
Proposals for the 2026 Congress

Modifications of the Statutes

The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.

Proposal 1

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.1

Motivation: Updating the mission of the FIE, in compliance with the FIE 2025-2028 Strategic plan published, the Olympic Charter and the fundamental principles that govern the Olympic Movement.

1.1 MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee. (Moved from 1.2.8)

The Aims of the FIE are:

- a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.
- b) to ~~see~~ ensure that international competitions which are open to member federations are organised in accordance with FIE Rules and any FIE requirement;
- c) to establish Rules according to which international competitions must be organised;
- d) to organise the ~~Open~~ Senior World Championships, as well as Junior, Cadet and Veteran World Championships;
- e) to authorise and supervise ~~the other~~ all FIE official FIE competitions and events. The Executive Committee withdraws the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have received a written agreement from their national authorities guaranteeing the granting of visas to all the participants of the member national federations of the FIE.
- f) to ensure that in international competitions the bans, suspensions, expulsions, disqualifications and all other penalties issued by one of the member federations are respected;
- g) to study and legislate on all matters pertaining to fencing in international relations;

- h) to promote and ~~develop~~ implement the ~~struggle fight~~ against doping;
- i) to organise the fencing at the Olympic Games, in liaison with the International Olympic Committee.
- j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on ~~any ground, such as but not limited to~~, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status ~~or other~~, is fully respected and implemented.
- k) to apply appropriate measures to contribute to the respect of the environment.
- l) to ensure fair sporting contests so that the spirit of fair play prevails.
- m) to establish rules and appropriate measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.
- n) to take appropriate means to provide for the social and professional future of athletes.
- o) to take the appropriate measures to implement "The Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration" (Athletes' Declaration).
- p) to educate, train and certify athletes, officials, referees, coaches, administrators and technicians.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: We suggest to move Article 1.1 e) to Article 1.2.5 with the modified text as written below. It will be not possible for all of the member federations to obtain a written agreement from the national authorities guarantying granting of visas. Authorities may not be obliged to enter into such agreements and they always have to comply with their local law.

Article: 1.1

1.1 MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Ethics Commission of the International Olympic Committee. (Moved from 1.2.8)

The Aims of the FIE are:

- a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.
- b) to ~~see~~ ensure that international competitions ~~which are~~ open to member federations are organised in accordance with FIE Rules and any FIE requirement;
- c) to establish Rules according to which international competitions must be organised;
- d) to organise the ~~Open~~ Senior World Championships, as well as Junior, Cadet and Veteran World Championships;
- e) to authorise and supervise ~~the other all FIE official FIE competitions and events.;~~ ~~The Executive Committee withdraws the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that~~

~~they have received a written agreement from their national authorities guaranteeing the granting of visas to all the participants of the member national federations of the FIE.~~

To be moved to Article 1.2.5 as follows:

The member National Federation which applies as a candidate to organise congresses, official competitions, or any other FIE international events, must document the fact that the organizer ~~has~~ will invite all of the member National Federations of the FIE and will do everything in its power to obtain the visas needed, and furthermore, will use ~~used~~ all means to enable all the member National Federations to take part in those events, without any discrimination whatever and in accordance with the IOC recommendations.

Failure to comply will subject the member federations to sanctions by the FIE.

The Executive Committee may withdraw the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have invited all of the member National Federations of the FIE.

f) to ensure that in international competitions the bans, suspensions, expulsions, disqualifications and all other penalties issued by one of the member federations are respected;

g) to study and legislate on all matters pertaining to fencing in international relations;

h) to promote and ~~develop~~ implement the ~~struggle~~ fight against doping;

i) to organise the fencing at the Olympic Games, in liaison with the International Olympic Committee.

j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status ~~or other~~, is fully respected and implemented.

k) to apply appropriate measures to contribute to the respect of the environment.

l) to ensure fair sporting contests so that the spirit of fair play prevails.

m) to establish rules and appropriate measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.

n) to take appropriate means to provide for the social and professional future of athletes.

o) to take the appropriate measures to implement "The Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration" (Athletes' Declaration).

p) to educate, train and certify athletes, officials, referees, coaches, administrators and technicians.

*: Olympic Charter, p. ~~40,46~~ 55-57

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but:

- Regarding j), the Executive Committee wishes to align with the Olympic Charter, Fundamental Principle of Olympism 6:

~~j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status or other, is respected.~~

j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on any ground, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status is fully respected and implemented.

- regarding the paragraph below to be moved to article 1.2.5, it should remain as follows with the added words in green:

In order to ensure and implement the principle of non-discrimination, the Executive Committee shall withdraw the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have received a written agreement from their national authorities guaranteeing the granting of visas to all the participants of the member National Federations of the FIE.

Proposal 2

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 1.1.a)

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 1.1.a), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

1.1.a)

English text:

MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The Aims of the FIE are:

a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, and to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.

French text:

MISSION

La FIE est reconnue par le CIO comme l'organisation qui régit mondialement le sport de l'escrime, selon les règles du chapitre 3 de la Charte Olympique.*

La FIE a pour objet :

a) de favoriser le développement mondial de l'escrime et de resserrer les liens d'amitié qui unissent les escrimeurs de tous les pays, en établissant des rapports permanents entre les groupements qu'ils représentent, et de veiller à l'amélioration de la pratique de notre sport à tout point de vue.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comments to its own proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 3

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 1.1.m)

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 1.1.m), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

1.1.m)

English text:

MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The Aims of the FIE are:

....

m) to establish appropriate rules and ~~appropriate~~ measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.

French text:

MISSION

La FIE est reconnue par le CIO comme l'organisation qui régit mondialement le sport de l'escrime, selon les règles du chapitre 3 de la Charte Olympique.*

La FIE a pour objet :

.....

m) de définir des règles et des mesures appropriées pour protéger la santé des athlètes et prévenir tout abus.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comments to its own proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 4

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.2.3

Motivation: FIE licences are not only granted to fencers who compete but also to referees, coaches, etc. Therefore, the word “participate” is more relevant.

1.2. MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE AIMS

1.2.3 The ~~F.I.E~~-FIE grants an international licence ~~to compete~~ to participate in FIE ~~its~~ official competitions (cf. chapter 9).

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made a minor change for the better understanding of the wording.

1.2. MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE AIMS

1.2.3 The ~~F.I.E~~-FIE grants an international licence, ~~where required,~~ to compete to participate in FIE ~~its~~ official competitions (cf. chapter 9).

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 5

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.2.4

Motivation: Make the rule more explicit on application and implementation of the principle of non-discrimination. Also, it could not be found any provision in the Statutes making reference to the possibility to refuse to fence against any other competitor, while the rules sanction such refusal.

1.2.4 The FIE requires each member national Federation to fully apply and implement the principle of ~~political, racial and religious~~ non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status, as per article 1.1 j).

In particular, no competitor from a member national Federation may take part in an official competition of the FIE or in any other international competition if he or she refuses for any reason to fence against any other registered competitor, ~~unless his refusal is authorized by the Statutes or the Rules.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal; however, it has corrected a grammatical mistake.

- 1.2.4 The FIE requires each member national Federation to fully apply and implement the principle of ~~political, racial and religious~~ non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status, as per ~~a~~ Article 1.1 j).

In particular, no competitor from a member national Federation may take part in an official competition of the FIE or in any other international competition if he or she refuses for any reason to fence against any other registered competitor; ~~unless his refusal is authorized by the Statutes or the Rules.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In line with the Olympic Charter, Fundamental Principle of Olympism 6, the Executive Committee modifies its proposal on Article 1.2.4 as follows:

The FIE requires each member national Federation to fully apply and implement the principle of ~~political, racial and religious~~ non-discrimination on any ground, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

In particular, no competitor from a member national Federation may take part in an official competition of the FIE or in any other international competition if he or she refuses for any reason to fence against any other registered competitor; ~~unless his refusal is authorized by the Statutes or the Rules.~~

Proposal 6

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.2.6 a) and b)

Motivation: The paragraph scratched in a) is not well placed in that section and created confusion. It has been redrafted and appears now in article 1.2.6 e). Two paragraphs in a) have been combined in one. Item d), which was not manageable was revised in order to provide this authority to national federations.

- 1.2.6 a) No team or competitor of a member federation has the right to take part in any competition organised by a non-member country or by a "confederation" which is not recognised by the FIE and the converse.

~~Nevertheless, competitors of countries which are not members of the FIE may be registered for individual competitions organised by member federations, provided that they are F.I.E licensees for the current season. They fence under the banner of the FIE~~

b) All members of member federations are forbidden from taking part in competitions or events organised by an individual or entity which is not recognised by the national federation of their country, unless these competitions or events have been specially authorised by ~~that same federation~~ FIE's Executive Committee.

International competitions which are not organised by a member federation and in which there are more than five nationalities must have the approval of the FIE ~~provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented and must appear on the International Calendar.~~

~~Sub-regional international competitions with fewer than six nationalities may seek the approval of the FIE provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented.~~

c) The competition entries of teams or individuals are only valid if sent by their member federation, ~~except as permitted in the 2nd paragraph a) above~~, except in the case of article 1.2.6 e) which is dealt with by the FIE.

d) As an exceptional measure, and in order to develop international Fencing in countries where a National Federation which is a member of the FIE does not yet exist, the member Federations, ~~with the agreement of the FIE Bureau~~, may accept fencers from non-member countries in their national, regional and local competitions, ~~specifying in advance the venue and date of the envisaged events.~~

~~The permission thus granted will have to stress each time that it applies to a match between fencers of one single member Federation and those of one single non-member country.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has changed the wording to make consistency and to cover all possible scenarios.

1.2.6 a) No team or competitor of a member federation has the right to take part in any competition organised by a non-member country or by a "confederation", association, entity or organisation which is not recognised by the FIE ~~and the converse~~.

~~Nevertheless, competitors of countries which are not members of the FIE may be registered for individual competitions organised by member federations, provided that they are F.I.E licensees for the current season. They fence under the banner of the FIE~~

b) ~~All members of member federations are forbidden from taking part in competitions or events organised by an individual or entity which is not recognised by the national federation of their country, unless these competitions or events have been specially authorised by that same federation FIE's Executive Committee.~~

International competitions which are not ~~organised~~ organized or recognized by a member federation and in which there are more than five nationalities must have the approval of the FIE's Executive Committee, provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented ~~and must appear on the International Calendar.~~ All FIE licensees are forbidden from taking part in such competitions or events.

~~Sub-regional international competitions with fewer than six nationalities may seek the approval of the FIE provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented.~~

c) The competition entries of teams or individuals are only valid if sent by their member federation, ~~except as permitted in the 2nd paragraph a) above~~, except in the case of article 1.2.6 e) which is dealt with by the FIE.

d) As an exceptional measure, and in order to develop international Fencing in countries where a National Federation which is a member of the FIE does not yet exist, the member Federations, ~~with the agreement of the FIE Bureau~~, may accept fencers from non-member countries in their national, regional and local competitions, ~~specifying in advance the venue and date of the envisaged events.~~

~~The permission thus granted will have to stress each time that it applies to a match between fencers of one single member Federation and those of one single non-member country.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 7

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.2.6 e)

Motivation: Former second paragraph of 1.2.6 a) redrafted to detail the process.

e) Fencers from countries without a National Federation affiliated to the FIE may contact their national sports authorities in view of their possible registration in FIE individual official competitions. The corresponding national sport authority may apply for this authorisation to the FIE Executive Committee. The latter will make a final decision on allowing the competitor to take part in a determined list of individual competitions. These competitions cannot include qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships. The Executive Committee may decide to grant an FIE licence to the fencer for the current season. The fencer competes under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees in general with the proposal; but has made some corrections.

e) Fencers from countries without a National Federation affiliated to the FIE may contact their national sports authorities in view of their possible registration in FIE individual official competitions. The ~~corresponding~~ **competent** national sport authority may apply for this authorisation to the FIE Executive Committee. The latter will make a final decision on allowing the competitor to take part in a determined list of individual competitions. These competitions cannot include qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships. The Executive Committee may decide to grant an FIE licence to the fencer for the current season. The fencer competes under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 8

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.2.8

Motivation: Precisions regarding the open tenders. As per the FIE's strategic plan (Goal 1, KPIs, Annual publication of governance audit and compliance scorecards), creation of an Audit Panel in charge of reporting to the Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance.

1.2.8 ~~The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee.~~

a) The FIE and its bodies shall observe open tenders for their major contracts (medium- and long-term commitments, and/or exceeding an amount determined in writing by the FIE President and Treasurer).

b) An Audit Panel of two independent external persons, with financial and legal expertise, is appointed by the Executive Committee to report to the FIE President and Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance. The Audit Committee has the authority and responsibility to conduct any audit it deems necessary to perform, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee and President.

Each year, the Audit Panel provides a written report to the Executive Committee and proposes any revisions.

The Audit Panel is appointed for a period of two years. It may be reappointed.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal; however, has made minor grammatical corrections.

1.2.8 ~~The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee.~~

a) The FIE and its bodies shall observe open tenders for their major contracts (medium- and long-term commitments, and/or exceeding an amount determined in writing by the FIE President and Treasurer).

b) An Audit Panel of two independent external persons, with financial and legal expertise, is appointed by the Executive Committee to report to the FIE President and Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance. The Audit ~~Committee~~ **Panel** has the authority and responsibility to conduct any audit it deems necessary to perform, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee and the FIE President.

Each year, the Audit Panel provides a written report to the Executive Committee and proposes any revisions.

The Audit Panel is appointed for a period of two years. It may be reappointed.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 9

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.3

Motivation: Implementation of the FIE strategic plan, which includes implementation of academies and technical matters such as homologation process.

1.3 REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the FIE is located in Lausanne (Switzerland). [The Executive Committee may open administrative or technical or operational offices in other cities or countries.](#)

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal has no further comments.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 10

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 1.5.5, 1.5.6, 1.5.8

Motivation: These are revisions based on the real situation and implementation of the current practice.

1.5 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND WORKING LANGUAGES

1.5.3 All the official texts of the FIE are rendered in French.

Translation into English and Spanish will be provided; ~~under the control of the FIE Executive Committee.~~

Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority.

1.5.4 All [official documents](#) ~~communications~~ of the FIE will be available in all three working languages.

Each federation must advise the Head Office of the FIE in which of the [FIE working languages](#) it wishes to receive communications.

1.5.5 ~~It is desirable that, as far as possible, p~~Proposals for changes to the Rules, Statutes and [official documents](#) ~~must be made in one of the three working languages of the FIE. annexed texts be made in French.~~

~~If a proposal is made in another working language, T~~he FIE will [organise](#) ~~be responsible for it's the translation in the other FIE working languages.~~

1.5.6 At the Congresses, people may speak in any one of the working languages and ~~the Head Office will take the measures necessary to ensure that the participants can enjoy the~~

~~benefit of simultaneous translation will be organised as per the FIE Administrative Rules in the three languages.~~

- 1.5.8 At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted in one of the three working languages of the FIE ~~on the basis of the French text only.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes to the text to make sure that the voting can be followed on all three working languages.

1.5 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND WORKING LANGUAGES

- 1.5.3 All the official texts of the FIE are rendered in French.

Translation into English and Spanish will be provided, ~~under the control of the FIE Executive Committee.~~

Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority.

- 1.5.4 All official documents ~~communications~~ of the FIE will be available in all three working languages.

Each federation must advise the Head Office of the FIE in which of the FIE working languages it wishes to receive communications.

- 1.5.5 ~~It is desirable that, as far as possible, p~~Proposals for changes to the Rules, Statutes and official documents must be made in one of the three working languages of the FIE. ~~annexed texts be made in French.~~

~~If a proposal is made in another working language, T~~he FIE will organise ~~be responsible for it's the~~ translation in the other FIE working languages.

- 1.5.6 At the Congresses, people may speak in any one of the three working languages and ~~the Head Office will take the measures necessary to ensure that the participants can enjoy the benefit of~~ simultaneous translation will be organised as per the FIE Administrative Rules ~~in the three languages.~~

- 1.5.8 At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted in based on one of the three working languages of the FIE, whilst all the three working languages shall be displayed on a screen ~~on the basis of the French text only.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission, but makes a precision to article 1.5.8 as the full proposals/documents are made available to the participants in all the three languages and cannot materially be displayed on a screen in all the three languages due to the length of these texts.

Besides, making screens obligatory in this section may be an issue: in case the screen is temporarily out of order, this would prevent the Congress from working while all relevant documents have been made available in all the three languages:

- 1.5.8 At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted in based on one of the three working languages of the FIE, whilst the proposals and articles numbers in all the three working languages shall may be displayed on a screen ~~on the basis of the French text only.~~

Proposal 11

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 1.5.4

Motivation: According to the current version of Statutes 1.5.4, all communications of the FIE shall be available in all three working languages. This includes also any email communications, which would make the daily communication complicated. Therefore, the availability of the documents in all three working languages should be restricted to official communication published on the FIE website.

1.5.4 _____

All official communications of the FIE appearing on the FIE website will be available in all three working languages.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

Proposal 12

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 1.5.8

Motivation: According to the current version of Statutes 1.5.8, at the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted based on the French text only. This is problematic and not in line with the current practice, especially when the original proposal was in English or Spanish.

We suggest eliminating Article 1.5.8. from the Statutes. Article 1.5.3 ("Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority") sufficiently handles the question of the language priority.

1.5.8

~~At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted on the basis of the French text only.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

Proposal 13

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 1.6

Motivation: In line with the common practice of other IFs and in order to diversify and extend FIE's financial resources.

1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The financial resources of the FIE consists of:

Federations' subscriptions

- 1) Licence fees
- 3) Fees for the organisation of competitions
- 4) ~~Television Broadcast and media~~ rights
- 5) Donations ~~and income from its sponsorship contracts~~
- 6) Income from sponsorship contracts and programmes
- 7) Income from commercial contracts, including e-commerce platforms
- 8) Digital monetization
- ~~6) 9)~~ 9) Such other resources as may be developed, securing financial sustainability and diversify revenue,

The amounts of the fees above (items 1 to ~~4-3~~) are determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some grammatical corrections.

1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The financial resources of the FIE consists of:

- 2) Federations' subscriptions
- 3) Licence fees
- 3) Fees for the organisation of competitions
- 4) ~~Television Broadcast and media~~ rights
- 5) Donations ~~and income from its sponsorship contracts~~
- 6) Income from sponsorship contracts and programmes
- 7) Income from commercial contracts, including e-commerce platforms
- 8) Digital monetization
- ~~6) 9)~~ 9) Such other resources as may be developed, securing financial sustainability and diversify revenue.

The amounts of the fees above (items from 1 to ~~4-3~~) are determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission with the following corrections in green:

1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The financial resources of the FIE consist of:

- 1) Federations' subscriptions
- 2) Licence fees
- 3) Fees for the organisation of competitions
- 4) ~~Television Broadcast and media~~ rights
- 5) Donations ~~and income from its sponsorship contracts~~
- 6) Income from sponsorship contracts and programmes
- 7) Income from commercial contracts, including e-commerce platforms

8) Digital monetization

~~6) 9)~~ Such other resources as may be developed, securing financial sustainability and diversifying revenue.

The amounts of the fees above (items from 1 to 4-3) are determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season.

Proposal 14

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: Chapter II, preamble

Motivation: In order to make the title official, as it was granted in the past. The process is detailed in new article 2.1.3.

The members of the FIE consist of national Federations, Members of Honour, **Honorary Presidents of the FIE** and Patrons.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal and has no further questions.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 15

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1

Motivation: The Congress is the body that officially recognizes national federations. The second part of the article is moved to new 2.1.1 f).

2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.

The FIE is composed of national Federations ~~(Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.)~~ officially recognised by the FIE. ~~the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.~~

~~In case that the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by~~

~~the next Congress. The FIE COMEX shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: From a legal and technical standpoint, we believe it is possible to remove from Article 2.1.1 the recognition of the NOC as a condition for affiliation to the FIE. Theoretically, the FIE holds the exclusive right to determine the conditions the federation applying for membership must meet.

Indeed, the Olympic Charter does not require the FIE to affiliate only with national federations approved by their NOCs. However, removing the above-mentioned condition in Article 2.1.1 exposes us to some risk of being perceived as seeking to evade the authority of the Olympic Movement or refusing to cooperate with it, thereby jeopardizing the FIE's good governance standing. For this reason, the Legal Commission strongly recommends that this amendment not be made without the prior consultation with the IOC's legal department.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee has implemented the above recommendations of the Legal Commission.

The final proposed text is as follows:

2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.

The FIE is composed of national Federations ~~(Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.)~~ officially recognised by the FIE. Before taking any final decision regarding the recognition of any national federation, the FIE may consult the IOC-recognised National Olympic Committee concerned, if any. ~~the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.~~

Proposal 16

Presented by: Fencing Association of India

Article: 2.1.1

Motivation: Rajeev Mehta, representing Fencing Association of India, respectfully submits this letter for consideration of an important amendment to the FIE Constitution, specifically **Article 2.1.1 under “Conditions of Membership”**, in order to ensure alignment with the **IOC Olympic Charter** and to safeguard the autonomy of fencing governance worldwide.

1. At present, Article 2.1.1 states that the FIE is composed of national federations officially recognised by the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of their country as the sole representatives of fencing. The current provision of FIE Constitution (ARTICLE 2.1.1) is as under: -

”2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.

The FIE is composed of national Federations (Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.) officially recognised by the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.

2. However, Rule 28 of the IOC Olympic Charter clearly provides that NOCs must include all national federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games. The relevant provision in the Olympic Charter (Rule 28.1.2) is as under: -

*"28 Composition of the NOCs**

I. Whatever their composition, NOCs must include:

1.1 all IOC members in their country, if any. Such members have the right to vote in the general assemblies of the NOC. In addition, the IOC members in the country referred to in Rule 16.1.1.1 and Rule 16.1.1.2 are ex officio members of the NOC executive body, within which they have the right to vote;

1.2 all national federations affiliated to the IFs governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives;"

3. Thus, under the IOC Charter, recognition flows from the International Federation to the national federation and thereafter to the NOC, and not the reverse. This creates an inconsistency between the FIE Constitution and the IOC Charter.
4. The reliance on NOC recognition as a condition for FIE membership may result in undue political influence or administrative interference in the functioning of national fencing federations, particularly in countries where NOCs themselves may be subject to political pressures, suspension, or internal disputes. Such a requirement may unintentionally affect the autonomy of fencing governance and expose athletes, federations and referees to decisions driven by non-sporting considerations.
5. Harmonising the FIE Constitution with the Olympic Charter would therefore ensure institutional consistency, uphold the independence of member federations, and protect fencing from political or administrative disruptions at the national level.
6. In light of the above, it is respectfully proposed that Article 2.1.1 of the FIE Constitution be amended to read as follows:

"The FIE is composed of national Federations that are recognised by the FIE as the sole governing bodies for fencing in their respective countries in accordance with the IOC Olympic Charter."

This revised text ensures compliance with IOC Rule 28, clarifies the primacy of FIE recognition, and removes the risk of politically influenced barriers to membership.

7. I therefore request that this proposed amendment be placed before the FIE Executive Committee and, thereafter, before the next FIE Congress for formal consideration. I remain available to provide any further clarifications, legal references, or supporting documentation that the Committee may require.

2.1.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.

The FIE is composed of national Federations (~~Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.~~) ~~officially~~ that are recognised by the FIE as the sole governing bodies for fencing in their respective countries in accordance with the IOC Olympic Charter. ~~Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: We refer to our comment to Proposal No. 15.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Please refer to the Executive Committee's final text for proposal 15.

Proposal 17

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 2.1.1

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 2.1.1, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

2.1 — CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1.1 — Conditions of membership of national federations.

The FIE is composed of national Federations (~~Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.~~) ~~officially~~ recognised by the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.

