



WBSC



EUROPE

STATUTES

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CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1. NAME

1.1 - The name of this organisation shall be the World Baseball Softball Confederation Europe, and hereinafter referred to as “WBSC Europe”. WBSC Europe is a not-for-profit and apolitical entity, organised as an Association and in accordance with Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code.

1.2 - WBSC Europe is a Continental Association established and recognized by the WBSC in accordance with the WBSC Statute, for the purpose of managing and organizing the Sport of Baseball-Softball, and all its disciplines in Europe in accordance to the WBSC policies and statutes. WBSC Europe is legally established in accordance with the WBSC Statutes and it shall be in charge of all activities in all related disciplines (the “disciplines”) of Baseball/Softball including but not limited to: Baseball, Softball, Baseball5, all adapted formats of such disciplines for people with physical and mental impairments (“Para-sports”) and all virtual/electronic versions of the Sport (“eSports”) thereof in all the countries and territories within the Region of Europe.

1.2.1 - “eSports” means any form of active virtual/electronic entertainment representing or impersonating fully or in part any of the disciplines, events or trademarks governed by the WBSC as well as all related online and off line competitions

1.3 - WBSC Europe has been formed by the Regional Baseball and Softball Confederations of Europe to provide a unified structure and governance for all disciplines of Baseball and Softball (the “sports”) throughout the European Region.

1.4 - WBSC Europe is constituted of the Member Federations, Associations or Organisations, which organise, promote and develop Baseball-Softball in the Region of Europe.

1.5 - WBSC Europe is an association whose Member Federations, Associations or Organisations join WBSC Europe voluntarily; Full Member Federations are recognised in each country or territory as being the sole governing body for Baseball and/or Softball in that particular country or territory. By voluntarily affiliating with WBSC and WBSC Europe, the Member Federation and/or their individual members / organisations / athletes / officials belonging to that Member Federation by participating in WBSC Europe events and/or Tournaments in any capacity whatsoever, implicitly and explicitly agree to adhere to the principles and specific conditions expressed in the Statutes, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations of WBSC and the WBSC Europe Statutes.

ARTICLE 2. LOCATION

2.1 - The headquarters of WBSC Europe shall be registered in Pully, Switzerland. WBSC Europe may have branch offices in other areas throughout Europe. The WBSC Executive Board may change the location of the WBSC Europe headquarters.

ARTICLE 3. DISCRIMINATION

3.1 - WBSC Europe shall not allow any discrimination against Member Federations, Associations or Organisations or individuals (competitors, officials, umpires, delegates, and the like) on the grounds of race, national origin, sex, colour, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability, or political affiliation.

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 - The Objectives of WBSC Europe shall be as follows:

- a) To promote, develop and control Baseball and Softball and all related disciplines and formats of the sports within its geographical limits, ensuring compliance with the WBSC and WBSC Europe Statutes.
- b) To approve and implement its own rules and regulations and ensure they are in accordance with the WBSC and WBSC Europe Statutes.
- c) To apply with their geographical limits, the specific aspects marked in WBSC Europe Statutes concerning the membership fee, members' obligations and other duties and responsibilities of Members.
- d) To authorize, organize and control, with the prior approval of the WBSC, continental, regional and sub-regional tournaments and competitions, including those in continental, regional and sub-regional multi-sports Games and events, with the exception of championships and events related to the qualifications for the Olympic Games, which remain under the sole competence and authority of the WBSC.
- e) To promote, sponsor and, if needed, found such bodies as may be deemed necessary for the best development and functioning of Baseball-Softball throughout Europe.
- f) To form partnerships, cooperation's or amalgamations with other interested parties to further the promotion and development of Baseball-Softball throughout Europe.
- g) To collaborate with the WBSC in order to coordinate and assist the actions of the WBSC within the Region of Europe.
- h) To decide any dispute that may arise between, among or involving Member Federations, Associations and Organisations, including that between, among or involving any individual athlete or official, that is referred to WBSC Europe by an interested party, and to provide for the uniform recognition and application of disciplinary actions.
- i) To establish, organise and administer training, qualification and development programs for athletes, administrators, coaches, managers, umpires, scorers, technicians and any other official.
- j) To carry out studies and investigations and promote and organise seminars, workshops, conferences and other events for the improvement and development of Baseball-Softball throughout Europe.
- k) To establish, collect or cause to be collected and to approve and maintain statistics, statistical compilations and records for access via the web site and elsewhere.
- l) To carry out such other activities as the Executive Board may deem desirable to promote and/or develop the sports of Baseball-Softball and all related disciplines and formats of the sport
- m) To fully comply with the Olympic Charter and the WBSC Statutes and to contribute to the realisation of their objectives.
- n) To promote clean sport, fight against doping through prevention and education and adhere to the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC).
- o) To cooperate with the Olympic Movement and WBSC to promote, implement, and achieve these Objectives, and to preserve and guarantee the interests of WBSC and WBSC Europe and its Member Federations, Associations and Organisations and to support and maintain the ideals of the Olympic Movement in all aspects of Baseball-Softball.

- p) To promote the Continental Rankings for Baseball and Softball in accordance to WBSC Ranking methodology at different levels, including for all continental, regional and sub-regional Baseball and Softball competitions.
- q) To comply with Relevant Law and other applicable laws, including data privacy.

ARTICLE 5. LANGUAGE

5.1 - The official language of WBSC Europe shall be English and French. When a dispute over interpretation arises, the English text shall prevail.

5.2 - The General Congress and any other meetings official language as well as WBSC Europe documents language shall be English only.

CHAPTER 2 – MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 6. MEMBERSHIP

6.1 - The recognised national or territorial sports governing bodies or federation's governing Baseball and those governing Softball, or a single body jointly governing Baseball-Softball, which meets the requirements as set forth by the WBSC, shall be automatically a member in WBSC Europe as a National Federation.

6.2 - The Constitution, By-Laws or Articles of Association and Rules of a Member must not be in conflict with those of the WBSC. Where there is a conflict, the WBSC Statutes and Codes shall prevail.

