



# IIHF Statutes and Bylaws

2018 – 2022

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## Definitions

The masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, names such as member, leader, official participant, competitor, player, referee, candidate, personnel, or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless specified otherwise to the contrary, and applicable to all IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Guidelines, be understood as including the feminine gender.

The following terms shall have mean as indicated in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes.

Affiliate MNA: Affiliate membership is defined in accordance with Statute 11.1.3

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

Associate MNA: Associate membership is defined in accordance with Statute 11.1.2

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport

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

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

Commercial Partner: as of 2018, Infront

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

Country: geographical land mass

Division: a group within a Category which competes for a championship

Extra Ordinary Congress: as defined in Statute 14.4

Full MNA: Full membership is defined in accordance with Statute 11.1.1

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Standing refers to any MNA who has fulfilled all requirements within its membership class, who has neither voluntarily withdrawn from membership nor has been expelled or suspended from membership, who is current on all financial obligations with the IIHF and/or other MNAs, and who fully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

IIHF: International Ice Hockey Federation

IIHF Activities: All operations organized, legislated and governed by the IIHF

IIHF Championships: means the championships identified in Bylaw 1.1(A)

IIHF Competitions: shall mean as indicated in Bylaw 1

IIHF Office: shall mean as indicated in Statute 17

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

IOC: International Olympic Committee

League: shall be defined as not less than four teams competing in a League Competition (except as indicated Bylaw 3.2.1(d)), which may be private entities, and which are affiliated with their MNA.

League Competition: shall be defined as a schedule of games between league member teams numbering not less than fifteen games per team in a season.

MNA: Member National Association

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

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

National Olympic Committee: A National Olympic Committee is the national component of the Worldwide Olympic Movement. Together with all other National Olympic Committees, it

forms the Worldwide Olympic Movement. They reside under the supervision and the control of the International Olympic Committee.

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

Sovereign State: a is a nonphysical juridical entity that is represented by one centralized government that has sovereignty over a geographic area, such as the United Kingdom

Top Division: the highest division in a category

WADA: World Anti-Doping Agency

WADC: World Anti-Doping Code



# STATUTES

## Chapter 1 GENERAL

### Statute 1 Name and Authority

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

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

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

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

1.5 The IIHF may always, at any time, overrule any decision or omission of a decision, by any MNA which is inconsistent with the IIHF Statutes and Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules, or decisions of the IIHF. The same principle shall apply to all Doping and Competition Manipulation matters.

### Statute 2 Headquarters and Place of Jurisdiction

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

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

### Statute 3 Non-profit Organization

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

### Statute 4 Mission and Role

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

- a) Govern, develop and promote men and women’s ice hockey and inline hockey, in all forms and at all ages, including the development of coaches and officials, worldwide;
- b) Control international ice hockey and inline hockey;
- c) Adopt, formulate, issue, interpret, implement and amend regulations/codes and guidelines as are necessary for the governing, development and promotion of ice hockey and inline hockey worldwide, specifically including but not limited to eligibility for IIHF Competitions, the orderly movement of players internationally and the establishment of International Playing Rules;
- d) Formulate or adopt and implement appropriate policies and programs in relation to discrimination, sexual harassment, equal opportunity, equality, drugs and doping, integrity, health, safety, ethical governance and environmental sustainability, and such other matters that arise from time to time as issues that are in the best interest of ice hockey or inline hockey;

- e) Legislate for and govern IIHF activities in compliance with good governance principles;
- f) Establish and maintain the IIHF judicial system, providing processes for the appeal of decisions and the settlement of disputes;
- g) Allocate and organize all IIHF events and competitions and, where appropriate, approve international ice hockey and inline hockey games where this is in the interests of furthering its mission and role;
- h) Arrange sponsorship, media coverage, licensing rights, advertising and merchandising in connection with IIHF competitions; and
- i) Co-operate with, join with, and/or support any association, organization, foundation, society or individual where the activities or purpose are similar to those of IIHF or which advance ice hockey or inline hockey throughout or in specific parts of the world.

#### Statute 5 Statutes, Bylaws and Regulation/Codes

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

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

5.3 Statutes shall take precedence over Bylaws, Bylaws shall take precedence over Regulations/Codes, and Regulations/Codes shall take precedence over Guidelines.

5.4 Any waiver by the IIHF of any MNA obligation within the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes does not operate as, and should not be construed as, a waiver of any other provision within the Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes. Failure of the IIHF to enforce any rights granted within the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and/or Regulations/Codes or to take action against an MNA in the event that the MNA does not meet all requirements contained therein, shall not be deemed as a waiver by the IIHF of future enforcement rights.

#### Statute 6 Languages and Communication

6.1 English is the official IIHF Language.

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

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

6.4 For deadline purposes mentioned in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code and IIHF decisions, unless indicated otherwise in the relevant Statutes, Bylaws, Regulation/Code or IIHF decision, for mail, the post-mark date shall control, and for email, the system-mark date shall control.

## Statute 7      Dissolution

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

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

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

7.4 Any potential excess of assets occurring from dissolution shall be transferred to the IOC and held in an earmarked account until a new international ice hockey federation with the same or similar objectives as the IIHF, and that is also tax exempt, is founded and/or established, at which time all excess assets shall be transferred to the newly created international ice hockey federation.

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

## Statute 8      Honors and Awards

### *8.1 Order of Merit*

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

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

8.2.1 Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, former Council members who have rendered exceptional service to the IIHF for at least two terms may be awarded Life Member status.

8.2.2 Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, a former President who has rendered exceptional service to the IIHF may be awarded Life President status.

8.2.3 Upon the Council's recommendation and subject to Congress approval, persons who have rendered exceptional service to the IIHF may awarded Honorary Member status.

## **Chapter 2      IIHF MEMBERSHIP**

### Statute 9      Members of the IIHF

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

9.2 The IIHF shall only admit one ice hockey or inline hockey (where appropriate) association for membership per independent state.

9.3 The IIHF has the authority to assume the responsibility for the governance of other forms of hockey on ice, including but not limited to electronic hockey, with the approval of Congress and issue governing regulations.

## Statute 10 Admission to IIHF Membership

10.1 An applicant national association seeking membership with the IIHF must be the controlling body of ice hockey and/or inline hockey (where applicable) in a Sovereign State, recognized by the International Community, and must be recognized by the national sports confederation and/or National Olympic Committee and/or other applicable authority deemed acceptable in the IIHF's sole opinion.

10.2 Congress shall approve the membership of a new ice hockey or inline hockey (where applicable) association after Council has determined that the applicant national association fully controls and governs both men's and women's ice hockey or inline hockey in its Sovereign State, meets the applicable membership requirements, and is in good standing with the relevant government authorities within that Sovereign State. In exceptional circumstances, Council may grant probationary membership to an applicant national association for a pre-defined period (Congress must approve such probational membership at the next Annual Congress meeting).

10.3 Strict compliance with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and IIHF decisions, both in letter and spirit, is a requirement in becoming an IIHF Member.

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

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

## Statute 11 Membership Classes

Membership of the IIHF shall be accorded as follows:

### *11.1 Full Membership*

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

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

### *11.2 Associate Membership*

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

11.2.2 Where the national organization controls other sports in addition to ice hockey, then to have Associate status there must be a special committee within the national organization that solely controls hockey. The IIHF shall deal exclusively with that committee. When such special committee has been established, it is granted the right by the national organization to deal directly with the IIHF on all matters pertaining to ice hockey, including having a separate and exclusive bank account for financial dealings with the IIHF. Such special committee shall assume the same obligations to the IIHF as an independent MNA.

### 11.3 *Affiliate Membership*

Affiliate membership may be accorded to an inline hockey association in a country where ice hockey is not played.

## Statute 12 Membership Rights and Obligations

### 12.1 *Membership Rights*

#### 12.1.1 Full Members have the right:

- (a) to take part and vote (1 vote) at IIHF Congress in accordance with Statute 14;
- (b) to call an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting in accordance with Statute 14.4;
- (c) to participate in all IIHF Activities;
- (d) to submit proposals for inclusion on the Congress Meeting Agenda six (6) weeks prior to the respective Congress;
- (e) to nominate candidates for (i) Council, (ii) Auditors and (iii) Disciplinary/Appeal Board;
- (f) to nominate candidates for IIHF committees;
- (g) to take part in IIHF Events in accordance with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions;
- (h) to take part in and benefit from IIHF assistance, development and educational programs;
- (i) to have its teams exclusively recognized by the IIHF as their country's "national team", "national junior" team, and "national selection" team and/or any like description for their respective country with respect to ice hockey and/or inline hockey; and
- (j) to exercise all other rights arising from the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code and decisions in accordance with Full Membership.

#### 12.1.2 Full Member Additional Voting Rights

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

#### 12.1.3 Associate Members have the right:

- (a) to take part at IIHF Congresses in accordance with Statute 14, but not vote;
- (b) to participate in all IIHF Activities;
- (c) to submit proposals for inclusion in the Congress Agenda six (6) weeks prior to the respective Congress;
- (d) to nominate candidates for IIHF committees;
- (e) to take part in IIHF Events in accordance with IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions;
- (f) to take part in and benefit from IIHF assistance, development and educational programs;
- (g) to have its teams exclusively recognized by the IIHF as their country's "national team", "national junior" team, and "national selection" team and/or any like description for their respective country with respect to ice hockey and/or inline hockey; and
- (h) to exercise all other rights arising from the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions in accordance with Associate Membership.

