

ICF STATUTES

Proposed changes



Part 1 - Initial review

Article n°7.1

Reduce the number of ICF official languages

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
The official languages of the ICF are English, French, German, Spanish and Russian . In case of discrepancy, the English text shall prevail.	<p>SVK</p> <p>The official languages of the ICF are English, French and German.</p> <p>FIN/DEN/SWE/NOR</p> <p>The official languages of the ICF are English, French and Spanish. In case of discrepancy, the English text shall prevail.</p>

ICF BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Cost saving for ICF congress organiser

Article n°11.3 and 11.4

Membership fee definition time

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>11.3 - The Congress shall fix the annual Membership Fee for each category payable to the ICF every 4 years in the year of the Olympic Games.</p> <p>11.4 - The ICF Board of Directors shall establish the list of National Federations in each category every 4 years in the year of the Olympic Games.</p>	<p>11.3 - The Congress shall fix the annual Membership Fee for each category payable to the ICF every 4 years during the Congress of the third year of the Olympiad.</p> <p>11.4 - The ICF Board of Directors shall establish the list of National Federations in each category every 4 years during the Congress of the third year of the Olympiad.</p>

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- To ensure this is removed from a Congress where there are elections, to ensure it is not politically motivated.

Article n°15.4 and 19

Dedicated chair of the congress

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>The Congress shall be chaired by the ICF President or, in the absence of the ICF President, one of the ICF Vice-Presidents.</p>	<p>15.4 - At the opening of each Congress a chairperson is elected to lead the Congress.</p> <p>The Chairperson is in charge of voting procedures and protocol. The chairperson can suggest rewording of suggestions to the Congress, decide in which order proposal should be handled, ensure the speaking order is upheld.</p> <p>The Chairperson is elected by simple majority by show of hand (or similar). The Chairperson cannot hold a majority against him. A member of the Congress can request a vote of confidence to determine if the chairperson should be replaced following the same procedure.</p> <p>19 – add a point The election of the Chairperson for the Congress</p>

ICF BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Serving simultaneously as President, with the duty of addressing suggestions from the board and inputs from the National Federation, is a significant challenge.
- Appointing a Chairperson could streamline this responsibility, ensuring a more organized, efficient, and potentially more democratic Congress.

Article n°16.1

Ease the access to the congress and proxy vote (1)

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>Each National Federation has the right to appoint up to three (3) delegates from its National Federation to the Congress one of whom has the right to vote. If there are three (3) delegates, at least one (1) should be from the other gender. Delegates must be official members of that particular National Federation (Eg. Staff, Board Member, official).</p>	<p>Each National Federation has the right to appoint up to three (3) delegates from its National Federation to the Congress one of whom has the right to vote. If there are three (3) delegates, at least one (1) should be from the other gender. Delegates must be official members of that particular National Federation (Eg. Staff, Board Member, official). ICF will cover the travel and accommodation expenses for two subsequent Congresses of one delegate from the National Federation which has never participated at the Congress.</p>

ICF BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Co-creation and engagement, is a crucial component of democracy.
- Proxy participation deprives the represented federation of the valuable insights and understanding that arise from direct involvement in Congress debates. Consequently, we propose the elimination of proxy voting and recommend that the ICF takes measures to facilitate direct federation participation in the Congress.

Article n°16.2

Ease the access to the congress and proxy vote (2)

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
A National Federation may be represented at the Congress by another Member association.	Deleted

ICF BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Co-creation and engagement, is a crucial component of democracy.
- Proxy participation deprives the represented federation of the valuable insights and understanding that arise from direct involvement in Congress debates. Consequently, we propose the elimination of proxy voting and recommend that the ICF takes measures to facilitate direct federation participation in the Congress.

Article n°21

Appendices of Competition Rules, amendment process

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
New sub-article (21.5)	The Standing Committees (upon approval of the ICF Board of Directors) may amend the appendices of the Competition Rules every year between October 1 st and December 15 th but not before the discipline's last major event of the season. The changes of the appendices go into effect the following January 1 st .

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Reference correction

Article n°22

Quorum definition at the congress

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
The Congress has the power to act if at least one half of the recognised National Federations entitled to vote are represented.	The Congress has the power to act if at least 30% of the recognised National Federations entitled to vote and at least two continents are represented at the congress .

ICF BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Given the expanding membership base, the current quorum requirement is excessively high.
- A lower percentage, when integrated with a continental requirement, will ensure a more attainable quorum level.