6.3 - Each Member, by accepting membership of the WBSC and WBSC Europe, acknowledges that the WBSC and WBSC Europe are the only recognised bodies in the World and Europe that governs Baseball-Softball in the Region of Europe.

6.4 - Each national federation may organise itself as either a combined baseball and softball national federation, or a separate national federation for Baseball and for Softball. Each national federation, whether joint or separate, shall provide an organisational structure within its country for the purposes of its own prudential matters and for Competitions.

6.5 - WBSC Europe shall have the following classes of membership:

- a) Affiliated members, which will be categorised as either Full Members or Provisional Members of WBSC and must comply with WBSC Europe Statutes, Regulations, Rules, By Laws; or
- b) Associate members.

6.6 - To be an Associate Member of the WBSC Europe, the following is required:

- a) The applicant must officially apply to the WBSC and its membership shall be approved and ratified by WBSC Europe Congress and the WBSC Congress.
- b) The applicant must be a self-administered international or major organization, other than a National Federation, and whose activities or objectives involve the development of Baseball and/or Softball and whose objectives are not in conflict with those of the WBSC and WBSC Europe.
- c) The applicant must meet such other criteria and conditions as may be set by WBSC Europe.
- d) The applicant must agree to and must respect and abide by the WBSC and WBSC Europe Statutes.

6.7 - A national sports governing body or national federation that governs Baseball or Softball, or both Sports, that is a Provisional Member of the WBSC is a Provisional Member of WBSC Europe ("WBSC Europe Provisional Member"). Such a member must comply with WBSC Europe Documents, pay its dues as required and honour any financial commitments. It may attend and speak, but not vote, at a Congress

ARTICLE 7. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

7.1 - All membership applications for WBSC Europe are to be made through WBSC. All WBSC Members are divided into the Continents recognized by WBSC. Only one application is required to become a WBSC member and a member of the pertinent Continental Organisation.

ARTICLE 8. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

8.1 - A Full Member in Good Standing has the following rights ("Rights"):

- a) To attend the WBSC Europe Congress;
- b) To use the services of WBSC Europe;
- c) To have the right to speak in all deliberations at the WBSC Europe Congress;
- d) To vote in all deliberations and matters submitted to the WBSC Europe Congress for a vote;
- e) To take part in WBSC and WBSC Europe sanctioned competitions for which they are eligible;
- f) To be recognised as the only Softball and/or Baseball National Governing Body of its Country by everybody, including its National Olympic Committee;
- g) To do or engage in any other act to which a Member that is in Good Standing is otherwise entitled to do;
- h) To make proposals and submit resolutions to the WBSC Europe for the consideration of the Executive Board and/or the WBSC Europe Congress;
- i) To nominate candidates for Office.

8.2 - A Provisional Member in Good Standing has the following rights ("Rights"):

- j) To attend the WBSC Europe Congress;
- k) To use the services of WBSC Europe;
- l) To have the right to speak, but not to vote, in all deliberations or in all matters submitted to the WBSC Europe Congress for a vote;
- m) To do or engage in any other act to which a Member that is in Good Standing is otherwise entitled to do other than those restricted by the IOC or the WBSC;
- n) To make proposals and submit resolutions to the WBSC Europe for the consideration of the Executive Board and/or the Congress within its specific rights.

8.3 - An Associate Member in Good Standing has the following rights ("Rights"):

- a) To attend the WBSC Europe Congress;
- b) To have the right to speak, but not to vote, in all deliberations or in all matters submitted to the WBSC Europe Congress for a vote.

8.4 - The rights of the Members are exclusive and particular to each member as an organisation and as such, these rights cannot be delegated by the Member to any other Member or others. Similarly, a Member can only exercise its rights in a WBSC Europe Congress through a delegate duly and properly appointed and authorised

by the Member. A delegate so appointed and authorised by a Member may only represent and vote exclusively on behalf of that Member. A delegate may therefore represent only one Member.

8.5 - All Members are obligated to do the following (“Obligations”):

- a) To support the WBSC Europe in its efforts to achieve its objectives;
- b) To act in accordance with the decisions of the WBSC Europe and the WBSC Europe Congress;
- c) To faithfully carry out the duties and responsibilities entrusted to them, maintaining ethical principles and moral values proper to the organisation;
- d) To pay the annual fee and all other financial obligations timeously;
- e) To maintain itself as a Member in Good Standing;
- f) To inform WBSC Europe concerning the organisation of their national and other competitions, activities and events and the results of the same, and update WBSC Europe of the number of its own membership, athletes and such other information as may be required by WBSC Europe;
- g) To ensure and where necessary, amend, their own Statutes, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Policies so that they are consistent with the WBSC and WBSC Europe Statutes;
- h) To notify WBSC Europe of any change of name and/or in its own Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations;
- i) To ensure that all athletes and other individuals and organisations under the jurisdiction of that Member are bound by and comply with the responsibilities and duties of the Member and with WBSC Europe Statutes.

ARTICLE 9. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

9.1 - Any matter related to disciplinary actions will be decided by the Executive Board and in accordance to either the WBSC Europe disciplinary proceedings or the WBSC Disciplinary By-Laws until such proceedings are authorized.

ARTICLE 10. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

10.1 - The membership status of a WBSC Europe Member may be forfeited on any one or more of the following grounds:

- a) By the Member’s written notice of resignation from membership, addressed to the WBSC and WBSC Europe Headquarters.
- b) Through suspension by the WBSC Europe Executive Board for such period as the Board deems fit and proper or de-registration, after a preliminary hearing on the matter concerned.
- c) Through failure to fulfil financial obligations in a period of two (2) consecutive years, after a period of sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the notice from WBSC Europe to pay the same, whereupon the membership issue shall be brought to the WBSC Executive Board for consideration.

10.2 - All matters relating to the termination of membership will be decided by the WBSC Europe Executive Board and in coordination with the WBSC except that decisions on the forfeiture and de-registration of membership must be endorsed at the next following WBSC Europe Congress and WBSC Congress. The Executive Board may suspend or terminate membership or impose conditions upon membership in coordination with WBSC. Matters concerning the termination of membership must be endorsed at the next following Congress and until such time as a Congress acts the Member involved is suspended with no Rights.