~~In case that~~ ~~Where~~ the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by the next Congress. The FIE COMEX shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.

a) Qualification In order to qualify as a member of the FIE a National Federation must have a sufficient number of attached fencers and prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes — being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes — (except with respect to official and working languages).

The National Federation must have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.

~~These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.~~

~~By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching or practicing of fencing in return for payment~~

~~b) Application for membership~~

~~The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 "Membership of a national federation". A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by that committee to govern fencing in their country.~~

~~In a case of dispute between two or more groups each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the Executive Committee of the FIE will be called upon to decide, which to recognise, after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned.~~

French text:

~~2.1 — CONDITIONS D'ADHESION DES MEMBRES~~

~~2.1.1 Conditions d'affiliation des fédérations nationales La FIE se compose de "fédérations nationales" (Fédérations, Unions, Sections d'Escrime, d'Organisations Sportives Nationales, etc...) officiellement reconnues par le Comité Olympique de leur pays comme étant le seul représentant du pays pour l'escrime.~~

~~Au cas où le CIO aurait pris des mesures de sanction ou d'injonction à l'endroit d'un CNO dans le but de protéger le mouvement olympique et à cause d'infractions à la Charte olympique, le Comité exécutif de la FIE peut adopter les mesures provisoires qu'il juge appropriées pour protéger les principes et les valeurs qui sous-tendent ses statuts, y compris la suspension totale ou partielle de son statut de membre, avec les effets et la portée jugés adéquats, en rapport avec la fédération nationale de ce CNO.~~

~~Dans tous les cas, la mesure en question ne sera adoptée qu'après que la fédération nationale concernée ait eu la possibilité de se faire entendre, et elle devra être entérinée par le prochain Congrès de la FIE. Le Comité exécutif de la FIE se réserve le droit de rechercher tous arrangements pour les tireurs et les arbitres qui ont représenté cette fédération nationale.~~

~~a) Qualification~~

~~Une fédération nationale doit, pour pouvoir être affiliée à la FIE, justifier d'un nombre suffisant d'escrimeurs adhérents et justifier de statuts qui ne soient pas en opposition avec les règles fondamentales des Statuts de la FIE chapitres 1-7 de ces Statuts (sauf en ce qui concerne la langue officielle et les langues de travail). La Fédération nationale devra avoir un fonctionnement indépendant conformément aux principes de la Charte Olympique.~~

~~La FIE reconnaît que les fédérations nationales peuvent également comprendre des professeurs ou des maîtres d'armes.~~

~~Ces derniers ne peuvent cependant pas occuper les postes de Président, vice-président, Secrétaire général, Trésorier ou tout poste équivalent.~~

~~On entend par professeur ou maître d'arme toute personne dont l'activité principale est d'enseigner ou de pratiquer l'escrime moyennant rémunération.~~

~~b) Demande d'affiliation~~

~~Les modalités pratiques de demandes d'affiliation figurent au Règlement administratif de la FIE, chapitre 8 « Affiliation d'une fédération nationale. Toute fédération nationale qui souhaite devenir membre de la~~

~~FIE peut en présenter la demande au Comité Exécutif accompagné d'une déclaration du comité olympique national certifiant que ce groupe est le seul officiellement reconnu par ce comité pour régir l'escrime dans ce pays.~~

~~En cas d'opposition entre deux ou plusieurs groupements souhaitant être le représentant de leur pays comme membre de la FIE, le Comité Exécutif de la FIE tranchera après consultation du comité national olympique concerné.~~

~~The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

Proposal 18

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 a)

Motivation: In order to include governance into the requirements.

a) ~~Qualification~~ Requirements

In order ~~to qualify~~ to become a member of the FIE ~~as a member of the FIE~~ a National Federation must:

- demonstrate effective and genuine governance of fencing within its country;
- have a sufficient number of attached fencers, clubs, officials and coaches (as per article 8.4 of the FIE Administrative rules);
- have adopted Statutes including democratic elections and have implemented good governance and transparency principles;
- ~~and~~ prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes - being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes - (except with respect to official and working languages).;
- ~~The National Federation must~~ have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.

These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.

By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching of fencing in return for payment

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees in general with the proposal; but has made some corrections.

a) ~~Qualification~~ Requirements

In order ~~to qualify~~ to become a member of the FIE ~~as a member of the FIE~~ a National Federation must:

- demonstrate effective and genuine ~~governance~~ **direction** of fencing within its country;

- have a sufficient number of attached fencers, clubs, officials and coaches (as per article 8.4 of the FIE Administrative rules);
- have adopted Statutes including democratic elections and have implemented good governance and transparency principles;
- ~~and~~ prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes - being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes - (except with respect to official and working languages).;
- ~~The National Federation must~~ have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.

These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.

By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching of fencing in return for payment

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 19

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 b)

Motivation: In line with the Olympic Charter, the IFs decide on the recognition of a national federation. Besides, the FIE consults the national sport authorities.

b) Application for membership

The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 "Membership of a national federation". A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must include:

- the applicant federation's statutes and regulations;
- proof of sporting activity (sufficient number of attached clubs, fencers and officials) and governance structure;
- evidence that the applicant federation is the only national fencing federation in the country or the federation comprising the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials;
- any additional documentation required by the Executive Committee.

~~be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by to govern fencing in their country.~~

Where two or more organisations claim to represent fencing in the same country, whether at the time of applying for membership or during the course of membership, the FIE shall have exclusive authority to determine which organisation shall be recognised as the

Member Federation, irrespective of whether any such organisation is recognised by the National Olympic Committee or any other national body. The Executive Committee shall take into account which applicant federation represents the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials.

In such cases:

1. The Executive Committee shall conduct an independent assessment of the organisations concerned.
2. All parties shall be given the opportunity to be heard.
3. The Executive Committee shall take a reasoned decision based on the best interests of fencing and compliance with the FIE Statutes.
4. The decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The FIE may adopt interim measures necessary to protect athletes, referees and sporting activities pending a final decision.

In a case of dispute between two or more groups, each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the FIE Executive Committee will be called upon to decide which to recognise, ~~after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: Regarding the text indicated with yellow, we refer to our comment to Proposal Nr. 15.

b) Application for membership

The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 "Membership of a national federation". A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must include:

- the applicant federation's statutes and regulations;
- proof of sporting activity (sufficient number of attached clubs, fencers and officials) and governance structure;
- evidence that the applicant federation is the only national fencing federation in the country or the federation comprising the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials;
- any additional documentation required by the Executive Committee.

~~be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by to govern fencing in their country.~~

Where two or more organisations claim to represent fencing in the same country, whether at the time of applying for membership or during the course of membership, the FIE shall have exclusive authority to determine which organisation shall be recognised as the Member Federation, irrespective of whether any such organisation is recognised by the National Olympic Committee or any other national body. The Executive Committee shall take into account which applicant federation represents the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials.

In such cases:

1. The Executive Committee shall conduct an independent assessment of the organisations concerned.
2. All parties shall be given the opportunity to be heard.
3. The Executive Committee shall take a reasoned decision based on the best interests of fencing and compliance with the FIE Statutes.
4. The decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The FIE may adopt interim measures necessary to protect athletes, referees and sporting activities pending a final decision.

In a case of dispute between two or more groups, each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the FIE Executive Committee will be called upon to decide which to recognise, ~~after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The words in yellow are not necessary as the sentence refers to the "FIE exclusive authority". Therefore, the proposal is submitted without the words highlighted in yellow.

Proposal 20

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 c)

Motivation: Precision.

c) Enrolment

At each of its meetings the Congress rules on applications for membership.

The Executive Committee has the right to accept provisionally, until the next Congress, a National Federation which has **successfully** applied.

When a National Federation is a provisional member it benefits from the same rights and has the same obligations as any other member federation, **except the right to vote which is only granted upon full affiliation by the Congress.**

A refusal for permanent membership by the Congress does not allow any grounds for compensation.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

c) Enrolment

At each of its meetings the Congress rules on applications for membership.

The Executive Committee has the right to accept provisionally, until the next Congress, a National Federation which according to the Executive Committee meets the criteria defined under a) above ~~has successfully applied~~.

When a National Federation is a provisional member it benefits from the same rights and has the same obligations as any other member federation, except the right to vote which is only granted upon full affiliation by the Congress.

A refusal for permanent membership by the Congress does not allow any grounds for compensation.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 21

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 d)

Motivation: To specify the reasons and consequences.

d) Suspension

National Federations may be suspended for the following reasons:

- serious internal governance conflicts affecting the functioning of the federation;
- irregularities in elections or governance processes;
- financial or administrative mismanagement;
- discrimination on any ground;
- failure to comply with the Statutes, regulations, or decisions of the FIE;
- conduct seriously prejudicial to the interests or reputation of the FIE.

Decision is made by the Executive Committee.

The consequences of the suspension of a National Federation are the following:

- no voting right at the Congress
- no right to make proposals or nominations for office

The Executive Committee shall determine the reinstatement of the Member Federation, once the reasons for suspension have been resolved.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes to ensure good governance.

d) Suspension

National Federations may be suspended for the following reasons:

- serious internal governance conflicts affecting the functioning of the federation;
- irregularities in elections or governance processes;
- financial or administrative mismanagement;
- discrimination on any ground such as, but not limited to, race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status;
- failure to comply with the Statutes, regulations, or decisions of the FIE;
- conduct seriously prejudicial to the interests or reputation of the FIE.

Decision is made by the Executive Committee after giving the opportunity to the affected Member Federation to be heard. This decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The consequences of the suspension of a National Federation are the following:

- no voting right at the Congress
- no right to make proposals or nominations for office

The Executive Committee shall determine the reinstatement of the Member Federation, once the reasons for suspension have been resolved.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but the item on discrimination should remain consistent with the Olympic Charter, Fundamental Principle of Olympism number 6. Therefore, the words in green below have been added to the item on discrimination:

d) Suspension

National Federations may be suspended for the following reasons:

- serious internal governance conflicts affecting the functioning of the federation;
- irregularities in elections or governance processes;
- financial or administrative mismanagement;
- discrimination on any ground, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;
- failure to comply with the Statutes, regulations, or decisions of the FIE;
- conduct seriously prejudicial to the interests or reputation of the FIE.

Proposal 22

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 e)

Motivation: All the details and consequences are missing in the current version of the Statutes.

d) e) Loss of membership

The member federations may lose their membership of the FIE:

- by resignation

Any Member Federation wishing to resign its membership, must inform the FIE Secretary General by email with proof of receipt.

Unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Secretary General.

Resignation shall not release the member federation from its financial or other obligations towards the FIE arising prior to the effective date of termination.

- by expulsion

The Congress has the power to expel a Member Federation for any reason, based on a proposal from the Executive Committee.

Expulsion may in particular be decided where a member federation:

- seriously or repeatedly breaches the Statutes, regulations or decisions of the FIE;
- has failed during three years to fulfil its financial obligations towards the FIE;
- no longer fulfils the statutory conditions for membership;
- acts in a manner contrary to the interests, objectives, integrity or reputation of the FIE or of fencing;
- fails to comply with decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport or disciplinary bodies of the FIE.

The above list is non-exhaustive and does not limit the power of the Congress to expel a member federation for any reason.

Before any decision on expulsion is taken:

- the Member Federation shall be notified in writing of the proposed expulsion;
- it shall be granted a reasonable opportunity to submit written observations in advance of the Congress at which its suspension is to be decided;
- it shall have the right to be heard at the Congress.

The Congress may validly proceed with the expulsion of a Member Federation that fails to submit written observations or attend the Congress after due notice.

Expulsion shall result in the immediate loss of all membership rights. Namely, a Member Federation excluded from the FIE is not entitled to participate in any activity within the FIE or within the Continental Confederations.

Any financial obligations or other commitments to the FIE incurred prior to resignation or expulsion shall remain payable in full.

Re-affiliation

A National Federation wishing to be reaffiliated to the FIE must meet the same requirements and follow the same procedure as for the affiliation of a new National Federation.

If a National Federation has been expelled for financial reasons, it must pay any amounts outstanding, plus a fine of 10 % (ten percent) before re-admission can be considered.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes to ensure good governance.

d) e) Loss of membership

The member federations may lose their membership of the FIE:

- by resignation

Any Member Federation wishing to resign its membership, must inform the FIE Secretary General by email with proof of receipt.

Unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Secretary General.

Resignation shall not release the member federation from its financial or other obligations towards the FIE arising prior to the effective date of termination.

- by expulsion

The Congress has the power to expel a Member Federation ~~for any reason~~, based on a proposal from the Executive Committee.

Expulsion may ~~in particular~~ be decided where a member federation:

- seriously or repeatedly breaches the Statutes, regulations or decisions of the FIE;
- has failed during three years to fulfil its financial obligations towards the FIE;
- no longer fulfils the statutory conditions for membership;
- acts in a manner contrary to the interests, objectives, integrity or reputation of the FIE or of fencing;
- fails to comply with decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport or disciplinary bodies of the FIE.

~~The above list is non-exhaustive and does not limit the power of the Congress to expel a member federation for any reason.~~

Before any decision on expulsion is taken:

- the Member Federation shall be notified in writing of the proposed expulsion;
- it shall be granted a reasonable opportunity to submit written observations in advance of the Congress at which its suspension is to be decided;
- it shall have the right to be heard at the Congress.

The Congress may validly proceed with the expulsion of a Member Federation that fails to submit written observations or attend the Congress after due notice.

Expulsion shall result in the immediate loss of all membership rights. Namely, a Member Federation excluded from the FIE is not entitled to participate in any activity within the FIE or within the Continental Confederations.

Any financial obligations or other commitments to the FIE incurred prior to resignation or expulsion shall remain payable in full.

Re-affiliation

A National Federation wishing to be reaffiliated to the FIE must meet the same requirements and follow the same procedure as for the affiliation of a new National Federation.

If a National Federation has been expelled for financial reasons, it must pay any amounts outstanding, plus a fine of 10 % (ten percent) before re-admission can be considered.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 23

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.1 f)

Motivation: Moved from 2.1.1 to new 2.1.1 f)

f) IOC measures

In case that the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by the next Congress. The FIE Executive Committee shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made minor changes for better understanding. The French version should be reviewed.

f) IOC measures

~~Where~~ ~~In case that~~ the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE ~~Executive Committee~~ ~~COMEX~~ may adopt interim measures ~~with respect to the National Federation of the NOC which~~ it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, ~~total or partial~~, of its membership ~~of such National Federation~~, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, ~~in relation to the National Federation of the NOC~~. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be ~~endorsed~~ ~~ratified~~ by the next Congress. The FIE Executive Committee shall have the right to ~~implement~~ ~~look for~~ any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but replaces “fencers and referees” by “FIE licensees” in order to cover all stakeholders. The text is therefore:

f) IOC measures

~~Where in case that~~ the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE ~~Executive Committee COMEX~~ may adopt interim measures ~~with respect to the National Federation of the NOC which~~ it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, ~~total or partial,~~ of its membership ~~of such National Federation,~~ with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, ~~in relation to the National Federation of the NOC.~~ In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be ~~endorsed~~ ~~ratified~~ by the next Congress. The FIE Executive Committee ~~COMEX~~ shall have the right to ~~implement~~ ~~look for~~ any arrangements for the ~~FIE licensees who had been representing of~~ that National Federation.

Proposal 24

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 2.1.3

Motivation: This is the process that was announced in the proposal related to Chapter II, preamble.

2.1.3 *Honorary President of the FIE*

The Bureau may single outgoing and former Presidents of the FIE with the intention of proposing to the Congress their nomination as Honorary Presidents of the FIE.

The Bureau must seek the approval of the Executive Committee before presenting its proposal to the Honours Commission at the Congress.

The Honorary Presidents of the FIE have the right to be present at all the Executive Committee sessions and Congress meetings.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made a minor change.

2.1.3 *Honorary President of the FIE*

The Bureau may ~~single~~ ~~propose~~ ~~the nomination of~~ outgoing and former Presidents of the FIE ~~with the intention of proposing~~ to the Congress ~~their nomination~~ as Honorary Presidents of the FIE.

The Bureau must seek the approval of the Executive Committee before presenting its proposal to the Honours Commission at the Congress.

The Honorary Presidents of the FIE have the right to be present at all the Executive Committee sessions and Congress meetings.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 25

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.1.3

Motivation: Result of the proposal on new article 2.1.3

2.1.3 Patrons must be renumbered 2.1.4

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comments.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 26

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 2.2.1

Motivation: Making this article more structured with rights and obligations.

2.2 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

2.2.1 *Rights and duties of member Federations*

Each Member Federation has the right:

- a) ~~Each member Federation has the right~~ to vote in Congresses of the FIE, **provided it has fulfilled its financial obligations (cf. article 3.3.2)**
- b) ~~Each member Federation has the right~~ to present its candidates for the different bodies of the FIE (see chapter 4).
- c) ~~They also have the right~~ to draw up proposals which may be submitted to the Congress in accordance with the processes described in chapters 3.4 and 5.5.
- d) The Presidents of all the ~~m~~Member ~~f~~Federations are recognised as delegates of the FIE in their respective countries.
- e) They represent the President of the FIE in all international events of their respective federation every time that the President himself or his delegate is unable to attend.

Each Member Federation is under an obligation:

- ~~d) Each member federation is under an obligation~~ a) to ensure on its territory respect for the rules **and statutes** of the FIE when events are organised under its auspices.

~~e) Furthermore each member federation must~~ b) to ensure that its own Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules in these Statutes (cf.2.1.1).

~~f) – c) to ensure that official~~ Official documents issued by ~~a National Member~~ Federations shall be signed by the President or the Secretary General or equivalent. It is within the internal governance of the National Federations to determine whether specific documents require the approval of ~~their~~ its Board.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

2.2 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

2.2.1 *Rights and duties of member Federations*

~~Each member federation has the right:~~

a) Each member Federation has the right to vote in Congresses of the FIE, provided they have fulfilled their financial obligations (cf. Article 3.3.2)

b) Each member Federation has the right to present its candidates for the different bodies of the FIE (see chapter 4).

c) They also have the right to draw up proposals which may be submitted to the Congress in accordance with the processes described in chapters 3.4 and 5.5.

~~e)–d)~~ The Presidents of all the member federations are recognised as delegates of the FIE in their respective countries.

e) They represent the President of the FIE in all international events of their respective federation every time that the President himself or his delegate is unable to attend.

Each member Federation is under an obligation:

~~d) Each member federation is under an obligation a)~~ to ensure on its territory respect for the Statutes and the Rules and statutes of the FIE when events are organised under its auspices.

~~e) Furthermore each member federation must b)~~ to ensure that its own Statutes do not clash in conflict with the Fundamental Rules in these Statutes (cf.2.1.1).

~~f) – c) to ensure that its~~ official Official documents issued by ~~a National Member~~ Federations shall be are signed by the President or the Secretary General or equivalent. It is within the internal governance of the National Federations to determine whether specific documents require the approval of their Board.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but replaces “do not ~~clash in conflict~~” by “~~do not clash~~ are not in conflict”

Proposal 27

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 2.3.5

Motivation: Redrafting of the section. The list of recognized confederations should not only be in the section related to the Executive Committee (article 5.2.4).

2.3 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS

~~In order that a Confederation~~

~~-be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.~~

2.3.1 FIE member Federations may be grouped according to geographic areas into "Zonal Confederations" in order to establish and enhance relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves.

The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE.

2.3.2 The Zonal Confederations recognized by the FIE are: Europe, Africa, Oceania, Pan-American and Asia.

2.3.3 Confederations seeking recognition by the FIE Congress:

- Must include in their statutes that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.
- Must have no provisions in their rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.
- Must only include FIE Member federations.
- May choose whatever language they prefer as official language for their internal relations.

2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.

~~2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves~~

~~(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.~~

~~2.3.2 These Zonal Confederations may only include member federations. The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE~~

~~2.3.3 They may have no rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.~~

~~2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.~~

~~2.3.5 Zonal Confederations may choose whatever language they like as official language for their internal relations.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

2.3 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS

~~In order that a Confederation be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.~~

2.3.1 FIE member Federations may be grouped according to geographic areas into "Zonal Confederations" in order to establish and enhance relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves.

The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE.

2.3.2 The Zonal Confederations recognized by the FIE are: European Fencing Confederation, African Fencing Confederation, Oceania Fencing Confederation, Pan American Fencing Confederation and Asian Fencing Confederation.

2.3.3 Zonal Confederations seeking recognition by the FIE Congress:

- Must include in their statutes that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio voting member of their executive committee. ~~As such, he has the right to vote.~~
- Must have no provisions in their rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.
- Must only include FIE Member federations.
- May choose whatever language they prefer as official language for their internal relations.

2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.

~~2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves~~

~~(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.~~

~~2.3.2 These Zonal Confederations may only include member federations. The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE~~

~~2.3.3 They may have no rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.~~

~~2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.~~

~~2.3.5 Zonal Confederations may choose whatever language they like as official language for their internal relations.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 28

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 2.3.1

Motivation: The actual wording of Article 2.3.1 refers to list of 1999, and there is no footnote. Therefore, 'footnote' reference should be deleted.

2.3.1 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS

In order that a Confederation be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.

2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves

~~(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comment to its proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to remove the footnote but the rest has already been handled with proposal 27 above.

Proposal 29

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.1 c) d) e)

Motivation: The conditions for the organisation of Congress are detailed in the Administrative rules. Emergency situations should be taken into account. Removal of the vote by fax, which is generally no longer used.

3.1 MEETINGS

c) The place and the date of a congress is ~~established~~ determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the FIE Administrative Rules. ~~in a city offering convenient air and rail links as well as lodging opportunities.~~

d) In case of a force majeure event, or in case of emergency or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, the Congress may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

e) In a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including ~~by fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the FIE by the President or the Executive

Committee. The required majorities set forth in the Statutes shall apply to these resolutions and decisions.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some grammatical corrections.

3.1 MEETINGS

- c) The place and the date of a Congress ~~are is established~~ determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the FIE Administrative Rules. ~~in a city offering convenient air and rail links as well as lodging opportunities.~~
- d) In case of a force majeure event, ~~or in case of emergency~~ or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, the Congress may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.
- e) In a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including ~~by by fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the FIE by the President or the Executive Committee. The required majorities set forth in the Statutes shall apply to these resolutions and decisions.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 30

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 3.2.3

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 3.2.3, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

3.2.3 The Congress establishes, controls and steers the general policy of the FIE. It determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes, ~~and~~ the Rules for the competitions.

It has the power to pronounce the dissolution of the FIE.

French text:

3.2.3 Le Congrès définit, contrôle et oriente la politique générale de la FIE Il décide des modifications à apporter aux Statuts et au Règlement des épreuves.

Il a le pouvoir de prononcer la dissolution de la FIE.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no more comments to its proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 31

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.3.1

Motivation: Introduce the possibility of postponing the deadline in case of force majeure situations.

3.3 COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION

3.3.1 The FIE ~~Member~~ Member Federations may be represented at a FIE Congress by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee, the Commissions, the permanent councils ("Councils") and of the Ethics Committee have the right to take part in the Congress.

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE ~~Member~~ Member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. In addition, the following individuals have the right to take part in FIE Elective Congresses:

- current members of the Executive Committee
- current presidents of commissions, councils and committees
- candidates to elected positions

All participants in the FIE Congresses must be registered by their national federation, 40 calendar days, [at 23:55 Lausanne time](#), before the opening day of the Congress and using the platform or tool that will be made available by the FIE. [In case of force majeure, the FIE Executive Committee can approve the postponement of the deadline and/or accept late registrations, for valid reasons. It will inform all federations.](#)

The authority to vote for a member Federation is [determined by](#) ~~limited to~~ its President or any other person designated by him in writing.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made changes for better understanding.

3.3 COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION

3.3.1 The FIE member Federations may be represented at a FIE Congress by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee, the Commissions, the permanent councils ("Councils") and of the Ethics Committee have the right to take part in the Congress.