#### 12.1.4 Affiliate Members have the right:

- (a) to take part in IIHF Congresses at their own expense, but not vote;

- (b) to participate in all IIHF Activities;
- (c) to take part in IIHF Events in accordance with IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions;
- (d) to take part in and benefit from IIHF assistance, development and education programs;
- (e) to have its teams exclusively recognized by the IIHF as their country's "national team", "national junior" team, and "national selection" team and/or any like description for their respective country with respect to inline hockey; and
- (f) to exercise all other rights arising from the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions in accordance with Affiliate Membership.

## 12.2 Membership Obligations

### 12.2.1 A MNA has the following obligations:

- (a) comply fully with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions;
- (b) to submit all disputes to IIHF jurisdiction as specified in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes;
- (c) accept the WADC and ensure that its internal policies, rules and programs comply therewith including, but not limited, to ensuring its members comply with the Code;
- (d) adopt competition manipulation rules or regulations similar to the IIHF's competition manipulation rules found in the IIHF Code of Conduct and/or promulgated by the MNA's state regulatory authority;
- (e) pay a CHF 1,000 membership subscription due August 31 of each respective year;
- (f) use best efforts to ensure that their own members comply with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions;
- (g) use best efforts to ensure that all clubs, teams, players, team officials and game officials under a MNA's jurisdiction only participate in international games against teams under the jurisdiction of other MNAs;
- (h) ratify statutes and/or bylaws and regulations, rules or codes for the operations and organization of ice hockey and/or inline hockey that are in accordance with the IIHF's requirements for Full Membership indicated in Statutes 12.2.2;
- (i) remain in good standing (a MNA must be in good standing to exercise any membership rights);
- (j) maintain full control and governance of ice hockey and/or inline hockey under its jurisdiction in its country, including without limitation, control over its national competitions, and ensure that its constituent bodies, leagues, clubs, players, members, officials and any person or body whatsoever or howsoever associated are under the final and binding authority of the IIHF;
- (k) at IIHF's request, conduct an independent audit by an independent external auditor of the MNA's accounts (excluding league or club accounts where applicable) in accordance with internationally recognized accounting standards (if irregularities are discovered during the audit, the IIHF may assess the costs of the Audit to the MNA);
- (l) comply with requests of the IIHF and its applicable panels, boards and committees;
- (m) recognize that the right to use the name "international" team, "IIHF" team or "continental" team (European team) or "International All Star" team or any like descriptions is the exclusive property of the IIHF and ensure that neither the MNA nor any team within the MNA plays with a team under these names, unless with IIHF prior written approval;
- (n) only use the names of geographical areas exceeding the territory of the respective MNA (such as World Cup, European Cup, World Tournament, and/or Continental Tournament, etc.) with IIHF prior written approval; and
- (o) recognize other MNAs as being solely empowered to control ice hockey and/or inline hockey in their respective country.

12.2.2 A MNA's statutes and/or bylaws (and/or constitution) and regulations, rules or codes must comply with principles of good governance, and shall, at a minimum:

- (a) not stand in contradiction to the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws or Regulations/Codes;
- (b) contain disciplinary and dispute resolution mechanisms;
- (c) ensure that its members and all relevant stakeholders agree to and recognize the jurisdiction and authority of the IIHF
- (d) ensure that its members and all relevant stakeholders agree to and recognize the jurisdiction and authority of the CAS and give priority to arbitration as a means of dispute resolution;
- (e) avoid conflict of interest in decision making; and
- (f) contain the following clause confirming that it and its members accept the final and binding authority of the IIHF in relation to all international matters and ensure that it and its members comply with necessary membership obligations:

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

## Statute 13 Membership Class Changes and Cancellations

### *13.1 Change of Membership Class*

13.1.1 An Associate Member shall be accorded Full Membership status as soon as it fulfills the specified criteria for Full Membership and receives Congress approval.

13.1.2 An Affiliate Member shall be accorded Associate or Full Membership status as soon as it fulfills the specified criteria for Associate or Full Membership and receives Congress approval.

### *13.2 MNA Suspension*

13.2.1 The Council may suspend, with immediate effect, a MNA that materially violates its obligations contained in Statute 12.2.

13.2.2 The IIHF will inform the MNA and/or relevant bodies or persons about Council's suspension.

13.2.3 A suspended MNA will not be allowed to exercise its membership rights indicated in Statute 12.1.

13.2.4 Council's decisions to suspend a MNA may be appealed in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

### *13.3 MNA Expulsion*

13.3.1 The Congress may expel a MNA only at Council's request if it:

- (a) ceases to be an association of an independent state;
- (b) repeatedly fails to fulfill its financial obligations to the IIHF or other MNAs;

- (c) loses its status as an association which fully controls and governs both men's and women's ice hockey or inline hockey in its country, or is not in good standing with the relevant government authorities within that country;
- (d) continues to materially violate its obligations contained in Statute 12.2 after a Council suspension;
- (e) brings ice hockey or inline hockey into disrepute; or
- (f) fails to participate in any IIHF Activities for four consecutive years.

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

#### 13.4 *MNA Resignation*

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

#### 13.5 *Termination of Membership Rights and Duties*

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

### **Chapter 3 IIHF BODIES**

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

#### Statute 14 Congress (Legislative Body)

##### 14.1 *Congress*

The Congress shall be the supreme, legislative body of the IIHF. A Congress Meeting may be an Ordinary Congress Meeting or an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting. Congress Meetings shall consist of:

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

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

Final MNA delegate names and positions must be submitted to the IIHF in writing prior to the opening of Congress. Delegates can only be substituted thereafter with the approval of the President upon a written confirmation from the respective MNA that the substitute has binding authority for that MNA.

##### 14.2 *Congress Powers*

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

- (a) approving the Agenda including the addition of items at the Congress Meeting if necessary;
- (b) approving the minutes from the last Congress;
- (c) reporting on IIHF Activities;
- (d) adopting and modifying the Statutes and Bylaws (2022 Annual Congress)
- (e) adopting and modifying the Regulations/Codes (Annual Congress);
- (f) adopting and modifying the Official Playing Rules (2021 Annual Congress);



- (g) electing the IIHF Council in accordance with Statute 15.3 (2020 Annual Congress);
- (h) electing Internal Auditors (2020 Annual Congress);
- (i) electing members to the Disciplinary Board and Appeal Board (2020 Annual Congress);
- (j) ratifying urgent Council decisions;
- (k) examining and approving reports and relevant contracts, including but not limited to the budget for the upcoming year (Annual Congress), yearly account and auditors report (Semi-Annual Congress), Council appointment of Directorate Chairmen;
- (l) approving external auditors;
- (m) allocating of IIHF Championships;
- (n) IIHF Championship (chairman reports (Annual Congress), approval of game schedules and confirmation of nominated referees and linesmen) (Semi-Annual Congress);
- (o) admitting and expelling MNAs and change of MNA membership class (Annual Congress);
- (p) providing honors and awards (Annual Congress);
- (q) discharging the President and Council responsibilities (Semi-Annual Congress);
- (r) dissolution of the IIHF (Extra-Ordinary Congress);
- (s) participation in Olympic Games; and
- (t) all other items identified by the IIHF Council.

#### 14.3 *Ordinary Congress Meetings*

The IIHF shall have two Ordinary Congress Meetings per year; an Annual Congress Meeting held during the IIHF World Championship and a Semi-Annual Congress Meeting held between 1 September and 15 October. The IIHF shall provide notice to the MNAs in writing no later than eight (8) weeks prior to an Ordinary Congress Meeting, with all relevant documents, including the Agenda, being provided and/or made available to MNAs four (4) weeks prior to the Ordinary Congress Meetings. The Ordinary Congress Meetings shall be organized in cooperation with the hosting MNA and as specified in the IIHF Congress Guidelines.

#### 14.4 *Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting*

14.4.1 An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting shall be called upon written request of Council or at least one fifth of the Full MNAs. An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting can be called for any reason indicated in Statute 14.2, including items designated for a specific Congress Meeting. The written request shall specify the purpose of the Meeting, items on the agenda and any proposals. An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting shall occur within twelve (12) weeks following the request for such Meeting. The IIHF shall provide notice and purpose of the Meeting to the MNAs in writing no later than two weeks prior to the Meeting. Matters discussed and decided at an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting are limited to the Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting purpose indicated in the written request.

14.4.2 An Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting may be held electronically by any means of communication through which the members may simultaneously hear each other during the conference. All ballots during electronic Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting shall be by a Council approved electronic means.

#### 14.5 *Congress Decisions*

All Congress decisions shall become valid immediately after the conclusion of the respective Congress Meeting, except for decisions taken at Annual Congress Meeting which will take effect after the conclusion of the Championship running concurrent to the Annual Congress Meeting and except for modification of the Official Playing Rules which shall become valid the season following the next Winter Olympics, unless otherwise decided. Decisions of

Congress are final and not subject to appeal, except to the extent that a decision is appealable to the CAS.

