



European Fencing Confederation Confédération Européenne d'Esgrime

24.03.2016

Information Letter no. 14-2016

Dear Member Federation,

following our Information Letter no. 07-2016 we send you today the draft for the new EFC Statutes for your first information, named “RESTRUCTURED STATUTES PROPOSAL” with some coloured additions/changes to our present statutes, which have to be discussed and decided on at the Torun Congress.

Remarks: in this proposal you find a colour coding for better explanation. All black text is the unchanged current text of our present statutes; red says the text was deleted from our October draft to the FIE COMEX and some text in blue was added instead to this current statutes; violet shows all changes in response to FIE COMEX meetings in November 2015 and February 2016 and show the necessary changes for restructuring our statutes. The Congress will decide, in case of approval, from when on these new statutes will become effective.

Because of the death of former EFC President Frantisek Janda, it is necessary, due to our actual statutes Article 13.4, to elect a new president. Thus we invite you to send your proposal of a candidate for the Presidency, together with any propositions for this Congress (Article 11.3 of our Statutes)

before 19th April 2016 (deadline).

This request includes also any candidacies for future European Championships.

You will find all additional needed details for the Torun Congress and Championships on the website

www.efc2016.eu

and you are welcome to contact the organisers at their email address

fencing.torun2016@gmail.com

for any information or help you might need.

Please make sure you organise your accommodation in time.

The agenda for the Congress will be sent to you at least one month before the opening of the Congress, including reports, budget, documentations and proxy.

Best regards,

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General Secretary

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European Fencing Confederation
Confédération Européenne d'Esime

RESTRUCTURED STATUTES PROPOSAL

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Changes in response to FIE COMEX meetings of November, 2015, and February, 2016, and restructuring related changes - **all changes**

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PREAMBLE

~~1.1~~ The National Federations which first signed the initial Statutes in Vienna (Austria) on 26 October 1991 and the European National Federations which had become affiliated Members decided to unite into an association called “EUROPEAN FENCING UNION” governed by the Luxembourgian Law dated 21 April 1928.

~~1.2~~ By virtue of a decision of the General Assembly, held on 10 November 1997 in Gdansk (Poland), the denomination of the association was changed to:

“EUROPEAN FENCING CONFEDERATION” (EFC)
“CONFEDERATION EUROPEENNE D’ESCRIME” (CEE)

The European Fencing Confederation (E.F.C.) is a non-profit making organisation that is subject to the laws and regulations of the Principality of Luxembourg.

~~1.6~~ The purpose of the Internal Rules is to elaborate on the principles defined by the Statutes and to regulate the normal functioning of the EFC.

The Statutes are approved and modified by the vote of the EFC Congress.

~~(Article 23) The present Charter are Modifications come into~~ force immediately after approval by the Congress with the exception of provisions which presume new elections.

The Internal Rules are approved by the Executive Committee.

~~1.7~~ The Rules of European Championships are attached to the Internal Rules.

The E.F.C.s functioning is regulated by these Statutes as well as by the Internal Rules.

The present Statutes represent a restructuring of the previous Statutes of the E.F.C.

This restructuring was approved by the Congress of the E.F.C. during its meeting held in Torun on June 19, 2016.

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SECTION I – ~~DEFINITION~~ – MISSION AND GOALS – SEAT – ENTITY

ARTICLE 1.1 ~~4~~ MISSION AND GOALS

Mission: The objectives of the EFC are:

- 1.1.1 ~~4.1~~ to assist the FIE to promote and develop the practise of fencing in Europe as extensively as possible by coordination between the national federations, continuously and through all contacts necessary, and establishing, setting and proposing means of promotion likely to have the best impact;
- 1.1.2 ~~4.2~~ to ensure ~~the~~ amicable mutual support, of technical and other kinds, between European Federations and to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all European countries;
- 1.1.3 ~~4.3~~ to represent fencing in relations with other European entities;
- 1.1.4 ~~4.4~~ to organise European senior, junior, cadet and veteran championships at all weapons and for both men and women and other European competitions that it may choose.
- 1.1.5 ~~4.5~~ to coordinate and facilitate the teaching of fencing in Europe;
- 1.1.6 ~~4.6~~, to take part in activities of the International Fencing Federation (IFF/FIE) in compliance with the Statutes thereof.
- 1.1.7 ~~4.8~~ to ensure strict applications of the FIE regulations by its national federations and their members;
- 1.1.8 ~~4.9~~ to create national federations on the territories where they are not established;
- 1.1.9 ~~4.10~~ to co-ordinate initiatives of the national federations;
- 1.1.10 ~~4.11~~ to carry out itinerant missions in Europe entrusted to it by the FIE with a view to reinforcing national federations;
- 1.1.11 ~~4.12~~ to promote and develop the struggle against doping;
- 1.1.12-~~4.13~~. to adhere to and promote the FIE's Ethics Code, including its Betting and Anti-corruption Rules appendix and to be subject to the FIE's Disciplinary Code.

