



# CONSTITUTION

# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUAYTHAI ASSOCIATIONS (IFMA)

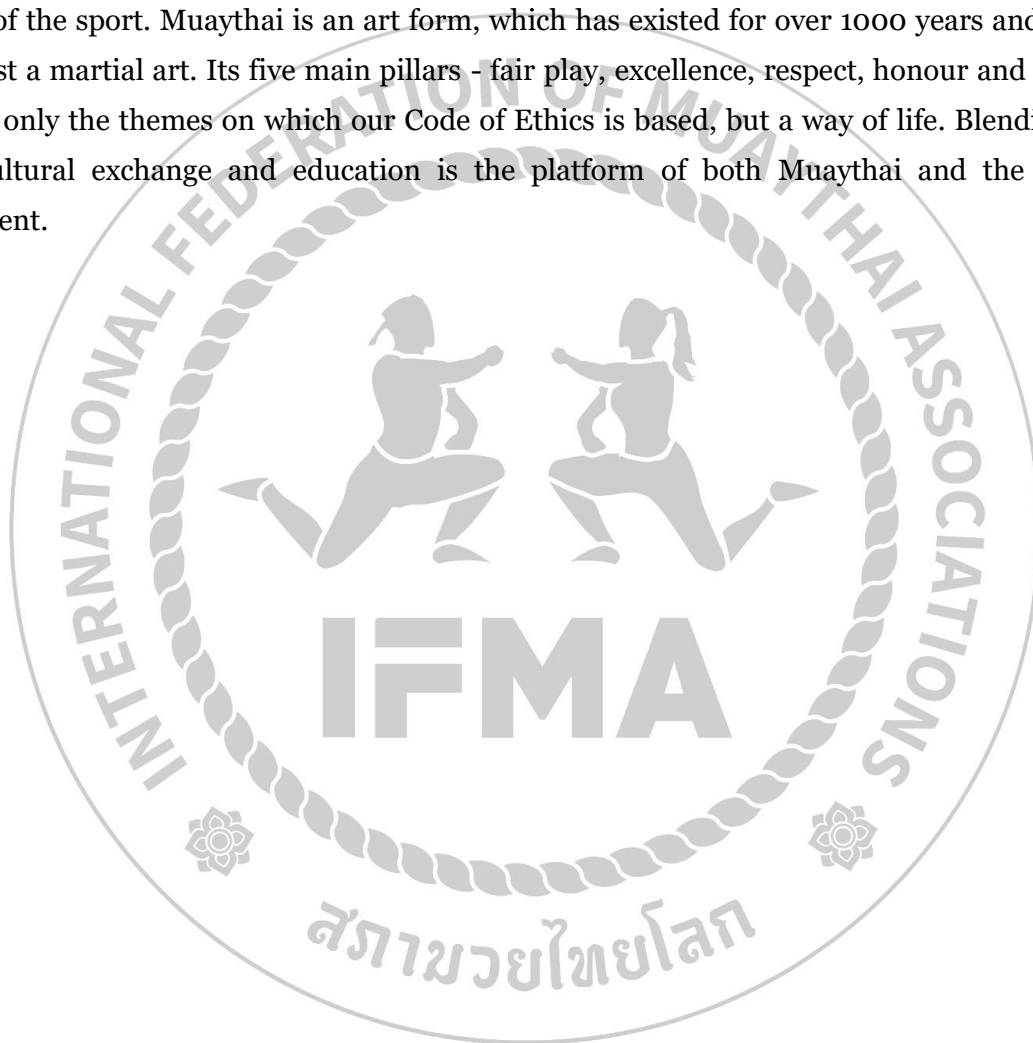
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE.....	2
ARTICLE 1. TITLE AND INTRODUCTION. ....	3
ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES.....	5
ARTICLE 3. THE CONGRESS.....	6
ARTICLE 4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.....	8
ARTICLE 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. ....	14
ARTICLE 6. HONORARY MEMBERS.....	15
ARTICLE 7. CONTINENTAL ASSOCIATIONS. ....	16
ARTICLE 8. ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS AND/OR COMMITTEES.....	17
ARTICLE 9. OFFICE BEARERS.....	30
ARTICLE 10. IFMA OFFICE.....	32
ARTICLE 11. IFMA EXPENSES.....	33
ARTICLE 12. APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION AND ENTRANCE FEE. ....	34
ARTICLE 13. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.....	35
ARTICLE 14. UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.....	36
ARTICLE 15. MEMBERSHIP OF AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION.....	37
ARTICLE 16. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE IN MUAYTHAI, MUAY, MUAY BOXING, THAI BOXING, MUAY BORAN, KRABI KRABONG, MUAY TALAY, MUAY FITNESS AND ITS DERIVATIVES AND ANY OTHER STYLE. ....	38
ARTICLE 17. INTERNATIONAL INTER-CLUB TOURNAMENT.....	40
ARTICLE 18. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.....	41
ARTICLE 19. WORLD CHAMPION.....	42
ARTICLE 20. IFMA TELEVISION AND MARKETING RIGHTS. ....	43
ARTICLE 21. WORLD OR CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GOVERNING RULES. ....	44
ARTICLE 23. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS OR CHAMPIONSHIPS PROMOTED BY AN AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION CONDITIONS. ....	45
ARTICLE 23. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT. ....	47
ARTICLE 24. INTER-NATION TOURNAMENT. ....	48
ARTICLE 25. DISCIPLINARY ACTION.....	49
ARTICLE 26. ALTERATION OF ARTICLES OR RULES.....	53
ARTICLE 27. ADVERTISING.....	54
ARTICLE 28. WITHDRAWAL BY MEANS OF PROTEST.....	55
ARTICLE 29. COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS).....	56

## **PREAMBLE**

Muaythai, also known as the science of eight limbs, is a unique combat sport and martial art form. Participation in Muaythai is a human right, IFMA's Mission and Vision states, that everyone, who chooses to, must have the possibility of participation without discrimination of any kind, and in the spirit of solidarity all are welcome to practice and participate in any form or aspect of the sport. Muaythai is an art form, which has existed for over 1000 years and is more than just a martial art. Its five main pillars - fair play, excellence, respect, honour and tradition are not only the themes on which our Code of Ethics is based, but a way of life. Blending sport with cultural exchange and education is the platform of both Muaythai and the Olympic Movement.



## **ARTICLE 1. TITLE AND INTRODUCTION.**

### **1.1 Title.**

The title of the International Federation shall be the “International Federation of Muaythai Associations” abbreviated as “IFMA”.

### **1.2 Emblem.**

The emblem of the International Federation reflects two Muaythai athletes – male and female in the position of “Wai Kru”<sup>1</sup> over the abbreviation “IFMA” (International Federation of Muaythai Associations) and the abbreviation “WMC” (World Muaythai Council) in Thai language.

### **1.3 Affiliation.**

IFMA is a non-profit international organization organized as a Swiss association under Swiss law, comprising the National Muaythai Associations of all countries, which have a national governing body controlling Muaythai, and which agreed to abide by the Articles herein contained, to become affiliated members. The IFMA Headquarters shall accordingly be situated at the situs of choice of the Ad-Hoc Committee in line with the registration of jurisdiction aforestated insofar as it is practicable and/or beneficial.

Only one National Association shall represent a country in IFMA. If two (2) or more associations within the country claim representative status, such status shall be granted to the National Association, which is recognized by the country’s highest government sport organization as the only representing Muaythai. If there is no such recognition, the status shall be awarded to the National Association, which is recognized by IFMA as the National Muaythai Association.

A National Association affiliated to IFMA may not be affiliated with any other organization not recognized by IFMA.

Affiliation will not be granted to any Association, which purports to represent both Muaythai or any other sport not recognized by within the Olympic Movement.

### **1.4 Official Language.**

The official language of the IFMA is English. All official documents of IFMA must be published in the English language. Congresses, meetings, and sessions must be held in the English

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<sup>1</sup> “Wai Kru” is a ritual performed by participants before fighting in muaythai competitions

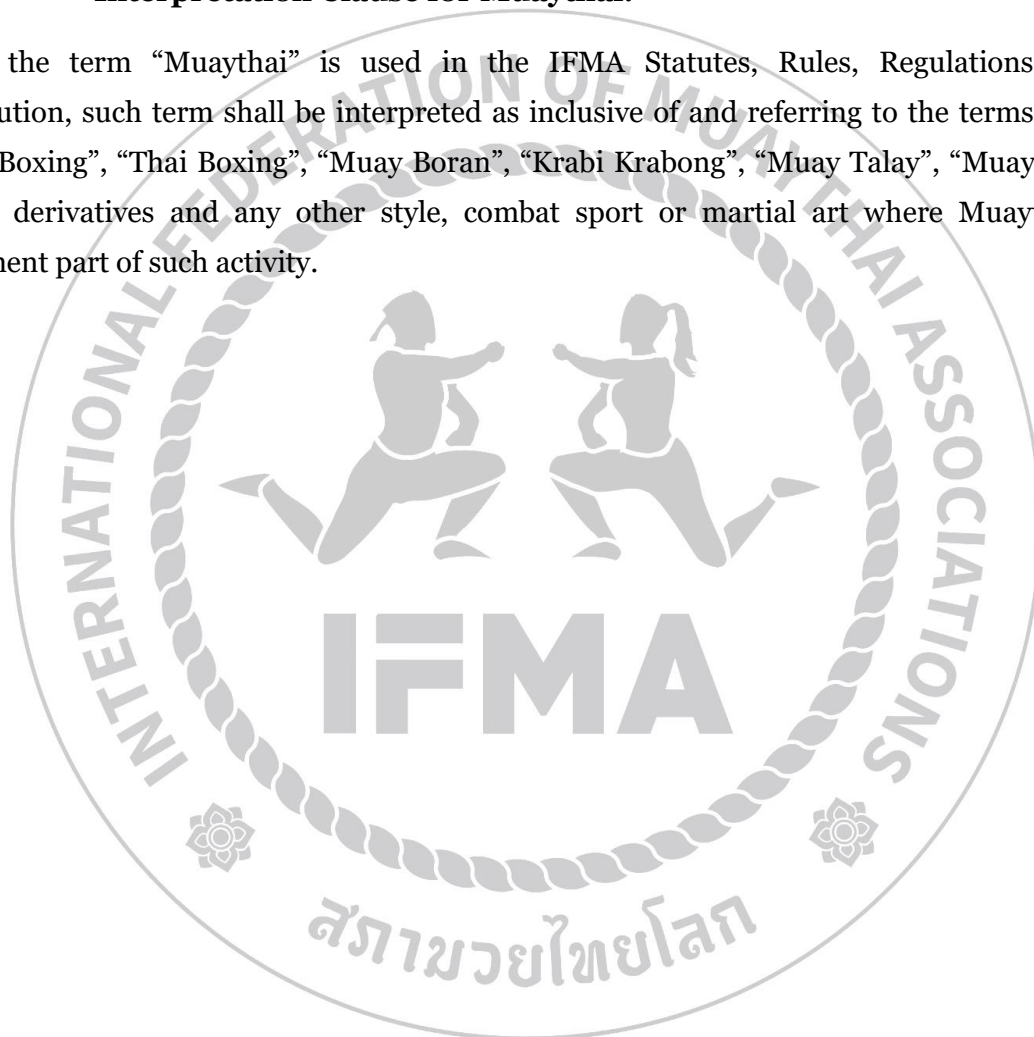
language. IFMA may direct that other languages be used as a means for communication, where appropriate.

