

INTERNATIONAL DANCESPORT FEDERATION

STATUTES

Incorporating all Amendments adopted at the 2008 Annual General Meeting, June 15, 2008

PREAMBLE

The International DanceSport Federation (IDSF) is the international federation governing all aspects of DanceSport worldwide, either directly through its own organs, or through its national member bodies, or by administrative agreements with other persons and bodies.

The IDSF (formerly ICAD) was founded in 1957 to organize and improve DanceSport. Later it extended its jurisdiction to include DanceSport generally. Its objects are defined in the **Statutes**. The IDSF controls all international DanceSport competitions and the granting of DanceSport competitions, which are subject to IDSF RULES.

Each Member of IDSF is the sole recognized representative of DanceSport in its country or a special multinational sports body, and representatives of each such body attend the General Meeting of the IDSF, which is the legislative organ controlling all DanceSport affairs, based on universal sporting principles.

The purpose of these **Statutes** is:

1. to ensure that IDSF's affairs are based on clear, sound principles and a strict democratic process, and not on other factors;
2. to ensure fairness, openness and principles in the conduct of IDSF's affairs;
3. to assure the free and effective participation of Members in the General Meeting;
4. to ensure accountability by the Presidium to the General Meeting;
5. to ensure the improvement and popularization of DanceSport;
6. to ensure a sound legal basis and modern principles of business administration in IDSF's affairs;
7. to ensure the clear and effective operation of the Presidium as the IDSF's political and strategic organ between General Meetings;
8. to ensure effective management of IDSF by the Managing Committee;
9. to ensure the financial success of IDSF; and
10. to ensure that DanceSport is admitted to and remains in the Medal Programme of the Olympic Games.

STATUTES

Article 1

Name, Constitution, and Registered Address

1. The name of the federation shall be "International DanceSport Federation" or "IDSF".
2. IDSF is constituted as a separate legal person in Switzerland, with limited liability under Articles 52-59 and 60-79 of the **Swiss Civil Code**, and its registered address shall be in Lausanne, Switzerland, or as determined by the Presidium. The Presidium may apply for registration of IDSF in the Register of Commerce of a Canton of Switzerland in which it has its registered address.

Article 2

Objects

The IDSF is a non-partisan, non-profit-making body. The objects of the IDSF are:

- a) to organize, govern, represent, produce and promote DanceSport;
- b) to unite in recognised IDSF member Federations, and to maintain jurisdiction over all DanceSport athletes, trainers, coaches, adjudicators, scrutineers, administrators, or other technical officials and allied sportspeople, including all amateurs competitors;
- c) to enact, administer, and enforce standardized rules to which all international competitions organized by it or its members are subject based on sporting principles, and in the best interests of DanceSport;
- d) to obtain the admission of DanceSport to the Medal Programme of the Olympic Games; to support and promote Olympism in DanceSport and the world; and to support the objectives of the International Olympic Committee; and
- e) to advise and assist its members with their work in their own countries.

Article 3

Financial Year

The financial year shall be the calendar year.

Article 4

Membership

Members of IDSF shall fall into one of the following classifications:

1. Full Members

Full Members shall be DanceSport bodies of countries which are recognized by the IDSF. Only one such body from any country may become a member.

2. Associate Member

Associate Members shall be bodies which have aims and objectives declared and agreed by the General Meeting to be beneficial to the aims and objectives of the IDSF, and shall have full voting rights in the General Meeting.

3. Provisional Members

Provisional Members shall be bodies which only partially fulfil membership qualifications. A Provisional Member does not have voting rights, but does have the right to nominate delegates to attend and speak at the General Meeting. Provisional Members can nominate couples to all IDSF-granted competitions according to Rule 5 of the **IDSF Competition Rules**.

4. Honorary Members

Honorary Members are individuals who have rendered outstanding services to international DanceSport and who are voted Honorary Membership by the General Meeting.