ARTICLE 1.2 ~~2~~ MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE GOALS

- 1.2.1 ~~2.1~~ The authority of the EFC is based on the decision of the International Fencing Federation (FIE) to allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas in order to control relationships which can be usefully established among themselves. The EFC is not itself a member of the F.I.E.
- 1.2.2 ~~3~~ The duration of the E.F.C. is unlimited
- 1.2.3 ~~2.2~~ The EFC fully complies with and adheres to the principles and rules of the FIE.

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- 1.2.4 ~~6.4~~ The EFC Statutes are in compliance with those of the FIE. ~~The EFC shall have no rules or statutes contrary to those of the F.I.E.~~ Any matter that is not covered either by the present Statutes or the EFC Interior Rules is governed by the FIE ~~statutes~~ regulations. ~~(Article 24)~~ In case of discrepancy between these Statutes or the EFC Interior Rules, and their interpretation, and FIE statutes or rules, FIE regulations.
- 1.2.5 ~~2.3~~ The EFC is the fencing governing body for European Fencing Championships. The EFC has the sole jurisdiction to propose to the FIE the organisational structure of the senior and junior zonal championships in Europe in which the national federations and their members participate.
- 1.2.6 ~~2.4~~ No team or competitor of an EFC member national federation has the right to take part in any competition organized by a country that is not a member of the FIE or by a confederation which is not recognized by the FIE and the converse.
- 1.2.7 ~~2.5~~ The EFC may propose to the Executive Committee of the FIE measures that it deems useful for the development and consolidation of fencing in Europe.
- 1.2.8 ~~4.7~~ The EFC acts in furtherance of its objectives with no regards ~~for,~~ or discrimination on ~~political, confessional or racial~~ grounds of, race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinion, family status or other reasons.

ARTICLE 1.3 REGISTERED OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 1.3.1 ~~5.4~~ The registered office of the EFC is at the address of the seat of the Luxembourgian Fencing Federation
- 1.3.2 ~~5.3~~ The administrative seat of the EFC is located at the seat of the EFC's Secretary General.

ARTICLE 1.4 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

- 1.4.1 ~~4.1~~ English and French are the official languages of the EFC.
- 1.4.2 ~~4.2~~ The working languages of the EFC are English and French.
- 1.4.3 ~~4.3~~ All the official texts/documents of the EFC are rendered in English and translated into French.
- 1.4.4 ~~4.4~~ In case of discrepancy, the English language shall govern
- 1.4.5 ~~4.5~~ Other European languages may be used as working languages in order to facilitate communication between the Member Federations of the EFC.

ARTICLE 1.5 FINANCIAL YEAR

- ~~4.8~~ The financial year of the EFC begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December

ARTICLE 1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Article ~~8~~

Member Federations pay an annual membership fee the amount of which is set by the Congress. The fee must be paid no later than 31 March of the year in progress.

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18.4 Income of the ECF also includes ~~membership fees paid by Member Federations in compliance with article 8 of the present Statutes~~, entry fees for the European Championships, sums paid according to the contracts concluded with partners and contributions received by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 1.7 GOVERNING BODIES

~~Article 9~~ The governing bodies (Organs) of the EFC are the following:

- ~~9.1~~ - Congress (see Section 3);
- ~~9.2~~ - Executive Committee (COMEX) (see Section 5);
- ~~9.3~~ - President (see Article 5.4).

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1 ~~12-1~~ **Conditions:** The association is a confederation composed of European fencing federations geographically belonging to Europe. Nevertheless, other countries can be associated providing they are not associated to other continent fencing associations. **The EFC may also admit invited bodies that will not have member status.**

2.1.2 ~~2-26~~ The EFC may accept as its Members National Federations (Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.) which bind themselves to the present Statutes and the Interior Rules of the EFC, provided that they are officially recognised by the Olympic Committee of their country ~~and by the International Fencing Federation as the only representatives of fencing in their country and are FIE member federations.~~

2.1.3 ~~6-1~~ Member Federations undertake to cooperate in furtherance of achieving the objectives of the EFC.

2.1.4 ~~6-2~~ Member Federations accept the Statutes and the Internal Rules of the EFC.

2.1.5 ~~6-3~~ Member Federations exercise all the rights granted to them by the present Statutes.