### **1.5 Governance.**

IFMA in compliance shall adopt the IOC Code of Ethics, Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement 1-7.<sup>2</sup>

### **1.6 Interpretation Clause for Muaythai.**

Where the term “Muaythai” is used in the IFMA Statutes, Rules, Regulations or this Constitution, such term shall be interpreted as inclusive of and referring to the terms “Muay”, “Muay Boxing”, “Thai Boxing”, “Muay Boran”, “Krabi Krabong”, “Muay Talay”, “Muay Fitness” and its derivatives and any other style, combat sport or martial art where Muaythai is a component part of such activity.



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<sup>2</sup> <https://olympics.com/ioc/code-of-ethics>

## **ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES.**

The Objectives of the International Federation of Muaythai Associations shall be:

1. To promote cordial and friendly relations between its members, and to supervise Muaythai activities throughout the world.
2. To frame the regulations under which international championships and competitions shall be organised.
3. To organise, in collaboration with National Associations, the IFMA events and Muaythai competitions for international events. The right to organise the World Championships and international events will only be granted to countries able to grant entry into their territory for participants of member countries wishing to participate.
4. To ensure all international competitions open to the affiliated Associations are organised and held under the Rules of IFMA.
5. To ensure that no discrimination occurs against any country or person on grounds of race, religion, or political affiliation.
6. To promote mutual respect among affiliated National Associations in their relations and the reciprocal recognition of penalties and suspensions.
7. To ensure that the income and property of the IFMA is applied towards the promotion of the objectives of the IFMA following the principles of transparency and good governance.
8. To encourage and improve the proficiency of the Muaythai technical groups and officials, trainers and coaches.
9. To support and maintain objectives of the Olympic Movement. To promote and encourage all aspects of Olympism as stated in the Olympic Charter, in particular, the recognition, that the practice of sport is a human right and every individual shall have the possibility of practicing sport without discrimination of any kind and these rights and freedom, as set forth in the Olympic Charter, shall be secured without discrimination of any kind, such as race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
10. To adopt, develop and ensure compliance in the areas of integrity and social responsibility considering and recognizing the provisions of the mission and role of the IOC as stated in the Olympic Charter.

## **ARTICLE 3. THE CONGRESS.**

### **3.1 Authority.**

The International Federation of Muaythai Associations shall be governed by the Congress thereof.

### **3.2 Quorum.**

A Quorum at Congress shall consist of not less than 50% plus one of the voting members of IFMA, either in-person or remote attendance.

### **3.3 Notice of Appointment.**

Notice of appointment of delegates shall be handed prior to the commencement of the Congress to the Commission of Scrutineers for the assessment of mandates. Such notifications must be signed by the President and General Secretary of the affiliated National Associations.

### **3.4 Representation.**

The Congress shall consist of IFMA's President, Secretary General, Vice Presidents and other Executive Committee members, and the delegates of the affiliated National Associations. Each affiliated National Association may be represented by not more than three (3) delegates, but only one (1) shall be entitled to vote at the Congress. Every delegate shall be a member of and authorized by the Association he represents. A member shall not be less than 21 years of age and shall not represent any other affiliated National Association. A Member of the Executive Committee shall not be entitled to a separate at the Congress in their capacity as such member.

### **3.5 Commission of Scrutineers.**

The Congress will appoint a Commission of Scrutineers consisting of the Head of IFMA office and four (4) other delegates on questions of voting and elections. Candidates for election cannot be members of this Commission. The Commission of Scrutineers informs the Congress on members' good standing and entitlement to vote.

### **3.6 Adoption of new Articles and Rules.**

IFMA Constitution Articles, Rules and Bylaws adopted by the Congress shall come into effect one (1) calendar month following the date of Congress, and/or at the earliest opportunity available, and cannot be changed until the next Congress.

### **3.7 Ordinary Congress.**

1. Time:

A meeting of the Ordinary Congress of the IFMA shall be held every year.

2. Venue:

Nations desiring to host a Congress will submit a proposal two (2) years before the next Congress. The Executive Committee will decide the venue and the date of the forthcoming Congress not less than one (1) year prior and shall notify the affiliated National Associations.

3. Notices of Motion and Nominations of Office Bearers:

Notices of Motion and nominations of officers for election to the Executive Committee shall be sent by any reliable means so as to be received by the IFMA office not later than three (3) months before the date of the Congress. Notices of Motion shall be considered by the Executive Committee, who will include them into the Agenda only in case it considers them sufficiently important for the discussion. In the event of the death or withdrawal before Congress of a Member nominated for election, his or her National Association shall be entitled to substitute the name to another candidate from its Association.

### **3.8 Extraordinary Congress.**

1. In addition to the Ordinary Congress, an Extraordinary Congress may be called by the Executive Committee or if 20% of the affiliated National Associations shall present a demand to the IFMA office by registered post or courier. In the latter case, such demand shall state the reason for the convening of such Extraordinary Congress and specify the proposed Agenda of such Extraordinary Congress, as well as proposed Notices of Motion. When the Secretary General receives such a demand, he shall call an Extraordinary Congress within a period not exceeding four (4) months from the date of receiving the demand with immediate notification of all affiliated National Associations. The venue and the actual date shall be set by the Executive Committee.
2. No other matters except mentioned in the demand and/or authorized by the Executive Committee may be included in the agenda.
3. The Secretary General shall send notification of matters indicated in the Agenda to affiliated National Associations three (3) months before the date of Congress.



## **ARTICLE 4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

### **4.1 Authority.**

During the period between Congresses, apart from any Ad-Hoc Management Committee so formed, the highest executive body of the IFMA shall be the Executive Committee. The rights and duties of the Executive Committee are set out in this Article. In the event the overall policy and/or decision decided by the Executive Committee differs from any bylaws, the former will prevail.

In the intervals between Congresses, the Executive Committee and its Vice Presidents Bureau shall transact the business of the IFMA. It shall render reports to each Congress and shall carry out the decisions made by each Congress and the duties laid down by the Articles and Rules of IFMA. During the period between the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Vice Presidents Bureau shall act as necessary at its bi-annual meeting. It shall report its actions to the Executive Committee, who may confirm or modify the action.

In between meetings of the IFMA Executive Committee or Vice Presidents Bureau, the President shall act for IFMA as necessary. If the action specifically involves a Continent or one of the IFMA Commissions, the President shall liaise beforehand with the President of involved Continent or the Chairman of the Commission concerned about the action to be taken. If not practical to give advance notice, the President shall inform the Continent or Commission concerned as soon as practical. Actions other than normal routine will be reported to the Executive Committee for approval.

### **4.2 Composition.**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, seven (7) Vice Presidents, the Secretary General, Treasurer, fifteen (15) members, who shall be elected as representatives of the different Continents, as set out below and five (5) additional members to be nominated at the discretion of the President. The Executive Committee shall also consist of one (1) representative each from the Youth Commission, Gender Equality Commission, Technical Commission, Ethics Commission, Legal Commission and Medical Commission; and two (2) representatives (one female, one male) from the Athletes Commission. All Commissions have only a singular vote.

Each member of the Executive Committee shall belong to a different National Association, with the exception to the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, as well as the additional members may belong to an Association, which may also have a Vice President on the Executive

Committee, provided that in no case shall it ever be possible for any one Association to have more than four (4) members on the Executive Committee. Each National Association shall have only one (1) vote on the Executive Committee of IFMA. All commissions can be represented by a single member for each commission. In compliance with the Olympic Principle of Gender Equality, every effort must be made to ensure that the composition of the Executive Committee shall comprise of eight (8) women members of a minimum.

The Executive Committee carries out its activities on a voluntary basis and is entitled to reimbursement of its actual expenses.

#### **4.3. Duties of the Executive Committee.**

1. To observe the Articles and Rules. To make decisions in case of emergency, and where necessary to put such decisions into effect. Such decisions and actions are to be reported to the next Congress for approval.
2. To decide upon the affiliation to the IFMA of any unaffiliated Association.
3. To decide any dispute that may occur between affiliated National Associations, if called upon to do so. In case any affiliated National Association does not agree with the decision or recommendation of the IFMA Executive Committee, the dispute shall be considered at the next Congress.
4. To consider any matter referred to by the IFMA Congress or by any Bureau of the Executive Committee.
5. To give a ruling on any matter pertaining to the rules of the IFMA that may be referred to by any Association or Bureau, such ruling to be acted upon until the next Congress and subsequently, unless rejected by Congress.
6. To put motions before the IFMA Congress at any time if the Executive Committee thinks it desirable to do so.
7. To issue the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee as soon as convenient, and to forward copies to affiliated National Associations.
8. To arrange the organization of all matters concerning World Championships and Challenge matches, and to control, through its Continental Bureau, other international championships. Additionally, to appoint at least one (1) technical delegate to supervise the technical arrangements for the abovementioned championships.
9. To maintain a list of recognised Referees and Judges who are qualified to officiate at the World Championships and other international competitions.

10. To select a Jury for the World Championships, Challenge matches and other competitions.
11. At its first meeting after each Ordinary Congress, to appoint members to the Standing Commissions who shall remain in office until the next Ordinary Congress.
12. To appoint the IFMA Sports Director to a seat on the Executive Committee, such seat to be empowered with all rights and duties of an Executive Committee Member. Such appointments shall be exclusive and non-transferrable.
13. Work in close contact with those organizations and individuals with whom IFMA has working agreements or contracts.

#### **4.4. Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC).**

1. The AHMC shall consist of nine – thirteen (9-13) members selected from members within the Executive Committee by the Executive Committee. A representative of the Athletes Commission shall also be selected to sit as a committee member of the AHMC. The AHMC shall comprise of a chairman, two (2) Vice Chairmen and ten (10) Committee Members. The concept of gender equality applies “*pari passu*”<sup>3</sup> to such composition of the AHMC.
2. Duties of such AHMC shall be allocated for specific duties and roles in relation to projects, events, campaigns and/or all relevant IFMA functions.
3. The AHMC shall report directly to the IFMA President or Secretary General or Director on its activities and report all decisions to the relevant parties.

#### **4.5. Terms of office.**

The President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the Executive Committee shall be elected at an Ordinary Congress for a term of four (4) years.

#### **4.6. Vacancies.**

If any vacancy arises in the Executive Committee through the death of a member or as a result of a member’s resignation, it shall be filled by the Executive Committee. In the event of withdrawal, suspension or expulsion by his affiliated National Association, and/or if a Member fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee without any valid reasons as determined by the Executive Committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Committee from a member belonging to any affiliated National Association in the continent

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<sup>3</sup> Meaning, “in equal footing”

concerned, at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Should the vacancy be for the position of President, the Interim President shall be the Senior Vice President as a first option, and nominated by vote of the Vice Presidents, and he/she shall serve until the next Congress when the Congress will elect the President.

