Baseball Federation of Asia

亞 洲 棒 球 總 會

BASEBALL FEDERATION OF ASIA: CONSTITUTION

As of July 3rd, 2022

SECTION 1: CONSTITUTION

Clause 1.1
This is the Constitution of the Baseball Federation of Asia, also known as the BFA.

Clause 1.2
The BFA is a federation of the national/regional governing baseball organizations of nations/regions responsible for the development and promotion of baseball in Asia.

Clause 1.3
The BFA is recognized by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) as the sole continental confederation for the development of baseball in Asia

Clause 1.4
The BFA is the ultimate authority for baseball in Asia within the context of this Constitution.

Clause 1.5
The BFA authority and power comes from the authority given it by its member national/regional governing bodies who accept this constitution as the basis of the BFA's authority.

Clause 1.6
The Headquarter of BFA shall be fixed by decision of the congress and shall be established in the country of BFA president. It may be transferred to another location by decision of the congress.

SECTION 2 : PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

The BFA's primary responsibility is the promotion and development of baseball in Asia in its widest possible context.

SECTION 3 : OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve the primary responsibility (Section 2), the BFA has the following objectives.

Clause 3.1
To actively encourage, promote, develop baseball at all levels throughout Asia without regard to racial, political, financial, religious or any other issues.

Clause 3.2
To actively assist in the development of baseball in those countries/regions where baseball does not exist and to further assist the development of baseball in those countries/regions where it does exist.

Clause 3.3
To promote and encourage sportsmanship, fair play, good will and ethical behavior within baseball and among all its participants at all levels, in every respect.

Clause 3.4
To promote and encourage competition amongst its member countries/ regions

Clause 3.5
To promote and conduct regional and continental tournaments and championships and to establish rules and regulations for these.

Clause 3.6
To affiliate within World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) and to assist in the staging of WBSC tournaments and championships within member nations/regions in Asia.

Clause 3.7
To conduct regional and continental seminars, congresses and educational clinics to assist in the development and administration of baseball in Asia.

Clause 3.8
To develop and encourage cooperation between all baseball nations/regions and organizations in Asia, and to foster good relations with other continental confederations and nations/regions outside Asia.

Clause 3.9
To take all such steps and actions as deemed appropriate to achieve the BFA's primary responsibility.

SECTION 4 : AUTHORITY

The BFA has the following powers, responsibilities and authority.

Clause 4.1
To create rules and regulations in regard to its own functions, affairs and championships.

Clause 4.2
To establish standards of education for coaches, umpires, officials and other participants of baseball in Asia, as appropriate.

Clause 4.3
To settle and mediate disputes amongst its members as requested by its members.

Clause 4.4
To conduct all financial functions and transactions to achieve its objectives, subject to the approval of its members and/or its executive committee

Clause 4.5
To determine the conditions, locations and all matters pertaining to regional or continental championships and/or tournaments under direct BFA control.

Clause 4.6
To establish all conditions relating to its own functions, objectives and responsibilities.

Clause 4.7
To take such actions necessary to discipline or otherwise deal with breaches of its constitution and/or rules and regulations by its members and/or participants and/or officials participating in any BFA activities, and/or responsible for events, championships, tournaments, or clinics conducted under the auspices of the BFA.

Clause 4.8
To take all such actions to ensure the integrity, good will and image of the BFA so as to ensure the authority and good reputation of the BFA.

Clause 4.9
To appoint staff and consultants as necessary for its own purposes.

Clause 4.10
To take all such actions, initiatives and other activities, either directly express or not, in order to achieve its objectives.

SECTION 5 : MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the BFA is available to all national/regional governing baseball organizations(NGBO) within Asia on the following conditions.

Clause 5.1
Subject to Clause 5.3, there shall be one class of membership of the BFA with all members being of equal standing and importance.

Clause 5.2
The NGBO must represent a nation within Asia as defined by the United Nations or the IOC.

Clause 5.3
The BFA may grant associate membership to a NGBO in Asia or Oceania on such terms and conditions it determines by the BFA executive committee and subsequently endorsed by the BFA Congress.

Clause 5.4
In order for a NGBO to become a member of the BFA, it must submit to the BFA Executive the following :

5.4.1 A valid constitution which inter-alia recognizes the authority, role and objectives of the BFA.
5.4.2 A list of office bearers.
5.4.3 A certificate of affiliation to its National Olympic Committee(NOC), where such a NOC exists.
5.4.4 A letter from the National Olympic Committee from the country/region recognizing the NGBO as the sole governing body for baseball in that country/region.
5.4.5 In those countries/regions where there is no NOC, or where the NOC is not recognized by the IOC, a letter is required from the appropriate government authority recognizing the NGBO as the sole governing body for baseball in that country/region
5.4.6 Such affiliation fee as determined from time to time by the BFA executive in accordance with Section 18

Clause 5.5
All application for membership shall in the first instance be submitted to the BFA Executive who shall consider the application and make a recommendation to the BFA Congress to accept, reject or defer the application.