ARTICLE 2.2 QUALIFICATION

a) In order to qualify as a Member of the EFC, a National Federation must have a sufficient number of registered fencers and prove that its Statutes are not in contradiction with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE and the EFC Statutes (except with respect to official and working languages).

ARTICLE 2.3 APPLICATION

b) A National Federation which wishes to be made a Member of the EFC can present an application to the Executive Committee of the EFC. This application must be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee certifying that the Federation is the only one officially recognised by the NOC and the FIE to govern fencing in their country.

ARTICLE 2.4 ENROLMENT

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

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

When a National Federation is a provisional Member, it benefits from the same rights and has the same obligations as any other Member Federation.

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

ARTICLE 2.5 LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

- d) The Member Federations may lose their membership of the EFC:
by resignation;
by expulsion;
by failure to comply with the requirements of the present Statutes.

ARTICLE 2.6 MEMBERS OF HONOUR

~~Article 7~~ For outstanding merits to the EFC and long and loyal service to European fencing, the Congress may grant to a person the title Member of Honour of the EFC. The Executive Committee recommends the possible Member of Honour to the Congress. The Members of Honour assist at the Congress in advisory capacity.

SECTION 3 – CONGRESS

ARTICLE 3.1. STATUS

~~4.1.~~ The Congress is the supreme body of the EFC.

ARTICLE 3.2. COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION

3.2.1 ~~4.2~~ **The Congress** ~~is~~ consists of the authorised delegates of the full Members of the EFC (article 2). Every Member Federation may authorise two (2) delegates to the Congress. **Members of honour, members of the Executive Committee and members of the permanent Commissions and the permanent Councils also have the right to take part in the Congress.**

3.2.2 ~~4.7~~ Each Member Federation has one vote. The right to vote on behalf of the Member Federation is limited to its President, or its voting delegate, or any other duly authorised person.

3.2.3 ~~4.8~~ Besides the President of a Member Federation, only a delegate empowered by a written mandate from the President thereof can participate in the Congress with the right to vote.

3.2.4 ~~4.9~~ When a Member Federation cannot send its President, nor another delegate, in compliance with article 3.2.2-3 ~~4.8~~ of the present Statutes, to the Congress, it can entrust its mandate to a delegate of a different Member Federation.

3.2.5 ~~4.10~~ In any case, one delegate cannot hold more than one (1) mandate other than that of his own Member Federation.

3.2.6 ~~4.7~~ Persons who have received an invitation but do not enjoy any voting rights may attend the Congress.

3.2.7 ~~4.14~~ All the decisions are made by the simple majority of votes, unless otherwise is provided for in the present Statutes.

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3.2.8 ~~4.6~~ The Congress defines the voting modalities at its meetings

ARTICLE 3.3. COMPETENCE

It is in the exclusive competence of the Congress to take **certain** decisions.

~~4.12~~ **Decisions** on any issues relating to the exclusive competence of the Congress cannot be transferred to any other body of the EFC. ~~with regards to their examination and decision making.~~

~~4.13~~ All the resolutions and other decisions adopted by the Congress must be executed by all the management and executive bodies of the EFC and of the Member Federations.

The decisions within the exclusive competence of the Congress are with regard to:

3.3.1 ~~4.3.1~~ - changes and amendments to the EFC Statutes;

3.3.2 ~~4.3.2~~ reorganisation of the EFC;

3.3.3 ~~4.3.3~~ liquidation of the EFC;

3.3.4 ~~4.3.4~~ definition of the priority fundamentals of the EFC's activities;

3.3.5 ~~4.3.5~~ definition of the principles of constitution and utilisation of property;

3.3.6 ~~4.3.6~~ approval of the annual working plan and of the EFC's budget;

3.3.7 ~~4.3.7~~ determination of the number of Member Federations;

3.3.8 ~~4.3.8~~ admission of any new Member to the EFC and exclusion of any Member from the EFC;

3.3.9 ~~4.3.9~~ election and anticipated expiry of the powers of the members of the mandates commission;

3.3.10 ~~4.3.10~~ election for a term of one year and anticipated expiry of the powers of the Auditors;

3.3.11 ~~4.3.11~~ approval of the President's message and ~~confirmation of the balance sheets, the allocation of the EFC profit and~~ the reviews of the Executive Committee, and the General Secretariat, ~~the Treasurer and the Auditors~~ presentation by the Treasurer and approval of the previous year's accounts (which must include separate statements concerning travel expenses and allowances granted to the President and the members of the Executive Committee) and the auditors report thereon;

3.3.12 ~~4.3.12~~ fixation of the annual membership fee;

3.3.13 ~~4.3.13~~ - any issues relating to the EFC's activities included in the agenda;

3.3.14 ~~4.3.14~~ - any questions submitted to the Congress by Member Federation(s) or the Executive Committee;

ARTICLE 3.4. MEETINGS

3.4.1 ~~4.4.1~~ The Ordinary Congress is convened once a year in connection with one of the European Championship competitions.