Article 5

Admission and Termination of Membership

1. Applications

Applications for Membership must be submitted to the General Secretary. The following must be included with an application:

- a) a copy of the applicant's Constitution;
- b) a list of the applicant's members;
- c) the names and addresses of the applicant's Executive Committee; and
- d) the following statement: "we agree to abide by the IDSF's **Statutes**, Rules and Regulations, and to abide by decisions of the IDSF's General Meeting and Presidium."

The Presidium may require the applicant to answer questions and provide further financial and other information, including proof to the satisfaction of the Presidium that it does not conflict with, or is not in rivalry with an existing member of IDSF.

2. Admission is decided by the Presidium. No reason need be given when refusing an application. If an application is rejected, the unsuccessful applicant is entitled to require the General Secretary to present its application to the next General Meeting, which may admit any applicant by a two-thirds majority vote.
3. Admission occurs when an applicant's application for membership has been accepted by the Presidium.
4. Admission to membership, and renewal of membership by payment of the annual Membership fee, constitutes a contract between the IDSF and the Member. The terms of that contract include the term that in return for membership in IDSF, Members agree to abide by the IDSF's **Statutes**, rules and regulations, and to abide by decisions of the IDSF's General Meeting and Presidium, and to comply with the **World Anti-Doping Code**, the **IDSF Anti-Doping Code**, including requiring all athletes and support personnel within their jurisdiction to recognize and be bound by the **World Anti-Doping Code** and the **IDSF Anti-Doping Code**.
5. All members must be notified in writing of any new admission and of any change in membership. It is a condition of membership of the IDSF that the policies, rules, statutes and programs of the member comply with **World Anti-Doping Code** (WADC).
6. Members may renew their Membership annually by payment of the annual Membership Fee on or before March 31st. Membership Fees may not be set off by a Member against any other debt or claim.
7. A member may resign from the IDSF at any time by registered letter or facsimile transmission addressed to the General Secretary who may accept or decline to accept such resignation. Such resignation does not affect the member's financial obligations for the current calendar year.
8. A Member may be expelled by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Meeting. A Motion to expel a Member is not in Order unless the proposer has given the Member at least one month's notice of the proposer's motion to expel, by registered letter or facsimile transmission.

Article 6

Disputes

In view of the international composition of the IDSF and the resultant difficulties in settling disputes judicially where problems arise between members or between members and the IDSF, Members waive the right to take such disputes to law, and agree that such disputes shall be subject to the binding decision of the IDSF Disciplinary Council, the General Meeting or the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Article 7

Membership Fees

1. Members are required to pay an annual fee to renew their Membership, according to the Financial regulations.
2. The amount of the annual Membership Fee shall be decided or amended by simple majority of the General Meeting and subject to amendment at any time by the General Meeting.
3. The Membership Fee for any year is due on January 1st of that year.
4. Membership Fees paid after March 31st of any year are overdue.

Article 8

Organs of the IDSF

The organs of the IDSF are:

- a) the General Meeting
- b) the Presidium
- c) the Managing Committee of the Presidium
- d) the Disciplinary Council

Article 9

General Meeting

1. The General Meeting is the principal and original organ of the federation and consists of the Members' Delegates and the members of the Presidium. Each Member is entitled to send two Delegates to the General Meeting.
2. Each Member must provide one of its delegates with written power of attorney which constitutes the authority to vote. Only one delegate per Member may vote.
3. A Delegate must be a member of the body he or she represents as a Delegate and must be at least 18 years of age and legally capable of managing all of his or her personal and business affairs, and may not be:
 - (a) a corporation;
 - (b) an undischarged bankrupt;
 - (c) someone convicted anywhere of an offence in connection with the promotion, formation or management of a corporation, or involving fraud, or whose registration to trade in the stock of corporations has been revoked, within five (5) years of the date of the General Meeting at which he or she proposes to

serve as a Delegate.

