STATUTES

International Esports Federation

Version: Sunday, November 15, 2020
A. General Provisions

Article A – Name, Legal Status, and General Provisions

1. The International Esports Federation (hereinafter "IESF") in a non-profit corporation founded and registered under the laws of the Republic of Korea, Corporate ID number 110121-0047524.

2. IESF Headquarters and registered legal seat is in the Republic of Korea (the "Host Country").
   a. IESF may launch and operate branch offices within or outside the Host Country.

3. The governing Law of the IESF is the Law of the Republic of Korea (the "Law").

4. The IESF official language is English. IESF Secretariat and branch offices may utilize additional language for internal purposes or purposes relating to domestic affairs.

5. IESF and all of its members shall be politically- and religiously- neutral.

6. Donations
   As required by the Law, the following shall apply to donations granted to IESF:
   a. All donations shall be reported separately and shall be disclosed to the public on IESF’s official website detailing the donor and amount of each donation annually. Such disclosure shall include details of how such donation was applied.
   b. Any income received from donations obtained under the Law shall only be used for the public benefit and benefit any member or related business.
   c. The organizations' representative applying for donations obtained under the Law shall not be a part of any party of the parliament or any part of any political process within the Republic of Korea.

Article B – Mission and Objectives

7. The IESF Mission is to serve as the critical global organization representing, coordinating, harmonizing, and administering Esports while preserving the rights and providing a voice to all Stakeholders of the Esports industry (the "Mission").

8. IESF Objectives are (the "Objectives"):
   a. To deal with all issues relating to Global Esports and bring together all Esports stakeholders in the spirit of solidarity, understanding, freedom, and peace;
   b. To act as a representative voice for Global Esports generally and within the Sports ecosystem in particular;
   c. To represent and enforce the interests of IESF Members with promoting exchange and collaboration to develop and unite the Esports ecosystem;
   d. To promote responsible initiatives for physical and mental health as well as to protect the interests of all Esports athletes and gamers;
   e. To inform and raise awareness among the public about Esports;
   f. To promote a conscious, responsible, sustainable, healthy and value-based development of Esports in the spirit of peace and fair play, without any discrimination;
   g. To ensure the open access to Esports regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, class, social background or disability, and promoting Esports as a tool of inclusivity and integration;
   h. To connect all stakeholders in Esports to advance Esports as a unified movement and make sure that their needs are taken into account;
   i. To organize, activate, support or recognize Esports competitions and events;
   j. To promote and protect ethical standards and good governance in Esports;
k. To ensure that sporting values remain the prevailing principles;

l. To set standards for esports including the adoption, formulation, issuance, interpretation, implementation, and amendment of codes, and guidelines;

m. To prevent any methods or actions that could jeopardize the integrity and fairness of esports matches or competitions or lead to the abuse of esports, mainly to prevent cheating, doping, drug abuse, and match-fixing;

n. To develop and promote a unified structure of Esports and serve as a platform of transparent and democratic exchange;

o. To support its members in their objectives of local structuration and exchange their knowledge in the spirit of solidarity;

p. To abide by and enforce IESF Code of Ethics;

q. To represent and defend the general interests of its Members;

r. To maintain relationships and cooperate with traditional sports, NGOs, governments, administration, academics, economy, and society, and promote a united approach within its memberships towards all stakeholders;

s. To develop and maintain programs and standards for professional Esports human training.

9. Non-discrimination and Female Athlete Promotion

a. IESF shall promote the practice of Esports as a fundamental right for all.

b. All parties related to the IESF, including its Members and partners, shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women and to promote and elevate the participation of female players in order to ensure, based on gender equality, the same rights, in particular, to participate in recreation, leisure and sports activities and all aspects of cultural life.

c. Discrimination of any kind against lineage, gender, religion, politics, individual, organization, or any reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

d. Promotion of gender equity and equal opportunities will be enforced.

10. Anti-Doping

a. IESF, including its Members and players, is bound by the relevant rules and guidelines prescribed by IOC, Sport Accord, WADA, and other relevant agencies or bodies set up to monitor drug use and doping by players affiliated with IESF Members.

b. Competitive regulations issued by IESF shall be updated from time to time with the list of prohibited substances and methods of doping control that apply to Esports in IESF competitions, in accordance with IESF's Anti-Doping Rules compliant with the WADA Code.