CHAPTER 3 – FEES, REVENUES AND EXPENSES

ARTICLE 11. FEES, REVENUES AND EXPENSES

11.1 - WBSC Europe shall be empowered to raise funds to the maximum extent permitted by law, and by whatever means proper under these Statutes. The income and property of WBSC Europe shall be used towards the fulfilment of the Objectives as determined by the Executive Board in the proper exercise of its powers, or the management of WBSC Europe under the control of the Executive Board.

11.2 - The Executive Board of the WBSC Europe shall be charged with ensuring compliance with this goal.

11.3 - WBSC Europe is liable for its obligations with its assets. Such liability is limited to these assets. The liability of Members is limited to their dues.

CHAPTER 4 – ORGANISATION OF WBSC EUROPE

ARTICLE 12. ORGANISATION OF WBSC EUROPE

12.1 - WBSC Europe shall be responsible, through the respective commissions (the Commissions) of Baseball ("Baseball Commission) and of Softball ("Softball Commission) for the technical rules and competition supervision and organisation, and European development, respectively of the sport of Baseball and all its disciplines and the sport of Softball and all its disciplines.

12.2 - WBSC Europe is authorised and entitled to raise revenue to benefit its activities and shall create, manage and control competitions. All such competitions shall use the name of WBSC Europe and any sponsorship or third party contract to be entered into with such reference to the WBSC Europe name or logos, or any broadcast agreement to be entered into with the use of the WBSC Europe name or logos shall be submitted to the Executive Board for its approval. Should the Executive Board believe that the proposed competition, the proposed sponsorship or third party contract or the proposed broadcasting contract would conflict with other WBSC Europe agreements or would reflect negatively on WBSC Europe, the WBSC Executive Board may decline the agreement.

12.3 - The following entities are established to govern and administer WBSC Europe:

- a) The Congress;
- b) The Executive Board;
- c) Such Commissions as the Executive Board may deem appropriate.

12.4 - The WBSC Europe Executive Office shall perform the administration and management of the WBSC Europe and shall report to and be responsible to the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 13. THE CONGRESS

13.1 - The Congress is the highest authority of the WBSC Europe and shall have the power to decide upon any matters arising in the WBSC Europe. Its legally-adopted resolutions, decisions and dispositions are binding on the Executive Board and its Delegate Organs, for the Member Federations, Associations or Organisations.

13.2 - The Congress shall consist of the following:

- a) Up to two (2) delegates for each Member Federation in Good Standing who have been appointed by the Member Federation and whose credentials are accepted by WBSC Europe ("Accredited Delegates"). A Member Federation which governs only baseball or only softball in its country shall have a single delegate; a Member Federation which governs both baseball and softball in its country may have up to two (2) delegates, one (1) for each discipline;

Notice of the Appointment of all delegates, certified in writing by the Member Federation's Presidents or Secretary they represent must be lodged with the WBSC Europe Secretary General no less than ten (10) days prior to the opening of the Congress. Only one (1) delegate representing a Member Federation for Softball and one (1) delegate representing a Member Federation for Baseball shall have one (1) vote, provided, however, if a Member Federation for both Softball and Baseball is represented by only a single delegate, such delegate shall be entitled to two (2) votes. A Member that is not in Good Standing on the date of the Congress may attend only through a non-voting representative. Accredited Delegates and non-voting representatives shall not be recognised if they are subject to a disciplinary decision that prohibits participation in a Congress. No Accredited Delegate or representative shall represent more than one (1) Member.

If a Full Member wishes to send more than the permitted voting Accredited Delegate(s), it may do so at such Member's entire own cost and expense, by registering the delegate in the Notice of Appointment. Such extra registered Delegate(s) have the right to speak, but only the permitted Accredited Delegate shall have the right to vote as previously stated. In the said Notice of Appointment, the Member Federation, Association or Organisation, the name of the voting Accredited Delegate with the right to vote, must be clearly stated and indicated. In his or her absence, the vote may be exercised by the other registered Delegates, in the order in which they appear on the Note of Appointment.

At an Ordinary Congress, Board and lodging expenses from the day prior to the start of the Congress to the day after its conclusion, for one (1) Accredited Delegate of each Member Federation (two (2) Accredited Delegates for Member Federations which govern both Baseball and Softball in their country or territory), Association or Organisation of the WBSC Europe present at the Congress throughout the duration of the same shall be at the Member Federations charge.

- b) All members of the Executive Board, with the right to speak but no right to vote;
- c) Provisional and Associate Members, with the right to speak but no right to vote;
- d) All others whose attendance is authorised by the Executive Board, with the right to speak but no right to vote.

13.3 – The President shall control the conduct of a Congress (“Chair”). If the President is not available, then the Secretary General (SG) shall be the Chair. If no such person is available, the Executive Board shall elect one among them to serve as Chair.

13.4 - WBSC Europe will meet in Congress every year as the Annual General Congress in the second full week-end of February at the location decided by the Previous Annual General Congress

13.5 - Under special circumstances the Annual General Congress may decide other dates for its next meeting.

13.6 - If special circumstances require it, the Executive Board may modify the date and location of the next Annual General Congress.

13.7 - A Congress or Extraordinary Congress may take place in person, in writing or via electronic means. If special circumstances a Congress or an Extraordinary Congress can be postponed, held in writing or held whole or in part by electronic means (“Virtual Congress/Extraordinary Congress”), allowing WBSC Members to attend it via electronic system (video and/or audio). The WBSC Europe Executive Board is competent to decide in which circumstances a Congress or an Extraordinary Congress has to be postponed or be staged remotely and must inform the Members at least 30 (thirty) days before the date of the Congress/Extraordinary Congress.

13.8 - The Secretary General shall advise the exact date and location of every Congress at least three (3) months prior to the fixed date of the meeting, and the exact date and location of every Extraordinary Congress as soon as that Extraordinary Congress is validly called in conformance with Article 13.14. The Secretary General shall send an invitation to all Members, together with the agenda for the Congress and any reports as in Article 13.10 below and together with all duly submitted motions and applications at least one (1) month prior to the date fixed for the meeting.

