

CONSTITUTION

EUROPEAN DODGEBALL FEDERATION



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1 EDBF OBJECTIVES (Page 2)
Chapter 2 ELIGIBILITY (Page 3)
Chapter 3 AFFILIATION (Page 3)
Chapter 4 ORGANISATION (Page 4)
Chapter 5 CONGRESS (Page 5)
Chapter 6 DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS (Page 7)
Chapter 7 OATH OF OFFICE (Page 8)
Chapter 8 RESOLUTIONS (Page 9)
Chapter 9 VOTING (Page 9)
Chapter 10 ELECTIONS (Page 10)
Chapter 11 HONOURS AND AWARDS (Page 11)
Chapter 12 OFFICIAL EDBF COMPETITIONS (Page 11)
Chapter 13 SUSPENSION OF NFs AND APPEAL PROCEDURES (Page 12)
Chapter 14 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES (Page 13)
Chapter 15 HONORARY MEMBERS (Page 13)

European Dodgeball Federation, Founded, September 2010, London, England

The present Constitution is enacted in accordance with the federation's agreement and has full binding power on the federation's members, National & Regional Organizations, officers, Board of directors and athletes.

CHAPTER 1: OBJECTIVES

1.1 The objectives of the European Dodgeball Federation (EDBF) are:

- (a) to support the aims, ideals and principles of the Olympic movement and to ensure the inclusion of Dodgeball on the program of the Olympic Games;
- (b) to promote and generally advance the sport of Dodgeball in Europe;
- (c) to aid the interests and well-being of its member national federations (NFs);
- (d) to assist NFs to organise and receive recognition by their National Olympic Committee and National Sports Confederation/Council;
- (e) support the aims, ideals and principles of the Education, Culture, Multilingualism & Youth Department of the European Union;
- (f) to ensure that all contests and competitions between NFs, including Regional and Group Championships or Games shall be held under the laws and rules of EDBF;
- (g) support the formation and continuing effective operations of a World Dodgeball Federation.

1.2 To develop a friendly and supportive collaboration by all organisations, their leaders and athletes who participate in sport, thus contributing to the creation of a more peaceful world.

1.3 No discrimination of country or person on grounds of race, religion, sex or politics is allowed in EDBF.

1.4 Dodgeball consists of matches and games played indoors and outdoors, on beaches, grass and hard surfaces.

1.5 Abiding by these fundamentals, EDBF shall:

- (a) exercise the overall direction of its sports within Europe;
- (b) establish Competition Rules and an Operations Manual;
- (c) supervise the strict application of the Constitution, Competition Rules and Operations Manual;
- (d) supervise the preparation for and conducting of its sports on the occasion of official EDBF competitions, including Olympic Games, Regional Games, European Championships, Regional Championships and qualification competitions, it may from time to time determine.
- (e) adopt the IOC Medical Code or its equivalent as an integral part of the EDBF Constitution and Doping Control Rules

1.6 Dodgeball will be developed according to its own specific nature. However the experience and rules of the other sports and variations to recognised Dodgeball games shall be utilised.

1.7 The headquarters of EDBF shall be decided by the Committee of National representatives.

1.8 EDBF is recognised as the European Governing Body for Dodgeball by its NFs

1.9 In this Constitution, words importing the singular number or the masculine gender shall include the plural number or the feminine gender, as the case may be, and vice versa, and references to persons shall include firms and corporations.

1.10 EDBF ensures that all contests and competitions between NFs, including Area and Group Championships or Games, shall be held under the laws and rules of EDBF.

1.11 "Country": means a self-governing geographical area of the world, recognised as such by International Law and Governmental Bodies.

1.12 "Territories": means a geographical territory or region which is not a country, but has certain aspects of self-government, at least to the extent of being autonomous in the control of its sport and which is thus recognised as such by EDBF.

CHAPTER 2: ELIGIBILITY RULES

2.1 Only those competitors who are eligible according to the EDBF eligibility rules are allowed to take part in competitions organised by EDBF or its member national federations. Other than as provided in this clause 2, the eligibility rules are included in the Competition Rules.

