

# **International Federation of Roller Sports**



## **Statutes**

**Revised 2006**

**Reviewed and approved by FIRS Congress  
Nov.24,2005 Rome**

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## **FIRS STATUTES**

### **Article 1 - Title – Recognitions and Principal Office**

- (1) The name of the Federation shall be "International Roller Sports Federation" (FIRS)
- (2) FIRS exercises jurisdiction over all the disciplines of roller sports, including
  - a) International Olympic Committee (IOC)
  - b) General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF)
  - c) International World Games Association (IWGA)
  - d) Pan American Sports Association (PASO)
- (3) The head office of FIRS shall be in the country where the President resides or any other place proposed by him and approved by the Federation.

### **Article 2 - Objects**

- (1) The main objects of FIRS shall be the gathering together of FIRS recognized Federations, Associations or Confederations for the advancement and development of roller sports.
- (2) The FIRS accepts and recognizes the Statutes and aims of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the I.O.C doping rules, the WADA Rules and Guidelines and the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF).
- (3) FIRS requires all its members to accept and recognize the Court of Arbitration of the Sport to resolve disputes. Only valid member federations of FIRS shall have the right under these statutes to appeal to the Court of Arbitration in seeking legal remedy against FIRS or another of its member Federations.
- (4) The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable and no provision of these Statutes and regulations of FIRS shall be deemed to conflict with or detract from these principles.

### **Article 3 - Membership**

- (1) Membership shall be open to Federations, Associations or Confederations, without discrimination of race, religion or politics. FIRS shall recognize only one Federation, Association or Confederation per country. Nevertheless, more than one Federation or Association per country may be recognized by FIRS provided they direct disciplines admitted by FIRS.

Each National Federation may affiliate one or more disciplines of FIRS. For affiliated disciplines it must organize a national championship and participate at the corresponding World Championships at least every 3 years. The lack of participation at the World or Continental Championships of one discipline for 3 consecutive years will give the right to other sports bodies of the same country to request affiliation to FIRS as a separate Federation of that discipline.

- (2) At Congresses, Federations, Associations or Confederations shall have the following voting power:

One (1) vote per Nation, accruing to that Federation which manages the majority of FIRS recognized disciplines in that country. In the event no such majority exists, the National vote shall be exercised by the Federation that is historically the oldest.

One (1) vote for each of the disciplines that have participated at a World Championships within two years preceding the year of the Congress.

(3) At the end of each year, each Federation, Association or Confederation must send detailed reports of their previous year's activities to the various International Committees. They should regularly participate in international competitions in their respective disciplines.

(4) To be admitted as a member of FIRS, a Federation, Association or Confederation shall submit its application for membership to FIRS enclosing one copy of its constitution, the required admission dues and any further information requested. After due investigation, the Central Committee shall present the application, together with its opinion, to the next Congress for ratification.

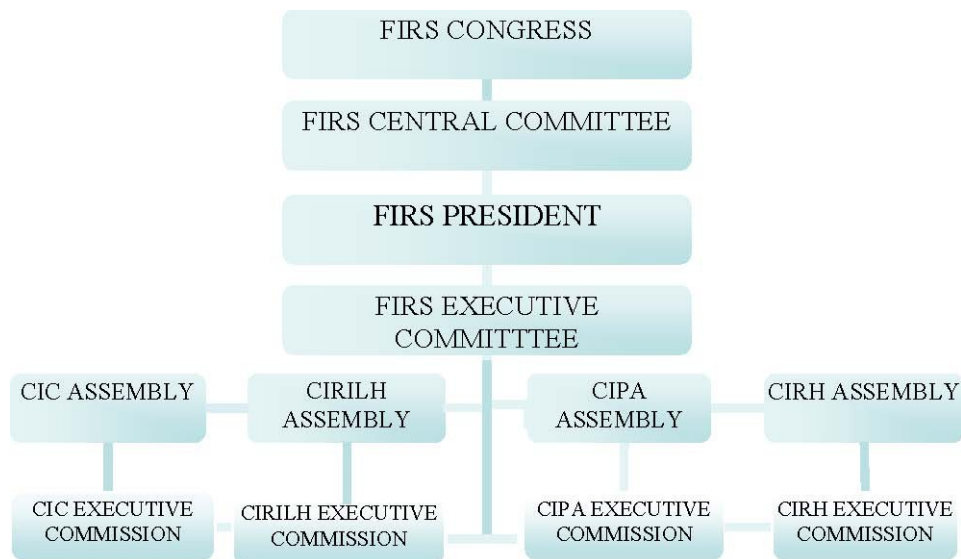
(5) The Central Committee can grant provisional membership if all requirements for membership have been fulfilled. With the provisional membership the new member has all rights regarding participation in sporting activities. Voting power, however, is subject to final acceptance of membership by the Congress.

#### **Article 4 - Honorary Members**

(1) Upon nomination by the Central Committee, the Congress may confer the title of "Honorary Member" of FIRS on any person deserving of this distinction because of exceptional services rendered to the cause of roller skating. Such members may attend all Congresses and official functions of FIRS, but they may not vote.

#### **Article 5 – Authority**

(1) The Congress is the Supreme Legislative authority of the FIRS.



a) The Central Committee will act as the Legislative authority of the FIRS between the Congresses. Any actions taken by the Central Committee must be ratified by the next Congress. Nevertheless, the Central Committee is the sole competent body in deciding the alterations for the general regulations.

b) The Executive Commission

c) The four International Technical Committees, i.e.  
Comite International de Roller Hockey (CIRH)  
Comite International de Roller In-Line Hockey (CIRILH)  
Comite International de Course (CIC)  
Comite International de Patinage Artistique (CIPA)

are entrusted with the management of their respective disciplines through their General

Assemblies of the participating Nations, in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations of FIRS.

d) The Executive Committee of the International Technical Disciplines is entrusted with their management between General Assemblies.

## **Article 6 - The Central Committee**

a) The members of the FIRS Central Committee will consist of:

The **President**

The **First Vice president**

**Five Vice Presidents** who will be the Presidents of each one of the Continental Confederations recognized by FIRS:

ACRS (African Confederation of Sports of Roller Skating)

CERS (Confederation Europeenne de Roller Skating)

CARS (Confederation Asia of Roller Sports)

OCRS (Oceania Confederation of Roller Sports)

CPRS (Pan American Confederation of Roller Skating)

The **Presidents of the International Technical Disciplines**

The **Representative of athletes**

The **Secretary General**

b) The President is the chief representative of the FIRS and its legal representative. He will be elected by FIRS Congress and shall preside over all meetings of the Congress, Central Committee and Executive Commission. He shall have the casting vote at all meetings of the FIRS and shall represent FIRS in legal matters and on other occasions.

c) The First Vice President shall be from another Continent than the President, and will be elected by the Congress of FIRS. The First Vice President can not also serve as one of the Continental Vice Presidents. He shall assist the President in all his functions and will substitute for the President when necessary. He shall attend meetings of the Congress and Central Committee but he does not have the right to vote at the Congress unless he is a delegate for his National Federation.

d) The five Continental Vice presidents will be elected by the independent Congresses of each Continental Confederation, which must take place every four years corresponding with the election of FIRS President. They will have similar responsibilities as the first Vice president and shall take care of the permanent coordination between the FIRS Central Committee and its Continental Confederations

e) The four Technical Committees Presidents will be elected by their respective assemblies.

f) The Athlete Representative on the Central Committee shall be elected by the athletes from all four of the FIRS Disciplines and shall consist of either a male or female athlete, with an alternate elected of the opposite gender.

g) The Secretary General shall be appointed by the President and must be approved by the Central Committee. He may be remunerated. He shall have no voting rights. He shall carry out all secretarial and office duties. He shall record the minutes of meetings. He shall perform all the usual duties of a treasurer, unless otherwise decided by the Central Committee.

## **Article 7 - The Executive Commission**

a) The Executive Commission will be composed of:

President of FIRS

First Vice president of FIRS

CIPA President

CIRH President

CIC President  
CIRILH President  
Secretary General of FIRS (without vote)

b) The Executive Commission will be in charge of the daily management of FIRS. They will meet when it is necessary. The Executive Commission may convene a legal meeting electronically, voting via video conference, email, fax or telephone conference call. Travel and lodging expenses of the members will be at their own expenses, with the exception of the Secretary General.

c) All decisions taken by the Executive Commission will have to be ratified by the Central Committee at its next meeting.