11. Arbitration

a. In addition to other general provisions of the Statutes, any dispute arising from, or related to the Statutes and the occasion in connection with IESF events, other than a dispute arising out of the Statutes or a dispute that can be resolved by an institution of IESF, shall be submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS), in Lausanne, Switzerland, following its Statutes and Regulation to the exclusion of any national court. The parties to such a dispute shall implement good faith in the arbitral result rendered by the CAS.

b. All disputes initiated by Members and partners of IESF shall be in English.
Article C – Powers
To pursue its objectives, IESF has the power to do anything it finds fit, including but not limited to:

12. Purchase, build, buy, lease, rent, receive as a gift and in any other way, under agreed-upon terms: real estate, moveable properties, and rights of any kind;
13. Initiate promotional and public relations campaigns to raise the awareness of the general public to Esports and IESF and to advance IESF Objectives;
14. Promote international collaborations for Esports, including the collaboration with organizations, federations, and Esports associations globally;
15. To receive allowances, grants, donations, and gifts from any governmental body, person, or corporation;
16. Establish, organize and manage educational activities, competitions, and events;
17. Under the terms of these Statutes and the Law in relations to donations, organize operations and activities to raise funds, receive donations, and organize other cultural and social activities, the revenues of which shall be devoted to advancing the IESF Objectives;
18. To communicate and sign agreements with individuals, institutions, organizations, governments, or any other entity, to promote the IESF Objectives;
19. To recruit and activate volunteers or hire salaried employees and independent contractors of any kind, in connection to any affair that may advance the IESF Objectives;
20. To search for sponsorship directly or through agents and sign agreements accordingly in order to finance the IESF projects and activity;
21. To exercise its authority and take any legal action and initiate any other action to advance the IESF Objectives.

B. Membership
Article D – Admission
22. An organization that acts as a national body for Esports in any country may apply for Membership in IESF.
23. There can only be one organization acting as an IESF Member from each country.
24. An organization that wishes to become an IESF member (the "Membership Candidate") shall apply to the IESF Membership Committee (the "Membership Committee"). The application shall include the following minimal information: Legal name of the Membership Candidate, Nation, Registration Status.
25. The Membership Committee is entitled to request additional information to be added to the Membership Candidate application, at its sole discretion.
26. The Membership Committee shall decide to accept or deny the Membership Candidate application.
   a. If the Membership Committee accepts the Membership Candidate, then such Membership Candidate becomes an Associate Member of IESF following the Board’s approval, and shall have the right to request admission as Full Member of IESF at the next General Meeting;
b. If the Membership Committee denies the Membership Candidate, then such Membership Candidate is not accepted into IESF, but shall have the right to appeal to the next General Meeting of IESF;

27. The Membership Committee may set an Admission fee, to be paid by any Membership Candidate at the time of applying for Membership (the “Admission Fee”).

28. In case of an IESF Member’s request to convert its membership to another organization in their country, and such organization had been verified by the Membership Committee, the Board following official request and verification may grant such an amendment.

Article E – Membership Types, Rights and Obligations

29. The following are types of Membership in IESF:
   a. **Full Member**
      The Full Member is the ordinary Member of IESF and shall enjoy the full rights granted to IESF members and uphold the entirety of obligations associated with IESF membership in accordance with these Statutes.
      Full Members can only be accepted by the General Meeting;
   b. **Associate Member**
      The Associate Member is an organization that upholds all of the criteria and terms to be a Full Member of IESF according to these Statutes but was not approved by the General Meeting.
      Associate Members shall be accepted by the Membership Committee;

30. **Rights of Members**
   a. Associate Members of IESF shall enjoy the following rights:
      i. To attend and speak, but not vote, in the General Meeting of IESF;
      ii. Participate in IESF Activities;
      iii. Dispatch players to IESF World Championships and other competitions organized by IESF;
      iv. Such other rights, benefits, or privileges outlined in these Statutes or other rules, regulations, and provisions duly adopted by IESF.
   b. Full Members of IESF shall enjoy the following rights:
      i. All the rights granted to the Associate Member;
      ii. The right to vote at the General Meeting;
      iii. The right to submit motions for the General Meeting and candidates for positions;
      iv. Have a representative at any IESF’s body session that concerns the activity of such Member Federation, but without a vote, and be duly notified about such a session.