2.2 Where an athlete:

(a) wishes to represent an NF other than the NF to which they originally belonged, they must reside in the country of the subsequent NF for at least three years after the date they last represented the original NF in any sanctioned event. This period of residence can be reduced to one year if the two NFs concerned agree, and the Committee of National Representatives of EDBF consents.

(b) holds or is legally entitled to hold citizenship of two or more countries, provided that it is at least three years since the athlete last represented the first NF in any competition, the period of residence may be reduced to one year, if the two NFs concerned agree and if the Committee of National Representatives approves.

CHAPTER 3: AFFILIATION

3.1 EDBF's members are composed of National Federations (NFs) administering Dodgeball in a recognised version of the sport.

(a) The EDBF annual general meeting (Congress) confirms the membership of NFs;

(b) Provisional membership may be granted by the EDBF Council subject to approval of Congress.

(c) Observer status may be granted by the EDBF Council.

3.2 NFs wishing to become members of EDBF shall:

(a) apply for affiliation in writing, declaring that the By-Laws and constitution of EDBF will be strictly observed;

(b) enclose the constitution of their organization. If the constitution is in a language other than English, then a translated version in English will be provided, along with the original version.

(c) be recognised as the NF in their own country. This status will be confirmed by a written letter of recognition sent to the NF by their National Sport Council/Confederation;

(d) NF's must aim to communicate with their NOC, about High Performance activity within their respective Nation;

(e) NFs can apply to become provisional members if their National Sport Council/Confederation has not recognised their NF yet and may qualify by meeting the NF criteria application in points 3.2(a) & (b) and, if accepted by Congress, receive membership status;

(e) pledge to abide by the By-Laws and Constitution of EDBF.

3.3 A country will be represented by one NF only.

3.4 The jurisdiction of NFs shall be limited by the political boundaries of the country or region they represent, but shall however, recognize historical precedent and practice where it exists.

3.5 Immediately after the Congress is opened, the Credentials Committee shall report on the status of the member NFs in attendance.

3.6 Honorary membership can be conferred upon a person who has rendered the EDBF exemplary service.

3.7 A retiring President of the EDBF may be made an Honorary President or Honorary Member.

3.8 The annual fee from each NF member of EDBF shall be paid, in advance, by the 31st of January of each year.

3.9 All member federations shall be required to submit, within the first three months of each year, an annual report which shall include the following information.

- (a) Federation's mail address, email address, telephone, and fax, etc
- (b) List of Officers of the Federation.
- (c) Major Championships and events held during the coming year, including date and location.

3.10 Right to Appeal: All EDBF member NFs suspended or penalised have the right to appeal to the EDBF Committee of National Representatives.

3.11 Where an NF either has not been accepted as an official member of EDBF or has not paid the membership fee;

- (a) they will not be granted delegate status in the EDBF Congress;
- (b) if they are elected Councillors, officers or Committee members of EDBF they will forfeit their positions; and
- (c) Their athletes will not be allowed to participate in the EDBF European Championships, unless decided otherwise by the Committee of National Representatives.

3.12 It is a condition of affiliation that all NFs must include the EDBF Logo, and the words "affiliated to EDBF" or "member of EDBF" in their letterhead.

CHAPTER 4: ORGANISATION

4.1 The Committee of National Representatives (Congress) shall consist of one officer nominated by their NF and additional officers appointed to the EDBF Council. The Committee will meet annually.

4.2 The Executive Council of EDBF (Council) shall be comprised of a President and five (5) Vice-presidents. The Council will meet at least annually and as often as required between the designated annual meetings, which should be every three (3) months when funds are available to cover Council members' expenses. Additional meetings can be a virtual online meeting. The following Committees named in points 4.3 to 4.14 will be elected separately once EDBF has expanded membership to include most nations in Europe and Olympic status has been granted.

4.3 Regional Representatives shall consist of one representative from a country within that region, where no NFs are present.