### **Article 8 - Membership Fees**

(1) All membership fees shall be set by the Congress and are payable annually in USA dollars to FIRS Central Headquarters. Paragraph 3 of the Finance Regulations of the FIRS provides information on current membership payments.

(2) Admission dues for each discipline directed shall be payable upon application for membership.

(3) Annual membership fees for each discipline directed shall be due on January 1st each year and prior invoice notices shall be sent by the Secretary General. A 25% surcharge shall be imposed on membership accounts that are more than 90 days in arrears and after two notices for payment from FIRS.

### **Article 9 - Resignation of Members**

Any member wishing to resign from FIRS shall give notice in writing before January 1st, otherwise that member remains liable for the current and past due membership fees.

### **Article 10 - Expulsion of Members**

(1) If, in the opinion of the Central Committee, the conduct of any member shall be prejudicial to the interests of FIRS, the Central Committee shall have the power to request such a member to resign. If the member so requested does not resign within two months, the Central Committee has the power to temporarily suspend membership privileges and request expulsion by the Congress.

(2) Those members, whose annual fees are not paid by June 30th of the current year or who have other financial obligations to the FIRS (unpaid bills of more than 180 days from the day of issue) shall be advised by registered letter that their membership has been automatically suspended. They have no rights as members of the FIRS until the debts, including late fees, if any, have been paid. The Congress can, subsequently, decide upon exclusion from membership, if deemed necessary.

(3) If a Technical Committees report shows that a member has not participated in a World Championships within two years preceding the FIRS Congress, it will lose its right to use that discipline's vote at the FIRS Congress.

### **Article 11 - The Ordinary Congress**

(1) The Ordinary Congress shall meet at least once EVERY TWO YEARS at a place and on a date decided by the Central Committee.

(2) NOTICE of the meeting shall be sent out at least four months prior to the date decided upon.

(3) An AGENDA, prepared by the President, shall be supplied at least two months before the Congress. Only the items shown on the agenda shall be discussed except if matters were unknown three months before the Congress or occurred after that date. In both cases, new items may be considered only with the consent of at least two-thirds of the expressed votes.

(4) The agenda shall include:

- a) President's opening remarks
- b) Appointment of scrutineers
- c) Approval of Minutes of previous Congress
- d) President's report
- e) Vice presidents' reports
- f) Report by the Secretary General concerning memberships, meetings of the Central Committee, etc.
- g) Reports by the Presidents of the four International Technical Committees, CIRH, CIC, CIPA, CIRILH concerning the period since the previous Congress.
- h) Presentations of Secretary General of FIRS accounts and the auditor's written report.
- i) Ratification of budget as agreed upon by the Central Committee.
- j) Ratification of memberships or resignations.
- k) Propositions concerning alterations of the Statutes and Regulations except Technical Regulations for the four disciplines.
- l) Elections (when due).
- m) Ratification of the appointment of an auditor by the Central Committee.
- n) Business that was duly submitted by Member Federations and/or Central Committee within the prescribed period.
- o) Other urgent business that arose since the notification of the meeting (with approval of two-thirds majority of those present and eligible to vote).

(5) Before the opening of the Congress, delegates shall hand over to the Secretary General their CREDENTIALS from the National Federations, Associations or National Confederations they represent. Each delegate must be a member of the National Federation, Association or National Confederation he represents and be a citizen of the country of his Federation, Association or National Confederation.

(6) VOTING CARDS shall be issued to those eligible to vote during the FIRS Congress. One card for being affiliated to FIRS and one supplementary card for each one of the four disciplines in which they have participated in a World Championships at least two years preceding the year of the FIRS Congress.

(7) A quorum shall consist of eligible delegates from at least twelve (12) nations.

(8) All Regulations for the efficient management of FIRS other than the Technical Regulations, shall be approved by the Congress.

## **Article 12 - Nomination of President and First Vice President**

Nominations of President and First Vice President shall be proposed by affiliated Federations, Associations or Confederations in good standing of FIRS and with no pending dues, with the consent of the nominee. They shall be submitted to the Secretary General in writing at least 30 days before the Congress. INITIAL nominations must be supported by the National Federation of the nominee. A list of all nominations shall be made available to delegates.

## **Article 13 - Voting**

(1) Voting for officers of FIRS shall be by SECRET BALLOT.

(2) Other decisions shall be made by SHOWING VOTING CARDS. The nations shall be called out in English in alphabetical order.

(3) All matters shall be decided by a MAJORITY OF THE EXPRESSED VOTES with the exception of the following questions which shall require at least TWOTHIRDS OF THE EXPRESSED VOTES:

- a) alteration to the statutes,
- b) additions to the agenda which are only permitted at Ordinary Congresses,
- c) expulsion of a member,
- d) dissolution of FIRS.

(4) In the event of a tie, the President shall exercise his casting vote.

#### **Article 14 - Alterations to the Statutes**

(1) Alterations to the Statutes can be made by two-thirds majority of the eligible votes at the Congress only.

(2) Members who wish to propose an alteration must give NOTICE IN WRITING to the Secretary General, together with particulars of the proposed alteration, at least three months before the Congress.

(3) ALL PROPOSED ALTERATIONS MUST BE SENT TO MEMBERS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL TOGETHER WITH THE AGENDA dealing with these matters. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE PERMITTED.

#### **Article 15 - Extraordinary Congress**

(1) The Central Committee SHALL HAVE THE POWER to call an Extraordinary Congress when they consider necessary.

(2) They SHALL BE BOUND to do so within twelve months of receiving notice in writing from at least twelve members from twelve different nations

(3) The business to be transacted must appear on the agenda prepared by the President and no other business may be discussed.

(4) These meetings shall take place in conjunction with a World Championship in any of the four disciplines.

#### **Article 16 - Central Committee Meetings**

The Central Committee shall meet at least once every two years and on other occasions as shall be deemed necessary by the President, or by the request of five members of the Central Committee. Five voting members shall constitute a quorum.

#### **Article 17 - Vacancies in the Central Committee**

In the event of a vacancy in the Central Committee between Congresses (due to death, incapacity or resignation), the following procedure shall be followed:

(1) The PRESIDENT will be replaced automatically by the First Vice President who will have the right to transfer the head office of FIRS with the approval of the Central Committee.

(2) The FIRST VICE PRESIDENT will be replaced by a Continental Vice President elected by the Central Committee.

(3) The rest of Vice Presidents will not be replaced until the next Congress. The President of an International Committee will be replaced in accordance with the rules of that Committee.



(4) If the President has been replaced, a General Election for all officers must be held at an ordinary Congress if one is scheduled to take place within six (6) months of the replacement but not less than two (2) months; otherwise an extraordinary Congress must take place within six (6) months of the replacement and in accordance with Article 15, with exception of paragraph (4).

(5) If only the First Vice President has been replaced, the vacancy will be filled at the next Congress and the term of office of new First Vice President will expire when the President's term of office expires.

### **Article 18 - The four International Technical Committees**

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE ROLLER HOCKEY (CIRH)  
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE ROLLER IN-LINE HOCKEY (CIRILH)  
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE COURSE (CIC)  
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE PATINAGE ARTISTIQUE (CIPA)

(1) The General Assembly of each International Committee shall consist of one delegate from each National Federation, Association or National Confederation, recognized by FIRS as directing that discipline.

(2) Each National Federation, Association or National Confederation directing roller hockey shall have one vote at general meetings of the Comité International de Roller Hockey, providing they have competed in a FIRS World Roller Hockey Championship within two years preceding the year of the General Assembly.

(3) Each National Federation, Association or National Confederation directing Roller In-Line Hockey shall have one vote at general meetings of the Comité International de Roller In-Line Hockey, providing they have competed in a FIRS World Roller In-Line Hockey Championship within two years preceding the year of the General Assembly.

(4) Each National Federation, Association or National Confederation directing speed skating shall have one vote at general meetings of the Comité International de Course, providing they have competed in a FIRS World Speed Skating Championship within two years preceding the year of the General Assembly.

(5) Each National Federation, Association or National Confederation directing artistic skating shall have one vote at general meetings of the Comité International de Patinage Artistique, providing they have competed in a FIRS World Figure Skating (Artistic) Championship within two years preceding the year of the General Assembly.

