

Paddle Worldwide

Statutes

2026

Taking effect from 27th July 2026

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide the fundamental framework, principles and processes underlying the governance of Paddle Worldwide.

Gender

These Statutes apply equally to all genders, references to a particular gender shall be interpreted as including all genders.

Language

In the event of dispute regarding the interpretation of these Statutes, the English text will prevail.

Chapter 1 - General Provisions	5
Article 1 - Establishment and Name	5
Article 2 - Recognition.....	6
Article 3 - Objectives.....	6
Article 4 - Human rights	6
Article 5 - Non-discrimination, equality and neutrality.....	7
Article 6 - Promoting friendly relations	7
Article 7 - Headquarters, Governing Law and Language.....	7
Article 8 - Official languages.....	7
Chapter 2 - Membership of National Federations	8
Article 9 - Eligibility.....	8
Article 10 - Admission to Membership.....	8
Article 11 - Request and procedure for application	9
Article 12 - Rights of National Federations.....	9
Article 13 - Obligations of National Federations	10
Article 14 - Statutes of National Federations	10
Article 15 - Suspension	11
Article 16 - Resignation.....	12
Article 17 - Readmission.....	12
Article 18 - Membership Fee	12
Article 19 - Expulsion	12
Chapter 3 - Continental Associations.....	13
Article 20 - Continental Associations	13
Article 21 - Roles, Duties and Responsibilities.....	13
Article 22 - Disciplinary Sanctions	15
Chapter 4 - Organisation	16
Article 23 - Governing bodies of Paddle Worldwide	16
Article 24 - Officers of Paddle Worldwide.....	16
Article 25 - Representation Rights.....	16
Article 26 - Conduct of bodies, officers, officials and others	16
Chapter 5 - Congress.....	17
Article 27 - Congress.....	17
Article 28 - Duties and responsibilities of the Congress.....	17
Article 29 - Ordinary Congress.....	17
Article 30 - Agenda for Ordinary Congress	18
Article 31 - Extraordinary Congress	18
Article 32 - Delegates	19
Article 33 - Submission of Proposals to the Congress	19
Article 34 - Quorum.....	20
Article 35 - Late Membership Fee.....	20
Article 36 - Voting.....	20
Article 37 - Amendments to the Statutes	20
Article 38 - Minutes	21
Article 39 - Date of taking Effect.....	21
Chapter 6 - Council	22
Article 40 - Council	22
Article 41 - Quorum.....	23
Article 42 - Election of Members to the Council.....	23
Article 43 - Vacancies.....	23

Article 44 - Duties and responsibilities of the Council	23
Article 45 - Voting	24
Article 46 - Amendments to the Competition Rules	24
Chapter 7 - Executive Committee	26
Article 47 - Executive Committee	26
Article 48 - Quorum	26
Article 49 - Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee	26
Article 50 - Voting	27
Article 51 - Duties and responsibilities of the President	27
Article 52 - Duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Presidents	28
Article 53 - Duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer (until the end of the 2028 Congress)	28
Article 54 - Duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General	28
Chapter 8 - Boards	30
Article 55 - Paddle Worldwide Boards	30
Article 56 - Sports Board	30
Article 57 - Athletes Board	31
Article 58 - Development Board	31
Article 59 - Continental Board	32
Chapter 9 - Technical Committees	33
Article 60 - Technical Committees	33
Article 61 - Duties and responsibilities of the Technical Committees	34
Chapter 10 - Commissions	35
Article 62 - Paddle Worldwide Commissions	35
Article 63 - Finance, Internal Audit and Risk Management Commission	35
Article 64 - Medical & Anti-doping Commission	36
Chapter 11 - Awards	37
Article 65 - Awards	37
Chapter 12 - Integrity Unit and Adjudicatory Panel	38
Article 66 - Integrity Unit	38
Article 67 - Adjudicatory Panel	39
Article 68 - Disciplinary Measures	40
Article 69 - Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)	41
Chapter 13 - Finance	42
Article 70 - Financial period	42
Article 71 - Auditing of Finances	42
Article 72 - Approval of the annual financial report	42
Chapter 14 - Competition Rights	43
Article 73 - Rights in competitions	43
Chapter 15 - Dissolution	44
Article 74 - Dissolution	44
Chapter 16 - Matters not Covered by the Statutes	45
Article 75 - Matters not Covered by the Statutes	45
Chapter 17 - Definitions	46

Chapter 1 - General Provisions

Article 1 - Establishment and Name

1.1. The origins of Paddle Worldwide are founded in the development of international cooperation between national canoe and paddlesport organisations. The following provisions set out the establishment, evolution and name of the Federation.

1.2. With the object of encouraging the development of the sport of canoeing and of strengthening the bonds of friendship that unite those who practice in it, the Austrian, Danish, German and Swedish Canoe Associations founded the Internationale Repräsentantschaft für Kanusport (IRK) in Copenhagen on 20th January 1924.

1.3. The IRK Congress held in Stockholm from 7th to 10th June 1946 decided that the Federation be called the International Canoe Federation (ICF).

1.4. The Congress held in Antalya from 7th to 8th November 2024 decided that the Federation be called Paddle Worldwide (PW) from 26th July 2026.

1.5. Paddle Worldwide is an international non-governmental non-profit world organisation for multidiscipline paddlesport and recreation activities.

1.6. Paddle Worldwide embraces every activity in which a paddler is facing the direction of travel with a single or double bladed paddle.

1.7. Paddle Worldwide disciplines are in particular:

- a) Slalom Paddle;
- b) Sprint Paddle;
- c) Para Paddle;
- d) Dragon Boat;
- e) Freestyle Paddle;
- f) Marathon Paddle;
- g) Kayak Polo;
- h) Ocean Paddle;
- i) Stand Up Paddle; and
- j) Wildwater Paddle.

1.8. Paddle Worldwide is open to collaborating with other International Federations that govern disciplines similar to Paddle Worldwide disciplines to create synergies.

Article 2 - Recognition

2.1. Paddle Worldwide is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), as the sole controlling body for international canoeing and paddlesport.

Article 3 - Objectives

3.1. The objectives of Paddle Worldwide shall be:

- a) to develop paddlesport at the international level with priority given to ensuring the continuity of paddlesport on the Olympic and Paralympic Games Programme;
- b) to organise Paddle Worldwide events, to supervise events organised by its members and to participate in the organisation of Olympic, Paralympic and international championship events;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions governing paddlesport events;
- d) to use its efforts to ensure that paddlesport is available to and resourced for all who wish to participate, regardless of gender or age;
- e) to ensure that both genders are represented in all Paddle Worldwide bodies;
- f) to settle disputes that may arise within the sport among its National Federations and to be the highest authority of paddlesport;
- g) to promote cordial and friendly relations between its members, to uphold proper operating procedures of the National Federations and Continental Associations, and to lead and organise paddling activities throughout the world;
- h) to promote the ideals and objectives of the Olympic Movement;
- i) to co-operate with the Organising Committee of Olympic, Paralympic, Continental and Regional Games;
- j) to encourage the establishment of National Federations in countries where no such organisation exists;
- k) to take measures to prevent endangering the health of athletes;
- l) to encourage the development of recreational paddlesport as a contribution to the healthy development of all ages; and
- m) to protect nature and pursue the rights of access for paddlesport by adopting environmentally friendly practices within the sport and respecting other users.