13.9 - The Congress has a quorum if more than one-half of the eligible voting delegates are represented. If within a reasonable period after the designated start time for a Congress the Secretary General has conducted the Roll Call and established that a quorum is not present, the Congress shall be dispersed and a new date shall be set.

13.10 - The order of business of the Congress shall generally be:

- a) Roll Call and declaration of a quorum;
- b) Approval of the minutes of the previous Congress;
- c) Reports;

- d) Ratification of new Members; (if any)
- e) Consideration and approval of bids;
- f) Audited Statement of Accounts;
- g) Amendments to the Statutes, the Codes or Rules;
- h) Election of Officers;
- i) Appoint Independent Certified Auditor;
- j) Consideration whether to take up Motions under Article 13.11;
- k) Any other business;
- l) Adjournment.

13.11 - Motions, applications and proposals for alteration of or addition to the Statutes or any Rules of WBSC Europe shall be considered only if submitted by a Member or by the Executive Board. All motions, applications, and proposals to be considered by the Congress must reach the Secretary General at least two (2) calendar months prior to the date for the Congress and must appear on the agenda given to the Members in accordance with Article 13. On a motion of urgency approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those Members present and voting, the Congress may deal with new proposals not appearing on the agenda.

13.12 - Any amendment of or addition to the WBSC Europe Statutes agreed upon by the Congress shall become effective immediately unless otherwise determined at the time of such approval.

13.13 - Any alteration of or addition to the WBSC Europe Rules and Regulations shall become effective immediately after the decision.

13.14 - An Extraordinary Congress may be requested by a petition signed by at least a fifth (1/5) of the current Members in Good Standing, by the majority of the Executive Board. It shall be summoned by the Secretary General within forty-five (45) days following the appropriate request, to convene no later than ninety (90) days after receipt of the petition or the decision of the Executive Board. The Secretary General shall provide notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled start of the Extraordinary Congress. Within the same period of time, the Secretary General shall send the Agenda to all the Members, including the location, the time of the first session opening and notification of all the topics to be dealt with which, in any case, will be the only ones on which valid resolutions can be passed.

13.15 - The functions and responsibilities of the Congress shall be:

- a) To elect the Executive Board when elections are to be held;
- b) To suspend on justifiable grounds and/or to accept the resignation of Members of the Executive Board in accordance with the respective regulations.
- c) To be aware, analyse, and approve such resolutions, decisions and dispositions deemed appropriate on any WBSC Europe matter or anything related to it or to its objects.
- d) To analyse and decide any point submitted by the Executive Board or, by due process, by any of its affiliated members.
- e) To examine, and approve or reject the balance-sheets, financial statements and reports presented by the Treasurer and/or by the Executive Board.
- f) To establish the annual fees payable by Members to the WBSC Europe.
- g) To confer upon Members and/or individual or other organisations, such honours and awards as may be recommended by the Executive Board
- h) Any other business or matter as may be deemed appropriate by the Congress.

ARTICLE 14. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

14.1 - The Executive Board shall be composed of the following officers with the Election By-Laws:

- a) President;
- b) Vice President Softball;
- c) Vice President Baseball;
- d) Secretary General;
- e) Treasurer;
- f) Three Members at Large Baseball;
- g) Three Members at Large Softball;
- h) One Athlete Representative Baseball;
- i) One Athlete Representative Softball;

14.2 - The officers of the Executive Board shall be elected as follows and in accordance with the WBSC Europe Election By-Laws:

14.2.1 - The President, Secretary General, and the Treasurer shall be elected by the Congress at the Annual Congress every four (4) years by all Members attending the Congress;

14.2.2 - The Vice President of Baseball and the three (3) Members at Large from Baseball shall be elected by the Congress at the Annual Congress every four (4) years solely by the votes of the Combined Federations and the Single Baseball Federations attending the Congress;

14.2.3 - The Vice President of Softball and the three (3) Members at Large from Softball shall be elected by the Congress at the Annual Congress every four (4) years solely by the votes of the Combined Federations and the Single Softball Federations attending the Congress;

14.2.4 - The respective Athletes' Representatives for Baseball and Softball shall be elected every four (4) years by the respective athletes of that discipline at such Baseball and Softball competitions as may be decided by the respective Councils and under the supervision of the WBSC Europe Executive Board.

14.2.5 – Terms of Office:

- a) The President shall serve for a term of four (4) years with the possibility of re- election but limited to a maximum of three (3) mandates consecutive or not.
- b) After having served three (3) terms as President, he/she shall not be eligible for re-election as President or any other position on the Executive Board.
- c) The Secretary General and the Treasurer shall serve for a term of four (4) years with the possibility of re- election limited to a maximum of three (3) mandates consecutive or not.
- d) The term of office of all other Board Members, with the exception of the Athlete Representatives' is four (4) years with the possibility of re- election with a maximum of three (3) terms of four (4) years consecutive or not.
- e) The term of office of the Athlete Representatives' is four (4) years.
- f) If a Board Member is elected as President, he/she shall be entitled to serve a total maximum of five terms, whether consecutive or not.

14.3 - The WBSC Europe Executive Board shall hold office for a four (4) year term except for the first elections in 2022 where the Executive Board will be elected for a three (3) year term and commencing in 2025 the Executive Board shall hold office for a four (4) year term.

14.4 - Each Officer must be from a different single Sports Member federation, while a combined Sports Member federation may have a maximum of two.

14.5 - All members of the Executive Board shall have a vote on matters put forth to the Executive Board. Decisions of the Executive Board shall be by simple majority and in the case of a tie the President will have the final decision. Voting may be conducted remotely such as by phone, email, facsimile or other means, including signed circular resolutions and other electronic means.

14.6 - Membership on the Executive Board shall not render such member personally liable for the debts and obligations of WBSC Europe. WBSC Europe hereby indemnifies each member of the Executive Board against any liability of that member arising from the discharge of his or her duties whilst acting in good faith and honestly.