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. In addition, the following individuals have the right to take part in FIE Elective Congresses:

- current members of the Executive Committee
- current presidents of commissions, councils and committees
- candidates to elected positions

All participants in the FIE Congresses must be registered by their national federation, 40 calendar days, [at 23:55 **hrs** Lausanne time](#), before the opening day of the Congress and using the platform or tool that will be made available by the FIE. [In case of force majeure, the FIE Executive Committee can approve the postponement of the deadline and/or accept late registrations, for valid reasons. It will inform all federations.](#)

The authority to vote for a member Federation is ~~determined by~~ **limited to** its President or any other person designated by him in writing.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 32

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.3.2

Motivation: An increasing number of federations do not have the possibility to make bank transfers.

3.3.2 Member federations must have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.

When a Member Federation has not fulfilled its financial obligations towards the FIE ~~30 calendar days (00:00 hrs Lausanne time)~~ **the day** before the opening day of the Congress, such Member Federation will be prohibited from being represented at the said Congress and from voting. ~~unless exception has been made for a valid reason and accepted by the Executive Committee and such reason shall be announced to the Congress.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made changes for better understanding

3.3.2 Member ~~f~~**Federations** must have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE **by 23:55 hrs (time zone where the Congress is held)** ~~at the latest~~ the day before the opening of the Congress.

When a Member Federation **has not complied with the above,** ~~fulfilled its financial obligations towards the FIE 30 calendar days (00:00 hrs Lausanne time) the day before the opening day of the Congress,~~ **it** will be prohibited from being represented at the said Congress and from voting. ~~unless exception has been made for a valid reason and accepted by the Executive Committee and such reason shall be announced to the Congress.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 33

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.3.3

Motivation: Federations which receive a proxy must be up to date with their financial obligations towards the FIE.

3.3.3 *Proxies and mandates*

a) The right to vote at a Congress can be delegated to another federation. This proxy must be signed by the President, Secretary General or equivalent of the Member Federation, and the mandate can be imperative for all statutory modifications.

In no instance may a proxy agent have more than one mandate for another Member Federation.

b) The only valid proxies are those;

- received by the FIE twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the Congress, except as permitted, within twelve (12) hours of the opening of the Congress, by the Bureau, in its reasonable discretion, upon showing proof of unavoidable delay in issuing of the proxy.

- given or received by Member federations which have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.

c) When a Member Federation has already received a proxy, and now receives another proxy from another Member Federation, it must inform the latter that it cannot accept the proxy.

d) Every proxy may identify one or several other Member Federations who could receive that proxy, in order of preference, should the Member Federation receiving the proxy be prevented from taking it.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some minor changes.

3.3.3 *Proxies and mandates*

a) The right to vote at a Congress can be delegated to another federation. This proxy must be signed by the President, Secretary General or equivalent of the Member Federation, and the mandate can be imperative for all statutory modifications.

In no instance may a proxy agent have more than one mandate for another Member Federation.

b) The only valid proxies are those;

- received by the FIE twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the Congress, except as permitted, within twelve (12) hours of the opening of the Congress, by the Bureau, in its reasonable discretion, upon showing proof of unavoidable delay in issuing of the proxy.

- given ~~or~~ and received by Member federations that comply with Article 3.3.2. ~~which have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.~~

c) When a Member Federation has already received a proxy, and now receives another proxy from another Member Federation, it must inform the latter that it cannot accept the proxy.

d) Every proxy may identify one or several other Member Federations who could receive that proxy, in order of preference, should the Member Federation receiving the proxy be prevented from taking it.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 34

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.4.1

Motivation: Clarification on the time as the term “midnight” is not always understood.

3.4 AGENDA

3.4.1 All the proposals and requests shall reach the FIE’s head office no later than 23h55 ~~midnight~~ Lausanne time 8 months before the opening day of the next Congress.

Any proposal reaching the head office after this date cannot be put on the agenda.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes for consistency.

3.4 AGENDA

3.4.1 All the proposals and requests shall reach the FIE’s head office no later than 23h55 ~~midnight~~ Lausanne time 8 months before the opening day of the next Congress.

Any proposal reaching the head office after this date cannot be put on the agenda, **save for Article 3.5.1.**

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 35

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.4.5

Motivation: Clarification of that article which was not up to date.

3.4.5 The CEO or any other person given the responsibility will announce the article or the item on the agenda which will be voted upon.

In case the text of a proposal is modified ~~At~~ at the end of ~~the a~~ discussion ~~on each item of the agenda~~, the CEO or any other person given the responsibility will announce the precise text which will be voted upon.

~~After the vote, the definitive text will be confirmed and recorded.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 36

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.5

Motivation: The definitions are missing in the Statutes.

3.5 DECISIONS

The following definitions apply:

Votes cast: the total number of votes received, not counting abstentions.

Simple majority of the votes cast: when a proposal or candidate receives more votes than any other option, not counting abstentions.

Absolute majority of the votes cast: more than 50% of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: In order to be consistent, the Legal Commission has introduced further definitions.

3.5 DECISIONS

The following definitions apply:

~~Votes cast: the total number of votes received, not counting abstentions.~~

Simple majority of the votes cast: when a proposal or candidate receives more votes than any other option, not counting abstentions.

Absolute majority of the votes cast: more than 50% of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Majority of 2/3 of the votes cast: more than 2/3 of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Majority of 3/4 of votes cast: more than 3/4 of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 37

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.5.1

Motivation: If the proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

3.5.1 Required majorities

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority of votes cast applies as well to the establishment of the federations' subscriptions (cf. item 1 of article 1.6 of the Statutes). ~~The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes for the consistency of the wording of the Statutes.

Article: 3.5.1 a)

3.5.1 *Required majorities*

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast, **unless otherwise stated in the Statutes**. The simple majority of votes cast applies as well to the establishment of the federations' subscriptions (cf. item 1 of ~~a~~ Article 1.6 of the Statutes). ~~The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 38

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article 3.5

Motivation: In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the induction of new 3.5.7 is to make this clarification also for the Congress decisions.

3.5 DECISIONS

3.5.1 *Required majorities*

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.

b) If in exceptional cases the Congress is requested to decide on matters which are not on the agenda,

(i) these matters shall be added to the agenda by the FIE Bureau if they concern the budget, the accounts, the auditors, the report of the Executive Committee and the report of the Congress. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a simple majority of votes cast.

(ii) all matters not mentioned in Section (i) above require a majority of 3/4 of votes cast decision to be added to the agenda. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a majority of 3/4 votes cast.

(iii) matters under this section b) may never involve a modification of the Statutes.

c) In all cases, the total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.2 Quorums

The deliberations of the Congress are only valid if more than 50% of all the members of the FIE are present or represented.

If this proportion is not achieved, the Congress is dissolved and it will be convened again within a period of six months at most. On this occasion it will deliberate validly whatever the number of votes represented.

3.5.3 The Congress decisions concerning modifications to the Statutes are valid with a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast. The decisions of the Congress concerning the modifications of the Rules are valid with a simple majority of the votes cast. The total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.4 Dissolution

The dissolution of the F.I.E may only be pronounced with a majority of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the votes of the federations present or represented.

3.5.5 Right to vote

Every Member Federation is entitled to one vote for all voting.

3.5.6 Secret voting

At the Congress the vote is secret on any point which concerns an individual person or a Member Federation in particular, or on the decision of the Chairman of the meeting, or at the request of at least 25% of the members present.

3.5.7 Calculation of the majority of the votes cast

For the purpose of Article 3.5, abstentions shall also be considered when determining the number of votes cast.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has changed its original proposal for the consistency of the wording of the Statutes and to be in line with the proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

3.5 DECISIONS

3.5.1 Required majorities

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.

b) If in exceptional cases the Congress is requested to decide on matters which are not on the agenda,

(i) these matters shall be added to the agenda by the FIE Bureau if they concern the budget, the accounts, the auditors, the report of the Executive Committee and the report of the Congress. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a simple majority of votes cast.

(ii) all matters not mentioned in Section (i) above require a majority of 3/4 of votes cast decision to be added to the agenda. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a majority of 3/4 votes cast.

(iii) matters under this section b) may never involve a modification of the Statutes.

c) In all cases, the total number of votes cast, **not counting the abstentions**, must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.2 Quorums

The deliberations of the Congress are only valid if more than 50% of all the members of the FIE are present or represented.

If this proportion is not achieved, the Congress is dissolved and it will be convened again within a period of six months at most. On this occasion it will deliberate validly whatever the number of votes represented.

3.5.3 The Congress decisions concerning modifications to the Statutes are valid with a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast. The decisions of the Congress concerning the modifications of the Rules are valid with a simple majority of the votes cast. The total number of votes cast, **not counting the abstentions**, must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.4 Dissolution

The dissolution of the F.I.E may only be pronounced with a majority of ¾ of the votes of the federations present or represented.

3.5.5 Right to vote

Every Member Federation is entitled to one vote for all voting.

3.5.6 Secret voting

At the Congress the vote is secret on any point which concerns an individual person or a Member Federation in particular, or on the decision of the Chairman of the meeting, or at the request of at least 25% of the members present.

~~3.5.7 Calculation of the majority of the votes cast~~

~~For the purpose of Article 3.5, abstentions shall also be taken into account when determining the number of votes cast.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: 3.5.1 a) has already been dealt with Proposal 37. The Executive Committee agrees with the modifications of the Legal Commission on points 3.5.1 c) and 3.5.3.

Proposal 39

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 3.6.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.3, 3.6.5

Motivation: The Ethics Committee should be included in this article and secret voting for elections should systematically take place. Removal of a sentence which was not understandable.

3.6 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTIVE CONGRESS

3.6.1 The President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the permanent commissions **and Ethics Committee** are elected at the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are elected for four years.

3.6.2 The voting for the President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the Commissions **and Ethics Committee** is conducted by secret ballot, **whether the vote is conducted by electronic ballot or not. which shall include, but not be limited to, votes submitted by appropriate electronic communication as determined by the FIE CEO.**

The Executive Committee may decide that the vote be conducted by electronic ballot, in which case it will inform the member federations.

If the vote is not conducted by electronic ballot, it must take place in a separate polling booth, to which the delegates of the federations go ~~one after another~~ to complete their voting slips, ~~which should be a different colour for each Commission~~, and place them in one or more closed ballot-boxes.

3.6.3 The elections take place in the following order: President, then Executive Committee, and finally Commissions **and Ethics Committee**.

3.6.5 The President, the members of the Executive Committee, ~~and of~~ the permanent commissions (except the Athletes Commission) **and Ethics Committee** take office on the first day of the month following the closing day of the Olympic Games or of the Elective Congress, whichever is the latter.

The members of the Athletes Commission take office on the first day of the month following the meeting at which the Executive Committee selects the final six members.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some minor changes for better understanding.

3.6 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTIVE CONGRESS

3.6.1 The President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the permanent commissions **(except for the Athletes Commission) and the Ethics Committee** are elected at the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are elected for four years.

3.6.2 The voting for the President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the Commissions **and the Ethics Committee** is conducted by secret ballot, **whether or not the vote is conducted by electronic ballot. which shall include, but not be limited to, votes submitted by appropriate electronic communication as determined by the FIE CEO.**

The Executive Committee may decide that the vote be conducted by electronic ballot, in which case it will inform the member federations.

If the vote is not conducted by electronic ballot, it must take place in a separate polling booth, to which the delegates of the federations go ~~one after another~~ to complete their voting slips, ~~which should be a different colour for each Commission~~, and place them in one or more closed ballot-boxes.

If the number of candidates for an election does not exceed the number of persons to be elected, the candidate(s) is(are) deemed elected by acclamation without a formal election process.

- 3.6.3 The elections take place in the following order: President, then Executive Committee, ~~and finally~~ Commissions ~~and finally~~ **the Ethics Committee**.
- 3.6.5 The President, the members of the Executive Committee, ~~and of~~ the permanent commissions (except the Athletes Commission) ~~and~~ **the Ethics Committee** take office on the first day of the month following the closing day of the Olympic Games or of the Elective Congress, whichever is the latter.
- The members of the Athletes Commission **are elected in accordance with Article 4.5 and** take office on the first day of the month following the meeting at which the Executive Committee selects the final six members.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 40

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 3.6.6

Motivation: Make official the process to appoint scrutineers who are used at each elective Congress.

- 3.6.6 The vote for the elected positions will be supervised by three Scrutineers to ensure that the voting process and results are held in accordance with the FIE Statutes.
- Scrutineers will be proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress, at the opening of the Elective Congress.
- They will verify electronic voting numbers and may be required to check an electronic voting system in advance.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee might select an external and independent company as scrutineers. Therefore, the number of scrutineers is removed and the final proposal is:

- 3.6.6 The vote for the elected positions will be supervised by ~~three~~ Scrutineers to ensure that the voting process and results are held in accordance with the FIE Statutes.
- Scrutineers will be proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress, at the opening of the Elective Congress.
- They will verify electronic voting numbers and may be required to check an electronic voting system in advance.
-

Proposal 41

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.1.1

Motivation: Introduction of mandates limitations as per the FIE Strategic plan, applicable from the 2028 Congress.

4.1 GENERAL RULES

4.1.1 The President of the FIE, the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) ~~and~~ Ethics Committee 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.

The number of mandates of the above-mentioned people is limited to three (3) (i.e. complete mandates and in the same function). After three (3) mandates, a person may be a candidate for another function (e.g. an Executive Committee member may be a candidate for any other elected position).

Application: starting from 2028

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has modified the proposal. We have made a distinction between the governing functions and the other functions. It shall be ensured that the Statutes of the Zonal Confederations are compliant with the above new Article of the Statutes.

4.1 GENERAL RULES

4.1.1 The President of the FIE, the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) ~~and~~ Ethics Committee 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.

The number of mandates ~~of the above-mentioned people~~ of the President of the FIE and of the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee is limited to three (3) mandates ~~(i.e. complete mandates and in the same function).~~

The number of mandates of the members of the Commissions, Councils, Ethics Committee and the Disciplinary Panel is limited to three (3) consecutive mandates.

After three (3) mandates, a person may be a candidate for another function ~~(e.g. an Executive Committee member may be a candidate for any other elected position).~~

For the purpose of this Article, a mandate shall mean a served term of at least three (3) years out of the four years.

Application: starting from 2028 Congress. Prior mandates shall not be taken into consideration when applying this Article.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: For Governance and equality principles, the rules should be the same for all elected/appointed persons. The Executive Committee revises its proposal as follows, while taking into account the precisions in green from the Legal Commission:

4.1 GENERAL RULES

4.1.1 The President of the FIE, the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) ~~and~~ Ethics Committee 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.

The number of mandates of the above-mentioned persons is limited to three (3) consecutive mandates in the same function or same body.

After three (3) mandates, a person may be a candidate for another function or body.

For the purpose of this article, a mandate shall mean a served term of at least three (3) years out of the four years.

Application: starting from 2028 Congress. Prior mandates shall not be taken into consideration when applying this Article.

Proposal 42

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.1.2

Motivation: Replacement of 00:00 hrs which is not always understood. Addition of the conflict-of-interest disclosure form.

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (~~treated in~~ cf. 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) whom the candidate has nationality.
- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than 23:55 00:00 hrs—Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.

- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position, [and the conflict-of-interest disclosure form duly filled in and signed](#). 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal, with minor modification.

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (~~treated in~~ cf. 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) whom the candidate has nationality.
- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than **23:55 00:00 hrs** Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.
- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position, [and the conflict-of-interest disclosure form duly filled in and signed](#). 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.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 43

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 4.1.2

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 4.1.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post

- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (treated in 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) ~~whom~~ of which the candidate has nationality.
- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.
- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position. 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.

French text:

4.1.2 Toute candidature au Comité exécutif, ou à une Commission, à un conseil, au Comité d'éthique ou au comité disciplinaire peut être présentée par une fédération nationale membre de la FIE conformément aux dispositions et exigences suivantes :

- chaque fédération membre ne peut présenter qu'une seule candidature par poste
- une candidature ne peut être présentée que par la fédération membre dont le candidat a la nationalité (prévu dans les articles 4.4.1, 4.6.2 et 4.7.1).
- toutes les candidatures doivent être reçues sur la plate-forme ou l'outil de la FIE au plus tard 50 jours calendaires, 00h00 heure de Lausanne, avant le jour de l'ouverture du Congrès électif.
- les candidatures soumises sur la plateforme ou l'outil de la FIE doivent inclure un CV (d'une longueur maximale d'une page au format A4) précisant les langues parlées ainsi que les diplômes et autres qualifications pour la position concernée. La candidature devra être accompagnée de la photocopie d'un document d'identité faisant état de la date de naissance et de la nationalité du candidat (passeport, carte d'identité, permis de conduire).

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no more comment on its proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 44

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.1.4

Motivation: Introduction of a vetting panel to verify the candidatures, in accordance with ASOIF guidelines.

4.1.4 Vetting Panel

The Panel will consist of 3 members, appointed by the FIE Executive Committee, including a Chair.

Any member of the Executive Committee who is a candidate for an elected or appointed position subject to vetting by the Panel shall abstain from any discussion or vote relating to the appointment, renewal, or removal of members of the Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel members shall be external legal experts. They must confirm in writing their neutrality, independence and absence of conflict of interest.

The Panel shall screen each candidature to elected and appointed positions by way of their Application and related documentation to determine their Eligibility in accordance with relevant articles of chapter 4 of the Statutes.

The Panel submits its detailed recommendations to the FIE Bureau.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made changes to the proposal to ensure that the principles of good governance are upheld.

4.1.4 Vetting Panel

The **Vetting** Panel will consist of 3 members, appointed by the FIE Executive Committee, including a Chair.

Any member of the Executive Committee who is a candidate for an elected or appointed position subject to vetting by the **Vetting** Panel shall abstain from any discussion or vote relating to the appointment, renewal, or removal of members of the Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel members shall be external legal experts. They must confirm in writing their neutrality, independence and absence of conflict of interest.

The **Vetting** Panel shall screen each candidature to elected and appointed positions by way of their **A**pplication and related documentation, **as well as by interviews conducted in person or by means of electronical communication** to determine their **E**ligibility in accordance with relevant articles of **e**Chapter 4 of the Statutes.

The **Vetting** Panel shall screen especially:

- required qualifications and education;
- experience;
- availability;
- language skills;
- eligibility according to the Statutes.

The **Vetting** Panel submits its detailed recommendations to the FIE Bureau.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee might appoint an external and independent company. Therefore, and also taking into account the revisions from the Legal Commission, the revised proposal is the following:

4.1.4 Vetting Panel

The FIE Executive Committee shall appoint an external Vetting Panel, whether a company or separate individuals.

The Vetting Panel shall have expertise in legal matters. The members of the Panel must confirm in writing their neutrality, independence and absence of conflict of interest.

Any member of the Executive Committee who is a candidate for an elected or appointed position subject to vetting by the Vetting Panel shall abstain from any discussion or vote relating to the appointment, renewal, or removal of the Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel shall screen each candidature to elected and appointed positions by way of their application and related documentation, as well as by interviews conducted in person or by means of electronical communication to determine their eligibility in accordance with relevant articles of Chapter 4 of the FIE Statutes.

The Vetting Panel shall screen:

- required qualifications and education;
- experience;
- availability;
- language skills;
- the conflict-of-interest disclosure form;
- eligibility according to the Statutes.

The Vetting Panel submits its detailed recommendations to the FIE Bureau.

Proposal 45

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.1.5

Motivation: The provisions related to the candidatures in IFs could not be found in the IOC Code of Ethics. Precisions on the process.

4.1.4 5 The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the FIE Statutes or the ~~FIE~~ ~~IOC~~ Code of Ethics. Each national federation can ~~contest~~ object to the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau. Any objection must be submitted in writing within seven (7) days of the communication of the list of candidates and must state the reasons on which it is based. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after written advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned, including the candidates. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained ~~by fax or~~ e-mail.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal for clarity and good governance reasons.

- 4.1.4 5 The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the FIE Statutes or the ~~FIE IOC Code of Ethics Code~~ and may reject candidatures based on the recommendation of the Vetting Panel in accordance with Article 4.1.4. The FIE Bureau must communicate the reasons for rejection to the Member Federation concerned. ~~This Each-national federation Member Federation can contest object to rejection. the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau.~~ Any objection must be submitted to the FIE Bureau in writing within seven (7) days of receipt of the reasons for rejection ~~communication of the list of candidates~~ and must state the reasons on which it is based. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after written advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned, including the candidates. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained ~~by fax or~~ by e-mail.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 46

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.1.6

Motivation: Introduce the right and conditions to promote candidatures.

- 4.1.6 Once the list of candidates has been officially published by the FIE, candidates have the right to promote their candidacies, subject to respect of the FIE Ethics Code.
- They must conduct their campaigns with fairness, dignity, and respect for other candidates.
- They may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the FIE Statutes and Ethics Code.
- They should not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another candidate.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal to have some clarity on the wording.

- 4.1.6 Once the list of candidates has been officially published by the FIE, candidates have the right to promote their candidacies, subject to respect of the FIE Ethics Code.
- They must conduct their campaigns with fairness, dignity, and respect for other candidates.
- They may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the FIE Statutes and Ethics Code.

~~They should not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another candidate.~~

They shall not make, or cause any third party to make, any oral statement, written communication, or representation of any kind that is likely to damage the image or reputation of another candidate.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 47

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.2

Motivation: To introduce the possibility for a candidate to the Presidency to make a presentation to the Congress.

4.2 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

Each candidate for the presidency will be provided with an equal opportunity to make a presentation at the Elective Congress. The presentation should focus on the credentials of the candidate and the vision and objectives for their term if elected. The presentation should last no more than ten (10) minutes and may include video presentations.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 48

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.2.1

Motivation: Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 49

Presented by: Legal Commission

Articles: 4.2.3, 4.2.4

Motivation: In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the proposal is to make this clarification also for the election of the President. Furthermore, Article 4.2.3 is controversial as it mentions regarding the election at the first ballot a “majority”, and then “absolute majority”. The term absolute majority is not defined in the Statutes. The proposal is in alignment with the current practice of the election of the President.

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. **For the purpose of Article 4.2.3., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).**

- 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 **a** **absolute** majority of **the** votes **cast** 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 **the** votes **cast** 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has modified the original proposal in order to be in line with the Proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

Motivation: ~~In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the proposal is to make this clarification also for the election of the President. Furthermore, Article 4.2.3 is controversial as it mentions regarding the election at the first ballot a "majority", and then "absolute majority". The term absolute majority is not defined in the Statutes. The proposal is in alignment with the current practice of the election of the President.~~ Modified proposal in line with the Proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

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 an absolute majority of the votes cast is required. ~~For the purpose of Article 4.2.3., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).~~

- 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 the votes cast 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 an absolute majority of the votes cast 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.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but in line with proposal 48 accepted by the Legal Commission, the following words should be removed:

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.

Proposal 50

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.3.1

Motivation: Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour. Addition of international roles.

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.

Being a member of the Executive Committee is incompatible with the national **or international** 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 51

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.3.2

Motivation: Precision and correction of article.

- 4.3.2 If a candidate for the Executive Committee withdraws before [the deadline established by the Statutes for the submission of candidates to](#) an election, his/her Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in ~~4.1.3.~~ [4.1.2.](#)

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 52

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.3.4

Motivation: To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

- 4.3.4 In order to secure the principle of equal treatment, women and men each must be represented by at least ~~30%~~ [40 %](#) of the elected members of the Executive Committee. If the 15 candidates who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~5~~ [6](#) persons of each gender, the Executive Committee will consist of the ~~5~~ [6](#) candidates for the Executive Committee of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~10~~ [9](#) candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If there are fewer than ~~5~~ [6](#) 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 53

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

4.4 ELECTION OF COMMISSIONS (OTHER THAN THE ATHLETES COMMISSION) AND THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 54

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards. To clarify that the licence is professional and not related to the FIE licencing.