Clause 5.6
All members are expected to be or to seek affiliation with the WBSC.

Clause 5.7
The BFA shall only recognize one NGBO in each country /region in accordance with the IOC precedent.

SECTION 6 : OBLIGATIONS & RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

<Obligations>
Clause 6.1
Within the BFA and as a condition of membership, members of the BFA have the following roles, responsibilities and authority.

6.1.1 Members are recognized by the BFA as being the autonomous NGBO within their respective countries/regions.
a) The BFA Members recognize that their membership is voluntary and whereby they voluntarily become Members of the BFA and when they participate in its activities, implicitly agree to adhere to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.
b) BFA Members shall be bound by the following obligations :
- To attend the Congresses.
- To pay all annual fees in due time.
- To faithfully carry out the duties entrusted to them, maintaining ethics and moral principles proper to the organization.

6.1.2 Without limiting the scope of Clause 6.1, members are generally encouraged and expected to support the activities, objectives and policies of the BFA
6.1.3 Members are expected to actively participate and support all BFA activities, including :
a) The staging of BFA tournaments/championships.
b) The staging of clinics for coaches, umpires and administrators.
c) The participation in tournaments and championships.
d) The participation in clinics and other BFA activities.
e) The participation at BFA congresses and other activities.
6.1.4 Members are expected to conduct programs to develop, encourage and promote baseball in their respective countries/regions.
6.1.5 Members are to pay affiliation fees to the BFA as they become due in accordance with Section 18.
6.1.6 Members of the BFA cannot delegate their powers or rights to another NGBO.
6.1.7 Associate members of the BFA (see Clause 5.3) have the role/authority of a full member of the BFA except where such role/authority is amended or altered in accordance with Clause 5.3.

<Rights>
Clause 6.2
Subject to Section 5, members of the BFA have the following rights.

6.2.1 To participate in all BFA activities, programs and competitions.
6.2.2 To be represented by two delegates at BFA congresses as nominated by the member. However, a delegate can only represent one member.
6.2.3 To have one vote at congress.
6.2.4 To elect members of the BFA Executive.
6.2.5 To nominate members for election of the BFA Executive.
6.2.6 To place matters on the agenda of the BFA congress and/or executive.
6.2.7 To speak and debate at BFA congresses.
6.2.8 To propose amendments to BFA Constitutions and Tournament rules and Regulations of the BFA.
6.2.9 To propose any actions, policies for discussion at BFA congress.
6.2.10 Associate members of the BFA(see clause 5.3) have the following rights :
6.2.11 Clause 6.2.1(subject to any conditions decided in accordance with Clause 5.3), 6.2.2 , 6.2.5, 6.2.6, 6.2.7, 6.2.8.

SECTION 7 : LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

A member may lose its membership on the following grounds.

Clause 7.1
By written resignation by the member addressed to the BFA Executive Committee.

Clause 7.2
By expulsion of the member by the BFA Congress for the following reasons.

7.2.1 Proven serious breach of the BFA Constitution or its rules and regulations.
7.2.2 For bringing the BFA into disrepute, as determined by the BFA Congress.
7.2.3 For being failure to fulfill financial obligations in a period of two consecutive years, after a period of 60 days as from the date of receipt of the notice.

In any case, the cases referred to in the previous three paragraphs must be judged and definitely decided by the next Congress.

Clause 7.3
In the case of Clause 7.2, the following procedures shall apply.

7.3.1 Any member of the BFA Executive may cite any member for a breach of the BFA Constitution, its rules and regulations or for bringing the BFA into disrepute.
7.3.2 Such citations (Clause 7.3.1) shall be presented in writing and shall be specific and shall be addressed to the Executive Committee within thirty days of the incident/event cited. A copy of the citation shall be forwarded to the NGBO cited. Submissions may be in writing or may be presented personally.
7.3.3 The Executive Committee shall consider the citation and if necessary, seek submissions from the persons/organizations submitting the citation, and the NGBO cited, Submissions may be in writing or may be presented personally.
7.3.4 After full consideration, the Executive shall determine the matter and advise its determination and full circumstances of the matter and reasons for its decision to the next BFA Congress for ratification
7.3.5 Should the BFA Executive under Clause 7.3.4 recommend that a member lose its membership of the BFA, then such a decision must be ratified by the subsequent BFA Congress with a two-thirds majority of all members present and voting.
7.3.6 The decision of the BFA Congress shall be final and the effect of the Congress decision shall be immediate.

Clause 7.4
By losing its recognition as defined in Clause 5.4 the sole governing body for baseball in its country/region.

SECTION 8 : DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

The BFA may take disciplinary actions against a member or a representative of a member for the following reasons.

- A breach of the BFA Constitution.
- A breach of the BFA rules and regulations.
- For bringing the BFA into disrepute as determined by Congress.