Article n°38 and 29

Finance commission definition

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
38 - The ICF Treasurer chairs the Finance Commission and presents the Commission's views to...	38 - The ICF Treasurer is member of the Finance Commission and presents the Commission's views to...
29 t) - NEW	29 t) - Select the Chair and members of the Finance Commission

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Reference correction

Article n°32.1

ICF Medical and antidoping Advisory committee specification

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>..... The ICF Standing Committees (except the Athletes' Committee) are composed of up to four (4) Members, of which at least one (1) member should be of the other gender</p>	<p><u>Amend the sub article 1. as follow</u></p> <p>..... The ICF Standing Committees (except the Athletes' Committee and the Medical and antidoping committee) are composed of up to four (4) Members, of which at least one (1) member should be of the other gender</p> <p><u>add a new sub article 2. as follow</u></p> <p>The ICF Medical and anti-doping Committee shall be composed of five (5) members of which at least two (2) are doctors and at least two (2) are experts in any of the Allied Professions such as Sports Physiology, Sports Science, Sports Physiotherapy and Sports Psychology. At least one (1) member should be of the other gender. The members are nominated by the National Federations prior to the deadline as set by the ICF Executive Committee and appointed by the ICF Board of Directors for a period of four (4) years, which may be renewed.</p>

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- Difficulty to find enough doctors to contribute.
- Discussed topics are not just the territory of doctors, wider range of skills on the committee is required, particularly those with Sports Science or Sports Physiology backgrounds, Physiotherapists and Sports Psychologists.

Do you agree with the ICF Board of Directors position for the changes of the ICF Statutes?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Abstain**



Part 2 – Changes linked to new seat in Hungary

MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THE SEAT TRANSFER
EFFECTIVE ONLY FROM THE REGISTRATION

Article n°4 Headquarters

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>Article 4 - HEADQUARTERS The ICF Headquarters shall be in the country decided by the ICF Board of Directors.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 4 – HEADQUARTERS AND GOVERNING LAW The ICF Headquarters shall be in the country decided by the ICF Board of Directors and ratified by the Congress.</p> <p>The ICF headquarters is in Budapest, Hungary and the ICF is governed by Hungarian law. The exact location of the headquarters within Budapest shall be determined by the Board of Directors in a Board meeting resolution.</p>

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

- See next page

Article n°4 Headquarters

CONTEXT

MODIFICATION REQUIRED

Under Section 30/E (1) and (3) of the Sport Act, in relation to the Statutes need to meet the following requirements:

-
- **a Hungarian seat needs to be indicated and**
- **Hungarian law needs to be indicated as governing law.**

Article n°19

Special Congress (1)

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
NEW	<p>1. A Special Congress may adopt written resolutions for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the approval of the annual financial report,b) the entry into force of a previous Congress decision. <p>2. The delegates to the Special Congress are entitled to pass written decisions via mail or electronic means, i.e. without a formal meeting of the Congress. Decisions made via written decision-making procedure (postal or electronic) have the same value as those made during a meeting of the ICF Congress.</p>

TO BE REVIEWED AT THE BOARD MEETING ON 6 NOVEMBER 2024

CONTEXT

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Article n°19

Special Congress (2)

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
NEW	3. The agenda and the motions for the Special Congress shall be sent out by the ICF Secretary General via e-mail, which must contain information regarding the fact that voting will take place via electronical means, and the consequences of failure to send the vote within the deadline. The members of the Special Congress have 15 days to send their written votes to ICF via e-mail. If a member of the Special Congress does not send its written note within the deadline, the proposal shall automatically be considered as accepted by the member.

TO BE REVIEWED AT THE BOARD MEETING ON 6 NOVEMBER 2024

CONTEXT

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Article n°19

Special Congress (3)

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
NEW	<p>4. The ICF is obliged to accept its annual financial report every year. The financial, tax and accounting period of the ICF shall start on 1 January and end on 31 December each year. The acceptance of the financial report falls under the competence of the members of the Congress.</p> <p>5. The Special Congress is also entitled to decide on the entry into force of one or more previously adopted but not yet effective Congress decisions on any topic (including amendments to the Statutes).</p>

TO BE REVIEWED AT THE BOARD MEETING ON 6 NOVEMBER 2024

CONTEXT

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Article n°19

Special Congress (4)

CONTEXT

MODIFICATION REQUIRED

In Hungary, all entities must prepare financial statements every year that need to be approved by the supreme body. Therefore, under the Financial Rules also the following topics need to be regulated:

- ICF' business year ends on 31 December,
- the annual reports need to be approved by the Congress,

Since the Congress meetings are held every second year only, it is necessary to introduce an accelerated procedure for the purpose of the approval of the annual report (e.g decision-making via electronic means). The annual report must be approved by the highest authority and this new structure and opportunity would present a more transparent a modern approach.