A candidate for the Medical Commission must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC and hold a valid and active **professional** licence, or be qualified and be practicing as a physiotherapist ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates~~.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal for liability and safeguarding reasons, as the Medical Commission is actively involved in the running of the fencing World Cups.

Opinion of the Medical Commission: The Medical Commission supports Proposal 54.

In particular, the Commission agrees with the elimination of the rule that allows a candidate to be elected to the Medical Commission on the basis of at least two previous terms on the Commission.

The Commission also supports the clarification that the license referred to in Article 4.4.2 must be a valid and active professional license, thereby avoiding any possible confusion with an FIE license.

Accordingly, the Medical Commission supports the specific amendments contained in Proposal 54.

However, since Proposal 54 concerns Article 4.4.2 and therefore the professional eligibility requirements for membership of the Medical Commission, I believe it is important to draw attention to a separate issue concerning the same Article which remains unresolved.

At its meeting in Istanbul on 4–5 July 2025, the Medical Commission specifically examined the professional eligibility criteria contained in Article 4.4.2 and proposed a different formulation.

The Commission proposed that the existing enumeration of professional categories be replaced by the following requirement:

“A candidate for the Medical Commission must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD or hold an equivalent medical degree that confers eligibility for independent clinical medical practice and is recognized as such in their country of practice, with a valid and active medical license.”

The purpose of the amendment proposed in Istanbul was to establish a clear and internationally applicable criterion based on possession of a medical degree conferring eligibility for **independent clinical medical practice**, rather than on the enumeration of individual professional titles whose meaning, scope of practice and corresponding legal responsibilities may differ between jurisdictions.

The rationale underlying that position remains fully applicable. Members of the Medical Commission may be required to assess injuries and illnesses, determine fitness to compete, address return-to-play issues and make other clinical decisions carrying medical and medico-legal responsibility. The Commission therefore considered that membership should be restricted to professionals possessing the medical training and legal authority necessary to exercise independent clinical judgement and assume the corresponding professional responsibility.

This position does not question the important contribution that physiotherapists, chiropractors or other healthcare professionals may make to athlete care or to the work of the FIE. Their expertise can be extremely valuable within multidisciplinary teams, working groups, research projects, educational programmes and advisory activities. However, the Commission considered that such collaboration should be distinguished from eligibility for membership of the Medical Commission itself.

The Medical Commission's support for Proposal 54 is limited to the amendments currently proposed by the Executive Committee and does not alter the Commission's previously adopted position on the professional eligibility requirements for membership.

Accordingly, the position adopted by the Medical Commission at its Istanbul meeting should remain the Commission's established position on professional eligibility and should be taken into account in any future revision of Article 4.4.2.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 55

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: Precision. The word “and” should be removed as there is no sentence after the word.

A candidate for the Legal Commission must have the educational requirements (University law degree) ~~or and~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary. ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates; and~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made changes, as it is on the opinion that it can benefit from long-term knowledges of the evolution of the Statutes and it does not prejudice the interests of the FIE.

A candidate for the Legal Commission must have the educational requirements (University law degree or equivalent under local law applicable to the candidate) ~~or and~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary. ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates; and~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the wording in green added by the Legal Commission but maintains the removal of the wording in red, in line with the subsequent proposals agreed by the Legal Commission:

A candidate for the Legal Commission must have the educational requirements (University law degree or equivalent under local law applicable to the candidate) ~~or and~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary. ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates; and~~

Proposal 56

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: To improve functionality and efficiency of the FIE SEMI Commission it is necessary to select specialised and highly qualified members in technical fields SEMI Commission is involved.

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a university or college degree in engineering or materials science or metallurgy or computer science or be a FIE-licenced SEMI technician. ~~or in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission is in favour of the proposal. The qualification criteria for SEMI Commission does not raise legal issues.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 57

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards.

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must:

- have a college or university degree in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have professional experience in Marketing, Communications or Media
- ~~- or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 58

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: Limitation of alternative activities in fencing for members of the FIE Refereeing Commission must cover not only National but also international positions, including coaching.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

- be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member or have been a member for at least two mandates of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in 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 or semi-final or final of the individual or team event 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 or international roles of technical director, referee, coach, 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal with a minor grammatical supplementation.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

- be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member or have been a member for at least two mandates of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in 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 or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his/her candidature,

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national or international roles of technical director, referee, coach, 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.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 59

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: The educational requirements should be precise. Redrafting of this article.

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer or equivalent ~~or have a university degree in ethics or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee or equivalent.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made changes in order to facilitate candidacies with appropriate skills.

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics or equivalent under local law applicable to the candidate) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer ~~or equivalent or have a university degree in ethics~~ or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee ~~or equivalent.~~

Opinion of the Ethics Committee: In favour with modification in yellow

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics or in philosophy or social sciences) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer or equivalent. ~~or have a university degree in ethics or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee or equivalent.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Ethics Committee.

Proposal 60

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: Precision and correction of article number.

If a candidate for a permanent Commission or the Ethics Committee withdraws before the deadline established by the Statutes for the submission of candidates to an election, his/her Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in ~~4.1.3.~~ 4.1.2.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 61

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 4.4.2

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 4.4.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

4.4.2: candidature criteria for SEMI commission

English text:

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a **university college** degree in engineering or in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.

French text:

*Un candidat à la Commission SEMI doit être titulaire d'un **diplôme universitaire** en ingénierie ou en un sujet relatif aux travaux de la Commission SEMI, ou bien exercer en tant qu'ingénieur ou avoir été membre de cette Commission pendant au moins deux mandats.*

Note: The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission withdraws its proposal, if the Proposal No. 56 is adopted.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to proposal 56.

Proposal 62

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.3

Motivation: As member federations can only present one candidate per commission, these words are unnecessary.

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

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 63

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.4.4

Motivation: To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least 3 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the 3 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the 7 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates of different nationalities of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than 3 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Medical Commission: The Medical Commission supports the general objective of Proposal 63 to improve gender balance within FIE Commissions.

During the consultation, however, some members expressed reservations about establishing rigid numerical requirements. The prevailing view was that gender balance should be actively promoted, but that appointments must continue to be based primarily on the competence, experience and specific professional qualifications required for each Commission.

This is particularly important for specialized Commissions, such as the Medical Commission, where members must possess the professional qualifications necessary to perform their functions and assume the corresponding responsibilities.

The Commission therefore considers that **gender balance and professional competence should be pursued together**. Gender representation should be actively encouraged among suitably qualified candidates, while preserving sufficient flexibility to ensure that the specific professional requirements of each Commission are always met.

Accordingly, **the Medical Commission supports Proposal 63 in principle**, provided that gender-balance requirements do not override the professional qualifications and expertise necessary for membership of each Commission.

Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council: In favour

Opinion of the Ethics Committee: Not in favour

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve, however, would like to understand the rationale of the removal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 64

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 4.5.2, 4.5.6, 4.5.7, 4.5.11

Motivation: Federations have to choose between several athletes for this commission. They should be able to present one man and one woman, thus not being obliged to choose between one man and one woman.

4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.

- 4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the Senior World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.
- If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.
- Each member federation can nominate ~~one single~~ up to two athletes to the Athletes Commission ~~if they are of a different gender~~.
- 4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, ~~all weapons combined~~, by weapon and each participant shall vote for seven athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.
- 4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the voting office/~~booth~~ of the FIE at the competition site in order to proceed with the vote, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.
- 4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world ~~Open~~ Senior ranking on the date of the opening of the Senior World Championships will have the preference.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some supplementary amendments in order to be consistent with the original proposal and to avoid having 2 members from the same nationality in the Athletes Commission.

4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.

4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the Senior World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.

If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.

Each member federation can nominate ~~one single~~ up to two athletes to the Athletes Commission if they are of a different gender.

4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, ~~all weapons combined,~~ by weapon and each participant shall vote for seven athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.

4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the voting office/booth of the FIE at the competition site in order to proceed with the vote, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.

4.5.10 The seven candidates who have received the greatest number of votes will be elected, without distinction of weapon. Should the seven athletes with the most votes include two representatives of the same nationality, the one with fewer votes is eliminated and replaced by the candidate with the next most votes.

4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world ~~Open~~ Senior ranking on the date of the opening of the Senior World Championships will have the preference.

4.5.12 The Executive Committee, at its first meeting after these Senior World Championships, will nominate up to five athletes among the list of athletes submitted by their national federations having different nationalities than the athletes elected under Article 4.5.10. If the submitted candidacies allow it, all 6 weapons and four zones – Europe, America, Africa and Asia/Oceania – must be represented within the commission.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: The Commission agrees with the amendment presented, as it is in line with the IOC's policy to ensure participation and gender balance.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 65

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.6.1

Motivation: Addition of: a) Court experience (in order to efficiently conduct disciplinary proceedings and draft judicial decisions, b) legal counsels and c) being fluent in English as this is the language in which most disciplinary proceedings will take place.

4.6 SELECTION OF THE DISCIPLINARY PANEL

4.6.1 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be individuals who have Court experience and have been practicing as a legal counsel, lawyer, judge, arbitrator, magistrate or professor of law. They must be fluent in English at least.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with some grammatical correction.

4.6 SELECTION OF THE DISCIPLINARY PANEL

4.6.1 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be individuals who have Court experience and have been practicing as a legal counsel, lawyer, judge, arbitrator, magistrate or professor of law. They must be fluent in English at least.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 66

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.7.2

Motivation: Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

4.7 SELECTION OF THE COUNCILS

4.7.2 To be candidate for a council or committee, 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.

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

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 67

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.7.6

Motivation: To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least ~~30%~~ 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: No, but coaching council is working on encreasing the mummer of women coaches in the word. Only tow women coaches were proposed for the coaching council in 2024.

Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council: In favour

Opinion of the Veterans Council: In favour

Opinion of the Fair Play Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 68

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 4.7.7

Motivation: Clarification.

4.7.7 For the Coaches Council, ~~candidacies permitting~~ if the candidacies received allows it, 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: Proposal 68 and 69 affect the same Article 4.7.7. We have made our amendment proposal to the Proposal No. 69 and included the amendment of the Executive Committee.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with proposal 69 revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 69

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 4.7.7

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 4.7.7, the English text reverses paragraph order of the French text and therefore the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text. Furthermore, a minor amendment is required in order to eliminate the difference between the French text and the translation. Lastly, we propose some minor grammatical changes in the French text.

English text :

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

The selections for the Coaches Council, candidacies permitting, 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.

French text:

4.7.7 *En sélectionnant les candidats pour le Conseil des entraîneurs, le Comité Exécutif pourra prendre en considération les critères suivants :*

- être ou avoir été entraîneurs d'une équipe nationale ;
- ou bien avoir participé avec ~~leur~~ son équipe aux Championnats du Monde cadets, juniors ou seniors ;

- ou bien avoir des tireurs figurant au classement FIE.

La sélection des membres du Conseil des entraîneurs devrait comprendre, si le nombre de candidats le permet :

- 4 représentants issus de la zone Europe
- 3 représentants issus de la zone Asie-Océanie
- 2 représentants issus de la zone Amérique
- 1 représentant issu de la zone Afrique
- au moins trois représentants de chacune des 3 armes (fleuret, épée et sabre), de préférence de zones différentes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some further changes to its own proposal.

English text :

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

The selections for the Coaches Council, ~~candidacies permitting~~ if the candidacies received allows it, should include:

- 4 representatives from the European zone
- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone
- 2 representatives from the **Pan** 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.

French text:

4.7.7 En sélectionnant les candidats pour le Conseil des entraîneurs, le Comité Exécutif pourra prendre en considération les critères suivants :

- être ou avoir été entraîneur d'une équipe nationale ;
- ou bien avoir participé avec leur son équipe aux Championnats du Monde cadets, juniors ou seniors ;
- ou bien avoir des tireurs figurant au classement FIE.

La sélection des membres du Conseil des entraîneurs devrait comprendre, si le nombre de candidats candidatures le permet :

- 4 représentants issus de la zone Europe
- 3 représentants issus de la zone Asie-Océanie
- 2 représentants issus de la zone Amérique Panamérique
- 1 représentant issu de la zone Afrique
- au moins trois représentants de chacune des 3 armes (fleuret, épée et sabre), de préférence de zones différentes.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 70

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 5.3.2

Motivation: The phrasing and punctuation of the Article is unclear.

English text:

5.3.2 The Executive Committee, in office at the time of the election, continues to exercise its functions until the new President takes office.

French text :

5.3.2 Le Comité Exécutif en fonction au moment de l'élection, continue à exercer ses fonctions le reste jusqu'à ce que le nouveau Président entre en exercice commence son mandat.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comments to its proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 71

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.4

Motivation: Urgent or additional items may be added.

5.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DECISIONS

The agenda of the Executive Committee meeting shall reach each member of the Executive Committee at least 10 days before the meeting. Urgent or additional items may be added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 72

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.5.2

Motivation: Removal of the fax which is generally no longer used.

5.5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

5.5.2 In an emergency the Executive Committee can take decisions that are immediately binding, after having first requested (by e-mail ~~or fax~~) the opinion of the members of the competent commission(s). Such a decision can, in no case, modify or be opposite to a decision adopted by the last Congress and it must be submitted to the next meeting of the Congress for confirmation. This procedure is not applicable to a modification of Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 73

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.5.5

Motivation: Precision.

5.5.5 In the event of uncertainty or doubt, the Executive Committee is solely competent to finally interpret the articles of the Statutes and the Rules of the FIE.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 74

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.5.10

Motivation: Precisions. The word “nominations” should be replaced by “candidatures” to align with the French text.

5.5.10 The Executive Committee must examine the ~~nominations~~ **candidatures** for the organisation of **the Senior, Veteran and World Championships and the** Junior and Cadet World Championships and, when necessary, other official competitions of the FIE. It must then **submit the bidding documentation received for** ~~present a report on~~ these ~~nominations~~ **candidatures** to the Congress.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 75

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.5.11

Motivation: To align with the FIE rules (delegates of commissions and other technical officials).

5.5.11 The Executive Committee appoints the Directoire Technique and its president, technical officials and referees for the Olympic Games and World Championships. ~~It also appoints the referees for the Grand Prix and the supervisors for World Cup Competitions.~~

It also appoints the Directoire technique, technical officials, supervisors and referees for FIE official competitions, as required by the rules.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal with grammatical corrections.

5.5.11 The Executive Committee appoints the Directoire Technique and its president, technical officials and referees for the Olympic Games and World Championships. ~~It also appoints the referees for the Grand Prix and the supervisors for World Cup Competitions.~~

It also appoints the Directoire technique, technical officials, supervisors and referees for FIE official competitions, as required by the Rules.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 76

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.5.15

Motivation: If proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

5.5.15 The Executive Committee determines and approves the amounts of the fees listed in article 1.6, items 2 to 9 ~~items 1 to 4, that are approved by the Congress~~ for the following season.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal for the purpose of clarification and good governance.

~~5.5.15 The Executive Committee determines the fees and approves the amounts of the fees financial resources listed in article 1.6, items and 4-9, save for the provisions in Article 1.6 items 1 to 4, that are approved by the Congress for the following season.~~

The Executive Committee determines the fees listed in Article 1.6, items 1-3 that are approved by the Congress for the following season. Financial resources listed in Article 1.6, items 4-9 are under the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 77

Presented by: ~~Executive Committee~~

Article: 5.6.4

Motivation: ~~In line with the current and common practice on payments.~~

5.6.4 ~~The President may also give a power of attorney to the CEO for transactions below an upper limit which the ~~Executive Committee~~ ~~President and the Treasurer~~ will establish.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: ~~The Legal Commission is against of the proposal and suggest maintaining the original wording for reasons of good governance. Leaving the decision on the upper limit with the Executive Committee appears to be a better protection for the FIE.~~

5.6.4 ~~The President may also give a power of attorney to the CEO for transactions below an upper limit which the ~~Executive Committee~~ ~~President and the Treasurer~~ will establish.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the opinion of the Legal Commission and therefore withdraws the proposal.

Proposal 78

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.7.3

Motivation: Administrative procedure in case of disrespect of the rules in order not to prejudice the remaining part of competitions.

5.7 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUREAU

5.7.3 In case of decisions that disrespect the FIE Rules or Statutes made by the Directoire technique or a referee at FIE competitions, the Bureau can decide to revoke the appointment of such persons with immediate effect. It can further proceed to refer the matter to the Legal Commission in view of a Disciplinary complaint.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some further changes on the proposal for the clarity. According to the New Disciplinary Code, the Bureau will be directly entitled to lodge a complaint, so there is no need to involve the Legal Commission.

5.7 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUREAU

5.7.3 In case of decisions that seriously violate the FIE Rules or Statutes made during any official competition of the FIE by the Directoire technique or a referee ~~at FIE competitions~~ appointed for that competition, the Bureau can decide to revoke the appointment of such

persons with immediate effect and replace them for the remainder of the competition, if possible. It can further proceed to refer the matter to the Legal Commission in view of a Disciplinary complaint. lodge a complaint to initiate a disciplinary procedure as set forth in Chapter VII of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 79

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.8.1

Motivation: Removal of fax which is generally no longer used.

5.8 BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

5.8.1

e) Payments of the management account can be made with the sole signature of the President, with the prior approval of the Treasurer and the CEO, with the sole signature of the Treasurer and the CEO, with the prior approval of the President, or with the signature of the Secretary General with the prior approval of the President or the Treasurer and the CEO (who advise the President).

The prior agreement can be made by ~~fax or~~ e-mail.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 80

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 5.9

Motivation: Rephrasing and in line with the responsibilities adopted by the Executive Committee.

5.9 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General is responsible for: ~~coordinating the works of the Commissions, supervising the work of the Sport department, representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organizations and coordinating the plan of development of fencing.~~

- Coordinating the work of Commissions and Councils
- Coordinating the work of the Sports Department

- Coordinating projects and international relations with various organisations
- Coordinating the FIE website
- Coordinating the development plan of fencing
- Representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organisations

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission basically agrees with the proposal and has only made some grammatical corrections.

5.9 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General is responsible for: ~~coordinating the works of the Commissions, supervising the work of the Sport department, representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organizations and coordinating the plan of development of fencing.~~

- Coordinating the work of Commissions and Councils
- Coordinating the work of the Sports Department
- Coordinating projects and international relations with various organisations
- Coordinating the FIE website
- Coordinating the development plan of fencing
- Representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organisations

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 81

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 6.2.2

Motivation: To clarify the process.

6.2 STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSIONS

6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- The ~~names of the candidates~~ ~~candidatures~~ shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than ~~00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days~~ 48 hours before the ~~starting time~~ ~~opening~~ of the meeting.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the wording.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 82

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article 6.2.2

Motivation: Article 6.2.2 regulates the rules for the election of the Presidents of the Commissions. The recent wording reflects on situations, in which the president receives majority of the votes cast at the first ballot, or in which there are more rounds of voting and more than two candidates or when there is only one candidate. However, there are no clear procedure for the cases in which are only two candidates for the Presidency.

6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of its members are present. These meetings may be in a physical location or virtual (via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means), as determined by the Executive Committee. They may not however take the form of a hybrid meeting (physical plus virtual).

- When the meeting is held via electronic means, the identity of the participants must be verified.

- Any elected member may propose as President any elected member, including himself/herself. If a member proposes someone other than himself/herself, written confirmation that that member agrees to be a candidate must accompany the submission of the candidature.

- The candidatures shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days before the opening of the meeting.

- In case of only one candidate, that candidate is automatically elected by acclamation.

- The election shall take place as near the beginning of the meeting as is feasible.

- Until the new President has been elected, the meeting shall be chaired by the Executive Committee representative.

- Voting is by secret ballot among the elected members being present. The votes will be counted by a disinterested person from outside the commission and voting may be carried out by electronic ballot. No proxy or advance voting is allowed.

- To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required. For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions). If **there are more than two candidates and** in the first round of voting no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. **If there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.**

If **there are more than two candidates and** during the second round no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain.

In this last 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.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made further amendments to its original proposal for the case that Proposal No. 36. is voted. The redrafted Article 6.2.2 is in line with the new method of calculation of the votes. Should Proposal No. 36 not be voted, we keep our original proposal as follows:

“- To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required. For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions). If **there are more than two candidates and** in the first round of voting no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. **If there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.**

If **there are more than two candidates and** during the second round no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain. In this last 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.”

6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of its members are present. These meetings may be in a physical location or virtual (via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means), as determined by the Executive Committee. They may not however take the form of a hybrid meeting (physical plus virtual).
- When the meeting is held via electronic means, the identity of the participants must be verified.
- Any elected member may propose as President any elected member, including himself/herself. If a member proposes someone other than himself/herself, written confirmation that that member agrees to be a candidate must accompany the submission of the candidature.
- The candidatures shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days before the opening of the meeting.
- In case of only one candidate, that candidate is automatically elected by acclamation.
- The election shall take place as near the beginning of the meeting as is feasible.
- Until the new President has been elected, the meeting shall be chaired by the Executive Committee representative.
- Voting is by secret ballot among the elected members being present. The votes will be counted by a disinterested person from outside the commission and voting may be carried out by electronic ballot. No proxy or advance voting is allowed.
- To be elected at the first ballot **an absolute** majority of the votes cast is required. ~~For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).~~

If there are only two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the simple majority of the votes cast ~~the most votes at the second round~~ is elected.

~~If there are more than two candidates and 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 there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.~~

If there are more than two candidates and during the first ~~second~~ round no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the absolute majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain.

In this last case, the candidate who receives the ~~most~~ simple majority of the votes cast is elected.

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

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission, in case proposal 36 is voted. If proposal 36 is not voted, the Executive Committee agrees with the original proposal from the Legal Commission.

Proposal 83

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 6.4.2

Motivation: Removal of fax which is generally no longer used.

6.4.2 A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of members are present. In case of a force majeure event or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, a Commission may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

In addition to the above:

(i) in a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by

correspondence, including by ~~fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the Commission by its President;

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission basically agrees with the proposal and has only made a change to have a consistent wording with other provisions of the Statute.

6.4.2 A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of members are present. In case of a force majeure event or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, a Commission may

hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

In addition to the above:

(i) in a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by

correspondence, including by ~~fax and/or electronic mail~~ email or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the Commission by its President;

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 84

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 6.5.1. c)

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6.5.1 d), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6.5 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS

6.5.1 The Legal Commission.

- a) It presents to the Executive Committee a report which will be submitted to the Congress on all the proposals to modify the Statutes submitted for consideration by the Congress.
- b) This Commission prepares the texts of all proposals concerning the Statutes for the approval of the Executive Committee before submission to the Congress.
- c) The textual preparation ~~and~~ or modification of all annexes to the Statutes, except the Rules for Competitions and its annexes, are submitted to the Legal Commission for an opinion.
- d) The Commission remains at the disposal of the Executive Committee for the examination of any legal text.

French text:

6.5.1 La Commission Juridique

- a) Elle présente au Comité Exécutif un rapport, qui sera soumis au Congrès, sur toutes les propositions modifiant les Statuts soumises à l'étude du Congrès.
- b) Cette Commission prépare les textes de toutes résolutions concernant les Statuts pour approbation du Comité Exécutif avant de les soumettre au Congrès.
- c) La rédaction ou la modification de tous les textes annexes aux Statuts sont soumis pour avis à la Commission Juridique à l'exception du Règlement des Epreuves et de ses textes annexes.

d) La Commission est à la disposition du Comité Exécutif pour l'examen de tout texte juridique.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made a further grammatical correction to its original proposal.