4.4 Regional Representatives are elected by their Regional NFs, who are themselves members of EDBF and confirmed by Congress.

4.5 Technical Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.6 Medical Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.7 Audit Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.8 Credentials Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.9 Constitution Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.10 Athletes Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.11 Rules & Regulations Committee: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.12 Doping Control Commission: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.13 Coaching, Youth and Education Commission: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.14 Event Organisers' Commission: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

4.15 Physically Challenged Athletes' Commission: shall consist of members of Committee of National Representatives

CHAPTER 5: CONGRESS

5.1 The organisation of EDBF is the following:

- (a) Congress (members)
- (b) Council (President and Vice-Presidents)
- (c) Regional Representatives (for regions of Europe where no single National Federation exists)
- (d) Standing Committees and Commissions will be formed once EDBF has reached the point where these committees are necessary for Olympic recognition. These Committees and Commissions should include the following:

- (i) Technical Committee
- (ii) Medical Committee
- (iii) Audit Committee
- (iv) Constitution Committee
- (v) Credentials Committee
- (vi) Athletes' Committee
- (vii) Beach Dodgeball Committee
- (viii) Outdoor Dodgeball Committee
- (ix) Doping Control Commission
- (x) Coaching and Youth Commission
- (xi) Event Organisers' Commission
- (xii) Physically Challenged Athletes' Commission
- (xiii) Race/Ethnicity Committee
- (xiv) Rules and Regulations Committee

(e) A quorum for all Standing Committees and Commissions shall be one third (1/3) plus one (1) of its members.

(f) The Council shall create these Standing Committees and Commissions and other committees and commissions when it deems necessary.

5.2 Congress:

- (a) Only member NFs who have paid their fees for the current year may take part in the Congress of EDBF;
- (b) Sets the aims of EDBF and decides all matters of common interest to the sport; outlines the budget for the following year;
- (c) Elects the members of the Executive Council and its Standing Committees;
- (d) Confers the title Honorary President and Honorary Members.

5.3 The Organisation of Congress:

- (a) Member NFs shall be represented by one (1) delegate, provided there be male and female representation at the Congress;
- (b) Only those representatives of member NFs in good standing may attend Congress. Those representatives must be of the same nationality as the country or territory they represent, or have been in that country for at least 183 days over the preceding 365 days.
- (c) The members of the Council;
- (d) The members of the Standing Committees and Commissions;
- (e) Regional Representatives;
- (f) Honorary Members;
- (g) Athletes' Representatives
- (h) The Congress is organised annually or bi-annually, generally in connection with the European Championships.
- (i) The invitation to take part in Congress will include the agenda. It will be by electronic and/or ordinary mail at least 60 days before Congress to:

- (i) member NFs;
- (ii) the Council;
- (iii) honorary members;
- (iv) members of Standing Committees and Commissions;
- (v) Provisional member NFs.

5.4 Suggested Congress Agenda:

- (a) Roll-call of NFs;
- (b) Admission of new member NFs;
- (c) Appointment of scrutineers (as required);
- (d) Appointment of tellers (as required);
- (e) Minutes of the last Congress;
- (f) Report of the Audit Committee (once formed);
- (g) Adoption of the Financial Report and the Annual Budget;
- (h) President's Report;
- (i) Report on European Championships;
- (j) Resolutions from the Executive Council;
- (k) Reports from Standing Committees;
- (l) Resolutions from member NFs,
- (m) Elections;
- (n) Appeals;
- (o) Election of Honorary Member(s);
- (p) Old Business;
- (q) New Business;
- (r) Adjournment.

In the absence of consent from the President of the Congress, the agenda may not be extended to other items without the consent of at least two thirds (2/3) of the member NFs present. A quorum consists of one third (1/3) of the member NFs.