14.7 - The members of the Executive Board shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.

14.8 - Where an Executive Board member has been absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall have the right to declare that such a member has forfeited his or her position. The Executive Board may then fill such vacancy in accordance with Article 14.2.

14.9 - The rights and duties of the Executive Board shall include the following:

- a) To discuss and make decisions on all matters assigned to them by the Congress;
- b) To interpret and enforce the WBSC Europe Statutes;
- c) To decide and take action on any matter pertaining to the affairs of WBSC Europe;
- d) To submit proposals and motions to the Congress;
- e) To impose penalties and/or sanctions on Members and/or athletes, officials and others and/or on members of such WBSC Europe Members on valid grounds and where they fail to observe, or are in breach of, the WBSC Europe Statutes;
- f) To do everything possible to maintain harmony between its Members and to decide on disputes that might occur between, among or involving Members and/or its athletes, officials and others;
- g) To handle and decide on all matters relating to disputed competitions under the jurisdiction of the WBSC Europe;
- h) To decide on and publish administrative By-Laws, including time and manner of payment of any financial obligations;
- i) To deal with the applications for affiliation in accordance with these Statutes;
- j) To prepare the annual budget, balance sheets, financial statements and annual reports on the financial activities, duly audited, that should be approved by the next Ordinary Congress;
- k) To approve regulations for WBSC Europe competitions;
- l) To decide on WBSC Europe awards;
- m) To make decisions in case of emergency;
- n) To establish rules of order for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Board, Commissions, etc., provided that they will not be in conflict with these Statutes;
- o) To provide a written report of its activities to every Congress;
- p) To approve and compile Baseball-Softball records achieved in competitions under the jurisdiction of the WBSC Europe;
- q) To propose or in the proper delegation of its authority cause a Commission to propose amendments to the Statutes
- r) To monitor, supervise and orient the activities of Commissions, whose members should be appointed at the Presidents proposal and confirmation of the Executive Board;

- s) To ensure that the decisions of a Congress are timely and properly implemented;
- t) To approve, at the President's proposal, the employment of the WBSC Europe Executive Office; and
- u) To review materials to be presented to a Congress and, if required, approve the documents to be presented to the Congress when they are issued under its responsibility or its authority, and issue any recommendations and comments that it deems necessary;
- v) Otherwise take all actions as required or necessitated by these Statutes.

14.10 - The Executive Board is not authorised to make any changes in the Statutes without the approval of the Congress.

14.11 - The Executive Board shall operate as follows.

- a) The Executive Board shall meet at least three times every calendar year, which, one may or may not be during the Congress, and a meeting of the Executive Board may take place in whole or in part via electronic means (a "Meeting"). Unless the Executive Board shall approve a meeting on short notice ("Extraordinary Meeting"), notice must be given not less than sixty (60) calendar days before a meeting of the Executive Board, with a request for items or information for the agenda. Any matter to be discussed at a Meeting other than an extraordinary Meeting must be received by the Secretary General at least twenty-one (21) calendar days before the Meeting. The Secretary General shall publish a written notice of such Meeting confirming the date, time, and location of the meeting, and provide agenda items and supporting documentation not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to each Meeting. Once a final written notice of a Meeting has been made, the Meeting may only be cancelled by majority vote of the Executive Board.
- b) A quorum of the Board shall consist of one – half of the persons then holding a position on the Board. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting may nevertheless proceed to discuss the matters on the agenda without proceeding to voting. Any decision of the Executive Board must have a simple majority of those present.
- c) The President shall preside at every Meeting of the Executive Board, if the President is not available then the Secretary General shall preside in his or her place, failing which the members of the Executive Board in attendance shall elect a chair of the meeting.
- d) The Secretary General shall take or cause to be taken the minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board, provide draft minutes within twenty (20) calendar days after the Meeting and publish them within thirty (30) calendar days to every Member and on the WBSC Europe web site. At every Meeting of the Executive Board, each member of the Executive Board shall declare any conflict of interest involving any matter on the agenda or otherwise discussed at the Meeting, which conflict(s) shall be recorded in the minutes. A member of the Executive Board may, with the prior written consent of the Secretary General, participate in a Meeting not called as a fully electronic meeting of the Executive Board and be present by telephonic or other means of electronic communication as long as all participants can be clearly heard. A member of the Executive Board attending a Meeting in this way shall be deemed to be present and this will not count as an absence.
- e) No member of the Executive Board shall attend by or give a proxy to another person and no vote shall be taken by or opinion expressed by proxy. A resolution shall be validly passed if adopted by a majority of members of the Executive Board present and voting. Unless otherwise agreed by the Meeting of the Executive Board in question, the minutes of that meeting, in whole or in part, shall be public.
- f) Notwithstanding the above, a member of the Executive Board may request that the Executive Board meet on an expedited basis provided that more than two-thirds of the members agree in

writing to hold such a meeting (“Special Board Meeting”). The procedures in this Article, which apply to regular Meetings, shall apply to every Special Board Meeting, but the notice, agenda, and distribution requirements may be waived by vote of the Executive Board.

14.12 - The Executive Board has the power to make By-Laws, Rules and Regulations for the good functioning of the WBSC Europe.

These By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, once approved by the Executive Board, shall come into immediate effect or at such time as determined by the Executive Board.

The Congress, at its absolute discretion, may disallow a particular section, or part, or clause, of the By-Laws, Rules, Regulations upon a vote of two thirds (2/3) of Accredited Delegates present and voting at a valid Congress.

All By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, shall be advised to all Member Federations within thirty (30) days of its adoption.