English text:

6.5 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS

6.5.1 The Legal Commission.

- a) It presents to the Executive Committee a report which will be submitted to the Congress on all the proposals to modify the Statutes submitted for consideration by the Congress.
- b) This Commission prepares the texts of all proposals concerning the Statutes for the approval of the Executive Committee before submission to the Congress.
- c) The textual preparation ~~and~~ or modification of all annexes to the Statutes, except the Rules for Competitions and its annexes, are submitted to the Legal Commission for an opinion.
- d) The Commission remains at the disposal of the Executive Committee for the examination of any legal text.

French text:

6.5.1 La Commission Juridique

- a) Elle présente au Comité Exécutif un rapport, qui sera soumis au Congrès, sur toutes les propositions modifiant les Statuts soumises à l'étude du Congrès.
- b) Cette Commission prépare les textes de toutes résolutions concernant les Statuts pour approbation du Comité Exécutif avant de les soumettre au Congrès.
- c) La rédaction ou la modification de tous les textes annexes aux Statuts ~~sont~~ est soumise pour avis à la Commission Juridique à l'exception du Règlement des Epreuves et de ses textes annexes.
- d) La Commission est à la disposition du Comité Exécutif pour l'examen de tout texte juridique.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 85

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 6.6.2

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6.6.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6.6 Responsibility of Commission Presidents

6.6.1 Management of the operations of the Commissions

6.6.2 ~~Preparation of~~ Prepare the Commissions' work plans and control ~~over~~ their implementation ~~shall be done~~ in coordination with the Executive Committee delegate to the Commission.

6.6.3 ~~Provision of~~ Provide minutes of meetings and reports on Commission activities ~~for to~~ Executive Committee members.

French text:

6.6 Responsabilités des Présidents des Commissions

6.6.1 *Gestion des activités des commissions*

6.6.2 *Préparer les travaux des Commissions et contrôler leur mise en place en coordination avec le délégué du Comité Exécutif à la Commission.*

6.6.3 *Fournir aux membres du Comité Exécutif les procès-verbaux des réunions et des rapports sur les activités de la Commission*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 86

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 6A.2.3

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6A.2.3 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required. Furthermore, we propose some minor change in the French text for clarity.

English text:

6A.2 STRUCTURE OF THE COUNCILS

6A.2.1 Each Council is made up of ten voting members selected by the Executive Committee.

6A.2.2 The selected members of the Councils elect their President at their first meeting, following the same procedure specified for the Commissions (cf. 6.2.2).

6A.2.3 The Executive Committee will delegate one of its members to **each of the Councils in order to be responsible** to monitor and coordinate the work ~~of each~~ of the Councils (cf. 5.5.4).

The President of the FIE may, after consultation with the Secretary General and CEO, have relevant experts involved in the ~~councils'~~ **Councils'** work.

French text:

6A.2 STRUCTURE DES CONSEILS

6A.2.1 Chaque ~~e~~**C**onseil se compose de dix membres votants sélectionnés par le Comité ~~e~~**E**xécutif.

6A.2.2 Les membres sélectionnés des ~~e~~**C**onseils élisent leur président à leur première réunion, en suivant la même procédure que celle spécifiée pour les ~~e~~**C**ommissions (cf. 6.2.2).

6A.2.3 Le Comité Exécutif délègue un de ses membres dans chaque Conseil afin de surveiller et de coordonner les travaux des Conseils. (cf. 5.5.7).

Le Président de la FIE peut, après consultation du Secrétaire général et du CEO, avoir des experts appropriés impliqués dans les travaux des ~~e~~**C**onseils.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 87

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 6A.5.2

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6A.5.2 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text :

6A.5.2 Veterans Council

The Veterans Council gives its advice to the **Executive Committee** ~~later~~ on all issues related to veteran fencing. The Veterans Council can also propose to the Executive Committee all measures, which could contribute towards improving veteran fencing

French text:

6A.5.2 Conseil des Vétérans

Le Conseil des vétérans conseille le Comité Exécutif sur toutes les questions touchant à l'escrime des vétérans. Le Conseil des vétérans peut aussi proposer au Comité exécutif toutes les mesures pouvant s'avérer utiles pour améliorer l'escrime pour les vétérans.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 88

Presented by: Legal Commission

Article: 6B.3.4

Motivation: According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6B.3.4 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6B.3 STRUCTURE OF A WORKING GROUP

- 6B.3.1 Each Working Group will be made up of experts on the subject matter of the Working Group and may, but need not, be members of the Executive Committee, Ethics Committee, Commissions or Councils. Members outside of the FIE bodies may include lawyers, engineers, professors, physicians, etc. who have expertise in the subject matter of a specific Working Group and can supplement the knowledge of those members of the FIE bodies. The individuals selected for the Working Group shall have proven expertise in the subject matter of the specific Working Group and confirm their availability to dedicate the time and effort required for the length of the existence of the Working Group. The individuals shall be free of any conflicts of interest regarding the subject matter of the specific Working Group.
- 6B.3.2 The composition of a Working Group should contain, whenever possible, individuals from each zone and of both genders.
- 6B.3.3 In the event of a member's death or resignation, the Executive Committee will replace him/her by another member, taking into account the above guidelines as applicable from time to time.
- 6B.3.4 Working Groups shall report to the Executive Committee which shall include at each Congress information regarding the progress of each of the Working Groups. To the extent that the work of a Working Group develops a proposal that affects the Statutes, ~~or the~~ Rules such proposal

shall be submitted to the appropriate Commissions and/or Councils for review and comment before submission to the Congress for approval. To the extent that the proposal relates to the qualification system for the Olympic Games such proposal shall be submitted directly to the Congress for approval.

French text:

6B.3 STRUCTURE D'UN GROUPE DE TRAVAIL

- 6B.3.1 Chaque groupe de travail sera composé d'experts sur le sujet du groupe de travail, qui peuvent, mais pas nécessairement, être membres du Comité Exécutif, du Comité d'éthique, des Commissions ou des Conseils. Des membres extérieurs aux organes de la FIE, pouvant inclure des avocats, des ingénieurs, des professeurs, des médecins, etc. possédant une expertise sur le sujet d'un groupe de travail spécifique, peuvent venir compléter les connaissances des membres des organes de la FIE. Les individus sélectionnés pour le groupe de travail doivent avoir une expertise reconnue sur le sujet du groupe de travail spécifique, et confirmer leur disponibilité pour consacrer le temps et les efforts nécessaires tout au long de l'existence du groupe de travail. Les individus ne doivent pas avoir de conflits d'intérêt par rapport au sujet du groupe de travail spécifique.
- 6B.3.2 Un groupe de travail doit être composé, dans la mesure du possible, d'individus de chaque zone et des deux genres.
- 6B.3.3 En cas de décès ou de démission d'un membre, le Comité Exécutif le remplacera par un autre membre, en tenant compte des directives ci-dessus, qui peuvent s'appliquer de temps à autres.
- 6B.3.4 Les groupes de travail doivent rendre compte au Comité Exécutif, qui doit transmettre des informations sur l'avancement de chacun des groupes de travail à chaque Congrès. Si le travail d'un groupe de travail aboutit à une proposition qui concerne les Statuts ou les Règlements, cette proposition doit être soumise aux Commissions et/ou aux Conseils appropriés pour examen et commentaires avant soumission au Congrès pour approbation. Si la proposition concerne le système de qualification pour les Jeux Olympiques, cette proposition doit être soumise directement au Congrès pour approbation.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 89

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: Chapter VII Discipline [New text](#)

Motivation: The Disciplinary code had to be updated and completely revised. Therefore, a new text replacing the current one has been drafted.

7.1 DISCIPLINARY CODE

7.1.1 Scope and Object

The Disciplinary Code describes infringements of the rules in FIE Statutes, Rules, Ethics Code, Safeguarding Policy, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the International Fencing Federation (FIE), (including any of its confederations that have subjected themselves to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel, hereinafter referred to as "the Joined Confederations").

It determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and functions of the FIE Disciplinary Tribunal, as well as the procedures to be followed before it.

It does not apply to discipline at the sites of the competitions, which is subject to in Articles t.114 et seq. of the Rules for Competitions of the FIE.

No one can intervene in, influence, or otherwise interfere with the adjudication of disciplinary matters or the independence of the Disciplinary Panel.

The Executive Committee will ensure the recognition, enforcement, and execution of final and binding disciplinary decisions.

7.1.2 *Material scope of application*

1. This Code applies to any conduct that:

- a) occurs during activities organised, recognised, or sanctioned by the FIE (competitions, events, training activities, officials' functions, governance, elections or decision-making processes, commercial or representational activities); or
- b) occurs outside such activities but has a direct or indirect impact on the FIE, its competitions, governance, decisions, reputation, or members.

2. Disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel applies irrespective of nationality and domicile of the defendant, or the place where the conduct occurred, provided that the conduct has a sufficient factual, functional, or regulatory connection to the FIE, its activities, competitions, governance, or institutional interests.

7.1.3 *Subsidiarity of national jurisdiction*

Disciplinary offences arising from matters of a purely internal nature within a member federation shall, in principle, fall within the competence and jurisdiction of that federation, in accordance with its own rules.

The jurisdiction of the FIE Disciplinary Panel may nevertheless be invoked where the conduct:

- a) has an international dimension of particular seriousness;
- b) affects one or more persons affiliated with, licensed by, or originating from another member federation; or
- c) affects the interests or reputation of the FIE.

In such cases, the FIE Disciplinary Panel shall be competent to hear and adjudicate the matter, either ex officio, or upon referral by the federation concerned or upon request of the affected persons, in accordance with this Disciplinary Code.

7.1.4 *Personal scope of application*

The following are subject to this Code:

- All Member Federations.
- All individuals who are licensees, accredited or authorised by the FIE or by a Member Federation or by any of the Joined Confederations, including fencers, coaches, referees, judges, officials, representatives, staff and entourage of the fencers, therapists etc.
- The FIE employees and the members of all the FIE Commissions and Councils.
- All individuals assigned by the FIE to exercise a function, in particular with regard to a competition or other event organised by the FIE or Member Federations.
- All other associations, and other legal entities affiliated with or recognised by the FIE, and their members, officials and representatives.

Acceptance of a licence, accreditation, or participation in a FIE sanctioned event constitutes acceptance of this Code.

7.1.5 *Disciplinary code for competitions*

The present rules take priority over the rules figuring in the Rules for Competitions of the FIE and in particular at Article t.94ss, Disciplinary Code for Competitions.

Disciplinary offences

7.1.6 *Category of offences (non-exhaustive)*

1. Without prejudice the non-exhaustive nature of the catalogue set out in this Code, the following acts or omissions shall, in particular, constitute disciplinary offences where they are committed intentionally or negligently and have a sufficient connection to the FIE, its activities, governance, competitions, or interests:
 - a) **Violation** : any violation of the Statutes, Rules, regulations, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or of any Joined Confederation.
 - b) **Unsportsmanlike conduct**: any conduct contrary to the principles of fair play, respect, or sportsmanship expected within FIE activities or competitions.
 - c) **Brutality** : any act of excessive or disproportionate physical force committed in connection with FIE activities or competitions.
 - d) **Aggression**: any aggressive behaviour, whether physical or verbal, that exceeds what is reasonably acceptable in the sporting context.
 - e) **Abuse** : any form of verbal, physical, mental, or sexual abuse committed in connection with FIE activities, competitions, or governance.
 - f) **Corruption**: any act or omission involving bribery, undue influence, or improper advantage intended to distort decision-making, competition outcomes, selections, or governance processes.
 - g) **Embezzlement**: unlawful or improper appropriation, use, or diversion of funds or assets belonging to the FIE, a Joined Confederation, or any entity acting within the FIE framework.
 - h) **False declaration**: any false, misleading, or incomplete declaration made when entering a competition, applying for accreditation, or standing as a candidate for election or appointment.
 - i) **Publicity violation**: any violation of the FIE Publicity Code or of regulations governing advertising, sponsorship, image rights, or commercial representation.

- j) **Black card:** receipt of a black card during a competition, where such sanction is designated by the applicable rules as giving rise to disciplinary proceedings beyond the field of play.
- k) **Ethics:** any conduct constituting an attack on sporting morals, ethical principles, or the fundamental values of the FIE.
- l) **Disorder:** any act of provocation, disturbance, or disorder capable of disrupting competitions, events, official functions, or disciplinary proceedings.
- m) **Threat:** any threat, whether explicit or implicit, directed at a person or entity in connection with FIE activities or interests.
- n) **Harassment:** any repeated or serious unwanted conduct, including verbal or non-verbal behaviour, that violates a person's dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.
- o) **Fraud:** fraud, including any intentional act or omission designed to deceive the FIE, its bodies, officials, or participants for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage or causing harm.
- p) **Theft:** theft or misappropriation of property, funds, documents, or assets belonging to the FIE, a member federation, or any person acting within the FIE framework.
- q) **Misrepresentation:** false, misleading, or incomplete statements, declarations, or representations made knowingly or recklessly in disciplinary, administrative, electoral, contractual, or competition-related matters.
- r) **Defamation:** defamation or any conduct causing unjustified damage to the reputation, integrity, or honour of the FIE, its bodies, officials, members, or participants, where such conduct is connected to FIE activities or interests.
- s) **Malice:** malicious prosecution, including the intentional initiation of disciplinary or other proceedings based on facts known to be false or grossly distorted, with the aim of harming another person or entity or abusing FIE procedures.
- t) **Abuse of position:** use of an official position, mandate, or function within the FIE or a member federation to obtain an undue advantage, to confer an unjustified benefit on a third party, or to cause harm to another person or entity.
- u) **Conflict:** failure to disclose, manage, or abstain from decision-making in the presence of an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, where such conflict is liable to compromise impartiality, integrity, or trust in FIE processes.
- v) **Disloyalty:** any conduct contrary to the duties of loyalty, diligence, care, or good faith owed to the Federation by virtue of an elected, appointed, or entrusted position.
- w) **Circumvention:** any act or omission intended to evade, frustrate, undermine, or render ineffective the application of the Statutes, regulations, decisions, or sanctions of the FIE, including through the use of intermediaries or third parties.
- x) **Obstruction:** any conduct that interferes with the proper conduct of disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to:
 - influencing, intimidating, or pressuring witnesses or parties;
 - tampering with, concealing, or destroying evidence;
 - providing false or misleading information to disciplinary bodies.
- y) **Non-compliance:** unjustified refusal or failure to comply with requests, summonses, or **instructions** issued by the FIE or its disciplinary bodies in the context of investigations or proceedings.
- z) **Retaliation:** any adverse action, threat, or form of pressure directed against a person for having filed a complaint, provided testimony, supplied information, or otherwise cooperated in good faith with the FIE or its disciplinary bodies.

- aa) **Abuse of process:** initiation or pursuit of disciplinary proceedings in bad faith, including the repeated filing of frivolous, vexatious, or manifestly unfounded complaints with the intent to harass, intimidate, or cause reputational or procedural harm.
 - bb) **Manipulation:** any undue influence or interference with selection, nomination, ranking, or classification processes governed by FIE rules.
 - cc) **Unauthorised disclosure of confidential information:** disclosure, use, or exploitation of confidential or non-public information obtained through FIE activities, positions, or proceedings, without authorisation or legitimate purpose.
 - dd) **Ineligibility:** any false, misleading, or incomplete representation concerning eligibility, licence status, affiliation, qualification, or entitlement under FIE rules.
 - ee) **Disrepute:** any conduct that materially damages, or is likely to materially damage, the reputation, credibility, or authority of the FIE at national or international level.
 - ff) **Unauthorised representation:** acting, speaking, negotiating, or engaging commercially in the name of, or on behalf of, the FIE without proper authorisation, or in violation of FIE rules.
 - gg) **Falsification:** alteration, fabrication, or misuse of official documents, records, data, or communications relating to FIE activities or governance.
 - hh) **Incompatibility:** any other conduct that, by its nature, gravity, or consequences, is incompatible with the proper functioning, objectives, or integrity of the FIE, provided that such conduct is sufficiently foreseeable and proportionately sanctioned.
2. Any conduct that violates the Statutes, Rules, regulations, codes, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE, or that infringes the duties of integrity, loyalty, good faith, or discipline owed to the FIE, may give rise to disciplinary proceedings, even if not expressly listed above.
3. Violations of the Anti-doping Rules of the FIE are not submitted to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE. They are treated in accordance with the FIE Anti-doping Rules.
4. The qualification of conduct as a disciplinary offence shall be made based on its substance and effects, and not solely on its formal classification or the terminology used by the parties.

7.1.7 *Attempt*

An attempted offence is punishable if the offence was only prevented by circumstances beyond the control of the offender.
Attempt is sanctioned as the completed offence.

7.1.8 *Complicity*

Any person who intentionally assists, instigates, facilitates, or provides means for an offence is punishable as the principal offender.
Knowledge of the offence and contribution to its commission are sufficient.

7.1.9 *Multiple offences*

Where several offences are committed, sanctions may be cumulative.
The Disciplinary Tribunal may impose only the most severe sanction, by giving reasons for such a decision.

7.1.10 *Repetition of an offence*

A Defendant shall be considered a repeat offender where:

- a) the Defendant has been the subject of a final and binding disciplinary decision imposing a sanction for a disciplinary offence; and

- b) the Defendant commits a new disciplinary offence of the same or greater seriousness within a period of two (2) years from the date of notification of that final decision.

Repetition of an offence does not constitute a separate disciplinary offence. It shall constitute an aggravating circumstance and shall be expressly taken into account by the Disciplinary Panel when determining the nature and severity of the sanction to be imposed for the subsequent offence.

7.1.11 *Limitation Period*

A complaint must be addressed to the Head Office of the FIE within two (2) years from the date on which the alleged offence became known to the FIE.

In the case of a continuing or concealed offence, the limitation period shall run from the date on which the conduct ceased or was discovered.

Sanctions

7.1.12 *Penalties*

The Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE may impose one or more of the following penalties, either individually or cumulatively:

a) **Warning:** a formal notice indicating that the Defendant's conduct is incompatible with the rules or principles of the FIE, serving as an official admonition and a warning that any repetition or similar conduct may give rise to more severe disciplinary sanctions, without entailing further immediate disciplinary consequences.

b) **Censure:** A formal reprimand expressing official disapproval of the Defendant's conduct, recorded in the disciplinary record.

c) **Disqualification:** entails the annulment of all results, classifications, rankings, points, and awards obtained by the Defendant in the tournament or competition concerned.

d) **Suspension:** deprives the Defendant, for a specified period, of the right to participate in any sporting, administrative, official, or other activity organised, recognised, or authorised by the FIE, the zonal confederations, the member federations, or their affiliated bodies. Suspension entails the withdrawal of the relevant licence(s) for the entire duration of the suspension.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall expressly determine:

- the commencement date of the suspension;
- its duration;
- its material and personal scope.

Where a legal entity (including a federation, club, or association) is suspended, the suspension shall extend to all persons licensed by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of that entity, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly authorises, under defined conditions, the continued exercise of individual activities.

Any violation of a suspension constitutes a separate disciplinary offence and shall result, at a minimum, in the extension or doubling of the remaining suspension period, without prejudice to the imposition of additional sanctions.

The FIE Head Office shall ensure that any suspension is promptly notified to all member federations and relevant bodies upon its entry into force.

e) **Expulsion:** permanently excludes the Defendant from all activities falling within the fencing domain and under the authority of the FIE.

Expulsion may be imposed only in cases of:

- particularly serious offences; or
- repeated disciplinary offences demonstrating a persistent disregard for FIE rules and principles.

f) **Fines:** may be imposed on any Defendant, whether an individual or a legal entity.

Unless otherwise provided:

- individuals: minimum CHF 125 – maximum CHF 12,500;
- legal entities: minimum CHF 225 – maximum CHF 22,500.

Where multiple fines are imposed in respect of multiple offences, the fines may be cumulative, and the total amount may exceed the maximum provided for a single fine.

Failure to pay a fine within the prescribed deadline may give rise to additional disciplinary measures.

g) **Accessory penalties:** may be imposed in addition to a principal penalty where justified by the circumstances of the case.

Accessory penalties may include, in particular:

- prohibition from accessing specified venues or locations for a defined period;
- ineligibility to hold elected or appointed positions at national or international level;
- withdrawal of titles, honours, distinctions, or awards.

7.1.13

Suspended sentence

All penalties except warnings may be totally or partially suspended for a probationary period of two (2) years.

If no offence of equal or greater seriousness is committed during the probationary period, the suspended penalty shall not be enforced.

In the event of reoffending, the suspended penalty shall be automatically enforced in addition to the new sanction.

7.1.14

Publication of decisions

Final disciplinary decisions and the penalties imposed will be published by the FIE, including on its official website and in its official publications (official magazine of the FIE).

Publication shall be proportionate and limited to what is necessary to ensure transparency, deterrence, and the protection of the integrity of the sport, while respecting applicable data protection requirements.

Procedural rules

7.2 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7.2.1

Right to lodge a complaint

The following may lodge a complaint with the FIE Head Office:

- a) any individual or legal entity directly affected by the alleged offence;
- b) the FIE Executive Committee;
- c) the FIE Bureau;

- d) the FIE Ethics Committee for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice;
- e) any other FIE body or official acting within its mandate;
- f) a Member Federation or a Joined Confederation;
- g) the FIE supervisors at international competitions;
- h) the Directoire Technique.

The lodging of a complaint does not confer party status beyond what is expressly provided for in this Code.

7.2.2 *Form of the complaint*

The complaint shall be submitted in writing, in one of the official working language of the FIE. It shall contain:

- a) the full name of the individual or entity, the nationality, address and title of the complainant(s);
- b) the full name of the individual or entity and nationality of the person being accused, if known, or the indication that their identity and/or address is unknown;
- d) a concise statement of the relevant facts;
- e) the alleged violations with an indication of the rule or principle infringed;
- f) any available supporting evidence;
- g) the objectives of the complainant
- h) the signature of the complainant.

The complaint can be accompanied by any documents necessary for the investigative file. Additional or new information can be communicated up to 30 days after the complaint is submitted or upon request of the Disciplinary Tribunal, at its discretion.

Anonymous complaints shall not constitute admissible complaints, but the FIE Head Office may refer them to the Bureau to determine whether they should be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

7.2.3 *Admissibility of the Complaint and appointment of the Disciplinary Tribunal*

Within twenty (20) days from the receipt of a complaint and after having translated any accompanying documents into the language of the proceedings, the FIE Head Office shall inform the President of the Legal Commission of:

- a) the existence of the complaint; and
- b) the identity of the parties concerned.

The Legal Commission shall declare a complaint inadmissible where:

- a) it is manifestly unfounded;
- b) it is outside the scope of this Code; or
- c) it is time-barred pursuant to article 7.1.11. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit.

Where the complaint is not declared inadmissible, the Legal Commission, or a sub-committee duly designated for this purpose, shall, **within ten (10) working days** of being informed by the FIE Head Office, proceed to the constitution of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

For this purpose, the Legal Commission shall first exclude from eligibility any member of the Disciplinary Panel who:

- a) has a conflict of interest;
- b) represents, or is affiliated with, a country directly concerned by the proceedings; or
- c) has previously been involved in the matter in any other capacity, including but not limited to technical, refereeing, arbitral, administrative, or advisory functions.

Following such exclusions, the Legal Commission shall designate, **by random draw**, three (3) members to constitute the Disciplinary Tribunal and one (1) additional member, also designated by random draw, to act as an alternate.

The alternate member shall replace any originally designated member who is unavailable or who is subsequently required to withdraw due to a conflict of interest.

The Legal Commission shall designate the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal from among the three members appointed.

7.2.4 *Independence of the Disciplinary Tribunal – challenge*

Members shall act independently and impartially and shall not receive instructions from any FIE body.

Each member designated to sit on the Disciplinary Tribunal shall have a **continuing duty** to disclose, without delay, any circumstance that could give rise to a conflict of interest or to reasonable doubts as to independence or impartiality.

Any member identifying such a circumstance shall decline the appointment or withdraw from the proceedings, as appropriate.

Any member who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself without delay.