According to Hungarian Law all modification applications to the Court must be submitted within 60 days as of the day when the respective decision is made.

Article n°21.5

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES AND COMPETITION RULES

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>5. The ICF Board of Directors shall have the power to amend or change a decision of Congress provided that:</p> <p>a. The ICF President has decided that the circumstances which prevailed at the time the decision was taken by Congress have changed significantly to a material extent; and</p> <p>b. The decision by the ICF Board of Directors is taken by not less than 80% of the members present.</p>	<p>Deleted</p>

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

Effectiveness - as per article 25 - MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

- As a general principle the Congress shall be the highest authority of the Federation, and this is a very unusual provision. We cannot exclude that the court might find it violating general principles of Hungarian law.

Article n°18

EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>2.The ICF Executive Committee shall fix the place and date of an Extraordinary Congress.</p>	<p>2.The ICF Executive Committee shall fix the place and date of an Extraordinary Congress. The ICF may hold the Extraordinary Congress electronically.</p>

TO BE REVIEWED AT THE BOARD MEETING ON 6 NOVEMBER 2024

CONTEXT

- Ensure that Congress has an additional transparent and cost-effective decision-making process.

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
6. To establish international championships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To promote cordial and friendly relations between its members, to uphold proper operating procedures of the member Federations and Continental Associations to lead and organize canoeing activities throughout the world.• To organize ICF events, to supervise events organized by its members and to participate in the organization of Olympic and international championship events.• To promote the ideals and objectives behind the Olympic movements.

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

See next page

CONTEXT

MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

In the Civil Act such economic-business activities are defined as income- or wealth-generating, profit-oriented economic activities conducted on a regular basis, except for:

b) activities aimed at achieving the objectives outlined in the deed of foundation (including public benefit activities).

The profit before tax derived from the core activities laid down in the deed of foundation of ICF would not be subject to corporate income tax.

Therefore, it is crucial to clearly define all the aspects of the activities ICF intends to perform as an association in Hungary in order to reach the envisaged tax-exempt status from a corporate income tax perspective.

Article n°26

ICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
New sub article 26.4.	4. The ICF President and ICF Secretary General shall be entitled to sign on behalf of ICF and represent the ICF towards third parties. Both of them shall have independent representation right.

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

Effectiveness - as per article 25 - MODIFICATION REQUIRED

- It needs to be regulated, which officers are entitled to represent and sign on behalf of ICF (for example, the President, the Secretary General, etc.) and whether they have individual or joint signature right. **The representatives will also be registered in the Hungarian public registry**, therefore, this information must be included in the ICF. Byelaws regarding expenditure over 50.000 euros remain unchanged.

Part 3 – Changes linked to new seat in Hungary

MODIFICATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR THE SEAT CHANGE WITH
IMMEDIATE EFFECT AFTER THE CONGRESS

Article n°21.1 & 21.3

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES AND COMPETITION RULES

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
<p>1.The Congress may amend the Statutes every two years.</p> <p>3. The ICF Board of Directors may amend the Byelaws of the Statutes and the ICF Sports Rules (SR) every two years during the first ICF Board of Directors meeting in the year of the Congress.</p>	<p>1. The Congress may amend the Statutes.</p> <p>3. The ICF Board of Directors may amend the Bylaws of the Statutes.</p> <p>4. The ICF Board of Directors may amend the ICF Sports Rules (SR) every two years during the first ICF Board of Directors meeting in the year of the Congress.</p>

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

Effectiveness - as per article 25 - MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

- According to the current wording, the modification of the Statutes is allowed only “every two years”. Such a restriction would be quite unusual under Hungarian law and can make an obstacle to make necessary amendments on time.
- The Board should be able to respond to situations and possible challenges arising from the relocation of the seat.

Article n°15.2

Reference correction

EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING
All decisions of the Congress are final (except in the case of Article 29 b 1 & 2).	All decisions of the Congress are final.

ICF BOARD RECOMMENDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE

CONTEXT

Effectiveness - as per article 25 - MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

- Reference to and article which shall be deleted.

Do you agree with the ICF Board of Directors position for the changes of the ICF Statutes?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Abstain**



END