~~4.5~~ All organisation costs of the Congress are covered by the EFC.

~~4.1~~ The Executive Committee fixes the date, location and time limits of the holding of the Ordinary Congress.

3.4.2 ~~4.6~~ An Extraordinary Congress can be convened on the demand of the President, or at least of one third (1/3) of the EFC full Members, or by the decision of the Executive Committee. The request must indicate the agenda.

All organisation costs of an Extraordinary Congress are borne by the EFC.

3.4.3 ~~4.14~~ The Elective Congress is conducted every four years, during the year **following** of the Olympic Games, at the time of European Senior Championships.

An FIE observer, nominated by the FIE, will attend the Elective Congress.

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ARTICLE 3.5. ANNOUNCEMENT AND AGENDA

3.5.1 ~~4.2~~ Within a period of at least four (4) months before the opening of the Ordinary Congress, the Executive Committee informs all Member Federations **and the President and Secretary General of the FIE** by registered letter, e-mail or fax about the Executive Committee's decision mentioned in article 3.4.1 ~~4.1~~ of the present Statutes **and invites the President of the FIE to attend.**

3.5.2 ~~4.3~~ Any issues and proposals of a Member Federation to be discussed at the Congress have to be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat at least two (2) months before the opening of the Congress. At the Congress, only the issues and proposals which have been submitted within the fixed time limit and which are included in the agenda shall be examined. At least one (1) month before the Congress date, the General Secretary shall notify the Member Federations **and the President and Secretary General of the FIE** of the final agenda **and send them any relevant documents.**

3.5.3 ~~4.4~~ If $\frac{3}{4}$ (three ~~fourths~~ **quarters**) of the Member Federations' delegates present at the Congress approve, the Congress may take the decision to include in the agenda an item which has been submitted to the General Secretariat within a time limit shorter than the one mentioned in article 3.5.2 ~~4.3~~ of the present Statutes.
The resolution and any other decisions regarding the item shall be approved by a qualified majority of $\frac{3}{4}$ (three ~~fourths~~ **quarters**) of the votes of the delegates present at the Congress.

3.5.4 ~~4.5~~ The provisions of articles 3.2.7, 3.3, ~~4.11 to 4.13~~ 3.4.1 and 3.5.1-3 ~~4.1 to 4.4~~ of the present Statutes shall also apply to any Extraordinary Congress. **For an Elective Congress the provisions of 3.4.1 and 3.5.1-2 ~~4.1 to 4.3~~ of the present Statutes shall also apply and in particular the names of the candidates for the positions of President and member of the Executive Committee must be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat at least two (2) months before the opening of the Congress.**

3.5.5 ~~4.6~~ The following points must be included in the agenda of any Ordinary Congress:

- 1 election and determination of the powers of the members of the mandates commission;
- 2 election and determination of the powers of the members of the election commission;
- 3 the President's message;
- 4 official approval of the minutes of the previous Congress;
- 5 confirmation of the reviews prepared by the Executive Committee, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Auditors relating to the period following the previous Congress;
- 6 approval of the EFC's annual working plan and budget for the following financial year.

ARTICLE 3.6. CHANGES TO THE STATUTES

~~20.1~~ The Statutes can be changed or amended only by the Congress **and as follows:**

3.6.1 ~~20.2~~ The Congress (article 3.6 ~~20.1~~) is to be convened in compliance with article 3.5 ~~4.1~~ of the present Statutes.

3.6.2 ~~20.3~~ The proposals and changes/amendments must be attached in their definitive form to the agenda of the Congress.

3.6.3 ~~20.4~~ The Congress (~~article 20.1~~) can only reach valid decisions if 75% of all the EFC Member Federations (full Members) are present or represented.

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3.6.4 ~~20.5~~ The decisions are taken by the majority of 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes effectively represented at the Congress.

3.6.5 ~~20.6~~ If the Congress does not have the quorum, the next Congress will be entitled to take all the necessary decisions. In this case, the Congress will validly pass resolutions, whatever the number of votes represented.

ARTICLE 3.7. DISSOLUTION (LIQUIDATION)

~~Article 21~~

3.7.1 The EFC can only be dissolved by virtue of a resolution of the Congress adopted by $\frac{3}{4}$ (three ~~fourths~~-quarters) of the EFC's Member Federations (full Members).

