



**BASEBALL, SOFTBALL AND
BASEBALL5 COMMISSIONS BY
LAWS**

Approved by the WBSC Europe Executive Board on June 24, 2023

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ARTICLE 1. NAME

1.1 - Under Article 1 of the WBSC Europe Statutes, the WBSC Europe, hereinafter referred to as “WBSC Europe”, is the only recognised Governing Body for the Sports of Baseball and Softball and all disciplines thereof, legally established in accordance with its own Statutes as well as the Swiss Civil Code and it shall be in charge of all Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 activities in all categories thereof in all the countries and territories of Europe which accept its Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

1.2 - Pursuant to Article 12.1 of the WBSC Europe Statutes, WBSC Europe has created the WBSC Europe Baseball Commission ("the WBSC Europe Softball Commission"), and the WBSC Europe Baseball5 Commission hereinafter referred to as the “Commissions”, for the sole purpose of and to be responsible for the technical rules and competitions, the supervision and the organisation of Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 respectively, and to manage the same under the authority of the WBSC Europe.

1.3 - The Commissions shall be governed by the WBSC Europe Statutes, By Laws, Rules and Regulations and any all disciplines and categories thereof which shall be in full compliance with the WBSC Europe Statutes, By Laws and Rules and Regulations.

1.4 - The Commissions are ruled by the WBSC Europe Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 Commissions By-Laws, which is in full compliance with the WBSC Europe Statutes.

ARTICLE 2. ORGANISATION OF THE COMMISSIONS

2.1 - The Commissions shall be managed and administered in the following manner:

- a) by the Vice President of the respective Commission;
- b) by the members appointed to the Commission
- c) by the WBSC Europe Executive Board;

In accordance with the WBSC Europe Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Commissions may be appointed to exercise their respective functions as delegated to them by the WBSC Europe Executive Board and the Vice President of the respective Commission. The Commissions shall report to and be subject to the authority of the WBSC Europe Executive Board.

2.2 - The WBSC Europe Secretariat shall assist with the administration and management of each Commission.

2.3 - The Vice President of the respective Commission may create such Committees and Working Groups (“WG”) and appoint the Chair and members thereof and such Committees and WGs shall exercise such functions as delegated to it by the Vice President of the respective Commission and under his/her authority and are always subject to the authority of the WBSC Europe Executive Board and shall be in compliance with the WBSC Europe Statutes, By Laws, Rules and Regulations. All Committees and WGs shall report to the Vice president of the respective Commission, who shall report to the WBSC Europe Executive Board when necessary.

ARTICLE 3. THE COMMISSION

3.1 - The Commission shall each comprise of the following officers:

- a) a WBSC Europe Vice-President
- b) at least five (5) members

3.2 - The WBSC Europe Vice-President shall be elected as follows and in accordance with the WBSC Europe Election By-Laws at their Annual Congress every four (4) years.

3.3 – At least five (5) members shall be appointed by the WBSC Europe Executive Board based on proposal of the respective Vice-President based on Article 16 of the WBSC Europe Statutes and Article 10 of the WBSC Europe Election By-Laws.

3.4 - The members of the Commissions shall serve for a period of four (4) years unless replaced by the Vice President of the respective Commission whenever deemed necessary.

ARTICLE 4. THE DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF THE COMMISSIONS

4.1 – The main focus and objectives of the Commissions is running their respective sports through official tournaments such Championships and Cups, events, clinics, development of human sources and all matters connected to development of the sports.

4.2 - The rights and duties of each Commission Board shall include the following:

- a) To discuss and decide on all matters assigned to it by the WBSC Europe Executive Board.
- b) To do everything possible to maintain harmony between its Commission Members and to decide without prejudice on each dispute that might occur between or amongst them.
- c) To organise and control all competitions under the jurisdiction of each Commission, including to decide on and publish regulations for the competitions and also to determine the dates and sites upon final approval of the WBSC Europe Executive Board.
- d) To approve and compile and keep up-to-date Baseball Softball and Baseball5 records achieved in competitions under the jurisdiction of each Commission.
- e) Monitor, supervise and orient the activities of the Commission Committees,
- f) To provide a written report of the activities to the Executive Board, Member Federations per Quarter and a final report jointly with the WBSC Europe report to the Annual General Congress..
- g) To ensure that the decisions of the WBSC Europe Executive Board are timely and properly implemented.
- h) To take all other actions as required or necessitated by the WBSC Europe Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations or as may be directed by the WBSC Europe Executive Board.

4.3 - The Commissions shall operate as follows:

4.3.1. The Commissions shall meet at least three times every calendar year in particular and based on the coordinated meetings of the WBSC Europe Executive Board:

- 4.3.1.1.1 once immediately before each Annual Congress,
- 4.3.1.1.2 once at mid-year before the season, for an intermediate review of the situation of the year,
- 4.3.1.1.3 once after the season to proceed to the reviews and approvals as stated in this By Laws,
- 4.3.1.1.4 furthermore, the Commissions shall meet any time it deems necessary upon notice of the WBSC Europe Vice-President.