#### 14.6 *Congress Proposals*

14.6.1 The IIHF must receive all general proposals, including proposals for the modification of Regulations/Codes, at least six (6) weeks prior to the respective Congress Meeting.

14.6.2 The IIHF must receive all proposals for the modification of the Statutes and/or Bylaws and Official Playing Rules not later than 1 February in the respective Annual Congress year indicated in Statute 14.2.

14.6.3 All proposals should include the precise wording of the proposed amendment to the Statute, Bylaw, Regulation/Code or Official Playing Rule, together with the reasons for the proposal.

14.6.4 The timelines indicated in 14.6.1 - 14.6.2 do not apply to Extra-Ordinary Congress Meetings.

#### 14.7 *Congress Meeting Minutes*

The IIHF shall take minutes of each Congress Meeting. The IIHF will provide the Congress Meeting minutes to all MNAs and the Council as soon as reasonably possible, but not later than six weeks following the respective Congress Meeting. Objections to the minutes must be provided to the IIHF within one month after their distribution to MNAs and the Council. Congress will adopt the respective minutes at the following Congress Meeting.

#### 14.8 *Congress Quorum and Voting Procedures*

14.8.1 Congress may only vote if a quorum representing a majority of the voting entitlement is present at the beginning of the Congress Meeting. No proxies are allowed. MNAs are not obliged to vote unless indicated otherwise in these Statutes or Bylaws. Abstentions and invalid ballots will not count as a cast vote. Open ballot shall be used for all votes unless a secret ballot is requested by any Full MNA. The Council may request an electronic voting system. If the required majority indicated herein is not reached the motion is defeated.

14.8.2 A super majority (75%) of votes cast is required for:

- (a) MNA expulsion from the IIHF;
- (b) removal from the IIHF of any or all members of the Council, Auditors, and/or Disciplinary/Appeal Board before the end of their term; and
- (c) dissolution of the IIHF.

14.8.3 A qualified majority (2/3rds) of votes cast is required for:

- (a) adoption or modification of a Statute; and
- (b) appointment of Life President, Life Members and/or Honorary Member.

14.8.4 A simple majority (greater than 50%) of the votes cast is required for:

- (a) subject 15.3.4, elections of the Council Members, Auditors and Disciplinary/Appeal Board Member(s);
- (b) allocation of IIHF Championships;
- (c) adoption or modifications of the Bylaws and Regulations/Codes;
- (d) adoption or modification of the Official Playing Rules; and
- (e) all other Congress decisions not herein specified.

For Council, Auditors and Disciplinary/Appeal Board Member(s), a simple majority shall mean greater than 50% of the ballots cast.

14.8.5 With respect to IIHF Championship allocation, if after the first ballot none of the bids achieves the required majority, the bid with the least number of votes cast will be withdrawn and another ballot will be cast. This procedure will be repeated until a bid gets the required majority of votes. In the event of a tied vote, the IIHF President, or in his absence his designated Vice-President, may call for a new ballot to be cast before casting the deciding vote.

## Statute 15 Council (Executive Body)

### 15.1 *Council Composition*

15.1.1 The Council shall consist of 13 voting members of which at least two must be female and at least two must be male, incorporating:

- a) a President
- b) three Vice-Presidents; and
- c) nine other members.

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

15.1.2 A Vice-President shall represent the MNAs in each of the following geographical regions of: (i) Asia and Oceania, (ii) Europe and Africa and (iii) the Americas. The Council shall designate each MNA as belonging to one of those geographical regions. The nominated Vice-President for a respective region must be a citizen of a MNA within the respective region and must be nominated by that MNA.

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

### 15.2 *Council Nominations*

15.2.1 All Council members must meet and maintain the following eligibility requirements:

- (a) cannot be a paid employee of an IIHF commercial partner (this rule also applies to IIHF commercial partner competitors);
- (b) must declare any equity ownership interest in an IIHF commercial partner (this rule also applies to IIHF commercial partner competitors);
- (b) must have had their 25th or later birthday and their 72nd or earlier birthday in the appointment year;
- (c) must not have committed a crime or other action that violates the IIHF Code of Conduct;
- (d) must have a minimum of 5 years ice hockey experience (business and/or operations).

15.2.2 The Council Members are elected for a four-year term. A Member cannot serve in any one Council position longer than 12 years in total (12 years as President, 12 years as a Vice-President and 12 years as a Member), starting at the 2020 elections.

15.2.3 A candidate must be a citizen in the nominating MNA's country.

15.2.4 MNAs may nominate a total of two candidates; however, if one of these respective candidates has been elected, the other candidate is automatically withdrawn.

15.2.5 MNAs must submit Council nominations to the IIHF Office in writing (including required information about the candidate) not less than six (6) weeks prior to the election, including the incumbent President who must submit his re-election application for President not less than six (6) weeks prior to the election.

15.2.6 All candidates must comply with the prerequisites and the conduct guidelines as specified in the pre-election procedures.

### 15.3 *Council Elections*

15.3.1 The Council elections shall take place at the designated Annual Congress in accordance with the Agenda and the voting rights specified in Statute 12.1. Council elections shall occur in the following order: (a) President (b) Vice-Presidents and (c) Council Members. From the nominated candidates (male and female) at least two must be male and at least two must be female.

15.3.2 President and Vice-President elections shall occur in turn. A candidate receiving a simple majority of votes cast on the first ballot or any subsequent ballot shall be elected. When a second or subsequent ballot is necessary, the candidate(s) with the lowest number of votes shall be removed from the ballot with voting continuing until one candidate receives a simple majority. However, if only three candidates remain, and no candidate receives a majority and there is a tie for the fewest number of votes, a vote shall be cast to break the tie to determine which candidate shall be removed from the final ballot.

15.3.3 After the President and Vice Presidents' elections, if the required number of female candidates have not been elected, then the next ballot will elect only female candidates to meet the required minimum of two female Council members. Following the election of the required number of female candidates, general elections shall occur to fill the remaining Council positions. Any female candidate not elected in the preceding rounds of voting may participate in the general Council elections.

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

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

15.3.4.2 Except in the circumstances described in Statute 15.3.4.4 to 15.3.4.8, in order to be declared elected to Council, a candidate must receive a vote on simple majority of the ballots cast. If more candidates achieve the required majority vote than there are available positions, the available positions shall be filled by the candidate(s) in their order of ranking in that voting round, until all available positions have been filled.

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

15.3.4.4 If an insufficient number of candidates meet the requirements to fill all of the available positions in any round of voting, the candidate (or candidates if there is a tie

for the fewest number of votes) that received the fewest number of votes shall be removed from the ballot, and another round of voting shall occur to fill the remaining available positions.

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

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

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

15.3.5 Should a vacancy occur in the Council, then except for the President position, the Council shall decide whether the particular vacancy should be filled before the next Annual Congress where elections are ordinarily held and shall determine the Congress Meeting in which such elections shall occur.

15.3.6 Council Members, including the President, shall take office either the day following the respective Annual Congress or the respective World Championship, whichever occurs later.

#### 15.4 *Council Duties and Responsibilities*

##### 15.4.1 President

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

- (a) chairing Congress and Council meetings;
- (b) ensuring IIHF and Council's knowledge and compliance with Swiss Law;
- (c) ensuring that all IIHF decisions are taken in accordance with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes;
- (d) ensuring Council decisions are executed;
- (e) negotiating sponsorship, media and merchandising contracts as well as agreements with the IOC, other sports federations and similar organizations;
- (f) signing all contracts approved by Council under Statute 15.4.4.1.p;
- (d) making decisions normally under the authority of the Council or the Executive Committee in cases of extreme urgency where there is not sufficient time to convene and/or contact the Council or the Executive Committee for such decisions;
- (e) represent the IIHF as appropriate;
- (f) make any decisions or take any actions delegated to the President by the Council;
- (g) resign his membership with his current MNA once elected;
- (h) re-nominate himself for President; and
- (i) such other duties described in the Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes.

##### 15.4.2 Vice-President

The Vice-President have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) in the absence of the President, the Vice-President(s) can execute the affairs delegated to them by the President or the Council. If the President is incapacitated or removed from office, the Council shall decide which Vice-President will assume the President's role;
- (b) monitor the development of ice hockey and inline hockey in their respective geographical regions; and
- (c) report on the interests of their respective geographical regions to the Council.

#### 15.4.3 Treasurer

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

- (a) overseeing an annual budget that forecasts the total income and expenditures of the IIHF;
- (b) establishing annually a four-year financial forecast of the total IIHF income and expenditures and related fund movements;
- (c) monitoring and reviewing IIHF's income streams and financial resources and pursuing additional income and revenue streams; and
- (d) advising the Executive Committee on the strategic financial matters include asset management.

