



WVBF CONSTITUTION

Chapter I

Preamble

1.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of the present Constitution and of the related legal instruments, unless otherwise stipulated in the text:

"WVBF"

means the World Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Federation, an international open democratic, non-governmental and non-profit organization, composed of its affiliated National Federations, Associations and Individuals who have freely and voluntarily joined it in order to administer and govern at national and international levels the sport of Volleyball and all its disciplines (including notably Beach Volleyball and Park Volley) for male and female players.

"Congress"

means the assembly of all affiliated National Federations, Associations and Individuals in good order with the WVBF, duly and statutorily convened by the competent authority. The Congress constitutes the supreme body of the WVBF.

"NFs"

means the National Federations, the national bodies recognized in their country or territory by the WVBF to administer and govern all forms of Volleyball, structured and organized according to the spirit and provisions of the present Constitution.

"Associations"

means one or several national or international associations, non-governmental and non-profit organization, defending interests aiming to support and develop the WVBF in the world.

"Individuals"

Means athletes and the persons whose leadership and experience may support and develop the WVBF in the world.

"Region"

means a regional gathering of National federations in a geographical area of a continent. The region falls within the authority of the WVBF.

"Board"

means the Board of Administration of the WVBF, the body responsible for the administration and management of the WVBF. It is composed of eighteen (19) members (3 per continent), and 1 member representing the WVBF Beach Volleyball Partner, 4 members (2 women, 2 men) representing Volleyball and Beach Volleyball players, and the IOC members coming from Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.



"Commission"

means a permanent working group of specialists appointed by the Board with the responsibility of fulfilling certain duties as defined by the Regulations.

"Presidency"

means the charge and functions exercised by the President of the WVBF.

"Volleyball"

means a sport played between two or more players of two teams, throwing to each other, over a net, a ball which should not touch the ground. The term "Volleyball" is meant to include all forms of the sport (notably Beach Volleyball and Park Volley), played in all parts of the world at all levels of competition by male and female players, whether played indoor or outdoor, on a hard, soft or sandy surface.

"Continent"

means one of the six geographical continents where the National Federations are situated, i.e. Oceania, Asia, Africa, Europe, North/central America, South America.

1.2 FOUNDATION

The WVBF is the supreme authority of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in the countries where her National Federations and Associations are based, she is founded on 25th November 06 in Copenhagen as a non profit organization under the legal form of a Swiss Association according to the articles 60ss of the Swiss Private law.

1.3 HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of the WVBF is established in Lausanne (Swiss Confederation).

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The WVBF shall encourage the development and the growth of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in all its forms, in all parts of the world fully respecting the ethic, the fair play, the solidarity, the financial transparency, the democratic principles, the Olympic Charter and the Olympic fundamental principles .

The WVBF promotes the good management of the NFs, Associations and Individuals as the mutual respect and the cooperation between them. She assists the NFs and the Associations in their development of national and regional competitions and of their technical and organizational expertise.

The WVBF takes specific measures to maintain the authority, autonomy and exclusive competence of the NFs and Associations to administer and govern Volleyball and Beach Volleyball activities in their respective countries;

1.5 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

1.5.1 WVBF mission

The WVBF has the mission to develop worldwide but in priority for the unprivileged National Federations all forms of Volleyball (including Beach Volleyball and Park Volley).

It consists in supporting and assisting technically, financially and professionally the affiliated National Federations and Associations first in their countries and then at the regional and international levels. The WVBF will support financially mainly the unprivileged National federations.



1.5.2 Development through professionalism

Through professional planning and a world-class organization, the WVBF promotes Volleyball and Beach Volleyball as major world educative, media and entertainment sports.

1.5.3 National Federations, Associations and Individuals directly affiliated to the WVBF

The FIAVB is composed of the NFs and Associations which she recognizes in their countries or territories as the sole entities competent to administer and govern Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.

The NFs and Associations are the basic bodies of the WVBF and, as such, are affiliated to the WVBF directly and not through any other institutions.

The individuals are the persons and athletes who through their leadership and experience support and develop the WVBF in the world, as such they are directly affiliated.

1.5.4 No any discrimination

The WVBF shall make no discrimination between individuals and between nations and shall avoid political, religious, philosophical or racial involvement, declarations or manifestations.

1.5.5 Ethical principles, recognition of CAS and WADA

The WVBF nominates an ethics commission in charge of controlling the respect of the ethical principles by the WVBF members.

WVBF recognizes the authority and the competence of the Court of Sport Arbitration (CAS) in Lausanne and of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) in Montréal for the cases in relation with sport in general and doping.