(6) They shall set out their own technical rules which must not conflict with these statutes and FIRS regulations.

(7) In between General Assemblies, the management of each discipline is entrusted to an executive consisting of a President, one Vice President and at least three but not more than four other members. The executive is directly responsible to the Central Committee of the FIRS for its actions and management between assemblies. A quorum of the executive of a discipline is three.

### **Article 19 - Financial Year - Auditor**

(1) The financial year of FIRS shall end on the Thirty-first of December.

(2) A Chartered Public Accountant (CPA) shall be appointed by the Central Committee and ratified by the next Congress. An audited balance sheet and accounts for the preceding business year shall be submitted to the Central Committee and at each Congress via its

elected Auditor, according to the provisions of the Finance Regulations, Paragraph 10, number 2.

(3) Each Technical Discipline must submit to FIRS, and to the FIRS appointed auditor, its own balance sheet for the calendar year, not later than 60 days following December 31 each year, so as to allow the preparation by the CPA of a consolidated account for FIRS. Not later than four months following the close of the FIRS financial year, the CPA will have prepared and delivered to the Central Committee a consolidated report on the financial condition of FIRS. This financial report shall be mailed to all FIRS national federations in good standing at least 30 days prior to the convening of a Congress.

(4) The Auditor appointed by the Congress shall be responsible for delivering the financial report to the membership at the Congress, prepared to explain its contents.

### **Article 20 - Federation Funds**

(1) All money belonging to FIRS and not invested shall be deposited by the Secretary General into a separate account in the name of International Roller Sports Federation at a bank to be named by the Central Committee.

(2) The funds collected and administered by the FIRS International Technical Committees must be accounted for and reported to the Central Committee for inclusion in the consolidated accounts of the FIRS on an annual basis or as requested by the Central Committee.

(3) The funds of FIRS shall consist of:

- a) member initiation fees and annual membership fees,
- b) sale of various printed matters, etc.,
- c) marketing of television and other FIRS rights,
- d) various donations.

### **Article 21 - Confederations**

The Congress with recommendation of the Central Committee may approve the establishment of a Confederation in different geographic locations subject to the following conditions:

(1) The rules and regulations governing the Confederation must follow the principles of those of FIRS, and copies of all proposed rules and regulations must be submitted to the Central Committee for approval. Subsequent changes must be first approved by the Central Committee.

(2) Technical Rules of the FIRS Disciplines issued by Continental Confederations must be in conformity with rules issued by the International Technical Committees.

(3) The President and Executive of a Confederation are totally responsible to the Central Committee for the management of their Confederation in accordance with the approved rules and regulations.

(4) A report of activities within the Confederation must be forwarded to the FIRS on a yearly basis.

(5) No Confederation can be approved unless the application is supported by the majority of FIRS Member National Federations in the proposed area.

(6) Once a Confederation is established, all FIRS Members in that area are then entitled to membership in the Confederation upon fulfilment of normal financial obligations.

(7) Duties and responsibilities of Confederations:

- a) Assist FIRS to attain its objectives within the area of the Confederation.

- b) Organize Confederation Championships under the rules of the FIRS Technical Committees.
- c) Offer every possible assistance to developing Member Federations within their area.
- d) Recognized Confederations can collect dues from their members with the approval of the FIRS.
- e) To accept members in the Confederation (with the approval of FIRS Central Committee) from outside their geographical area.

**Article 22 - Dissolution**

If, at a Congress, a special resolution to terminate the affairs of FIRS shall have been duly proposed and passed, a sufficient amount of the assets of FIRS shall be retained to discharge all liabilities, and any remaining assets shall be divided equally in proportion to the number of member National Federations, Associations or National Confederations, bearing in mind the number of disciplines they direct.

The present statutes have been approved by the Congress which took place at Frankfurt on the 7th of April 1979 and amended by the Congress in Frankfurt on 11th September 1982, further amended by the Extraordinary Congress in Fort Worth, Texas, on the 5th of March 1983 and posteriorily amended by the Extraordinary Congress in Porto, on the 24th of July 1991. Posteriorily amended by the Ordinary Congress in Mar del Plata, on the 30th November 1996 and by the Ordinary Congress in Zell am See on 30th June 2000, and by the Extraordinary Congress in Rochester on August 1st, 2002 and by the Extraordinary Congress in Rome on November 24th, 2005.

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# **International Federation of Roller Sports**



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## **GENERAL REGULATIONS OF FIRS**

### **Paragraph 1 – Responsibility of Central Committee**

1. The Central Committee (CC), as far as President and the First Vice President are concerned, are directly elected by the FIRS Congress, the five Continental Vice Presidents will be elected by the independent Congresses of each Continental Confederation, and the Presidents of the Technical Committees are elected by the Technical Committee General Assemblies. The Central Committee safeguards the interests of the Member Federations between two electoral Congresses.

2. The members of the Central Committee are responsible to the general body of FIRS and are not representing the interests of their Member Federation. They are solely reporting to the Congress. The membership in the Central Committee does not require special activities or position within the respective Member Federation, with an exception for the election of the Continental Vice Presidents.

3. The President of FIRS presides over the Central Committee and exercises a cooperative leadership. The Central Committee in its entirety bears the responsibility for all decisions.

4. Each member of the Central Committee independently and on his own responsibility shall perform the tasks assigned under these statutes. The tasks of the President, the First Vice President and the five Continental Vice Presidents are set down in the "Distribution of Responsibilities" which form part of these "General Regulations". The four Presidents of the Technical Committees, who are elected by the General Assembly of the respective Member Federations (Article 6e of the Statutes) shall in addition represent the matters of their respective disciplines (Article 5c of the Statutes).

### **Paragraph 2 – Meetings of the Central Committee**

1. The President of the Central Committee summons meetings of same if deemed necessary. Meetings of this nature are ordinary meetings. An extraordinary meeting must be summoned, if the majority of the Central Committee makes a written request to the President giving detailed reasons.

2. Invitations to the Central Committee meetings must be forwarded to members 80 days prior to the proposed date of the meeting. The agenda for the Central Committee meetings must be forwarded to the members of the Central Committee at least forty (40) days prior to the date of the meeting.

3. Proposals by Central Committee members for inclusion in the agenda must be in the hands of the Secretary General at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the meeting.

4. Further points can be added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting with approval of the majority of the present Central Committee members.

### **Paragraph 3 – Working Procedure of the Central Committee**

1. The Central Committee decides jointly on:

a) The entire body of tasks assigned in accordance with the Statutes.

b) Important questions and actions of elementary significance for FIRS. This includes in particular agreements and contracts with respect to fees for services, cooperation with Television Companies, the use of the FIRS-Enblem, the use of the FIRS-Logo, publications of FIRS, etc.

c) All questions resulting from racial or religious discrimination or from political problems.

d) Public relations and development measures in non-member countries and preliminary

acceptance of new Member Federations.

e) Exceptions from the temporarily suspended membership and the automatic exclusion of those members with financial obligations to FIRS (art.10.2 of the Statutes). There shall be no waivers considered for anti-doping violations.

f) Announcements according to article 11.3 of the Statutes.

g) Participation of FIRS in other organizations.

2. The final decision about the responsibility of the Central Committee with respect to sections 1a, and b above is made by the President, the same applies to all other cases of doubt.

3. The following points are not governed by Article 1b and d:

a) The sports-regulations

b) The directives for the organization of World Championships

c) The official regulations of the CIC, CIPA, CIRH and CIRILH, must observe FIRS Statutes.

d) Appeals against decision of the Central Committee can only be made by National Federations to the Congress. Such appeals, stating all the reasons must be registered with the Secretary General within sixty (60) days from the day that the Central Committee decision was made public and must be included, by the Secretary General, in the Agenda of the next Congress.

4. For the performance of special tasks the Central Committee can form special commissions. They are headed by a Vice President of the Central Committee. Up to a maximum of three members shall be nominated for such a committee.

5. A permanent Medical and Research Committee shall be formed consisting of physicians and physical education specialists with experience in roller sports. This special committee is to be supervised by the respective member of the Central Committee to whom this task was assigned. The Medical and Research Committee shall communicate mainly in writing and take care that the Medical Regulations of the FIRS are always up to date. Every effort is to be made by this committee to encourage and reward research and development of training methods that can result in the attainment of high levels of efficiency by roller skaters throughout the world.