Article 4 - Human rights

4.1. Paddle Worldwide is committed to respect all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

Article 5 - Non-discrimination, equality and neutrality

5.1. Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

5.2. Paddle Worldwide remains neutral in matters of politics and religion. Exceptions may be made with regard to matters affected by Paddle Worldwide's statutory objectives.

Article 6 - Promoting friendly relations

6.1. Paddle Worldwide shall promote friendly relations:

- a) between and among National Federations, Continental Associations, officials and athletes; and
- b) in society for humanitarian objectives.

6.2. Paddle Worldwide shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any dispute that may arise between or among National Federations, Continental Associations, officials and athletes.

Article 7 - Headquarters, Governing Law and Language

7.1. The Paddle Worldwide headquarters is in Budapest, Hungary and Paddle Worldwide is governed by Hungarian law. The exact location of the headquarters within Budapest shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

7.2. Paddle Worldwide administration also has a presence in Lausanne, Switzerland and Hangzhou, China.

Article 8 - Official languages

8.1. The official languages of Paddle Worldwide are English, French, German, Spanish and Russian. In case of discrepancy, the English text shall prevail.

8.2. All official Paddle Worldwide documents shall be produced in English. National Federations and Continental Associations are responsible for translations into the language(s) of their country.

8.3. At the meetings of Paddle Worldwide, members or delegates are entitled to speak in the language of their country provided that a competent interpreter translates their speech into English.

Chapter 2 - Membership of National Federations

Article 9 - Eligibility

9.1. Paddle Worldwide must be composed of those National Paddlesport Organisations that are members of their National Olympic Committees (NOC) and recognised by the respective NOC or the highest sport authority of the country which the National Federation intends to represent as the sole governing body of paddlesport related to Paddle Worldwide recognised events in the country.

9.2. Only one (1) National Federation shall be recognised as a National Federation of Paddle Worldwide in each country.

9.3. The membership policy sets out detailed terms of reference for National Federation members.

Article 10 - Admission to Membership

10.1. A National Federation wishing to become a member as a National Federation of Paddle Worldwide must make a formal application, signed by its authorised representatives to the Executive Committee.

10.2. The formal application must include certification from the National Olympic Committee or highest sport authority of the country which the National Federation intends to represent confirming that the applying National Federation is recognised as being the sole governing body of paddlesport in its country.

10.3. The National Federation's legally valid statutes shall be enclosed with the application for membership and shall contain the following mandatory provisions:

- a) always to comply with these Statutes, regulations and decisions of Paddle Worldwide; and
- b) to recognise the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for the resolution of disputes, as specified in these Statutes.

10.4. The process and additional documents must follow the Paddle Worldwide Policy and Procedure "Membership Application" issued by the Council.

10.5. In a country where there is an existing National Federation as a member of Paddle Worldwide and a new National Federation wishes to take over as the sole governing body for paddlesport in the respective country, the new National Federation must fulfil all requirements for Paddle Worldwide Membership and the application procedure. This new National Federation will be liable for any outstanding debts towards Paddle Worldwide of the previous National Federation of Paddle Worldwide. The Council may waive such liability of the new National Federation, if it determines that it would be unjustified.

10.6. If a National Federation undergoes a name change, the relevant public minutes where this decision is approved must be sent to the Paddle Worldwide administration.

10.7. This article shall not affect the status of existing National Federations of Paddle Worldwide.

Article 11 - Request and procedure for application

11.1. The Executive Committee shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit a National Federation. The National Federation may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.

11.2. The new National Federation shall acquire membership rights and duties as a National Federation of Paddle Worldwide as soon as it has been admitted by the Congress. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

11.3. Between Congresses, the Executive Committee has the right to accept a National Federation as a provisional member of Paddle Worldwide, subject to ratification by the Congress.

11.4. A provisional Member is entitled to nominate athletes for international and Paddle Worldwide competitions provided that they fulfil the eligibility criteria and to attend the Congress without the right to speak or vote until the ratification of the membership by the Congress.

Article 12 - Rights of National Federations

12.1. National Federation Members have the following rights:

- a) to take part in the Congress;
- b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
- c) to nominate candidates for the President, the four (4) Vice-Presidents and six (6) members of the Council;
- d) to participate in and cast their votes at all elections and decisions in accordance with these Statutes;
- e) to take part in all international and Paddle Worldwide competitions; and
- f) to exercise all other rights arising from these Statutes and other regulations.

12.2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations of Paddle Worldwide.

Article 13 - Obligations of National Federations

13.1. National Federations have the following obligations:

- a) to comply fully with these Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of Paddle Worldwide bodies at any time as well as the decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS);
- b) to take part in international and Paddle Worldwide competitions;
- c) to pay their membership fees;
- d) to cause their own members to comply with these Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of Paddle Worldwide bodies;
- e) to convene its supreme and legislative body at regular intervals, at least every two (2) years;
- f) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements laid down in these Statutes;
- g) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties;
- h) to prevent and fight against any kind of discrimination; and
- i) to comply fully with all other duties arising from these Statutes and other regulations.

13.2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any National Federation may lead to consequences provided for in the Paddle Worldwide regulatory framework including suspension and expulsion.

13.3. Violations of Art. 13.1.(g) may also lead to consequences, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the National Federation concerned. Each National Federation is responsible towards Paddle Worldwide for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

Article 14 - Statutes of National Federations

14.1. The statutes of the National Federations must comply with the principles of good governance, and shall in particular contain, at a minimum, provisions relating to the following matters:

- a) to be neutral in matters of politics and religion;
- b) to prohibit all forms of discrimination;
- c) to be independent and avoid any form of political interference;
- d) to ensure that judicial bodies are independent (separation of powers);
- e) all relevant stakeholders must agree to recognise the jurisdiction and authority of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and give priority to arbitration as a means of dispute resolution;

- f) that the National Federation has the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of athletes, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, and measures required to protect the integrity of competitions;
- g) definition of the competences of the decision-making bodies;
- h) to avoid conflicts of interests in decision-making;
- i) legislative bodies must be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and taking into account the importance of gender equality in paddlesport; and
- j) ensure compliance with local financial regulation
- k) publish minutes of their key administrative meetings such as Congress, Board, Commission or Executive Committee.
- l) All members shall be required to provide and keep updated the latest official list of their officers to Paddle Worldwide.

Article 15 - Suspension

15.1. The Congress may suspend a National Federation solely at the request of the Council. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Council may, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a National Federation that seriously violates its obligations. A suspension approved by the Council shall be in effect until the next Congress, unless the Council has revoked such suspension prior to such Congress.

15.2. A suspension of a National Federation by the Congress requires a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the National Federations present and eligible to vote. A suspension of a National Federation by the Council shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the National Federations present and eligible to vote. If it is not confirmed, such suspension shall be automatically lifted.

15.3. Any National Federation defaulting in the payment of its membership fees or financial obligations towards Paddle Worldwide shall be automatically suspended after thirty (30) days following the first reminder sent by the Secretary General. The National Federation will be automatically reinstated upon payment of any amounts outstanding.

15.4. A suspended National Federation may not exercise any of its membership rights. In particular, following membership rights are suspended:

- a) right to vote at the Congress or to give a proxy for voting;
- b) right to make proposals or nominations for office; and
- c) participation in, or right to organise any Paddle Worldwide Events and Continental Association Events;

- d) right to access development funds or support

15.5. The Congress must determine the conditions of the reinstatement of the National Federation which are to be either set forth in the decision to suspend or the decision to suspend must set forth the event or circumstances that will give rise to a determination of the conditions of reinstatement.