14.13 - The following shall govern the removal of a Member of the Executive Board:

1. The grounds for the removal of a Member of the Executive Board are as follows:
 - a) Failure to properly discharge his or her duties under these Statutes;
 - b) The conviction of a criminal offense that in his or her country would result in the imposition of a monetary fine or a term of imprisonment, or the insolvency, bankruptcy or disqualification to serve as a director of a company of such person;
 - c) The commission or omission of an act that brings WBSC Europe into disrepute; or
 - d) The incapacity of the individual involved.
2. The Member of the Executive Board subject to removal shall be timely notified of the receipt of any such motion for removal. The procedural and substantive provisions of WBSC Europe or WBSC Disciplinary By-Laws shall apply to every proceeding for a removal or suspension.
3. In the case of a removal of an at Large member, the President and the relevant VP Baseball or Softball shall bring forth the name of the individual who will replace the removed member until the Next Annual General Congress where an election shall be held for that position. In the case of a suspension, the individual shall be suspended from all activities as regards his or her Office and may not take part in any activities or deliberations of the Executive Board, in accordance with the terms of the suspension.
4. The Executive Board shall have the authority to fill any vacancy which occurs through death, resignation or removal of any Member of the Executive Board.
5. In the case the position of the President of the WBSC Europe becomes vacant, the Executive Board shall decide who will replace the President amongst themselves and will be called Interim President until the next general Congress.

ARTICLE 15. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

15.1 - President

The President is the legal representatives of the WBSC Europe and their duties and responsibilities include:

- a) To officially represent the WBSC Europe with full powers of attorney in accordance with what is stated in these Statutes;
- b) To summon and preside the sessions of all Congresses and the Executive Board and to sign the corresponding minutes together with the Secretary General.
- c) To elaborate together with the Secretary General, and the Treasurer the annual report, distributed to Members of the WBSC Europe and to record in writing and present at the Congress, all WBSC Europe activities to the end of his or her mandate.
- d) To manage and supervise the execution of the decisions of the Congress and the Executive Board, and to present to the latter such reports as may be requested.
- e) To sign all WBSC Europe's contracts with authorisation of the Executive Board.
- f) To propose to the Executive Board the appointment and hire the WBSC Europe Executive Office.
- g) To propose to the Executive Board the appointment of the Chairmen of the WBSC Europe Commissions and all their members, excluding the Chairs of the Baseball and Softball Commissions.
- h) To appoint persons to be responsible for carrying out investigations required by the WBSC Europe.
- i) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Europe Statutes and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress.

15.2 - Vice Presidents Baseball and Softball:

- a) The VP Baseball and VP Softball are appointed to the positions of Chairs of the Respective Commissions and shall be responsible for execution of all activities in their respective Sport.
- b) To support the President in all the duties of the President.
- c) To perform such duties and functions as the President or the Executive Board may deem additional appropriate.

15.3 - Secretary General:

The duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General are:

- a) To send out the relevant notices to attend the Congress and the meetings of the Executive Board.
- b) To draw up the minutes of the sessions of the Congress and the Executive Board, jointly signing them together with the President.
- c) To transcribe the minutes of the Congress and the Executive Board and send them in the official WBSC Europe languages to all the Members, within sixty (60) days of the end of each meeting.
- d) To receive all suggestions, requests, queries and any other business and inform the President accordingly and to follow up with necessary action pertaining thereto and to inform Members of the decisions and resolutions taken.
- e) To supervise the functioning and operations of the WBSC Europe Executive Office in its administrative and management functions, including the proper filing and keeping of records and documents at the WBSC Europe Headquarters.

- f) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Europe Statutes and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress.
- g) In the absence of the President, to serve as acting President.
- h) To keep all records.
- i) To provide to WBSC a yearly activity and development report.

15.4 - Treasurer:

The duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer are:

- a) To deal with all financial matters related to the WBSC Europe management, organisation and administration including formulating the necessary checks and internal audit processes and procedures.
- b) To keep the books containing all entries relating to the assets and liabilities, income and expenditures of the WBSC Europe up-to-date and ensure that the WBSC Europe accounts are audited by a competent independent audit company appointed by the Congress.
- c) To supervise the administrative and management of WBSC Europe's accounts by the WBSC Europe Executive Office, including the proper filing and keeping of all accounting books and documents up-to-date.
- d) To oversee the payment of fees by Members, and ensure due and proper communication and notification of account statements in relation thereto, including notification of annual fees due by January 31st of the corresponding year.
- e) To prepare the balance sheets and the financial statements and reports within the prescribed period and ensure that the same are sent to the Executive Board, and subsequently to Members of the Congress.
- f) To remit to the President monthly reports on income and expenditures and whenever the Executive Board meets.
- g) To control the financial implementation of contracts and agreements entered into by the WBSC Europe and keep the President informed accordingly.
- h) To control the financial and merchandising aspects of all competitions falling under the jurisdiction of the WBSC and WBSC Europe and propose to the President, whenever he or she deems this necessary, the appointment of a representative charged with checking the fulfilment of the financial commitments contracted with WBSC Europe by the corresponding Organising Board.
- i) To send out the vouchers relating to WBSC Europe's income and expenditures whenever necessary.
- j) To carry out such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary under the WBSC Europe Statutes and/or as may be entrusted upon him or her by the Executive Board or Congress
- k) to provide to WBSC a yearly financial report

To carry out his or her duties, the Treasurer shall use the services of the WBSC Europe Executive Office.

15.5 - Members at Large:

Such duties and functions as the Executive Board may deem appropriate to each of them

15.6 - Athlete Representatives:

The Athletes' Representatives are the legal representatives of the athletes in WBSC Europe. Their duties and responsibilities are to be the athletes voice in all matters in the WBSC Europe and the WBSC Europe Executive Board and carry out such duties and responsibilities that the WBSC Europe Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and the WBSC Europe Executive Board shall entrust upon them.

15.7 - Except for Athlete Representatives, members of the Executive Board shall not participate or otherwise be involved in WBSC Europe competition as an athlete, manager, coach, technical official, umpire, or scorer

15.8 - The WBSC Europe Executive Office:

The staff are the management and administrative organ of the WBSC Europe.

ARTICLE 16. THE COMMISSIONS

16.1 - The Executive Board has the power to create any Commission that it deems necessary for the good administration of WBSC Europe and, as applicable, the Objectives or the business of WBSC Europe.

16.2 - The President shall appoint and dismiss Chairpersons and members of Commissions with the approval of the Executive Board (except for the Baseball and Softball Commissions).

16.3 - Commissions act on the authority and under the supervision of the Executive Board and report to the Executive Board and the Congress, if required. Every Commission shall have terms of reference and operating procedures, which shall be approved by the Executive Board.

16.4 - The following Commissions are mandatory, shall have jurisdiction over the subject and may only be dissolved by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board:

- a) Baseball Commission: This commission oversees all matters for Baseball, supervised by the Executive Board. This includes WBSC Europe Competitions for Baseball. This Commission administers the Equipment Regulations and the Tournament Regulations that govern and apply to WBSC Europe Competitions. It has at least five members appointed By WBSC Executive Board based on proposal by the Vice President Baseball (who chairs this commission).. The President is an ex officio member.
- b) Softball Commission: This commission oversees all matters for Softball, supervised by the Executive Board. This includes WBSC Europe Competitions for Softball. This Commission administers the Equipment Regulations and the Tournament Regulations that govern and apply to WBSC Europe Competitions. It has at least five members appointed By WBSC Executive Board based on proposal by the Vice President Softball (who chairs this commission). The President is an ex officio member.
- c) Legal Commission: This commission reviews and submits recommendations or proposals by Members, proposes to the Executive Board amendments to the Statutes, By Laws, Codes, Rules and Regulations and advises the Executive Board and the General Congress on legal, discipline and associated such matters.
- d) Integrity Commission: This commission administers the Code of Ethics for WBSC Europe under delegated authority from the Executive Board and cooperates with the WBSC for any doping related matters arising in the Continent. It shall when required by a resolution of the Executive Board conduct a review of matters.

16.5 - Every member of a Commission shall declare any conflict of interest in connection with his or her involvement with that Commission and shall recuse himself or herself from any matter before the Commission and concerning that member or his or her National Federation.

16.6 - The Commissions shall meet whenever there is business to be transacted, all meetings being subject to the approval of the Executive Board. All Commission meetings may be held by electronic means, or in person.

16.7 - If a member of a Commission has been absent from two consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall have the right to declare that such member has forfeited his or her membership. The Executive Board shall then fill the vacancy.

16.8 - For any Commission, the Executive Board may appoint ex officio an Executive Board member or other person who shall ensure and maintain communications between the Executive Board and the Commission.

CHAPTER 5 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 17. THE INTERNATIONAL PLAY AND THE ATHLETES

17.1 - All WBSC Europe Baseball-Softball competition, match, game, tournament between teams and/or clubs that come under the jurisdiction and/or auspices of one or more Member Federations and/or comprising of one or more players that come under the jurisdiction and/or auspices of one or more Member Federations, shall come under the jurisdiction of the WBSC Europe and shall be subject to these Statutes.

17.2 - WBSC Europe Full Members are the only authorities in each country to select their National Team and have the exclusive right to represent the country or territory name, flag and colours.

17.3 - In situations whereby teams/clubs and/or players are involved in a Continental Baseball or Softball Game or Tournament in contravention of WBSC Europe Statutes, the teams/clubs and/or players, as well as the Member Federation under whose auspices they belong, may be penalised in accordance with these Statutes.

17.4 - For purposes herein, "Continental Baseball-Softball competition, match, game, tournament" means a game or a series of games of Baseball-Softball between national teams or teams representing the country or territory at any level in Europe or teams representing more than one WBSC Europe Member Federation organised in advance in a formal manner.

17.5 - Any athlete playing for his or her national team in a competition, match, game, tournament under the jurisdiction of the WBSC Europe must be nationals of the country or territory or of the Federation, Association or Organisation, which registered him or her for their national team.

17.6 - All matters relating to nationality shall be in accordance with the Tournament Regulations and with the Olympic Charter. Eligibility rules, in accordance with the Olympic Charter, are described in the tournament regulations of each WBSC Europe tournament.

ARTICLE 18. THE STATUTES AND THE TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

18.1 - These Statutes may be amended or supplemented, or rescinded and the corporation dissolved, only in a duly called and quorate meeting of a Congress and only if more than two thirds (2/3) of the Member Federations in Good Standing present and voting at such Congress vote affirmatively for such change or rescission. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be treated as a Motion to be presented before a Congress. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the Motion, every amendment shall come into effect at the

close of the Congress at which such amendment was adopted.

18.2 - The Tournament Regulations Baseball Commission and Softball Commission respectively govern all WBSC Europe competitions.

18.3 - Save for applicable law, the Statutes are the only governing documents of WBSC Europe.

18.4 - Every power, express or implied, for the administration of Baseball - Softball related to the duties of Article 16.4. a) and b) within Europe shall be vested in the relevant Commissions with the approval of the Executive Board. Each Tournament Regulation, the decision of a Commission and the action taken by a Congress or the Executive Board shall be consistent with these Statutes. In the event of any discrepancy or conflict, these Statutes shall prevail.

18.5 - The jurisdiction to consider, interpret, or resolve any dispute, interpretation or matter arising under these Statutes or between these Statutes and the respective Tournament Regulations is vested in the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE 19. DISPUTES

19.1 - Disciplinary Proceedings by National Federations:

a) WBSC Europe recognises the jurisdiction and right of a National Federation and the sports to discipline or disqualify in its own territory and its own sport any person in accordance with the rules of that National Federation or sport, in accordance with the obligations of that National Federation or sport to provide a full and fair opportunity for such person to be present, to be heard, to be represented by counsel and to appeal any such decision.

b) Subject to these Statutes, and applicable law, a National Federation shall have the right to discipline or disqualify a foreign person that, in a WBSC Europe competition sanctioned by that National Federation, violates the rules of that National Federation. After a final determination is made and a decision is made to discipline or disqualify the person, the decision shall be provided to the WBSC and WBSC Europe and the National Federation to which the person belongs. All National Federations and WBSC Europe shall abide by the final determination (if appealed, a determination is not final unless and until affirmed on appeal). Should that foreign person contest any such decision of that National Federation, that person has the right to appeal such decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport ("CAS") under the applicable rules of CAS. The decision of the CAS shall be final.

c) WBSC Europe may discipline or disqualify any person for any offense, which is a violation of these Statutes, pursuant to Article 9 of these statutes.

d) WBSC Europe recognizes the jurisdiction and right of the WBSC to discipline or disqualify a person in accordance with the WBSC By-Laws, in accordance with the obligations of WBSC to provide a full and fair opportunity for such person to be present, heard, represented and appeal any such decision.

e) A Member, Participant or Official involved in a WBSC Europe Competition in contravention of these Statutes or a WBSC By-Law may be subject to discipline in accordance with Art. 9.

