes during and after their sports careers, including CV drafting, preparing for job interviews.

8. The Athletes Commission's representative is to be part of the Technical and/or the Youth Commission in respect of any decision to be reached in either Commission.
9. One member of the Athletes' Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.
10. One member of the Athlete's Commission shall be selected to represent the Commissions in the Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC).

## **11. ETHICS COMMISSION**

### **A. Composition**

The Ethics Commission shall be composed of the chairman, vice chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties**

- i. To assume responsibilities and duties as defined in the IFMA Code of Ethics.
- ii. To assume responsibilities and duties as defined in the IFMA Code of Conduct.
- iii. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on any questions they may have pertaining to the ethics in sport.
- iv. To ensure the ethical principles are adhered to within the IFMA governance structures.
- v. To develop and monitor the IFMA Code of Ethics and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

## **12. ENTOURAGE COMMISSION**

### **A. Composition**

The Entourage Commission shall be composed of the chairman, vice chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties**

- i. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on questions pertaining to the Athlete's Entourage Guidelines.
- ii. To ensure that the Entourage serves in the best interest of athletes by developing ideas and initiatives.
- iii. To ensure representation of the Entourage within the IFMA governance.
- iv. To promote the IFMA rules and regulations with regards to the Entourage within their domains.
- v. To regulate the worldwide education programme.

- vi. To make recommendations to the Executive Committee

### **13. MUAYTHAI EDUCATION COMMISSION**

#### **A. Composition**

The Education Commission shall be composed of the chairman, vice chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

#### **B. Duties**

- i. The Education Commission is to develop and uphold the standard of Muaythai education programme.
- ii. To encourage the cooperation of the national federation according to Muaythai standard.
- iii. To advise, to ensure public relation activity in the promotion of education programme.
- iv. To work closely with the youth commission on special youth education programme.
- v. To regulate the worldwide education programme.
- vi. To work closely with other commissions on athletes career programme.

### **14. SPORT AND ACTIVE SOCIETY COMMISSION**

#### **A. Composition**

The Sport and Active Society Commission shall be composed of the chairman, vice chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

#### **B. Duties**

- i. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on Sports and Active Society issues.
- ii. To co-ordinate efforts to increase global participation in muaythai.
- iii. To develop initiatives and ideas to promote muaythai on all continents.
- iv. To ensure the continental associations are represented within IFMA governance structures.
- v. To ensure all questions are answered on the development of muaythai.
- vi. To develop initiatives and ideas for the development of muaythai as a sport for all/grassroots level.

## **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 organise 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 organise 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. \$1500 (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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 organised by organizations not recognised 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 athlete 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 athletes 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 recognised by the IFMA shall be resolved by the IFMA Executive Committee.

- E. The athletes obligations during competitions ruled by this article:
1. A athlete 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 athlete 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 athlete 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 athlete 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 international 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 organised 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 organised 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 organised 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 athletes of different Associations shall be supervised and sanctioned by the National Associations to which the respective athletes belong. An affiliated National Association desiring to organise an International Championships, Tournament or Competition in which athletes 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 athlete shall compete, only in Competitions which are organised 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 athletes. 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 organise an International Competition or Championship must be a country which in the normal course grants the necessary visas and facilities for the athletes 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 athletes 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, Athletes 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 athlete 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, athlete 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. Disciplinary Procedure for Members of IFMA Executives and commission Officers including IFMA National Executives**

The IFMA Executive Committee has the power to discipline all members of its Executives, 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 Committee 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;

Upon advice and/or notification of a breach as aforesaid in 1 (a), (b) and (c) and/or any other disciplinary matter, the Executive Committee shall commence the formation of the Ethics Committee and the Disciplinary Committee. Both committees shall be empowered to deal with any/or all matters stated in 1 (a), (b) and (c) inclusive but not limited to any matters arising under these rules, and/or any other disciplinary matters.

Ethics Committee

- (2) (a) The Ethics Committee shall comprise of not more than 3 members of the Ethics Commission. The duty of the Ethics Committee shall be to determine if

there has been a prima facie breach of 1 (a), (b) and (c) as aforesaid and/or any other disciplinary matter. The Ethics Committee is to report its official findings to the Disciplinary Committee Disciplinary Committee

- (2) (b) The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of not more than 3 members of the Legal Commission and one member may be nominated from the Executive Committee. The duty of the Disciplinary Committee shall be to deliberate the findings of the Ethics Committee and to put forth its legal recommendation to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall determine the recommendation by the Disciplinary Committee and confirm the action to be proceeded with by the Disciplinary Committee.

- (3) (a) The Disciplinary 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 Disciplinary Committee, the Secretary General must provide the Member with fourteen days written notice prior to any Disciplinary 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 Disciplinary Committee unless on request of the Member the Disciplinary 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 Disciplinary Committee, which will only be given in exceptional circumstances and if given, may be given unconditionally or on such other conditions as the Disciplinary Committee thinks fit.

(d) Any Disciplinary Committee hearing must follow the rules of natural justice.

(4) Any member subject to such proceedings as aforesaid is entitled to appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Committee by application of the IFMA Internal Dispute Resolution (IDR) Mechanism.

#### **D. Doping**

1. IFMA shall adopt the WADA Code on Anti-Doping and assist its Members to be fully WADA compliant at all times.
2. If in a doping control, an athlete 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).
3. An athlete testing positive for a banned substance will be suspended in accordance with the IOC's policy unless stated otherwise in these Articles.
4. In case of doping being proved, the result of the competition shall be declared invalid. The defeated athlete 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 athlete testing positive for banned substances or any Association having several athletes test positive more than once may be subject to disciplinary action, or suspension, if deemed appropriate, by the Executive Committee.

8. A member or athlete expelled by WADA will be accordingly suspended until fully WADA compliant.
9. The provisions as aforesaid from D(1) to (9) are applicable to any medical staff including but not limited to medical practitioners such as doctors, paramedics, nurses. Such provisions are also applicable to all officials, coaches, instructors, trainers.
10. In reference to Point 4 aforesaid, the Disciplinary Committee may be convened to conduct an investigation into the conduct of the officials, medical staffs, coaches, instructors or trainers. Upon completion of the investigation, the Disciplinary Committee shall put forth its recommendation for any action legal or otherwise.

## **Article XXVI Alteration of Articles or Rules**

### **A. Required Majority**

Any alteration, addition, or amendment to the Articles, Rules and Bylaws of the Association shall only be made at Congress with an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of those voting. Should it be necessary to repeal or alter in whole or in part a rule or any part of a rule in these Articles, Rules and Bylaws 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 athlete's shorts
- b) the upper part of the athlete'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.

## **ARTICLE XXIX Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)/Code of Sports Related Arbitration**

A. IFMA submits hereon to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Arbitration for all relevant matters which arise after the date of the inclusion of this clause, subject only to the extinguishment of appeal rights provided for herein.

The Inquiry Committee will consist of 5 or 6 executive members of IFMA which is to include always the General Secretary and one legally trained member (with minimum 10 years standing). The Inquiry Committee will determine the factual basis of any matter brought before it to ensure relevancy and that a prima facie case has been established before such matter is submitted to the jurisdiction of the ICAS proper.

Failure to submit to the Inquiry Committee will, in itself, be a fault in process and protocol and result in the striking out of the matter

B. In all disputes which are not submitted to the International Court of Arbitration and/or are un able to be settled amicably through local arbitration or mediation, then such disputes shall apply the Code of Sports Related Arbitration provisions.

----- **END** -----