6. Decisions of the Central Committee are made in their ordinary and extraordinary meetings, by email, fax polling or by telephone conference call. With the proper quorum of members, all such means shall be legally binding. In case of tied votes, the President makes the final decision. The presence of the President will count in establishing a legal quorum of the Central Committee, which shall consist of no less than six (6) members participating.

## 7. INFORMATION

1. The members of the Central Committee inform the President regularly, at least once quarterly, about the results of their activities in accordance with the distribution of responsibilities. One copy shall be forwarded from all invitations to meetings, agendas, and minutes of the meetings.

2. The Secretary-General informs the Central Committee members. a) regularly about matters of general importance. b) Monthly about all important transactions of the General Secretariat.

3. The President informs the members of FIRS and the Press at least three times per year by the official FIRS Web Site about all important matters concerning roller-sport in the world in general and the FIRS in particular.

4. The information about rules, the performance of World Championships and Continental Championships, the results of such Championships, International events in roller sport as well as all sports-technical questions are directly given by the Technical Committees to the members of FIRS and the Press. It is recommended to include such information on the official FIRS Web Site.

5. Decisions and information of confidential nature shall be marked as such. The forwarding of such information is only permitted with the authorization of the President.

#### 8. The General Secretariat

The General Secretariat headed by the Secretary General takes care of the business routine of the FIRS. This includes in particular the correspondence, preparation of circulars and reports, issue of information service, etc.

The Secretary General works in cooperation with the President and within the scope of his assigned responsibilities. As member of the Central Committee he has the right at any time to fulfil financial obligations of common nature within the scope of the budget.

#### **Paragraph 4 – Working Procedure of Technical Committees and Commissions.**

1. The Presidents of the Technical Disciplines are responsible to the General Assembly on all technical and official subjects, but, as a whole, are responsible to the Central Committee and the President of FIRS as Chief of the Central Committee and the Congress (Legislative). (Refer to Art. 5 of the Statutes).

2. The Technical Presidents work in close cooperation with the members of their Executive Committees i.e. composed of one Vice President appointed by the President and a maximum of four members, possibly belonging to different continents. These Executive Committee appointments may be proposed by and shall have the confidence of their Federations of origin at their initial nomination to office, which lasts four years. These members of the Executive Committee are selected by the President, who is elected by the General Assembly. The members of Technical Committees' Executive are selected by President from among those proposed by affiliated Federations and/or are directly chosen by the President, except in the case where there is formal opposition by the Federation of origin. During the term of office, the President may withdraw his confidence to a member of the Executive Committee and substitute another for the remaining term of office. The Federation of the withdrawn committee member, however, may propose a replacement. In the case of withdrawal of a President, the Vice President automatically takes over this position and a new member is nominated.

3. The Technical Committees of the International Federation of Roller Sports are responsible for issuing, changing and/or amending the technical rules of their own disciplines.

4. The Technical Committees bear the name or abbreviations, as mentioned in art. 5 of the Statutes, following the name or abbreviation of the International Federation of Roller Sports. The plural description reads "Technical Committee of the International Federation of Roller Sports". Type-face according to regulations to show a size-ratio of 2 (FIRS): 1 (Technical Committee). The Central Committee members use an emblem in gold on their jacket, the Technical Committee members one in silver.

5. The General Assemblies of each Technical Committee consist of such FIRS Federations, who have paid the basic fees and the respective additional fees for that particular sports discipline within the time limits stated in Article 8 of the Statutes and who have aquired a vote by having a national team compete in the World Championship of that discipline within two years preceding the year of the General Assembly. These General Assemblies have the character of an electoral and control body without limiting the over-all responsibility of all Committees towards the Congress.

6. The General Assemblies of the Technical Committees shall take place regularly every two years in connection with World Championships. With respect to the invitation, the agenda, legalization, candidatures, and elections, the same rules apply as stated in the respective articles of the FIRS Statutes. One third of the member Federations that have competed in the respective sport discipline's World Championship during the previous two year period must be present to form a quorum.



The same quota applies for the summoning of an Extraordinary General Assembly. The Technical Committees have the right to call an extraordinary assembly whenever it is deemed necessary. Also here the corresponding regulation of the Statutes of FIRS must be applied.

7. For the performance of meetings of the Technical Committees paragraph 2 of these "General Regulations" similarly applies. In such meetings at least three members, including the President or the Vice President must be present. Between world championships, the Technical Committees may meet by conference telephone call and/or make decisions by email. The Technical Committees are obliged to hold one meeting before the beginning of each World Championship for the purpose of checking all preparations and during the last day of the Championship for the purpose of evaluating the present Championship and discussing the next one.

8. The Technical Committees shall finance their activities themselves and are authorized to maintain their own bank accounts. These bank accounts shall be named in accordance with Article 5 of the Statutes. The responsibility for the finances lies with the Presidents of the Technical Committees.

9. The Technical Committees are authorized to raise fees from the Member Federations as follows:

- a) For the issuing of permits in their discipline, including the hosting of World Championships.
- b) Recommend to the Central Committee licenses to establish officially endorsed tracks, skates and specific equipment.
- c) For training, seminars, tests, certification of officials.
- d) For the participation in competitions and organization of competitions authorized by the Technical Committees.
- e) For disciplinary actions.
- f) For protests and appeals.

They are further authorized to receive appropriate donations and allocations.

This income has to finance:

- a) The organizational and administrative costs of the Technical Committees.
- b) The costs for business trips of the President, Secretary General and members of the Technical Committees.
- c) Purchase and donation of equipment to promote the sport discipline in developing countries and support the participation in championships and/or sending coaches to developing countries.
- d) Prizes, medals, badges and trophies.

10. All regulations, decisions and activities of the Technical Committees and Commissions, which cannot be financed by their own income and as a result would affect FIRS financially must be approved by the President of FIRS in accordance with the Central Committee members.

11. The responsibilities toward the FIRS member federations by the Technical Committees and the Commissions does not include such Federation, who

- a) have applied for membership, but received no decisions by the Central Committee about at least a preliminary membership.
- b) Are suspended, those federations not current with FIRS membership dues or against whom an exclusion of membership in accordance with Article 10 of the Statutes has been applied.

12. The independent work of the Technical Committees and the Commissions in connection with the handling of technical matters does not include a representation of FIRS beyond this area. The representation of FIRS to third parties is exclusively the responsibility of the Central Committee. An authorization for the conclusion of legal arrangements with third parties

through the Technical Committees is limited strictly to the necessary technical sports aspects.

### **Paragraph 5. Appeals**

1. Appeals against decisions of the Technical Committees can only be made by National Federations to the Central Committee. Such appeals, stating all the reasons and evidence, must be lodged with the Secretary General within 60 days from the day that the appropriate decision was made public. The Central Committee can refer such appeals to an Appeal Board they will appoint consisting of one of the FIRS Vice Presidents and two independent persons involved in the sport of roller skating with the necessary knowledge to properly evaluate the special circumstances.
2. The same procedure can be adopted in the event that arbitration between Member Federations becomes necessary.
3. The Appeal Board must take all necessary action in order to ensure that the case before it has been thoroughly and fairly investigated. Decisions must be reached and communicated to the parties involved within six months from the date of appointment of the Appeal Board.
4. Any appeals by the interested parties against the decision of the Appeal Board must be made to the Congress. The appropriate information in regards to such appeals must be lodged with the Secretary General within sixty (60) days from the date the Board's decision was announced to the parties concerned.
5. All appeals are subject to fees as decided from time to time by the Central Committee.
6. The decision of the Congress is final.
7. The handling of all appeals is subject to guidelines as formulated by the Central Committee.

## **FINANCE REGULATIONS OF THE FIRS**

### **Paragraph 1 – Principles**

The Finance Regulations rule the financial obligation of FIRS members and the cash and property administration of the FIRS. They lay down the principles of the financial management of the FIRS. Everyone dealing with the finances of FIRS shall observe the principles of economy.