Parties may challenge a member by submitting a reasoned request within 10 days of being notified of the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal, or thereafter, within ten days of becoming aware of any fact giving rise to the challenge.

The challenged member shall be given the opportunity to submit observations.

The request shall be decided promptly by the FIE Legal Commission.

The decision on recusal shall not be subject to a separate internal appeal but may be challenged in an appeal against the final decision before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.5 *Confidentiality*

All the proceedings, including complaints, submissions, evidence and deliberations, shall remain strictly confidential.

Access to the case file shall be limited to the parties, the appointed Disciplinary Tribunal members and to any other competent decision-making body (including the FIE Bureau in case of emergency, as per Article 7.2.15 and the Legal Commission where necessary, on a strict need-to-know basis).

No member of any entity or body or party shall disclose information relating to the proceedings unless required for the proper conduct of the case, the enforcement of a decision, compliance with legal obligations, or proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.6 *Participants in the disciplinary proceedings*

The participants in the disciplinary proceedings (the “Participants”) shall be:

- a) the Defendant(s)
- b) the complainant if s/he considers him/herself as a victim of the Defendant
- c) a legal representative appointed by the Bureau to look after the interests of the FIE
- d) the Ethics Committee, when it has lodged the complaint, to act as the prosecutor pursuant to article 5 of the Ethics Code.

7.2.7 *Initiation of the proceedings*

Within thirty (30) days from the designation of its members, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall initiate the disciplinary proceedings by notifying the Defendant and other relevant Participants of:

- a) the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- b) a copy of the complaint and of the accompanying documents, including any translation;
- c) the applicable provisions;
- d) the procedural rights of the Defendant.

Notifications shall be made by the Disciplinary Tribunal directly to the parties, by any means allowing proof of receipt.

7.2.8 *The Participants’ fundamental rights*

The Defendant has the right to:

- a) be heard;
- b) access the case file;
- c) submit written statements and evidence;
- d) be assisted or represented by a person of his or her choice.

The Disciplinary Tribunal determines at its discretion the procedural rights of the other Participants.

7.2.9 *Burden and standard of proof*

The burden of proof lies with the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Participant alleging an offence has a reinforced duty of cooperation to assist in establishing the facts.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall decide on the basis of its comfortable satisfaction, bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged violation.

7.2.10 *Evidence and Rapporteur*

The Disciplinary Tribunal has full authority to establish the facts and may order any investigative measure it deems appropriate.

Any relevant and reliable evidence may be admitted. The Disciplinary Tribunal may request documents, hear witnesses and experts, and obtain any information it considers necessary.

The Tribunal shall have full discretion to assess the evidence and to determine its probative value.

The statements of the Directoire Technique of a competition, properly constituted, and of FIE supervisors shall be presumed accurate unless proven otherwise.

The Tribunal may appoint a Rapporteur from among its members to review the file, gather evidence and prepare a report.

An unjustified refusal by any Participant to cooperate or to provide requested information may be taken into account in the assessment of the evidence and may give rise to disciplinary sanctions.

7.2.11

Hearings

A - Format

The Disciplinary Tribunal has the discretion to conduct the proceedings:

- a) in writing;
- b) by videoconference; or
- c) by holding an in-person hearing.

The Tribunal determines whether a hearing is required, taking into account the complexity of the case, the seriousness of the alleged violation, and the Participants' procedural rights. If it does not take place remotely, the hearing will be held at the administrative office of the FIE or in another place chosen by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal for reasons of convenience.

If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants will be responsible for the cost of their own travel and accommodation, as well as that of any representatives, witnesses or experts they may call. However, if the Disciplinary Tribunal calls the witnesses or experts, the FIE will support their travel and accommodation costs.

B - Summons

The summons must be sent to the Participants at least twenty (20) days in advance, indicating the date, time and format of the hearing. It must be accompanied by any documents that have not yet been yet communicated to the Participants.

No later than eight (8) days before the hearing, the Defendant shall:

- submit a statement of defence, together with written supporting evidence;
- identify the witnesses and experts relied upon and indicate their relevance; the Participants may submit written witness statements, which shall be dated and signed by the witnesses; the Disciplinary Tribunal may request that the witnesses confirm the contents of their witness statements orally; all Participants may request to cross-examine the witnesses at the hearing.

The Disciplinary Tribunal may grant the other Participants the right to submit written submissions and additional evidence.

Failure by a duly notified Participant to appear or participate shall not prevent the Tribunal from proceeding, holding the hearing and rendering a decision.

C - Conduct of the hearing

Hearings shall be conducted by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal in a fair and orderly manner, ensuring due process and equality of arms.

Unless otherwise decided for justified reasons, all the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall participate in the hearing. Participation by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence.

The Participants may present their case, submit evidence, call and examine witnesses and experts, and make oral submissions, subject to the Tribunal's authority to determine the order, relevance and admissibility. They are not required to attend in person. They can be represented at the hearing by someone with a written power of attorney. If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants may request to attend remotely via teleconference or videoconference.

The Disciplinary Tribunal, respectively the President shall:

- verify the identity of the Participants, witnesses and experts;
- invite the Rapporteur, where appointed, to present the report;
- hear the Participants;
- examine the witnesses and experts, who will attend the hearing in person or remotely; they will be examined separately and subsequently, outside the presence of each other; the President may allow the Participants to examine and cross-examine the witnesses and experts.
- determine the relevance and admissibility of evidence;
- order any additional investigative measure necessary to establish the facts.

The President has the authority to waive the examination of a witness or an expert.

The President may take any procedural measure necessary for the orderly conduct of the hearing, including excluding any person disrupting the proceedings. He may also designate a secretary for the hearing, to keep a record of the various statements under his control.

Any person requested to provide testimony or documents shall cooperate in good faith. In case of unjustified refusal, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose a fine ranging from CHF 500 to CHF 5,000 after giving the person concerned the opportunity to provide an explanation.

The Defendant or their representative shall be given the opportunity to speak last.

D. Additional Investigation

In case of difficulty, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may request from the President of the Legal Commission or from the Executive Committee an additional period not exceeding three (3) months in order to gather supplementary information.

Any supplementary information shall be communicated to the Defendant and to the other Participants, who shall be invited to respond within the time limit indicated in the cover letter.

Where necessary, a new hearing may be convened. It shall be held under the same terms and conditions as the initial hearing.

E. Confidentiality of the hearing

Hearings shall not be public unless the Tribunal decides otherwise with the consent of the parties.

The hearing may be recorded and/or transcribed. If so, the recording or transcript shall form part of the case file and shall remain confidential.

7.2.12 Deliberations

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall deliberate in private and deliberations shall remain confidential.

Only members of the Disciplinary Tribunal may participate in the deliberations.

Decisions shall be taken by a majority vote. The name of any member in minority shall not be disclosed in the decision or otherwise.

7.2.13 *Decision*

The decision shall be reasoned in writing and shall include the following:

- a) the names of the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- b) the names of the Defendant and of the other Participants;
- c) the date of the decision;
- d) a summary of the facts;
- e) the applicable legal provisions;
- f) the reasoning of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- g) the sanction imposed, if any;
- h) the available appeal remedies and the applicable time limits.

The decision must be signed by at least the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Electronic signatures shall be deemed valid.

Clerical or typographical errors may be corrected at any time.

7.2.14 *Notification, publication and enforcement of decisions*

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall notify its decision by email, with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, to the relevant Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office.

The President of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall also send copies of the decision to the President of the FIE and the President of the Legal Commission by e-mail.

Decisions shall be enforceable upon notification, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly decides otherwise.

Member Federations shall cooperate with and assist the FIE in the implementation and enforcement of disciplinary decisions.

The FIE may publish decisions or summaries thereof, where appropriate, subject to confidentiality and data protection requirements.

7.2.15 *Appeal*

Any final decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal or the FIE Bureau taken in application of the present Code may be appealed exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, to the exclusion of ordinary courts.

The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

7.2.16 *Effect of procedural irregularities*

A procedural irregularity shall lead to the annulment of a decision by the Disciplinary Tribunal or by the CAS where it has materially affected the rights of the defence or the outcome of the proceedings.

Minor, formal or harmless procedural defects shall not invalidate an otherwise lawful and reasoned decision.

Before the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may remedy any procedural irregularity and, where necessary, reopen the proceedings in order to safeguard due process.

After the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may correct clerical errors, clarify the operative part of the decision, or issue a supplementary decision in case of an omission to rule. In case of gross violation of due process, it may revoke its decision and reconsider the merits of the case.

7.2.17 *Pronouncements*

All the decisions pronounced by the Disciplinary Tribunal or by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting.

7.2.18 *Provisional measures – emergency power of the FIE Bureau*

A. Power to order provisional measures

In cases of urgency, the Bureau of the FIE may, within its adjudicatory powers, where the circumstances so require, in particular to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings, the proper administration of justice, or the interests of the FIE, order provisional measures.

Provisional measures may include, inter alia, the provisional suspension of a licence or any other appropriate administrative measure.

Such measures may be taken only where the seriousness of the alleged offence or its consequences so require.

B. Procedure before the bureau

Prior to any decision, the President of the FIE shall summon the Defendant and other interested Participants, including the Complainant(s), before the Bureau by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, at least one (1) week before the meeting.

The summons shall specify that the Defendant and other Participants may be assisted or represented by the person of their choice.

At the meeting, the Bureau shall verify that the summons has been duly notified to the Defendant and other Participants.

The Bureau shall ensure that the Defendant has been given the opportunity to be heard before any provisional measure is imposed, unless exceptional circumstances justify immediate action.

C. Decision and effect

At the close of the meeting, the Bureau shall notify its decision to the Defendant and other Participants, including the Complainant(s), by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery. The decision shall be deemed effective from the date of transmission.

The decision shall state the grounds on which it is based.

The decision shall be binding and subject to appeal in accordance with Article 7.2.12.

D. Duration and review

The Bureau shall determine the duration of any provisional measure.

Any provisional suspension shall not extend beyond the date of the decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal imposes a suspension, the period of provisional suspension ordered by the Bureau shall be credited against the final sanction.

Provisional measures may be lifted or modified at any time if the circumstances so justify.

E. Reporting

The Bureau shall report any provisional measure ordered under this Article at the next ordinary meeting of the Executive Committee.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made several changes on the wording.

7.1 DISCIPLINARY CODE

7.1.1 Scope and Object

The Disciplinary Code describes infringements of the rules in FIE Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, Ethics Code, Safeguarding Policy, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the International Fencing Federation (FIE), (including any of its confederations that have subjected themselves to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel (cf. Article 4.6 and 6.7.1), hereinafter referred to as "the Joined Confederations").

It determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and functions of a ~~the~~ FIE Disciplinary Tribunal, as well as the procedures to be followed before it.

~~It does not apply to d~~Discipline at the sites of the competitions, ~~which~~ is primarily subject to in Articles t. 107 ~~414~~ et seq. of the Technical Rules ~~for Competitions~~ of the FIE. Depending on the gravity of the offences established based on the Technical Rules of the FIE, the Disciplinary Code might be applicable separately from and in addition to the disciplinary procedures set out in Chapter 2 of the Technical Rules of the FIE (t.134 et seq). Where the Disciplinary Code is applicable, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency, decisions adopted pursuant to the Disciplinary Code shall prevail the decisions taken under Articles t.134 et seq. of the Technical Rules the FIE.

The disciplinary decisions made based on Article t.140 of the Technical Rules of the FIE are subject to appeal to the Disciplinary Panel of the FIE.

No one can intervene in, influence, or otherwise interfere with the adjudication of disciplinary matters or the independence of the Disciplinary Panel.

The Executive Committee will ensure the recognition, enforcement, and execution of final and binding disciplinary decisions.

Within the meaning of the Disciplinary Code, "the Disciplinary Tribunal" shall mean the adjudicatory body appointed from the Disciplinary Panel in accordance with Article 7.2.3.

7.1.2 Material scope of application

1. This Code applies to any conduct that:

- a) occurs during activities organised, recognised, or sanctioned by the FIE or the Joined Confederations (competitions, events, training activities, officials' functions, governance, elections or decision-making processes, commercial or representational activities); or
- b) occurs outside such activities but has a direct or indirect impact on the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its competitions, governance, decisions, reputation, or members.

2. Disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel applies irrespective of nationality and domicile of the ~~D~~defendant, or the place where the conduct occurred, provided that the

conduct has a sufficient factual, functional, or regulatory connection to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, ~~its~~ their activities, competitions, governance, or institutional interests.

7.1.3 *Subsidiarity of national jurisdiction*

Disciplinary offences arising from matters of a purely internal nature within a ~~M~~member Federation shall, in principle, fall within the competence and jurisdiction of that federation, in accordance with its own rules.

The jurisdiction of the FIE Disciplinary Panel may nevertheless be invoked where the conduct:

- a) has an international dimension of particular seriousness;
- b) affects one or more persons affiliated with, licensed by, or originating from another ~~M~~member-Federation; or
- c) affects the interests or reputation of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

In such cases, the FIE Disciplinary Panel shall be competent to hear and adjudicate the matter, either ex officio, or upon referral by the federation concerned or upon request of the affected persons, in accordance with this Disciplinary Code.

7.1.4 *Personal scope of application*

The following are subject to this Code:

- All Member Federations.
- All Joined Confederations.
- All individuals who are licensees, accredited or authorised by the FIE or by a Member Federation or by any of the Joined Confederations, including fencers, coaches, referees, judges, officials, representatives, staff and entourage of the fencers, therapists etc.
- The FIE employees and the members of the Executive Committee, the members of all the FIE Commissions, Committees and Councils.
- All individuals assigned by the FIE to exercise a function, in particular with regard to a competition or other event organised by the FIE or Member Federations.
- All other associations, and other legal entities affiliated with or recognised by the FIE, and their members, officials and representatives.
- All individuals attending events organised or recognised by the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

Acceptance of a licence, accreditation, or participation in an ~~FIE-sanctioned~~ event sanctioned by the FIE or the Joined Confederations constitutes acceptance of this Disciplinary Code.

~~7.1.5 — Disciplinary code for competitions~~

~~The present rules take priority over the rules figuring in the Rules for Competitions of the FIE and in particular at Article t.94ss, Disciplinary Code for Competitions.~~

Disciplinary offences

7.1.5 *Category of offences (non-exhaustive)*

1. Without prejudice the non-exhaustive nature of the catalogue set out in this Code, the following acts or omissions shall, in particular, constitute disciplinary offences where they are committed intentionally or negligently and have a sufficient connection to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, ~~its~~ their activities, governance, competitions, or interests:

- a) **Violation** : any violation of the Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or of any Joined Confederation.
- b) **Unsportsmanlike conduct**: any conduct contrary to the principles of fair play, respect, or sportsmanship expected within ~~FIE~~ the activities or competitions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- c) **Brutality** : any act of excessive or disproportionate physical force ~~committed in connection with FIE activities or competitions.~~
- d) **Aggression**: any aggressive behaviour, whether physical or verbal, that exceeds what is reasonably acceptable in the sporting context.
- e) **Abuse** : any form of verbal, physical, mental, or sexual abuse ~~committed in connection with FIE activities, competitions, or governance.~~
- f) **Corruption**: any act or omission involving bribery, undue influence, or improper advantage intended to distort decision-making, competition outcomes, selections, or governance processes.
- g) **Embezzlement**: unlawful or improper appropriation, use, or diversion of funds or assets belonging to the FIE, a Joined Confederation, or any entity acting within the FIE framework.
- h) **False declaration**: any false, misleading, or incomplete declaration made when entering a competition, applying for accreditation, or standing as a candidate for election or appointment.
- i) **Publicity violation**: any violation of the FIE Publicity Code or of regulations governing advertising, sponsorship, image rights, or commercial representation.
- j) **Black card**: receipt of a black card during a competition, where such sanction is designated by the applicable rules as giving rise to disciplinary proceedings beyond the field of play.
- k) **Ethics** : any conduct constituting an attack on sporting morals, ethical principles, or the fundamental values of the FIE.
- l) **Disorder**: any act of provocation, disturbance, or disorder capable of disrupting competitions, events, official functions, or disciplinary proceedings.
- m) **Threat**: any threat, whether explicit or implicit, directed at a person or entity in connection with ~~FIE~~ the activities or interests of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- n) **Harassment**: any repeated or serious unwanted conduct, including verbal or non-verbal behaviour, that violates a person's dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.
- o) **Fraud**: fraud, including any intentional act or omission designed to deceive the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its bodies, officials, or participants for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage or causing harm.
- p) **Theft**: theft or misappropriation of property, funds, documents, or assets belonging to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, a ~~M~~member ~~F~~federation, or any person acting within the FIE or the Joined Confederations framework.
- q) **Misrepresentation**: false, misleading, or incomplete statements, declarations, or representations made knowingly or recklessly in disciplinary, administrative, electoral, contractual, or competition-related matters.
- r) **Defamation**: defamation or any conduct causing unjustified damage to the reputation, integrity, or honour of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its bodies, officials, members, or participants, where such conduct is connected to ~~FIE~~ the activities or interests of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

- s) **Malice:** malicious prosecution, including the intentional initiation of disciplinary or other proceedings based on facts known to be false or grossly distorted, with the aim of harming another person or entity or abusing ~~FIE~~ the procedures of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- t) **Abuse of position:** use of an official position, mandate, or function within the FIE or the Joined Confederations or a ~~Member Federation~~ to obtain an undue advantage, to confer an unjustified benefit on a third party, or to cause harm to another person or entity.
- u) **Conflict of interest:** failure to disclose, manage, or abstain from decision-making in the presence of an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, where such conflict is liable to compromise impartiality, integrity, or trust in ~~FIE~~ the processes of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- v) **Disloyalty:** any conduct contrary to the duties of loyalty, diligence, care, or good faith owed to the ~~Federation~~ FIE or the Joined Confederations by virtue of an elected, appointed, or entrusted position.
- w) **Circumvention:** any act or omission intended to evade, frustrate, undermine, or render ineffective the application of the FIE Statutes, regulations, decisions, or sanctions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, including through the use of intermediaries or third parties.
- x) **Obstruction:** any conduct that interferes with the proper conduct of disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to:
 - influencing, intimidating, or pressuring witnesses or parties;
 - tampering with, concealing, or destroying evidence;
 - providing false or misleading information to disciplinary bodies.
- y) **Non-compliance:** unjustified refusal or failure to comply with requests, summonses, or instructions issued by the FIE or the Joined Confederations or its disciplinary bodies in the context of investigations or proceedings.
- z) **Retaliation:** any adverse action, threat, or form of pressure directed against a person for having filed a complaint, provided testimony, supplied information, or otherwise cooperated in good faith with the FIE or the Joined Confederations or its disciplinary bodies.
- aa) **Abuse of process:** initiation or pursuit of disciplinary proceedings in bad faith, including the repeated filing of frivolous, vexatious, or manifestly unfounded complaints with the intent to harass, intimidate, or cause reputational or procedural harm.
- bb) **Manipulation:** any undue influence or interference with selection, nomination, ranking, or classification processes governed by ~~FIE~~ the rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- cc) **Unauthorised disclosure of confidential information:** disclosure, use, or exploitation of confidential or non-public information obtained through FIE or Joined Confederation activities, positions, or proceedings, without authorisation or legitimate purpose.
- dd) **Ineligibility:** any false, misleading, or incomplete representation concerning eligibility, licence status, affiliation, qualification, or entitlement under ~~FIE~~ the rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
- ee) **Disrepute:** any conduct that materially damages, or is likely to materially damage, the reputation, credibility, or authority of the FIE or the Joined Confederations at national or international level.
- ff) **Unauthorised representation:** acting, speaking, negotiating, or engaging commercially in the name of, or on behalf of, the FIE or the Joined Confederations

without proper authorisation, or in violation of ~~FIE~~ the rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

gg) **Falsification:** alteration, fabrication, or misuse of official documents, records, data, or communications relating to ~~FIE~~ the activities or governance of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

hh) **Incompatibility:** any other conduct that, by its nature, gravity, or consequences, is incompatible with the proper functioning, objectives, or integrity of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, where the consequences of ~~provided that~~ such conduct are ~~is~~ sufficiently foreseeable and proportionately sanctioned.

ii) **Safe sport infraction:** Any harassment or abuse within the definitions of Chapter XIII of these Statutes (FIE Safeguarding Policy) that results in a formal complaint to the Disciplinary Panel.

jj) **Obstruction of Investigations:** Assisting or supporting the perpetrator of an offence, or otherwise acting with the purpose of preventing, obstructing or hindering an investigation or disciplinary proceedings.

2. Any conduct that violates the Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations, codes, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, or that infringes the duties of integrity, loyalty, good faith, or discipline owed to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, may give rise to disciplinary proceedings, even if not expressly listed above.

3. Violations of the Anti-doping Rules of the FIE are not submitted to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE. They are treated in accordance with the FIE Anti-doping Rules.

4. The qualification of conduct as a disciplinary offence shall be made on the basis of its substance and effects, and not solely on its formal classification or the terminology used by the parties during the disciplinary procedure provided for in Article 7.2.

7.1.6 *Attempt*

An attempted offence is punishable if the offence was only prevented by circumstances beyond the control of the offender.

Attempt is sanctioned as the completed offence.

7.1.7 *Complicity*

Any person who intentionally assists, instigates, facilitates, or provides means for an offence is punishable as the principal offender.

Knowledge of the offence and contribution to its commission are sufficient.

7.1.8 *Multiple offences*

Where several offences are committed, sanctions may be cumulative.

However, ~~the~~ the Disciplinary Tribunal may decide to impose only the most severe sanction, by giving reasons for such a decision.

7.1.9 *Repetition of an offence*

A Defendant shall be considered a repeat offender where he/she:

- a) ~~the Defendant~~ has been the subject of a final and binding disciplinary decision imposing a sanction for a disciplinary offence; and
- b) ~~the Defendant~~ commits a new disciplinary offence of the same category or a new disciplinary offence that has sufficient connection with the previous one(s) in the Tribunal's opinion ~~or greater seriousness~~ within a period of two (2) years from the date of his/her notification of that final decision.

Repetition of an offence ~~does not constitute a separate disciplinary offence.~~
~~It~~ shall constitute an aggravating circumstance and shall be expressly taken into account

by the Disciplinary Tribunal when determining the nature and severity of the sanction to be imposed for the subsequent offence.

7.1.10 *Limitation Period*

A complaint must be addressed and submitted to the Head Office of the FIE within two (2) years from the date on which the alleged offence became known to the Complainant FIE. No complaint can be submitted after ten (10) years following the occurrence of the alleged offence.

Notwithstanding the above, the following special rules on limitation shall apply in the following cases:

- a) in the case of allegations of corruption, a limitation period of five (5) years shall apply commencing on the date on which the alleged offence became known to the Complainant. No complaint can be submitted after ten (~~15~~ 10) years following the occurrence of the alleged offence.
- b) In the case of allegations of sexual abuse, abuse of minors, serious safeguarding violations, no limitation period shall apply.

The limitation period shall be deemed observed if the complaint is sent by post within the time limit indicated in this Article and the Complainant can prove such dispatch, or if it is delivered personally to the Head Office of the FIE, or transmitted by e-mail, provided that the complainant can prove receipt thereof by the Head Office of the FIE.

In the case of a continuing or concealed offence, the limitation period shall run from the date on which the conduct ceased or was discovered.

Sanctions

7.1.11 *Penalties*

The Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE may impose one or more of the following penalties, either individually or cumulatively:

- a) **Warning:** a formal notice indicating that the Defendant's conduct is incompatible with the rules or principles of the FIE, serving as an official admonition and a warning that any repetition or similar conduct may give rise to more severe disciplinary sanctions, without entailing further immediate disciplinary consequences.
- b) **Censure:** A formal reprimand expressing official disapproval of the Defendant's conduct, recorded in the disciplinary record.
- c) **Disqualification:** entails the annulment of all results, classifications, rankings, points, and awards obtained by the Defendant in the tournament or competition concerned.
- d) **Suspension:** deprives the Defendant, for a specified period, of the right to participate in any sporting, administrative, official, or other activity organised, recognised, or authorised by the FIE, the Zonal Confederations, the ~~M~~member Ffederations, or their affiliated bodies. Suspension entails the withdrawal of the relevant licence(s) for the entire duration of the suspension.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall expressly determine:

- the commencement date of the suspension;
- its duration;
- its material and personal scope.

Where a legal entity (including a federation, club, or association) is suspended, the suspension shall extend to all persons licensed by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of that entity, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly authorises, under defined conditions, the continued exercise of individual activities.

Any violation of a suspension constitutes a separate disciplinary offence and shall result, at a minimum, in the extension or doubling of the remaining suspension period, without prejudice to the imposition of additional sanctions.

The FIE Head Office shall ensure that any suspension is promptly notified to all Member Federations and relevant bodies upon its entry into force.

e) **Expulsion:** permanently excludes the Defendant from all activities falling within the fencing domain and under the authority of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

Expulsion may be imposed only in cases of:

- particularly serious offences; or
- repeated disciplinary offences demonstrating a persistent disregard for FIE rules and principles.

f) **Fines:** may be imposed on any Defendant, whether an individual or a legal entity.

Unless otherwise provided:

- individuals: minimum CHF 125 – maximum CHF 12,500;
- legal entities: minimum CHF 225 – maximum CHF 22,500.

Where multiple fines are imposed in respect of multiple offences, the fines may be cumulative, and the total amount may exceed the maximum provided for a single fine.

Failure to pay a fine within the prescribed deadline may give rise to additional disciplinary measures.

g) **Accessory penalties:** may be imposed in addition to a principal penalty where justified by the circumstances of the case.

Accessory penalties may include, in particular, but not be limited to

- prohibition from accessing specified venues or locations for a defined period;
- ineligibility to hold elected or appointed positions at national or international level;
- withdrawal of titles, honours, distinctions, or awards.

In determining the sanction, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall consider the level of seriousness of the offence, intent or negligence, harm caused, position of responsibility, prior disciplinary record, cooperation, remorse, remediation, aggravating and mitigating circumstances, and the need to protect athletes and the integrity of fencing.

7.1.12

Suspended sentence

All penalties except warnings may be totally or partially suspended for a probationary period of two (2) years.

If no offence of equal or greater seriousness is committed during the probationary period, the suspended penalty shall not be enforced.

In the event of reoffending, the suspended penalty shall be automatically enforced in addition to the new sanction.

7.1.13

Publication of decisions

A summary of final disciplinary decisions and the penalties imposed will be published by the FIE, including on its official website ~~and in its official publications (official magazine of the FIE)~~, unless both parties agree that it shall remain confidential.

Publication shall be proportionate and limited to what is necessary to ensure transparency, deterrence, and the protection of the integrity of the sport, while respecting applicable data protection requirements; other details of the case shall remain confidential.

7.1.14 *The Disciplinary Panel acting as appealing body*

Any decision taken based on Article t.140 of the Technical Rules of the FIE may be appealed exclusively to the Disciplinary Panel. The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

The rules for Disciplinary Procedure set forth in Article 7.2 shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to the appeal proceedings.

Procedural rules

7.2 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7.2.1 *Right to lodge a complaint*

The following may lodge a complaint ~~with the FIE Head Office~~ (hereinafter referred to as "the Complainant(s)):

- a) any individual or legal entity directly affected by the alleged offence, including, but not limited, to the victims, witnesses of the alleged offence, parents or guardians of minor athletes who are victims of the alleged offence, coaches of athletes who are victims of the alleged offence;
- b) the FIE Executive Committee;
- c) the FIE Bureau;
- d) the FIE Ethics Committee for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code ~~or an Ethics Committee advice~~;
- e) any other FIE body or official acting within its mandate;
- f) a Member Federation or a Joined Confederation;
- g) the FIE supervisors or the FIE event managers at international competitions, and
- h) the Directoire Technique.

The lodging of a complaint does not confer party status beyond what is expressly provided for in this Disciplinary Code.

7.2.2 *Form of the complaint*

The complaint shall be submitted in writing, in one of the official working languages of the FIE, at the FIE Head office. In the case the Defendant is a person It shall contain:

- a) the full name of the individual or entity, the nationality, address and title of the ~~e~~Complainant(s);
- b) the full name of the individual or entity and nationality of the person being accused, if known, a statement ~~or the indication~~ that their identity and/or address is unknown;
- c) a concise statement of the relevant facts;
- d) the alleged violations and ~~with an indication of~~ the rule or principle infringed;
- e) any available supporting evidence;
- f) the objectives of the ~~e~~Complainant

g) the signature of the ~~e~~Complainant In the case the Complainant is a minor, the complaint shall also be signed by the parent or guardian of the Complainant, except where the Defendant is the parent or guardian of the Complainant.

The complaint can be accompanied by any documents necessary for the investigative file. Additional or new information can be communicated up to 30 days after the complaint is submitted or upon request of the Disciplinary Tribunal, at its discretion.

Anonymous complaints shall not constitute admissible complaints, but the FIE Head Office may refer them to the Bureau to determine whether they should be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

7.2.3 *Admissibility of the ~~C~~omplaint and appointment of the Disciplinary Tribunal*

Within twenty (20) days from the receipt of a complaint and after having translated any accompanying documents into the language of the proceedings, the FIE Head Office shall inform the President of the Legal Commission of:

- a) the existence of the complaint; and
- b) the identity of the parties concerned.

The FIE Head Office shall send the copy of the complaint and the accompanying documents that are filed to the President of the Legal Commission.

The Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall within ten (10) working days of its receipt of the complaint and the accompanying documents examine whether the complaint:

- a) is time-barred pursuant to the limitations set forth in Article 7.1.10. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit;
- b) is without a doubt outside the scope of this Disciplinary Code; and
- c) fails to contain all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2.

In the cases referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above, the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall declare ~~a~~ the complaint inadmissible ~~where:~~—In the case referred to in subparagraph c) above, the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall notify the FIE Head Office within ten (10) working days of its receipt of the complaint. In such case, the FIE Head Office may grant the Complainant an additional period of ten (10) working days to remedy the deficiencies. Failure to comply with this deadline shall result in the rejection of the complaint by the FIE Head Office. The Complainant shall be expressly warned of this legal consequence in the request to cure the deficiencies.

- ~~a) it is manifestly unfounded;~~
- ~~b) it is outside the scope of this Code; or~~
- ~~c) it is time-barred pursuant to article 7.1.11. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit.~~

Where the complaint is not declared inadmissible under the procedures set forth above, the Legal Commission, or a ~~S~~ub-committee duly designated for this purpose, shall, **within ten (10) working days** of being informed of the complaint by the FIE Head Office, proceed to ~~the constitution of~~ appoint the Disciplinary Tribunal.

Should a complaint be found not to contain all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2, but the FIE Head Office has allowed and received a supplemented complaint containing all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2, the 10-working day deadline commences on the following day that the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, receives the supplemented complaint from the FIE Head Office.

~~For this the purpose~~ In appointing the Disciplinary Tribunal, the Legal Commission shall first exclude from eligibility any member of the Disciplinary Panel who:

- a) has a conflict of interest;
- b) represents, or is affiliated with, a country directly concerned by the proceedings; or
- c) has previously been involved in the matter in any other capacity, including but not limited to technical, refereeing, arbitral, administrative, or advisory functions.

Following such exclusions, the Legal Commission shall designate, **by random draw**, three (3) members to constitute the Disciplinary Tribunal and one (1) additional member, also designated by random draw, to act as an alternate.

The alternate member shall replace any originally designated member who is unavailable or who is subsequently required to withdraw due to a conflict of interest.

The Legal Commission or the Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose shall designate the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal from among the three members appointed.

7.2.4 *Independence of the Disciplinary Tribunal – challenge*

Members shall act independently and impartially and shall not receive instructions from any FIE body.

Each member designated to sit on the Disciplinary Tribunal shall have a **continuing duty** to disclose, without delay, any circumstance that could give rise to a conflict of interest or to reasonable doubts as to independence or impartiality.

Any member identifying such a circumstance shall decline the appointment or withdraw from the proceedings, as appropriate.

Any member who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself without delay.

Parties may challenge a member by submitting a reasoned request within ten (10) days of being notified of the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal, or thereafter, within ten (10) days of becoming aware of any fact giving rise to the challenge.

The challenged member shall be given the opportunity to submit observations.

The request shall be decided promptly by the FIE Legal Commission or the Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose.

The decision on recusal shall not be subject to a separate internal appeal but may be challenged in an appeal against the final decision before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.5 *Confidentiality*

All the proceedings, including complaints, submissions, evidence and deliberations, shall remain strictly confidential.

Access to the case file shall be limited to the parties, the appointed Disciplinary Tribunal members and to any other competent decision-making body (including the FIE Bureau in case of emergency, as per Article 7.2.15 and the Legal Commission where necessary, on a strict need-to-know basis).

No member of any entity or body or party shall disclose information relating to the proceedings unless required for the proper conduct of the case, the enforcement of a decision, compliance with legal obligations, or proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.6 *Participants in the disciplinary proceedings*

The Participants in the disciplinary proceedings (the "Participants") shall be:

- a) the Defendant(s)
- b) the Complainant ~~if s/he considers him/herself as a victim of the Defendant~~
- ~~c) a legal representative appointed by the Bureau to look after the interests of the FIE~~
- c) the Ethics Committee, when it has lodged the complaint, to act as the prosecutor pursuant to Article 5 of the Ethics Code.

7.2.7 *Initiation of the proceedings*

Within thirty (30) days from the designation of its members, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall initiate the disciplinary proceedings by notifying the Defendant and other relevant Participants of:

- a) the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- b) a copy of the complaint and of the accompanying documents, including any translation;
- c) the applicable procedural provisions;
- d) the procedural rights of the Defendant.

Notifications shall be made by the Disciplinary Tribunal directly to the parties, by any means allowing proof of receipt.

7.2.8 *The Participants' fundamental rights*

The Defendant and the Complainant have the right to:

- a) be heard;
- b) access the case file;
- c) submit written statements and evidence;
- d) be assisted or represented by a person of their choice.

The Disciplinary Tribunal determines at its discretion the procedural rights of the other Participants.

7.2.9 *Burden and standard of proof*

The burden of proof lies with the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Participant alleging an offence has a reinforced duty of cooperation to assist in establishing the facts.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall decide on the basis of its comfortable satisfaction bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged violation and the consequences of the possible sanctions.

7.2.10 *Evidence and Rapporteur*

The Disciplinary Tribunal has full authority to establish the facts and may order any investigative measure it deems appropriate.

Any relevant and reliable evidence may be admitted. The Disciplinary Tribunal may request documents, hear witnesses and experts, and obtain any information it considers necessary.

The Tribunal shall have full discretion to assess the evidence and to determine its probative value.

The statements of the Directoire Technique of a competition, properly constituted, and of FIE Supervisors shall be presumed accurate unless proven otherwise and/or in the case they are the Defendants in the disciplinary procedure.

The Tribunal may appoint a Rapporteur from among its members to review the file, gather evidence and prepare a report.

An unjustified refusal by any Participant to cooperate or to provide requested information may be taken into account in the assessment of the evidence and may give rise to disciplinary sanctions.

7.2.11 *Hearings*

A - Format

The Disciplinary Tribunal has the discretion to conduct the proceedings:

- a) in writing;
- b) by videoconference; or
- c) by holding an in-person hearing.

The Tribunal shall set a hearing date, unless the Defendant admits the alleged violation. ~~determines whether a hearing is required, taking into account the complexity of the case, the seriousness of the alleged violation, and the Participants' procedural rights.~~ If it does not take place remotely, the hearing will be held at the administrative office of the FIE or in another place chosen by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal for reasons of convenience.

If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants will be responsible for the cost of their own travel and accommodation, as well as that of any representatives, witnesses or experts they may call. However, if the Disciplinary Tribunal calls the witnesses or experts, the FIE will support their travel and accommodation costs.

B - Summons

The summons must be sent to the Participants at least ~~twenty (20)~~ thirty (30) days in advance, indicating the date, time and format of the hearing. It must be accompanied by any documents that have not yet been yet communicated to the Participants.

No later than ~~eight (8)~~ fourteen (14) days before the hearing, the Defendant shall:

- submit a statement of defence, together with written supporting evidence;
- identify the witnesses and experts relied upon and indicate their relevance; the Participants may submit written witness statements, which shall be dated and signed by the witnesses; the Disciplinary Tribunal may request that the witnesses confirm the contents of their witness statements orally; all Participants may request to cross-examine the witnesses at the hearing.

The Disciplinary Tribunal may grant the other Participants the right to submit written submissions and additional evidence.

Failure by a duly notified Participant to appear or participate shall not prevent the Tribunal from proceeding, holding the hearing and rendering a decision.

C - Conduct of the hearing

Hearings shall be conducted by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal in a fair and orderly manner, ensuring due process and the principle of equality of arms.

Unless otherwise decided for justified reasons, all the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall participate in the hearing. Participation by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence.

The Participants may present their case, submit evidence, call and examine witnesses and experts, and make oral submissions, subject to the Tribunal's authority to determine the order, relevance and admissibility. They are not required to attend in person. They can be represented at the hearing by someone with a written power of attorney. If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants may request to attend remotely via teleconference or videoconference.

The Disciplinary Tribunal, ~~respectively~~ or the President, as the case may be, shall:

- verify the identity of the Participants, witnesses and experts;
- invite the Rapporteur, where appointed, to present the report;
- hear the Participants;
- examine the witnesses and experts, who will attend the hearing in person or remotely; they will be examined separately and subsequently, outside the presence of each other; the President may allow the Participants to examine and cross-examine the witnesses and experts.
- determine the relevance and admissibility of evidence;
- order any additional investigative measure necessary to establish the facts.

The President has the authority to waive the examination of a witness or an expert.

The President may take any procedural measure necessary for the orderly conduct of the hearing, including excluding any person disrupting the proceedings. He ~~must~~ ~~may~~ also designate a secretary for the hearing, to keep a record of the various statements under his control.

Any person requested to provide testimony or documents shall cooperate in good faith. In case of unjustified refusal, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose a fine ranging from CHF 500 to CHF 5,000 after giving the person concerned the opportunity to provide an explanation.

The Defendant or their representative shall be given the opportunity to speak last.

D. Additional Investigation

~~In case of difficulty,~~ Where the complexity of the case so requires, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may request from the President of the Legal Commission or from the Executive Committee an additional period not exceeding three (3) months in order to gather supplementary information.

Any supplementary information shall be communicated to the Defendant and to the other Participants, who shall be invited to respond within the time limit indicated in the cover letter.

Where necessary, a new hearing may be convened. It shall be held under the same terms and conditions as the initial hearing.

E. Confidentiality of the hearing

Hearings shall not be public unless the Disciplinary Tribunal decides otherwise with the consent of the parties.

The hearing may be recorded and/or transcribed. If so, the recording or transcript shall form part of the case file and shall remain confidential.

7.2.12 Deliberations

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall deliberate in private and deliberations shall remain confidential.

Only members of the Disciplinary Tribunal may participate in the deliberations.

Decisions shall be taken by a majority vote. The name of any member in minority shall not be disclosed in the decision or otherwise.

7.2.13 Decision

The decision shall be reasoned in writing and shall include the following:

- a) the names of the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- b) the names of the Defendant and of the other Participants;
- c) the date of the decision;
- d) a summary of the facts;
- e) the applicable legal provisions;
- f) the reasoning of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- g) the sanction imposed, if any;
- h) the available appeal remedies and the applicable time limits.

The decision must be signed by at least the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Electronic signatures shall be deemed valid.

Clerical or typographical errors may be corrected at any time.

7.2.14 Notification, ~~publication~~ and enforcement of decisions

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall notify the Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office, of its decision by email, with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, ~~to the relevant Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office.~~

The President of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall also send copies of the decision to the President of the FIE and the President of the Legal Commission by e-mail.

Decisions shall be enforceable upon notification, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly decides otherwise.

Member Federations shall cooperate with and assist the FIE in the implementation and enforcement of disciplinary decisions.

~~The FIE may publish decisions or summaries thereof, where appropriate, subject to confidentiality and data protection requirements.~~

7.2.15 *Appeal*

Any final decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal or the FIE Bureau taken in application of the present Code may be appealed exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, to the exclusion of ordinary courts.

The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

The filing of an appeal shall not operate as a stay of execution of the challenged decision unless the Disciplinary Tribunal or, as the case may be, the CAS orders such stay upon a reasoned application by the appellant.

7.2.16 *Effect of procedural irregularities*

A procedural irregularity shall lead to the annulment of a decision of ~~by~~ the Disciplinary Tribunal ~~of~~ by the CAS where it has materially affected the rights of the defence or the outcome of the proceedings.

Minor, formal or harmless procedural defects shall not invalidate an otherwise lawful and reasoned decision.

Before the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may remedy any procedural irregularity and, where necessary, reopen the proceedings in order to safeguard due process.

After the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may correct clerical errors, clarify the operative part of the decision, or issue a supplementary decision in case of an omission to rule. In case of gross violation of due process, it may revoke its decision and reconsider the merits of the case.

7.2.17 ~~Pronouncements~~ Publication of the CAS decisions

~~All the decisions pronounced Pronouncements by the Disciplinary Tribunal or by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting.~~
A summary of the decisions pronounced by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting unless both parties had agreed at the CAS hearing that they should remain confidential. Any announcement at the Congress shall be limited to that made public by CAS.

7.2.18 *Provisional measures – emergency power of the FIE Bureau*

A. Power to order provisional measures

In cases of urgency, the Bureau of the FIE may, within its adjudicatory powers, where the circumstances so require, in particular to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings, the proper administration of justice, or the interests of the FIE, order provisional measures.

Provisional measures may include, inter alia, the provisional suspension of a licence or any other appropriate administrative measure~~-,~~ prohibiting contact with victims or witnesses, prohibiting access to specific competitions, restricting accreditation, suspension from technical or managerial roles, and protecting the identity of minors, victims and reporting persons.

Such measures may be taken only where the seriousness of the alleged offence or its consequences so require.

B. Procedure before the ~~b~~Bureau

Prior to any decision referred to in Article 7.2.18, the President of the FIE shall summon the Defendant and other interested Participants, including the Complainant(s), before the Bureau by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, at least one (1) week before the meeting.

The summons shall specify that the Defendant and other Participants may be assisted or represented by the person of their choice.

Participation on the meeting by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence. At the meeting, the Bureau shall verify that the Defendant and other Participants have been duly notified of the summons ~~has been duly notified to the Defendant and other Participants.~~

The Bureau shall ensure that the Defendant has been given the opportunity to be heard before any provisional measure is imposed, unless exceptional circumstances justify immediate action.

C. Decision and effect

At the close of the meeting, the Bureau shall notify ~~its decision to~~ the Defendant and other Participants, including the Complainant(s), of its decision by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery. The decision shall be deemed effective from the date of transmission.

The decision shall state the grounds on which it is based.

The decision shall be binding and subject to appeal in accordance with Article 7.2.15~~2~~.

D. Duration and review

The Bureau shall determine the duration of any provisional measure.

Any provisional suspension shall not extend beyond the date of the decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal imposes a suspension, the period of provisional suspension ordered by the Bureau shall be credited against the final sanction.

Provisional measures may be lifted or modified at any time if the circumstances so justify.

E. Reporting

The Bureau shall report any provisional measure ordered under this Article at the next ordinary meeting of the Executive Committee.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission, with one addition and one correction marked in green:

Procedural rules

7.2 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7.2.1 *Right to lodge a complaint*

The following may lodge a complaint ~~with the FIE Head Office~~ (hereinafter referred to as "the Complainant(s)):

a) any individual or legal entity directly affected by the alleged offence, including, but not limited, to the victims, witnesses of the alleged offence, parents or guardians of minor

athletes who are victims of the alleged offence, coaches of athletes who are victims of the alleged offence;

b) the FIE Executive Committee;

c) the FIE Bureau;

d) the FIE Ethics Committee for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code ~~or an Ethics Committee advice~~;

e) any other FIE body or official acting within its mandate;

f) a Member Federation or a Joined Confederation;

g) the FIE Supervisors or the FIE Event Managers at international competitions;

h) The Safeguarding officers appointed by the FIE or by a Joined Confederation, and

i) the Directoire Technique.

The lodging of a complaint does not confer party status beyond what is expressly provided for in this Disciplinary Code.

7.2.8 *The Participants' fundamental rights*

The Defendant and the Complainant ~~has~~ have the right to:

a) be heard;

b) access the case file;

c) submit written statements and evidence;

d) be assisted or represented by a person of his or her choice.

Proposal 90

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 9.1.1

Motivation: Licensees are not only athletes.

9.1 LICENCES

9.1.1 *Statutory Character of Licence*

Being licensed obliges the national federation and the ~~athlete~~ licensee to respect the Rules and Statutes of the FIE. Notably, the athletes who participate in FIE competitions commit to respecting the FIE anti-doping Rules, to use neither prohibited substances nor prohibited methods, and agree to submit to any in-competition and out-of-competition testing.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 91

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 9.1.4

Motivation: If proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

9.1.4 *Annual licence Fee*

Every application for a licence or licence renewal can only be made after the payment of a fee which is set for the following season by the Executive Committee ~~and approved by the Congress.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission is not in favour. The removal of the approval role of the Congress is in direct contradiction with Article 1.6 (Proposal 13) and Article 5.5.15 (Proposal 76.)

9.1.4 *Annual licence Fee*

Every application for a licence or licence renewal can only be made after the payment of a fee which is set for the following season by the Executive Committee ~~and approved by the Congress.~~ and approved by the Congress.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the opinion of the Legal Commission and therefore the final proposal is the following:

9.1.4 *Annual licence Fee*

Every application for a licence or licence renewal can only be made after the payment of a fee which is set for the following season by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress.

Proposal 92

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 9.1.5

Motivation: Licensees are not only athletes. Precisions.

9.1.5 *Application and Issue*

c) It is strictly forbidden for a ~~fencer~~ licensee to possess more than one international licence.

d) When a fencer is visiting another country, or even if he lives in a country other than his own, he must apply for his licence to the member Federation ~~of his own country, that is to say, to the member Federation~~ of the country whose nationality he possesses.

e) The ~~FIE head office with the agreement of the~~ FIE Bureau Executive Committee may ~~of its own initiative~~ grant an international licence to a fencer who has the nationality of a country where there is neither a national federation which is a member of the FIE nor an Olympic Committee affiliated to the I.O.C., and to fencers who are legally stateless. ~~The fencers will fence under the acronym FIE and under the FIE banner.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal, but has made a change in order to have a consistent wording.

9.1.5 *Application and Issue*

c) It is strictly forbidden for a ~~fencer licensee~~ to possess more than one international licence.

d) When a ~~fencer~~ person is visiting another country, or even if he lives in a country other than his own, he must apply for his licence to the member Federation ~~of his own country, that is to say, to the member Federation~~ of the country whose nationality he possesses.

e) The ~~FIE head office with the agreement of the~~ FIE Bureau Executive Committee may ~~of its own initiative~~ grant an international licence to a fencer who has the nationality of a country where there is neither a national federation which is a member of the FIE nor an Olympic Committee affiliated to the ~~I.O.C.~~IOC, and to fencers who are legally stateless. ~~The fencers will fence under the acronym FIE and under the FIE banner.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 93

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 9.2.2

Motivation: Clarification of the process and of responsibilities.