#### 15.4.4 Council

15.4.4.1 The Council shall have the following authority, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) overseeing the practice of ice hockey and inline hockey worldwide, including developing and updating an eight-year strategic plan for the IIHF;
- (b) executing the IIHF financial policy;
- (c) approving the budget and adjustments thereto;
- (d) employing a General Secretary;
- (e) appoint a Treasurer from the members of Council;
- (f) supervising and monitoring the performance of the General Secretary;
- (g) approving new staff positions, agents or representatives;
- (h) appointing directorate chairmen;
- (i) accepting or rejecting applications from potential MNAs and recommending to Congress the acceptance or rejection of potential members to the IIHF;
- (j) granting temporary Full Membership status to an Associate MNA that has made progress toward full independent status and has a clear transition plan;
- (k) suspending MNAs in accordance with Statute 13.2;
- (l) reviewing and making recommendations on all proposals to be submitted to Congress including proposals for the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules;
- (m) ensuring the execution of Congress decisions;
- (n) observing and enforcing the Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes;
- (o) recommending external auditors to the Congress;
- (p) exploiting IIHF Commercial rights including approving all contracts that exceed a value equal to or more than one million CHF per year;
- (q) appointing ad hoc committees and appointing/dismissing their members;
- (r) approving IIHF membership with any other federation or organization;
- (s) establishing separate bodies and related regulations for IIHF Club Competitions and/or Inline Competition;
- (t) administering of all international and Olympic competitions;
- (u) instituting and observing practices and principles associated with good governance; and
- (v) all duties and matters arising that are not specifically outlined in the Statutes and Bylaws.

15.4.4.2 Council members are only entitled to receive compensation based on allowable expenses and cash expenditures as per the IIHF Financial Regulations. However, a Council member can receive appropriate compensation for a special duty performed for the IIHF with the Council's approval.

15.4.4.3 The Council meets:

- (a) during or in association with Congress Meetings and at least two more times during the year either in person or by means of video or teleconference;
- (b) when the President deems it necessary; or
- (c) upon request of not less than three Council members.

15.4.4.4 The Council makes decisions by a majority of the Council. In case of urgent decisions, the Council may make decisions via conference call or email. The President shall have the tie breaking vote.

15.4.4.5 All Council members shall remove themselves from deliberations and abstain from voting on matters where a conflict of interest exists.

15.4.4.6 All Council members are subject to the IIHF Code of Conduct and can be removed from office in accordance therewith.

15.4.4.7 The Council may make decisions normally under the authority of Congress only in cases of urgency where a decision is required before it is possible to convene a Congress. The Council must call an Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting as soon as reasonably possible after the Council's urgent decision to ratify the respective decisions. The Council decision remains in effect pending Congress ratification. For all decisions made by the Council in accordance herewith, a MNA's sole remedy prior to the Extra-Ordinary Congress Meeting is to appeal to the IIHF Disciplinary Board in which case the MNA must establish that the Council's decision need not have been taken by the Council in accordance with its powers to take decisions in cases of urgency.

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

#### Statute 16 Directorate (Executive Body)

16.1 The Directorates are temporary IIHF executive bodies with the responsibility for conducting IIHF Ice Hockey and Inline Hockey competitions.

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

16.3 The Directorate of all IIHF Competitions shall be comprised of the Directorate Chair, one representative of each competing MNA and a representative of the hosting country. The Directorate Chair cannot represent his own country. In all Directorates, every member has one vote. In the case of a tie vote, the Directorate Chair must exercise the casting vote.

16.4 No Directorate decision, including disciplinary matters concerning the participation in and operation of the IIHF Championships and the Olympic competitions, establish a precedent for future Directorates. The Directorate decision-making power is limited to the respective IIHF Competition, except for provisional doping and/or competition manipulation

suspension. Any violation for which a sanction beyond the IIHF Competition is sought must be referred to the IIHF Disciplinary Board, unless indicated otherwise in the Disciplinary Guidelines for the respective Competition.

16.5 The Directorate shall be responsible for:

- (a) verifying player eligibility documents;
- (b) overseeing the host's responsibilities;
- (c) overseeing the participating MNA teams' responsibilities;
- (d) overseeing media and marketing issues;
- (e) making disciplinary decisions in accordance with Statute 20.4;
- (f) overseeing compliance with medical requirements;
- (g) overseeing doping control and adherence to the Medical and Doping Control Regulations when a Medical Supervisor is not assigned;
- (h) awarding trophies, medals, diplomas and all individual recognitions;
- (i) confirming the nominations of the best three players of each team in the competition;
- (j) selecting the best goalkeeper, defenseman and forward of the competition; and
- (k) authorizing any other awards of the competition.

16.6 The Directorate Chair shall be responsible for:

- (a) ensuring that all games sheets are submitted to the IIHF office, and
- (b) sending written report(s), including any requested IIHF reports and the Directorate meeting minutes, to the IIHF Office within two weeks after the completion of the Competition.

#### Statute 17 IIHF Office (Executive Body)

17.1 The IIHF Office shall consist of a General Secretary and IIHF Staff.

17.2 Employees of the IIHF will be employed under contract. Their contracts will be in accordance with Swiss Law.

17.3 The President and at least one Vice-President must sign the General Secretary's employment contract on IIHF's behalf.

17.4 The General Secretary leads and manages the day to day operation of the IIHF and assumes all responsibility related thereto. He may not hold any official position within a MNA.

17.5 The General Secretary, personally and through IIHF Staff, is responsible for the implementation of the operation, development and promotion of ice hockey and inline hockey worldwide, including, but not limited to:

- (a) leading, staffing and managing the IIHF Office;
- (b) implementing the mission described in Statute 4;
- (c) executing Council decisions and reporting on the IIHF Office activities to the Council;
- (d) overseeing compliance with IOC and WADA regulations;
- (e) convening and preparing the Congress and Council meetings, including compiling necessary meeting minutes;
- (f) publishing the Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules;
- (g) drafting and circulating official IIHF communications;
- (h) overseeing the proper administration of IIHF finances, including establishing an annual budget that forecasts the total income and expenditures of the IIHF and maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the IIHF;



- (i) enforcing compliance of the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and decisions and monitoring/controlling the relations between MNAs;
- (k) having the authority to approve all contracts not required to be approved by Council and signing all legal documents on behalf of the IIHF; and
- (l) making decisions and/or imposing sanctions within his authority as provided for in the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws or Regulations/Codes.

## Statute 18 IIHF Committees and Auditors

### 18.1 Executive Committee

18.1.1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, three Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the General Secretary (non-voting).

18.1.2 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for:

- (a) making decisions normally under the authority of the Council in cases of urgency (such decision must be ratified by the Council within 15 days);
- (b) acting as a HR/compensation panel to review the compensation of the General Secretary and President, and to annually establish a pool of funds for allocation by the General Secretary to the staff;
- (c) overseeing the IIHF financial affairs such as advising on the investment of IIHF liquid resources; reviewing IIHF financial guidelines, policies and procedures to safeguard, manage and provide for appropriate utilization and investment of IIHF resources; and safeguarding IIHF assets by ensuring that reasonable steps have been taken to prevent and detect fraud or other irregularities;
- (d) ensuring that the financial affairs of the IIHF are transparent to Congress; and
- (e) ensuring that sufficient financial reserves are available to the IIHF and investing liquid resources.

18.1.3 The Executive Committee may (a) invite other members of Council as needed or (b) employ the services of external professional advisors as needed.

### 18.2 Internal Auditors

18.2.1 Congress shall elect two Auditors, in accordance with the Council voting procedures in Statute 15.3.4, for a four-year term. Only candidates who have had their 25th or later birthday and their 72nd or earlier birthday in the election year are eligible to become Auditors.

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

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

18.2.4 The Auditors shall perform the following duties:

- (a) oversee and monitor the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting, and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the external auditors' report;
- (b) advise and assist the Council in monitoring IIHF's financial and compliance matters and issues;
- (c) monitor compliance with IIHF Regulations;
- (d) monitor IIHF internal operational controls;
- (e) annually review the effectiveness of risk assessment and risk management;

- (f) monitor and review related-party transactions at least annually; and
- (g) issue compliance guidelines.

18.2.5 As part of performing its duties as set out above, the Auditors may request any relevant information from all bodies, committees, officials and other individuals within IIHF and shall be entitled to conduct or authorize reviews into any matters within the scope of its duties. Auditors may also take part, as observers, in all meetings and other activities of IIHF bodies and committees at any time, subject to applicable confidentiality obligations.

### 18.3 Operational Committees

18.3.1 Operational Committees are established at the Council's discretion for a four-year period. The Council may vary the number, structure, activities and mandate of the operational committees. Committees are recommending bodies to the Council.

18.3.2 Operational committees shall be chaired by a Council member. Each Operational Committee shall contain a chair, an executive secretary from the IIHF Office and a maximum of four other members. The Chair, together with the General Secretary shall put forward a list of candidates to the Council for appointment to each committee. In creating the list, the Chair must consider candidates nominated by MNAs, candidates with expertise in the competency of the respective committee and candidates from diverse backgrounds. On relevant committees, one seat shall be reserved for a league representative and shall be defined in the respective committee's mandate.

18.3.3 The Committee Chair shall conduct the committee's affairs in accordance with the mandate and must control the committee's financial expenditures within the framework of the approved budget.

18.3.4 The Council must approve all financial adjustments within each committee's budget which exceed 10% of the originally approved budget.

18.3.5 With the General Secretary's approval, the Committee Chairman may invite external specialists and/or form a working group on an ad hoc basis (such members do not have the right to vote).