4. Assignment of votes by proxy is permitted, but only in the following written form:

(beginning of form)

INTERNATIONAL DANCESPORT FEDERATION
FORM OF PROXY
FOR THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
INTERNATIONAL DANCESPORT FEDERATION
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON (DATE OF MEETING)
AT (PLACE OF MEETING).

The undersigned signatory of (NAME OF IDSF MEMBER) hereby appoints (PROXY HOLDER'S NAME), or in his absence (ALTERNATE PROXY HOLDER'S NAME) as the proxy holder for and on behalf of (NAME OF IDSF MEMBER) to attend, act and vote for and on behalf of (NAME OF IDSF MEMBER) at the above meeting and at any adjournments thereof, to the same extent and with the same powers as if the authorized Delegate of (NAME OF IDSF MEMBER) were present at the said meeting, or any adjournment thereof.

(Please print)

Signature of Authorized Signatory

Printed Name

Address

Date

(end of form)

Proxies are not valid and may not be used unless they are assigned to a duly authorized Delegate to the Meeting, completed and signed in this form, and delivered to the General Secretary or the fax number or address permitted by the General Secretary at least twelve (12) hours before the scheduled time of the Meeting, provided always that if the General Secretary is not satisfied with any form of proxy submitted to him or her then the General Secretary shall submit the proxy for the approval of the Meeting as the first order of business of the Meeting after ascertainment of Members present, and the decision of the Meeting on the question shall be final.

5. No Member may represent more than two further Members by proxy in addition to his

or her own Member body.

6. Presidium Members may serve as Delegates. Presidium Members may receive and vote proxies.
7. Honorary Members may serve as Delegates. Honorary Members may receive and vote proxies.
8. At the General Meeting each Member has two votes. Honorary members have one vote. Provisional members have no vote.
9. An Ordinary General meeting must be held in every financial year.

Article 10

Convocation of the General Meeting

1. The General Secretary shall convene an Annual General Meeting by notice in writing to all Members by mail on or before January 15th every year.
2. The General Secretary shall communicate the date and venue for the General Meeting by notice in writing to all Members by mail at least four (4) months before the General Meeting.
3. Motions for the agenda must be submitted to the General Secretary in writing by mail, facsimile transmission ("fax") or electronic mail ("e-mail") not later than three (3) months before the General Meeting and accompanied by a brief background statement by the proposer explaining the reason for the proposed intended effect of the Motion.
4. The General Secretary shall communicate the final agenda and motions on notice for the General Meeting in writing to all members by mail, fax transmission or e-mail at least two (2) months before the General Meeting.

Article 11

General Meeting Procedure

1. The General meeting shall be chaired by the President, or alternatively the First Vice President, or alternatively a Delegate elected by the Meeting for the whole or any part of the Meeting.
2. The General Meeting is duly constituted if at least one quarter (1/4) of the voting Members is represented by Delegates or proxy. If the General Meeting is not duly constituted then a new General Meeting may be convened according to Article 10 with the same agenda, and that General Meeting will be duly constituted regardless of the

number of the members represented.

3. In order to ensure a fair and democratic process and the efficient conduct of business, the proceedings of the General Meeting shall be governed by the following Rules of Order:
 - (a) motions may be made by any Delegate, Presidium Member, or Honorary Member;
 - (b) the following take precedence over all other matters before the Meeting, in the following order: Points of Order (i.e. questions or objections regarding the proper order to be followed in the Meeting, including motions to close debate on any question), Points of Privilege (i.e. questions or objections touching on the privileges of a Delegate or a Member), and Points of Information (i.e. questions seeking further and better information and explanation of any matter before the Meeting);
 - (c) every Member of the Presidium may speak at the General Meeting, and in the event of a dispute, the following is the order of precedence for speaking and proposing motions:
 - (i) the Chairman;
 - (ii) Presidium Members;
 - (iii) Delegates;
 - (iv) Honorary Members; and
 - (v) guests
 - (d) the Chair shall recognize Delegates in order of their request to speak;
 - (e) subject to the vote of the Meeting, the Chair may impose time limits on debate and on proposers making and speaking to motions, and may impose equal time limits on any speaker wishing to speak to any matter;
 - (f) motions may only be tabled, amended, withdrawn or otherwise disposed of by vote of the Meeting as required in these **Statutes**, called by asking "who is in favour of this motion?";
 - (g) debate may only be closed by majority vote of the Meeting on a Point of Order; and
 - (h) other Rules of Order adopted by the General Meeting on Points of Order,
provided always that in the event of a dispute over any Rule of Order, the General Meeting may submit the dispute to the ruling of the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