5.5 The Council of Directors:

Consists of table officers (president, five vice-presidents, Secretary-General & Treasurer). Council Members are to be elected from any one (1) of the EDBF recognised National or Regional Organisations:

- (a) Delegates the President to handle routine business;
- (b) Carries out decisions made by Congress;
- (c) decides routine matters;
- (d) decides matters referred to it by Congress
- (e) submits resolutions to Congress;

- (f) supervises and gives guidance to the standing committees;
- (g) informs Congress of its opinion concerning resolutions;
- (h) supervises strict application of the constitution;
- (i) charges the standing committees to submit resolutions in their area of expertise;
- (j) Amends the Operations Manual in consultation with the Technical Committee, Medical Committee and Athletes Commission as experience demands, to ensure fair and safe events for athletes.
- (k) Shall communicate at least twice a year, one of which will be on the occasion of the European Championships before Congress.
- (m) A Quorum consists of at least three (3) members of the Board.

5.6 Election of Officers: The election of officers shall take place at Congress for a four year term of office.

Each member NF may withdraw its support to an elected officer of EDBF who is a member of their NF when it deems facts and circumstances justify.

Each member NF will include an arbitration process in their constitution, which includes the right to appeal such decisions. Any officer removed from office by their member NF has the right to appeal to the EDBF Council and, thereafter to the EDBF Congress and thereafter to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

i). The Council (Executive Board of President & Vice-presidents)

(a) The Table Officers (Secretary-General & Treasurer).

(b) The six (6) Executive Members are elected and endorsed by Congress.

(c) No more than two (2) representatives from the same nation shall be elected to the Executive Council.

(d) All candidates for the Council may prepare their personal records and goals they want to achieve for EDBF. EDBF will forward this document to all member NFs prior to Congress.

(e) Standing Committees, once formed, will have their members voted into office at Congress for a one (1) year term.

(f) All Standing Committee Members and Commissions have the right to attend Congress, with voice but no vote.

(g) It is the responsibility of the members of each of the Standing Committees and Commissions to support the efforts of the EDBF to develop dodgeball and its related sports, within the areas of responsibility assigned to them by the Council.

CHAPTER 6: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

6.1 The President:

(a) directs EDBF, calls the meetings of Congress, the Board of directors, and council, and chairs those meetings;

(b) is the spokesperson for EDBF and represents it at all appropriate occasions;

(c) supervises the strict execution of decisions made by Congress and the Executive Council members;

(d) controls the activities of the Executive Council members;

(e) is an ex-officio member of all committees;

(f) is the EDBF representative to the World Dodgeball Association.

6.2 The Vice Presidents:

(a) assist the President in his duties. The President may designate one of the vice-presidents as deputy President in case the President is not able to fulfil his duties replacing the President; he represents the President, and assumes the duties of the President, when absent or when asked to do so by the President.

(b) performs special duties assigned by the President.

(c) shall perform such roles as designated by the Council. This includes the roles of Secretary-

General and Treasurer until such time as these positions are required to be separate positions from those of Vice-president.

6.3 The Secretary-General (this role can be fulfilled by a serving Vice-President until such time as the role is filled by a separate individual):

- (a) organises and is responsible for the office of EDBF;
- (b) shall take charge of correspondence;
- (c) prepares the meetings of EDBF Congress and Board of directors;
- (d) keeps the minutes of meetings of Congress, the Board of directors and Council and preserves and has custody of same;
- (e) is entitled to attend all meetings of juries and committees, without the right to vote;
- (f) shall receive all fees and assessments. Fees collected shall be promptly turned over to the Treasurer;
- (g) shall keep a complete record of members.

6.4 The Treasurer (this role can be fulfilled by a serving Vice-President until such time as the role is filled by a separate individual):

- (a) is responsible for the development of EDBF's financial affairs;
- (b) invests the funds of EDBF, having consulted various financial experts and informed the President;
- (c) collects the revenues and makes payments on behalf of EDBF;
- (d) submits a report to Congress concerning the financial affairs of EDBF;
- (e) keeps separate accounts of the Board of directors and Standing Committee expenses;
- (f) signs, with the President, marketing and sponsorship agreements;
- (g) is entitled to attend all meetings of standing committees and commissions without the right to vote;
- (h) prepares the annual budget with the financial year end of December 31st.