4.3.2 The meetings of the Commissions are administrated according to the Regulations.

- a) The Meetings of the Commissions may take place in whole or in part via electronic means (a "Meeting").
- b) The WBSC Europe Vice-Presidents shall call a meeting and notify all members at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting
- c) The WBSC Europe Vice-Presidents of the Commissions shall preside at every Commission meeting.
- d) The quorum shall be constituted with the concurrence of at least half of all appointed members of the Commission + one (1). In the absence of a quorum, the Commissions, duly convened, may nevertheless proceed to discuss the matters on the agenda and act with the affirmative vote of at least half of all members of the Commission presented to voting. In the case of a tie, the WBSC Europe Vice-President shall have the casting vote.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Commissions will be made available to the members within thirty (30) calendar days.
- f) At every meeting of the Commission, each member of the Commission 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 Commission may, with the prior written consent of the Commission, participate in a meeting not called as a fully electronic meeting of the Commission and be present by telephonic or other means of electronic communication as long as all participants can be clearly heard. A member of the Commission attending a meeting in this way shall be deemed to be present.
- g) A resolution shall be validly passed if adopted by a majority of members of the Commission present and voting.
- h) Unless otherwise agreed by the meeting of the Commission in question, the minutes of that meeting, in whole or in part, shall be public.

ARTICLE 5. THE COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSIONS

5.1 - The Vice Presidents of the respective Commissions have the power to create any sub Committees of the Commissions and appoint the Chairs and members thereof with such mandate and terms of reference as they deem necessary and appropriate for the good administration of the Commissions and, as applicable, the Objectives or the business of the Commissions. Such sub Committees and all members thereof shall carry out all duties and responsibilities in compliance with and in harmony with the WBSC Europe Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, the Vice President of the respective Commission and the WBSC Europe Executive Board shall entrust upon them.

5.2 - Sub Committees act on the authority and under the supervision of, and shall report to, the respective Commissions and the WBSC Europe Executive Board , if required. Every sub Committee shall have terms of reference and operating procedures, which shall be approved by the respective Commission.

5.3 - The power to appoint members of the sub Committees shall include the power to dismiss and re-appoint their members and to dissolve any sub Committee.

5.4 - The following Committees 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:

5.4.1. The Technical and Competition Committee, shall have jurisdiction over the subject matters for which formed.

5.4.1.1. The Technical and Competitions Committee establishes, defines and enforces the Rules and Standards governing the respective Commission Competitions, establishes and enforces the training programs for Scorers, Umpires and Technical Commissioners proposes via the Vice presidents of the respective Commissions to the Executive Board the appointment of the members of this Committee, and ensures the good running of the respective Commission Competitions.

5.4.1.2. The Technical and Competitions Committee may establish sub Committees to run specific areas of competitions, such as Umpiring Committee, Scoring Committee, Competition Committee etc. All members of specific Committees are appointed by respective Vice President.

5.4.2. The Enhancement Committee This committee is responsible for the implementation of all aspects for the development of the respective sports including player, coaches, teams development. This committee will oversee all projects authorized and approved by the WBSC Europe Development Commission. It will conduct surveys and questionnaires in order to establish data of the development and progression of member federations in their quest for growing the sports in their federations.

5.4.3. The Performance Committee: ensures the operational and functional capacity of the respective Commission and assists the Vice President in running the Commission including standardizing timelines, procedures and reports. The committee will assist the other committees and sub committees in any capacity required.

5.5 - The Committees and sub Committees shall operate according to the principles formulated in the Regulations.

5.6 - Every member of a Committee shall declare any conflict of interest in connection with his/her involvement with the WBSC Europe, the Committees and shall recuse himself/herself from any matter before the Committee and concerning that member or his/her National Federation, Association or Organisation.

5.7 - The Committees shall meet whenever there is business to be considered and/or transacted.

ARTICLE 6. THE BY LAWS AND THE TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

6.1 - Each Committee shall make such Tournament Rules and Regulations for all disciplines of Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 to govern, manage and administer all qualification and technical aspects of Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 competitions under the jurisdiction of each Commission.

6.2 - The Commission Board shall ensure that all such Tournament Rules and Regulations are in compliance with and in harmony with the WBSC Europe Statutes, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE 7. DISPUTES

7.1 - All disputes arising from any matter under this By Laws and any Tournament Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary By-Laws under the WBSC Europe Statutes.

7.2 - The jurisdiction to consider, interpret, or resolve any dispute, interpretation or matter arising under these Tournament Rules and Regulations is vested in the Commission Board.

ARTICLE 8. DOPING CONTROL

8.1 - All matters pertaining to doping testing and anti-doping matters shall be dealt with in accordance with the WBSC Europe Statutes, Code of the Commissions, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and the WADA Code.

ARTICLE 9. THE WBSC EUROPE COMMISSION FINANCES

9.1 – The Commissions shall be considered and treated as of equal importance and shall each be responsible for and pay timeously all costs, expenditures and liabilities of the respective Commission, including for its Commission members with the revenues allocated by WBSC Europe.

9.2 – The income that will be allocated by WBSC Europe to each Commission shall be used towards the fulfilment of the objectives and for the management, administration and operation of the same.

9.3 - The WBSC Europe will annually allocate to the Baseball Commission Softball Commission and the Baseball5 Commission, on an equal basis, according to the budget presented, the financial resources for an effective and efficient fulfilment of the Commissions objectives and towards its management, administration and operations.

ARTICLE 10. CODE COPYRIGHTS AND TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

10.1 - All Tournament Rules and Regulations and all publications promulgated by the Commissions shall be published in the official languages of the Commissions solely for the benefit of WBSC Europe Members. They may be reprinted or translated by Members for the use of those Members only, with the understanding that in all cases where the translated text differs in interpretation, the English version shall be accepted. All copyrights of this By Law and Tournament Rules and Regulations shall remain and be the sole right and property of the WBSC Europe.

10.2 - All persons other than WBSC Europe Members wishing to publish the By Laws or any Tournament Rules and Regulations must first obtain the permission of the WBSC Europe Executive Board.