4. Except as otherwise provided in these **Statutes**, the General Meeting passes its resolutions by simple majority of votes of the voting Delegates, including proxy holders. Resolutions to amend these **Statutes** require three (3) months' written notice to the General Secretary and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. In any vote, abstentions and invalid votes are disregarded. If there is equality of votes, the President or in his or her absence the Chairman may cast a deciding vote, but otherwise the motion fails.
5. Voting is by a show of hands, unless one-third of the Delegates present request a secret ballot.
6. The General Meeting elects the Presidium according to Article 13 and the Auditor according to Article 17 respectively of these **Statutes**. Elections shall not be held until after debate and voting on Motions of the Presidium and Motions of the Members.
7. Minutes must be taken in writing at every General Meeting and verified by two (2) Presidium Members forthwith after any adjournment thereof. They must be transcribed within one (1) month and signed by the President and another member of the Presidium. A copy shall be sent to all Members by ordinary mail, fax, or e-mail without delay and in any event within two (2) months of the end of the Meeting.
8. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary in these **Statutes**, the Presidium may submit urgent motions to the General Meeting without prior notice, with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.
9. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by a decision of the Presidium and must be convened if at least one-third (1/3) of the Members entitled to vote requests such a meeting in writing, stating their reasons.
10. The Extraordinary General Meeting must be convened immediately per Article 10.
11. For greater certainty, the Extraordinary General Meeting is a General Meeting and is subject to the same requirements as an ordinary General Meeting.

Article 12

Postal Ballots

In addition to the procedures available in the General Meeting, the Presidium may conduct votes on motions by post or fax, provided always that it may not do so regarding any motion to amend the **Statutes**. Members shall be allowed a minimum of two (2) months to vote, failure to reply shall constitute abstention, and if there is equality of votes, the motion fails. This procedure is called a "postal ballot". A postal ballot is valid provided that 50% of the membership has voted at the end of the period which the Presidium orders for voting.

Article 13

Presidium

1. The Presidium is the secondary political organ of the IDSF and is subordinate to the General Meeting.
2. Subject to the will of the General Meeting, the Presidium is empowered to govern IDSF's affairs between General Meetings and to represent IDSF in any manner, in the best interests of DanceSport.
3. The Presidium consists of:
 - the President
 - the First Vice President
 - the Second Vice President
 - the General Secretary
 - the Treasurer
 - the Sports Director
 - and up to 6 Ordinary Members
 - Honorary Life President

The Ordinary Members and the Second Vice President are responsible to undertake various functional activities as directed by the President or the Presidium.