### **Paragraph 2 – Income of the FIRS and the International Technical Committees**

The financial means required for the operations of the FIRS are derived from:

- 1) Affiliation fees
- 2) Membership fees
- 3) Revenue of sporting events
- 4) Official product endorsements
- 5) Testing and license fees
- 6) Penalties
- 7) Income from TV contracts
- 8) Donations and subsidies
- 9) Sponsorship fees
- 10) Income from advertisements
- 11) Sale of publications

### **Paragraph 3 – Affiliation and membership of the FIRS**

1. The FIRS membership fee amounts to \$450 US Dollars per annum for each member. This amount covers one discipline.

For the second, third and fourth discipline an amount of \$100 US Dollars each registered discipline has to be paid. An invoice shall be forwarded by the FIRS General Secretariat by December 1st of each year. A second notice of non-payment will be sent by FIRS after 60 days.

2. An initial membership affiliation fee shall be paid of \$100 US Dollars, in addition to the regular annual membership fees (a total of \$550 US Dollars, inclusive of the first discipline). This amount has to be paid when the application is made.

3. To encourage enrolment of newly developing nations into FIRS, which in the opinion of the Central Committee do not have either the organizational strength or financial resources to meet initial FIRS financial obligations, a lesser fee could be established by the Central Committee, and such member nation would be afforded all rights of FIRS membership, however, they shall be restricted from participation in any FIRS World Championships events until normal membership fees have been paid.

4. If a member fails to pay the annual membership fee by March 31 of the current year, the Secretary General will request by registered letter payment of the due amount within 30 days as per Article 8 (3) of the Statutes. A late penalty of 25% is also due and collectable.

5. Suspended members can become active again by making payment of all fees plus an additional fee equivalent to 2% monthly of the outstanding amount starting as of May 1st of the current year.

6. In all cases the date on which the money is received at the Bank mentioned in the annual statement of accounts shall prevail.

#### **Paragraph 4 – Activity fees of the Technical Committees.**

1. Regarding the debts owed to the Technical Committees in accordance with Paragraph 4, part 9, of the "General Regulations", the above Paragraph 3, sub 4 and 5, applies accordingly.
2. There shall be no federation membership fees collected by the individual Technical Disciplines. FIRS membership shall prevail when the appropriate annual FIRS discipline fee has been paid to FIRS headquarters. The individual disciplines may charge an appropriate world championship fee for participating athletes and/or teams, as approved by the discipline's General Assembly.
3. The host federation for a World Championship will pay to the CIPA, CIRILH and CIC Technical Committee which has jurisdiction over the competition, a license fee in the amount of \$45,000 US Dollars to compensate for administration costs. A license fee in the amount of \$80,000 US Dollars will be paid to CIRH for the Men's "A" World Roller Hockey Championship.
4. The Secretary General must inform the President of the appropriate Technical Committee of all suspensions within 30 days. The Presidents of the Technical Committees must inform the Secretary General of any fees due to their Committees by members, the action taken to collect same, and any suspensions within 30 days.
5. All activity fees raised by the Technical Committees need the prior approval of the General Assemblies responsible for the sports discipline concerned and must be incorporated in the respective regulations.

#### **Paragraph 5 – Conformity**

Each Technical Committees has the authority, subject to approval by its General Assembly, to set its own activity fees according to the particular needs and obligations of that discipline.

#### **Paragraph 6 – Approval fees.**

The Central Committee has the exclusive right

1. to dispose of and raise adequate fees for the use of the FIRS logo.
2. to grant the television rights for intercontinental events and World Championships. The FIRS receives the proceeds of the television broadcasts, and shall in advance of the events, negotiate a contract with the organizers and/or host federation for an appropriate share of the net proceeds.
3. to enter into advertising contracts for sports events according to Article 2 or by written agreement assign such rights to the organizers and/or host federation with a stipulated percentage of the net proceeds that are paid by FIRS.

#### **Paragraph 7 – ID Cards and FIRS Emblems**

1. The members of the Central Committee of the FIRS and the members of the respective International Technical Committees shall have free entrance and shall be entitled to a seat in the grandstand at all roller sports events of the Member Federations of the FIRS.
2. They shall identify themselves by presenting the FIRS ID Card (with passport size picture), which is valid for the current term of office.
3. On the official dress the
  - a) Central Committee members shall wear golden FIRS Emblem,
  - b) Members of the International Commissions the silver FIRS Emblem,
  - c) Internationally recognized referees, judges and calculators the FIRS Emblem with the inscription "Judges". They shall receive this emblem together with their first license.

### **Paragraph 8 – Travel allowances for Committee Members**

1. Elected members of the Committees and Commissions of the FIRS are not paid for their activities. In case of meetings of the Technical Committees, not scheduled during the world championships, such expenses for travels, lodging and boarding shall be borne by same out of their own funds in the amount determined by the Central Committee.
2. In case of meetings of the Central Committee and congresses, expenses for travels, lodging and boarding of
  - a) the President and Vice President shall be borne by their parent Federation, if it is the first meeting of the year. The expenses for a second meeting shall be borne by the FIRS.
  - b) The Secretary General shall be paid by FIRS.
  - c) Expense reimbursement by FIRS for second meetings of the year must be provided for in the annual budget approved by the Central Committee. Should the Central Committee determine that funds are not available in the budget, the respective national federations of the members of the Central Committee shall be responsible for those expenses in attending meetings of the Central Committee and Congresses.
3. When delegating committee members to international meetings or functions other than those of FIRS, FIRS shall refund the actual expenses for travels, lodging and boarding.

### **Paragraph 9 – Annual Report**

1. Before January 31<sup>st</sup> of every year, each Member Federation must submit an annual report to the FIRS. This report shall contain all necessary information regarding the activities, statistics and their official address-register and officers. Notice and forms by which the report is to be made shall be sent out by FIRS Headquarters.
2. Members not submitting their annual reports within this period shall be assessed \$30 US Dollars,- for each month of delay. The accepted date is that of the postal dating stamp.

### **Paragraph 10 - Budget and Financial Statement**

1. For each forthcoming business year, the Technical Committees and the Central Committee shall submit a budget. Income and expenses of this budget must balance. The budgets shall be compiled by the Central Committee into a consolidated budget.
2. For each completed business year a detailed financial statement and balance sheet shall be submitted. These statements must include the value of the current assets of the Central Committee as well as of the Technical Committees. The Financial Statement shall be submitted in time to the Auditor nominated by the Congress and presented to the next Congress for approval.
3. The currency of the FIRS is the USA Dollar. Budgets, balance sheets and all other financial stipulations shall only be made in this currency. When announcing the costs of the participants in international sports events, the exchange rate of the local currency has to be mentioned at the same time.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITOR RULES**

The vast majority of FIRS athletes compete for the love of roller sports and to seek their own personal excellence, often under very difficult circumstances. This devotion to roller skating merits all our appreciation and the guarantee from FIRS, their international organization, that they will compete in our competitions in an atmosphere of good will and sportsmanship, a fundamental idea of all sports.

The following rules must be observed by all competitors representing the member Federations of FIRS, to assure that the highest level of sportsmanship is achieved at FIRS World Championships and its other intercontinental sport events. We have as our example grand sporting traditions of FIRS and the Olympic Games. Regardless of one's personal commitment to these principles, every athlete, competing in a FIRS Championship, is expected to deport themselves accordingly.

All athletes are required to know and understand the rules of eligibility for their events, the rules of the game and the meaning of good sportsmanship as exemplified by the Olympic spirit and defined in the rules manuals of the FIRS Technical Disciplines. Athletes are required to understand and observe IOC and WADA anti-doping regulations. Failure to so comply may result in suspension or expulsion from current or future roller sports competitions.

- a) Commercial contracts between athletes and advertisers must be negotiated by National Federations, which may establish their own limitations.
- b) Competing for prize money, coaching and teaching roller skating shall have no adverse affect on qualification for international roller skating competitions.
- c) The loss of competitive status imposed by a National Federations on one of its citizens must be observed by all FIRS nations and this condition would affect the eligibility of that person to compete everywhere in the world.