#### **4.7. Elections.**

##### **1. Nominations:**

The election of the Vice Presidents and members of the Executive Committee representing the affiliated National Associations of AFRICA, AMERICAS, ASIA, EUROPE, and OCEANIA shall be from among the candidates nominated by the National Associations of the respective continents. Every candidate for election to the Executive Committee must be a member of one of the affiliated National Associations and, except in the case of the President, must be nominated by respective Association. An Association may nominate a candidate from any Association within its continent, who must also be nominated by the candidate's Association in order to be eligible. It is permissible to nominate one candidate to several offices in the Executive Committee. In this case, the National Association, which makes such nomination shall indicate in its nomination that its candidate, if not elected, e.g., as President, is being nominated for election to the office of, e.g., a Vice President, and if not elected to this office is being nominated for election, e.g., as a member of the Executive Committee. A nominated candidate may not be elected to more than one position.

##### **2. Order:**

The Executive Committee of the IFMA shall be included/be elected in the following order:

1. The President – who shall be nominated by and elected from any affiliated National Association of any part of the world. In case the elected President is not a Thai national, one of the elected Vice Presidents must be a representative of the National Associations of Thailand.
2. The Secretary General – who shall be nominated and elected by any affiliated National Association and shall not belong to the same continent as the President.
3. The Treasurer – who shall be nominated and elected by any affiliated National Association.
4. All the Continental Presidents shall be duly nominated and appointed as Vice Presidents of the Executive Committee:
  - The Asian Continental President.

- The European Continental President.
- The African Continental President.
- The Pan-American Continental President.
- The Oceania Continental President.

**General and Supplementary:**

5. Fifteen (15) Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Congress.
6. One (1) supplementary member nominated and elected to be Vice President by the Executive Committee.
7. One (1) supplementary member from the World Muaythai Council (WMC) nominated and appointed to be Vice President by the Executive Committee plus one (1) Executive Board Member.
8. One (1) representative each nominated and elected from the Youth Commission, Gender Equality Commission, Technical Commission, Ethics Commission, Legal Commission and Medical Commission.
9. Two (2) representatives (one male, one female) nominated from the Athletes Commission. The Athletes Commission has only a singular vote.
10. Five (5) supplementary members may additionally be appointed by the Ad-Hoc Commission and approved by the President.

**3. Procedures:**

Where an individual and a group of individuals are to be elected, relative majorities shall be sufficient, and the appropriate number of candidates polling the highest number of votes shall be elected according to the number of vacancies to be filled. In any case where a ballot is necessary, it shall be a written ballot.

**4.8 Vice Presidents Bureau.**

The IFMA Bureau of the Vice Presidents shall be comprised of the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and seven (7) Vice Presidents. The IFMA Bureau of the Vice Presidents shall hold its meetings at least twice a year and shall conduct the current business of the IFMA and implement the decisions taken by the IFMA Executive Committee as a whole.

**4.9 Continental Bureaus.**

Each Continent shall have a Bureau comprised of the President of the Continent and the elected members of the Executive Committee from that continent. The Continental Bureau shall assist

the Executive Committee in the administration of the Continental Federation and advise the Continental Federation in relation to IFMA matters. All decisions of the Continental Bureaus shall be subject to approval by IFMA Executive Committee, and it retains the right of veto for any decisions made by the Continental Bureaus.



## **ARTICLE 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.**

### **5.1 Frequency.**

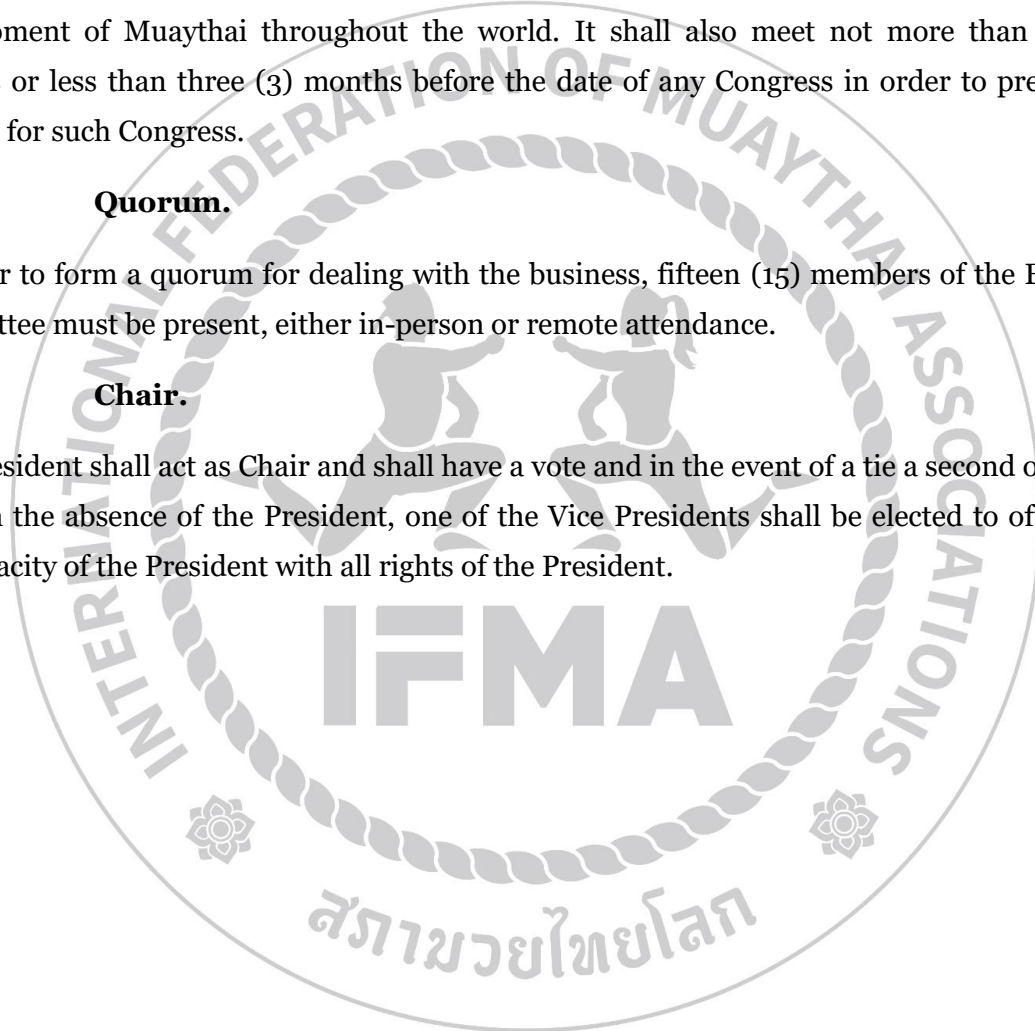
IFMA Executive Committee and Commissions shall hold their meetings once a year, and more often if a minimum of eleven (11) members so desire and request the Secretary General to call a meeting, to consider general matters concerning the activities of the Association and the development of Muaythai throughout the world. It shall also meet not more than four (4) months or less than three (3) months before the date of any Congress in order to prepare the Agenda for such Congress.

### **5.2 Quorum.**

In order to form a quorum for dealing with the business, fifteen (15) members of the Executive Committee must be present, either in-person or remote attendance.

### **5.3 Chair.**

The President shall act as Chair and shall have a vote and in the event of a tie a second or casting vote. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice Presidents shall be elected to officiate in the capacity of the President with all rights of the President.



## **ARTICLE 6. HONORARY MEMBERS.**

### **6.1 Honorary Members.**

In order to reward exceptional merit in or service to the development and advancement of international Muaythai, and upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Congress shall be entitled to elect Honorary Member/s who may attend and speak, but not vote, at meetings of the Congress, unless representing their National Association as a delegate in which case normal rights shall apply. The name/s of the person/s to be considered for election as Honorary Member/s will be notified to the affiliated Associations three (3) months before the date of Congress. The election will be conducted in the same manner as other elections at the Congress. The Congress may, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, terminate any honorary membership.

### **6.2 Honorary Life President.**

The Congress may confer the title of Honorary Life President of IFMA which, once accorded by the Congress shall be retained by those so honored until the Executive Committee elects otherwise.

### **6.3 Honorary Vice President.**

The Congress may confer the title of Honorary President of IFMA which, once accorded by the Executive Board shall be retained by those so honored for one term of office.

### **6.4 Honorary Life Vice President.**

The title of Honorary Life Vice President may be designated by the Executive Board to an IFMA Vice President who has functioned for at least three (3) terms of office with twelve (12) consecutive years of service.



## **ARTICLE 7. CONTINENTAL ASSOCIATIONS.**

### **7.1 Composition.**

The Executive Committee of IFMA shall recognize as the governing body one (1) Continental Association in each Continent, which must observe the Rules and Constitution of IFMA and organise on this basis its activities for the promotion of Muaythai. The recognized body must work under the guidance of the Executive Committee of IFMA and must follow all its directives in accordance with the IFMA Constitution Articles and Rules. Members of the Continental Association must be National Associations affiliated to IFMA.



## **ARTICLE 8. ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS AND/OR COMMITTEES.**

### **8.1 Special Commissions.**

The President at his discretion or on the advice of the Secretary General may appoint a special Commission or an advisor with Vice President status for a special purpose. The composition of such Commission may be made up of IFMA members, individuals from the public sector, or a combination of the above. Each member of such Special Commissions shall have voice and vote at commission meetings.

### **8.2 Composition.**

The composition of the Commissions shall be decided by the Executive Committee of IFMA. The principle of continental equality in the formation of all commissions shall be taken into consideration. Each Commission shall have at least six (6), but not more than twelve (12); with the exception of the Culture and Heritage Commission.

The President may appoint members from the public sector who are experts on various Commissions. Such a member shall be designated a special member with voice, and with vote.

### **8.3 Chair.**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Secretary of each Commission shall be selected and appointed by their respective commission members. The following commissions shall be formed:

- The Technical and Rules Commission;
- The Refereeing and Judging Commission;
- The Medical Commission;
- The Finance Commission;
- The Youth Commission;
- The Gender Equality Commission;
- The Press and Public Relations Commission;
- The Business Commission;
- The Legal Commission;
- The Athletes Commission;
- The Ethics Commission;

- The Entourage Commission;
- The Muaythai Education Commission;
- The Sport and Active Society Commission;
- The Professional Commission;
- The Culture and Heritage Commission;

#### **8.4 Reports.**

The above Commissions shall all base their activities on annual and four-year working programs to be submitted to the Executive Committee at the first Executive Committee Annual Meeting following the Congress. The Commissions shall render reports to the Executive Committee so as to keep the latter informed as to their activities and shall be subject to the directions of the Executive Committee.