The BFA procedure for handling such matters shall be as follows.

Clause 8.1
Any member or the BFA Executive may cite a member for breach of the BFA Constitution, its Rules and Regulations or for bringing the BFA into disrepute.

Clause 8.2
Such citation shall be presented in writing and shall be specific, and shall be addressed to the BFA Executive Committee within thirty days of the incident/event cited. A copy of the citation shall be forwarded to the NGBO cited at the same time as the matter is forwarded to the BFA Executive.

Clause 8.3
The BFA Executive shall consider the citation, and if necessary, seek submissions from the person's organization submitting the citation and the NGBO cited. Submissions may be in writing or in person.

Clause 8.4
After full consideration, the BFA Executive shall determine the matter and advise its determination and the full circumstances of the matter and reasons for its determination to the next BFA Congress and shall recommend an appropriate penalty for ratification by the Congress.

Clause 8.5
The penalty recommended by the BFA Executive (under Clause8.4) must be ratified by BFA Congress with at least a majority of members present and voting.

Clause 8.6
The decision of the BFA Congress shall be final and the effect of the BFA Congress decision shall be immediate.

Clause 8.7
For the purposes of Section 8, the penalty may include the following.

- Limited loss of membership or rights in the case of an NGBO (as distinct from expulsion).
- In the case of an individual or NGBO, expulsion from participation in BFA events, tournaments and championships for such period as may be specified.
- A financial penalty as determined.
- A combination of the above.
- Any other penalty that be considered appropriate and recommended by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 9 : ORGANIZATION

The organizational structure of the BFA shall consist of the following.

- The Congress
- The Executive Committee
- The standing committees including :
  ⇒ Technical Committee
  ⇒ Development Committee
  ⇒ Business Committee
- Sub Committee.
  ⇒ Umpire Committee
  ⇒ Scorer Committee

SECTION 10 : THE CONGRESS

The ultimate authority and supreme decision-making body of the BFA is the Congress.

Congress shall meet either in ordinary sessions or extraordinary sessions.

The Congress (ordinary or extraordinary session) composition, power and roles are as follows.

Clause 10.1
The Congress shall consist of member NGBO as represented by two delegates (maximum) per member as well as the Executive committee.

Clause 10.2
Member represented at the Congress will have one vote at the Congress, regardless of whether the member is represented by two delegates.
10.2.1 Only members can vote at ordinary or extraordinary Congress in accordance with 16.5.1

Clause 10.3
Members shall appoint their delegates by formal written notification to the Secretary General, prior to the commencement of any congress.

Clause 10.4
A delegate may only represent one member country/region.

Clause 10.5
Congress shall meet at least every two years or as determined by the Congress normally prior to the commencement for the bi-annual Asian championships of the country/region hosting the championships.

At Congresses, board and lodging expenses from the day prior to the start of the Congress to the day of its conclusion, for a single delegate of each member country/region of the BFA present at the Congress throughout the duration of the same shall be at the BFA's charge.

Clause 10.6
Notification of a meeting of Congress shall be advised by the Secretary-General to the members at least thirty days prior to the proposed dates of the Congress.

Notification of the Congress shall include :

- Date
- Location
- Agenda
- Conditions(e.g. accommodation, meals, etc.)

Clause 10.7

An extraordinary Congress shall be held for the following reasons.

- Changes to the BFA Constitution
- When requested by at least one-third of the members of the BFA.

Clause 10.8

When members request that an extraordinary congress be held, such request must be in writing by at least one third of BFA member's and must be addressed to the Secretary-General, and must also specify the reasons an extraordinary congress.

Clause 10.9

10.9.1 Upon receipt of a valid request (Clause 10.8) to hold an extraordinary congress, the Executive Committee shall arrange to conduct an extraordinary congress within sixty(60) days of receipt of the request at a place and time determined by the Executive Committee.

10.9.2 The Executive Committee may call for an ordinary congress to be held immediately following an extraordinary congress in accordance with Clause 10.6 above.

Clause 10.10

At an extraordinary congress, only those matters which form the basis of the holding of the extraordinary shall be discussed.

Clause 10.11

In the case of a matter of great importance, an ordinary congress may, with a two-thirds vote of approval of members present, convene an immediate extraordinary congress without reference to Clauses 10.7, 10.8, or 10.9.

Clause 10.12

The quorum for a congress shall be at least half of the BFA membership. In the event that a quorum does not exist, a congress may continue to meet, however, any all its decisions shall be subject to ratification by a subsequent congress.

Clause 10.13

The functions of an ordinary congress include the following :

10.13.1 To elect the office bearers, namely

- The president(1)
- Vice-Presidents(3)
- The Executive members of the Executive Committee(3)

To be appointed by the President

- Secretary-General(1)

10.13.2 To debate, examine, adopt, eject, defer or amend any proposals, reports or policies.

10.13.3 To provide, board policy guidelines for the implementation by the Executive.

10.13.4 To approve the affiliation of members or to set conditions for associate members.

10.13.5 To consider and approve or reject or amend the financial reports, budgets and audited accounts.

10.13.6 To amend the BFA Rules and Regulations.

10.13.7 To take such disciplinary decisions as are necessary.

SECTION 11 : EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Clause 11.1

The Executive Committee eight(8) persons as follows.

11.1.1 The President

11.1.2 Three(3) Vice Presidents

11.1.3 The Secretary General

11.1.4 Three(3) other executive members as elected by Congress.

11.1.5 In addition, the Executive Committee may invite at its sole discretion advisors/consultants to attend its meetings in an advisory capacity.

Clause 11.2

The eight members of the Executive Committee shall each have one vote on the Executive Committee. In the case where the Executive Committee is unable to determine a matter, the President shall have a second(casting) vote.

Clause 11.3

The Executive Committee may for whatever reasons suspend a member of the Executive Committee upon a two-third majority vote of its Membership. Such a suspension shall become effective immediately following the vote, however, the suspension will be subject to ratification by a subsequent congress with a two-thirds majority vote.

Clause 11.4

The Executive Committee may replace an executive committee member by a two-third majority vote of its members for the following reasons.

a) Where an Executive Committee has suspended a member(Clause 11.3)

b) Where the Executive Committee member has resigned.

c) Where the Executive Committee member fails to attend at least two(2) consecutive Executive Committee meeting without a reason acceptable to the Executive Committee.

11.4.1 Where an Executive Committee member is replaced pursuant to this clause, the new Executive Committee member must be ratified by the next BFA Congress.

11.4.2 A vacancy filled under this process shall be for the duration of the term of the person replaced.

Clause 11.5

All members of the BFA Executive shall be from different member federations, except in the case of Secretary-General or President, who may both be from the same member federation.

Clause 11.6

Executive members shall be honorary and must actively contribute to the work of the BFA and shall determine issues and make recommendations on the basis of what is good for the game as distinct from any national, regional or other interests,

Clause 11.7

An executive member may debate but cannot vote on any issue which affects that country/region of origin of that executive member.

Clause 11.8

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the Secretary-General upon instruction by the president or the Executive Committee.

Clause 11.9

A quorum for an Executive Committee shall be at least half of the Executive Committee membership(minimum 4)

Clause 11.10

The functions of the Executive Committee are :

11.10.1 To implement Congress decisions and policies.
11.10.2 To govern BFA between meetings of the Congress.
11.10.3 To take all such actions to achieve the objectives of the BFA.
11.10.4 To consider and decide any issues referred to it by Congress.
11.10.5 To report to Congress on its activities and decisions, and to submit such activities and decisions for ratification or amendment by the Congress.
11.10.6 To determine the time/location of the next Executive Committee meeting.
11.10.7 To oversee the financial affairs of the BFA, including the budgets.
11.10.8 To consider and recommend applications for membership.
11.10.9 To advise Congress on issues, policies and motions.
11.10.10 To maintain close liaison with the IBAF
11.10.11 To determine the location of the BFA headquarters.
11.10.12 To appoint staff on such conditions as deemed appropriate.
11.10.13 To allocate responsibilities to the 3 Vice Presidents(Clause 13.2)
11.10.14 To amend Tournament Rules and Regulations

Clause 11.11

Amendments to Rules and Regulations shall be made through the following process

11.11.1 Amendments can be made at an Executive Committee Meeting provided the proposed amendments are listed on the Agenda of the Executive Committee Meeting in accordance with Section 11.
11.11.2 For amendments to the Rules and Regulations to be adopted, there must be a simple majority vote of members present to be carried.
11.11.3 An amendments carried (Clause 11.11.2) comes into effect immediately or as otherwise determined by Executive Committee.

Clause 11.12

All decisions of the Executive Committee may be amended, overruled, or rejected by a BFA Congress.

SECTION 12 : THE PRESIDENT

Clause 12.1
The president shall be elected by Congress to a four year term. The term shall normally commence from the year after the Olympics to the subsequent year after the next Olympics. Maximum terms for the president shall be limited up to 3 terms(12 years).[November 3, 2007; BFA Extraordinary Congress]

Clause 12.2
The President shall be responsible to Congress.

Clause 12.3
The President shall chair meetings of the BFA Congress and Executive Committee.

Clause 12.4

The President shall have full authority of Congress within policies determined by Congress, and subject to the Constitution and rules and regulations of the BFA.

Clause 12.5
The President shall present a report to each meeting of the Congress and the Executive Committee of the President's activities.

Clause 12.6
The President shall be the official spokesperson for the BFA on all matters.

Clause 12.7
The President shall have a casting vote(that is, second vote) in a meeting of the Executive Committee where this is necessary to determine a matter.

Clause 12.8
The President shall be the BFA representative on the WBSC Executive of Baseball Division. In the event that the BFA President is unable to fulfill this role, then the BFA Executive shall nominate another person to take his position on the WBSC Executive of Baseball Division.

Clause 12.9
In the case where the president is unable to chair meetings of the Executive or Congress, the most senior Vice-President (as determined by the three Vice Presidents) shall act as President.

SECTION 13 : VICE PRESIDENTS

Clause 13.1
The Vice Presidents shall be elected by Congress for a four year term commencing in the year after the Olympic Games to the subsequent year after the next Olympic.

Clause 13.2
Each Vice President shall be responsible for one of the following functions
- 13.2.1 Business
- 13.2.2 Development
- 13.2.3 Technical, including tournaments, rules of the game

The allocation of responsibilities shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Clause 13.3
The Vice Presidents shall attend the meetings of the committee for which they have specific responsibility.

Clause 13.4
The Vice Presidents shall prepare reports for Congress and the Executive Committee on their specific responsibilities.

Clause 13.5
In the case where the President is unable to chair meetings of the Executive or Congress, the most senior Vice President(as determined by the three Vice Presidents) shall act as President

SECTION 14 : SECRETARY GENERAL

Clause 14.1
The Secretary General shall be appointed by the BFA President for practical reasons.
The Secretary General has an administrative function and should be with/near the President in order to fulfill his/her functions. The Secretary General should be appointed immediately after all the members of the board have been elected and the term of service is of 4 year.

Clause 14.2
The Secretary General shall attend all meetings of the BFA Congress and the Executive Committee.

Clause 14.3
The Secretary General shall prepare and maintain minutes, agenda reports and all financial and administrative records of the BFA

Clause 14.4
The Secretary General shall advise details of meetings of Congress and the Executive Committee.

Clause 14.5
The Secretary General shall receive, maintain, and send all correspondence on behalf of the BFA and shall report upon them to the Executive.

Clause 14.6
The Secretary General shall implement and circulate Executive decisions, as appropriate.

Clause 14.7
The Secretary General shall prepare and maintain all financial records of the BFA and shall report on them to the Executive and Congress.

Clause 14.8
The Secretary General shall maintain all membership records of the BFA.

Clause 14.9
The Secretary General shall collect fees and conduct other financial activities on behalf of the BFA.

SECTION 15 : STANDING COMMITTEES

In accordance with Section 9, there shall be three standing committees of the BFA as follows :

- Technical
- Development
- Business

Membership of these Committees shall be as follows.

Clause 15.1 : Technical Committee

The BFA Technical Committee Shall :

15.1.1 Consist of up to six persons follows:

- Four persons shall be regular members from four different commencing in the year immediately following the Olympics. Each of the four regular members shall have a vote on the technical committee.
- The BFA Vice President responsible for technical matters shall attend meetings of the Technical Committee and shall have a vote on the Technical Committee.
- The BFA Umpiring Committee Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of the BFA Technical Committee and shall have a vote.

15.1.2 From amongst the four regular members, one shall be appointed Chairman of the BFA Technical Committee by the Executive Committee.

15.1.3 The Technical Committee has the authority to appoint a further three advisory members from three different countries/regions who shall contribute to the functions of the Technical Committee through correspondence. Advisory members shall not have a vote on the Technical Committee. Advisory members will, however, be able to participate fully on all the activities of the Technical Committee and be appointed to oversee tournaments on behalf of that Technical Committee.

15.1.4 Regular members of the Technical Committee as well as the Vice President (Technical) shall attend BFA Tournaments in accordance with the BFA Tournament Rules and Regulations.

15.1.5 The Technical Committee shall be responsible for :

- Preparation and maintenance of tournament and individual participant's records.
- Preparation of rules of the games for approval by the Executive Committee.
- To recommend alterations to rules.
- Shall provide a written report on its activities to the Executive and Congress.
- To inspect the facilities and venues of BFA Tournaments.
- Such other technical matters as delegated by the Executive
- Rules and Regulations.
- To oversee the activities of the Umpire Committee.

Clause 15.2 : Development Committee

The BFA Development Committee shall :

15.2.1 Consist of up to six persons nominated by the Executive Committee of whom five shall be nominated from five different countries/regions and ratified or rejected by the Congress for a

period of four years commencing in the year immediately following the Olympic Games.

15.2.2 Each of the five persons appointed(15.3.1) shall have a vote on the Committee.

15.2.3 The Vice President(Development) shall be the sixth member of the Committee and shall have a vote.

15.2.4 The Development Committee shall have the authority to invite a further three advisory members onto its Committee from three different countries/regions, who shall contribute to the functions of the Committee through correspondence.

15.2.5 The Committee shall report on its activities to the Executive and the Congress.

15.2.6 The Development Committee shall be responsible for.

- The development and growth of grass roots baseball throughout Asia.
- To assist in the formation of National Governing Baseball Organization.
- To support and assist through all means necessary to the development of baseball in member nations/regions.
- To increase the membership of the BFA
- To implement decisions of the Executive Committee in regard to Clause 3.7 Section 1 of this Constitution.
- To prepare a written report on its activities to the Executive and Congress.

Clause 15.3 : Business Committee

The BFA Business Committee shall :

15.3.1 Consist of six persons of whom five shall be nominated by the Executive Committee from five different countries/regions and ratified by Congress for a period of four years commencing in the year immediately following the Olympic Games. Each of the five regular members shall have a vote on the Business Committee.

15.3.2 The Vice President(Business) shall be the sixth members of the Business Committee with a vote.

15.3.3 The Business Committee shall have the authority to invite a further three advisory members onto its committee from three different countries/regions whom shall contribute to the functions of the Committee through correspondence.

15.3.4 The chairman of the Business Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee from the five regular members of the Business Committee as appointed under 15.1.1.

15.3.5 The Business Committee shall be responsible for :

- Sponsorship
- Fund raising
- Other business related to the BFA

Clause 15.4 : Umpire Committee

15.4.1 The Umpire Committee shall be a Sub Committee or the Technical Committee. The Umpire Committee shall consist of up to six persons of whom five shall be regular members from five different countries/regions nominate by the Executive Committee and ratified or rejected by the Congress for a four year term commencing in the year immediately following the Olympic Games. Each of the five regular members shall have a vote on the Umpire Committee.

15.4.2 From amongst five regular members, one shall be appointed chairman of the Umpire Committee by the Executive Committee.

15.4.3 The Chairman of the Technical Committee shall be an ex-officio member of the Umpire Committee and shall have a vote.

15.4.4 The BFA Umpire Committee Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of the BFA Technical Committee.

15.4.5 The Umpire Committee has the authority to appoint a further three advisory members from three different countries/regions and who shall contribute to the functions to the Umpire Committee through correspondence.

15.4.6 The Chairman of the Umpire Committee or his delegate as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with the BFA Tournament Rules and Regulations shall attend all BFA Tournaments on such terms and conditions as are set out in the Rules and Regulations.

15.4.7 The Umpire Committee shall be responsible for :

- The promotion of umpire development.
- Education, certification, and accreditation of umpires
- To establish standards of umpiring.
- To participate in BFA tournaments as specified in the BFA Tournament Rules and Regulations.
- Such other duties as requested by the BFA Executive Committee.
- Shall provide a written report on its activities to the Executive and Congress.

Clause 15.5 : Scorer Committee

15.5.1 The Scorer Committee shall be a sub-committee of the Technical Committee. The Scorer Committee shall consist of up to six persons of whom five shall be the regular members from five different countries/regions nominated by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Congress for a four year term commencing in the year immediately following the Olympic Games. Each of five regular members shall have a vote on the Scorer Committee.

15.5.2 From amongst five regular members, one shall be appointed chairman of the Scorer Committee by Executive Committee.

15.5.3 The Chairman of the Scorer Committee or his delegate shall attend all BFA Tournaments on such terms and conditions as are out in the Rules and Regulations.

15.5.4 The Scorer Committee shall be responsible for :

The promotion of scorer development

- Education, certification and accreditation of scorers.
- To establish standards of scoring.
- To participate in BFA Tournaments as specified in the BFA Tournament Rules and Regulations.
- Make records of all the BFA Official Tournaments and submit to BFA Secretary General, together with the written report of own activities.

★ Please refer to the attached sheet for details.

SECTION 16 : NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Clause 16.1 Nominations

16.1.1 At least sixty(60) days prior to the opening date of the Congress, the Secretary General shall inform all Member Federations of the positions that are due for election and shall invite nominations for those positions, to close with President, no later than at least 30 days prior to the first day of the Congress. The closing time and date shall be clearly specified.

16.1.2 In regard to the calling of nominations, as outlined above, the following shall be the nomination procedure:

- Nominations can only be made by National Federation(see Clause 16.1.3).
- A National Federation has the right to nominate one person for any elected position. Nominations may be made for more than one position.
- All nominations shall be in writing and must clearly state the position, or positions, for which a person or persons is being nominated.
- The nomination must include the name of the nominating Member Federation and must be signed by the President of that National Federation.
- The nomination must include a statement by the person being nominated that he or she is willing to be elected and will abide by the BFA Constitution, Rules and Regulations, both during the election process and in the event that person shall be elected.

16.1.3 Only Member Federations in good financial standing with the BFA may nominate a person for election. To be in good financial standing, a Member Federation must be a current financial member with no fees or dues outstanding prior to the year of the elections, or have a prior written agreement with the BFA concerning the payment of outstanding fees or dues. Furthermore, such a Member Federation must not be under suspension or disqualification.

16.1.4 In the case where no nominations have been received in accordance with this Constitution, or where a nominee withdraws his or her nomination, thereby resulting in no nomination existing for a particular position, the Election Chairman of the Congress shall call for nominations from the Congress for that position.

16.1.5 Once nominations for that position have been received from the Congress, the election procedures outlined above shall continue.

Clause 16.2 Elections

16.2.1 The President shall nominate a suitable independent person of stature as Election Chairman to conduct the election process during the Congress immediately following the Olympic Games. The following procedures shall apply in regard to the election of the following officials.

- President {one position}
- Vice Presidents {three positions}
- Executive Members {three positions}

Clause 16.3

16.3.1 The Election Chairman shall call for nominations for each position in the order as specified above. Any delegate may nominate a person for a position with reference to 16.1.3 & 16.1.4

16.3.2 Each position shall be filled before calling for nominations for the next position.

Clause 16.4

The Election Chairman shall accept any nomination, provided the person nominated accepts the nomination.

16.4.1 If only one nomination is received, the nominee shall be declared elected.

16.4.2 Upon receipt of all nominations, the Election Chairman shall distribute to each member present a ballot paper. Any ballot paper bearing more than one name shall be informal and rejected.

Clause 16.5
The 3 Vice Presidents and 3 Executive members shall be voted on at the same time on the same ballot paper instead of individually, as there are no ranking differences.

16.5.1 In order to be eligible to vote a Member Federation must be in good financial standing in accordance with Clause 16.1.3 of this Constitution.

Clause 16.6
The Election Chairman shall collect the ballot papers, count the votes and announce the results.

Clause 16.7

16.7.1 A candidate shall be elected when that candidate receives a majority exceeding 50% of the votes cast.

16.7.2 After 3 votes casted and a candidate does not receive more than 50% of the votes in the assembly, the 4th cast will just declare the candidate with the most votes elected.

16.7.3 In the case where there are two candidates remaining and, if after three ballots, a result is not obtained, the election shall be determined by the toss of a coin.

Clause 16.8
The Election Chairman shall announce each result as it is achieved.

SECTION 17 : FEES & FINANCE

Clause 17.1: Fees
Membership Fees for each member Federation shall be as recommended by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Congress.

17.1.1 The Executive Committee may establish different level of membership fees for different member Federations taking into account the status of development by the Executive Committee

17.1.2 All membership fees are payable by December 31 in the year that they are due.

17.1.3 A once-only Affiliation fees is payable upon a NGBO seeking membership of the BFA. The fees shall be as determined by BFA Congress.

Clause 17.2: Finance

17.2.1 The financial year of the BFA shall commence on January 1 and conclude on December 31 in the same year.

17.2.2 The Secretary General shall be responsible to the Executive for all financial records and accounts.

Clause 17.3: Asset Transfer

17.3.1 During a BFA presidential power transfer after an election and its consequential headquarters relocations in-between member countries, all BFA assets and liabilities shall be transferred in its entirety from the previous administration to the newly-elected administration and shall be tax exempted.

SECTION 18 : TOURNAMENTS

The BFA Executive Committee shall establish rules and regulations for the conduct of BFA tournaments. These Rules and Regulations have the full authority of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 19 : AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to the Constitution can only be made through the following process.

Clause 19.1
By the calling of an Extraordinary Congress (see Clauses 10.7, 10.8, 10.9, 10.10, 10.11 and 10.12)

Clause 19.2
All amendments to the Constitution must be approved by at least two-thirds of members present to be carried.

Clause 19.3
Amendments carried (see Clause 19.2) will come into effect immediately or as otherwise determined by the Congress.

Clause 19.4
In the case where there is an urgent amendment required to this Constitution, the Executive Committee may change the Constitution. However, such a change must be approved by a subsequent BFA Congress.

SECTION 20 : AWARDS

The BFA may bestow upon an individual the following honors and honorary titles in recognition of that person's outstanding contribution to the development of baseball.

The honors and their conditions are as follows.

Clause 20.1
Honorary President

20.1.1 A person may have bestowed the title of Honorary President for outstanding contributions to the development of baseball internationally and in Asia, as President of the BFA, over a period of at least two terms.

20.1.2 Only one award of Honorary President can be current at any one time and only after the person completes his term and function as President of the BFA.

20.1.3 The Honorary President must be recommended by the Executive Committee and the recommendation must be endorsed by majority decision of Congress.

20.1.4 The Honorary President shall be retained by a person for a period of one term only(that is four years), or until the resignation or the replacement of the President of the BFA, whichever comes first.

20.1.5 Upon relinquishing the title of Honorary President, the person shall automatically become a Honorary Life Member of the BFA.

20.1.6 The award shall take the form of a suitable plaque and lapel badge, and by recognition in the BFA Annual Report.

20.1.7 The Honorary President shall be entitled to attend meeting of the Congress and can speak on any issue, but he has no vote.

Clause 20.2
Honorary Life Member

20.2.1 This award shall be automatically conferred upon the Honorary President relinquishing his title within one term or upon the retirement or resignation of the President of that time, whichever comes first.

20.2.2 The Executive Committee may recommend life membership for any person for outstanding contribution to the development of baseball at an international level in Asia or elsewhere for a minimum period of ten years.

20.2.3 Any Executive Committee recommendation must be endorsed by a majority decision of the Congress.
20.2.4 No more than ten persons can hold life membership of the BFA at any one time in addition to life memberships automatically conferred upon previous Honorary Presidents.
20.2.5 The award of Honorary Life Member shall take the form of a suitable plaque and lapel badge and in an Honors List in the BFA Annual Report.
20.2.6 A Life Member may attend a meeting of Congress at his own expense and speak on any issue, but he cannot vote.

Clause 20.3 President's Award
20.3.1 The President may nominate a person to receive the President's Award for outstanding contribution to the development of Asian Baseball at an international level over a period of at least five years.
20.3.2 The President's nomination must be endorsed by the Executive Committee.
20.3.3 A maximum of one President's Award can be made each year.
20.3.4 The award shall take the form of a suitable plaque and recognition in the BFA Annual Report.

SECTION 21 : OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Clause 21.1
The BFA recognizes all the languages of its Member Federations.

Clause 21.2
The official governing language of BFA shall be English.

Clause 21.3
In all cases of a dispute, the English language shall prevail and take precedence.

SECTION 22 : DISCRIMINATION

Clause 22.

BFA shall not allow any discrimination against Member Federations, Associations or Organizations or individuals (athletes, officials, umpires, delegates, and the like) on the grounds of race, national origin, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability, or political affiliation.

SECTION 23 : DISPUTES

Clause 23.1 Disciplinary Proceedings by National Federations

23.1.1 BFA recognizes the jurisdiction and right of a National Federation and the sport 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.

23.1.2 Subject to these Constitution, an applicable code and applicable law, a National Federation shall have the right to discipline or disqualify a foreign person that, in a BFA 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 BFA and the National Federation to which the person belongs. All National Federations and BFA shall abide by the final determination (if appealed, a determination is not final unless and until affirmed on appeal). Should that foreign person contests 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) BFA may discipline or disqualify any person for any offense, which is a violation of these Constitution or a Code, pursuant to Section 8 of these Articles of Association.

23.1.3 BFA may discipline or disqualify any person for any offense, which is a violation of these Constitution or a Code, pursuant to Section 8 of these Articles of Association

Clause 23.2 – Dispute Resolution:

23.2.1 A complaint seeking a disciplinary ruling may be brought by the Executive Board, any National Federation or any Continental Association arising out of an act or omission that involves a matter under these Constitution or a Code, or arising out of a BFA competition that is not otherwise provided for in these Constitution or a Code. 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 Section 8 of these Constitution.

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

23.2.3 The sole and exclusive means dispute resolution shall be as provided for in these Constitution.

SECTION 24 : DEFINITIONS

BFA	Baseball Federation of Asia
BFA Rules & Regulations	Such Rules and Regulations as established by the BFA from time to time to assist in the orderly conduct of the BFA a airs and events.
Congress	The Congress of the BFA as defined in section 10.
Executive Committee	The Executive Committee of the BFA as defined in Section 11.
Executive Member	A person being a member of the BFA Executive Committee as defined under Clause 11.1
IBAF	International Baseball Federation (IBAF) as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.
Member	A Member organization as recognized by and affiliated with the BFA as the NGBO in a particular country/region.
NGBO	National Governing Baseball Organization is the sole National/Regional body controlling the game of baseball in each country/region as recognized by that country's/region's National Olympic Committee or, where there is no National Olympic Committee, by that country's/region's appropriate government authority.
NOC	National Olympic Committee of each individual country/region as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.
Office Bearer	An individual person having an official role or function as defined in Section 12, 13, 14 and 15.

APPENDIX 1 : RECORD OF ADOPTION & AMENDMENTS

1.1 Adoption

This Constitution was adapted by the BFA Congress

On_____ At _____

1.2 Amendments

Date Section Amended	

<Attachment 1>

	Technical Committee	Development Committee	Business Committee	Umpire Committee (Sub-Committee of Technical Committee)
Voting Members				
◆ Nominated by BFA Executive	4 from 4 different countries/regions	5 from 5 different countries/regions	5 from 5 different countries/regions	5 from 6 different countries/regions
◆ BFA Vice President responsible	1	1	1	NIL
◆ Ex officio member	1 Umpire Committee Chairman	NIL	NIL	1 Technical Committee Chairman
TOTAL VOTING MEMBERS	6	6	6	6
Non Voting Members				
◆ Advisory Members appointed by the Committee	Up to 3 from 3 different countries/regions	Up to 3 from 3 different countries/regions	Up to 3 from 3 different countries/regions	Up to 3 from 3 different countries/regions
◆ Chairman	Approved by BFA Executive	Approved by BFA Executive	Approved by BFA Executive	Approved by BFA Executive
Other Matters ◆ Term of appointment	4 years	4 years	4 years	4 years