~~Article 22~~

3.7.2 In case of liquidation of the EFC, the Congress will pass a resolution on the disposal of the EFC's property.

SECTION 4 – PROCESSES FOR ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 4.1. GENERAL RULES

4.1.1 The President of the E.F.C and the nine (9) other elected members of the Executive Committee are elected by the Elective Congress.
The members of the Commissions and Councils are elected by the Executive Committee at a meeting following the Elective Congress, except in the case of the Athletes Commission (c.f.4.5).
~~(12.1)~~ They are elected for a term of four years. They are eligible for re-election at the end of their term of office.

4.1.2 Candidates for any elective post may be proposed by an E.F.C. Member Federation subject to the following conditions:-

4.1.3 ~~12.3~~ A candidate for the presidency or to be an elected member of the Executive Committee, a commission or a council must be presented to the General Secretariat by the Member Federation of the candidate's nationality - only one candidate for the Executive Committee may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post. The Member Federation which presents the candidate must also be a full Member of the EFC.

4.1.4 ~~12.3~~ The same person can be a candidate for President and for a member of the Executive Committee. For commissions/councils see Article 4.4.

4.1.5 ~~11.5~~ ~~and in particular~~ The names of the candidates for the positions of President and member of the Executive Committee must be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat at least two (2) months before the opening of the Congress.

4.1.6 ~~12.4~~ The President and nine (9) members of the Executive Committee are elected by secret vote in two separate polls.

4.1.7 ~~12.5~~ Order of elections:

~~12.5.1~~ - The President is elected first:

~~12.5.2~~ - Subsequently, the members of the Executive Committee are elected.

4.1.8 ~~12.6.1~~ The candidates for the Executive Committee must be presented ahead of the Presidential candidates.

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4.1.9 ~~4.2.3~~ The President and nine (9) Executive Committee members are elected through direct vote.

ARTICLE 4.2. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

4.2.1 ~~4.2.2~~ The Presidential candidates will have the opportunity to address the Congress (maximum time is 10 minutes per candidate) before the vote.

~~4.2.2. The candidate having obtained the highest amount of votes is elected as follows:~~

~~4.2.2.1 1st round by absolute majority;~~

~~4.2.2.2 2nd round by absolute majority;~~

~~4.2.2.3 3rd round by simple majority.~~

4.2.2 To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required.

4.2.3 If in the first round of voting no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised.

4.2.4 If during the second round an absolute majority of votes is not obtained by a candidate, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains a majority of votes or until only two candidates remain.

4.2.5 In this last case (ie, two candidates remaining), the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected. Should there be a tie between these two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected

ARTICLE 4.3. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.3.1 ~~4.3.1~~ Elected members of the Executive Committee must represent different Member Federations than that of the President and different Member Federations between themselves.

4.3.2 ~~4.3.2~~ Member Federations can vote no more than nine (9) candidates from the list proposed for election of the Executive Committee.

4.3.3 ~~4.3.3~~ The nine (9) candidates having obtained the highest amount of votes are elected:

~~4.3.3.1~~ - 1st round by simple majority;

~~4.3.3.2~~ - 2nd round by means of a draw.

~~4.3.4~~ ~~4.3.4~~ ~~If the nine (9) highest amounts of votes in the Executive Committee election are for candidates of the same gender, eight (8) candidates with highest amounts of votes and a person of the opposite gender having obtained the highest amount of votes are elected~~ As women and men must each be represented by at least 3 elected members of the Executive Committee, if the 9 candidates who have obtained the most votes do not include at least 3 persons of each gender, the Executive Committee will consist of the 3 candidates for the Executive Committee of the under-represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes. If there are less than 3 candidates of one or other gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates put forward and the remainder of the Executive Committee will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

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~~12.8 If several candidates obtain the same number of votes, the ballot is completed by means of a draw.~~

ARTICLE 4.4. ELECTION OF THE COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS EXCEPT THE ATHLETES COMMISSION

- 4.4.1 ~~17.8~~ Member Federations are invited to propose candidates for the Commissions/**Councils**.
- 4.4.2 ~~17.3~~ The Commission/**Council** members are elected by the Executive Committee in compliance with the recommendations of the Commission's/**Council's** President.
- 4.4.3 ~~17.4~~ All candidates for membership of these Commissions/**Councils** must be presented to the General Secretariat for the attention of the Executive Committee by a Member Federation and are subject to the following conditions:
- Only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
 - A candidate for a Commission/**Council** can only be presented by the Member Federation of the country of which the candidate has nationality.
- The Member Federation that presents the candidate must also be a full Member of the EFC.
- 4.4.4 The Secretary General asks the Member Federations to present their candidates for the different Commissions/**Councils** after the Elective Congress has taken place and at least one month before the date of the Executive Committee meeting at which the Commission members will be elected. Names of Commission/**Council** candidates must be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat at least two (2) weeks before the date of the above-mentioned meeting.

ARTICLE 4.5. ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION

- 4.5.1 The elections for the Athletes Commission are held at the European Senior Championships in the year of the Olympic Games.
- 4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in at least one of the European Senior Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.
If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.
Each member federation can nominate one single athlete for the Athletes Commission
- 4.5.3 Each member federation shall indicate to the EFC the name of its candidate two months before the first day of the European Senior Championships in the year of the Olympic Games.
- 4.5.4 One month before the European Senior Championships, the E.F.C. shall send to each member federation the list of the candidates.
- 4.5.5 The athletes participating in these European Senior Championships in the year of the Olympic Games will elect six representatives from among these candidates for a four year term.
- 4.5.6 Six ballot boxes will be provided, one per weapons; each participant may vote for one athlete in each weapon.
- 4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the office of the EFC at the competition site to fill in their voting slips (one per weapon, preferably of different colours) and deposit them in the

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appropriate ballot boxes, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation and having signed the attendance sheet.

- 4.5.8 The voting will be open for all weapons and will begin on the first day of the European Senior Championships, and will end at noon local time on the last day of the individual events of the European Senior Championships.
- 4.5.9 In each weapon the candidate who has received the greatest number of votes will be elected.
- 4.5.10 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world Open ranking on the date of the opening of the European Senior Championships will have the preference.
- 4.5.11 If in any weapon there is no candidate, the un-elected candidate with the highest vote who is of the same gender as the un-represented weapon will be elected; in case of a tie, 4.5.10 will apply.
- 4.5.12 The federations will be informed of the result of the election by the start of the first day of the team event.
- 4.5.13 The six members of the Athletes Commission so elected will meet during the team events to elect the president of their commission on condition that all can conveniently be assembled; otherwise the EFC Secretary General will at a later date conduct an e-mail vote (secret ballot secret) for this purpose.

SECTION 5 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 5.1. STRUCTURE AND TENURE

- 5.1.1 ~~4.2.1~~ The Executive Committee is composed of the President, nine (9) members elected for the term of four (4) years by the Congress ~~and~~, ~~ex-officio~~ the President of the FIE with voting rights ~~and the president of the EFC Athletes Commission, also with voting rights.~~
- 5.1.2 ~~4.2.2~~ The ~~nine~~ ~~elected~~ ~~members~~ of the Executive Committee must include at least ~~one woman~~ ~~three women~~ and ~~one man~~ ~~three men~~.
- 5.1.3 ~~4.2.3~~ In case of withdrawal or death of a member of the Executive Committee during the period he/she holds office, the first non-elected candidate will automatically replace him/her for the remaining term. If there are no other candidates, a supplementary election shall be organised during the next Congress.

ARTICLE 5.2. MEETINGS

- ~~4.2.10~~ The Executive Committee meetings are convened by the President as may be required and at least two (2) times during the year. In case of necessity, the President, acting on his own initiative or on the initiative of at least half of the Executive Committee members, convenes an additional meeting of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 5.3. COMPETENCE

- 5.3.1 ~~4.2.14~~ The following items are related to the exclusive competence of the Executive Committee:

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- 5.3.1.1 ~~42.11.1~~ amendments **and changes** to the EFC Internal Rules, ~~which are to be ratified by the Congress and made only in case of urgent necessity;~~
- 5.3.1.2 ~~42.11.2~~ affiliation of new Members to the EFC and expulsion of Members from the EFC, which are to be approved by the next Congress;
- 5.3.1.3 ~~42.11.3~~ implementation of resolutions and other decisions of the Congress;
- 5.3.1.4 ~~42.11.4~~ taking decisions on convocation of an Ordinary Congress; approbation of the agenda, time limits and place of the Congress;
- 5.3.1.5 ~~42.11.5~~ organising and controlling the reasonable/proper spending of the EFC funds in respect of the approved budget;
- 5.3.1.6 ~~42.11.6~~ preparation of a report on the work performed;
- 5.3.1.7 ~~42.11.7~~ examination and taking of decisions concerning the problems of preparation and realisation of competitions;
- 5.3.1.8 ~~42.11.8~~ preparation and approval of the **European sporting plans** proposal for the European Competition Calendar, all age categories, including places and dates, and including for the Zonal Championships, the proposal for the Senior and Junior Zonal Championships **these latter** to be submitted with supporting justification at least six months before the ~~date of the competitions~~ start of the fencing season concerned to the Executive Committee of the FIE for its final approval;
- 5.3.1.9 ~~42.11.9~~ consulting with the Member Federations; constitution and approval with regard to the number, function and composition of the EFC Commissions; appointment of the Commissions' Presidents from among the Executive Committee members; determination of the composition of the Commissions in accordance with the proposals of Member Federations and following the consultation of the Commission's President appointed within the Executive Committee **(all except in the case of the Athletes Commission, for which see Article 4.5);**
- 5.3.1.10 ~~42.11.10~~ taking decisions concerning ~~the membership in~~ of any European and International bodies, non-profit organisations, unions or associations and ~~the~~ withdrawal from the said bodies;
- 5.3.1.11. ~~42.11.11~~ **responsibility for the application of the four-year plan of the EFC adopted by the Executive Committee of the FIE.;**
- 5.3.1.12 **recommending possible Members of Honour to the Congress.**
- 5.3.2 ~~42.12~~ Decisions are taken by ~~the~~ a simple majority of votes with the President's vote as decisive in case of equality of votes. The Executive Committee is entitled to take any decisions under the condition that more than half of its elected members take part in the meeting.

ARTICLE 5.4. THE PRESIDENT

- 5.4.1 ~~44.1~~ The President represents the EFC in all the activities of ~~the~~ civil life and ad litem.
- 5.4.2 ~~44.2~~ The President presides the Congress, the Executive Committee and the Bureau.
- 5.4.3 ~~44.3~~ The President, assisted by the Bureau members, attends to all ongoing matters and subsequently obtains the Executive Committee's ratification of the decisions taken.
- 5.4.4 ~~44.4~~ The President may employ, with the approval of the Executive Committee, the personnel necessary to run the EFC efficiently.
- 5.4.5 ~~44.5~~ The President has the power to open and operate a bank account on his sole signature and to carry out current transactions in compliance with the present Statutes.
- 5.4.6 ~~44.6~~ The President may assign powers of attorney to other EFC officials in compliance with the present Statutes.
- 5.4.7 ~~44.7~~ The President orders the expenses; the Treasurer performs them.

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- 5.4.8 ~~14.8~~ The President presents to the Executive Committee the proposals regarding the distribution of functions between its members and allocation of the financial funds of the EFC.
- 5.4.9 ~~14.9~~ The President has the executive power to implement resolutions based on the working plan and the budget.
- 5.4.10 ~~14.10~~ For specific matters, the President can nominate Presidential advisors, who can be invited to attend the Executive Committee meetings without right to vote.
- 5.4.11 ~~14.11~~ The President reports to the CEO of the FIE any problems or administrative dysfunctions within the EFC and/or its national federations and actively collaborate with the CEO of the FIE to carry out administration training projects.
- 5.4.12 ~~14.12~~ The President presents each year to the Secretary General of the FIE and, then, to the Executive Committee of the FIE a report on the EFC activities and a progress report on the four-year plan of the EFC adopted by the Executive Committee of the FIE as well as a financial report and draft of the budget for the subsequent year

ARTICLE 5.5. THE BUREAU

- 5.5.1 ~~14.1~~ The bureau is composed of:
- President;
 - Vice-President;
 - General Secretary;
 - Treasurer.
- The President appoints the other members of the Bureau among the elected members of the Executive Committee.
- 5.5.2 ~~14.2~~ If any of the said positions is vacant, the President shall designate another Executive Committee member to the office during the Executive Committee's next meeting.
- 5.5.3 ~~14.3~~ The ~~Vice-president~~ General Secretary replaces the President in case of absence. He performs the functions of the President at the Executive Committee meetings, at the Congresses and in other official activities.
- 5.5.4 ~~14.4~~ In case of definitive absence, withdrawal or death of the President, the ~~Vice-president~~ General Secretary shall lead the EFC until the next Congress, during which a new President shall be elected.
- 5.5.5 ~~14.5~~ The Bureau, under the guidance of the President, attends to all ongoing activities and prepares the issues to be treated by the Executive Committee.
- 5.5.6 ~~14.6~~ The Bureau shall inform the Sport Department of the FIE of the training requests and needs for the coaches of its national federations and actively collaborates with the Sport Department of the FIE to carry out the training projects developed by the FIE.

SECTION 6 – COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS

Article ~~17~~

- 6.1 ~~17.1~~ In order to ensure the proper performance of the EFC, the Executive Committee creates Commissions/Councils ~~the members of which are elected by the Executive Committee.~~

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6.2 ~~17.2~~ The Commissions/**councils** are constituted of representatives of Member Federations **in compliance with the recommendations of the Commissions' Presidents from the Executive Committee.**

6.3 ~~17.9~~ There are two (2) kinds of Commissions/**Councils**:

6.3.1 ~~17.9.1~~ - Compulsory Commissions/**Councils**, which are:

- a) ~~Educational Commission; Training/Fencing Masters Commission~~
- b) Promotion/~~Marketing and Assistance to underprivileged Federations~~ Commission;
- c) Referees Commission;
- d) Competitions Commission
- e) **Legal Commission**
- f) Athletes Commission
- g) Technical Commission (**SEMI**)
- h) Medical Commission
- i) Veterans **Council**;
- j) **Wheelchair/Handicapped Fencing Council**
- k) Women and Sport Council

6.3.2 ~~17.9.2~~ - Auxiliary Commissions **that** are created if needed.

6.4 Each Commission/**Council** normally consists of up to 6 (six) members, representing different Member Federations, plus a President, who is designated by the Executive Committee from among the Executive Committee members following the proposal of the EFC's President.

6.5 Exceptionally, in the case of the Athletes Commission the commission members elect their President from among their number and the Executive Committee nominates one of its members to liaise with and coordinate the work of the Athletes Commission.

~~17.3 The Commissions normally consists of up to 6 (six) members, representing different Member Federations~~

6.6 ~~17.4~~ ~~5~~ Detailed functions and rights of the Commissions/**Councils** are set by the EFC Internal Rules.

~~17.5 The Presidents of the Commissions are designated by the Executive Committee from among its members following the proposal of the EFC's President.~~

6.7 ~~17.6~~ The Commissions/**Councils** prepare and submit to the Executive Committee for examination any new proposals, the aim of which consists in the achievement of the EFC statutory objectives.

6.8 ~~17.7~~ The President of each Commission/**Council** ensures the proper utilisation of the budget and provides the Executive Committee with financial reviews when demanded.

SECTION 7 – FINANCES

7.1 ~~18.1~~ The Executive Committee establishes a general budget showing the main expenses and receipts for the approval of the Congress.

7.2 ~~18.2~~ The Treasurer prepares, with all the necessary explanations, all the details of the budget within the general lines established by the Executive Committee. This budget is intended for the management of EFC, President, Bureau, Executive Committee and Auditor(s).

7.3 ~~18.3~~ The expenses provided for in the budget must be countersigned by the Treasurer.

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The expenses which are not provided for in the budget and which exceed the budget by more than 10 % must be approved by the Executive Committee.

~~7.4 18.5~~ Payments and invoices of over 5% of the EFC budget must be signed by the President and the Treasurer.

~~15.1~~ Two (2) internal Auditors are elected annually by the Congress.

~~15.2~~ The Auditors examine, on a yearly basis, the financial activities of the EFC, including the proper use of aids granted by the FIE, on the basis of the documents submitted by the Treasurer. They provide a report of their examination to the Congress.

Article 16

~~16.1~~ The Executive Committee members as well as the Auditors must originate from different Member Federations.

~~An or One independent Auditor can be appointed by the Congress instead of two elected internal Auditors as per article 15.1.~~

7.5 ~~15~~ The Congress appoints professional auditor(s) as auditors for the following fiscal year, which can be renewed.

7.6 ~~16~~ The Auditors examine, on a yearly basis, the financial activities of the EFC, including the proper use of aids granted by the FIE, on the basis of the documents submitted by the Treasurer. They provide a report of this examination to the Congress, which report shall be based on recognized international financial reporting standards.

SECTION 8 – DISCIPLINE

8.1 The EFC is subject to the FIE's Disciplinary Code. In furtherance of this the EFC incorporates by reference the FIE Disciplinary Code, substituting "EFC" for "FIE" as appropriate to make it effective for controversies within the EFC..

8.2 The Disciplinary Panel of the FIE has sole jurisdiction to rule on all offences against the Rules and Statutes, Ethics Code, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the E.F.C., except the specific dispositions with respect to discipline at the sites of the competitions to be found in Articles t.114 et seq. of the Rules for Competitions of the F.I.E.

8.3 Any person, therefore, be they individual or entity, wishing to present a complaint or state the existence of an offence within the purview of the E.F.C susceptible of being pursued in accordance with the above Articles 8.1 – 8.2 must present their complaint before the Disciplinary Tribunal of the F.I.E. in conformity with the Disciplinary Code of the F.I.E.

Place and date

Torun (Poland), 19th June, 2016

The President

The Secretary General

Max W.F. Geuter

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