Article 16 - Resignation

16.1. A National Federation may resign from Paddle Worldwide with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the Executive Committee in writing no later than six (6) months before the end of the calendar year and be sent to the Executive Committee by registered letter.

16.2. The resignation is not valid until the National Federation wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards Paddle Worldwide and its other National Federations.

Article 17 - Readmission

17.1. A National Federation wishing to be readmitted to Paddle Worldwide must meet the same requirements and follow the same procedure as for the admission.

Article 18 - Membership Fee

18.1. Members of Paddle Worldwide shall pay an annual membership fee.

18.2. There are three (3) Membership Fee categories:

- a) Level 1;
- b) Level 2; and
- c) Level 3.

18.3. The Finance Commission will create a categorisation and propose the list of National Federations in each category every four (4) years during the Congress of the third year of the Olympiad for approval by the Congress. The categorisation will be included in the membership policy.

18.4. The annual Membership Fee is to be paid to the Paddle Worldwide Headquarters as defined in the membership policy.

Article 19 - Expulsion

19.1. At the request of the Council, any breach of membership obligations shall be reviewed and, where appropriate, a motion for expulsion submitted to Congress.

19.2. The motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the valid votes cast by the congress. For the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required.

Chapter 3 - Continental Associations

Article 20 - Continental Associations

20.1. National Federations that belong to the same continent have formed the following Continental Associations, which are recognised by Paddle Worldwide:

- a) Asian Canoe Confederation;
- b) Confederation of African Canoe;
- c) Paddle Europe;
- d) Oceania Canoe Association; and
- e) Pan American Canoe Federation.

20.2. Recognition of each Continental Association by Paddle Worldwide entails full mutual respect of each other's authority within their respective institutional areas of competence as set forth in these Statutes.

20.3. The Statutes of the Continental Associations have to reflect the content of the Paddle Worldwide Statutes, particularly in what refers to the principles of Good Governance, democratic process, limit of mandates, prohibit all forms of discrimination, representation of all stakeholders, the fight against doping, avoiding conflict of interests, accountability, transparency, terms of mandate, sustainable development and others.

20.4. Paddle Worldwide may, upon request of the interested National Federation, authorise a Continental Association to grant membership to a National Federation that belongs geographically to another continent.

Article 21 - Roles, Duties and Responsibilities

21.1. The role of each Continental Association is to:

- a) develop and promote all aspects of paddlesport in their continent, including competition, recreational paddling and educational activities;
- b) organise continental events, championships and competitions and deliver continental titles;
- c) organise training programmes and certifications;
- d) contribute to the media promotion of the paddlesport in their continent;
- e) cooperate with other sports organisations, public and private organisations and authorities to promote the interests of paddlesport, in their continent;
- f) contribute to Paddle Worldwide decision-making;
- g) provide objective opinion about Paddle Worldwide topics which relate to their continent;

- h) understand and express the viewpoints of their member National Federations of their continents within Paddle Worldwide decision-making process.

21.2. Each Continental Association shall have the following rights and obligations:

- a) to comply with and enforce compliance with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of Paddle Worldwide;
- b) to work closely with Paddle Worldwide in every domain so as to achieve the objectives stipulated in on the current Paddle Worldwide Strategy, and to organise Continental Championships and other international competitions of all the disciplines;
- c) to organise its continental competitions, in compliance with the international Paddle Worldwide competition calendar;
- d) to implement and enforce the Paddle Worldwide policies (e.g. gender representation, environment sustainability);
- e) to promote and host general informative meetings with all the affiliated National Federations, ensuring that the latest general information can reach the entire membership;
- f) with the mutual cooperation of Paddle Worldwide, to take any action considered necessary to encourage participation in and develop paddlesport across all Paddle Worldwide disciplines on the continent concerned, such as arranging development programmes, courses, conferences, etc.;
- g) to develop initiatives that promote gender equality, youth participation, environmental sustainability and enable diversity within their continent;
- h) to support equitable access to resources, especially for smaller or developing nations;
- i) to conduct a yearly internal and external audit;
- j) to publish minutes of their key administrative meetings such as congress, board or executive committee;
- k) to provide and keep updated the latest official list of their officers to Paddle Worldwide;
- l) to develop a strategic development plan adapted to the realities of their territory and aligned with the strategic plan of Paddle Worldwide;
- m) to work closely with Paddle Worldwide in every aspect so as to promote the mission, objectives and activities of Paddle Worldwide; and
- n) when required, to ensure the implementation of part of the responsibilities or missions of Paddle Worldwide that may be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee of Paddle Worldwide.

21.3. The Executive Committee may delegate other duties or powers to one or more (or all) Continental Associations by agreement with such Continental Association or Confederation.

21.4. The Continental Associations have the obligation to provide the latest version of their statutes and regulations to Paddle Worldwide.

21.5. The Continental Associations have the obligation to support Paddle Worldwide reviewing new application of a National Federations, maintaining up to date list of elected members including essential contacts of each affiliated National Federation.

Article 22 - Disciplinary Sanctions

22.1. Disciplinary measures imposed by a Continental Association may be extended to a worldwide level after reporting and consideration by the Paddle Worldwide Disciplinary body.

Chapter 4 - Organisation

Article 23 - Governing bodies of Paddle Worldwide

23.1. The governing bodies of Paddle Worldwide shall be:

- a) The Congress;
- b) The Council; and
- c) The Executive Committee.

Article 24 - Officers of Paddle Worldwide

24.1. Until the end of the 2028 Congress, the Officers of Paddle Worldwide shall be:

- a) The President;
- b) The three (3) Vice-Presidents elected by the Congress;
- c) The Treasurer elected by the Congress;
- d) The Secretary General.

24.2. From the end of the 2028 Congress, the Officers of Paddle Worldwide shall be:

- a) The President;
- b) The four (4) Vice-Presidents elected by the Congress;
- c) The Vice-President "Athletes" elected by the Athletes Board; and
- d) The Secretary General.

Article 25 - Representation Rights

25.1. The President and the Secretary General shall be entitled to sign on behalf of Paddle Worldwide and represent Paddle Worldwide towards third parties. Both of them shall have independent representation rights.

Article 26 - Conduct of bodies, officers, officials and others

26.1. All bodies, officers and officials must observe these Statutes and all other regulations and decisions of Paddle Worldwide in their activities.

26.2. Every person and organisation involved in Paddlesport should be committed to the legal and ethical requirements of good governance. Each member of a governing body and each officer and official of Paddle Worldwide has a general and fiduciary duty to act honestly, in good faith, and in the best interests of Paddle Worldwide at all times.

Chapter 5 - Congress

Article 27 - Congress

27.1. The Congress is the supreme and legislative authority of Paddle Worldwide.

27.2. The Congress consists of the National Federations of Paddle Worldwide.

27.3. The Congress shall be chaired by the President or, in the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents as chosen by the Vice-Presidents.

27.4. A Congress may be an Ordinary or an Extraordinary Congress. A Congress may be held in person, via videoconference or hybrid upon decision by the Council considering the respective circumstances.