31. **Obligations of Members**
   a. To promote and develop Esports in the Member nation per the Objectives of IESF;
   b. To strive for national recognition of Esports through the Member entity, by the national ministry of Sports, national Olympic committee, or in any way applicable by local Law;
   c. To be formally constituted as a non-profit organization that:
      i. Maintains Democratic principles for the appointment of officials, including the President;
i. Allows any Esports player ordinarily resident within the country of the Member to opt into the structure of the Member and to take part in the governance and development of Esports in the country;

ii. Conducts, either directly or indirectly, national Esports competitions;

d. To fully comply with these Statutes, the decisions of the General Meeting, and any other rules and regulations set out by IESF’s relevant bodies;

e. To submit the Annual Report to IESF Secretariat including the information requested annually by the IESF Membership Committee;

f. To pay the Annual Membership Fee to IESF, as determined by the General Meeting (the "Membership Fee");

g. To strive to be a part of the Continental or Regional Federation recognized by IESF for the Region of the Member’s country, if applicable;

h. To strive at participating in IESF events and activities.

Article F – Termination of Membership

32. A Membership in IESF shall be terminated –

a. Upon the complete dissolution of the Member;

b. Upon the written withdrawal of the Member from IESF (written withdrawals of Membership shall take effect 30 days after such withdrawal was submitted to the IESF secretariat);

c. Upon expulsion of the Member from IESF;

d. For Associate Members, upon the decision of the General Meeting not to accept such Member as Full Member (in such case, the Member may re-apply to the Membership Committee within 30 days and shall be exempt from paying the Admission Fee);

e. The Board may approve termination of a Member, if the Member’s national government had duly recognized another entity as the governing or representing body for Esports within the Member country.

33. The General Meeting may expulse a Member, by recommendation of the Board, in one of the following circumstances:

a. The Member did not pay the IESF the dues owed;

b. The Member did not uphold the provisions of these Statutes or the resolutions of the General Meeting;

c. The Member is acting against the Objectives of IESF;

34. The Membership Committee shall not recommend the expulsion of a Member for the reasons stated in subsections (F)(27)-(a), (b), or (c) before warning such Member and allowing reasonable time to remedy the situation.

35. Termination of Membership does not exempt from paying the dues owed to IESF by the Member prior to the termination of its Membership.

36. A Terminated Member may re-apply to IESF Membership in accordance to the admission rules stipulated in these Statutes, but the Membership Committee shall not consider any such application before all payments due to IESF by such entity are paid in full.
Article G – Honorary Members and President, Other Affiliation Types

37. **Honorary Members and Presidents**
   a. The General Meeting may recognize a natural person or a legal entity who has significantly contributed to the development or promotion of Esports by granting them Honorary Membership, Honorary Vice-Presidency, or Honorary Presidency.
   b. Honorary Members, Presidents, and Vice Presidents may attend General Meetings with the right to speak but without the right to vote, and shall not be subject to Member Rights or Obligations and may be invited from time to time to Board meetings.

38. **Other Affiliation Types and non-voting Memberships**
   a. The Board may create additional affiliation types into IESF, outside of the ordinary Membership of IESF, to promote IESF Objectives, and set obligations, benefits and fees associated with such affiliation.
   b. Any entity or natural person affiliated to IESF through any affiliation type not mandated under these Statutes shall not be subject to IESF Membership rights and obligations.

C. Confederations

Article H – Confederations

39. Organizations structured as federations or confederations and composed of member organizations affiliated with IESF, and operating in a single and defined geographic area, may become IESF Confederations.
   a. In case of a difference in the membership between IESF and a Confederation, a mutual commission will be established to resolve such issues, where official recognition by the highest sporting authority in a country, and then IESF members, shall have precedence.

40. Organizations wishing to become IESF Confederations shall submit a written application to IESF Board. The Board is entitled to request additional information to be added to the application at its sole discretion. The board may accept such affiliations fulfilling the application requirements to be ratified at the next General Meeting.