6.5 The Council:

- (a) shall act on assignments and directions as given from time to time by the president;
- (b) appoints pro-tem replacements on the Board of directors and Standing Committees until the next Congress, which will elect the vacated positions. (Where possible, the person with the next highest vote received at previous Congress elections, shall be appointed);
- (c) Shall examine any proposal from member NFs, Committees, or Commissions which are to be discussed at Congress, and to submit such proposals, as they see fit, to Congress, and on any other proposals they may deem desirable;
- (d) Shall make the necessary appointments, including Technical Delegates for the Olympic Games, World Championships and European Championships.
- (e) Shall appoint the official EDBF representative at Regional Games. These representatives shall ensure that EDBF rules are implemented;
- (f) Shall promote a development program for the benefit of member NFs requiring assistance in the training of coaches, officials, etc.

10

- (g) Directors shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Body of their NF. They may also take part in the General Assembly, Congress, or Annual General Meeting of their NF;
- (h) Shall be the interpreter of the EDBF Rules. All matters not provided for under EDBF Rules shall be decided by the Council.

CHAPTER 7: Oath of Office for the EDBF COUNCIL and STANDING COMMITTEES:

7.1 Oath of Office:

The installation of officers shall be conducted by an officer or representative designated by the

President. The oath of office shall be:

"I solemnly promise on my word of honour, to advance the programmes and policies of EDBF. I will faithfully discharge my duties as an officer. I will support By-Laws and Constitution and enforce it to the best of my ability. At the expiration of my term of office, I shall deliver to my successor all EDBF books, papers, money, and other EDBF property in my possession."

CHAPTER 8: RESOLUTIONS

8.1 Resolutions to Congress must be received by the EDBF Headquarters at least 60 days prior to Congress.

8.2 Resolutions must be submitted in writing and be signed by the President/Chairman of the member NF concerned.

8.3 Changes to the By-Laws and Constitution are decided by Congress.

8.4 Resolutions concerning changes to the Constitution must be accompanied by arguments for their justification.

8.5 Resolutions received by EDBF headquarters must be sent by the EDBF Secretariat to all member NFs and members of Standing Committees and Commissions at least 45 days prior to Congress.

8.6 Resolutions not included in the agenda, may only be introduced with the consent of 2/3 of the member NFs present and entitled to vote.

8.7 Resolutions to amend the Competition Rules require a simple majority (50% + 1) of the votes at Congress.

8.8 The Council is responsible for reporting the fate of all resolutions to Congress.

CHAPTER 9: VOTING

9.1 Right to Vote:

- (a) Congress: each member NF and RO = one (1) vote, Athletes Committee one (1) vote;
- (b) Executive Council Meetings: each executive member = one (1) vote;
- (c) General Council Meetings: Secretary-General, Treasurer and each council member = one (1) vote;
- (d) Standing Committee and Commission Meetings: each member = one (1) vote.

9.2 Voice / No Vote: Those entitled to attend Congress without the right to vote may express their opinion on any matter on the agenda, provided they are recognized by the President: i.e., Provisional member NFs, Honorary Members, members of the Board of directors, Council Members, Commission Members.

9.3 Voting Procedures:

(a) A two-thirds (2/3) majority, of member NFs and ROs in good standing, is required to pass resolutions concerning:

- (i) changes to the By-Laws and the Constitution;
- (ii) sanctions against member NFs, ROs, athletes, or officers;
- (iii) election of honorary members;
- (iv) changes to the agenda.

(b) To determine the required majority, abstentions, blanks or spoilt ballots shall not be taken into consideration.

(c) The dissolution of EDBF requires a three-quarter (75%) majority vote in favour of such a resolution at two (2) successive meetings of Congress. Any funds remaining with the organisation after a final accounting shall be remitted to the IOC Solidarity fund.