# **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS OF THE FIRS**

## **A. GENERAL**

### **Paragraph I – Choice of site**

1. Applications from National Federations for the organization of a World Championships in roller sports (speed skating, inline downhill, artistic skating, roller hockey, roller in-line hockey) have to be submitted to the corresponding FIRS Technical Committees.
2. All candidatures received will be communicated by the President of the Technical Committee to the next Assembly as an inclusion on that agenda. The questionnaire of the FIRS shall contain all necessary details shall be attached to these applications. The National Federation has to declare its willingness to accept and comply with the World Championships Regulations of FIRS and the Special Regulations of the respective Technical Committee without reservations and sign a written agreement with the FIRS governing terms and conditions under which the World Championships will be allotted to the particular applicant.
3. When awarding a Championship priorities shall be made over other applicants for
  - a) The evaluation of organizing skills expressed by the Presidents of the Technical Committees.
  - b) Those Federations of a continent not having hosted a World Championship in the particular discipline for the longest period of time.
  - c) Those National Federations, who have never or for the longest period of time not hosted a Championship.
4. Based on the applications received, and upon the recommendation of the Technical Committee, the General Assembly of that particular discipline shall determine the dates, locations and conditions where World Championships shall be held. The awarding of the Championships will take place after due consideration of all relevant matters. If the discipline's Executive Committee is of the opinion that the necessary requirements for the performance of a World Championship can not be fulfilled at any of the proposed places, they must contact other suitable Member Federations and award the World Championship. If necessary, the Discipline's Executive Committee can undertake the organizing of a World Championship in a place to be determined.
5. It is preferred that the dates and places of World Championships shall be determined four calendar years in advance. Recognized Regional Confederations must not organize Championships or other activities that may interfere with the World Championships or other activities organized by FIRS in regards to sites and dates. The same caution must be exercised with regard to other world events in which FIRS is participating or supporting.
6. At the minimum, all World Championships must consist of five different Federations from at least two continents.

### **Paragraph 2 – Principles**

1. A National Federation applying for a World Championship shall guarantee
  - a) a smooth procedure with respect to the entry permit for the countries involved and the timely issue of visas for all skaters, officials and sports journalists, if such is necessary.
  - b) That no racial, religious or political reasons shall hinder any of the above persons or groups to enter into the country. However, possible sanctions of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) must be observed.
  - c) That in addition to the separate regulations for World Championships by the International Technical Committees, all other regulations of FIRS, such as the Medical Regulations are to be observed for the World Championships.
  - d) Liability insurance is contracted for the protection of FIRS, the Technical Committee

involved, and the organizing Federation.

e) World Championships and other world events are subject to telecast for the international benefit of the sport and all technically required lighting and spot lights can be used.

2.

a) The athletes of a National Federation participating in a World Championship shall only be allowed to participate if they have the nationality of the respective country as evidenced by possession of valid national passports.

b) As concerns Macau, Hong Kong and Andorra, in recognition of their long term participation in FIRS International competitions, and in general following the Olympic Charter and FIRS World Championships regulations, all players must either present a valid passport from China on an official ID-Card from their respective enclave of Macau, Hong Kong or Andorra, depicting three (3) years of continuous residency prior to the international event or World Championships being entered.

3. The respective International Technical Committees of the FIRS shall be responsible for all preparations and the conduct of a World Championship. Members of the Executive of a Technical Committee are not allowed to act as managers or officials of their national teams during Championships. Should they decide to accept the position of manager of their national team, they are to be temporarily suspended from the Executive for the duration of the Championships in question.

4. The members of the various bodies of the FIRS shall wear the official FIRS dress during the official part of the FIRS events, i.e. dark-blue blazer, grey pants, black shoes.

5. Smoking is prohibited during official functions in sports events for referees, judges and all other officials.

### **Paragraph 3 – Time Schedule**

1. The Federation organizing a World Championship must forward to the appropriate Technical Committee a signed agreement containing all details relevant to the Championship at least 240 days prior to the Championship for approval.

2. All member Federations active in the appropriate discipline must be advised of the Championship details as approved by the Technical Committee at least 180 days prior to the Championship.

3. Member Federations, who decide to participate in World Championships must inform the Technical Committee and the organizing Federation of their decision at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the Championship or according to an earlier deadline as set by the Technical Committee.

4. The Technical Committee and the organizing Federation must inform all participating Federations of the dates and competition details at least 90 days prior to the beginning of the Championship and the actual games schedule 30 days prior.

5. All publications must be made in the two official languages of the FIRS which are English and Spanish. The language of the organizing country can be added as another language.

6. Within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the official start of a world event, the Technical Committees shall hold a meeting with the delegation heads of the participating National Federations and the members of the organizing committee of the particular world event. Place and time of this meeting must be included in the time schedule of the event and announced in advance. During this meeting all questions referring to the particular event shall be answered. Furthermore, matters referring to the next world event shall also be discussed.



#### **Paragraph 4 – Television and Advertisements**

1. All television rights to international events and World Championships belong to FIRS, and only the Central Committee has the right to authorize any telecast, either national or international in scope. Telecast by a single station, limited to city-wide or local area, can be established at the discretion of the organizers provided that such broadcasts are not in conflict with the written agreements executed by FIRS for national or international television rights.
2. The organizer and/or host federation shall share in the proceeds of television contracts authorized by FIRS according to paragraph 6 of the financial regulations.
3. The organizing Federation shall make available the necessary working places for equipment and staff of television companies. Furthermore, the Federation shall permit the installation of additional lighting fixtures. The only cost reimbursed to this Federation would be that of the electricity used.
4. In the event that FIRS has no international television obligations or contracts and the organizing Federation has available an opportunity for international telecast, then all contracts and obligations should be to the satisfaction of FIRS and the organizing Federation.
5. FIRS shall have the right to enter into temporary advertising contracts for the duration of the World Championships. The proceeds resulting from such contracts as negotiated shall be shared between the FIRS and the organizing Federation according to written agreement, executed no later than six months prior to the event. In the absence of such contracts, or prior waiver of these rights by the FIRS Central Committee, the organizers and/or host federation shall have full rights to arrange all advertising agreements.
6. Naming rights to any international event in which an advertiser or commercial enterprise is identified in the title, shall be subject to written approval by the FIRS Central Committee.

#### **Paragraph 5 – Sports Equipment**

The amount of sports equipment with or without the official approval of FIRS or the FIRS Logo to be used on the occasion of a World Championships shall be decided by the Executive Committee of the Technical Discipline. The organizing Federation shall accept such a decision.

#### **Paragraph 6 – Other Competitions**

1. The sports installations chosen for the performance of the World Championship shall be reserved exclusively for this event during the time of the Championship.
2. The organizing Federation shall further make sure that no other events in the respective sports discipline are performed in its area during the performance of the Championships.

### **B. ORGANIZATION**

#### **Paragraph 7 – Flag**

1. The organizing Federation or its Organizing Committee shall assure that the FIRS flag is hoisted from the beginning of the Championships until the end of the closing ceremony in the centre of all flags of the participating nations.
2. It is left to the discretion of the organizing Federation, whether they shall also hoist the flag of the city hosting the World Championship. In this case the three flags of the FIRS, the country and the city shall be hoisted in this order from left to right, separate from the other flags.

## **Paragraph 8 – Accidents**

1. The organizers of World Championships are not obliged to take responsibility for skaters, referees or other participants as well as other persons for accidents of any nature occurring before, during or after a Championship.
2. To safeguard against unforeseen circumstances or gross negligence by assisting persons, it is recommended that insurance contracts be concluded as protection for the organizers and the FIRS.

## **Paragraph 9 – Accredited representatives**

1. The organizer shall establish an office with an accredited representative, who shall issue ID-Cards to all officials and participants of the World Championship.
2. These ID-cards shall be issued in the following categories:
  - Card A:  
Members of the Central Committee of the FIRS; Members of the International Technical Committees; Members of the Organizational Committee of this World Championship; and three Members of the Executive Committee of the organizing Federation.
  - Card B:  
The Presidents of the Continental Confederations of the FIRS; the Presidents of the National Federation of the FIRS; the Delegation Heads of the participating Nations; and Sponsors of the world event as guests of the FIRS.
  - Card C:  
The Trainers, Officials and participating Skaters in accordance with the basic regulations of the Technical Committees; the Staff of the Organizational Committee of this event; and three persons representing the Organizational Committee of the next World Championship.
  - Card D:  
Sport Journalists, Press Photographers, Television Reporters, Camera-Men, and Technical Staff.
3. The issue of ID-Cards shall be done upon presentation of the passport and a certificate stating the particular function of its holder during the Championship.
4. By means of these ID-cards the organizer can establish certain rules for entering the different areas of the sports installations in accordance with the varying competences of the card holders.

