

Approved by the TAFISA General Assembly, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Portoroz, Slovenia

### PREAMBLE

TAFISA (The Association For International Sport for All) is the leading international Sport for All association. TAFISA's vision is "for a better world through Sport for All", and its mission is "to lead the global Sport for All movement".

TAFISA is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

TAFISA recognises Sport for All as "an important enabler of sustainable development" as laid down in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals – this must include physical activity, grassroots sport, leisure activity, traditional sports and games, new sports, exercise, sport and physical play for all people, regardless of ability, age, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, culture, language, political, religious or other beliefs, geographical location, national or social origin or property in particular, without limitation, by operating in conformity with and promoting the principles of non-discrimination, diversity, inclusion and gender equality.

TAFISA operates according to its Code of Ethics adopted in 2015, and generally accepted international standards for integrity. TAFISA also operates according to the:

- i. TAFISA General Rules of Procedure
- ii. TAFISA Rules of Procedure for Membership
- iii. TAFISA Rules of Procedure for Board of Directors and Executive Office
- iv. TAFISA Financial Rules and Regulations
- v. TAFISA Code of Conduct for Good Governance

### CHAPTER I

#### NAME AND HEADQUARTERS

**Article 1:**

The association bears the name "The Association For International Sport for All" (hereinafter TAFISA).

**Article 2:**

It has its legal seat in Frankfurt am Main (Federal Republic of Germany).

**Article 3:**

The association is registered in the register of associations at the Frankfurt am Main Regional Court.

**Article 4:**

The location of the Executive Office of TAFISA is determined by the Board of Directors.

### CHAPTER II

#### OBJECTIVE

**Article 1:**

TAFISA's objective is the promotion of Sport for All and physical activity.

**Article 2:**

TAFISA's objective, in cooperation with the Member organisations, is fulfilled by means of the following:

- a. the promotion of the individual and collective sport practice in reference to health and social quality of life;
- b. the promotion of an active lifestyle as well as the ethical values which go together with sports activity;
- c. the promotion of traditional games and sport cultures by appropriate means, models etc;
- d. the development of comprehensive sport concepts, programs, models and activities in Sport for All, in cooperation with Member organisations, including for specific target groups as necessary and relevant;
- e. the strengthening of the integrative function of Sport for All in all social fields;

- f. the education and training of Member organisations in the development of Sport for All and physical activity;
- g. the establishment of an effective partnership with scientific and knowledge organisations, for example universities and institutes;
- h. the cooperation with internationally operating institutions with an interest in Sport for All, for example governments, IOC, WHO, UNESCO, private sector and other social groups; and
- i. the facilitation of international exchange of experiences, best practices, etc.;
- j. the empowerment of individuals and member organisations through Sport for All;
- k. the preservation, promotion and acceptance of diverse as well as new sporting cultures;
- l. the promotion of sustainable sporting practices and the preservation of the natural environment.

## CHAPTER III

### FINANCIAL YEAR

#### *Article 1:*

The financial year is the calendar year.

## CHAPTER IV

### PUBLIC-BENEFIT STATUS

#### *Article 1:*

TAFISA pursues exclusively and directly public-benefit objectives within the meaning of the German fiscal code. The association operates disinterestedly and does not primarily pursue purposes of economic viability. TAFISA's funds may only be used for purposes in conformity with the statutes.

#### *Article 2:*

TAFISA's bodies and committees work voluntarily unless the present statutes make explicit statements to the contrary. The members do not receive any grants from TAFISA. Travel expenses and official expenditures may be reimbursed. The General Assembly may agree to grant an allowance for special expenditures for any particularly time-consuming discharge of duties and may arrange the details.

#### *Article 3:*

No-one may benefit from expenditures that are not in keeping with TAFISA's purpose or from unreasonably high salaries.

## CHAPTER V

### WORKING LANGUAGE

#### *Article 1:*

The TAFISA working language is English.

## CHAPTER VI

### MEMBERS

#### *Article 1:*

##### **National Members**

National Members are state or non-state institutions not specific to a particular sport operating at the national level that actively promote general Sport for All and/or physical activity and have the promotion of Sport for All and/or physical activity included in their legally binding statutes or equivalent documents.

#### *Article 2:*

##### **International Members**

International Members are institutions that actively promote Sport for All and/or physical activity internationally, and have the promotion of Sport for All and/or physical activity included in their legal binding statutes or equivalent document. Such institutions must represent a minimum of 20 national member organisations, from 20 different countries and a minimum of three different continents.