41. IESF Confederations shall uphold the following mandatory criteria:
   a. All Members of the Confederations must be either IESF Members or active in a nation that is not represented in IESF;
   b. The Confederation is constituted as a non-profit organization that:
      i. Maintains democratic principles for the appointment of officials, including the President;
      ii. Conducts, either directly or indirectly, regional Esports competitions;
      iii. Has its official residence in a country that belongs to the Region it represents.

42. The Confederation may attend and speak, but not vote, at IESF General Meeting.

43. An IESF Confederation president shall have a seat in IESF Board. Confederations representing continents (Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Pan-America) will have the title of Vice-President on the board.

44. IESF Confederations shall be afforded the right of first refusal to partner with IESF on any IESF Activity in the Region represented by the Confederation. The IESF World Championships and Global Esports Executive Summit (GEES) shall be an exception to this rule.
D. The General Meeting

Article I – The General Meeting
45. The General Meeting is the supreme legislative body of IESF.

46. Resolutions of the General Meeting are final and binding. Unless otherwise decided by the General Meeting, the General Meeting's Resolutions shall take precedence over any other decision or resolution of any IESF body or institution.

Article II – Convocation and Procedure
47. The Board shall set the date, time, and location of the General Meeting. General Meetings may be held wholly or partially online.

48. The Board shall distribute invitations to all members of IESF to participate in the General Meeting no later than 45 days before the general meeting. The Invitation shall include the date, time, location, and final agenda of the General Meeting.

49. Ordinary General Meeting
a. The Ordinary General Meeting shall be convened on an annual basis, but no sooner than July 1st of the same year.

b. The Ordinary General Meeting will review the reports of the Board and IESF Committees and any other relevant IESF Institutions, including business report and financial report of the previous calendar year, and shall decide on their approval, and elect officials to open positions in accordance to these Statutes.

c. The Ordinary General Meeting will decide on the approval or denial of Full Members into IESF from applicants eligible according to these Statutes.

d. The Ordinary General Meeting will decide on the approval or denial of Motions to amend these Statutes and General Motions.

50. Extraordinary General Meeting
a. The Board shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 30 days of the following cases:

i. A written demand by at least 50% of the Full Members of IESF is received by the Board to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, including the reason and agenda to be deliberated on, or -

ii. A written demand by at least 50% of the Board Members of IESF is received by the Board to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, including the reason and agenda to be deliberated on.

b. The Extraordinary General Meeting’s Invitation shall be distributed no later than ten days before the General Meeting.

c. The Extraordinary General Meeting agenda shall be limited to the items specified in the demand letter, and any additional agenda proposed by Full Members. Full Members shall be provided with at least seven days to propose agenda items before the Invitation is distributed.

51. Quorum in the General Meeting
a. The General Meeting shall not begin unless at least 70% of the Full Members of IESF are in attendance (the “General Meeting Quorum”). Should the General Meeting Quorum be met at the beginning of the General Meeting, it may continue deliberation and decision making even if the number of attendants decreased.
b. Should the General Meeting Quorum not be convened within one (1) hour of the time stipulated in the Invitation, the General Meeting shall be considered as Delayed General Meeting, which may begin immediately and without further invitations, and such Delayed General Meeting shall not be subject to the quorum stipulated above and may deliberate and make decisions with the initial attendance of 33% voting members.

52. The President of IESF shall be the Chairperson of the General Meeting. The President may delegate this role to another person.

53. The General Secretary, or another person appointed by the Chairperson, shall act as the Secretary of the General Meeting.

54. The General Meeting Secretary shall maintain the Minutes of the meeting.

55. General Meeting Audio and Video shall be recorded.

Article K – Attendees, Voting and Elections

56. The Board may decide the number of representatives allowed to participate on behalf of the Members, and such number shall be no less than 2.

57. A person representing any IESF institution in the General Meeting may not represent a Member in the same General Meeting.

58. Required Majorities
   a. General Meeting Resolutions shall pass with simple majority unless the Law or these Statutes require a different majority. In case of a tied vote – the motion is denied.
   b. Motions to amend these Statutes shall require a 66% majority to pass.

59. Voting Procedure
   a. Voting in the General Meeting shall be conducted as an open ballot unless the Law or these Statutes require a secret ballot.
   b. Voting in elections for positions shall be conducted using a secret ballot.

60. Motions and Nominations
   a. General Motions to the General Meeting and motions to amend these Statutes may be submitted by any Full Member in Good Standing, signed by a duly appointed signatory of such Full Member. General Motions shall not contradict these Statutes.
   b. Nominations for Positions may be submitted by any Full Member in Good Standing, with a written nomination letter signed by a duly appointed signatory of such Full Member. The nominated person must be a member or an office-bearer of such Full Member.
   c. Nominations for the position of President of IESF must include, in addition to the above, at least five (5) recommendation letters from different Full Members in Good Standing which are not the nominating Member.

E. President, Board, and Secretariat

Article L – The President and Vice President

61. The General Meeting shall elect the President.

62. The President shall also be considered as Board Member and shall serve as Chairman of the Board.

63. The President duties are:
a. To determine the date and time for Board Meetings and the working procedures of the Board;
b. To preside over Board Meetings and count votes in such meetings;
c. To generally supervise the work of the Board of IESF;
d. To represent IESF with relevant entities and events and to delegate such representation duties to others.

64. For the purposes of fulfilling the role of President, the Board may nominate with a simple majority a Global Vice President, which shall take the responsibilities of President in case the elected President is absent.

65. The President’s term is three (3) years.

66. Termination of President
   a. The President term may be terminated prematurely by the General Meeting with a 75% majority. A President whose term was terminated by the General Meeting shall continue to serve as Board Member for the remainder of the term unless the General Meeting decided otherwise by a simple majority.
   b. The President may retire from their role as President of IESF via written notice to the Board; The President term shall be automatically terminated if they declare bankruptcy, found guilty in a felony of which circumstances, nature, or severity render the President unworthy to reasonably continue to serve and represent IESF.

67. Suspension
   a. The Board may place the President under suspension with the support of all other Board Members.
   b. A suspended President shall be considered absent until the next General Meeting, or until the Board revised this decision with the support of 66% of the Board Members.
   c. In case of a suspended President, the next Ordinary General Meeting shall decide to terminate the President term or reinstate the President for the remainder of the duration.
      i. Should the General Meeting decide to reinstate the President, the Board shall not have the power to suspend the President again until the end of the term.

Article M – the Board

68. The Board of IESF is the central executive body of IESF. Its primary role is to decide and implement the policies of IESF to pursue and achieve IESF Objectives, in accordance with the General Meeting resolutions and these Statutes.

69. Any power or authority not explicitly vested in another institution of IESF shall be vested in the Board.

70. The Board shall include the following voting members:
   a. The President, elected by the General Meeting;
   b. Five (5) Elected Board Members, elected by the General Meeting;
   c. The General Secretary;
   d. The Chair of the Athletes Committee;
   e. Presidents of Confederations recognized by IESF.

71. The General Meeting shall appoint Elected Board Members for a three (3) year term.

72. The Board may decide on the times and dates for Board Meetings, the process of Invitation, the required quorum, and the decision-making process.
73. Board Decisions shall be passed with a simple majority. In case of a tie – the President shall have the deciding vote.

74. The Board shall keep minutes of its decisions and meetings.

75. **Board Co-Option**
   In case of a vacancy occurring due to the termination of an Elected Board Member, the Board may co-opt a person to fill the vacancy until the next General Meeting, which will elect a permanent Board Member to fulfill the vacancy until the end of the term.

76. **Termination**
   a. The General Meeting may terminate a Board Member prematurely with 60% of the votes.
   b. A Board Member may retire from their role via written notice to the Board; A Board Member term shall be automatically terminated if they declare bankruptcy or found guilty in a felony of which circumstances, nature, or severity render the Board Member unworthy to reasonably continue to serve as Board Member of IESF.

77. **Suspension**
   a. The Board may place an Elected Board Member under suspension with support of at least 66% of the other Board Members.
   b. A suspended Board Member shall be considered absent until the next General Meeting, or until the Board revised this decision with a simple majority of the Board Members.
   c. In case of a suspended Board Member, the next Ordinary General Meeting shall decide to terminate the Board Member term or reinstate the Board Member for the remainder of the duration.
      i. Should the General Meeting decide to reinstate the Board Member, the Board shall not have the power to suspend the same Board Member again until the end of the term.

78. The Board shall nominate Board Members and/or Secretariat Staff Members as signatories of IESF. There shall be at least two (2) signatories. Such signatories may sign documents on behalf of IESF that shall bind IESF according to the Board decisions or the General Meeting Resolutions.

79. The Board may establish other institutions within IESF and vest power and responsibility into these institutions. The Board shall decide the office-bearers of such institutions and regulations concerning their activity and may invite the presidents of such institutions to be non-voting board members.

80. Any Office Bearers (apart from Secretariat staff and General Secretary) shall serve their role voluntarily and shall not be entitled to any compensation, excluding reimbursement of expenses directly tied to their duties and approved by the Board.

**Article N – the Secretariat**

81. The Secretariat shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of IESF and shall be headed by the General Secretary.

82. The Board shall appoint the General Secretary.

83. The Duties of the Secretariat are, among others:
   a. To implement the decisions of the Board and the General Meeting, all in accordance with these statutes and any applicable regulations;
   b. To prepare and organize the General Meeting, and assist in the planning and organization of Board Meetings and meetings and activities of other IESF institutions;
c. To keep a record of minutes of all Board and General meetings;
d. To handle the financial accounts and bookkeeping of IESF;
e. To serve as the Point of Contact between Members and IESF institutions;
f. To provide counsel to IESF Board, Committees and any other institutions of IESF;
g. To present an annual Business Plan for Secretariat Operations;

84. The General Secretary shall serve a term of up to three (3) years, or until the Board relieve them of their duties. An outgoing General Secretary may be re-appointed as General Secretary by the Board.

85. The General Secretary shall be a paid position in IESF.

F. Committees and Other Institutions

Article O – the Membership Committee

86. The Membership Committee shall have the following duties and powers:
   a. To enforce the provisions of the Statutes and the Resolutions of the General Meeting in connection to particular Members;
   b. To declare a Member that fails to fulfill all obligations imposed by the Statutes and the General Meeting as "Member not in Good Standing" until all issues are resolved with such Member;
   c. To decide on the acceptance of new Associate Members into IESF;

87. The Membership Committee members shall consist of:
   a. One Member appointed by the Board;
   b. One Member appointed by the General Meeting;
   c. One Member appointed by the President.

88. The Membership Committee membership term shall be one (1) year.
89. The Membership Committee shall make decisions with a simple majority.
90. The Membership Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.

Article P – the Athletes Committee

91. The Athletes Committee shall have the following duties and powers:
   a. To review and criticize the efficiency of the IESF’s operations that are relevant to Esports athletes, and make recommendations to improve it;
   b. To handle complaints raised by athletes participating in IESF-sanctioned competitions.
   c. To generally review IESF and ensure that it meets the defined Objectives.
   d. To review the Athlete Committees’ regulations and recommend changes to be approved by the General Meeting.

92. To fulfill its duties, the Athletes committee may request information from the Secretariat, Board or any IESF institution.
93. The Athletes Committee shall be composed of five (5) members, appointed in accordance with the Athletes Committee regulations.
94. The term of the Athletes Committee shall be three (3) years.
95. The Athletes Committee shall make decisions with a simple majority.
96. The Athletes Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.
Article Q – Institutions
97. For clarity, the General Meeting, the Secretariat, the Board, and institutions created by the Board, and all Committees, are Institutions of IESF.
98. Any person elected or appointed to serve as an IESF institution's officer shall be bound by confidentiality and sign a general confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement with IESF.

G. Additional Provisions

Article R – Additional Provisions
99. A decision of the General Meeting may dissolve IESF. The required majority of Full Members (both attending and absent) for such a decision to pass shall be 85%.
   a. Should IESF be dissolved by the General Meeting, and after all debts of IESF are paid in full, any remaining assets shall be given to another non-profit entity with similar objectives to IESF.
   b. Assets and funds may only be utilized to promote its objectives. Any distribution of profits to any Member or office bearer of IESF is prohibited.

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