1.5.6 Official Languages

The official languages of the WVBF are English, French, Arabic and Spanish.

The English version will prevail in case of misinterpretation of the Constitution, Ethical principles, Regulations, Official Rules and/or WVBF decisions.

1.5.7 Working languages

The working languages of the WVBF are English, Spanish and French.

1.5.8 Open democratic principles

The WVBF is an open democratic institution and as such each NF is free to participate to Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions of any other institution or organization without being sanctioned.

1.5.9 Finance transparency and sharing

The WVBF must guarantee the total financial transparency by presenting accounts according to the international finance standards "IFRS" and by mandating professional and neutral internal and external auditors. The net profit of the WVBF competitions, notably from the sponsorship and TV agreements, will be shared as follows: 1/3 for the organizing committee, 1/3 for the affiliated Associations and National Federations and 1/3 for the WVBF.



Chapter II

Bodies and Members of the WVBF

2.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1.1 The Members

The WVBF members are:

- a. The affiliated National Federations;
- b. The affiliated Associations;
- c. The affiliated Individuals
- d. The Congress, Board of Administration, Presidency;
- e. The Commissions, secretariat;
- f. The Persons elected or appointed to a position in any WVBF body other than the Congress;
- g. Organizing Committees of WVBF competitions;
- h. WVBF officials and referees
- i. National leagues, clubs, teams and their leaders, managers, members, players, coaches and referees.

2.1.2 The sport and doping cases will be submitted to CAS (Court of Arbitration for Sport) in Lausanne and to the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) in Montréal; the other issues will be dealt with by the legal commission and/or the ethics commission in order to be decided by the Board of Administration.

2.1.3 An age limit of 75 is established for everybody who stands for an WVBF position. Such age limit shall become effective on 31 December of the civil year during which they reach the age limit or at the latest at the end of their term of office during the following World Congress.

2.1.4 The WVBF must constitute her Board of Administration with men and as many women as possible. Each NF member is eligible to the Board and to the Presidency.

2.2 THE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS (NFs) and Associations

2.2.1 The WVBF is composed of the founding National Federations and Associations.

2.2.2 The NFs and the Associations must be legally constituted and recognized by the WVBF as competent to administer and govern the sports of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball at the national or territorial level.

2.2.3 The NFs and Associations affiliated to the WVBF mutually recognize one another as the sole Volleyball and Beach Volleyball authorities in their respective countries or territories.

2.2.4 The NFs and Associations must respect and implement the WVBF Constitution, the Ethical principles, Regulations, Official Rules and decisions. Their own Constitution must reflect the provisions of the WVBF Constitution, the Ethical principles and Regulations which are considered an integral part of their Constitution. In case of contradiction, the WVBF Constitution, Ethical principles, Regulations and decisions shall prevail.



2.2.5 The NFs and the Associations will impose to their members, clubs and players by the signature of forms, the respect of the WVBF legal documents and specifically the Ethical principles.

2.2.6 All NFs and Associations affiliated to the WVBF shall have the same rights.

2.2.7 Affiliation

2.2.7.1 The affiliation of an NF or of an Association to the WVBF is granted at its own request and by decision of the Congress. The Board may accept an affiliation on a provisional basis pending ratification by the Congress.

2.2.7.2 The Congress defines the conditions and procedures to be fulfilled for such request of affiliation. Should any of the conditions for affiliation cease to be fulfilled, the NF or the Association concerned, even provisionally affiliated, shall lose all of its rights until such time as the conditions of affiliation are met.

2.2.7.3 Each NF and Association must pay an annual fee. The fee amount is 100 (one hundred) Swiss francs.

2.2.7.4 The regions do not have the right to a direct affiliation to the WVBF.

2.3 The Individuals

2.3.1 The WVBF is also composed of Individuals of the sport and of the economy who share her philosophy and whose leadership and experience will contribute to develop ethically the Volleyball and all its forms in the world.

2.3.2 The Individuals must respect and implement the WVBF Constitution, the Ethical principles, Regulations, Official Rules and decisions.

2.3.3 All affiliated individuals to the WVBF shall have the same rights.

2.3.4 Each individual must pay an annual fee. The fee amount is 100 (one hundred) Swiss francs.

2.4 THE CONGRESS

2.4.1 Composition and quorum

2.4.1.1 The Congress is the supreme authority of the WVBF. It shall meet at least every two (2) years.

2.4.1.2 The Congress is composed of all the affiliated NFs, Associations and Individuals. Each affiliated NF and Association may be represented by a maximum of two delegates, duly accredited for that purpose, who must be members of the NF or the Association and have the nationality of the concerned country.