- (d) A simple majority is enough to carry all other resolutions.
- (e) The EDBF President, (or Vice President in the absence of the President, or Chair,) has the right to cast a deciding vote at Congress in the case of a tie.
- (f) In the case of a tie in any Committee, the motion is lost.
- (g) Voting is conducted at Congress by;
 - (i) Voice, or
 - (ii) voting card, or
 - (iii) secret ballot (if a simple majority of member NFs decide it is necessary).
- (h) Postal / fax / email votes may be organised whenever necessary within the Council and the Standing Committees and Commissions.
- (i) Election of officers will be conducted by secret ballot.

9.4 There shall be no proxy votes at meetings of EDBF Congress, committees, commissions or Council.

CHAPTER 10: ELECTIONS

10.1 The President and all Vice-Presidents are elected for a period of four years, beginning 30 days after the day of election. All other officers and members of standing committees are elected for a period of two years. Members of the Audit Committee will be elected for a period of one (1) year and they will take up their elected positions immediately.

10.2 The elections will take place at the Congress held at the European Championships.

10.3 A person may hold only one office in EDBF.

10.4 The order of elections at the Congress is:

1. President
2. Vice Presidents
3. Secretary General
4. Treasurer
5. Members of the Technical, Rules and Regulations, Medical, Women's, Constitutional, Credentials and Audit Committees, (note: The Audit Committee is elected for one (1) year only.), Athletes Committee (note: The Athletes Committee is elected at a special meeting of their peers at the European Championships for two (2) years.
6. Honorary President and Honorary Members (if applicable)

10.5 All candidates for election must:

- (a) be recognized by their NF of citizenship or residence, which is a member of EDBF in good standing;
- (b) be individuals at least 18 years of age, and have the power under law to enter into contract.
- (c) hand in their personal records and the goals they want to achieve for EDBF. The records must be distributed to all member NFs before Congress.
- (d) to any Standing Committee:
 - (i) must be a member of an NF which is a member of EDBF in good standing; and
 - (ii) may stand for election at Congress.
- (e) to a position as a Table Officer:
 - (i) must hand in their personal records and the goals they want to achieve for EDBF. The records must be distributed to all member NFs before Congress
- (f) Candidates for office must be a citizen of the country nominating him or her or must have resided in that country for at least 183 days over the preceding 365 days.

10.6 If necessary, elections to fill vacancies will be conducted:

- (a) at the next Congress;
- (b) at an Extraordinary meeting of Congress which has been called when very important and urgent matters must be decided if at least 66% of member NFs in good standing request such a meeting.

10.7 The officer election procedures are:

- (a) more than 50% of the votes cast is required to be elected;
- (b) if no candidate receives more than 50% of votes, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated.
- (c) Consecutive ballots shall be organised until the election is decided.
- (d) if there is a tie, the person conducting the election will cast the deciding vote, provided that person is not a candidate.

10.8 All other Parliamentary questions not contained in the Constitution shall be decided by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

CHAPTER 11: HONOURS AND AWARDS

11.1 Medals: EDBF has ordained various medals for its International Championships.

11.2 EDBF has ordained a Medal of Honour.

- (a) This medal may be conferred to a person who has merited such a distinction. The Congress may confer honorary medals to persons proposed by the Council.
- (b) The award may also be proposed by a member NF. The proposal must be accompanied by a merit report. The medal of honour may be awarded to a person who has contributed, to a remarkable degree, to the international development of dodgeball and EDBF's related sports.
- (c) The medal of honour will be presented at Congress.

11.3 Honorary membership may be conferred upon a person who has rendered EDBF important services.

- (a) Honorary membership will be decided by Congress, recommendations being submitted by the Council.
- (b) Congress may confer the title of Honorary President to a retiring President of EDBF
- (c) Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members will be invited to attend Congress.

CHAPTER 12: OFFICIAL EDBF COMPETITIONS

12.1 Official Competitions: European Championships, Olympic games, Commonwealth Games, Regional Championships and qualifying competitions are EDBF competitions. These events will be controlled by EDBF Technical Delegates.