#### **8.5 Commissions.**

##### **1. Technical and Rules Commissions.**

###### **A. Composition:**

The Technical and Rules Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

###### **B. Duties:**

1. The Technical and Rules Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA and the Continental Bureau on questions relating to the observance of the Article and Rules of IFMA.
2. It shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the organization and technical aspects in connection with the staging of International Championships and World Championships and in these matters, it shall work closely with the other Commissions.
3. With a view to ensuring a continuous development of Muaythai, the Technical and Rules Commission shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to the amendment of the Articles and Rules.
4. It shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the promotion of Muaythai techniques to the affiliated National Associations.

###### **C. Technical Delegates:**

A Member of the Technical and Rules Commission should always be one of the Technical Delegates to the World Championships, and Challenge matches.

D. One member of the Technical Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **2. Refereeing and Judging Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Commission of Refereeing and Judging shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members, including experienced Referees/Judges selected by the Executive Committee from the International List with at least one representative from each Continent.

### **B. Duties:**

1. This Commission shall, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee:
  - a. deal with the appointment of Referees and Judges;
  - b. maintain the International list, and the removal of persons thereof;
  - c. maintain all other matters concerning Refereeing and Judging and instructions to Referees and Judges at the International Championships, World Championships and Continental Championships.
2. The Commission of Refereeing and Judging will advise the Executive Committee on questions relating to the selection of the Referees and Judges Jury.
3. The Commission, before the World Championships, on the basis of the proposals of the respective Continental Refereeing and Judging Commissions and Regional Bureaus, shall present to the Executive Committee a list of Referees and Judges whom it deems to be the most competent on the International list. To be eligible for selection to officiate at World Championships or Continental Championships or Challenge matches nominations must be sent to IFMA office in time to enable the Executive Committee to select and nominate the necessary officials from those who are available.

## **3. Continental Referee and Judging Commissions:**

The Referee and Judging Commission of each Continental Bureau shall appoint Referees and Judges from the International list of Referees and Judges to officiate in Continental Championships and Regional Championships on their continent. When Regional Championships involve more than one continent, the Commissions concerned may delegate such responsibilities to a Regional Commission.

#### **4. Medical Commission and Medical Jury.**

##### **A. Composition:**

The Medical Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) members, including qualified Doctors of Medicine nominated by affiliated Associations and appointed by the Executive Committee.

##### **B. Meetings:**

The Medical Commission shall arrange their own meetings at least once a year. The National Associations shall undertake to ensure the participation of their Commission members in the meetings. Those members who do not participate in two (2) consecutive meetings without a valid reason may be excluded from the Commission.

##### **C. Medical Jury:**

At the World Championships and Challenge matches, there shall be a neutral Medical Commission of three Doctors nominated by the Executive Committee of IFMA. When bouts are held on more than one ring, the number of Medical Jury members will have to be increased from by two members for each additional ring. Continental Bureaus shall nominate similar Commissions for Continental Championships. The decision of this neutral Commission shall be final and without appeal. If possible, a member of the Medical commission of IFMA should act as a member of the neutral Medical Jury in any Championship under the auspices of IFMA.

##### **D. Duties:**

The Medical Commission shall make recommendations in the first place to the Executive Committee with regard to the physical wellbeing of Athletes and collect information on medical matters relating to Muaythai.

E. One member of the Medical Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **5. Finance Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Finance Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-chairman, secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties:**

1. Exercise control over the financial position of the IFMA, study the budget of the Executive Committee, the Commissions and the Bureau, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on those matters.
2. Work closely with the President and the IFMA Business Commission in seeking additional funds for the operation of IFMA.
3. Make recommendations to the Executive Committee on measures to ensure prompt payment by the affiliated associations of their entry fee and annual subscription fees and other payments to the IFMA, on questions of the use of the assets, property, and equipment belonging to the IFMA, and on other financial and material matters.
4. Prepare a financial report submitted by the Executive Committee to the Ordinary Congress.
5. Make recommendations to the Executive Committee for the approval of financial regulations.

## **6. Youth Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Youth Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties:**

1. The Youth Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA on questions relating to the development of youth Muaythai.
2. It shall be responsible for popularizing youth Muaythai and may work with the Press and Public Relations Commission to accomplish this objective.

3. It shall work in close cooperation with the Medical Commission and the Technical Commission of IFMA to set up uniform principles for the development of Muaythai among youth and it should also create conditions for the protection of youth.
4. In close cooperation with the Technical and Rules Commission, the Youth Commission shall recommend rules and procedures for junior Athletes and for the World Championships relating to junior Athletes.
5. One member of the Youth Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **7. Gender Equality Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Gender Equality Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

### **B. Duties:**

1. The Gender Equality Commission will advise the Executive Committee of IFMA on questions relating to the development of gender equality in Muaythai.
2. It shall be responsible for promotion of gender equality in Muaythai and may work with the Press and Public Relations Commission to accomplish this objective.
3. In close cooperation with the Medical Commission and the Technical Commission of IFMA it will set up uniform principles for the development of Muaythai among women and it should also create conditions for the protection of women.
4. In close cooperation with the Technical and Rules Commission it shall make recommendations for rules, regulations and procedures relating to women Athletes and for the World Championships in relation to women Athletes.
5. One member of the Gender Equality Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

## **8. Press and Public Relations Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Press and Public Relations Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. The Press and Public Relations Commission will advise the Executive Committee on all matters dealing with the media, publications and public relations.
2. Keep liaison with the world media and promote the cause of Muaythai.
3. Regularly provide information to member associations and the Press regarding all developments and activities of IFMA.
4. Take corrective action as necessary in case of any adverse publicity.
5. Supervise the publication of the IFMA magazine and publish other brochures or publicity material if and when necessary.
6. Subject to directions by the President, organise Press Conferences at Congresses, Championship events, and whenever appropriate.

**9. Business Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Business Commission shall be composed of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. To provide expertise for the generation of funds through sponsorships, advertising, marketing, and the creation of income-producing activities.
2. To advise and assist in marketing IFMA Championship events.
3. To work in close collaboration with the Finance Commission of IFMA.
4. The Executive Committee members who are the Business representatives of each Continent will offer similar expertise to the Continental Bureau for their Continental Championships.

**10. Legal Commission.**

**A. Composition:**



The legal Commission shall be composed of its Chairman (with minimum 20 (twenty) years practice), Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than 9 (nine) other members. The commission should be composed of qualified lawyers.

**B. Duties:**

1. To assist the President of IFMA in the legal representation of IFMA.
2. To mediate in the case of disputes between affiliated National Associations.
3. To give an expert opinion on contracts concluded by IFMA.
4. To assist the Executive Committee in overseeing the observance of the Articles and Rules of IFMA and the decisions taken by IFMA.

**11. Athletes Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Athletes' Commission must comprise at least one member representing each continent and liaise with the Continental Associations: European Muaythai Federation (EMF), Federation of Amateur Muaythai Asia (FAMA), Oceania Muaythai Federation (OMF), Pan-American Muaythai Union (PAMU) and the African Continental Association.

The members of the Athletes Commission should be Athletes elected by Athletes actively practicing the sport of Muaythai as combat, fitness or martial art. For the purpose of electing the AC Executive Committee, each national federation should nominate a representative, who will vote on behalf of his or her national federation.

Structure of Athletes' Commission Executive Committee:

(eight (8) elected, four (4) appointed, equal male and female).

- Chair of Athletes' Commission (elected for two (2) years term); - four (4) Vice Chair (elected for two (2) years term);
- seven (7) members (elected for two (2) years term).

**B. Duties:**

1. To make recommendations to the IFMA Executive Committee and liaise with the individual National Olympic Committees.

2. Every two (2) years, an Athletes Forum shall be organised where representatives and Athletes from all National Federations shall meet to discuss topics of concern.
3. To connect active Athletes with the IFMA organization and working groups to ensure direct involvement in charity, youth and women's development projects (for example, engagement in "Sport Is Your Gang" and contact with the IFMA Gender Equality Commission).
4. To assist the Executive Committee in overseeing the observance of the Articles and Rules of IFMA and the decisions taken by IFMA.
5. To maintain monitoring of every World Championship and submit recommendations for improving the event program, if necessary.
6. To raise anti-doping awareness amongst Athletes, supporting and participating in WADA/IFMA related programs.
7. To provide Athletes' with the services in the following three spheres;
  - Education: Providing information on how Athletes can successfully pursue dual careers of sport and studies.
  - Life skills: Giving practical advice related to an athlete's daily life, including information on healthy nutrition, the fight against doping, financial planning advice etc.
  - Employment: Services for career preparation and management for Athletes during and after their sports careers, including CV drafting, preparing for job interviews.
8. The Athletes Commission's representative is to be a part of the Technical and/or Ethics and/or Medical and/or the Youth Commission in respect of any decision to be reached in either Commission.
9. One member of the Athletes Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.
10. One member of the Athletes Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC).

## **12. Ethics Commission.**

### **A. Composition:**

The Ethics Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. To assume responsibilities and duties as defined in the IFMA Code of Ethics.
2. To assume responsibilities and duties as defined in the IFMA Code of Conduct.
3. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on any questions they may have pertaining to the ethics in sport.
4. To ensure the ethical principles are adhered to within the IFMA governance structures.
5. To develop and monitor the IFMA Code of Ethics and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.
6. One member of the Ethics Commission shall be selected to represent the Commission in the Executive Committee.

**13. Entourage Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Entourage Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on questions pertaining to the Athlete's Entourage Guidelines.
2. To ensure the Entourage serves in the best interest of Athletes by developing ideas and initiatives.
3. To ensure representation of the Entourage within the IFMA governance.
4. To promote the IFMA rules and regulations with regards to the Entourage within their domains.
5. To regulate the worldwide education program.
6. To make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

**14. Education Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Education Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. The Education Commission is to develop and uphold the standard of IFMA Education Program.
2. To encourage the cooperation of the national federation according to IFMA standard.
3. To advise, to ensure public relation activity in the promotion of Education Program.
4. To work closely with the youth commission on special youth Education Program.
5. To regulate the worldwide Education Program.
6. To work closely with other Commissions on Athletes Career Program.

**15. Sport and Active Society Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Sport and Active Society Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and not more than nine (9) other members.

**B. Duties:**

1. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on Sports and Active Society issues.
2. To co-ordinate efforts to increase global participation in Muaythai, at all levels of society.
3. To develop social initiatives and ideas to promote Muaythai on all socio-economic groups.
4. To ensure National Associations are provided with tools and opportunities to participate in the IFMA's social initiatives.
5. To ensure all questions are answered on the development of Muaythai.
6. To develop initiatives and ideas for the development of Muaythai as a sport for all/grassroots level.

**16. Professional Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The IFMA Professional Commission, herein after IFMAPC, shall be composed of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and not more than eight (8) total other members. The Chair of the Legal Commission and Athletes Commission shall also be appointed as members. Two (2) members must be from the World Muaythai Council (Thailand).