## **Paragraph 10 – Reservation of Seats**

1. Reserved seats shall be available for all accredited persons. Holders of cards A and B are entitled to a second admission ticket free of charge for the neighbouring seat, provided that they request such a ticket at the time of issue of the ID-card.
2. The seats in the Honorary Box shall be reserved for -High ranking political representatives of the organizing country; -Members of the International Olympic Committee of the organizing country; -Presidents and Vice Presidents of the highest sports authority of the organizing country; -Honorary members of the FIRS and the President of the Continental Confederation; -The FIRS President and the members of the Central Committee of the FIRS.
3. Seats with good view shall be reserved for the Press. Press Photographers shall receive a distinguishing sign to be worn around their arms and shall be permitted to enter the inner area.
4. The number of seats to be reserved for the holders of card C shall always be in accordance

with the number of skaters not participating at the time.

### **Paragraph 11 – Opening and Closing Ceremony**

1. The welcome address of World Championships is delivered by the highest ranking political representative of the organizing country. He shall be announced and introduced by the President of the National Roller Sport Federation. After formation of the National Teams in English alphabetical order, with the team of the hosting country last, a brief version of the National or Delegation Anthems (15-20 seconds each) of all participating nations shall be played in the above order. This will be followed by the official opening of the World Championships by the President of the FIRS or his available representative. March-past, opening speeches and National or delegation Anthems during the opening ceremony shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes.

2. On the occasion of the final ceremony the FIRS President expresses thanks to the organizers and skaters. After that he shall present the FIRS flag to the President of the organizing Federation, who shall point out that the World Championship is over and, indicating the place of the next World Championship, shall pass the flag to the representative of the Federation hosting the Championships the following year. Thereafter, the National Anthem of the organizing country shall be played closing the ceremony.

3. Speeches other than the ones mentioned above shall not be delivered at the opening or at the closing ceremonies.

### **Paragraph 12 – Awarding of Medals**

1. The awarding of medals to the World Champions and the winners of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place may only be done by holders of class A or B ID-cards or by guests seated in the Honorary Box. The official FIRS medals shall be presented at the cost to the Organizers.

2.

a) Immediately before, during and after the presentation of medals, the announcer must limit his announcements to the results of the competition in question.

b) The preparation of the presentation ceremony is the responsibility of the respective Technical Committee President. He must assign the persons for the presentation of the medals (maximum three). One member of the Executive of the Technical Committee must be assigned the responsibility of assuring that the awarding of the medals proceeds without any undue delay.

c) The awarding of prizes to skaters during the closing ceremony is not permitted. Loudspeaker advertisement and other information shall only be permitted during pauses.

### **Paragraph 13 – Program**

1. The organizing Federation shall be responsible for the issue of a program for the World Championship. Advertisements and proceeds from sales of programs, after deducting the cost for printing, shall belong to the organizer.

2. On the first page of the program a welcome address of the President of the FIRS shall be printed. At the request of the Central Committee, advertising space in the program for FIRS sponsors must be made available by the organizers at the normal rates charged to other advertisers.

3. Indications with respect to favourites of the World Championships shall not be permitted, neither photographs nor texts. Permitted is the publication of pictures of the present World Championships or pictures showing the teams of all participating Federations. The description of single skaters or single teams is not allowed.

## **Paragraph 14 – Availability of Rooms and Working Places**

1. The following rooms shall be required and be made available in the respective site of the World Championships if possible:
  - a) an office for International Technical Committee;
  - b) a room for anti-doping controls;
  - c) a medical treatment room;
  - d) a room for referees, judges;
  - e) an adequate number of toilets and showers, separated by sexes;
  - f) a room for the Press and information service, with adequate computers and access to email.

## **Paragraph 15 – Hotel Accommodations**

1. If contracts with the International Technical Committees require that a certain number of hotel accommodations shall be provided by the organizer, it is to be considered that
  - a) participating skaters are accommodated according to the quality of housing that they indicate can be afforded.
  - b) Participating referees and judges are accommodated in international standard hotels Class B (double rooms with individual beds and a shower/ WWC);
  - c) Members of the International Technical Committees are accommodated in international standard hotels Class A (single rooms with shower WWC).
2. Upon request single rooms for a physician of the Medical and Research Committee and a maximum of three members of the Central Committee, in hotels of Class A have to be made available. The Central Committee members referred to are ones that are requested to be present in connection with specific tasks that they must perform during the World Championship. Meals will be paid by the individuals concerned.
3. Referees and judges shall be accommodated separated from the skaters.
4. The hotels for the visiting skaters shall not be further away from the rink than those of the skaters of the host Federation.
5. In cases where participants are entitled to accommodation and or board, they can request the organizer for payment of the appropriate value in order to make their own arrangements for accommodation and or meals. This request must be made to the organizer at least four months prior to the event. The organizer has to include in the information in accordance with Paragraph 3, subparagraph 2, the cost of accommodation and or board which is provided for the participants.
6. The organizer is not responsible for the arrangement of accommodation for supporters, however, he must appoint a reliable agent who will assist the national organizations in obtaining the necessary accommodation. The details of the appropriate agent must be included in the announcement referred to in Paragraph 3, sub-paragraph 2.

## **Paragraph 16 – Transportation**

1. The organizer has to assure that public or hired transport shall arrive to and depart from the sports installations in regular intervals. A respective schedule shall be put up to this effect both in the sports area and the accommodations.
2. These bus services shall be in operation from at least one hour before opening the sports installations (arriving time there) until one hour after the closing of the event.
3. At the same time it shall be arranged that taxis can be hired and such a place be temporarily established at the sports centre.

### **Paragraph 17 – Duration of Daily Events**

1. Daily events of a World Championship may not commence before 8.00 a.m. and end later than 12.00 o'clock midnight in southern latitudes or 11.00 p.m. in northern latitudes without special permission from the Technical Committee.
2. Skaters must have a minimum rest period of 12 hours between the ending of a daily event and the starting of a daily event the following day exempting special circumstances with the permission of the Technical Committee.

### **Paragraph 18 – Interpreters**

1. If possible, interpreters for the mother language shall be placed at the disposal of teams or groups of skaters coming from overseas, if such is requested. Continental teams of different languages are expected to bring their own interpreters, however, the organizing Federation is responsible for interpreters in English and Spanish.
2. For meetings of the bodies of the FIRS the organizer is obliged to arrange a simultaneous interpreting in English and Spanish language.
3. The cost for interpreting and translation services shall be that of the organizing Federation.

## **C – PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **Paragraph 19 – Information and Press Service**

1. The Organizational Committee shall establish an information and press service before, during, and at the end of a World Championship. This information and press service shall inform about the most important facts and data (with possibilities for statistical evaluation) and also taking into consideration the following criterions which are particularly important if the Championship is held in different places:
  - a) Place of Championship, sports installations, date and place of the event;
  - b) Results;
  - c) For teams –formation of teams, names of players and goal scorers;
  - d) Referees and judges;
  - e) Number of spectators.
2. The information and press service shall be published at least in the languages of the organizing country and additionally in English and Spanish.
3. The information and press service starts activities at least six months before the World Championship with first detailed information about the sports installations, the planned accommodations, the rooms to be made available and the introduction of the members of the Organizational Committee.

### **Paragraph 20 – Press Conference**

In addition to the information and press service, press conferences shall be held particularly during a World Championship. The public relation section of the Organizational Committee schedules these press conferences together with the President of the Technical Committee and, if possible, with the President or the members of the Central Committee. In this connection special emphasis to be put on the early announcement to the accredited representatives of the Press and mass media, the participating National Federations and the invited guests.

## **Paragraph 21 – Representatives of the Mass Media**

1. Accredited journalists of all media are only those who are members of their national or international professional Federations. Accredited are only the journalists, but not family members or other accompanying persons.

2. Interested journalists are obliged without exception to apply to the Organizational Committee eight weeks before the start of the World Championship. The application has to contain the following information:

- a) Date of arrival and departure.
- b) Desired accommodation with price estimate
- c) Special communication requirements.
- d) Desired working conditions for Press photographers
- e) Required purchase of tickets for accompanying persons

1. In case of a timely receipt of such an announcement the organizer guarantees that the applicants will be accredited and will receive the information and press publication as well as the proper attendance during the Championship.

2. In case a visa or an entry permit is needed, the applicant has to obtain timely information concerning duration and kind of procedures from respective authorities (Consulates, etc.) It is advisable to forward a copy of the visa application to the organizer.