9.2 NATIONALITY OF FENCERS

9.2.2 For official competitions of the FIE, fencers must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:

a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationalities must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that s/he has fenced for one of the countries in an official FIE competition or Regional Games implies that s/he has made a choice. If s/he wishes to represent another country of which s/he enjoys nationality, s/he must so advise the Head office of the FIE. ~~and s-~~S/he may only represent this other country after an interval of three years from the earlier of the last time s/he represented the other country or the date s/he advised the Head Office of the FIE regarding such change, during which s/he can no longer represent any country.

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.

b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless, through naturalisation or through other means other than marriage) can only represent his/her new country after an interval of three years from his/her last participation in a competition for his/her previous country. Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than ~~90 days~~ six months after the acquisition of the new nationality. ~~The delay of three (3) years can be reduced by the FIE Head Office with the consent of the fencer's previous country.~~

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.

c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three years and without the approval of the national federation of the prior country s/he represented. ~~Such application to fence for the new country must be filed with the FIE Head Office no later than the 1st of August immediately following the date of receiving the new nationality through the marriage. However, If the person receives the new nationality through marriage in July, they shall have thirty (30) days from the date of such receipt to file their application.~~ Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than six months after the acquisition of the new nationality

~~d) The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission has made some changes in order to ensure the consistency of Article 9.2.2 with Section 1.4 of the Administrative Rules, stating that "As delegated by the Executive Committee, all "regular" change of nationality requests are decided by the Legal Commission's Executive Committee representative and by the CEO. The above mentioned persons are also designated to verify that the appropriate grounds for requesting the cancellation or reduction of the 3-year period were indeed presented. The Legal Commission's Executive Committee representative reports periodically on the changes examined".

9.2 NATIONALITY OF FENCERS

9.2.2 For official competitions of the FIE, fencers must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:

a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationalities must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that s/he has fenced for one of the countries in an official FIE competition or Regional Games implies that s/he has made a choice. If s/he wishes to represent another country of which s/he enjoys nationality, s/he must so advise the Head office of the FIE. ~~and s~~-S/he may only represent this other country after an interval of three years from the earlier of the last time s/he represented the other country or the date s/he advised the Head Office of the FIE regarding such change, during which s/he can no longer represent any country.

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years. The Executive Committee may also delegate all or part of this authority to a person or group of persons, as it deems appropriate, through the Administrative Rules.

b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless, through naturalisation or through other means other than marriage) can only represent his/her new country after an interval of three (3) years from his/her last participation in a competition for his/her previous country. Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than ~~90 days~~ six (6) months after the acquisition of the new nationality. ~~The delay of three (3) years can be reduced by the FIE Head Office with the consent of the fencer's previous country.~~

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three (3) years. The Executive Committee may also delegate all or part of this authority to a person or group of persons, as it deems appropriate, through the Administrative Rules.

c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three (3) years and without the approval of the national federation of the prior country s/he represented. ~~Such application to fence for the new country must be filed with the FIE Head Office no later than the 1st of August immediately following the date of receiving the new nationality through the marriage. However, if the person receives the new nationality through marriage in July, they shall have thirty (30) days from the date of such receipt to file their application. Applications for such~~ a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than six (6) months after the acquisition of the new nationality.

~~d) The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.~~

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 94

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 9.2.3

Motivation: Clarification of the full process.

9.2.3 For the FIE competitions, fencers who are legally stateless or hold an official ~~a~~-refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which they live, may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live, ~~provided it is approved by~~ with approval of the FIE Bureau Executive Committee. Fencers holding refugee status shall be treated as nationals of the country of such member federation for purposes of these Statutes and FIE rules unless the Member Federation refuses to allow them to compete on behalf of such Federation. ~~in which case they shall be treated as stateless, but shall not be permitted to represent any particular country in competitions, either individually or as part of a team, unless authorized to do so by the FIE Bureau.~~

In case the Member Federation refuses to allow a fencer, who is legally stateless or hold an official-refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which s/he lives, to compete on behalf of such Federation, the Executive Committee:

- may decide to grant a licence to the fencer for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE;
- a specific list of FIE competitions in which the fencer wishes to compete must be submitted to the Executive Committee.
- these competitions cannot include team events, qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships.

The practical process for a request of modification of nationality is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, "Licences and nationality" chapter.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Committee has made changes for better understanding.

9.2.3 For the FIE competitions, fencers who are legally stateless or hold an official ~~a~~-refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which they live, may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live, ~~provided it is approved by the~~ ~~with approval of the FIE Bureau Executive Committee.~~ Fencers holding refugee status shall be treated as nationals of the country of such member federation for purposes of these Statutes and FIE rules unless the Member Federation refuses to allow them to compete on behalf of such Federation. ~~in which case they shall be treated as stateless, but shall not be permitted to represent any particular country in competitions, either individually or as part of a team, unless authorized to do so by the FIE Bureau.~~

In case ~~the~~ ~~a~~ Member Federation refuses to allow a fencer, who is legally stateless or holds ~~s~~ an official refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which s/he lives, to compete on behalf of such Federation, the Executive Committee:

may decide to grant a licence to the fencer for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE, ~~under the following conditions:~~

- ~~;~~
- a specific list of FIE competitions in which the fencer wishes to compete must be submitted to the Executive Committee;
- these competitions cannot include team events, qualifying events for the Olympic Games or Zonal Championships.

Fencers who have been granted such a licence for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and the banner of "FIE" shall be eligible to participate only in FIE competitions included on the above-mentioned list approved by the Executive Committee.

The practical process for a request of modification of nationality is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, "Licences and nationality" chapter.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 95

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 10.1.1

Motivation: The cadet category is an official category of the FIE. The cadet zonal championships are organised by the same host federation, jointly with the FIE Junior Zonal Championships, at the same period and place and with the same appointed officials and referees. The Cadet Zonal Championships should therefore be included in the list below.

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and cadet zZonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favor with the modifications in green.

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Cadet, Junior, Senior and Veterans World Championships, ~~the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships,~~ the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Cadet, Junior and Senior, ~~and Junior and cadet zZonal Championships,~~ as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 96

Presented by: Fencing Federation of Uzbekistan

Article: 10.1.1

Motivation: The Regional Games are referenced from a sport point of view in several articles of FIE Organisation Rules and FIE Administrative Rules: o.13, o.44, o.54, o.96, 9.1.2.

This proposal aims to introduce in the FIE Statutes a formal recognition of fencing competitions held within Regional Games. It will ensure strengthening cooperation with Continental Olympic Committees and the International Olympic Committee, and will reinforce the consistency, universality, and value of major continental competitions. Proposal supported most of the countries of Asia, as China, Japan, UAE, Mongolia, India, Malaysia.

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships. If a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules.

Application: 2028

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal but has suggested additions to the wording.

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships provided that they are organized in accordance with the FIE Rules. In such a scenario if a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules.

Application: 2028

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favor for recognition of the Continental multi-sport Games as official FIE competitions, but with the scratched text.

However, the Commission notes that the Continental Games currently differ in both format and calendar. The number of individual participants varies (2 in the Asian Games, 3 in the Pan American Games, and 4 in the European and African Games), and the Games are held at different periods, with some taking place outside the Olympic qualification period or overlapping with the Senior World Championships.

Therefore, before Continental Games can replace the Zonal Championships, their regulations and calendar should be harmonized with the FIE Rules for Zonal Championships to ensure equal conditions for all continents.

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organized under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognized by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

~~These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships.~~

~~If a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules.~~

Application: 2028

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the arguments raised by the Legal and Rules Commissions for the following reasons:

1) The entries (in individual and teams) are different from one Regional Game to the other. Therefore, and while the entries for FIE zonal championships are the same across all zones, federations would not have the same rights if in one Regional Game they can enter 2 fencers per weapon, while in other Regional Games, federations can enter 3 or 4 fencers.

2) The dates of Regional Games are not always aligned with the FIE regulatory dates for Zonal Championships: as an example, for this Olympic cycle some Games are held in September-October 2026 (Asia), June 2027 (Europe), July-August 2027 (Panamerica), August-September 2027 (Africa).

These different dates create the following issues:

a) The points would not be allocated into the rankings in June as some events would be held after the month of June. Therefore, for the FIE senior World Championships, some zones would remain with the points of the previous year, and some not.

b) As some Regional Games would be held during the period of the FIE senior World Championships (July-August), fencers would have to choose whether to participate in the Regional Games or in the FIE Senior World Championships.

c) If any Regional Games scheduled to hold in September or October are cancelled, fencers would lose their points (as per the FIE rankings rules) if the corresponding zonal championships were not held in June.

d) The fencing season ends with the World Championships, **not after** the World Championships.

Since the first paragraph of 10.1.1 has already been dealt with Proposal 95, the Executive Committee proposes the following additions to 10.1.1:

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective senior Zonal Championships **only if:**

- They are organised in full compliance with the FIE Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations and decisions in force, including regarding the number of entries of individuals and teams;
- They are organised in compliance with the period indicated by the FIE Administrative Rules. This will allow, in case any Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, that the corresponding senior Zonal Championship be organised in accordance with the FIE Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations and decisions in force.

Proposal 97

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: 10.2.2

Motivation: Those who are participating in World Championships are the fencers. They should not be held responsible and prevented from participation if their national federation is not up to date with its financial obligations with the FIE.

~~10.2.2 Participation in a World Championship~~

~~A member federation which is not up to date with its financial obligations towards the FIE at midday the day before the opening of a Cadet, Junior, Senior or Veteran World Championship may not participate in this World Championship, unless exception is justified and granted by the Executive Committee.~~

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission is against the proposal. The amendment may create a precedent whereby federations no longer feel compelled to fulfill their financial responsibilities, believing that athletes' participation is guaranteed regardless of their situation. This could lead to a cycle of financial negligence by federations and, in the long term, weaken the FIE.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee maintains its proposal because it considers that individuals should not be made responsible for actions they did not commit, especially failures of payments by their national federations.

This is the reason why the Executive Committee only modified the rule regarding participation in World Championships, but not the rule regarding participation in the Congress. Athletes participate in competitions and federations participate in Congresses. Therefore, federations must pay their dues at least once per year if they want to participate in the Congress.

Besides, in proposal 22, there are consequences in case of repeated failure to meet financial obligations.

Proposal 98

Presented by: National Fencing Federation of Peru

Article: 10.6

Motivation: Today, in many countries, children begin fencing at the age of 6-7, and in some countries even at the age of 5.

Unfortunately, the FIE does not have a single official competition for children under 13. Therefore, to participate in official FIE competitions, children must wait many years (6-7 years, even longer), which is why many children leave fencing.

To popularize fencing worldwide, motivate children to take up fencing, and increase the number of people practicing fencing worldwide, it is proposed to establish a World Championship for children's fencers in two categories: the first category (9-10 years old), and the second category (11-12 years old). Individual competitions only.

If this proposal is approved, the National Fencing Federation of Peru is ready to organize the first World Children's Fencing Championships in Lima, Peru.

CHAPTER X - COMPETITIONS

10.6 CHILDREN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

10.6.1 General Rules

The Children's World Championships are to be held annually under the auspices of the FIE, comprising individual competitions at boy's and girl's foil, epee and sabre.

The Children's World Championships are held every year, during the last two weeks of August, under the auspices of the FIE.

10.6.2

The Rules of Children's World Championships are defined in specific sections of the FIE Rules.

Rules related to all categories are applicable when not otherwise specified in those sections.

Formula

The World Children's Fencing Championships will be held in two categories: the first category is for 9–10-year olds, and the second category is for 11–12-year-olds. Individual competitions only.

In the first category (9-10 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 4 hits, with a time limit of 2 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 8 hits, in two periods of 2 minutes with one-minute break between.

In the second category (11-12 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 5 hits, with a time limit of 3 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 10 hits, in two periods of 3 minutes with one-minute break between.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission is against the proposal. Introducing a new age category may create safeguarding concerns and could potentially increase the FIE's exposure to liability arising from the participation of fencers of such a young age.

Opinion of the Medical Commission: The **prevailing view emerging from the consultation is not to support Proposal 98 in its current form.**

A number of members expressed significant concerns regarding the introduction of an FIE World Championship for children in the proposed age categories of **9–10 and 11–12 years**, particularly in relation to early specialization, competitive pressure, overtraining, safeguarding and the potential

physical and psychological consequences of introducing World Championship-level competition at such an early stage of development.

The Commission recognizes, however, the importance of encouraging participation in fencing from an early age and acknowledges that international initiatives for younger fencers may potentially provide developmental opportunities, particularly in countries and regions where fencing is still developing.

Different perspectives were expressed during the consultation as to how these considerations should be balanced.

Some members considered that the developmental objectives of the proposal could be better pursued through **developmental and educational international events**, rather than through the immediate creation of a formal Children's World Championship.

Another view expressed was that the concept should not necessarily be rejected in principle, but that no commitment to organize such a Championship should be made before a comprehensive feasibility and risk assessment has been undertaken. Such an assessment should involve the Medical Commission and the other competent FIE bodies and should address, at a minimum, **eligibility, competition format, equipment, medical requirements, safeguarding, insurance, financial implications and organizational standards**.

An appropriate preparation period and, preferably, a **pilot event** were also suggested before any definitive decision is taken.

One member expressed **conditional support** for the proposal, particularly from the perspective of developing fencing regions, provided that any such event was substantially oriented towards development, education, health and safeguarding rather than high-level competitive performance.

Dr Hosam El-Sherbiny did not express a definitive vote either in favor of or against Proposal 98 but contributed comparative information relevant to the discussion. In particular, he drew attention to International Federations which organize World Championships for younger age categories and to the age-category structure used by USA Fencing.

He also noted the very substantial participation in children's age-group events at the USA Fencing Summer Nationals, where participation may, in terms of the number of athletes, exceed that of an entire World Championship. On this basis, he considered that these experiences demonstrate the potential relevance of further discussion regarding international competition opportunities for younger fencers, rather than supporting an a priori exclusion of such possibilities.

The Commission therefore considers that the question deserves further analysis, but that the health, welfare and safeguarding of children must remain the primary consideration in determining whether, and under what conditions, any FIE international event for these age groups could be organized.

Taking all the views expressed together, the prevailing position emerging from the consultation can therefore be summarized as:

NO IN ITS CURRENT FORM, while remaining open to further consideration of international competition opportunities for younger fencers, including alternative developmental models and/or a future proposal following a comprehensive medical, safeguarding, organizational and feasibility assessment.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: Not in favor.

The Rules Commission prefers to wait the opinions of the Medical and Legal Commissions before making a decision.

At this stage, the Rules Commission does not support the proposal, given that the minimum age for participation in FIE competitions is set at 13.

Furthermore, no regulation specifies the equipment to be used for the various age categories. It is therefore necessary to consult the SEMI Commission to determine the applicable specifications—specifically regarding the type of clothing, blade length, and blade type (No. 2 or No. 5)—for the 9–10 age group.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The rule to fence in FIE competitions has been set a long time ago and was reconfirmed by the Medical and Legal Commissions during the 2017 Congress. The regulatory age to obtain an FIE licence is currently fixed at 13 years old.

Any modification to the minimum age required to participate in high-level fencing competitions, currently set at 13, should be preceded by an in-depth medical and legal analysis. The medical analysis should assess, in particular, the potential impact of early participation on young athletes' health, physical and psychological development, and safety. The legal analysis should examine the implications of any proposed change with regard to the protection of minors, the responsibilities of organisers and federations, and the applicable regulations. Both analyses are essential to ensure that any decision is made on a fully informed basis and in the best interests of young fencers. Therefore, this proposal should be postponed until these analyses have been performed.

Proposal 99

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: Chapter XII and Appendix 1 - Ethics Code

Motivation: It is necessary to have the correct word in the title of the article ("Ethics" refers to the moral principles, while "ethical" describes actions or decisions that align with those principles)

Change Ethical Code to Ethics Code: contents, title of Chapter XII and appendix 1.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 100

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: Chapter XII, 5 – Ethics Committee and Article 7.2.1 a)

Motivation: Clarification that the Ethics Committee is entitled to lodge a complaint under the Disciplinary Code.

5.- ETHICS COMMITTEE:

1. The Ethics Committee is formed in order that the FIE Family shall ensure the observance of the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of this Code. The CEO, or her/his representative shall be the liaison with the Ethics Committee and shall provide the administrative support for the Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for defining and updating a framework of ethical principles based on the principles and values enshrined in the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics of the IOC. Likewise, it will issue reports, advice or recommendations to the members of the FIE Family on all matters relating to the ethical permissiveness of any planned action in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
3. Any alleged violation of this Code or an ~~Ethical~~ Ethics Committee advice shall be grounds for ~~the Ethics Committee itself to lodge~~ lodging a complaint under the Disciplinary Code. The Ethics Committee will be entitled to report violations of this Code (Acting as prosecutor/Fiscal Ministry before the Disciplinary Tribunal).
4. Each year, the Ethics Committee will issue a report to the Executive Committee of the FIE relating to the application of this code, noting any advice given, and to any violation of the Ethic Code. The Ethics Committee may set out the goals and recommendations for the implementation of the present Code.
5. The Ethics Committee will issue its advice, reports, resolutions or recommendations, by a majority of its neutral members, based on the queries and enquiries presented, after having heard all parties concerned. The communication of the advice of potential conflicts of interest, may be delegated to one or more of its members.

7.2.1 The complaint

a) Author of the complaint

Any person, individual or entity, whether or not they are a licensee of the FIE, if they are personally the victim of one of the offences enumerated above in Article 7.1.7 can present a complaint, in one of the FIE working languages, before the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee can present a complaint before the Disciplinary Tribunal for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the first part of the proposal with some changes in order to be in line with the new Article 7.2.1. The second part of the proposal concerns Article 7.2.1, which has been fully redrafted (see proposal No. 89.) and the Legal Commission favours the wording set forth in Proposal No. 89.

5.- ETHICS COMMITTEE:

1. The Ethics Committee is formed in order that the FIE Family shall ensure the observance of the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of this Code. The CEO, or her/his representative shall be the liaison with the Ethics Committee and shall provide the administrative support for the Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for defining and updating a framework of ethical principles based on the principles and values enshrined in the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics of the IOC. Likewise, it will issue reports, advice or recommendations to the members of the FIE Family on all matters relating to the ethical permissiveness of any planned action in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
3. Any alleged violation of this Code ~~or an Ethical~~ Ethics Committee advice shall be grounds for ~~the Ethics Committee itself to lodge~~ lodging a complaint under the Disciplinary Code. The Ethics

~~Committee will be entitled to report violations of this Code (Acting as prosecutor/Fiscal Ministry before the Disciplinary Tribunal).~~

4. Each year, the Ethics Committee will issue a report to the Executive Committee of the FIE relating to the application of this code, noting any advice given, ~~and to any violation of the Ethics Code established by the Disciplinary Tribunal~~. The Ethics Committee may set out the goals and recommendations for the implementation of the present Code.
5. The Ethics Committee will issue its advice, reports, resolutions or recommendations, by a majority of its neutral members, based on the queries and enquiries presented, ~~after having heard all parties concerned~~. The communication of the advice of potential conflicts of interest, may be delegated to one or more of its members.

~~7.2.1 The complaint~~

~~a) Author of the complaint~~

~~Any person, individual or entity, whether or not they are a licensee of the FIE, if they are personally the victim of one of the offences enumerated above in Article 7.1.7 can present a complaint, in one of the FIE working languages, before the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee can present a complaint before the disciplinary Tribunal for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice.~~

Opinion of the Ethics Committee: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.

Proposal 101

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: Chapter XII - New Appendix 2 - FIE ETHICS CODE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

Motivation: As an elected or appointed member, commitment is the cornerstone of the trust placed in our institutions by the fencing community. Disclosure is a mutual protection measure: it safeguards the integrity of decision-making processes while shielding individuals from any challenge to their integrity. This form ensures that the best interests of international fencing always prevail over any personal or national considerations.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

International Fencing Federation

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name:** _____
- **National Federation (NF):** _____

- **Current Position:** ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member
- **Candidate to a position as:** ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest:

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests:** any construal relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing/selling fencing equipment or related services.
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties:** Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities.
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships:** Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- *Details for any of the above:*

3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

1. **National Federation Ties:** Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation**.
2. **Athletes & Teams:** Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
3. **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
4. **Personal Relationships:** Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.
- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)

- **Purpose:** Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.
- **Retention:** Duration of mandate plus **5 years** of archival storage.

6. DECLARATION

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

Date: ____ / ____ / 202_ | Signature: _____

7. Failure to disclose

Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the applicable statutes, disciplinary code, and ethics regulations of the FIE.

8. INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)

- **Review Date:** ____ / ____ / 202_
- **Assessment:**
 - ☐ No conflict identified.
 - ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
 - ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.
- **Comments / Mitigation Measures:**

Reviewer Signature: _____

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal, but has made some changes. We propose Section 5 to be deleted, as this information shall be part of the FIE Privacy Notice.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

International Fencing Federation

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name:** _____
- **National Federation (NF):** _____
- **Current Position:** ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member **or equivalent** ☐ Other
- **Candidate to a position as:** ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest by using the tik boxes below:

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests:** any ~~constitue~~ contractual relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties:** Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities .
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships:** Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- ☐ **Other situation:** _____
- Details for any of the above: _____

3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

- **National Federation Ties:** Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation**.
- **Athletes & Teams:** Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
- **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
- **Personal Relationships:** Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.
- **Professional & Financial Interests:** Any matter relating to any company with which I have a relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.
- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

~~5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)~~

- ~~• **Purpose:** Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.~~
- ~~• **Retention:** Duration of mandate plus 5 years of archival storage.~~

6. DECLARATION

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

Date: ____ / ____ / 202X | Signature: _____

57. Failure to disclose

I acknowledge that Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the applicable statutes, a Disciplinary Code, and ethics regulations of the FIE.

6. DECLARATION

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

Date: ____ / ____ / 202X | Signature: _____

78. INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)

- Review Date: ____ / ____ / 202X
- Assessment:
 - ☐ No conflict identified.
 - ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
 - ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.
- Comments / Mitigation Measures:

Reviewer Signature: _____

Opinion of the Ethics Committee: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission but does not agree to remove the information on Data protection and retention (section 5) of which any person should be informed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

International Fencing Federation

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name:** _____
- **National Federation (NF):** _____
- **Current Position:** ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member **or equivalent** ☐ Other
- **Candidate to a position as:** ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest **by using the tick boxes below:**

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests:** any ~~contractual~~ **contractual** relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, **and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.**
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties:** Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities.
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships:** Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- ☐ **Other situation:** _____
- *Details for any of the above:*

3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

- **National Federation Ties:** Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation.**
- **Athletes & Teams:** Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
- **Club & Academy Affiliations:** Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
- **Personal Relationships:** Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.
- **Professional & Financial Interests:** Any matter relating to any company with which I have a relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, **and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.**

4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.

- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)

- **Purpose:** Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.
- **Retention:** Duration of mandate plus **5 years** of archival storage.

5.6. FAILURE TO DISCLOSE

I acknowledge that Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the applicable statutes, disciplinary Code, and ethics regulations of the FIE.

6. 7. DECLARATION

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

Date: ____ / ____ / 202__ | **Signature:** _____

8. INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)

- **Review Date:** ____ / ____ / 202__
- **Assessment:**
 - ☐ No conflict identified.
 - ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
 - ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.
- **Comments / Mitigation Measures:**

Reviewer Signature: _____

Proposal 102

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 1.1.d, 4.5.1, 4.5.11, 6.3.2, 10.1.1 (x2), 10.1.2, 10.4.1, FIE Safeguarding officer (Paragraph 4), CONTENTS 10.3

Motivation: for consistency throughout the Statutes

To replace the words “Open World Championships” by “Senior World Championships” in the articles/sections above.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 103

Presented by: Executive Committee

Articles: 10.2.1, 1.2.6, 3.5.4, History, Management 1965-1968 - §10

Motivation: for consistency throughout the Statutes

To replace the word “F.I.E” by “FIE” in articles/sections above.

Opinion of the Legal Commission: The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.