4. The Presidium, other than the Honorary Life President, is elected by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting every third year.
5. Successful candidates to the Presidium shall be those obtaining the greatest number of votes. If there is a tie between two or more candidates a second election shall be held. If the tie persists, lots will be drawn to decide the successful candidate. In an election for General Members of the Presidium, anyone who casts a ballot must vote for the same number of candidates as the number to be elected; and, e.g. for greater certainty, if six (6) General Members of the Presidium are to be elected, then a ballot will be invalid unless it is marked for the election of six (6) different candidates out of the total of the candidates nominated for the position of General Member of the Presidium.
6. Anyone who is legally capable of managing all of his or her personal and business affairs, and is not:
 - (a) a corporation;
 - (b) an undischarged bankrupt; or
 - (c) someone convicted anywhere of an offence in connection with the promotion, formation or management of a corporation, or involving fraud, or whose

registration to trade in the stock of corporations has been revoked within five (5) years of the date of the General Meeting at which he or she is nominated for election to the Presidium,

may be elected to the Presidium or the Managing Committee, whether or not he or she is a Delegate or Presidium Member, provided always that no one may be elected to the Presidium unless she or he is present at the General Meeting where such elections are held or unless she or he has previously consented in writing to election to the Presidium.

7. If the office of any Presidium member becomes vacant, the Presidium may appoint a successor to that office to hold that office until the next General Meeting, at which time an election must be held to fill that position for the balance of the three-year term.
8. The Presidium shall constitute and appoint members to Commissions to assist it in its work, including the Sports Commission, the Finance Commission and the Press Commission, and these Commissions shall be responsible to and report to the Presidium.
9. The Presidium may appoint and dismiss members of a Council of Advisors of up to fifteen (15) members to advise and assist it in the development of DanceSport.
10. Every Presidium Member owes IDSF the duties of Good Faith and Competence.

Article 14

Powers of the Presidium

1. When the General Meeting is not in session, the Presidium possesses all of the powers which are not specifically reserved to the General Meeting by law or under these **Statutes**, and is empowered to make any decision which is not specifically reserved for the Presidium under these **Statutes**, including taking action against Members, athletes or other persons who violate or may violate the **Statutes** or the Rules, or harm or may harm IDSF. In such cases the Presidium may take any action within its powers, including but not limited to:
 - a) prohibit the organizing or production of international competitions or the participation of a Member's athletes in any competition,
 - b) reprimand a Member,
 - c) suspend some or all of the membership privileges of any Member,
 - d) revoke the membership of a Member;
 - e) enforce any appropriate sanctions against individuals.

2. Appeals against such decisions by the Presidium may be brought by the member to the attention of the IDSF Disciplinary Council or the General Meeting (*as the case may be*), the decision of which shall be final, subject to the provisions of Article 6. An appeal by a member must be made in writing and delivered either to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Council or to the General Secretary (*as the case may be*) within two (2) months of receiving notice of the Presidium's decision. The appeal must be reasonably clear. For further clarity, filing an appeal of such a decision does not suspend or affect the Presidium's decision, which shall remain in full force until the next formal decision of the competent body has been taken unless that decision is varied by the Presidium.
3. The Presidium may adopt its own Operating Policies in order to ensure the more democratic, collegiate and efficient conduct of IDSF's affairs.

Article 15

Work of the Presidium

1. The work of the Presidium shall be conducted by correspondence by mail, fax and e-mail. Meetings of the Presidium shall only be convened if more than half the members can attend. Travelling expenses for such meetings will be paid as far as possible from IDSF funds.
2. Decisions of the Presidium require a simple majority. Each Member of the Presidium has one vote. The President shall have a casting vote in any tied vote of the Presidium. The result of any vote must be made known to all members of the Presidium without delay.

Article 16

Management and Representation

1. The President, the First Vice President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer and the Sports Director constitute the Managing Committee, and, subject to the discretion of the Presidium, represents the IDSF.
2. The Managing Committee has the duty and the authority to manage and conduct IDSF's affairs according to Modern Sports Principles and modern Management Principles.
3. The President is the chief political representative of IDSF and has the duty and authority to lead and to try to build consensus within IDSF. The President is also the Chief Executive Officer of IDSF and has full authority to manage the day-to-day business and sport affairs of IDSF.
4. The First Vice President is the deputy chief political representative of IDSF and, subject to the President's directions, has the duty and authority to lead and to try to

build consensus. The First Vice President is also the Assistant Executive Officer of IDSF and, subject to the President's directions, has authority to manage the day-to-day business of IDSF. In the event of the resignation, termination, death or incapacity of the President, the First Vice President has the duty and authority to fully assume the office, authority and title of the President.