2.4.1.3 Only the NFs, Associations and Individuals in good order are counted to determine if the quorum is reached and are entitled to attend with the right to vote. The individuals and the delegates of an NF or an Association under suspension or not yet affiliated for any reason whatsoever, may attend the Congress as observers, but the member cannot be counted for the purpose of the quorum.



2.4.1.4 The Congress may open if at least one-third (1/3) of members with the right to vote are present.

2.4.2 Competence

2.4.2.1 The Congress has the sole and exclusive competence for :

- a. amending the Constitution;
- b. defining the procedures of affiliation and expulsion of an NF, Association and an Individual;
- c. affiliating and expelling an NF, Association and an Individual;
- d. electing the WVBF President, the six Vice presidents (1 per continent) including the first Vice President and the Board members;
- e. electing the Ethics Commission's President;
- f. adopting the Ethical principles
- g. nominating the internal and external auditors.

2.4.2.2 The decisions of the Congress are binding on all WVBF bodies and members including the national leagues, clubs, teams and their individual members, except when such decisions are not made within the terms of this Constitution, in which case they may be appealed to the CAS by an WVBF concerned member.

2.4.3 Accreditation

2.4.3.1 The Board shall establish an Accreditations Verification Commission composed of four (4) members.

2.4.3.2 The Accreditations Verification Commission determines the conditions and requirements of validity for a National Federation, an Association and a individual to be validly present.

2.4.4 Agenda

2.4.4.1 The Presidency prepares the agenda for a Congress, as defined in the Congress Regulations. In all cases, this agenda shall include, among others, the following items:

- a. amendments to the Constitution as required;
- b. presentation and approval of the WVBF President's report;
- c. presentation and approval of all the reports;
- d. presentation of the accounts and budgets
- e. election of the WVBF President as required;
- f. election of the six (6) Vice Presidents (1 per continent) including the first Vice President
- g. election of the Board members as required;
- h. election of the Ethics Commission President as required.

2.4.4.2 At a Congress, only items on the agenda may be discussed. In case of emergency and on the recommendation of the Board, items not on the agenda may be debated, provided that the Congress agrees by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes validly cast.



2.4.5 Decisions

2.4.5.1 Except where otherwise provided for in this Constitution or the Regulations, the decisions of the Congress are taken by a simple majority of the votes validly cast. However, an amendment to the Constitution requires a two-third (2/3) majority of the votes validly cast to be approved.

3.4.5.2 Except where otherwise provided for in this Constitution or in specific decisions of the Congress which may fix an earlier or later date for enforcement of its decisions, the Congress's decisions shall enter into force three (3) months after the closing of the Congress.

2.4.6 Elections to the Presidency and the Board of Administration

2.4.6.1 The President, the six (6) Vice presidents including the first Vice President and the members of the Board are elected by the Congress at its assembly every four years. The IOC members coming from Volleyball or Beach Volleyball, the four (4) Volleyball and Beach Volleyball players representatives (1 woman and 1 man for Volleyball and Beach Volleyball) are ex-officio members of the Board and must receive confirmation of their membership by the Congress. Vacancies on the Board can be filled at any Congress.

2.4.6.2 Candidatures for the Board shall be submitted to the WVBF Secretariat with copy to the NF and the Association no later than three (3) months prior to the opening of the Congress.

2.4.6.3 Each member is eligible to the Board, Vice Presidency and the Presidency. The outgoing President is reeligible to the Presidency only for a second four year mandate. Other candidatures for the Presidency shall be submitted to the WVBF Secretariat with copy to the NF and the Association no later than three (3) months prior to the opening of the Congress.

2.4.6.4 Elections to the Presidency, Vice Presidency and to the Board are held by secret ballot.

2.4.7 Special Provisions

2.4.7.1 The Congress shall determine the dates and the place of its next assembly. The dates and the place must be reconfirmed to the affiliated members at least six (6) months in advance.

2.4.7.2 An extraordinary Congress is held pursuant to a decision of the Board or at the request of twenty (20) members .

2.4.7.3 On the recommendation of the Board, the Congress may grant honorary awards, corresponding to positions previously held, to persons who have rendered remarkable services to the WVBF.