18.3.6 Quorum is not required for meetings of the committees. Simple majority is required for committee decisions, except that quorum and 75% majority is required for the Historical Committee to approve inductees to the Hall of Fame. Each committee member has one vote. In case of a tied vote, the Chair must exercise the casting vote. In case of urgency, decisions can be made by email.

18.3.7 Each Committee Chair will submit an annual written report on the Committee's activities to the Council and to the Annual Congress.

### 18.4 Committee Minutes

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

## Chapter 4 JUDICIAL AND DISCIPLINE

## Statute 19      Discipline

### *19.1 IIHF Disciplinary Power*

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

### *19.2 Disqualification*

19.2.1 A disqualified player shall be dismissed from the respective IIHF competition and may have his case investigated by the IIHF Disciplinary Board for possible further sanctions.

19.2.2 A disqualified team shall be dismissed from the respective IIHF competition, relegated into the next lower division, its results annulled to zero and the competition and world ranking adjusted accordingly. All cases may be investigated by the IIHF Disciplinary Board for appropriate and further sanctions.

### *19.3 Suspension*

19.3.1 MNAs must honor all IIHF suspensions. A player currently under an IIHF suspension is not eligible to participate in IIHF Competitions.

19.3.2 All MNAs must immediately advise the IIHF of any penalty or suspension that might affect a player's ability to participate for his National Team in any IIHF Competition. If circumstances warrant, the IIHF Office may determine a player, who is suspended by a MNA, league or club, including non-affiliated IIHF recognized organizations, is not eligible to participate in an IIHF Competition which runs concurrently to the player's suspension.

19.3.3 All MNAs must immediately report any conduct that happens in an exhibition game that occurs within seven days of the respective IIHF Competition, which might affect a player's eligibility to participate for his National Team in any IIHF Competition to the Directorate Chairman of the respective IIHF Competition who shall decide on any necessary sanctions in accordance with section 14.1.2 of the Disciplinary Code. The Directorate Chairman shall decide any necessary sanctions within forty-eight (48) hours of being advised of the conduct and being provided with all additional information necessary to make the decision.

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

## Statute 20      Judicial Bodies

The Judicial Bodies indicated in this Statute shall have the power to impose disciplinary measures and issue directives in accordance with their respective mandates and as specifically defined in the IIHF Disciplinary Code.

### *20.1 Disciplinary Board*

20.1.1 Congress shall elect one Chair, a Deputy Chair and not less than four other members, in accordance with the voting procedures for the Council voting procedures in Statute 15.3.4, to the Disciplinary Board, for a four-year period. Only candidates who

have had their 25th or later birthday and their 72nd or earlier birthday in the appointment year are eligible for the Disciplinary Board.

20.1.2 The Disciplinary Board should be highly experienced, competent and well versed with the sport, its rules and procedures. It is completely independent of the Council, not bound by instruction and not accountable to anyone for their decisions.

20.1.3 The Disciplinary Board may take external advice if the Chair determines that additional expertise is required in a specific case.

20.1.4 The Disciplinary Board shall act in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The Disciplinary Board meets when convened by the Chair.

20.1.5 Decisions regarding the application, interpretation and/or violation of the Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules shall be made by the IIHF Disciplinary Board, unless specifically indicated otherwise in the respective Statute, Bylaw, Regulation/Code and Official Playing Rule, in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Code.

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

## 20.2 *Appeal Board and Appeal Panels*

20.2.1 Congress shall elect a Chair to the Appeal Board for a four-year period. Council shall provide a recommended pool of at least four independent persons, from which the Appeal Board Chair shall appoint two persons for each Appeal Panel on a case by case basis.

20.2.2 Persons appointed to an Appeal Panel must be highly experienced jurists that are well versed in the issues giving rise to the appeal and not from a country involved in the appeal.

20.2.3 Appeals against Disciplinary Board decisions can be made to the Appeal Board, except (a) suspensions for less than five (5) games (if suspension measured in games) or two months (if suspension measured by time period), (b) fines less than 20,000 CHF, (c) playing rules infractions, (d) doping violations or (e) when the Disciplinary Board is acting in its authority as an appeal body.

## 20.3 *Championship Disciplinary Panel*

20.3.1 At WM, WM20 and the Olympic competitions, an independent Disciplinary Panel (Championship Disciplinary Panel) must be established. At the WW and WM18 a Championship Disciplinary Panel may be established. Such Panels shall have the same authority and responsibility as the IIHF Disciplinary Board (Statute 20.1) to decide all disciplinary matters relating to Official Rule Book violations that occur during the competition.

20.3.2 The Championship Disciplinary Panel must utilize the Championship Disciplinary Guidelines approved by Council for each respective IIHF Season.

## 20.4 *Directorate Disciplinary Panel*

20.4.1 In all disciplinary matters occurring during a competition where there is no Championship Disciplinary Panel, the Directorate shall establish an ad hoc disciplinary panel composed of Directorate members whose team is not directly and/or indirectly involved in the incident giving rise to the disciplinary matter.

20.4.2 The Directorate must utilize the Directorate Disciplinary Guidelines approved by the Council for each IIHF Season for all disciplinary matters.

#### Statute 21    Finality

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

#### Statute 22    Court of Arbitration for Sport

22.1 IIHF recognizes the independent CAS, with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland), to resolve disputes between IIHF, MNAs, leagues, clubs, players and officials.

22.2 Subject to Statute 20, any dispute arising from the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Code and decisions which cannot be settled by the IIHF Judicial Bodies shall be settled by a tribunal constituted in accordance with the Statutes and Procedural Rules of the CAS.

22.3 The provisions of the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration shall apply to the proceedings. CAS shall primarily apply IIHF regulations, subject to Swiss law.

22.4 The CAS shall only intervene in (a) its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration if the dispute does not fall within the jurisdiction of an IIHF Judicial Body or (b) as an appellate court if all internal legal remedies have been exhausted.

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

22.6 All parties that are subject to the IIHF's jurisdiction accept that the CAS is the Court of Final Appeal.

#### Statute 23    Liabilities

23.1 MNAs have an ongoing obligation to understand and apply IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes and decisions of the IIHF.

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

### **Chapter 5    FINANCIAL**

#### Statute 24    Commercial

24.1 The IIHF is the sole owner of all commercial rights pertaining to all IIHF Competitions and related activities, without any restriction as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, but are not limited to, audio-visual and radio recording, reproduction and

broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, sponsorship, advertising and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as IIHF general and event marks, rights arising under copyright law and any right which has the potential to yield financial benefit.

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

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

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

#### Statute 26 Fiscal Year

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

#### Statute 27 Annual Budget and Yearly Accounts

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

27.2 The General Secretary shall provide a draft of the yearly accounts to MNAs by August 31st of the respective year for Congress approval at the Semi-Annual Congress.

#### Statute 28 IIHF Accounts and Currencies

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

28.2 IIHF shall administer all funds according to the budget approved by Congress and decisions within the authority of Council.

28.3 All IIHF contracts shall be executed in accordance with the Swiss Commercial Register. All contracts (committing or generating funds) or committed expenditure which do not exceed 50,000 CHF require one signature, all other contracts (committing or generating funds) or committed expenditures which exceed 50,000 CHF require two signatures.

#### Statute 29 IIHF Audits

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

#### Statute 30 IIHF Procurement

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

#### Statute 31 Insurance

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

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

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





# BYLAWS

## Chapter 1 EVENT/COMPETITION

### Bylaw 1 IIHF Competitions

1.1 The IIHF Competitions include:

A. Championships

- IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (WM);
- IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships (WMIA, WMIB, WMIIA, WMIIB, WMIII);
- IIHF Ice Hockey World Junior Championship (WM20 WM20IA, WM20IB, WM20IIA, WM20IIB, WM20III);
- IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships (WM18, WM18IA, WM18IB, WM18IIA, WM18IIB);
- IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championships (WW, WWIA, WWIB, WWIIA, WWIIB);
- IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships (WW18, WW18IA, WW18IB, WW18IIA, WW18IIB);
- Qualifications to the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships (--Q);

B. Olympic Competitions

- Olympic Games (OG);
- Qualifications to the Olympic Competitions (OGQ);

C. Other Competitions and Championships

- World and Continental Club Competitions such as the IIHF European Cup, IIHF Continental Cup (CC), Victoria Cup (VC), and European Women Continental Cup (EWCC);
- Inline World Championships; and
- Any other IIHF designated international competition.

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

### Bylaw 2 National Team Allocation in IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships

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

2.2 If, (a) a new sovereign state has been established by separation from an existing sovereign state; (b) a country is incorporated into another existing sovereign state with a MNA affiliated to the IIHF; (c) two or more countries are united into a sovereign state and the MNA representing that sovereign state is granted membership status with the IIHF; or (d) a sovereign state is divided into two or more sovereign states with MNAs affiliated to the IIHF and the previous country does not exist anymore, then the IIHF Competition Committee shall make a recommendation to Council which shall seed the respective MNA(s)' national team(s) in IIHF Championship(s).

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

### 3.1 IIHF Ice Hockey Men's World Championship Programs

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

- (a) The country in which the MNA is located, must have at least one permanent operational artificial indoor ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book including a permanent seating capacity of not less than 500 spectators.
- (b) Players registered with the MNA must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size.
- (c) The MNA must have not less than 60 participating players in the Category in which the MNA has applied to participate, each of whom must be registered with the MNA.
- (d) The MNA must have not less than four teams participating in League Competition in their own country (and/or in a cross-border league operating in accordance with Bylaw 20.2) in the category in which they have applied to participate. The League must meet the League Statistical Requirements as indicated in the Sport Regulations.
- (e) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than 100 registered participants; and (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program and either a Recruitment Program, Administrators Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

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

- (a) The country in which the MNA is located, must have at least one permanent, operational indoor ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book including a permanent seating capacity of a minimum of 500 spectators.
- (b) Players registered with the MNA must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size.
- (c) The MNA must have not less than 45 participating players in the U18 category, each of whom must be registered with the MNA and must compete in a minimum of 12 games per season at any level.
- (d) The MNA must have an operational hockey development program that (i) includes not less than 60 registered participants (ii) has a Learn to Play Program, Coach Education Program, Game Officials Program and either a Recruitment Program, Administration Program, Team Manager Program, Equipment Manager Program, or Goalkeeper Program.

### 3.2 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship Programs

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

- (a) The country in which the MNA is located must have at least one permanent, operational indoor ice rink meeting the standards as stated in the IIHF Rule Book including permanent seating capacity of not less than 500 spectators.
- (b) Players must play on an indoor ice rink located in the MNA's country that meets or exceeds the IIHF designated minimum size.
- (c) The MNA must have not less than 45 participating players in the World Women's category, each of whom must be registered with the MNA.
- (d) The MNA must have not less than three teams participating in league competition in their own country (and/or in a cross-border league operating in accordance with Bylaw 20.2) in the category in which they have applied to participate. The League must meet the League Statistical Requirements as indicated in the Sport Regulations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.1 Subject to 4.2 through 4.11, players must meet the following requirements to participate in the IIHF Championships and the Olympic Competitions:

- (a) hold citizenship in the representing country and submit to the jurisdiction of the representing MNA;
- (b) complete and submit to the IIHF Directorate the IIHF Player Entry; and
- (c) submit to the IIHF Directorate a national passport of the representing country that is valid for the duration of the event.

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

4.2.1 A male player who has two legal citizenships or more, or has changed his citizenship or has acquired or surrendered a citizenship and wants to participate for the first time in an IIHF Championship and/or an Olympic competition or in qualifications to these competitions, then in order to play for his country of choice the player must:

- (a) prove that he has (i) participated in the competitions within his country of choice on a consistent basis, over at least 16 consecutive months (480 days) and during two hockey seasons after his 10th birthday (ii) resided in his country of choice during that period and (iii) neither transferred to another country nor played ice

- hockey for a team registered or located within any other country during that period;  
and
- (b) if the country of his choice is one to which the player has transferred then he must have had an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least 16 months (480 days) prior to his proposed participation.

4.2.2 A female player who has two legal citizenships or more, or has changed her citizenship or has acquired or surrendered a citizenship and wants to participate for the first time in an IIHF Championship and/or an Olympic competition or in qualifications to these competitions, then in order to play for her country of choice the player must:

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

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

4.3.1 If a player has represented a country in any IIHF championship, or in the Olympic competition or in the qualification to these competitions, he will not be eligible to represent another country except that he may apply to the IIHF to represent another country if:

- (a) he is a citizen of that country;
- (b) he has an international transfer that was approved by the IIHF and dated at least four years prior to the start of the IIHF competition in which he wishes to participate;
- (c) he has participated, on a consistent basis, and resided in the country for at least four consecutive years (1460 days) in the national competitions of his new country during which period he has neither transferred to another country nor played ice hockey for a team registered/located within any other country: and
- (d) he has not played for his previous country in an IIHF competition either during this four-year period or between completion of this four-year period and the start of the IIHF championship he wishes to compete.

4.3.2 A player that has represented a country in any IIHF championship, Olympic competition or in the qualifications to these competitions and has later acquired another citizenship may continue to represent his old country if he is still a citizen of that country.

4.3.3 If a country or part of it becomes independent, or if a country or part of it becomes incorporated into another country, or if two or more countries are united into a new country, or if a country is divided into more countries, a player who has already represented a country and whose citizenship was subsequently changed by decision of the state authorities, may apply to the IIHF to play for any one of the partitioned or united countries without a waiting period upon providing proof of his new citizenship. This decision may only be made once and is final and irrevocable subject to Statute 22.

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

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

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

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

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

4.8 Eligibility rules for the applicable IIHF Competition may differ, and players must meet the applicable eligibility rules for each IIHF Competition.

#### Bylaw 5 IIHF Competition Host Applications

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.7 If no application has been made to organize a specified IIHF Competition, the Council may permit an exception to Bylaw 5.1 to 5.5 and allocate the IIHF Competition in its discretion.

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

#### Bylaw 6 World Championship Allocation Voting

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

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

6.3 The allocation of any IIHF Championship is subject to mutual execution of a host country contract between the IIHF and the host MNA.

#### Bylaw 7 World Championship Hosting Rights, Obligations and Penalties

##### *7.1 Hosting Rights*

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

##### *7.2 Hosting Obligations*

7.2.1 The MNA must take full responsibility for the organization of the IIHF Championship in accordance with all provisions/rules of the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes and host country contract and/or separate agreement with IIHF.

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

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

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

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

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

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

### *7.3 Hosting MNA withdrawal from Hosting Obligations*

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

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

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

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

## Bylaw 8 Participating MNA Obligations and Penalties

### *8.1 Participating MNA Obligations*

8.1.1 A MNA entering a team in any IIHF Championship must submit the respective Team Entry Form to the IIHF no later than 15 April prior to the IIHF Annual Congress at which the respective Championship will be allocated. A MNA entering a team in the Olympic Competition must submit the respective Team Entry Forms co-signed by their National Olympic Committee no later than 1 February two years prior to the respective Olympic Winter Games, to enable the timely scheduling of the qualifications.

8.1.2 MNAs entering teams into IIHF Championships must fulfill all conditions as specified in the Statutes, Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules including those rules relating to the use of IIHF supplied uniforms, advertising and the display of manufacturers' identification on equipment as specified in the IIHF Championship Regulations and IIHF Media & Marketing Guidelines for Teams and Players at IIHF Championship. All teams, players, team officials and game officials must follow these regulations, including but not limited to warranting that all players and team officials sign all required forms associated with the IIHF Championship.

8.1.3 During the period that a MNA participates in IIHF Competition, no other national team of the same Category from that MNA shall participate in other international games or competitions.

8.1.4 A MNA and/or individual person participating in IIHF Competition in any capacity whatsoever shall be independently responsible for any taxes (including but not limited to withholding tax) levied in accordance with the applicable tax regulations of the countries hosting the IIHF Competition, which shall include but not be limited to, taxes levied on prize money, premiums, salary, bonuses, participation fees or fees due to the MNA and/or individual persons as a direct result of participation in the respective championship.

8.1.5 MNAs entering teams into the IIHF Championships must fulfil all conditions relating to anti-doping, including availability for doping control, submission of valid therapeutic use exemptions and updated whereabouts information as specified in the IIHF Medical and Doping Control Regulations and WADC.

## 8.2 MNA Penalties

8.2.1 Except in the case of force majeure, a MNA that does not intend to fulfil its participation commitment and indicates such by 1 September or six months prior to the respective championship, whichever occurs first, shall be fined by the IIHF as follows:

- (a) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship: CHF 50,000;
- (b) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I: CHF 15,000;
- (c) IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division II and III: CHF 7,500;
- (d) IIHF Ice Hockey World Junior Championship: CHF 25,000;
- (e) IIHF Ice Hockey World Women's Championships: CHF 7,500; and
- (f) All other Championships: CHF 5,000

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

8.2.2 Violations of the IIHF Championship Regulations and Team Entry Form shall result in penalties as defined in the IIHF Championship Regulations.

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

## Bylaw 9 IIHF Withdrawal of Hosting Rights

9.1 If in the opinion of the IIHF Council, and after having considered all reasonable remedies with the hosting MNA:

- (a) the hosting MNA has failed to meet any material condition on which hosting rights were granted;
- (b) the hosting MNA is unable to meet its obligations in accordance with the host country contract;
- (c) the hosting MNA is in material breach of the host country contract; or
- (d) there is reason for concern that the well-being or the safe freedom of movement of the players, officials, travelling spectators and media is in doubt;

then the IIHF Council shall have the right to:

1. withdraw hosting rights from a Hosting MNA in which case such rights to the championship shall revert to the IIHF without the IIHF being liable for compensation to the hosting MNA, and
2. allocate the championship to another MNA.



## Bylaw 10      Competition Operations

### 10.1 *Seeding and Schedule*

Teams are seeded for an IIHF Championship in accordance with the Sport Regulations. The hosting MNA must prepare the game schedules for the respective IIHF Championship in accordance with the Sport Regulations.

### 10.2 *Operations*

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

### 10.3 *Forfeits*

A game is forfeited when a team does not appear for the game at the assigned time or when a game official has forfeited the game in accordance with the Official Playing Rules. All forfeits shall be handled in accordance with the Official Playing Rules. A forfeited game may be appealed to the Directorate.

### 10.4 *Award of Points*

Points shall be awarded in accordance with the Sport Regulations. The IIHF Council may authorize a different system for IIHF competitions and Olympic competitions.

### 10.5 *Uniforms and Numbers*

All teams participating in an IIHF Competition shall comply with the rules governing uniforms and numbers contained in the Sport Regulations, Uniform Guidelines, Market Guidelines and Official Playing Rules.

### 10.6 *Directorate Control of Players*

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

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

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

- (i) Player Entry Forms,
- (ii) Team Entry Forms,
- (iii) Team Official Registration Forms with applicable waivers and
- (iv) all players' national passports that are valid for the duration of the championship and that confirms their citizenship.

10.6.4 Team Entry Forms submitted to the Directorate must name a minimum number of 15 skaters and two goalkeepers. If the minimum number of 15 skaters and two goalkeepers indicated on the Team Entry Form are not present at the Championship by the time of the first Directorate Meeting, the respective team will be disqualified. Additional players up to the allowed maximum of players and goalkeepers can be

submitted for player control at least two hours prior to each respective game, after which time the team registration for a respective game is final.

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

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

### 10.7 *Insurance for IIHF Competitions*

10.7.1 The insurance responsibilities of host MNAs and participating MNAs are specified in the IIHF Championship Regulations and Insurance Guidelines.

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

## Bylaw 11 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships (WM)

### 11.1 *General*

11.1.1 Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship will be played annually and includes a maximum of 46 teams organized in a top Division tournament and in a maximum of three lower Division tournaments. If the number of teams exceeds 46, a Qualification Tournament as described in By-Law 17 will also be held.

11.1.2 Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in the various Divisions will be held as follows:

- (i) Top Division: played in May.
- (ii) All other Divisions and any Qualification Tournament: played in March/April, and must be finished at least one week before the beginning of the tournament in the Top Division.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

11.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship and any qualification tournament is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers.

### 11.2 *Team Composition*

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

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

- (i) Top Division: twenty-two (22) players, three (3) goalkeepers and eight (8) team officials.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (iii) Division III: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.

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

### 11.3 *Tournament Format*

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

- (i) Top Division: will consist of 16 teams including the team of the hosting MNA and/or as further stipulated in the Bid Regulations for joint-hosting. The 16 teams will be seeded into two groups based on their world ranking;
- (ii) Divisions I and II: will each consist of 12 teams seeded in two groups; six teams will be seeded in Group A and the next six teams will be seeded in Group B.
- (iii) Division III: will consist of a maximum of 6 teams.

Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

## Bylaw 12 IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship (WM20)

### 12.1 *General*

12.1.1 Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship will be played annually and includes a maximum of 40 teams organized in a top Division tournament and in a maximum of three lower Division tournaments. If the number of teams exceeds 40, a Qualification Tournament as described in Bylaw 17 will also be held.

12.1.2 Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship in the various Divisions will be held as follows:

- (i) Top Division: played between 22 December and 6 January.
- (ii) All other Divisions and any Qualification Tournament: played in December/January.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

12.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World U20 Championships and any qualification tournament is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers.

### 12.2 *Team Composition*

12.2.1 Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship must be eligible to compete as a male athlete of the male gender and be no younger than fifteen years of age, and no older than twenty years of age, on December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

12.2.2 Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:

- (i) Top Division: twenty (20) players, three (3) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (iii) Division III: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.

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

### 12.3 *Tournament Format*

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

- (i) Top Division: will consist of 10 teams seeded into two groups following their ranking from the previous Championship Season's tournament.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: will each consist of 12 teams seeded in two groups; six teams will be seeded in Group A and the next six teams will be seeded in Group B.
- (iii) Division III: will consist of a maximum of 6 teams.

Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements

## Bylaw 13 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship (WM18)

### 13.1 *General*

13.1.1 Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship will be played annually and includes a maximum of 46 teams organized in a top Division tournament and in a maximum of three lower Division tournaments. If the number of teams exceeds 46, a qualification tournament as described in By-Law 17 will also be held.

13.1.2 Tournament Dates: The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships in the various Divisions will be held as follows:

- (i) Top Division: played as late as possible in April.
- (ii) All other Divisions and any Qualification Tournament: played in February, March or April.

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

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

13.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey World U18 Championships and any qualification tournament, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers.

### 13.2 *Team Composition*

13.2.1 Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship must be eligible to compete as a male athlete and be no younger than fifteen years of age, and no older than eighteen years of age, by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

13.2.2 Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:

- (i) Top Division: twenty (20) players, three (3) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (iii) Division III: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.

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

### 13.3 *Tournament Format*

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

- (i) Top Division: will consist of 10 teams seeded into two groups following their ranking from the previous Championship Season's tournament.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: will each consist of 12 teams seeded in two groups; six teams will be seeded in Group A and the next six teams will be seeded in Group B.
- (iii) Division III: if two teams are entered, the competition will be a playoff series. If three to seven teams are entered, there will be one group. If eight to twelve teams are entered, there will be two groups (Group A and Group B) formed to play.

Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

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

### 14.1 *General*

14.1.1 Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification: The IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship will be played annually (except for the Top Division tournament, which is not played in Winter Olympic years) and includes a maximum of 32 teams organized in a Top Division tournament and in a maximum of two lower Division tournaments. If the number of teams exceeds 32, a Qualification Tournament as described in By-Law 17 will also be held.

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

- (i) Top Division: played in March/April in non-Winter Olympic years.
- (ii) All other Divisions and any Qualification Tournament: played in March/April.

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

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

14.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey Women World Championships and any qualification tournament, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers.

## 14.2 *Team Composition*

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

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

- (i) Top Division: twenty (20) players, three (3) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.

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

## 14.3 *Tournament Format*

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

- (i) Top Division: will consist of 10 teams seeded into two groups following their world ranking. Five teams will be seeded in Group A and the next five teams will be seeded in Group B.
- (ii) Divisions I and II: will each consist of 12 teams seeded in two groups; six teams will be seeded in Group A and the next six teams will be seeded in Group B.

Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

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

### 15.1 *General*

15.1.1 **Recurrence, Number of Divisions, Teams, Qualification:** The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship will be played annually and includes a maximum of 20 teams organized in a top Division tournament and one lower Division tournament. If the number of teams exceeds 20, a Qualification Tournament as described in By-Law 17 will also be held.

#### 15.1.2 **Tournament Dates**

The IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships in the various Divisions will be held as follows:

- (i) All Divisions and any Qualification Tournament: played in January.

Exceptions may be proposed to the Council for approval.

15.1.3 The minimum number of players on a team to enter and start a tournament in any Division of the IIHF Ice Hockey Women World U18 Championship and any qualification tournament, is fifteen (15) players plus two (2) goalkeepers.

## 15.2 Team Composition

15.2.1 Player Eligibility: The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship must be eligible to compete as a female athlete and be no younger than fifteen years of age, and no older than eighteen years of age, by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

15.2.2 Maximum Number of Players, Officials: The maximum number of participants per team in the IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships in each Division shall be as follows:

- (i) Top Division: twenty (20) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.
- (ii) Division I: eighteen (18) players, two (2) goalkeepers and six (6) team officials.

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

## 15.3 Tournament Format:

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

- (i) Top Division: will consist of 8 teams seeded into two groups following their rankings from the previous IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championships. Four teams will be seeded in Group A, and the next 4 teams will be seeded in Group B.
- (ii) Division I: will consist of consist of 12 teams seeded in two groups; six teams will be seeded in Group A and the next six teams will be seeded in Group B.

Seeding and play shall be as specified in the IIHF Sport Regulations. The Council shall have the option to amend the pre-tournament seeding to accommodate special requirements.

## Bylaw 16 Promotion and Relegation

### 16.1 Promotion

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

- (i) Division I Group A (WM): the two (2) top teams will be promoted to the Top Division.
- (ii) Division I Group A (WM20, WM18): the winning team will be promoted to the Top Division.
- (iii) Division I Group A (WW): the two (2) top teams will be promoted to the Top Division
- (iv) Division I Group A (WW18): the winning team will be promoted to the Top Division
- (v) Division I Group B (WM, WM20, WM18, WW, WW18): the winning team will be promoted to Division I Group A.
- (vi) Division II Group A (WM, WM20, WM18, WW): the winning team will be promoted to Division I Group B.
- (vii) Division II Group B (WM, WM20, WM18, WW): the winning team will be promoted to Division II Group A.
- (viii) Division III (WM, WM20): the winning team will be promoted to Division II Group B.
- (ix) Division III (WM18): if a four to seven team format is used, then the winning team will be promoted to Division II Group B. If an eight to twelve team format is used, the winning team of Division III Group A will be promoted to Division II Group B, and the winning team of Division III Group B will be promoted to Division III Group A

## 16.2 Relegation

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

- (i) Top Division (WM): the last place team from each group (2 teams in total) will be relegated to Division I Group A.
- (ii) Top Division (WM20, WM18): the last place team will be relegated to Division I Group A.
- (iii) Top Division (WW): the two last-placed teams in Group B will be relegated to Division I Group A.
- (iv) Top Division (WW18): the last place team in Group B will be relegated to Division I Group A.
- (v) Division I Group A (WM, WM20, WM18, WW, WW18): the last place team will be relegated to Division I Group B.
- (vi) Division I Group B (WM, WM20, WM18, WW): the last place team will be relegated to Division II Group A.
- (vii) Division I Group B (WW18): the last place team will be relegated to the Qualification Tournament (if any).
- (viii) Division II Group A (WM, WM20, WM18, WW): the last place team will be relegated to Division II Group B.
- (ix) Division II Group B (WM, WM20, WM18): the last place team will be relegated to Division III.
- (x) Division II Group B (WW): the last place team will be relegated to the Qualification Tournament (if any).
- (xi) Division III (WM, WM20): the last place team will be relegated to the Qualification Tournament (if any).
- (xii) Division III (WM18): if a four to seven team format is used, the bottom ranked team will be relegated to the Qualification Tournament (if any). If an eight to twelve team format is used, the bottom ranked team of Division III Group A will be relegated to Division III Group B, and the bottom ranked team of Division III Group B will be relegated to the Qualification Tournament (if any).

## Bylaw 17 Qualification Tournament

17.1 If more than the maximum number of teams are entered to participate in any of the IIHF Championships described in Bylaws 11 to 15, the remaining teams will participate in a Qualification Tournament. The Qualification Tournament will be governed by the same Bylaws, Regulations and Official Playing Rules as the World Championship for which the qualification is played. The system for qualification will be formatted according to the results from previous World Championships and, if a team does not have previous results, according to the date the respective MNA became a Member of the IIHF.

17.2 The number of groups for Qualification will depend upon the number of teams entered. The Groups will operate according to the Division vertical structure. The winning team of the Qualification Tournament will be promoted in the following Competition Season to the lowest Group of the lowest Division in that World Championship Category. The IIHF will control and verify that participating MNAs comply with the minimum participation standards as set out in Bylaw 3.

## Bylaw 18 Olympic Competitions



## 18.1 *Olympic Games*

18.1.1 The IOC invites the IIHF to participate in the Olympic Winter Games (Mens and Womens). The IIHF operates the Olympic ice hockey competitions in accordance with the IIHF Bylaws, Regulations/Codes and Official Playing Rules.

18.1.2 Date: The Olympic Games take place every four years in February, the next occurring in 2022.

18.1.3 Number of Players, Officials: the IIHF will determine the number of players and officials for the Olympic competition which will depend on its agreement with the IOC.

18.1.4 Number of Teams, Playing Format: The IIHF will determine the playing system for the Olympic competition based on participating teams and the agreement with the IOC.

18.1.5 Qualification: The system for qualification will be formatted depending upon the number of entries and geographical considerations.

18.1.6 Eligibility: Player eligibility rules for Olympic competitions are in accordance with Bylaw 4.

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

## 18.2 *Youth Olympic Games*

18.2.1 The Youth Olympic Winter Games (Mens and Womens) take place every four years in the same year as the Summer Olympic Games, the next occurring in 2020. If the IOC invites the IIHF to participate in the Youth Olympic Games. The number of participating teams, players and officials, as well as eligibility criteria and the format for competition and qualification will be determined by the IIHF depending on agreements with and stipulations by the IOC.

## **Chapter 2   SPORT**

### Bylaw 19   International Player Transfers

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

19.2 In exceptional circumstance, the Council may authorize the transfer of a player.

### Bylaw 20   International Games and Competitions

#### 20.1 *International Games*

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

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

20.1.3 Teams of MNAs wishing to host international games involving teams of non-member organization must obtain the approval of (1) the IIHF, (2) the MNA where the games will be played, (3) the MNA where the non-member organization is located, and (4) the MNA(s) participating team(s).

20.1.4 Teams of MNAs wishing to participate in international games hosted by a non-member organization must obtain the approval of their MNA and the IIHF.

20.1.5 All international senior club and national team games must be officiated by IIHF Licensed Officials in accordance with Bylaw 22.

## 20.2 *Cross-Border Leagues*

20.2.1 A MNA member team that wishes to play in a cross-border League and/or a League of a MNA where the club is not located must first obtain the permission of the MNA where the club is located. The MNA where the club is located must consult with the necessary national League before granting permission to the club to play in a cross-border League. If the club obtains the permission of the MNA where the club is located, it must then obtain the permission of the MNA of the country where the club's future League is located. The IIHF Office shall operate oversight authority over the aforementioned approval and consultation process and shall refer all violations to the IIHF Disciplinary Board.

20.2.2 A League that wishes to operate cross-border must first obtain the permission of the MNA where the League is located. If the League obtains the permission of the MNA where the League is located, it must subsequently obtain the permission of each MNA where the clubs that wish to participate in the cross-border League are located.

20.2.3 For purposes of Bylaw 20.2, location means the place where the club or League is conducting its daily operations, specifically including but not limited to, the venue where the club is holding its home games and country where the League is incorporated and operating.

## Bylaw 21 IIHF Official Game Sheets

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

## Bylaw 22 International Referees and Linesmen

### 22.1 International Referees and Linesmen Licenses:

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

- 'A' License: WM, WW, WM20, WM18, WW18 and Olympic Winter Games Final Qualifications, Olympic Winter Games, Euro Hockey Tour, or any other international competition as specified by the IIHF.
- 'B' License: All other IIHF Championships not requiring an A License, competitions as specified by the IIHF, Olympic Winter Games Preliminary Qualifications, and all other international games involving a national team from men, women, men under 20, men under 18 and women under 18.

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

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

#### Bylaw 23 Official Playing Rules

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

#### Bylaw 24 Integrity

##### *24.1 Manipulation of Competitions*

24.1.1 All persons bound by the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Regulations/Codes including players, team officials, on and off ice officials and IIHF representatives must fully comply with all Competition Manipulation rules established in the IIHF Code of Conduct.

24.1.2 All MNAs must immediately report all incidents of Competition Manipulation, as defined in the IIHF Code of Conduct and/or the MNAs relevant law, occurring within their country to the IIHF including subsequently providing the final decision and all information relating to the sanctions imposed at the national level.

24.1.3 Any person who has been sanctioned for a Competition Manipulation violation by a MNA and/or other national authority may have his case reviewed by the IIHF Disciplinary Board if the IIHF deems such necessary. The IIHF Disciplinary Board shall have the right to expand the national sanction internationally and/or adjust the sanction in accordance with the IIHF Code of Conduct.

##### *24.2 Anti-Doping*

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

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

24.2.3 The IIHF (and/or an IIHF designated Anti-Doping Organization) shall have the authority to conduct in-competition testing for: (1) all players who have signed the Player Entry Form to participate in IIHF Competitions and (2) all players under the jurisdiction of a MNA. The IIHF (and/or an IIHF designated Anti-Doping Organization) shall have the authority to conduct out-of-competition testing at any time or place for all players under the jurisdiction of a MNA, including players serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension.

24.2.4 Violations of the IIHF Doping Control Regulations will be sanctioned in accordance with the IIHF Disciplinary Code in strict compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code. Any player suspended due to a doping offence will be subject to doping control prior to being eligible to play again.

### 24.3 *Doping Control Procedures in MNAs*

24.3.1 MNAs and their affiliated Leagues, teams and players are bound by the provisions of the WADC and subject to the IIHF Disciplinary Code related thereto.

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

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

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

## Annex 1

### Agenda Annual Congress:

1. Notice of the Meeting;
2. Appointment of Minutes Keepers and Scrutinizers;
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Last Congress;
4. Elections (2016 and every four years thereafter): a. President, b. Vice-President, c. Council Members, d. Auditors, e. Disciplinary Board and f. Appeal Board;
5. Report of the General Secretary;
6. Modification of the Statutes (2022 and every four years thereafter);
7. Modification of the Bylaws (2022 and every four years thereafter);
8. Report of the IIHF Activities;
9. Ratification of Urgent Decisions by Council;
10. Elections in Case of Vacancies;
11. Admission of MNA and Expulsions and change of membership status;
12. Report of the Hosts of the coming IIHF Championships and Olympic Winter Games;
13. Allocation of IIHF Championships;
14. Participation in Olympic Winter Games;
15. General Proposals (except for modifications to the Statutes and Bylaws);
16. Proposals for changing the Official Playing Rules (2017 and every four years thereafter);
17. Honors and Awards (2016 and every four years thereafter);
18. Proposals for changing the Regulations/Codes;
19. Budget for the Upcoming Year;
20. Motion to Destroy the Ballots;
21. Other Business; and
22. Date and Place of Next Congress.

### Agenda Semi-Annual:

1. Notice of Meeting;
2. Appointment of the Minutes Keepers and Scrutinizers;
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Last Congress;
4. Report of the IIHF Activities;
5. Ratification of Urgent Decisions of the Council;
6. Allocation of IIHF Championships (if necessary);
7. Directorate Chairmen for IIHF Championships allocated by the Council;
8. IIHF Championships: a) Organizer's Report, b) Approval of Game Schedules, and c) Confirmation of Nominated Referees and Linesmen;
9. Yearly Accounts and Auditors' Report;
10. Discharge of the Responsibilities of the President, the Treasurer and the Council;
11. Approval of Appointed External Auditors;
12. Motion to Destroy the Ballots;
13. Other Business; and
14. Date and Place of next Congress