**B. Duties:**

1. To Regulate and Oversee the relationship between IFMAPC and National Federations/Professional Sporting Entities/Incorporated Companies/Entities for participation in professional Muaythai;
2. IFMAPC shall be the Sanctioning Commission for all professional events/campaigns involving professional Muaythai with final approval of the IFMA Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC).
3. managing the appointment and selection process for Officials and athletes to participate in all ranked professional events;
4. developing the rules and regulations governing IFMAPC and professional Muaythai, subject to the final approval of the AHMC; and 5. Managing with the IFMA Business Commission to exploit certain commercial rights for the sport of Muaythai.
5. IFMAPC shall provide updated reports (written) to the AHMC and keep the latter updated on all events/campaigns, protocols and activities and shall be subject to the directions of the AHMC.

**17. Culture and Heritage Commission.**

**A. Composition:**

The Commission shall be composed of a selection of renowned Muaythai Grand Masters, Masters, Advisors from the various disciplines of Muaythai and academic experts on the history of Muaythai and its cultural roots.

**B. Duties:**

1. To advise the IFMA Executive Committee on all issues pertaining to the culture and heritage of Muaythai.
2. To co-ordinate efforts in the fostering, promotion and protection of the cultural roots of the art and sport of Muaythai.
3. To focus efforts on one of the key elements of IFMA's mission and vision, which is to respect and protect the past while working for the future.
4. To uphold and instill within the IFMA members, the acknowledgement and recognition of Ancient Siam, which has evolved into modern Thailand as the motherland of the art and sport of Muaythai.

5. To work closely with the IFMA Executive Committee and other relevant commissions on all activities related to the cultural roots, protection and promoting the sense of art, history, values, education and research with a clear objective to protect and promote the ancient Muaythai and Olympic ideals especially for the next generations of the world.
6. All commission members shall be involved in delivery of seminars and workshops worldwide, to which IFMA aims to promote Muaythai both as a cultural art form and an Olympic recognised sport.
7. A representative of the Commission shall be invited to attend meetings of the IFMA Executive Committee and Ad-Hoc Management Committee.
8. Within all IFMA conferences (Youth, World, Asian, European etc) education will be given to promote and broaden understanding of the cultural heritage of Muaythai within the international Muaythai community.



## **ARTICLE 9. OFFICE BEARERS.**

### **9.1 The President.**

The President of IFMA is elected by the Congress. He directs the IFMA and acts as its representative.

In case of inability to perform the duties of the President for a period of more than three (3) months for any reason, the Presidency shall be assumed by a Vice President of WMC who shall be appointed by the Vice Presidents.

### **9.2 The Secretary General.**

The Secretary General shall be elected from any affiliated National Association. He shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee of IFMA, and a member of the Vice Presidents Bureau of IFMA.

The Secretary General is responsible for the work and administration of the Secretariat and other duties as follows:

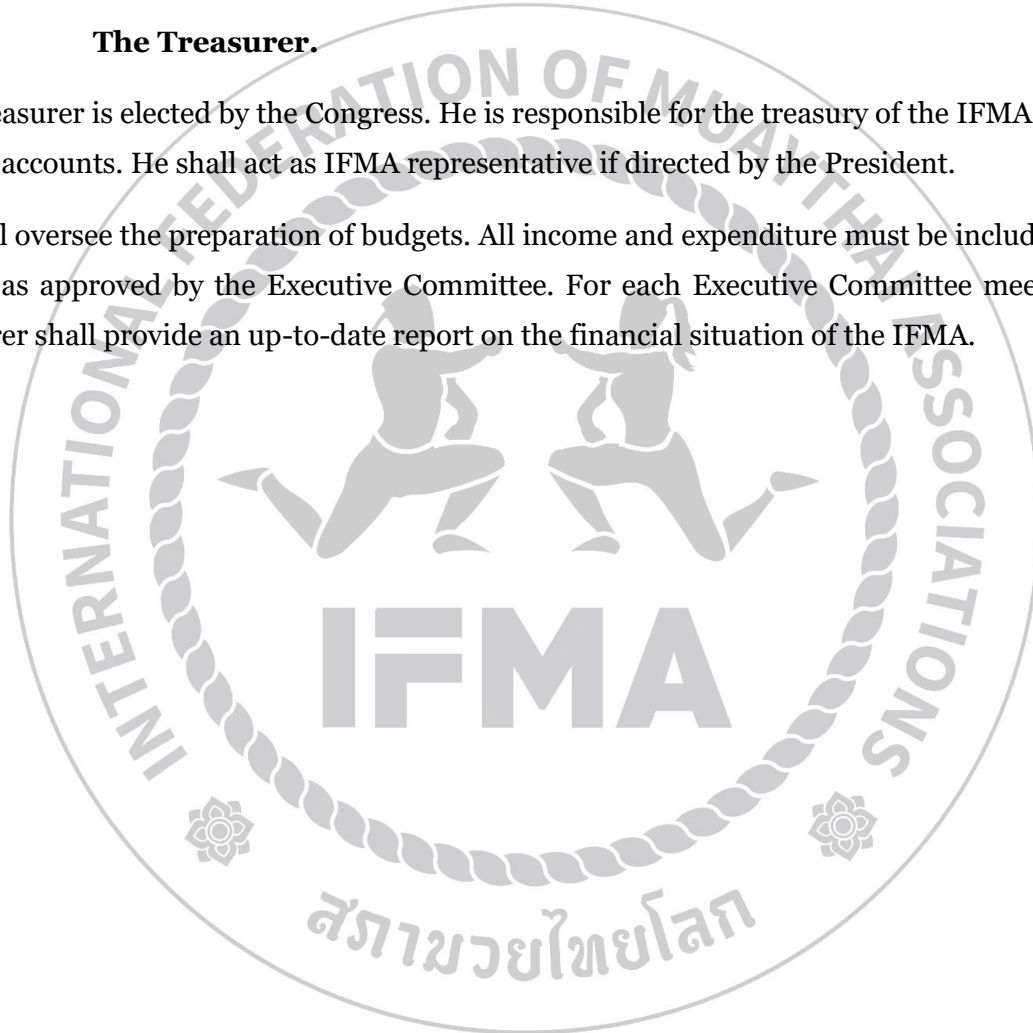
1. To coordinate the activities and common actions of the Continental Bureaus of IFMA with a view to promoting and assisting the overall development of Muaythai and the implementation of the decisions of the Executive Committee.
2. To coordinate the activities of the various Commissions of IFMA and to consult the Commission Chairmen on all major issues and documents.
3. With the approval of the President, to prepare and organise the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Vice Presidents Bureau as well as the Congresses of IFMA including:
  - a. The drafting of the Agenda of the meetings;
  - b. The handling of organizational matters with the host association;
  - c. The drafting of a communiqué of the meeting which, after being approved by the Executive Committee, is handed to the press;
  - d. The organization of press conferences and assisting the President in relation to the media;
  - e. Assisting in the preparation of the minutes of the meetings.
4. To facilitate the development of Muaythai on all continents by winning new member associations of IFMA.

5. To provide ways and means, including the organization of training camps, coaching seminars and exchange training and work-out programs between advanced and less advanced countries, to render comprehensive assistance to the less advanced countries and continents and to organise seminars for coaches and medical staff.
6. To manage the office, keep archives and all documents of the IFMA.
7. To represent the Executive Committee of IFMA at the International Congresses and any other major international events, as decided by the Executive Committee.

### **9.3 The Treasurer.**

The Treasurer is elected by the Congress. He is responsible for the treasury of the IFMA, keeping regular accounts. He shall act as IFMA representative if directed by the President.

He shall oversee the preparation of budgets. All income and expenditure must be included in the budget as approved by the Executive Committee. For each Executive Committee meeting, the Treasurer shall provide an up-to-date report on the financial situation of the IFMA.





## **ARTICLE 10. IFMA OFFICE.**

### **10.1 Authority.**

The IFMA office shall assist the President and the Secretary General and handle the administrative work for the Ad-Hoc Management Committee. It shall have full-time employees whose number and salaries shall be subject to approval by the Ad-Hoc Management Committee. The IFMA office shall be organized as decided by the Ad-Hoc Management Committee and it shall be run by a person approved by the Ad-Hoc Management Committee of IFMA.

### **10.2 Duties.**

1. To maintain correspondence with affiliated Associations and other National and International Organizations, members of the Executive Committee, Standing and Temporary Commissions of IFMA, and with other persons in accordance with the instructions and decisions of the Congress, Executive Committee or President.
2. To prepare and ensure the smooth running of the meetings of Congresses, Executive Committees and Commissions of the IFMA, and where appropriate, jointly with National Associations and if requested, and where practicable, carry out these duties in connection with meetings of Continental Bureaus.
3. To keep the minutes of the meetings mentioned in Article 10.2.2 and circulate them to the affiliated Associations, members of the Executive Committee and Commissions.
4. To provide for translations into official languages of publications, documents and minutes of the Congress, Executive Committee and Commissions of the IFMA in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE 11. IFMA EXPENSES.**

**11.1 Administration of IFMA.**

The expenses in connection with the administration of IFMA shall be paid from IFMA funds.

**11.2 Annual Budget.**

The guide for such expenses shall be from an annual estimated budget submitted by the President and Treasurer and approved by the Executive Committee after review of the Finance Commission in consultation with the Treasurer.

**11.3 Traveling Expenses.**

The traveling and hotel expenses, as well as daily allowance in connection with IFMA business by the President, the Secretary General, and such other representatives as approved by the Executive Committee will be paid in accordance with the financial regulations of IFMA.



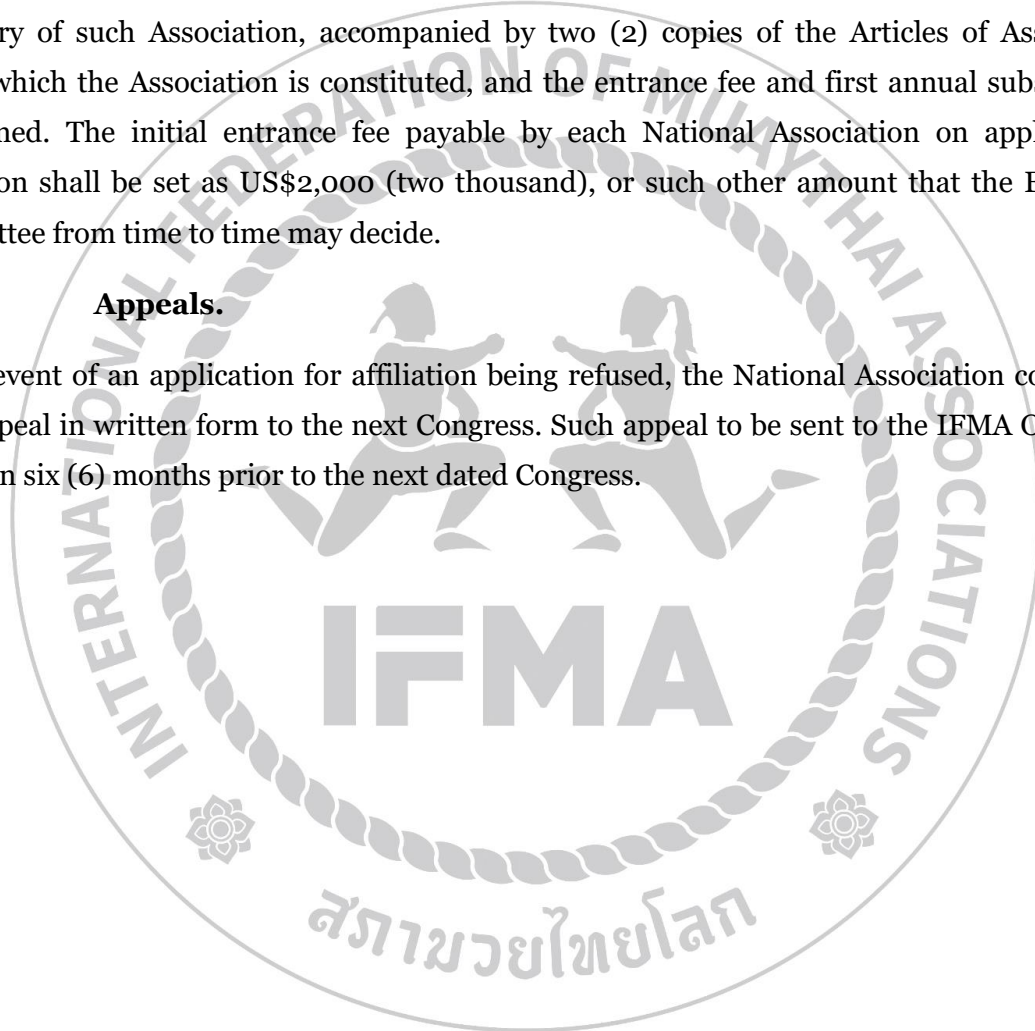
**ARTICLE 12. APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION AND ENTRANCE FEE.**

**12.2 Application.**

The National Association of a country wishing to become affiliated to the IFMA shall make an application to the Executive Committee in written form signed by the President and General Secretary of such Association, accompanied by two (2) copies of the Articles of Association under which the Association is constituted, and the entrance fee and first annual subscription mentioned. The initial entrance fee payable by each National Association on applying for affiliation shall be set as US\$2,000 (two thousand), or such other amount that the Executive Committee from time to time may decide.

**12.2 Appeals.**

In the event of an application for affiliation being refused, the National Association concerned may appeal in written form to the next Congress. Such appeal to be sent to the IFMA Office not less than six (6) months prior to the next dated Congress.



**ARTICLE 13. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.**

**13.1 Administration of IFMA.**

Each affiliated National Association shall pay to the office of IFMA an annual subscription fee of US\$ 1500 (one thousand five hundred), or such other amount as the Executive Committee may from time to time decide. The fee shall be due on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) of January of each year and must be paid by fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) of February of the same year.



## **ARTICLE 14. UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

### **14.1 Associations in Arrears.**

A National Association which has not paid its full annual subscription, by the thirty first (31<sup>st</sup>) of March will not be permitted to participate in any IFMA competition and/or IFMA sanctioned event or initiate any proceedings and/or complaints against any IFMA Member. Likewise, the officials, referees and judges, Executive Committee members of defaulting members, will not be permitted to participate in IFMA events or meetings. National Associations not having paid their current subscriptions as required by Article 13 shall not be permitted to vote at any Congress or other meeting of the IFMA, and when more than six (6) months in arrears, namely by thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) June, and after notification has been made to the President or Secretary of the National Association in default, such National Association shall be regarded in all respects as unaffiliated.

### **14.2. Re-affiliation.**

A National Associations mentioned in Article 14.1 shall not be re-affiliated except on payment of all arrears together with a fine, which shall be the equivalent of the total amount in arrears. The Executive Committee shall have power in its discretion to waive such fine or any part of it in cases where nonpayment has been due to causes outside the control of the National Association in default.

**ARTICLE 15. MEMBERSHIP OF AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION.**

**15.1 Admission to Membership.**

An affiliated National Association shall not admit to membership of its Association a club affiliated to another Muaythai Association, nor allow a member from another affiliated Association to join a club for the purpose of evading any Article, Rule or Regulation of IFMA or any affiliated National Association.

**15.2 Executive Committee Members.**

An affiliated National Association, which has a member on the IFMA Executive Committee, should include that member in the Executive Council or governing organization of that Association.

**15.3 Participation in Competition.**

Only members of affiliated Associations will be permitted to take part in all IFMA approved competitions and other activities as announced. Vice versa, members of affiliated Associations will not be permitted to participate in competitions or other activities organised by organizations not recognised by IFMA, unless the Executive Committee allows participation in subject to certain conditions.



**ARTICLE 16. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE IN MUAYTHAI, MUAY, MUAY BOXING, THAI BOXING, MUAY BORAN, KRABI KRABONG, MUAY TALAY, MUAY FITNESS AND ITS DERIVATIVES AND ANY OTHER STYLE.**

**16.1 Athlete's nationality.**

To be eligible to compete under IFMA rules, an Athlete should be a member of a National Association, which is a member of IFMA, and such person must also be a national of the country of the National Association, which is entering the athlete as a competitor in World or Regional Championships. The same rules apply to any IFMA sanctioned regional competition.

**16.2 Special invitation of IFMA Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committee may in its discretion permit the participation in IFMA competitions Athletes from any country by invitation of the Executive Committee.

**16.3 IFMA Executive Committee's right.**

In all cases not expressly addressed in these eligibility rules, the IFMA Executive Committee may take all decisions of a general or individual nature and in particular issue of a specific requirement relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the competitor including the duration of any sanction period.

**16.4 Disputes.**

All disputes related to the determination of the country, which a competitor may represent in Continental or Regional Games or in World or Regional Championships recognised by the IFMA shall be resolved by the IFMA Executive Committee.

**16.5 Athletes' obligations.**

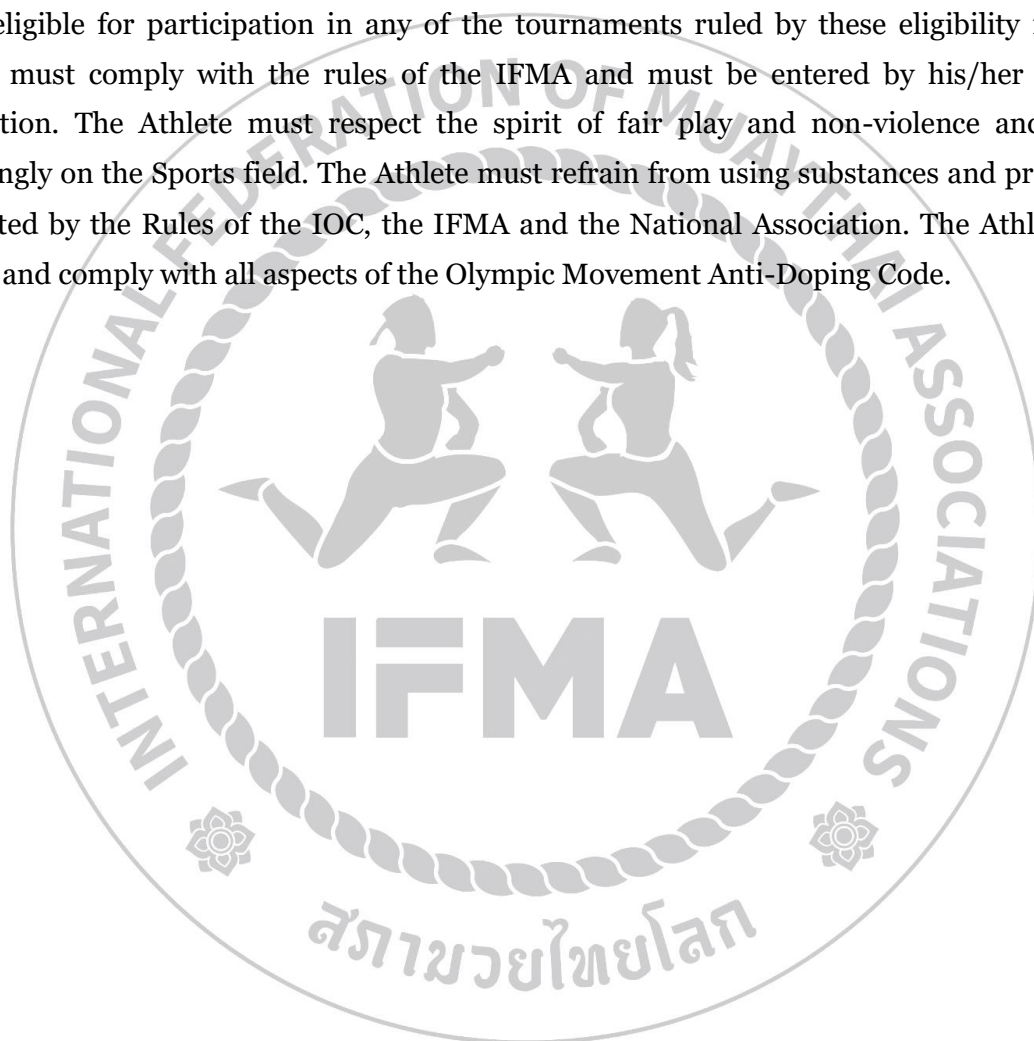
The Athletes' obligations during competitions ruled by this article:

1. An Athlete in Muaythai must not accept any compensation for advertising but may participate in advertising arranged by IFMA or by his/her National Association.
2. An Athlete shall allow the use of his/her person, name or record for publicity purposes only as authorized by IFMA or his/her National Association.

3. An Athlete may not refuse to be photographed by the official photographer of the IFMA or his/her National Association for use in films, television or sports publicity and sport sponsorship arranged by these official organizations.
4. An Athlete can wear on his/her clothing or sport equipment only trade names and logos as specified by the IFMA, or his/her National Association.

#### **16.6 Eligibility.**

To be eligible for participation in any of the tournaments ruled by these eligibility rules, an Athlete must comply with the rules of the IFMA and must be entered by his/her National Association. The Athlete must respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence and behave accordingly on the Sports field. The Athlete must refrain from using substances and procedures prohibited by the Rules of the IOC, the IFMA and the National Association. The Athlete must respect and comply with all aspects of the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code.





**ARTICLE 17. INTERNATIONAL INTER-CLUB TOURNAMENT.**

**17.1 Sanctions.**

Competitions, Tournaments or contests shall not be arranged between the clubs or units of different Associations without the sanction of their respective National Associations.

**17.2 Eligibility to compete.**

Both males and females may compete in international IFMA competitions, or inter-nation Club exchanges. Athletes must compete according to their biological gender.

**17.3 All sanctioned competitions.**

Tournaments or contests sanctioned by IFMA shall be conducted under IFMA rules.



**ARTICLE 18. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

**18.1 Timetable.**

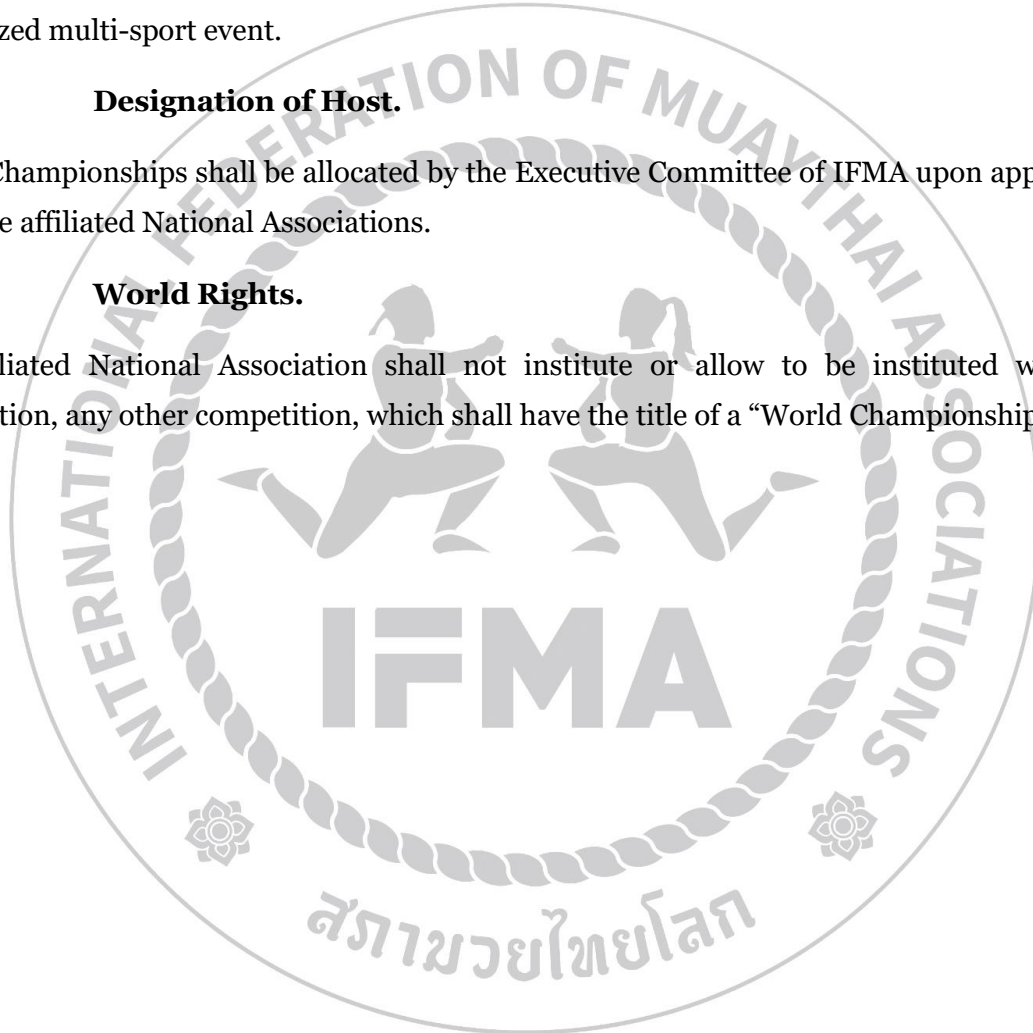
World Championships on a National entry basis shall be organised by the Executive Committee of IFMA at their discretion yearly or at a scheduled timing to be duly informed to the congress, which should be at the minimum be one year before and one year after a designated Olympic recognized multi-sport event.

**18.2 Designation of Host.**

These Championships shall be allocated by the Executive Committee of IFMA upon applications from the affiliated National Associations.

**18.3 World Rights.**

An affiliated National Association shall not institute or allow to be instituted within its jurisdiction, any other competition, which shall have the title of a “World Championship”.



**ARTICLE 19. WORLD CHAMPION.**

**19.1 Title of the World Champion.**

The title of “World Champion” or “World Youth Champion” shall be held by the winner in each of the weight categories of the World Championships organised by IFMA.



**ARTICLE 20. IFMA TELEVISION AND MARKETING RIGHTS.**

**20.1 Supreme Authority.**

The Television and Marketing rights of all IFMA Championship events and IFMA Challenge Matches are the property of IFMA.

**20.2 Continental or Regional Championships.**

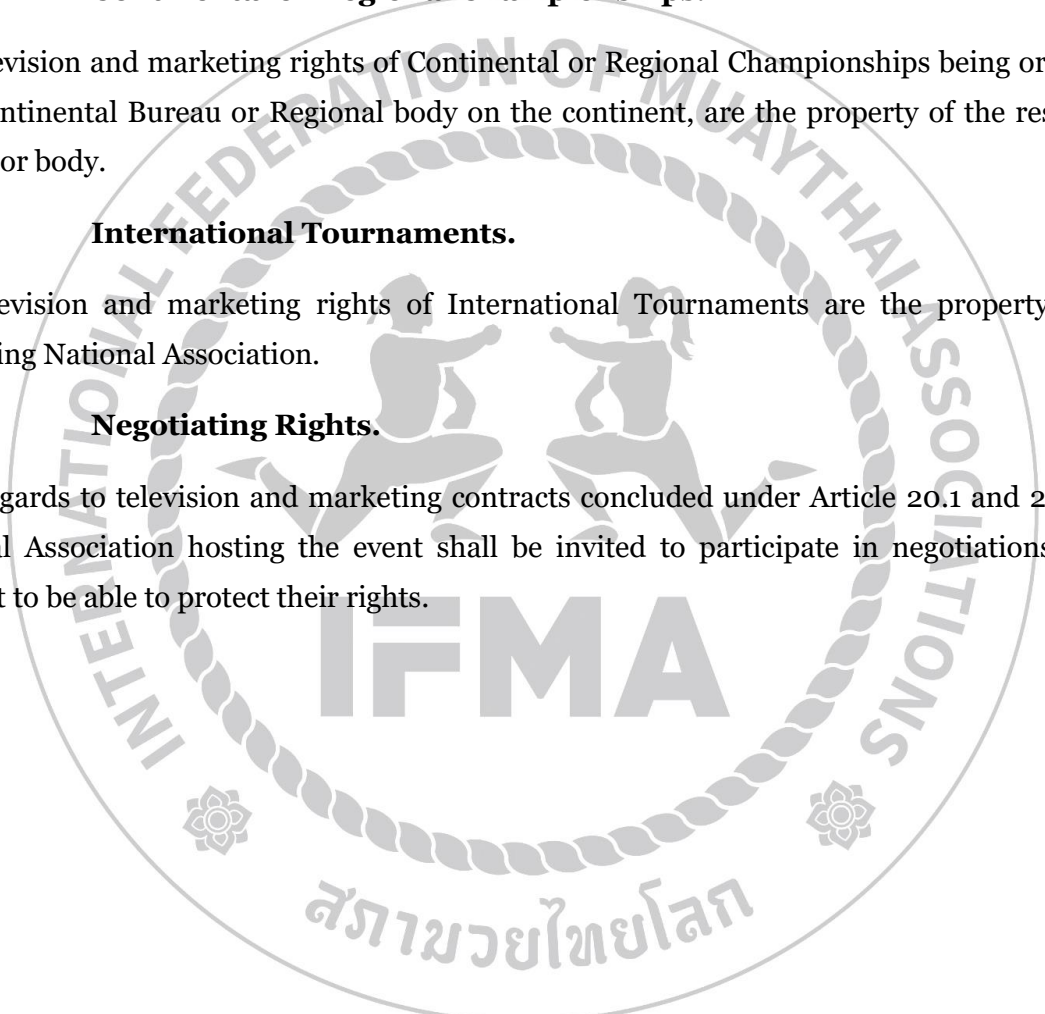
The television and marketing rights of Continental or Regional Championships being organised by a Continental Bureau or Regional body on the continent, are the property of the respective Bureau or body.

**20.3 International Tournaments.**

The television and marketing rights of International Tournaments are the property of the organizing National Association.

**20.4 Negotiating Rights.**

With regards to television and marketing contracts concluded under Article 20.1 and 20.2, the National Association hosting the event shall be invited to participate in negotiations of the contract to be able to protect their rights.



**ARTICLE 21. WORLD OR CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS GOVERNING RULES.**

**21.1 Rules of IFMA.**

World or Continental Championships and other International Championships shall be organised under IFMA Rules only.

**21.2 Award Ceremony.**

At all IFMA Championships, the National or Delegation Flags of the medal winners shall be hoisted up. The National Anthem of the winner shall be played in abbreviated version.



**ARTICLE 23. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS OR CHAMPIONSHIPS PROMOTED BY AN AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION CONDITIONS.**

**22.1 Sanctions.**

Contests and Competitions between Athletes of different National Associations shall be supervised and sanctioned by the National Associations, which the respective athletes belong to. An affiliated National Association desiring to organise an International Championships, Tournament or Competition in which Athletes from four (4) or more National Associations are invited to compete shall obtain the prior permission of IFMA Continental Bureau. An affiliated National Association shall inform IFMA Office and respective Continental Bureau about the Tournament before the commencement of the Tournament. The Executive Committee may require, as a condition of their sanction, the payment of a fee. The amount of the fee to be based on the importance of the event concerned and the probable financial results.

**22.2 IFMA Membership.**

An Athlete shall compete only in Competitions organised by Associations affiliated to IFMA, which have been sanctioned by the Executive Committee of IFMA. The Athlete shall not be permitted to compete against nations of which the Governing Bodies controlling Muaythai are not affiliated to IFMA. Consent for such participation must be applied for and is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

**22.3 Competition Regulations.**

Athletes taking part in competitions held in foreign countries shall observe and be bound by the legislation of the Association under whose jurisdiction the competition takes place, taking in to consideration that that the Rules of the Association do not contradict essential IFMA Rules.

**22.4 National Regulations.**

If in a particular country the legislation of the country prevents the literal application of any IFMA Constitution Articles or Rules, and if endeavor prove to annul or amend this legislation is presented to the Executive Committee by the National Association/Muaythai governing body, the Executive Committee may waive the Article or Rule pending the consideration of the next Congress. However, there shall be no waiving of Article 18 in respect to Officials and Athletes.

World or Continental Championships shall not be held in such countries unless conducted under IFMA Rules.

### **22.5 Guaranteed Visas and Facilities.**

In any country, where the affiliated National Association wishes to organise an International Competition or Championship must be a country, which in the normal course grants the necessary visas and facilities for the Athletes and Officials of the Affiliated Associations concerned to attend the Tournament.

### **22.6 Technical Delegates.**

The Executive Committee shall appoint Technical Delegates to International Tournaments and Championships whose tasks are defined by the Executive Committee. Any Technical Delegate appointed to categorize Referees and Judges at IFMA or Continental Calendar Tournament is obliged to pass IFMA Referee and Judges examination.

### **22.7 Tournament Records.**

An Affiliated National Association holding an International Championship or Competition shall provide IFMA Office with the following information in written: - the place and date of the Tournament or Competition;

- names of participants;
- results of each contest;
- names and nationalities of medal winners.

Names and nationalities of all Referees and Judges who participate in the Tournament will be recorded. The Technical Delegate or Chief Judge should advise whether their performance was average, below average, or above average.