19.2 - Dispute Resolution:

a) A complaint seeking a disciplinary ruling may be brought by the Executive Board, any National Federation arising out of an act or omission that involves a matter under these Statutes or a Code, or arising out of a WBSC Europe competition that is not otherwise provided for in these Statutes. All complaints shall be in writing, state the matter of concern, accompanied by any supporting documentation, and a list of witnesses or other persons having information on which the complaining party wants to rely. Resolution of that complaint is be governed by Article 9 of these Statutes.

b) A complaint for dispute resolution may not be filed with WBSC Europe unless and until all available administrative remedies provided by any other organisation with authority over such complaint are exhausted.

c) The sole and exclusive means for dispute resolution shall be as provided for in these Statutes.

19.3 - Arbitration

a) Any dispute against WBSC Europe, or any appeal from a decision of the WBSC Europe under Article 16 or Article 9, shall be initially resolved by WBSC, whose decision may be appealed exclusively by arbitration before the CAS. No dispute or any other matter may be brought before a court.

b) The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the WBSC, CAS, or pursuant to such other rules or modified rules as the parties agree. The decision of the CAS or other agreed arbitration body shall be final, binding upon the parties and non-appealable.

ARTICLE 20. DOPING CONTROL

20.1 WBSC Europe has adopted, administers and enforces the Anti-Doping Rules in cooperation with the WBSC and WADA.

20.2 Any violation of the Anti-Doping Rules is actionable by the WBSC.

CHAPTER 6 – FINANCIAL MATTERS

ARTICLE 21. FINANCIAL MONITORING AND CONTROL

21.1 - The fiscal year of WBSC Europe is the calendar year. For each fiscal year, the Treasurer shall cause to be produced a statement of accounts. These annual statements shall be audited and certified by a Certified Public Accountant, reviewed and approved by the Executive Board.

21.2 - The statement of accounts for any year preceding a regular Congress, and for the multiple-year period since the last regular Congress, shall be sent to all Members in advance of the next scheduled regular Congress as part of the material provided by the Secretary General in accordance with Article 13.

ARTICLE 22. INCOME AND ASSETS

22.1 - WBSC Europe's income shall derive from:

a) The Membership fees paid by all categories of Members, including new Members.

b) The amounts payable to WBSC Europe under all contracts and agreements signed by WBSC Europe's Executive Board relating to the competitions, activities and events under WBSC Europe's jurisdiction and those derived from the participation in the same.

c) The amounts payable under sponsorships and media/broadcast rights of all competitions, activities and events under the WBSC Europe's jurisdiction (which rights are the sole property of WBSC Europe).

d) All income derived from grants and donations by any organisation and from all other source.

e) Any income and payment from all sources related to the WBSC Europe's assets and properties, including WBSC Europe's brand and merchandise revenues.

22.2 - The WBSC Europe's assets consist of:

- a) The name "World Baseball Softball Confederation Europe", any publication by the WBSC Europe like Newsletters, Magazines, Yearbooks, Documentaries, etc. and the acronym «WBSC Europe» and the prevailing logos and brands of the organisation and all those that can be created in the future.
- b) The World Rankings for all categories, for instance Men's Baseball, Women's Baseball, Men's Softball and Women's Softball established by WBSC.
- c) All Official National Team Competitions that fall under WBSC Europe's jurisdiction.
- d) The WBSC Europe official competitions and tournaments and others that can be created with this character, including but not limited to all Disciplines and their virtual/electronic versions as well as all its various Age Categories and all other trademarked and registered WBSC Europe events & tournaments.
- e) All Official Club Competitions that fall under WBSC Europe's jurisdiction.
- f) Any logo, official look and branding related to WBSC Europe and its competitions, activities and events.
- g) The balance sheets of the current bank accounts in its name.
- h) All assets material, physical, virtual/electronic or of any other kind, personal and real estate properties, included here or created by reason of existence of the office.

22.3 - In case of dissolution the WBSC Europe assets shall be transferred to the WBSC.

ARTICLE 23. MERCHANDISING

23.1 - WBSC Europe is the sole owner of the television, licensing, merchandising and marketing rights for the official European national team and club competitions for men and women.

23.2 - A WBSC Europe Full Affiliated Member taking part in competitions organised by Multidisciplinary Sports Games, and all the competitions organised by the WBSC Europe, may use advertising brand or badges any time these correspond to what is authorised by WBSC Europe.

23.3. - The WBSC Europe reserves the right to establish the conditions for the use of advertising in the uniforms, or under any other form, in the Continental competitions, taking into account, whenever possible, the affiliate members' contracted commitments, these latter having requested the WBSC Europe's authorisation before contracting any commitments regarding this matter.

23.4 - The WBSC Europe is the only authorised entity for the use, with advertising or merchandising purposes, of the names, brands, logos, publications, emblems and symbols of the organisation. Any use of these must be authorised beforehand, deliberately in written, by the WBSC Europe Executive Board.

CHAPTER 7 – FINAL DISPOSITIONS

ARTICLE 24. DISSOLUTION

24.1 - The dissolution of WBSC Europe shall require a decision of the Congress by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the present voting Members.

24.2 - In the event of a dissolution of WBSC Europe, any remaining unallocated funds shall be used for any outstanding obligations, and the remainder shall revert to an institution of public utility with a similar purpose as WBSC Europe and which is tax exempted. The remainder shall neither revert to the founders nor to the Members, and not be used totally or partially in their favour or for their profits and in whatever possible manner.