12.2 All member NFs in good standing will be invited to take part in EDBF competitions.

12.3 At the following International events, the rules and regulations of EDBF will apply:

- (a) Olympic Games and Olympic Qualifying competitions;
- (b) Commonwealth Games and qualifying competitions;
- (c) World Dodgeball Championships and qualifying competitions;
- (d) European Championships;
- (e) UK Home Nations Championships;

- (f) EDBF Regional Championships;
- (g) European University Championships;
- (h) Regional European competitions;
- (i) Any other competition played between EDBF members NFs.

CHAPTER 13: SUSPENSION OF NFs, ROs AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

Any dispute, any controversy or claim arising under, out of, or relating to this constitution or any subsequent amendments of or in relation to this constitution, including but not limited to, its formation, validity and binding effect, interpretation, performance, breach or termination, as well as non-contractual claims, shall be submitted to mediation in accordance with the CAS Mediation Rules. The language to be used in the mediation shall be English.

Where a settlement of the dispute is not reached within 90 days of the commencement of the mediation, or if, before the expiration of the said period either party fails to participate in the mediation, the dispute shall, upon the filing of a request of Arbitration by either party, be referred to and finally settled by CAS arbitration pursuant to the Code of Sports related Arbitration. When the circumstances so require, the mediator may, at his own discretion or at the request of a party, seek an extension of the time limit from the CAS President.

13.1 A member NF/RO in violation of the EDBF By-Law or Constitution and / or its policies will be penalized according to the gravity of the violation. An NF/RO loses all rights during the period of suspension, i.e., the right to submit resolutions, to take part in meetings and to enter competitors in EDBF competitions, and competitions organised by member NFs or ROs, unless otherwise decided by the Board of directors.

13.2 A member NF/RO in violation of the constitution and / or policies which continues to do so after having been previously warned or suspended, may be expelled from EDBF.

13.3 Disputes between EDBF and one or several of its members which are not settled by a decision of EDBF, may be submitted for arbitration by either of the parties to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) (Lausanne), Switzerland, to the exclusion of any other domestic tribunal. Any decision taken by the said court shall be without appeal or recourse to ordinary courts, and is binding on the parties concerned.

13.4 The Executive Council shall have the following powers:

- (a) to suspend NFs or ROs or to modify its membership to provisional status until the next meeting of Congress
- (b) to suspend NFs or ROs from International events, until the next meeting of Congress
- (c) to caution or censure an NF/RO;
- (d) to reinstate an NF/RO which was previously suspended.

13.5 Before the Executive Council may use its power of suspension, the NF/RO must have been sent notice in writing of the alleged infringement, at least one month before the next Council meeting, at which the NF will be afforded a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

13.6 The Congress shall have the following powers:

- (a) to suspend an NF/RO from membership for a fixed period, or until a specified set of circumstances cease to exist;
- (b) to suspend an NF/RO from any one or more types of International events for a fixed period or until a specified set of circumstances cease to exist;
- (c) to caution or censure an NF/RO;
- (d) to reinstate an NF/RO which has been suspended before the end of the period or before the set of circumstances specified have ceased to exist.

13.7 Unresolved disputes between an NF and the Executive Council or Congress howsoever arising, shall be submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for final and binding determination, to the exclusion of any other domestic tribunal.

13.8 Each NF/RO shall incorporate in its constitution a provision that all disputes between that NF/RO and an athlete and EDBF shall be submitted to final arbitration before the Court of arbitration for Sport (CAS). In the case of a dispute between an NF/RO and an athlete, this dispute should be submitted to an arbitration panel constituted by the NF or RO. In the case of a dispute between an athlete and EDBF, this dispute may be submitted directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

13.9 All legal questions concerning EDBF contracts and other parties will be referred to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). All contracts signed by EDBF must contain a provision to this effect.

CHAPTER 14: OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

14.1 English is the official language of EDBF.

14.2 Other languages are accepted provided the person concerned retains an interpreter at their NF's own cost.

14.3 English will be a working language of the EDBF Congress.

CHAPTER 15: HONORARY MEMBERS

15.1 Persons Awarded Honorary Membership, with date of confirmation will be listed here: