

IFSC STATUTE

Approved on 14 November 2020 by the XVI IFSC General Assembly,
held virtually on 13-14 November 2020



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING



INDEX

1. BASIS.....	2
2. LEGAL FORM OF ASSOCIATION, HEADQUARTERS, AND LANGUAGE	2
3. PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES	3
4. MEMBERS	4
5. BODIES	6
6. FINANCES	13
7. IDENTITY	13
8. DISSOLUTION OF THE IFSC.....	13
<i>IFSC BYE-LAWS.....</i>	14



1. BASIS

Article 1 – Title and Constitution

The International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) is the world governing body for all aspects of Sport Climbing, especially international competition climbing, leisure and recreational climbing, and climbing as a sport for all.

The IFSC is the final authority for all matters concerning competition climbing.

The IFSC is recognised by the IOC, is member of ARISF, GAISF, ASOIF, IPC, FISU, and IWGA.

Article 2 – Purpose

The principal purposes of the IFSC are the direction, regulation, promotion, development and furtherance of the sport of competition climbing on a world-wide basis.

The IFSC fosters links, networks, and friendly relations among its members, their climbers and officials.

2. LEGAL FORM OF ASSOCIATION, HEADQUARTERS, AND LANGUAGE

Article 3 – Legal Form and Headquarters

The IFSC is a non-governmental international association with a non-profit-making purpose of international interest, having legal personality pursuant to Art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code. The IFSC has its seat in Bern, Switzerland. The IFSC is established for an indefinite period.

The headquarters and the secretariat of the IFSC may be located in a country other than Switzerland, upon the decision of the Executive Board.

Article 4 – Language

The official language of the IFSC is English.



3. PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

Article 5 – Principles

The IFSC will carry out its activities in compliance with the principles of:

- a. Equality between all members and all athletes, licence-holders and officials, without racial, political, religious, gender-related, sexual orientation, or other discrimination;
- b. Promotion and support, by all means, of gender equality in its activities;
- c. No political or governmental influence;
- d. Non-interference in the internal affairs of the affiliated members;
- e. Compliance with the Olympic Charter.

Article 5 BIS – Objectives

The objectives of the IFSC are:

- a. To direct, encourage, promote, develop, regulate, and supervise climbing competitions worldwide;
- b. To promote the spirit of the Olympic Movement, respect the Olympic Charter, and to seek programme status in the Olympic Games;
- c. To fight against doping and all other processes and procedures that may undermine sporting equality; to implement Anti-doping Rules in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code;
- d. To promote good sporting practice;
- e. To generally promote this sport as a healthy and educational activity for youth;
- f. To establish and maintain rules and standards for international climbing competitions and ensure their enforcement;
- g. To establish and maintain rules for the participation in international climbing competitions and ensure their enforcement;
- h. To monitor and enforce the application of those rules by the Continental Councils and the Member Federations;
- i. To award licences and contracts to IFSC Members and other organisations that seek authority to organise official international climbing competitions and associated activities;
- j. To establish training opportunities for the development and education of officials;
- k. Protect the integrity of Sport Climbing and World Sport Climbing by developing and enforcing standards of conduct and ethical behaviour and implementing good governance;
- l. To fight against competition manipulation;
- m. To promote gender equality in all aspects of Sport Climbing;
- n. To fight against any form of harassment;
- o. To fight against irregular or illegal betting and gambling;
- p. To promote Paraclimbing;
- q. To advocate for the safety and rights of athletes;
- r. To promote the sustainable development of the sport and to maximise the protection of and minimise the impact on the environment, notably when organising and promoting its activities;
- s. To direct, develop, regulate and control virtual/electronic climbing activities and competitions worldwide.



4. MEMBERS

Article 6 – Membership Categories

Membership in the IFSC is open to organisations being actively involved in Sport Climbing. All categories of Members as defined in this Article 6 are considered Members of the IFSC, and are subject to IFSC Statutes and Bye-laws. Only one Member, may be recognised in one country with the exception of Observer Members.

1. FULL MEMBERS

Full Members of the IFSC are organisations that act as the national representatives of Sport Climbing in their country. Only one organisation from each country can be affiliated as a Full Member of the IFSC.

- a. Full Members have their annual fees fixed by the General Assembly;
- b. Full Members are entitled to vote within the IFSC General Assembly and within their relevant Continental Council;
- c. Full Members are entitled to register athletes to all IFSC competitions;
- d. Full Members may apply to organise any type of IFSC Event.

2. CONTINENTAL MEMBERS

Continental Members are organisations that act as the national representatives of Sport Climbing in their country. Continental Members may be admitted from countries where no Full Member exists.

- a. Continental Members have their annual fees fixed by the General Assembly of their relevant Continental Council. The minimum Annual Fee is fixed by the IFSC General Assembly;
- b. Continental Members are entitled to vote within their relevant Continental Council; they are entitled to participate in the IFSC General Assembly without the right to vote;
- c. Continental Members are entitled to register athletes to events organised under the jurisdiction of their relevant Continental Council. They may also register athletes to IFSC Climbing and Paraclimbing World Championships, and IFSC Youth World Championships;
- d. Continental Members may apply to organise Continental events only;

3. DEVELOPING CONTINENTAL MEMBERS

Developing Continental Members are under the guidance, patronage and representation of a member federation. Their Athletes can participate in climbing competitions organised by the IFSC.

4. OBSERVER MEMBERS

The IFSC may admit as Observer Members organisations affiliated with Sport Climbing, or organisations in countries where an IFSC Full Member already exists (6.1).

- a. Observer Members have their annual fees fixed by the General Assembly;
- b. Observer Members are not entitled to vote. They are entitled to participate in the IFSC General Assembly and their relevant Continental Council;
- c. Observer Members are not entitled to register athletes to any IFSC competition;
- d. Observer Members may apply to organise IFSC events, provided they have the support of their parent IFSC Full Member;
- e. Observer Members are entitled to propose members for all IFSC Commissions, provided they have the support of their parent IFSC Full Member.



PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

Article 7 – Application for Membership

Organisations wishing to apply for membership shall send to the IFSC Office all required information in the official language and in the format required by the Executive Board.

Article 7 BIS – Admission

Members shall be admitted provisionally by the Executive Board at any time of the year in between General Assemblies; such admission requires the final ratification of the General Assembly upon its next meeting.

All membership rights and responsibilities take effect at the moment of the provisional admission by the Executive Board.

Article 8 – Rights and Obligations

Except for Observer Members, all categories of Members as defined in Article 6 should be member of their National Olympic Committee or actively seeking such membership.

All categories of Members as defined in Article 6 shall comply with the Statutes and Regulations of the IFSC and with any resolution adopted by the IFSC. They will undertake to request the same of their individual members participating in activities of the IFSC.

All categories of Members as defined in Article 6 agree to respect each other's mutual autonomy and shall in no way harm the development of other Members.

All categories of Members as defined in Article 6 shall pay membership fees as fixed by the General Assembly.

RESIGNATION, SUSPENSION, EXCLUSION

Article 9 – Resignation

Any member wishing to terminate membership at the end of the year shall inform the IFSC Office in writing before the end of June of that year. Fees for the current year remain payable in full.

Article 10 – Suspension

A Member may be suspended from membership by the Executive Board for the following reasons:

- a. Non-payment of any liabilities to the IFSC;
- b. Failure to comply with these Statutes or other Regulations of the IFSC.

A suspended Member faces the temporary forfeiture of the rights granted by its relevant membership category.

Article 11 – Exclusion

A member may be excluded from the IFSC by the General Assembly for failure to comply with these Statutes or other regulations of the IFSC. Members facing exclusion shall be given the opportunity to be heard before-hand.

The decision of exclusion of a Member requires at least half of the members of IFSC having the right to vote be present or represented. To be adopted, such items must receive the approval of two thirds of the votes of the Members present or represented.

Article 11 BIS – No Claim for Reimbursement or Damages

Under no circumstance will a member be entitled to reimbursement of its membership contribution. The Member shall claim no damages for decisions taken by the IFSC bodies concerning them, except in case of abuse of law or serious offence.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS

Article 12 – Honorary Title

The General Assembly may confer the title of Honorary President of the IFSC, as well as conferring the title of Honorary Member to individuals. Other awards may be conferred by the Executive Board.

5. BODIES

Article 13 – IFSC Bodies

The IFSC functions through the following bodies, each with separately defined powers and duties:

- General Assembly
- Executive Board
- Continental Councils
- Statutory Commissions
 - Disciplinary
 - Appeals
 - Ethics
- Athletes' Commission
- Paraclimbing Committee
- Medical and Anti-Doping Commission
- Sport and Technical Commissions
- Media Commission
- Marketing Commission
- Finance Commission

The President, in accordance with the Executive Board, may create commissions and working groups whenever it appears necessary, for the purpose of advising the IFSC.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 14 – General Assembly

The General Assembly is the highest body of the IFSC and has ultimate authority for all activities of the IFSC. It convenes every year. Organisation of the General Assembly shall be entrusted alternately to one of its members. The date and venue for the assembly shall be agreed at the General Assembly meeting two years prior.

The calling notice must be sent to all members at least 90 days prior to the date set for the Assembly, or 120 days in case elections are scheduled at the General Assembly. Candidate nominations shall be submitted to the Administration not later than 90 days prior to the General Assembly elections.

Article 15 – Powers of the General Assembly

- a. To elect the President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary General
- b. To appoint members to the, Ethics and Disciplinary and Appeals Commissions, and to appoint the Auditor;
- c. To fix admission, membership and other fees;
- d. To approve plans for future activities;
- e. To adopt and amend these Statutes, such decisions needing a quorum and majority as described in Art. 18;
- f. To adopt and amend all regulations; the General Assembly can, however, authorise other bodies to independently establish technical rules where this seems appropriate;
- g. To decide exclusion of members which do not comply with the obligations as stated in these Statutes;
- h. To approve the Minutes of General Assembly meetings;
- i. To receive, discuss and approve the report of the Executive Board;
- j. To review and approve the annual accounts after having heard the report of the auditor and to give discharge to the Treasurer and to the other members of the Executive Board;
- k. To approve the provisional budget;
- l. To approve the IFSC logo, and other items of image and identity, upon the recommendation of the Executive Board;
- m. To decide all matters which no other body has been delegated the power to decide or which other bodies refer to the General Assembly for final decision.



VOTING RIGHTS AND TAKING OF DECISIONS

Article 16 – Voting Rights

Each Full Member of the IFSC as defined in Article 6.1 has one vote. The other categories of members as defined in Article 6 have no voting rights.

Article 17 – Members' Representatives

At any General Assembly, each Member shall be represented by one delegate who may be assisted by one or two advisors. Any Full Member in good standing may be represented by the delegate of another Full Member in good standing by means of a written proxy. One delegate may not represent more than two other Full Members at the same time.

Article 18 - Quorum

The General Assembly shall pass its resolutions and carry out its elections with an absolute majority of the votes of the Members present or represented, unless mandatory law or the Statutes provides otherwise.

Resolutions of the General Assembly concerning changes and amendments of the Statutes shall require the approval of at least two thirds of the votes of the Members present or represented.

Bye-laws to the Statutes, which shall be identified in the Statutes as "Bye-Laws to the IFSC Statutes", may be added or amended by an absolute majority of the Members present or represented.

Article 19 – Taking of Decisions

Voting at the General Assembly is conducted by electronic vote or show of hands. Upon the request of one fifth (1/5) of the Full Members present, any vote must be taken by anonymous electronic vote or secret written ballot.

Elections shall always be decided by anonymous electronic vote or secret written ballot.

The election process is described in the relevant document approved by the General Assembly. The Executive Board will establish a Nomination Committee to review the nominations in preparation of the elections. The composition of the Nomination Committee is described in the relevant document approved by the General Assembly.

AGENDA

Article 20 – Agenda

Items for inclusion in the Agenda of any General Assembly may be presented by:

- a. The Executive Board
- b. IFSC Full Members

The provisional Agenda with short explanation of the topics shall be distributed 60 days before the date of the General Assembly. Proposals of amendments to the Statute, with relevant explanation, shall be presented to the Members with the Provisional Agenda (60 days prior to the General Assembly).

Items presented by IFSC Members are to be sent to the IFSC Executive Board at least 45 days before the General Assembly. The full Agenda with all documents has to be sent to all members at least 28 days before the General Assembly.

Continental Members, Developing Continental Members and Observer Members are entitled to speak, but not to present motions to the General Assembly, in accordance with the relevant regulations.



Article 21 – Amendments to the Agenda

Upon affirmative vote of no less than two thirds (2/3) of the present Full Members in good standing, the General Assembly itself may add items to the Agenda of any meeting.

Items relevant to:

- Finances
- Statutes

Shall be excluded from being added to the agenda.

Article 22 – Extraordinary General Assembly

The Executive Board may at any time call an extraordinary General Assembly.

At the written request of the majority of the Members entitled to vote, the Executive Board shall convene an extraordinary General Assembly within 3 months of receipt of such request. The request must be substantiated and accompanied by a proposal for the Agenda.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Article 23 – Executive Board

The Executive Board of IFSC consists of the following officers:

- President
- 2 Vice Presidents
- Treasurer
- General Secretary

as well as of:

- 1 (one) representative elected by each of the five Continental Councils;
- 1 (one) female representative elected by the Athletes' Commission;
- 1 (one) male representative elected by the Athletes' Commission.

All elected members of the Executive Board will sign and be subject to the IFSC Charter and IFSC Code of Conduct. Therefore, all Executive Board members must have a fiduciary responsibility to the IFSC and breach of that fiduciary responsibility could result in disciplinary actions.

Article 24 – Requirements for Candidacy

Candidates standing for election to any post in the Executive Board (with the exception of the representatives of the Athletes and representatives of the Continental Councils) shall be presented by the Member Federation of the country where he/she holds citizenship.

The Nomination Committee is responsible for the nominating process related to the candidates for the Executive Board.

The members of the Executive Board (with the exception of the representatives of the Athletes and representatives of the Continental Councils) are elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years.

Executive Board members are eligible for a maximum of three terms.

Provision to Article 24, to be deleted after GA 2021:

In 2021 elections, Board members who have already served for three terms or are in their third term can only be eligible for one more term.



Article 25 – Role of the Executive Board

The Executive Board is responsible for implementing all the policy directives and decisions made by the General Assembly. This includes in particular:

- a. To prepare the agenda of the General Assembly meetings;
- b. To prepare the annual accounts (consisting of the profit and loss statement and the balance sheet);
- c. To make recommendations to the General Assembly about:
 - c.1. The long-term strategies of the IFSC;
 - c.2. Regulations and rules to be decided by the General Assembly;
 - c.3. The candidates to be appointed by the General Assembly as members of, Ethics, Disciplinary and Appeals Commissions, and Paraclimbing Committee;
 - c.4. The admission and exclusion of Member Federations;
- d. To appoint the Chairperson and members of the
 - d.1. Medical and Anti-Doping Commission;
 - d.2. Sport and Technical Commissions
 - d.3. Media Commission
 - d.4. Marketing Commission
 - d.5. Finance Commission
- e. To set up the calendar of IFSC approved competitions and to coordinate schedules of International and Continental competitions;
- f. To decide the terms and conditions of contracts between the IFSC and organisers of IFSC approved competitions;
- g. To recommend changes to the IFSC Statutes;
- h. To make recommendations on the terms and conditions of contracts to be concluded with third parties outside IFSC;
- i. To decide on all membership issues between General Assembly meetings, provided admissions and exclusions need ratification at the next General Assembly
- j. To manage the financial operations of the IFSC;
- k. To appoint an IFSC delegate for IFSC events as necessary;
- l. To initiate and undertake negotiations with third parties.

All statements and contracts which bind the IFSC must be signed by the President and the General Secretary, or one Vice-President. In case of absence, the President may be replaced by one Vice-President.

The Executive Board hires the General Director. The General Director is responsible for the management of the staff and the operations of the IFSC Office.

Article 26 – Executive Board Meetings

The Executive Board meets as often as necessary, but not less than once every year. Board meetings may be held by attendance in person or via tele/videoconference. The Board meetings are convened by the President or at the request of the majority of its members.

Article 27 – Executive Board Agenda

The Agenda for the Executive Board meetings is prepared by the General Director. Any member of the Executive Board is entitled to present proposals for the agenda. Such proposals must be submitted, with relevant documentation, at least 10 days before the date set for any Executive Board meeting. The full agenda shall be sent by the IFSC Office to the Executive Board members at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Article 28 – Taking of Decisions of the Executive Board

Every member of the Executive Board has one vote. All decisions of the Executive Board are taken by majority of the members present, and no voting rights may be exercised by proxy. The quorum of the Executive Board consists of a majority of its members. In case of tie, the President's vote is the casting vote.



THE PRESIDENT

Article 29 – Role of the President

The President chairs all meetings of the General Assembly and of the Executive Board. The President represents the sport in all important matters, especially those pertaining to the IOC and other International organisations.

The President may, from time to time, delegate various aspects of IFSC management to other members of the Executive Board.

The President, or a Board member designated by the President, is entitled to attend and participate in all Commission meetings, but without vote.

Article 30 – Absence or Vacancy

If the President is prevented from attending a meeting of the Executive Board or a General Assembly, the Executive Board will appoint one of the Vice Presidents to chair those meetings.