#### *Article 3:*

##### **Supporter Members**

Supporter Members may be either individuals or organisations offering or actively promoting Sport for All and/or physical activity. This can include:

- city or community administrations,
- national organisations for a specific sport,
- provincial or community organisations,
- academic institutions,
- public or private institutions.

## CHAPTER VII

### ACCEPTANCE OF MEMBERS

#### *Article 1:*

Applications for membership shall be forwarded in writing to the Secretary General.

#### *Article 2:*

The Board of Directors shall decide on the provisional acceptance of the applicant. A final decision shall be taken by a simple majority of votes at the following General Assembly.

#### *Article 3:*

Membership shall expire as a result of resignation, exclusion or death. Resignation is possible at any time and is to be communicated to the Secretariat General in writing. The obligation to pay any outstanding membership contributions shall continue to exist.

#### *Article 4:*

Membership terminates in the case of exclusion for good cause, which requires a majority of three quarters of the votes cast by the General Assembly.

#### *Article 5:*

In case of occurrence of events or circumstances of an exceptional nature which are outside of TAFISA's control (such as terrorism, riot, civil unrest, war – with reference to UN Charter principles, strike, nuclear or chemical contamination, epidemic, pandemic, natural disasters or other force majeure events) (hereinafter "Extraordinary Event") compromising the safe and/or regular conduct of TAFISA's and its bodies activities (e.g. regarding the organization of and/or the participation in events or programs hosted and/or sanctioned by TAFISA) being made impossible, objectively endangered, or, in the reasonable judgment of the Board of Directors, not reasonably possible or appropriate under adequate conditions given the circumstances, the Board of Directors may decide to impose exceptional protective measures aimed at preserving the safe, peaceful and regular conduct of TAFISA's activities defined in this Article in accordance with TAFISA's objective.

Protective measures may include the temporary suspension of (i) the exercise of rights of TAFISA member organizations representing countries that caused or contributed to or are otherwise relevantly involved in the Extraordinary Event and/or (ii) persons who are affiliated to the TAFISA member organizations referred to in subparagraph a) above and/or citizens of the concerned countries, to the extent they are participating in TAFISA's activities defined in this Article (including, without limitation, persons who are elected or appointed as members (the same applies to candidates) of TAFISA's Board of Directors or Commissions/Commissioners/Special Advisors deployed by the Board of Directors, athletes, Officials, support personnel). Moreover, protective measures may include any other measure that TAFISA deems appropriate in light of the nature and circumstances of the Extraordinary Event, which are outside of TAFISA's control.

The protective measures are issued irrespective of any violations by the concerned parties mentioned above of their respective specific obligations under TAFISA Statutes or other regulations. Protective measures may be maintained by the Board of Directors (as issued or as amended from time to time) as long as reasonably required by the circumstances of the Extraordinary Event and therefore be lifted, either partially or totally, as soon as reasonably practicable in light of the evolution of the relevant circumstances. In case an issued protective measure is still in place at the time of the next General Assembly, such General Assembly shall discuss and decide whether the protective measures shall be maintained, or definitive measures should be resolved (e.g., final termination of the exercise of rights or membership for good cause as described in Article 4).

The Board of Directors shall also be entitled to decide on the temporary suspension of a member organization in case of a serious or repeated breach of TAFISA Statutes or bylaws and a misuse of TAFISA or TAFISA partners' properties.

## CHAPTER VIII

### BODIES

#### *Article 1:*

TAFISA's bodies are as follows: - the General Assembly and - the Board of Directors.

## CHAPTER IX

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### *Article 1:*

The General Assembly is TAFISA's supreme decision-making body.

#### *Article 2:*

The General Assembly shall take place every two years, if possible in connection with the TAFISA World Congresses. An extraordinary General Assembly shall be called if the Board of Directors decides to do so or if one-third of the members call for such a meeting. The Secretary General issues invitations to the General Assembly at least three months before it is due to take place, stating the date, venue and agenda. In the case of an extraordinary General Assembly, this period is reduced to four weeks. Motions by the members have to be sent in written form to the Secretary General one month before the General Assembly and two weeks before an extraordinary General Assembly.

By a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors, the General Assembly shall be held in physical form or in a virtual room to be determined by the Board of Directors. Delegates will have to prove their identity and authority to act as delegates, and in the event of a virtual meeting, shall have to overcome an access barrier that must be kept confidential as communicated by TAFISA, to attend the meeting and exercise their rights as delegates. Urgency motions may only be dealt with if they have been submitted in writing and if the General Assembly agrees to this with a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. Urgency motions regarding amendments to the Statutes are inadmissible.