2.4.7.4 The Congress Regulations shall be established by the Board and ratified by the Congress.



2.5 THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

2.5.1 Composition and Quorum

2.5.1.1 The Board of Administration consists at least of twenty three (23) members including eighteen (19) members elected by the Congress out of them 1 member representing the WVBF Beach Volleyball partner, four (4) Volleyball and Beach Volleyball players' representatives and the IOC members coming from Volleyball or Beach Volleyball who may become ex-officio members of the Board, subject to confirmation by the Congress at its next assembly.

2.5.1.2 From among the candidatures submitted with copy to their respective NF and Association, the Congress, at its assembly shall elect eighteen (19) members to the Board (including the WVBF President, the Beach Volleyball partner, the six (6) Vice Presidents (1 per continent) including the first Vice president for a four (4) year period. Out of the eighteen (19) elected members, each continent will have 3 members. The Congress confirms also the ex officio members presented by the Board of Administration.

2.5.1.3 During their four-year (4) term, Board members may only be removed from office, by decision of the Congress, for justifiable reasons.

2.5.1.4 The Board shall meet at least once a year, summoned on the President's initiative or at the request of at least ten (10) of its members. Two-thirds (2/3) of the total Board members shall constitute the quorum.

2.5.1.5 For any urgent and important matter, the Board of Administration members are consulted by circular letter, email or any other communication mean.

2.5.2 Competence

2.5.2.1 The Board shall be responsible for the overall administration and management of the WVBF.

2.5.2.2 The Board has the exclusive competence to adopt all Regulations derived from this Constitution, with the exception of the Constitution and the Ethical principles which are the exclusive competence of the Congress.

2.5.2.3 The Board has the competence to create the Commissions, to appoint officials or to discharge them from such bodies. The Board shall establish the responsibilities and functions of each Commission through Regulations.

2.5.2.4 The decisions of the Board, derived from the competence entrusted to it by the Constitution, are binding on all WVBF members covered by such decisions.

2.5.2.5 The Board may appoint a lawyer to defend the WVBF interests before any institution.

2.5.2.6 The Board may grant annual awards.



2.5.2.7 With the exception of the cases submitted to CAS in Lausanne or to the WADA in Montréal, the Board is empowered to apply sanctions as follows:

- a. Simple admonition;
- b. Severe admonition;
- c. Warning;
- d. Fine;
- e. Disqualification from competition;
- f. Loss of match or reversal of results;
- g. Adjustment of competition results;
- h. Discharge from official position;
- i. Suspension;
- j. Expulsion.

2.6 THE PRESIDENCY

2.5.1 Presidency status

2.6.1.1 The functions and responsibilities of the Presidency shall be carried out by the President, elected by the Congress.

2.6.1.2 Should the President be provisionally unable to carry out his functions, he (she) shall be replaced by the First Vice-President. Should the President be definitively unable to hold office, he (she) shall be replaced, for the remaining portion of his term, by the First Vice-President, subject to ratification by the Congress at its next assembly.

2.6.2 Competence

2.6.2.1 Jointly with the Board, the President shall be responsible for executing the Congress decisions.

2.6.2.2 When the Executive Committee and/or the Board are not in session, the President may take all measures and decisions. These must be notified to the Board within one (1) month and ratified at its next meeting.

2.6.2.3 The President shall decide and represent the WVBF with all the powers and may mandate consultants and lawyers. He chairs the sessions of the Congress and the meetings of the Board.

2.6.2.4 In his capacity as Chairman of a meeting, the President has the casting vote when there is no majority.

2.6.2.5 The President shall be the only person authorized to sign all contracts and committing documents jointly with the General Manager. The President may delegate power of attorney on behalf and for the interests of the WVBF .



2.7 THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT

2.7.1 The General manager is responsible for the WVBF secretariat in general. He (she) is responsible for the premises and for the personnel. He (she) plans, coordinates and organizes the secretariat duties which are the implementation of the WVBF Congress, Board of Administration and President decisions.

2.7.2 The General Manager negotiates and signs with the WVBF President notably the WVBF sponsorship and television agreements.

2.7.3 With the President' approval , he (she) prepares the agendas and the minutes of all WVBF bodies' meetings.

2.8 THE COMMISSIONS

2.8.1 The Board may establish Commissions in order to facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the WVBF with the exception of the ethics commission whose creation belongs exclusively to the competence of the Congress. The Board may also establish ad hoc Commissions if necessary. The WVBF commissions are notably the Ethics Commission, the Finance Commission, the Legal Commission, the TV/Press and Communication Commission, the Marketing Commission, the Development Commission, the Volleyball Sports Organization Commission, The Beach Volleyball Sports Organization Commission, the Technical Commission, the Refereeing Commission, the Coaching Commission.

