

European Olympic Academies

# STATUTES OF THE EUROPEAN OLYMPIC ACADEMIES (EOA)

IN FORCE AS FROM 10 NOVEMBER 2023

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Adopted by the Founding Assembly of the EOA on 20 September 2018 in Ljubljana  
Amendments to the Statutes of the EOA II/2023



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## **Preamble**

The Olympic Charter obliges the National Olympic Committees to spread and preserve the basic principles and values of the Olympic Movement in their countries, encouraging and supporting the activities of the International Olympic Academy ("IOA") and other institutions which dedicate themselves to Olympic Education. This purpose is served above all by the National Olympic Academies and the NOC Commissions entrusted with the implementation of Olympic Education. They promote Olympism and the values of peace, fair play, respect, tolerance, joy of efforts, excellence and the harmonic development of body and mind, and oppose every form of discrimination, force and manipulation. They accompany the Olympic Movement in a critical-constructive way and contribute to its contemporary further development.

The National Olympic Academies under the aegis of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) and the IOA, have united in the Association of European Olympic Academies (EOA) to fulfil their tasks more effectively by exchange of experiences and collaboration.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **§1 Name, registered office, legal constitution**

- (1) The name of the Association shall be "European Olympic Academies (EOA)" ("Europäische Olympische Akademien e. V.").
- (2) The EOA shall be a registered association and have its registered office in Frankfurt am Main.
- (3) It is entered in the Register of Associations in Frankfurt am Main.

### **§2 Mission and duties**

- (1) The EOA shall undertake the following duties in collaboration with its member organisations and by way of its purposes:
  - (a) The Association serves the purpose of the promotion of the Olympic Idea as well as the preservation of the ethical, educational, social and cultural values of sport in the spirit of the Fundamental Principles and of Rule 27 of the Olympic Charter. As a European organization, it is also dedicated to strengthening Europe as a community of values.
  - (b) Promoting the collaboration of the National Olympic Academies in Europe based on the corresponding provisions of the Olympic Charter, in close co-operation with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) through their respective National Olympic Committees, the International Olympic Academy (IOA), the European Olympic Committees (EOC), the European Paralympic Committee, other continental associations of Olympic Academies,

European sport federations and other organisations and institutions pursuing the same aims and objectives.

(c) To achieve these purposes and aims:

- the EOA promotes the continuous sharing of experiences, knowledge and best practice amongst its members using appropriate communicative initiatives;
- the EOA works as a stakeholder of the Olympic Movement to spread the Olympic Idea and to promote the Olympic values;
- the EOA represents its positions and interests towards governmental organisations and non-governmental organisations;
- the EOA works closely with the IOA with regard to the establishment or re-establishment of new NOAs in countries of Europe that do not exist and organize in collaboration with the IOA special educational seminars and programs in order to train their officials;
- the EOA implements activities at European level (e.g. European sporting events);
- the EOA offers continuing education and training for multipliers;
- the EOA develops and publishes materials for the Olympic education;
- the EOA conducts EOA conferences, coordinates projects, seminars and other appropriate initiatives to achieve its purposes.

(d) With its goals and measures, the EOA is aimed equally at children and young people, students, educators, scientific institutions, European sports organizations, athletes, trainers, all people active in and committed to sports, as well as the general public.

### **§3 Non-profit-making Constitution**

- (1) The EOA shall only pursue directly non-profit-making objects, as defined in the German Tax Code (Section: Non-taxable activities). The purpose of the EOA is to promote sports and public education.
- (2) The EOA does not operate for profit and does not pursue profitability as its primary purpose. Members shall receive no payments from Association funds. The EOA does not support individual members or their particular interests.
- (3) EOA funds may be used only for purposes allowed under these Statutes.
- (4) The governing bodies and committees of the EOA shall be honorary in their membership, unless these Statutes specifically declare otherwise. Travel expenses and other official expenses shall be reimbursed.
- (5) No person shall receive any benefit through expenses which are incompatible with the purposes of the EOA, or through unreasonably high payments.

#### **§4 Business Year**

The business year shall be the calendar year.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **§5 Members**

- (1) The following member organisations shall form part of the EOA:
  - (a) National Olympic Academies, recognized by their respective NOC and in the absence of the above
  - (b) National Olympic Committees' Commissions entrusted with the implementation of Olympic Education

Each country may be represented by one organisation only.

- (2) The General Assembly shall decide on the adoption of new members pursuant to paragraphs (1) a) and b) on the proposal of the Executive Board. Motions for membership must be addressed in writing to the Executive Board with all necessary documents.

#### **§6 Period of Membership**

- (1) Membership starts with the approving decision of admission of the General Assembly.
- (2) Member organisations may declare their resignation in writing to the Executive Board to the end of the business year, giving three months' notice. Membership shall also end by exclusion from the EOA, which may only be decided for cause by the General Assembly with a majority of three-fourths of the votes cast. The obligation to pay outstanding membership fees shall remain unaffected.
- (3) A member or the individual representative of a member can be excluded if it has significantly violated the statutes of the EOA or the ethical principles of the Olympic Charter.

#### **§7 Rights and Duties of Members**

- (1) Members shall have the right to use the facilities and services of the EOA.
- (2) Members have the duty to support the EOA in the performance of its duties (Section 3).

## **GOVERNING BODIES**

### **§8 Overview**

The governing bodies of the EOA shall be:

- (a) The General Assembly
- (b) The Executive Board

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **§9 Composition/Right to Apply**

- (1) The General Assembly shall be the supreme executive body of the EOA. It shall consist of the delegates of the member organisations.
- (2) All members under Section 5, Paragraph (1) and the Executive Board shall be entitled to present motions to the General Assembly.

### **§10 Duties**

The General Assembly shall have the following tasks:

- (a) To make decisions on all principle matters and matters that do not explicitly fall under the purview of others according to the Statutes;
- (b) To receive and approve reports from the Executive Board and other reports;
- (c) To approve the budget and the annual accounts;
- (d) Formally approve the actions of the Executive Board;
- (e) To amend the Statutes, the Standing Orders on Finance and other provisions if these are reserved for the General Assembly;
- (f) To resolve on the exclusion of members;
- (g) To elect the President and the other members of the Executive Board pursuant to Section 13, Paragraphs 1 b) to e);
- (h) To elect three auditors;
- (i) To determine membership fees;
- (j) To approve the Good Governance Principles established by the Executive Board;
- (k) To appoint the Good Governance Officer.

### **§11 Convening and Conducting the General Assembly Meeting**

- (1) The General Assembly shall be held once a year. The date and place shall be determined by the Executive Board. An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened following a motion by one quarter of the members or following a resolution of the Executive Board.

- (2) The President shall convene the General Assembly in writing, giving notice of at least three months and stating the proposed agenda within at least eight weeks. The General Assembly may also be convened by e-mail. The General Assembly Meeting may also be held by way of electronic communication, in a hybrid meeting of present persons or by video conference. The Presidium shall decide whether the General Assembly Meeting is held in person or by electronic communication, in a hybrid meeting of present persons or by video conference.
- (3) Providing it has been properly convened, the General Assembly shall be quorate, irrespective of the number of votes represented.
- (4) Members may submit written motions to amend or supplement the agenda until five weeks prior to the date of the General Assembly. Members must be informed of these motions at least three weeks prior to the date of the General Assembly.
- (5) Urgent motions can only be discussed if they have been submitted in writing and the General Assembly has agreed to discuss them with a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast. Urgent motions to amend the Statutes are not permissible.
- (6) Minutes shall be kept of the resolutions of the Assembly; these must be signed by the Chairman of the Assembly and by the secretary taking the minutes and submitted to the members.

## **§12 Voting Rights**

Every member has one vote in the General Assembly. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **§13 Composition**

- (1) The Executive Board shall consist of the following
  - (a) The President ,
  - (b) The General Secretary,
  - (c) The Treasurer,
  - (d) Two Vice Presidents,
  - (e) Two additional members,
  - (f) Up to two gender representatives (in case one gender is not represented or is underrepresented).
- (2) The members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the delegates of the General Assembly for a period of four years, but shall remain in office beyond this term until new elections have been held. If a member of the Executive Board resigns during a current term of office, the Executive Board may appoint an interim Executive Board member for the period until the next General Assembly is convened. An Executive Board member may serve in the

same function a maximum of three terms of office.

- (3) The Association is represented by the President and the Vice President(s) and the Treasurer, in each case acting jointly as two persons. They constitute the management within the meaning of Section 26 BGB [German Civil Code].

## **§14 Duties**

The Executive Board shall have the following duties:

- (a) To reach decisions on EOA's strategic orientation and its content,
- (b) The appointment of commissions and working groups pursuant to Section 16,
- (c) Compile and present the budget and annual accounts to the General Assembly for its approval,
- (d) To resolve on the adoption of new members.

## **§15 Meetings**

- (1) Meetings of the Executive Board shall be convened by the President or, should he/she be prevented from doing so, by a Vice President. Meetings shall be convened giving at least two weeks' notice in writing or by e-mail.
- (2) Notice of the meeting shall specify the place, date and agenda. Any meeting documents shall be submitted to meeting participants on a timely basis.
- (3) The Executive Board shall be quorate if more than half of its members are present.
- (4) The Executive Board shall decide whether further guests may attend.
- (5) Minutes must be taken of the meeting, and these must be signed by the chairman of the meeting and by the secretary.

## **COMMISSIONS**

### **§16 Commissions**

- (1) The Executive Board may set up commissions for certain subject areas or fields of activity and the Executive Board may set up working groups.
- (2) The Executive Board shall call for nominations from the members every four years. Each member shall have the right to propose a candidate for each commission. The Executive Board shall appoint Commission members from the list of nominations and confirm the Commission Chairperson that is proposed by the Commission members.



- (3) The Executive Board shall dismiss the members of the Commission.
- (4) The commissions shall advise and make proposals to the Executive Board in their fields of expertise.
- (5) Further details on the work of the commissions are regulated by Rules and Procedures for Commissions.
- (6) The members of the Executive Board are entitled to participate in all commissions meetings.

## **VOTING**

### **§17 Votes and Elections**

- (1) Resolutions of governing bodies and committees shall be passed by a simple majority. A tie shall signify rejection. In case a qualified majority is specified in the Statutes, the basis shall be the number of delegates present at the Assembly.
- (2) Sessions of the Executive Board and committees may be held by means of electronic communication, particularly by e-mail and by telephone or video conference, providing no member of the Executive Board or committee opposes this procedure; for these resolutions, too, a simple majority shall suffice.
- (3) Resolutions on amendments to these Statutes, the adoption of new member organisations and the exclusion of member organisations shall require a two-thirds majority of votes cast.
- (4) Votes are normally taken by an open show of hands, unless a member demands a written and secret vote.
- (5) Elections shall be conducted in writing by secret ballot.
- (6) Absent persons may be elected if they have declared their readiness to assume the office in writing.
- (7) Should only one person stand for elective office, this person shall be elected if he or she obtains a majority of the votes cast. Should more than one person stand for election, the person shall be elected who has obtained more than half the votes cast. Should no person succeed in reaching this number of votes, a run-off vote shall be held between the two persons who received the most votes in the first election, and in this run-off vote a simple majority shall decide. Should there be a tie, the election must be repeated after a break. Should there be a further tie, decision shall be made by lot.
- (8) By-elections and subsequent replacement appointments for all governing bodies and committees shall be valid only for the current election term.

## **PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS**

### **§18 Budget**

- (1) The annual budget shall be compiled and presented by the Executive Board and shall be subsequently approved by the General Assembly.
- (2) The funds of the Association may be used only for tasks allowed under these Statutes.

### **§19 Audit**

The annual accounts shall be audited with respect to the principles of sound accounting and certified by a recognised firm of auditors and with respect to the use of funds in accordance with the Statutes by at least two EOA auditors, at the end of the year. The audit report by the firm of auditors shall be submitted to the auditors prior to completion of their report. Both audit results shall be announced to the General Assembly.

### **§20 Commercial Management**

The commercial management of the EOA and the work of its governing bodies and establishments shall be regulated in Standing Orders on Finance. It shall be adopted by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Executive Board.

### **§21 Finance**

- (1) The EOA shall finance its work through membership fees, public and private grants and other income.
- (2) Members shall pay an annual membership fee, the amount of which shall be set by the General Assembly. The membership fee shall be due by 30 June of the respective year. As long as payments are in arrears, the right of the member concerned to send delegates and to exercise a vote at the General assembly shall be in abeyance.

### **§22 Association Management**

The EOA shall follow the principles of good governance. The Good Governance Officer appointed by the General Assembly shall advise the Executive Board. He/she shall report to the General Assembly on his or her work. Further details shall be governed by the Good Governance Guidelines passed by the General Assembly.

## **§23 Language**

The official language of the EOA is English.

## **CONCLUDING PROVISIONS**

### **§24 Dissolution of the Association**

The General Assembly shall decide on the dissolution of the EOA with a majority of 3/4 of the votes cast. A vote may only be held, however, if the motion for dissolution has been justified in the invitation.

### **§25 Application of Assets Upon Termination of the Association**

Any assets available if the EOA is dissolved or wound up or its tax privileged purposes are eliminated shall be transferred to another non-profit-making organisation, which shall use them for promoting sports. This tax privileged organisation shall in principle be a tax privileged successor organisation of the EOA.

Confirmed: Ljubljana, 20 September 2018

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