In case of death or disability of the President, the Vice-President appointed by the Executive Board shall assume the President's duties until the next General Assembly. Should the Vice-President in turn be unable to fulfil his/her obligations, the Treasurer/Vice President and/or the member of the Executive Board who has served on the Executive Board the longest shall assume his/her duties and convene an Extraordinary General Assembly in order to elect appropriate replacements.

CONTINENTAL COUNCILS

Article 31 – Continental Councils

Continental Councils are responsible for the administration, development and furtherance of competition climbing in a specific continent or geographic area. The Continental Councils shall comply with and enforce the rules and regulations of the IFSC and cooperate with IFSC bodies. They organise Continental Championships and other competitions in their area.

The Continental Councils are:

- Africa
- Asia
- Europe
- Pan America
- Oceania

The Statutes and Regulations of the Continental Councils must be submitted to the Executive Board for approval and will not come into effect until they have received such approval.

Continental Councils must create an Athletes' Commission to provide permanent liaison between active Athletes and the Continental Council. One representative appointed by the Athletes' Commission must be a member of the Continental Council Executive Board.



COMMISSIONS

Article 32 – Statutory Commissions

a. Disciplinary Commission

The Disciplinary Commission investigates and takes appropriate action following any complaint concerning breach of rules (including the IFSC Anti-Doping Rules) or misconduct reported to the IFSC.

Composition and functioning of the Disciplinary Commission are described in the relevant regulations approved by the General Assembly.

b. Appeals Commission

The Appeals Commission reviews and decides on appeals related to decisions taken by the Disciplinary Commission, except in doping cases, where the appeal shall be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Composition and functioning of the Appeals Commission are described in the relevant regulations approved by the General Assembly.

Decisions of the Disciplinary Commission in doping cases and decisions of the Appeal Commission may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland. The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport takes place according to its regulations. The decision of the International Court of Arbitration for Sport will be final without the right to further appeal.

c. Ethics Commission

The Ethics Commission intends to protect and encourage ethical values in all IFSC. The Ethics Commission addresses issues referred to it by the IFSC President. It can also propose issues for consideration to the IFSC President or the IFSC Executive Board following information received directly or indirectly. The Ethics Commission will consider cases resulting from a breach of the IFSC Code of Conduct or Charter and elected members of the IFSC. They can recommend action to the IFSC President, who may address the Disciplinary Commission.

The Ethics Commission Rules and composition are defined in the relevant document approved by the IFSC Executive Board, while members are appointed by the IFSC General Assembly.

Article 33 – Athletes' Commission

The Athletes' Commission provides a permanent liaison between active athletes and the IFSC. One female and one male representatives, not from the same country, are elected by the Athletes' Commission as members of the Executive Board.

Composition and functioning of the Athletes' Commission are described in the relevant regulations approved by the General Assembly.

Article 34 – Paraclimbing Committee

The Paraclimbing Committee represents the Paraclimbing Community and promotes the growth of the sport of Paraclimbing at all levels. Composition and functioning of the Paraclimbing Committee are described in the relevant regulations as approved by the General Assembly.

Article 35 – Medical and Anti-Doping Commission

The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission protects and maintains the standards of athletes' health and of Sport Climbing as a safe sport. It addresses issues impacting the health of athletes and defines the medical regulations for the safe running of IFSC competitions. The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission ensures that the IFSC complies with the WADA Anti-Doping Code, and implements programmes for the promotion of clean sport.

Medical and Anti-Doping Commission Rules and composition are defined in the relevant document approved by the IFSC Executive Board.



Article 36 – Sport and Technical Commissions

Sport Commissions:

- Events
- Development
- Coaches

Technical Commissions

- Rules
- Judges
- Routesetters
- Sport Equipment

The Sport and Technical Commissions are formed by the Executive Board. Each Sport Commission shall have one Athletes' Representative appointed by the Athletes' Commission. The Chairperson of each Sport Commission is appointed by the Executive Board. Mandate and regulations of the Sport and Technical Commissions are defined in the relevant document approved by the Executive Board.

Article 37 – Media, Marketing, and Finance Commissions

The Media, Marketing, and Finance Commissions are formed by the Executive Board. Mandate and regulations of the Media, Marketing, and Finance Commissions are defined in the relevant documents approved by the Executive Board.

Article 38 – Dispute Resolution

Disputes arising under the IFSC Statutes or otherwise, will be dealt with under the procedure and rules set out in the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules. The final determination of a dispute can be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland. The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport takes place according to its regulations. The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport will be final without the right to further appeal.



6. FINANCES

Article 39 – Sources of Financing

The IFSC will finance its own activities through sources such as:

- a. Membership and subscription fees of its Members;
- b. The organisation and authorisation of Competitions, competitor entry fees, and any other fees relating to official competitions;
- c. Any other sources that may be available (sponsorships, TV rights, donations, etc.).

Article 40 – Fees and Expenses

The individuals who serve on the IFSC bodies are volunteers. However, considering the work carried out, some of them are entitled to receive financial compensation as presented in the related policy approved by the Executive Board. The expenses of the Executive Board and the Commissions are borne by the IFSC according to regulations of the Executive Board.

Article 41 – Financial Year

The financial year of the IFSC shall run from the 1st January to the 31st December annually.

Article 42 – Budget and Accounts

The General Assembly shall receive the provisional budget and annual financial report of the previous year audited by the Auditor appointed by the General Assembly and meeting international recognised standards.

Article 43 – Liabilities

Only the assets of the IFSC can be used to settle IFSC liabilities and obligations. Any liability of Member Federations is excluded.

Article 44 – Currency

The basic currency for annual accounting purposes will be the Euro.

7. IDENTITY

Article 45 – Identity

The symbols, logos and their production, as well as the name “International Federation of Sport Climbing” and the abbreviation “IFSC” are the exclusive property of the International Federation of Sport Climbing and may not be used without its consent.

8. DISSOLUTION OF THE IFSC

Article 46 – Dissolution

A three-quarter majority of the IFSC members may propose the dissolution of the IFSC. The dissolution becomes effective on approval of the proposal by a three-quarter majority at the General Assembly, providing that at least two third of the members entitled to vote are present or represented at the General Assembly.

The disposal of the assets of the IFSC shall be decided by the General Assembly dissolving the IFSC and shall be in keeping with the aims of the IFSC and transferred to a tax exempt Swiss legal entity.



THE 2020 STATUTE REVIEW DID NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE IFSC BYE-LAWS.

PLEASE NOTE THAT:

- **THE PRESENT BYE-LAWS ARE CURRENTLY NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE APPROVED IFSC STATUTE;**
- **THE AMENDMENTS TO THE BYE-LAWS REFLECTING THE STATUTE CHANGES APPROVED ON 14 NOVEMBER 2020 WILL BE PRESENTED FOR RATIFICATION AT THE XVII IFSC GENERAL ASSEMBLY, APRIL 2021;**
- **A FULL REVIEW OF THE STATUTE IS PLANNED FOR 2021-2022;**
- **THE FULL REVIEW OF THE IFSC STATUTE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE XVIII IFSC GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 2022.**

IFSC BYE-LAWS

Bye-law to Article 2

Purposes

The IFSC also looks after all other matters concerning the sport of climbing as they arise and affect competition climbing.

Bye-law to Article 5

Competitions Events

The IFSC organizes the World Championship, the Youth World Championship, the World Cup, the International events, senior and youth, and the Continental Championships where a Continental Council is not in existence. The IFSC is also responsible for the technical organisation when competition climbing is participating in multi-sport events.

Calendar

The coordination of dates is mandatory and shall be achieved through recommendations of the Executive Board, in consultation with the Event Commission, for the vote of the Plenary Assembly.

Bye-law to Article 5

Gender Equality

The IFSC is committed to gender equality at all levels within its competitions and management, allowing women to have the same opportunities as men.

IFSC-approved competitions shall guarantee a balanced participation for Men and Women in all disciplines, including equality in prizes and prize money.

Bye-law to Article 5 I)

Environment

The IFSC is working for “no-impact” competitions and events.

IFSC-approved competitions, in particular International Championships or Cup series, shall take place on artificial climbing walls and not on natural rock. If approved Promotional or International events are held on natural rock, then IFSC requires that the organizer takes all reasonable precautions to avoid any impact on the environment.



Bye-law to Article 6

Membership Procedure and Criteria

Eligibility

Membership of IFSC is open to national climbing organisations, uniquely representing climbing and climbing competitions in that country. In addition, the organisation must:

1. be organized with statutes and other regulations in compliance with the IFSC statutes, rules and regulations;
2. be open to participation without regard to race, colour, religion, national origin, gender;
3. be controlled by its members according to democratic principles.

The IFSC recognizes as Observer Member, due to historical reasons, the following federation:
ÖAV, Österreichischer Alpenverein; Austria.

The following Federations are also recognized as IFSC Observer Member:

Comité Régional de la Montagne et de l'Escalade de la Nouvelle Calédonie; France.
FEEC, Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes de Catalunya; Spain.

In countries where a National Federation is under Constitution, and with the approval of the National Olympic Committee and/or the National Sport Authority, the Executive Board might consider those countries as Developing Continental Member, allowing their competitors to participate in competitions organized by the IFSC. Developing Continental Members are under the guidance, the patronage and the representation of a Member Federation, with regards to the Athletes International License and registration to events.

The relevant National Federation is also responsible for the creation and development of the Federation in the country, within a timeframe set by the IFSC Executive Board.

The status of Developing Continental Membership is intended to be for a limited time period.

Application process

Membership applications should be made through the Secretary-General or through the IFSC office. Applications should include the following:

Compulsory

- Information about the applicant - name, address, email, website, key contacts;
- Copy of the body's constitution or by-laws;
- Statement of number of active members;
- Latest annual financial accounts and bank statement;
- Latest annual report of activities of the organisation;
- Brief history of the organisation;
- Statement of the legal status of the organisation (e.g. incorporation, non-profit etc);
- A formal undertaking to observe and abide by the statutes, rules and regulations of the IFSC.

Preferred

- Organisation website;
- Evidence (e.g. websites, photographs, media clippings, video) of national championships or other major competitive events held;
- Evidence of participation of teams in international competition;
- Evidence of regional reach within the country;
- Newsletter (paper or electronic) or other communications to the membership;
- Plans for development of competition climbing sports and the organisation;
- Reference from at least 1 existing member of IFSC;
- Reference from a government agency.

Approval process

Membership applications will be preliminarily approved by the IFSC Executive Board, or the applicant will be informed of what they need to do to gain the Executive Board's approval. Formal approval is given by the IFSC Plenary Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive Board.



Bye-law to Article 10

Illegal and irregular betting

- a) This bylaw explains Article 10 of the IFSC statutes, which prohibits illegal and irregular betting and gambling;
- b) Betting or gambling in respect of any IFSC competition and any involvement in such betting or gambling is irregular and is prohibited. Involvement includes helping others bet or gamble, such as by passing on information;
- c) This rule applies to anyone involved with an IFSC competition or the IFSC, including athletes, team members, coaches, representatives of national federations, organizers and IFSC officials. For the avoidance of doubt, this rule does not prohibit betting or gambling by spectators (provide they are not involved with the IFSC or the IFSC competition in any other way);
- d) Any breach of this rule is a disciplinary offence.

Bye-law to Article 13

IFSC Honorary presidency and other awards

Foreword

To honour the extraordinary work and support for the IFSC and its development, an individual may be awarded by a special recognition.

§ 1 Awards

The following awards can recognize extraordinary work and support:

- IFSC Honorary presidency (§ 2)
- IFSC Honorary membership (§ 3)

§ 2 Honorary presidency

1. The IFSC Honorary presidency can be awarded to persons who were president of the IFSC and who earned great merits in their work and engagement in the IFSC;
2. The IFSC Honorary President is not to be considered an IFSC Executive Board Member;
3. Upon the request of the IFSC President, he/she may participate in the works of the IFSC bodies without any voting power and occasionally represent the IFSC;
4. The IFSC Honorary President is allowed to participate in the IFSC Plenary Assembly. Travel expenses and accommodation (hotel and meals) are to be borne by the IFSC;
5. The decision about Honorary presidency belongs to the Plenary Assembly.

§ 3 Honorary membership

1. The Honorary membership can be awarded to persons who did great work in the IFSC bodies or earned great merits through their general engagement for IFSC development;
2. The Honorary membership is not connected with the membership in an IFSC Member Federation. Honorary Members are allowed to take part in the IFSC PAs. The accommodation (hotel and meals) costs may be borne by the IFSC upon the decision of the IFSC Plenary Assembly;
3. The decision about Honorary membership belongs to the IFSC PA;
4. An honorary Member is not entitled to stand for election in any IFSC body;
5. An Honorary Member cannot act on behalf the IFSC or represent the IFSC, unless he receives an official mandate from the IFSC President or from the IFSC Board;
6. An honorary member won't act in opposition or damage for the IFSC, in particular against the members of the Executive Board;
7. If the Honorary Member's behaviour is detrimental for the IFSC, the case will be reported to the Disciplinary Commission of the IFSC, which might propose the dismissal of the Honorary membership;
8. An Honorary Member cannot communicate for the IFSC or use the IFSC logo without an official authorization of the IFSC President or the IFSC Board.

§ 4 Service award

The Service award can be awarded to an individual or an organization that are not members of the IFSC but have contributed to IFSC success and growth. Their contribution could be in the way of a donation of time or money or in some other way contribute to the success of our organization.

§ 5 Procedure

1. *Nomination for the Candidature for a new Honorary Member can be made by any full member of the IFSC and supported by two other full members;*
2. *Each nomination must be submitted with a comprehensive description of merits and works as well as an explanation as to why the candidate deserves honorary membership. It will be the responsibility of the member(s) submitting the nomination to provide all pertinent data in support of the nomination;*
3. *The IFSC President will form as Chairman, a temporary Honors Committee to evaluate the nomination(s) consisting of: two IFSC Board members and two Honorary members;*
4. *The Honors Committee will evaluate the nomination and make a proposal for the IFSC Plenary Assembly. The Honors committee may by majority vote:*
 1. *Decide not to recommend the award, in which case no further action is taken, or*
 2. *Seek additional information from the nominator, in which case the nomination is held over for further consideration or,*
 3. *recommend the award.*
5. *The application is subject to the approval of the Federation from which the candidate belongs to;*
6. *Until this point, the nominations are strictly confidential. Only the names of those who are recommended will be disclosed;*
7. *The recommendation must be presented at least 4 weeks before the PA and available on the website;*
8. *The application must be in written form and sent at least 3 months before the PA by email to the office and the IFSC President;*
9. *An affirmative vote of simple majority of the Plenary Assembly shall be required for Honorary Membership. Voting can be done also by email or Skype;*
10. *The awards are presented by the IFSC President or an Executive Board member. The awarding of Honorary presidency or membership is done in occasion of the IFSC PA.*

§ 6 Withdrawal of awards

1. *Honorary awards may be withdrawn if:*
 - a. *the awarded person behaviour is detrimental for the IFSC;*
 - b. *the awarded person is legally excluded from his/her National Federation, member of the IFSC.*
2. *The withdrawal is in the power of the IFSC Plenary Assembly, upon the proposal of the IFSC Disciplinary Commission;*
3. *The withdrawal has to be announced to the awarded person and the applicant of the awarding.*

Bye-law to Article 20

The role of the Committee which oversees elections includes:

- *Supervising the administrative process relating to the election of officials;*
- *Monitoring compliance with the relevant regulations;*
- *Ensuring the correct application of the regulations;*
- *Issuing instructions and admitting candidates.*

Bye-law to Article 26**Executive Board members**

IFSC Executive Board members are elected in a personal capacity, and not as representative of any member association and are to act independently from these.

Candidates to the Executive Board are required to declare any potential conflict of interest, in accordance with the IOC Code of Ethics.

The President may not hold any office or position with a Member of the IFSC or with any sponsor of the IFSC.

No member of the Board shall also act as a representative of a member association at the Plenary Assembly or at any other IFSC event.



Bye-law to Article 32

Continental Councils

Statutes and Regulations

The Executive Board approval process will be limited to verify the compliance of the Continental Council Statutes and Regulations with the IFSC Statutes, Bye-laws and Regulations.

Finances

Continental Councils activities are financed by Continental competition fees and a possible annual financial support, included in the annual budget of the IFSC, approved by the Plenary Assembly. To be considered for inclusion in the budget, detailed development and activity plans shall be presented to the Executive Board two months prior to the Plenary Assembly.

Bye-law to Article 33

Sport Department

The Sport Department is coordinated by the Vice-President Sport / Events and its purpose is to advise the Executive Board on sport matters.

The Sport Department meets once a year, with at least all the Directors of the Technical Commissions, and an Athletes' Commission representative.

Bye-law to Article 34

Commissions and Working Groups

For Commissions and Working Groups, the President appoints their Members, sets the terms of reference and decides their dissolution once he considers that they have fulfilled their mandates, except where otherwise specified in the IFSC Statutes or in the Executive Board regulations.

Bye-law to Article 38

Source of financing and rights ownership

The IFSC is the sole owner of internet, television and radio rights and of all other commercial rights relating to all events under the jurisdiction of the IFSC. It may raise, within the framework of its non-profit purpose, other funds by assigning or licensing all or part of such rights as well as by concluding any agreements relating to such rights, especially sponsorship or other similar agreements.

Bye-law to Article 40

Executive Board members' compensations are described in the relevant Indemnity Policy, subject to approval by the Plenary Assembly. Each Continental Council is responsible for the Indemnity Policy implementation for their relevant officers.