Article 28 - Duties and responsibilities of the Congress

28.1. The duties and responsibilities of the Congress shall be:

- a) to conduct elections of the President and the four (4) Vice Presidents;
- b) to conduct elections of the Chairs of the Technical Committees;
- c) to appoint the auditors upon proposal by the Finance, Audit and Risk Commission;
- d) to approve changes to the Statutes and to the Sports Governance Rules (GR) that relate to all disciplines of the sport;
- e) to approve the Strategic Plan as proposed by the Council;
- f) to approve the budget and financial strategy of Paddle Worldwide as proposed by the Council;
- g) to approve the financial report, including the audited Financial Statements and Auditors Report; and
- h) to consider the proposals submitted by National Federations, Executive Committee and the Council.

Article 29 - Ordinary Congress

29.1. An Ordinary Congress shall take place every even year at the place and date decided by the preceding Congress.

29.2. Should circumstances dictate, the Council may change the date and/or venue of the Congress or hold the Congress electronically if no other suitable option is available.

29.3. The National Federations shall be notified in writing at least four (4) months in advance of the final place and date of such Ordinary Congress by the Executive Committee. The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least one (1) month before the date of the Congress by the Executive Committee. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the President's report,

the financial statements, including the consolidated Financial Statements, and the Auditors' Report.

Article 30 - Agenda for Ordinary Congress

30.1. The agenda for an Ordinary Congress shall at least include:

- a) opening of the session;
- b) roll-call of delegates and establishing of the quorum;
- c) appointment of scrutinisers for the period of the Congress;
- d) declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with these Statutes;
- e) approval of the agenda;
- f) President's report;
- g) Secretary General's report;
- h) Vice Presidents report;
- i) financial report on financial matters and approval;
- j) approval of the Auditors' Report;
- k) approval of the Auditors for the next cycle;
- l) votes on proposals for adopting and amending the Statutes;
- m) discussions and resolution on the proposals submitted by National Federations, the Executive Committee and the Council;
- n) reports on Membership applications (if applicable);
- o) suspension or expulsion of a National Federation (if applicable);
- p) election or dismissal of the President (if applicable);
- q) election or dismissal of the four (4) Vice-Presidents (if applicable);
- r) election or dismissal of the Chairs of the Technical Committees (if applicable);
- s) appointment of auditors (if applicable);
- t) presentation of Continental Association reports;
- u) approval of the Strategic Plan;
- v) fixing the annual Membership Fee for the next two (2) years;
- w) approval of the Budget for the next two (2) years;
- x) fixing time and place for the next Congress; and
- y) closing of the Congress.

Article 31 - Extraordinary Congress

31.1. An Extraordinary Congress may be called by the Executive Committee when:

- a) at least one third (1/3) of Members submit a request in writing/electronically to the Secretary General giving reasons therefor; or

- b) when the Executive Committee considers that circumstances have arisen warranting an Extraordinary Congress.

31.2. The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date of an Extraordinary Congress. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within three (3) months of receipt of the request of at least one third (1/3) of Members. The National Federations shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least two (2) months before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.

31.3. An Extraordinary Congress shall only deal with such matters, which have caused the meeting to be convened.

Article 32 - Delegates

32.1. Each National Federation has the right to appoint up to three (3) delegates from its National Federation to the Congress one of whom has the right to vote. Where a second delegate is appointed, that delegate shall be of a different gender from the voting delegate. Where a third delegate is appointed, that delegate may be of either gender.

32.2. Delegates must be affiliated to that particular National Federation (e.g. Staff, Board Member, official).

32.3. A National Federation may be represented at the Congress by another National Federation.

32.4. Members of the Council may represent their own National Federation as delegates at the Congress.

32.5. Delegates must give proof of their identity and their right to represent a National Federation.

Article 33 - Submission of Proposals to the Congress

33.1. Each Member of Paddle Worldwide, the Council and the Executive Committee have the right to submit proposals to the Congress.

33.2. Proposals (except Competition Rules and Statutes changes) originating from National Federations signed by their authorised representatives must be received by the Secretary General at least three (3) months prior to the opening day of the Congress.

33.3. All applications and proposals have to be produced in English and must be sent in written and/or electronic form with the appropriate signatures (i.e. electronic signature).

33.4. Candidates for election of the President, the Vice-Presidents and other Council members must be nominated by their National Federation, which shall submit the nominations to the Paddle Worldwide Secretary General at the latest three (3) months before the Congress. This

must be done in writing or electronically and signed by the authorised representatives of the National Federation concerned.

33.5. A National Federation may not nominate the same person to more than one (1) position on the Council.

33.6. Applications for the next Congress (to be hosted in two (2) years' time) may be submitted by the National Federations to the Paddle Worldwide Headquarters up until three (3) months before the Congress.

Article 34 - Quorum

34.1. The Congress has the power to act if more than 50% of the National Federations entitled to vote are represented.

Article 35 - Late Membership Fee

35.1. National Federations whose membership fee remain unpaid as define in the finance policy prior to the Congress shall be able to attend the Congress as observer. They will not be eligible to vote or take part in discussions at the Congress or give a proxy vote to another National Federation, nor will they be counted for the purposes of quorum.

Article 36 - Voting

36.1. When voting each National Federation will be entitled to have one (1) vote.

36.2. A National Federation is entitled to carry only one (1) proxy vote. Voting in writing without representation in person is not permitted.

36.3. Voting for personal elections shall be by secret ballot (electronic or paper form). To have a secret vote for other matters requires a simple majority (more votes cast in favour than against).

36.4. Any other decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by roll call in alphabetical order.

36.5. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for elections, votes and other decisions to be valid. For the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required.

Article 37 - Amendments to the Statutes

37.1. The Congress may amend the Statutes.

37.2. Each Member of Paddle Worldwide, the Council and the Executive Committee have the right to put forward a submission to amend, change, or add articles to the Statutes.

37.3. Statutes Submission originating from National Federations signed by their authorised representatives must be received by the Secretary General at the latest by 31st January the year of Congress.

37.4. A proposal to adopt or amend the Statutes shall be adopted if approved by two thirds (2/3) of the valid votes cast. For the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required.

Article 38 - Minutes

38.1. The Secretary General shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress which must be certified by the Executive Committee.

38.2. In the case of resolutions and elections, the minutes shall contain the respective valid votes cast (e.g. the complete numbers of votes of "YES", "NO" and "ABSTENTIONS", for the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required). The Secretary General sends the minutes and a summary of the decisions and action points of the Congress to the National Federations as soon as possible, however, no later than 60 days after the last day of the respective Congress.

38.3. The minutes including all decisions taken by the Congress shall be reproduced in English.

Article 39 - Date of taking Effect

39.1. All decisions of the Congress including changes to Statutes take effect immediately for the National Federations after the Congress, unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

Chapter 6 - Council

Article 40 - Council

40.1. The Council serves as the organisation's strategic, legislative and oversight body.

40.2. Until the end of the 2028 Congress, the Council is composed of the following members:

- a) Elected persons:
 - President,
 - Three (3) Vice Presidents, represented by both genders,
 - Treasurer,
 - Up to four (4) Members of the European Continent represented by at least one female,
 - Up to three (3) Members of the African, American and Asian Continents represented by at least one female, up to two (2) Members of the Oceanic Continent represented by at least one female,
 - Chairs of the Technical Committees and chairs of the Commissions
- b) Appointed Member:
 - Secretary General without voting rights

40.3. From the end of the 2028 Congress, the Council is composed of the following members:

- a) the President elected by the Congress;
- b) the four (4) Vice-Presidents representing both genders (2 male, 2 female) elected by the Congress;
- c) the Vice-President "Athletes" as elected by the Athletes Board;
- d) Up to four (4) Members of the European Continent represented by at least one female,
- e) Up to three (3) Members of the African, American and Asian Continents represented by at least one female,
- f) Up to two (2) Members of the Oceanic Continent represented by at least one female,
- g) the other Co-chair of the Athletes Board;
- h) the ten (10) Technical Committee Chairs elected by the Congress
- i) the Secretary General without voting rights;
- j) the IOC members coming from paddlesport background approved and accepted as such by the Council without voting rights; and
- k) the two (2) invited members without voting rights: the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission Chair and the Finance, Audit and risk Commission Chair

40.4. The Council will actively strive to achieve equitable representation of both genders.

Article 41 - Quorum

41.1. The Council has the power to act if more than 50% of the Members entitled to vote attend the meeting.

Article 42 - Election of Members to the Council

42.1. The President shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four (4) years in the year of the Olympic Games. The term of office shall begin after the end of the Congress at which the President was elected. The President shall be elected individually by the Congress.

42.2. The four (4) Vice-Presidents representing both genders (2 male, 2 female) shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four (4) years in the year of the Olympic Games. The term of office shall begin after the end of the Congress at which the President was elected. The four (4) Vice-Presidents will be elected collectively by the Congress.

42.3. If a member of the Council is a successful candidate for another position on the Council, then they are required to resign from a position.

42.4. A Member of the Council may not serve as a member of a Technical Committee at the same time. Therefore, after the election the member has to resign from the other position.

42.5. All elected members of the Council are eligible for re-election if duly nominated.

42.6. All members of the Council can serve a maximum of 3 consecutive terms of office in the same position.

Article 43 - Vacancies

43.1. In the case of death, resignation or suspension of a Council Member a substitute shall be nominated by the Council in due course until the next Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.

43.2. If and when the President is temporarily prevented from fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of office, the position shall be taken by a nominated Vice-President. If no Vice-President is available, the Council shall appoint one of its members to take the position of the President on an interim basis.

Article 44 - Duties and responsibilities of the Council

44.1. The duties and responsibilities of the Council shall be:

- a) to deal with all matters of broad Paddle Worldwide policy between Congresses;
- b) to review and submit the Paddle Worldwide strategic plan for Congress approval;
- c) to amend Paddle Worldwide policies and regulations (apart from these Statutes), including Competition Rules;
- d) to appoint the members of the Boards, the Technical Committees and the Commissions;

- e) to propose the members of the Integrity Unit and Adjudicatory Panel to the Congress;
- f) to appoint the Chairs of the Medical & Anti-Doping Commission and of the Finance Commission;
- g) to approve host cities for World Championships upon proposal by the Sport Board;
- h) to appoint replacements if vacancy occurs in any Paddle Worldwide body;
- i) to examine the proposals received from National Federations for submission to the Congress and to take a position on those issues;
- j) to discuss and propose the budget of Paddle Worldwide for submission to the Congress;
- k) to establish panels with defined decision-making power and appoint its members;
- l) to be part of the jury when required at Paddle Worldwide Events; and
- m) to deal with matters relating to Paddle Worldwide which do not fall in the sphere of responsibility of another governing body of Paddle Worldwide.

Article 45 - Voting

45.1. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes or the Terms of References, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for decisions to be valid. For the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required.

Article 46 - Amendments to the Competition Rules

The Competition rules changes management will be conducted as follow:

46.1. A "proposal phase" where:

- a) All National Federations, and Paddle Worldwide Committees or Commissions must propose Common Rule changes and Sport Rule changes (by 1st February in the year of the Congress).
- b) Any change must be submitted using an online form indicating if new or a change (existing wording / proposed wording), reason for change and any envisaged financial impact.

46.2. A "consideration phase" where the Paddle Worldwide administration and relevant committee review and prepare final proposals (by 1st March in the year of the congress).

46.3. An "endorsement phase" where the Sport Board review the final proposals and must endorse and publish the draft rules (by 1st April in the year of the congress).

46.4. A "consultation phase" where National Federations and Athlete Board can provide written feedback. From this feedback, an online meeting can be organised for each discipline to further

explain and discuss reasons for change and consider further. The consultation phase will be between 1st April and 1st June the year of the congress.

46.5. A “finalisation phase” where the wording of the rules will be finalised by the Sport Department and relevant committee. The final wording will be done by the Sport Board Chair (Vice President) supported by the Paddle Worldwide administration and relevant committee chair (a period of one (1) month from the end of the previous phase).

46.6. An “approval phase” where:

- a) The Council will vote on all Sport Rules.
- b) The Council will give endorsement to the Common Rule changes to be voted by the Congress.
- c) The voted Sport Rules and endorsed Common rules must be published at least one (1) month prior to the Congress.

Chapter 7 - Executive Committee

Article 47 - Executive Committee

47.1. The Executive Committee is in particular a consultative and supervisory body for the Paddle Worldwide administration with the duties and responsibilities defined in the Paddle Worldwide regulatory framework.

47.2. Until the end of the 2028 Congress, the Executive Committee is composed of the following persons:

- a) The President
- b) Three (3) Vice-Presidents representing both genders
- c) The Treasurer
- d) Five (5) Continental Presidents
- e) Sprint Paddle Chair
- f) Slalom Paddle Chair
- g) Chair of Para Paddle
- h) Athletes Chair
- i) The Secretary General without voting rights

47.3. From the end of the 2028 Congress, the Executive Committee is composed of the following persons:

- a) The President elected by the Congress;
- b) The four (4) Vice-Presidents representing both genders (2 male, 2 female) elected by the Congress;
- c) The Vice-President "Athletes" as elected by the Athletes Board;
- d) The five (5) Continental Associations Presidents;
- e) The IOC members coming from paddlesport background approved and accepted as such by the Council without voting rights ; and
- f) The Secretary General without voting rights.

Article 48 - Quorum

48.1. The Executive Committee has the power to act if more than 50% of the Members entitled to vote attend the meeting.

Article 49 - Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee

49.1. The Executive Committee supports the President and exercises supervisory oversight between meetings of the Council.

49.2. The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall be:

- a) to ensure the implementation of the decisions made by the Congress and the Council by the Paddle Worldwide Administration;
- b) to ensure the maintenance of proper governance standards and strive for gender equality in the organisation of the Paddle Worldwide Competitions, Olympic and multi-sports Games, paddlesport events and all other events and competitions conducted under the authority of Paddle Worldwide;
- c) to appoint and dismiss the Secretary General;
- d) to supervise and support the work of the Secretary General and the Paddle Worldwide Administration;
- e) to report to the Congress and the Council;
- f) to examine proposals received from the different Boards and Commissions for submission to the Council;
- g) to approve host cities for Paddle Worldwide competitions as defined in the Sport Rules upon proposal by the Sport Board;
- h) to appoint any working groups for a defined subject and define its terms of reference;
- i) to examine the proposals received for submission to the Congress and to express the Executive Committee's view on these to the Council; and
- j) to give directives regarding the work of the Technical Committees and Commissions.

Article 50 - Voting

50.1. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes or the Terms of References, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for decisions to be valid. For the avoidance of doubt, abstentions, blank votes, or invalid votes shall not be used for purposes of calculating the majority required.

Article 51 - Duties and responsibilities of the President

51.1. The President is the highest office holder in Paddle Worldwide and leads Paddle Worldwide.

51.2. The President is the official spokesperson of Paddle Worldwide.

51.3. The President acts as Chairperson of the Congress, Executive Committee and of the Council.

51.4. The President's role shall create and maintain an environment of unity, common purpose and harmony within the Paddle Worldwide.

51.5. At all times the President must act in the best interest of Paddle Worldwide with the utmost personal integrity.

Article 52 - Duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Presidents

52.1. The role of the Vice-Presidents is to understand and be aware of all issues that pertain to Paddle Worldwide and any topic of importance determined by the President that requires action including but not limited to the areas of responsibility that they were allocated to.

52.2. Should the President be unable to carry out any of their duties and responsibilities a Vice-President, chosen by the Vice-Presidents, can temporarily take up the position and represent the President.

52.3. To represent Paddle Worldwide at the Paddle Worldwide events, Continental Events and Games, Sport Conferences and any other occasion on which Paddle Worldwide shall be present and represented by an elected authority.

Article 53 - Duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer (until the end of the 2028 Congress)

53.1. The Treasurer is member of the Finance Commission and presents the Commission's views to the Congress and Council.

53.2. The Treasurer ensures that the Council are informed in advance of the financial consequences of future plans, monitors financial performance and oversees the appropriate investment of Paddle Worldwide Funds.

53.3. The Treasurer will provide an overview and monitor the day-to-day work of the Paddle Worldwide Administration in managing the operational finances.

Article 54 - Duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General

54.1. The role of the Secretary General is to lead the Paddle Worldwide Administration and to implement the strategic plan of Paddle Worldwide .

54.2. The Secretary General must establish all operational practices essential for the effective management of Paddle Worldwide.

54.3. The Secretary General is a non voting member of the Executive Board and Council.

54.4. The duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General shall be at least:

- a) to play a lead administrative role in the development of and implement the strategic plan of Paddle Worldwide;
- b) to lead the administration of Paddle Worldwide and advise and report to the Executive Committee and the Council, interfacing between the Council and the Paddle Worldwide Administration and advising the Council on strategy, direction and real time operations;

- c) to ensure administration support to the President, Executive Committee, Council and Congress where necessary;
- d) to manage prudently and diligently, the Paddle Worldwide's resources within defined and agreed budgets set by the Council and according to Paddle Worldwide policies, current laws and regulations;
- e) to be responsible for human resources planning, recruitment and workplace management of Paddle Worldwide staff according to authorised personnel policies and procedures;
- f) to ensure that Paddle Worldwide and its mission, programmes, products and services are consistently presented in a strong positive image to the paddlesport movement, Olympic family, partners and international media and external stakeholders; and
- g) to represent Paddle Worldwide at competitions, events, international meetings or other functions that are expected as part of the position of Secretary General of an International Sports Federation.

Chapter 8 - Boards

Article 55 - Paddle Worldwide Boards

55.1. The Boards of Paddle Worldwide are the followings:

- a) Sports Board;
- b) Athletes Board;
- c) Continental Board;
- d) Development Board.

55.2. The Sports Board, and the Development Board are led by one of the Vice-Presidents, with the President assigning one of the Vice-President to these Boards and are responsible for decision-making within the specific areas of responsibility as defined in these Statutes and the respective Regulations.

55.3. Until the 2028 Athletes Board member election, the Athletes Board is led by the Chair. From the 2028 Athletes Board member election, the Athletes Board is led by the Vice-President "Athletes", as elected by the Athletes Board and is responsible for decision-making within the specific areas of responsibility as defined in these Statutes and the respective Regulations.

55.4. The Continental Board is chaired by Paddle Worldwide President.

55.5. The Boards give recommendations within their areas of responsibility to the Council and the Executive Committee.

55.6. Respective terms of reference shall define the duties, authority and field of activity of each Board.

Article 56 - Sports Board

56.1. The Sports Board is responsible for Paddle Worldwide sports regulations and event organisation.

56.2. The Sports Board consists of the ten (10) Chairs of the Technical Committees and one (1) Vice-President as the Chair.

56.3. The main responsibilities of the Sports Board shall be:

- a) to prepare competition rules;
- b) to determine the annual competition calendar;
- c) to oversee the delivery of the events organised by Paddle Worldwide;
- d) to monitor the participation of both genders, ensuring that an action plan shall be put in place in case of decrease of participation of any of the genders.

Article 57 - Athletes Board

57.1. The Athletes Board is a representative body for the rights and interests of the paddlesport athletes across all decision-making forums of Paddle Worldwide.

57.2. Until the 2028 Athletes Board member election, the Athletes Board consists of 8 members including a Chair:

- a) Two (2) representatives of the Paddle Sprint discipline (1 male, 1 female); 2 representatives of the Paddle Slalom discipline (1 male, 1 female) and 2 representatives of Para paddle (1 male, 1 female) elected by athletes in the year of the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- b) Two (2) representatives of the non-Olympic disciplines will be elected or appointed by the Council based on the recommendations of the Athletes Board.

57.3. From the 2028 Athletes Board member election, the Athletes Board consists of ten (10) members:

- a) Two (2) athletes from Paddle Sprint (1 male, 1 female)
- b) Two (2) athletes from Paddle Slalom (1 male, 1 female)
- c) Two (2) athletes from Para Paddle (1 male, 1 female)
- d) Four (4) athletes from non-Olympic disciplines (2 male, 2 female)

57.4. The Vice-President "Athletes" and a Co-Chair of the Athletes Board shall be elected by the Athletes Board for a period of four (4) years in the year of the Olympic Games. The Vice-President "Athlete" and the Co-Chair of the Athletes Board shall together represent both genders. The term of office shall begin after the end of the meeting of the Athletes Board at which the Vice-President "Athletes" and the Co-Chair of the Athletes Board was elected.

57.5. The Athletes Board advises and supports the Executive Committee, the Council and the Paddle Worldwide Administration and monitors the implementation of the decisions and recommendations affecting the athlete rights and interests.

Article 58 - Development Board

58.1. The Development Board is a strategic body responsible for supporting, coordinating and promoting the global development of paddlesport under the authority of Paddle Worldwide.

58.2. The Development Board shall consist of :

- a) Five (5) Continental representatives, one (1) per Continental Association nominated by their respective President;
- b) Ten (10) Technical Committee representatives, one (1) per Technical Committee nominated by their respective Chair;

- c) One (1) Vice-President as the Chair.

58.3. The main responsibilities of the Development Board shall be:

- a) to contribute to the implementation of the Paddle Worldwide Strategic Plan by promoting sustainable growth, universality, solidarity and capacity-building across all Paddle Worldwide disciplines and regions;
- b) to support the strengthening of National Federations and Continental Associations through development programmes, education initiatives, institutional support and strategic partnerships;
- c) to advise the Executive Committee, the Council, and the Continental Board on all matters relating to the development of Paddlesport Worldwide.

Article 59 - Continental Board

59.1. The Continental Board is the permanent coordination and consultation body between Paddle Worldwide and the recognised Continental Associations.

59.2. The Continental Board shall consist of:

- a) Five (5) Continental Associations Presidents;
- b) The President as the Chair;
- c) The Secretary General of each Continental Association may be invited at the request of the respective President.

59.3. The main responsibilities of the Continental Board shall be:

- a) to contribute to the coherence of the global governance of Paddle Worldwide and promote cooperation, solidarity and strategic alignment between the Continental Associations;
- b) to facilitate dialogue and coordination between Paddle Worldwide, the Continental Associations and the National Federations on matters affecting the global development and administration of paddlesport;
- c) to provide strategic advice and recommendations to the Executive Committee, the Council and other Paddle Worldwide bodies on matters relating to the development and governance of Paddlesport Worldwide.

Chapter 9 - Technical Committees

Article 60 - Technical Committees

60.1. All Technical Committees are consultative bodies of the Council and of the Executive Committee and are responsible for carrying out their policies.

60.2. The following Technical Committees have been established based on the disciplines of paddlesport:

- a) Freestyle Paddle Committee;
- b) Marathon Paddle Committee;
- c) Kayak Polo Committee;
- d) Slalom Paddle Committee;
- e) Sprint Paddle Committee;
- f) Dragon Boat Committee;
- g) Ocean Paddle Committee;
- h) Para Paddle Committee;
- i) Stand Up Paddle Committee; and
- j) Wildwater Paddle Committee.

60.3. Until the end of the 2028 Congress, the Technical Committees are composed of up to four (4) Members, of which at least one (1) member should be of the other gender, nominated by the National Federations prior to the deadline as set by the Executive Committee and appointed by the Council (except for the Chairs) for a period of four (4) years, which may be renewed.

60.4. From the end of the 2028 Congress, the Technical Committees are composed of up to four (4) Members, representing both genders in equal numbers, nominated by the National Federations prior to the deadline as set by the Executive Committee and appointed by the Council (except for the Chairs) for a period of four (4) years, which may be renewed.

60.5. The Council may appoint up to three (3) advisors to each Technical Committee for up to two years renewable by the Council.

60.6. The Council appoints the members for a four-year period. The Congress elects the Chairs of the Technical Committees for four-year period.

60.7. In the case of forming a new Technical Committee at the Congress, the Council appoints the Chair and the members for the first 4 years.

60.8. New disciplines introduced need to be established for four (4) years before they may have representation on the Council, but they may be represented at the Sports Board.

Article 61 - Duties and responsibilities of the Technical Committees

61.1. The duties and responsibilities of the Technical Committees are to advise Paddle Worldwide on the direction, strategy and technical aspects of their discipline in order to promote and develop the sport.

61.2. Respective terms of reference shall define the duties, authority and field of activity of each Technical Committee including the technical proposals for the development of each discipline worldwide.

Chapter 10 - Commissions

Article 62 - Paddle Worldwide Commissions

62.1. The Paddle Worldwide Commissions are the following:

- a) Finance, Internal Audit and Risk Management Commission; and
- b) Medical & Anti-doping Commission.

62.2. Each Paddle Worldwide Commission shall consist of one (1) chair and up to five (5) other members and thus a total of up to six (6) members with:

62.2.1. Until the end of the 2028 Congress at least one (1) member should be of the other gender.

62.2.2. From the end of the 2028 Congress, they shall represent both genders in equal numbers.

62.3. The Paddle Worldwide Commissions are advisory bodies within Paddle Worldwide advising the Executive Committee, the Council and the Paddle Worldwide Administration as well as monitoring the implementation of decisions and recommendations within the respective areas of responsibility.

62.4. The chairs and the members of the Commissions are appointed by the Council based on proposals from the National Federations, and upon selection of best competencies of the candidates.

62.5. The Commissions hold meetings at least once every quarter of the year.

62.6. Respective terms of reference shall define the duties, authority and field of activity of each Commissions.

Article 63 - Finance, Internal Audit and Risk Management Commission

63.1. The Finance, Internal Audit and Risk Management Commission oversees the budgeting, audits and financial reporting activities within Paddle Worldwide and proposes the auditors to the Congress.

63.2. Until the end of the 2028 Congress, the Treasurer is an additional member of the Finance, Internal Audit and Risk Management Commission.

Article 64 - Medical & Anti-doping Commission

64.1. The Medical & Anti-doping Commission ensures that best medical and anti-doping standards are observed and implemented within Paddle Worldwide. This includes making recommendations to the Paddle Worldwide bodies and the Integrity Unit. At least two (2) members must be doctors and at least two (2) experts in any of the Allied Professions such as Sports Physiology, Sports Science, Sports Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology and Sports Laws.

Chapter 11 - Awards

Article 65 - Awards

65.1. Paddle Worldwide may honour distinguished service upon nomination by the Council and approval by the Congress with a two-third (2/3) majority as follows:

- a) Honorary Life President (Eligible after three full terms of service to Paddle Worldwide);
and
- b) Honorary Membership (Eligible after three full terms of service to Paddle Worldwide).

65.2. Paddle Worldwide may award persons or organisations nominated by National Federations or the Executive Committee from within or outside the sport upon approval by the Council as follows:

- a) Order of Merit; and
- b) Medals.

65.3. Additional awards for recognition of outstanding achievement can be proposed by members to the Council.

65.4. National Federations, the Executive Committee, and the Council may make nominations for all awards.

65.5. Self-nomination is prohibited.

Chapter 12 - Integrity Unit and Adjudicatory Panel

Article 66 - Integrity Unit

66.1. Paddle Worldwide shall establish and maintain an Integrity Unit to provide an independent body to deal with alleged integrity matters as provided for in the related Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations. The Integrity Unit shall, in particular, deal with disciplinary, ethics, competition manipulation, betting, corruption, safeguarding, harassment, discrimination, conflicts of interest, eligibility, vetting and other integrity-related matters in accordance with applicable Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations, including any educational initiatives and programmes.

66.2. The Integrity Unit's mandate shall be:

66.2.1. to maintain confidence in the integrity of the paddlesport, and in the commitment of Paddle Worldwide to take all steps necessary to protect that integrity, through the effective policing and enforcement of the Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations as well as the provision of educational initiatives in this regard; and

66.2.2. as part of that effort, to ensure Paddle Worldwide is in full compliance at all times with its obligations as a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code, and with its other governance and ethical compliance obligations set out in these Statutes and other Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations.

66.3. The Integrity Unit is composed of one (1) chair and two (2) members representing both genders approved by the Congress for a period of four (4) years. At least one (1) member of the Integrity Unit shall hold a law degree. To be eligible, every member of the Integrity Unit shall have:

- a) satisfied all applicable disclosure obligations as required and specified in the Statutes, Rules and Regulations;
- b) the person may not hold office in a National Federation or Continental Association;
- c) not failed an eligibility assessment on the basis of any of the following grounds:
 - the person has been convicted by a relevant authority of any offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of two (2) or more years (whether or not a term of imprisonment was imposed) unless that person has obtained a pardon or has served the full term of the sentence imposed on them so that their conviction is spent;
 - the person has been found to have breached the related Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations;

- the person is found by a relevant authority to have committed any anti-doping rule violation at any time.

66.4. The Chair and the members of the Integrity Unit may be re-appointed to the Integrity Unit at the end of their term, save that no member may serve more than three full terms, consecutively or otherwise.

66.5. The Integrity Unit shall:

- a) operate neutrally and independently, in accordance with these Statutes and the Paddle Worldwide Rules and Regulations;
- b) safeguard the integrity of the paddlesport and the commitment of the Paddle Worldwide to take all steps necessary to protect that integrity; and
- c) propose members for the Paddle Worldwide Adjudicatory Panel to be approved by the Congress;
- d) under the Chairs supervision investigate and prosecute all forms of violations of ethical, integrity, safeguarding and other disciplinary regulations with assistance of the operational staff.

Article 67 - Adjudicatory Panel

67.1. The Adjudicatory Panel is composed of six (6) members with relevant judicial, arbitration or disciplinary decision-making experience and approved by the Congress for a period of four (4) years. The members to be appointed to the Adjudicatory Panel shall have no actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest that could affect, or reasonable be perceived as affecting, the independent performance of their duties in relation to any matter submitted to them.

67.2. The Adjudicatory Panel shall:

- a) operate neutrally and independently, in accordance with these Statutes and the Paddle Worldwide Rules and Regulations; and
- b) shall decide disputes pursuant to the competences and procedures defined in the related Paddle Worldwide rules and regulations.

67.3. The deciding Panel shall be composed of one (1) or three (3) Adjudicatory Panel members appointed by the Integrity Unit. The Integrity Unit member(s) who have taken part in the respective investigation shall not take part in the appointment of the Adjudicatory Panel members related to such investigation.

Article 68 - Disciplinary Measures

68.1. Disciplinary measures which can be imposed, amongst others, on a National Federation or Continental Association:

- a) a warning or reprimand;
- b) a fine;
- c) withholding of grants or subsidies;
- d) suspension of the membership in Paddle Worldwide (during which the suspended National Federation may not exercise any of its membership rights, but must continue to observe its obligations as Member);
- e) suspension of some or all of the membership rights for example:
 - excluding the National Federation's Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and/or officers/staff, officials from Paddle Worldwide events and activities;
 - withdrawing some or all start quotas for Paddle Worldwide events to which the National Federation would otherwise be entitled; and
- f) loss of recognition as a Continental Association, temporarily or permanently

68.2. Further disciplinary measures against National Federations may be defined in the regulations adopted by the Council.

68.3. Disciplinary measures which can be imposed, amongst others, on Individuals

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a fine;
- d) suspension for a specified or unspecified period;
- e) suspension from carrying out a function for a specified or unspecified period;
- f) a ban on exercising any paddlesport related activity; and
- g) the withdrawal of a title or award.

68.4. Further disciplinary measures against National Federations may be defined in regulations adopted by the Council.

68.5. Any athlete or official who is suspended or declared temporarily or permanently ineligible as a result of any disciplinary, ethics, integrity, safeguarding, anti-doping, eligibility or other proceedings of Paddle Worldwide must automatically be considered suspended by all Continental Associations and National Federations.

68.6. Any person or entity who/which is subject to any procedure before the Adjudicatory Panel has the right to be heard before any disciplinary or other measures are imposed.

Article 69 - Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

69.1. Any final decision rendered by Paddle Worldwide may be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The seat of arbitration for proceedings before the CAS shall be Lausanne (Switzerland) or Dublin (Ireland), as determined by the applicable rules and regulations of Paddle Worldwide. The language of the proceedings shall be English. The time limit for the appeal to be filed is twenty-one (21) days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal. Any decision taken by CAS will be final and binding on all parties concerned.

Chapter 13 - Finance

Article 70 - Financial period

70.1. The financial, tax and accounting period of Paddle Worldwide shall start on 1st January and end on 31st December each year.

70.2. The revenue and expenditure of Paddle Worldwide shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. Paddle Worldwide's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

70.3. The Secretary General is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of Paddle Worldwide with its subsidiaries as of 31st December.

Article 71 - Auditing of Finances

71.1. Paddle Worldwide must have a professional auditing company appointed by the Congress upon proposal by the Finance Commission.

71.2. The company will audit the accounts of Paddle Worldwide.

71.3. The company will inspect and report on all Paddle Worldwide finances.

71.4. The company will act, if requested by Paddle Worldwide, as a financial adviser to the Executive Committee.

Article 72 - Approval of the annual financial report

72.1. Paddle Worldwide is obliged to accept its annual financial report every year. The acceptance of the financial report falls under the competence of the members of the Congress.

72.2. The members of the Congress may adopt written resolutions via mail or electronic means, i.e. without a formal meeting of the Congress, for the approval of the annual financial report. Decisions made via written decision-making procedure (postal or electronic) have the same value as those made during a meeting of the Congress.

72.3. The Secretary General shall inform the members of the Congress via e-mail about the annual financial report, and the e-mail must contain information regarding the fact that voting about the approval of the annual financial report will take place via electronic means, and the consequences of failure to send the vote within the deadline. The National Federations for the audited accounting period have 15 days to send their written votes to Paddle Worldwide via e-mail. If a member of the Congress does not send its written note within the deadline, the proposal shall automatically be considered as accepted by the member.

Chapter 14 - Competition Rights

Article 73 - Rights in competitions

73.1. Paddle Worldwide, its National Federations and the Continental Associations are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

73.2. The Council shall draw up special regulations regarding the utilisation of such rights.

Chapter 15 - Dissolution

Article 74 - Dissolution

74.1. The dissolution of Paddle Worldwide shall only be valid if carried by four-fifths (4/5) of the votes of National Federations present at an Extraordinary Congress specifically convened for the purpose. Furthermore, a quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the National Federations is necessary.

74.2. If the proposal for dissolution is approved, the Executive Committee shall, after fulfilling all debts and administrative duties, distribute any remaining assets to established charitable sports-related causes.

Chapter 16 - Matters not Covered by the Statutes

Article 75 - Matters not Covered by the Statutes

75.1. All matters not specifically covered by the Statutes and Competition Rules shall be decided by the Executive Committee, subject to ratification by the Council.

Chapter 17 - Definitions

Terms of Reference	Terms of Reference refers to a formal document that defines the purpose, scope, structure, and objectives of each body. It serves as a clear framework outlining its functions, powers and responsibilities. The Paddle Worldwide, Boards, Technical Committees and Commissions and its members shall comply with the applicable Terms of References approved by the Council and all Policies established by the respective competent bodies.
Policy	A Policy lays out specific rules and regulations that must be adhered to throughout the organisation to ensure compliance and consistency in all Paddle Worldwide operations. Essentially, every policy provides a framework for making consistent and principled decisions, ensuring all actions align with the Paddle Worldwide's overarching goals. For clarity and accountability, each Paddle Worldwide Policy must specify: Originator, Implementation Date, Review Date, Approval Authority, and Scope of Application.
Procedure & Forms	Document and form developed by the Paddle Worldwide Administration to apply a policy.
Guidelines	A Guideline is an advisory document and not a rule or regulation.
Paddle Worldwide Administration	The Paddle Worldwide Administration is the responsible administrative and managing body for the day-to-day business of Paddle Worldwide. The Paddle Worldwide Administration is responsible for daily decision-making within Paddle Worldwide, in particular for business, marketing and operational topics.

On behalf of Paddle Worldwide, we confirm that this document contains the new Statutes of Paddle Worldwide, as approved by the Congress, replacing the existing Statutes with effect from the close of Congress on 27 July 2026.

Place and date: _____

President Mr. Thomas Konietzko

Place and date: _____

Secretary General Mr. Richard Pettit