

Elections, excerpts from FIE Statutes

4.1 GENERAL RULES

4.1.1 The President of the F.I.E., the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee and the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) are elected by the Elective Congress. The members of the Councils and the Disciplinary Panel are selected by the Executive Committee at its first meeting after the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are selected for four years. They are eligible for re-election/re-selection respectively at the end of their term of office.

4.1.2 Candidates for any elective post may be proposed by an F.I.E. Member Federation, subject to the following conditions:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate for the Executive Committee or for a Commission can only be presented by the Member Federation of the candidate, with the limit of 1 candidate per nationality for any such position.

4.1.3 All the candidatures shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time **40** calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.

The candidature must be presented by means of a form provided by the FIE (one single page of A4 format) - which must include the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular commission. A photocopy of an identity document stating the candidate's date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driving licence) must be provided with the candidature.

The administrative office of the F.I.E. will include the list of all the candidates as well as the CVs that have been received in the documents relating to the Congress.

The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the Statutes or the IOC Code of Ethics. Each national federation can contest the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained by fax or e-mail.

4.2 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

4.2.1 To be candidate for the presidency a person must hold a licence from his Member Federation, except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 25 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs. Besides, a candidate for the Presidency must speak one of three working languages of the FIE fluently and it would be desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages. The President of the FIE cannot hold any position within his national federation or in any Zonal Confederation.

4.2.2 If the candidate or all of the candidates for the Presidency withdraw before an election, new candidates can be presented up to the moment of the election, subject to the general conditions of election enumerated in 4.1.1 to 4.1.2 above.

4.2.3 To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required.

4.2.4 If in the first round of voting no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised.

If during the second round an absolute majority of votes is not obtained by a candidate, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional

rounds are organised until one candidate obtains a majority of votes or until only two candidates remain.

In this case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected.

Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected.

4.3 ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.3.1 To be candidate to the Executive Committee a person must:

- hold a licence from his Member Federation except for Members of Honour
- be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections
- enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs
- be able to understand and speak one of the three working languages of the FIE and it is desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages
- Commit to respect the principle of sports autonomy applicable within the Olympic Movement
- Commit to actively take part in all activities resulting from the function of Executive Committee member.

It is desirable that he or she has experience as a leader (President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer or any other similar function) in his national federation, his National Olympic Committee or any entity.

A member of the Executive Committee, elected as such, cannot be president of a zonal confederation.

Members of the Executive Committee (according to articles 5.2.1 and 5.2.4 definitions), cannot be member of a Commission of the FIE, one of its Councils or of its Disciplinary Panel. Furthermore, members of commissions cannot be members of one of its Councils or of its Disciplinary Panel. An individual can only be a member of one of the following at any point in time - the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council or the Disciplinary Panel.

Being a member of the Executive Committee is incompatible with the national roles of technical director, referee, chief of delegation and team captain. Being a member of the Bureau is incompatible with the role of Fencing Master.

Once elected, the Executive Committee member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Executive Committee member and his/her national federation.

4.3.2 If a candidate for the Executive Committee withdraws before an election, his Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in 4.1.3.

4.3.3 For the election to the Executive Committee the 15 candidates who have obtained the most votes are elected.

4.3.4 In order to secure the principle of equal treatment, women and men each must be represented by at least 30% of the elected members of the Executive Committee. If the 15 candidates who have obtained the most votes do not include at least 5 persons of each gender, the Executive Committee will consist of the 5 candidates for the Executive Committee of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the 10 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If there are fewer than 5 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates put forward and the remainder of the Executive Committee will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

4.3.5 Should there be a tie between several candidates, (up to) two additional rounds of voting will take place.

Should there still be a tie after the two additional rounds of voting, the younger(est) of the candidates is elected.

4.4 ELECTION OF COMMISSIONS (OTHER THAN THE ATHLETES COMMISSION)

4.4.1 Nobody may be candidate for more than one permanent commission.

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:

Medical Commission – have completed the educational requirements for being an MD or a physiotherapist;

Legal Commission - have the educational requirements or be practising as a lawyer, judge or notary;

and

SEMI Commission – have a college degree in engineering or science or be practising as an engineer.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must have both:

- must be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in each of at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and
- have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature.

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national roles of technical director, referee, chief of delegation and team captain. Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation.

If a candidate for a permanent Commission withdraws before an election, his Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in 4.1.3.

4.4.3 For the elections to the permanent commissions, the 10 candidates with the most votes are elected subject to the fact that they must be of different nationalities.

4.4.4 If the 10 first members elected do not include two members of each gender, the Commission will consist of the first 8 members elected and the two members of the other gender who are candidates for the commission and who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If no candidate of either gender has offered herself/himself as candidates, the 10 candidates of different nationalities with the greatest number of votes are elected.

4.4.5 Should there be a tie between several candidates, (up to) two additional rounds of voting will take place.

Should there still be a tie after the two additional rounds of voting, the younger(est) of the candidates is elected.

NOMINATIONS

The Councils of the F.I.E. are the following:

- Coaches Council
- Veterans Council
- Women and Fencing Council
- Fair Play Council.

Each Council is made up of ten voting members selected by the Executive Committee, except the Fair Play Council, which shall consist of seven members selected by the Executive Committee.

4.7.1 Nobody may be candidate for more than one of the Councils.

4.7.2 The candidates to the Coaches Council cannot have received a black card during the four year period preceding their candidacy.

It is desirable that the candidates for the Veterans Council should be or have been active in veteran issues.

It is desirable that the candidates for the Women and Fencing Council have experience in activities that support or promote the role of women in fencing and/or sport.

4.7.3 The candidacy package must contain:

- a photocopy of an identity document proving the candidate's date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driver's licence);
- in the case of a Coaches Council candidate a copy of his/her coaching accreditation, if any, as well as his/her personal and professional curriculum vitae.

4.7.4 The FIE central office will submit all candidacy forms and joint documents about the Councils' candidates to the Executive Committee at its first meeting after the Elective Congress.

4.7.5 The FIE Executive Committee will review the candidacies and select the members of the Councils taking into account what is indicated in articles 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 4.7.6, 4.7.7 and 4.7.8.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least two persons of each gender on each of the Councils.

4.7.7 For the Coaches Council, candidacies permitting, the selections should include:

- 4 representatives from the European zone
- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone
- 2 representatives from the American zone
- 1 representative from the African zone;
- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.

When selecting the candidates for the Coaches Council, the Executive Committee can take into account the following criteria:

- either be current or have been a past national Team Coach
- or have participated with their team in a Cadet, Junior or Senior World Championships;
- or have fencers ranked in the FIE rankings

- 4.7.8 For each of the Veterans, Women and Fencing and Fair Play Councils, to the extent that there are sufficient candidates the selections should include at least one representative from each of the five continents.

SELECTION OF THE DISCIPLINARY PANEL

- 4.6.1 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be individuals who have been practicing as a lawyer, judge, arbitrator, magistrate or professor of law.

- 4.6.2 Nobody may be candidate for more than one of the Disciplinary Panel and the Councils.

- 4.6.3 The form by means of which the candidature must be presented (cf. 4.1.3) must include the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the D.P.

The FIE Head Office will compile all candidacy forms and joint documents about the Disciplinary Panel candidates, and will submit them to the Executive Committee at its first meeting after the Elective Congress.

- 4.6.4 The Executive Committee will examine the candidacies and establish the list of members (without restrictions as to how many) who fulfil the requirements of articles 4.6.1 and 4.6.3. If possible, this list will include at least two women, and one representative of each zone.