#### *Article 3:*

Every General Assembly that is called in accordance with the rules has a quorum. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of votes insofar as the present statutes do not make provisions to the contrary.

#### *Article 4:*

The tasks of the General Assembly include in particular the following:

- a) Deciding on the general principles for achieving the association's objectives as well as agreeing on the working programme for the next two years.
- b) Deciding on membership applications and exclusions.
- c) Deciding on the venue for the respective next-but-one TAFISA World Congress and other major TAFISA events.
- d) Recognising and paying tribute to outstanding Sport for All projects, particularly in developing countries.
- e) Deciding on the budget for the next two years.
- f) Approving the report of the Board of Directors (activity reports and financial report confirmed by a notary public).
- g) Electing the Board of Directors and the nomination committee. The nomination committee is formed by three active members, who are not members of the board.
- h) Electing Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members.
- i) Deciding on two voluntary, general auditors and one substitute voluntary, general auditor for two years.
- j) Deciding on the amount of the membership contributions.
- k) Taking a decision on motions to amend the statutes and other motions.
- l) Deciding on dissolution.

## CHAPTER X

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### *Article 1:*

The Board of Directors consists of the following:

- 1) eleven representatives from TAFISA National Members, including:
  - a) The President,
  - b) Five Vice-Presidents,
  - c) The Treasurer,
  - d) Four other members
- 2) one member representing a TAFISA International Member
- 3) one member representing a TAFISA Supporter Member

At least four members of the Board of Directors are to be female, and four are to be male. The five Vice-Presidents are to come from different continents (Americas – Asia – Oceania – Africa – Europe). Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members may be invited to the Board of Directors but do not have the right to vote.

**Article 2:**

The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a period of four years. They remain in office until a new election. Re-election is possible. In such case as a member of the Board of Directors under items 1 a) – f) above should leave during his term of office, a member of the board shall be co-opted whose confirmation must take place at the next General Assembly.

The Secretary General has a seat as ex-officio on the Board of Directors without voting right.

**Article 3:**

The Board of Directors within the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code is the President in combination with the Treasurer or the Secretary General. If the President is unable to attend the Treasurer and the Secretary General shall represent the organization. The reason for him or her being unable to attend does not need to be proven in any individual case.

At the same time, the President, the Treasurer and the Secretary General comprise the Executive Board. Certain tasks may be allocated to them by the General Assembly or by the entire Board of Directors.

**Article 4:**

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President, or if he or she is unable to do so, by the longest serving Vice-President.

**Article 5:**

The Board of Directors has a quorum if more than half of its members are present.

**Article 6:**

The President shall decide on the participation of guests.

**Article 7:**

The Board of Directors may deploy commissions, commissioners and special advisors to perform subtasks.

**CHAPTER XI****ELECTIONS / VOTING RIGHTS****Article 1:**

Eligible members are granted voting rights in elections and votes according to their category, as follows:

National Members:	5 votes
International Members:	1 vote
Supporter Members:	1 vote

**Article 2:**

The transfer of voting rights to other members is excluded.

**Article 3:**

The right to vote shall be suspended if the membership contributions for the years between the General Assemblies have not been credited to TAFISA's account by the beginning of the General Assembly.

**Article 4:**

In the case of elections to the Board of Directors, only persons may stand whose candidature is backed by a TAFISA Member in good standing.

Candidates require the support of a TAFISA National Member when standing for the position of

- a) President
- b) Member representing TAFISA National Members

Candidates require the support of a TAFISA International Member when standing for the position of

- c) Member representing TAFISA International Members

Candidates require the support of a TAFISA Supporter Member when standing for the position of

- d) Member representing TAFISA Supporter Members

The backing by a TAFISA Member of good standing shall be made via an official letter received by the TAFISA Executive office three months before the respective election.

**Article 5:**

The nomination committee shall propose to the General Assembly persons for election;

**Article 6:**

All decisions on motions shall be taken by simple majority; motions to amend the statutes shall require a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast, however. Invalid votes and abstentions shall not be taken into account. A tie shall mean rejection.

**Article 7:**

Decisions by the Board of Directors and the commissions may also be taken electronically, particularly by telefax or email, if no member of the Board of Directors rejects this procedure; in the case of such decisions, too, the simple majority of votes suffices.