5. The Second Vice President is a political representative of IDSF and is subject to the Presidium's directions.
6. The General Secretary is in charge of the IDSF's office and its World Wide Web site, and acts according to the President's instructions.
7. The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of IDSF and has the duty and full authority to manage the day-to-day financial and accounting affairs of IDSF according to modern Management Principles. The Treasurer has the duty to report to the General Meeting and the Presidium regarding IDSF's accounts and financial affairs.
8. The Sports Director is the Chief Sports Officer of IDSF and has the duty and full authority to manage the day-to-day sports affairs of IDSF according to Modern Sports Principles and modern Management Principles. The Sports Director has the duty to report to the General Meeting and the Presidium regarding IDSF's sports affairs.

Article 17

Finances

1. IDSF's books and accounts will be managed by the Treasurer according to good commercial procedures.
2. The Treasurer must present the financial report to every Ordinary General Meeting and every meeting of the Presidium.
3. Every third Ordinary General Meeting will appoint an Auditor. The Treasurer shall obtain the Auditor's signed Report prior to every Annual General Meeting and distribute it to Delegates prior to the beginning of the Annual General Meeting.

Article 18

Disciplinary Council

1. The Disciplinary Council ("the DC") is the independent jurisdictional organ of IDSF. It considers and renders judgments on the subjects referred to it by the **Code** of the IDSF Disciplinary Council and the provisions of the **Anti-Doping Code**.
2. The composition of the Disciplinary Council and the required profile of its members shall be defined in the provisions of the **IDSF Disciplinary Council Code** ("IDSF DC Code").
3. Members of the Disciplinary Council may not at the same time be a member of the

IDSF Presidium or of the Managing Committee. Members of the Disciplinary Council exercise their duties independently according to the doctrine of trias politica and are not bound by any instructions of other IDSF organs regarding these duties.

4. The members of the Disciplinary Council are elected by the General Meeting.
5. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Council must present a report on its decisions during the previous year, to every General Meeting.

Article 19

Honors

1. Honorary Life Presidents and Honorary Members may be appointed by the General Meeting. At the request of the President, they may perform advisory and ceremonial functions.
2. The General Meeting and the Presidium may create and confer upon any person such Honors as they deem to be deserved and advisable in the interests of DanceSport.

Article 20

Rules and Regulation

1. The IDSF has the following Rules and Regulations:
 - a) **Financial Regulations**
 - b) **Competition Rules**
 - c) **Rules for Adjudication**
 - d) **Regulations for Television, Broadcasting, New Media, Advertising and Sponsorship**
 - e) **Anti-Doping Code**
 - f) **Disciplinary Council Code**
2. The **Competition Rules**, the **Rules for Adjudication**, the **Anti-Doping Code** and the **Disciplinary Council Code** are integral parts of the **Statutes**.
3. The other Rules and Regulations are not an integral part of the **Statutes** and may be amended by postal ballot or by the General Meeting.
4. Athletes and adjudicators can be bound to IDSF Rules and Regulations by forms of consent (Appendix A to this article).

Article 21

Liquidation of the IDSF

1. The dissolution of the IDSF may be decided only by a General Meeting called specifically for the purpose and requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority, subject to at least two-third (2/3) of the Members being present or represented.
2. In the event of the IDSF being dissolved or of its objects becoming invalid, its assets will be assigned to the International Olympic Committee or to any other internationally recognized sport body or bodies. No monies will be paid to Members of the IDSF.

Article 22

Common Language in IDSF

1. The official language of the IDSF is English.
2. In any question of interpretation of the **Statutes**, **Competition Rules** and Regulations, the English version shall be binding.