### **22.8 Continental Associations.**

The Articles 22.1, 22.2, 22.3, 22.4, 22.5, 22.6, 22.7, shall apply equally to Continental Associations where appropriate.

**ARTICLE 23. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT.**

**23.1 Agreements between National Associations.**

Financial and other agreements concerning International Contests shall be arranged only with the permission of the National Associations concerned.

**23.2 Responsibility.**

After an agreement has been concluded between the National Associations concerned, the National Association arranging the Tournament shall be legally and financially responsible for the observance of the conditions of the contract. In the case of non-observance of a contract, the National Association in default shall be called to account by IFMA through the Executive Committee.

**23.3 World Championships.**

Financial arrangements for accommodation, food and transportation may be provided for nominated IFMA officials.





## **ARTICLE 24. INTER-NATION TOURNAMENT.**

### **24.1 Consent of National Associations.**

A Competition shall not be considered International without the consent of each country engaged.

### **24.2 Agreements.**

Agreements concerning Inter-Nation Tournaments shall only be made between respective countries' Associations.

### **24.3 Financial Arrangements.**

The financial arrangements of International and Inter-Nation Tournaments shall be decided between the National Associations involved. Such agreements shall be binding upon the Associations concerned.

In case of default, the IFMA may suspend the defaulting Association until it fulfills its contract obligations.

### **24.4 Tournament Records and Results.**

The results of the Tournament, as well as the names and nationalities of the Officials shall be transferred in writing to the Continental Bureau concerned, who file the results. The original scoring cards used at Tournaments or duly certified copies thereof shall be sent to the Continental Bureau concerned at the same time. Only the results officially acknowledged by the Continental Bureau can be recorded as Inter-Nation Tournaments.

### **24.5 National Teams.**

A team shall not be called by the title of a country unless the Team is comprised of Athletes selected by their National Association.

## **ARTICLE 25. DISCIPLINARY ACTION.**

### **25.1 Affiliated Association.**

Any breach of IFMA Constitution Articles or IFMA Rules by an Affiliated National Association shall render the Association committing such breach liable to suspension by the Executive Committee and to be deprived of membership of IFMA at the next Congress, if not less than one half of those voting are in favor.

### **25.2 Associations, Athletes and Officials.**

The Executive Committee shall have power, at any time, to disqualify or suspend for an appropriate period any National Association or Athlete or Official for misconduct considered detrimental or disreputable to IFMA or Muaythai.

During suspension period an Association, Athlete or Official sanctioned shall not be eligible to take part in any function, activities of IFMA or any affiliated National Association. If an Official, Referee, Judge, Doctor or other IFMA Official is found guilty of violating the Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct and/or Safeguarding policy, the person shall be suspended from any competition for a period of one (1) year. In case of recurrence, a life-time suspension may take place.

### **25.3 Disciplinary Procedure for Members of IFMA Executive Committee and Commission Officers including IFMA National Executives.**

The IFMA Executive Committee has the power to discipline all members of its Executives, all members of its Commissions contained in Article 8, hereof and members of the National Executives of its member nations.

1. Where the International Executive is advised or considers that a Member has allegedly;
  - a. Breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of these Rules, the Regulations or any resolution or determination of the Committee or any duly authorized committee or sub committees; or
  - b. acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the purposes and interests of the IFMA and/or Muaythai; or
  - c. brought IFMA, it's regional representative bodies, it's member nations and any Affiliated Clubs into disrepute;

2. Upon advice and/or notification of a breach as afore stated in 1 (a), (b) and (c) and/or any other disciplinary matter, the Executive Committee shall commence the formation of the Ethics Committee and the Disciplinary Committee. Both committees shall be empowered to deal with any/or all matters stated in 1 (a), (b) and (c) inclusive but not limited to any matters arising under these rules, and/or any other disciplinary matters.
3. Ethics Committee.
  - a. The Ethics Committee shall comprise of not more than three (3) members of the Ethics Commission. The duty of the Ethics Committee shall be to determine if there has been a “*prima facie*”<sup>4</sup> breach of 1 (a), (b) and (c) as aforesated and/or any other disciplinary matter. The Ethics Committee is to report its official findings to the Disciplinary Committee.
  - b. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of not more than three (3) members of the Legal Commission and one (1) member may be nominated from the Executive Committee. The duty of the Disciplinary Committee shall be to deliberate the findings of the Ethics Committee and to put forth its legal recommendation to the Executive Committee.
4. The Executive Committee shall determine the recommendation by the Disciplinary Committee and confirm the action to be proceeded with by the Disciplinary Committee.
5. Disciplinary Committee.
  - a. The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to impose an appropriate determination or penalty depending upon the facts of each particular case, which may include:
    - b. requiring the Member or members to undergo counseling,
    - c. cautioning the Member,
    - d. reprimanding the Member,
    - e. imposing conditions, limitations or restrictions on the membership of the Member,
    - f. require the Member to issue written apology/ies,
    - g. imposing a fine to the Member,
    - h. suspending the membership of the Member,
    - i. canceling the membership of the Member,
    - j. other orders or determinations as the Disciplinary Committee think appropriate.

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<sup>4</sup> Meaning “at first sight or based on first impression”

- k. Where a matter has been referred to the Disciplinary Committee, the Secretary General must provide the Member with fourteen (14) days written notice prior to any Disciplinary Committee hearing setting out particulars of the complaint and provide the Member or members with copies of all relevant documents.
- l. A Member is only entitled to address in writing the Disciplinary Committee unless on request of the Member the Disciplinary Committee (in their absolute discretion) agree to the Member having a right of personal appearance. A Member or members will be entitled to be represented by a barrister or solicitor with the leave of the Disciplinary Committee, which will only be given in exceptional circumstances and if given, may be given unconditionally or on other conditions upon the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

Any Disciplinary Committee hearing must follow the rules of natural justice.

5. Any Member subject to such proceedings as afore stated is entitled to appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Committee by application of the IFMA Internal Dispute Resolution (IDR) Mechanism.

#### **25.4 Doping.**

1. IFMA shall adopt the WADA Code on Anti-Doping and assist its Members to be fully WADA compliant at all times.
2. If in a doping control, an Athlete is found guilty of doping, he/she shall be suspended from any competition pending disciplinary action that is to be taken by the IFMA Legal Commission (at Continental Championships similar action will be taken by the Continental Bureau of IFMA).
3. An Athlete tested positive for a banned substance will be suspended in accordance with the IOC's policy unless stated otherwise in these Articles.
4. In case of doping being proved, the result of the competition shall be declared invalid. The defeated Athlete shall go on to the next round and compete unless medically ineligible.
5. The Chairman of the Medical Commission/Medical Jury and the IFMA Office shall be informed of the result of the analysis of sample "A" within twenty-four (24) hours.
6. The testing procedure in case of a positive "A" sample shall be conducted according to the procedure listed in the Medical Handbook.

7. Any Athlete testing positive for banned substances or any Association having several Athletes tested positive more than once may be subject to disciplinary action or suspension, if deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.
8. A Member or Athlete expelled by WADA will be accordingly suspended until fully WADA compliant.
9. The provisions as afore stated from 25.4 points 1-9, are applicable to any medical staff including but not limited to medical practitioners such as doctors, paramedics, nurses. Such provisions are also applicable to all officials, coaches, instructors, trainers.
10. In reference to Point 4 stated above, the Disciplinary Committee may be convened to conduct an investigation into the conduct of the officials, medical staffs, coaches, instructors or trainers. Upon completion of the investigation, the Disciplinary Committee shall put forth its recommendation for any action legal or otherwise.



**ARTICLE 26. ALTERATION OF ARTICLES OR RULES.**

**26.1 Required Majority.**

Any alteration, addition, or amendment to IFMA Constitution Articles, Rules and Bylaws shall only be made at Congress with an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of those voting. Should it be necessary to repeal or alter in whole or in part a rule or any part of a rule in the Articles of IFMA Constitution, Rules and Bylaws in order to comply with a mandate from the IOC, the Executive Committee may make such minimal changes as necessary to comply with mandates mentioned. The changes made will remain in effect until the next Congress.



## **ARTICLE 27. ADVERTISING.**

### **27.1 Control.**

IFMA controls advertising, which Athletes and Officials wear at on-site final Championship training, in official press interviews and on warm-ups immediately prior to the bout and in the corner. This control is normally delegated to the Continental Bureau concerned for Continental Championships and to the National Associations for their competitions and for other National Team Matches.

### **27.2 Procedures.**

The usual IFMA procedures for advertising around the field of play and on the Athletes' competitive clothing in actual competition are sometimes superseded by host country's legislation involving television exposure and by venue contracts with local sponsors.

It is necessary that these potentially conflicting points of interest be carefully coordinate with the host broadcaster and with the host country early in the planning, so that IFMA sponsors can obtain full and adequate identification in the best available manner.

### **27.3 Advertising Measurements.**

Advertising shall be allowed on:

- a. the Athlete's shorts;
- b. the upper part of the athlete's gloves;
- c. the sides of the headgear above eye level not exceeding twenty (20) square centimeters and not longer than four (4) centimeters and shall not cover the headgear manufacturers' names.

**ARTICLE 28. WITHDRAWAL BY MEANS OF PROTEST**

**28.1 Withdrawal by means of protest.**

Any National Association withdrawing from a competition as a means of protest shall be suspended automatically and becomes ineligible to compete in any Continental or World Championship in any manner whatsoever for a period of one (1) year beginning on the day of the withdrawal. At its discretion, IFMA's Executive Committee may, if it deems appropriate, extend this suspension for a period of two (2) years. The Executive Committee may, in extenuating circumstances, waive suspension or any penalties, subject to a written appeal by the National Association.





## **ARTICLE 29. COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS).**

### **29.1 Inquiry Committee.**

IFMA submits hereon to the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for all relevant matters which arise after the date of the inclusion of this clause, subject only to the extinguishment of appeal rights provided for herein. The Inquiry Committee will consist of five (5) or six (6) executive members of IFMA which is to include always the Secretary General and one (1) legally trained member, with minimum ten (10) years standing.

The Inquiry Committee will determine the factual basis of any matter brought before it to ensure relevancy and that a “prima facie”<sup>5</sup> case has been established before such matter is submitted to the jurisdiction of the CAS proper.

Failure to submit to the Inquiry Committee will, in itself, be a fault in process and protocol and result in the striking out of the matter.

### **29.2 Code of Sports Related Arbitration.**

In all disputes which are not submitted to the Court of Arbitration and/or are unable to be settled amicably through local arbitration or mediation, then such disputes shall apply the Code of Sports Related Arbitration provisions.

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<sup>5</sup> Meaning “at first sight or based on first impression”

**ARTICLE 30. DISSOLUTION.**

The IFMA may be dissolved by decision of the Congress approved by at least three quarters of the votes cast by the members present or represented at the Congress. In the event of dissolution, the net assets of the association will be allocated to a Swiss non-profit association with similar objectives as the IFMA.

Done in: Bangkok

On: 18 June 2024