**Article 8:**

Elections shall be held in writing and secretly in principle. If only one person is proposed for an office and if that person is willing to take up the office, the ballot may take place by an open vote with a show of hands if there is no application for a secret ballot.

**Article 9:**

Persons may be elected in absentia if they have declared in writing their willingness to accept the office.

**Article 10:**

If only one person stands for an elected post, that person is elected if he or she receives a majority of the votes cast. If a number of persons are standing for election, the person who receives more than half of the votes cast is the person elected. If this number of votes is not reached by any person, a run-off ballot shall take place between the two persons who received the most votes in the first ballot, to be decided by simple majority. In such case as both candidates receive the same number of votes, the ballot shall be repeated after a break. If the two candidates once again have the same number of votes, the decision shall be taken by lot.

**Article 11:**

By-elections and reappointments shall apply to all bodies and commissions for the respective current electoral term.

**CHAPTER XII****FINANCING****Article 1:**

TAFISA shall finance itself from the following sources:

- a) membership contributions,
- b) contributions from other national and international institutions and persons,
- c) foundations and payments by sponsors,
- d) grants and donations,
- e) income from licensing agreements,
- f) real estate and movables purchased as well as
- g) income from real estate and movables obtained through purchase or endowment.

**Article 2:**

The membership contribution shall be paid annually by April 30, or in years with a General Assembly, by the date of the General Assembly, whichever comes first.

**Article 3:**

The President, the Treasurer and the Secretary General shall draw up a plan of measures and a draft budget for the plan of measures before the beginning of each financial year and shall submit them to the Board of Directors for a decision to be taken.

**Article 4:**

The President, the Treasurer and the Secretary General shall write an activity and year-end financial report following the end of the financial year that requires the approval of the Board of Directors and every two years by the General Assembly.

**Article 5:**

The accounts should be audited every year by a certified external financial auditor.

**CHAPTER XIII****OFFICE****Article 1:**

TAFISA shall have an Executive office to carry out ongoing tasks. The Executive office is led by the Secretary General.

**Article 2:**

The Secretary General is a professional position and is appointed by the elected Board of Directors. The Secretary General shall manage the ongoing business and shall report regularly on it to the Executive Board and Board of Directors.

**CHAPTER XIV****MINUTES****Article 1:**

Minutes shall be kept of the General Assembly and of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board.

**CHAPTER XV****REGIONAL BODIES**

TAFISA may choose to recognize regional bodies as its regional representatives in each of Asia, Oceania, Africa, Europe and the Americas. If recognised, it is understood that these regional bodies consider TAFISA as its umbrella organization, and this will be reflected in the statutes of those regional bodies, including the pursuit of TAFISA activities and programs.

**CHAPTER XVI****DISSOLUTION****Article 1:**

The members' meeting shall decide on TAFISA's dissolution with a majority of three quarters of the votes cast. A vote may only take place if the motion to dissolve TAFISA was substantiated in the invitation. In the case of the dissolution of the association or cessation of tax-privileged purposes, its remaining assets shall be transferred to a public-benefit organisation or a foundation for use for public-benefit purposes in the field of sport.

**APPENDIX**

International Members of TAFISA accepted prior to the adoption of the revision of Statutes as proposed at the 2017 General Assembly and in good standing with regard to payment of membership fees shall retain their status as International Members regardless of subsequent changes to requirements for International Membership.

**DEFINITIONS**

TAFISA agrees the following definitions:

**Local**

Area restricted to immediately surrounding area, for example surrounding community, municipality, city or group of communities or cities in close proximity.

**Province**

Area comprising part of a nation, often defined as such by the national government.

**Territory**

A geographical territory which, though not recognized as a nation, has certain aspects of self-government at least to the extent in being autonomous in the control of its sports. TAFISA recognises that some territories have separate sport policies from the bulk of the nation, and therefore recognises such a territory as a separate nation.

**Nation**

Typically the area including but restricted to the entirety of one country, governed by one sport policy.

**Region**

Area comprising multiple nations in close proximity. Continents, as defined by TAFISA to be the Americas, Asia, Oceania, Europe and Africa, are also considered regions.

**International**

Operation including multiple nations, often at least regional or global.

**Promotion of Sport for All and/or physical activity**

Contributing to the progress or growth of Sport for All and/or physical activity through the organisation and provision of programs and events, marketing, lobbying, research and publication in the field of Sport for All and/or physical activity.