2.8.2 The Commissions shall be composed of a minimum of five (5) members and one (1) President. Candidatures to the Commissions shall be submitted to the Presidency by the NFs, Associations and Individuals no later than three (3) months prior to the opening of the Congress. An affiliated NF or Association shall have only one (1) member per Commission.

2.8.3 The primary role of the Commissions is to make proposals to the Board on matters of a highly technical , sports, communication or development nature.

2.8.4 The Board shall establish the limits, the responsibilities and functions of each Commission through regulations.

2.9 THE WVBF SECRETARIAT

2.9.1 The Secretariat shall, under the exclusive authority and direction of the General Manager, take all necessary measures to ensure that this Constitution is respected. It shall provide support and assistance to the various WVBF bodies in the world in order to promote the technical level, the ethical image and the solidarity of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball at the highest level.



2.9.2

The functions of the Secretariat shall be to:

- a. plan and organize meetings of the Congress, Board and Commissions;
- b. prepare reports and minutes for the work of the Commissions at their meetings and for the implementation of projects approved by the Board, and any other required reports;
- c. study the reports of the various meetings and request from the members and the bodies such further information as it deems necessary to ensure the implementation of this Constitution;
- d. perform the functions entrusted to it under the provisions of this Constitution;
- e. select and hire the requisite staff to execute professionally the WVBF decisions;
- f. publish periodically and distribute to the NFs, Associations, Individuals and to the public, latest editions of all WVBF publications, together with any information which will facilitate the development and growth of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball;
- g. perform any other functions which may be entrusted to it by the Congress, the Board and the Presidency.

2.10 THE REGIONS

2.10.1 With the approval of the WVBF Board, a group of NFs, Associations and Individuals can create a region in its respective geographical area, pursuing the following objectives:

- a. spreading the practice of local, national and regional Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions;
- b. encouraging the involvement of Individuals and the creation of NFs, Associations and their affiliation to the WVBF;
- c. ensuring the respect of the WVBF Constitution, Ethical principles, Regulations, Official Rules and decisions;
- d. organizing regional competitions;
- e. drawing up an annual calendar of the yearly activities including national and regional I competitions and submitting it to the respective relevant WVBF bodies;
- f. presenting an annual administrative report to the WVBF and to the respective
- g. regions members, comprising, in particular, the sports results of the national and regional competitions.

2.10.2 The region is not an WVBF member and consequently it is not authorized to participate to the Congress.

Chapter III

Financial Provisions

3.1 FISCAL YEAR

3.1.1 The WVBF fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

3.2 FINANCIAL RESOURCES



3.2.1 The WVBF financial resources shall consist of:

- a. annual fees of the affiliated NFs, Associations and Individuals;
- b. revenue from marketing and television rights' agreements;
- c. recognition fees for sports competitions;
- d. revenue from material homologation agreements
- e. any other sources of funding approved by the Board.

3.3 BUDGET

3.3.1 On the proposal of the General manager and the Finance Commission, the Board shall adopt the biennial budgets.

3.3.2 The Board may adapt the budgets to newly arising needs.

3.4 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

3.4.1 The accounts shall respect and be presented under the "IFRS" "International Financial Recording Standards". The Board shall approve the profit and loss statement and balance sheet of each fiscal year and discharge the President and the General Manager.

3.5 AUDITORS

3.5.1 External Auditors

The WVBF accounts are audited annually by an official, professional firm of auditors, appointed by the Congress.

3.6 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

3.6.1 All the financial requirements for the operations of the WVBF including, but not limited to, the resources, authorizations, expenditures and control mechanisms are defined in the Financial Regulations, adopted by the Board.

3.6.2 The auditors have access to all accounting documents for the purpose of their duties.

Chapter IV

Special Provisions

4.1 DISSOLUTION

The WVBF may only be dissolved at an Extraordinary Congress, at which eighty per cent (80%) of the affiliated members are present, by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the votes validly cast in a secret ballot.



Chapter V Amendments

5.1 The present Constitution can be amended only by the Congress. The amendments to the Constitution can only be proposed by:

- a. the Board; or
- b. five (5) affiliated members who shall submit these amendments to the Secretariat no later than six (6) months prior to the opening of the Congress.

5.2 To be adopted, an amendment requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes validly cast.

5.3 The Constitution amendments will enter in force at the date of the Congress approval.

Chapter VI Entry into force and Amendments

6.1 This Constitution shall enter into force on the 25th November 2006, date of its approval by the WVBF Founding Congress.