3. In the interest of a smooth cooperation between the FIRS and the representatives of the mass media and for a promotion of roller sports, the international Sports Press Association (AIPS) shall be approached to mediate and settle disputes.

## **D. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Paragraph 22 – Special Regulations and Sports Rules**

These General Regulations for World Championships are supplemented by the Sport Regulations of the International Technical Committees for the four sports disciplines as follows:

- a) Rules for speed skating, artistic skating, roller hockey and roller in-line hockey.
- b) Basic Regulations
- c) Technical Regulations
- d) Judge and Referee Regulations

## **MEDICAL REGULATIONS OF THE FIRS**

### **A. ANTI DOPING CONTROL**

#### **Paragraph 1 – Principles**

1. The International Federation of Roller Sports (FIRS) expressly forbids the use of drugs before or during the competition, which improve artificially the player's physical and or mental condition and thus augment his athletic performance. The principles of these regulations are in accordance with WADA Rules and Guidelines and of the Statutes and Rules of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

2. The list of banned substances prohibited by the Organizations listed in 1. above of these regulations is based on the findings of leading sports physicians, and agrees with the valid list of forbidden products compiled by the International Olympic Committee. A current listing of IOC banned substances can be obtained on the web sites of your own National Olympic Committee or that of the IOC.

#### **Paragraph 2 – Definitions**

1. Doping is the attempt to augment the athletic performance by using non-physiological substances.

2. Doping substances, for the purpose of this rule, include the following: phenylaethylamine derivates (Psychomotor stimulants, ephedrine, adrenaline derivates), narcotics, analeptica (camphor-and strychnine derivates), sedatives, and psychopharmaca.

3. Doping is the use (taking, injecting, distributing) of doping substances. The distribution to an athlete of the substances mentioned above of officials, coaches, trainers, physicians and masseurs or by any other people is also considered as doping.

#### **Paragraph 3 – Restriction of Use and Possession of Drugs**

1. The use of drugs according to Paragraph 2, sub-paragraph 3, as well as the possession of drugs by athletes or by persons assisting them during a competition, except for the physicians, are forbidden and shall be penalized.

2. The drugs mentioned in Paragraph 2, sub-paragraph 2, shall not be used by athletes taking part in a competition. An exception can be made for medicaments (local anaesthesia) in case of injuries; the physician in charge is obliged to report at once the use of such substances to the organizer.

#### **Paragraph 4 – Doping Control**

1. Athletes being nominated for or taking part in a competition have to submit to a doping control. This is compulsory for all World Championships and International competitions under the patronage of the IOC.

2. In case of a doping control, secretions (urine samples) of the players shall be taken, if the FIRS considers such a step necessary, the luggage and clothes of the athletes, the officials, the coaches, the trainers and the masseurs shall be searched.

3. The organizer of the competition is at the same time in charge of the doping control.

4. At least two weeks prior to the contest, the proper authority of this organization shall request from the proper authority of the respective country the necessary personnel and material for the performance of the control.

## **Paragraph 5 – FIRS Doping Staff**

1. In the event of any competition for which the doping control is compulsory, one or several athletes from each team, group or single event of every National Federation shall be designated by ballot to undergo the doping control.
2. A physician, with competency recognized by the National Olympic Committee of the host country, shall be appointed by the organizing country, and approved by the FIRS, and will at the same time be considered the head of the Doping Control Group. Members of this group shall be: a representative of the FIRS, a representative of the athletes' country and a secretary.
3. Athletes who have to undergo the doping control shall be designated by ballot immediately after their participation in the competition by the FIRS representative.
4. For the doping control secretions of the athlete shall be taken and/or personal belongings of the athlete or persons assisting him, including clothes, shall be searched.
5. Athletes or persons assisting them have to tolerate the performance of the doping control. Refusals shall be penalized just like in the event of being found guilty.

## **Paragraph 6 – Subjection to Control**

The following athletes shall be subject to a control:

1. In single events and events between teams consisting of two athletes, the first three winners as well as three more athletes designated by ballot.
2. In the events between teams consisting of more than two athletes, two athletes of each of the first three winning teams as well as three more athletes designated by ballot.
3. In events between two teams, three athletes of each team shall be designated by ballot.
4. Athletes, who are suspected of being under the influence of drugs.

## **Paragraph 7 – Searching**

1. All athletes or persons assisting them shall be subject to a searching if they are suspected to be in the illegal possession of drugs or other substances violating the doping regulations. Searching may only be performed in the presence of the owners of the items to be searched.
2. Medicaments that are found must be packed in plastic bags available for this purpose. These plastic bags shall be marked and sealed.

## **Paragraph 8 – Examination**

1. The athlete shall select one of two sterile bottles and urinate into it. Half of the sample will be poured into the other bottle. Both bottles will then be sealed in the presence of the athlete, the FIRS doping representative, the physician and the representative of the respective country. Each bottle will then be distinctly marked. Athletes must submit their passport or ID at the control.
2. Each athlete will then verify by his signature on a special form that the procedure has taken place in accordance with the rules. The FIRS representative will verify by his signature that the indications given by the athlete are correct. Copies of the form shall be given to the physician and the FIRS representative. Two copies shall be sent together with the bottles to the laboratory in charge of the control.
3. The laboratory checks whether the urine samples or the items collected in the plastic bag



contain doping substances.

4. The representative of FIRS shall inform the athlete or the assisting person about the result of the examination.

5. Athletes declaring that they cannot urinate, have to be under supervision until the urine samples can be given.

### **Paragraph 9 – Violation Against Doping Regulations**

1. If the examination result is positive, the counter analysis has to be made with the second urine sample in the same laboratory, if such is requested by the athlete concerned immediately after announcement of the result. It is at the athlete's or his Federation's discretion to engage an expert of their choice for the counter analysis.

2. If an athlete is found guilty, he or she shall be subject to the penalties proscribed for such violations by WADA or the IOC.

3. If an athlete of a team is found guilty, the athlete shall be disqualified from the whole competition and all wins or points accumulated by the team in which the disqualified athlete participated shall be forfeit.

4. Athletes of single events shall lose all qualifications and points reached so far.

5. The Technical Commission in charge has to impose penalties or disciplinary punishments, which have to be observed by the respective National Federations. Furthermore, these penalties and disciplinary punishments shall be published internationally and nationally and be observed by all Member Federations.

6. The minimum penalty has to be a disqualification of at least six months, when found guilty for the second time 12 months, and for the third time lifelong.

## **B. FEMALE GENDER VERIFICATION**

### **Paragraph 1 – Principles**

1. Female participants of all age groups nominated or taking part in World Championships or Intercontinental competitions under the patronage of the IOC are subject to possible female gender verification.

### **Paragraph 2 – Exceptions**

1. In cases of justifiable doubt reported to and sustained by the discipline's Executive Committee, the female in question must submit to a gender verification examination performed by a physician appointed by the FIRS.

2. The results of such an examination shall be treated strictly confidential and will be given by the appointed physician to the official FIRS representative in a sealed envelope. The FIRS representative shall inform the National Federations about the results.

### **Paragraph 3 – Procedure**

1. The female participants being subject to a female gender verification test shall appear at the place and time determined by the testing physician. They may be accompanied by their team's physician or the female coach of their team. The following documents have to be presented:

- a) National passport of the athlete.
- b) The individual's Sports-Pass for the World Championship.

## **MEETING REGULATIONS OF THE FIRS**

### **Paragraph 1 – Validity**

These meeting regulations are based on the requirements of Articles 8 – 15 – 16 -18 and 21 of the Statutes of the FIRS and control the meetings of the Central Committee and the General Assemblies and other meetings of the Technical Committees: These regulations do not apply to FIRS Ordinary or Extraordinary Congresses, which have their own established standards of procedure.

### **Paragraph 2 – Chairmanship**

1. Chairman of general meetings and committee meetings is always the President of the respective group, in case of his absence, his deputy.
2. The Chairman has every authority necessary for a smooth conduct of the meeting. He is the leader of the assembly. In the event of a matter not being ruled by these Meeting Regulations, the Chairman decides the procedure if no agreement can be reached by the assembly.
3. For important reasons the Chairman may order suspensions or adjournments of the meeting. He decides when an adjourned meeting will be continued.
4. Any member disagreeing with the Chairman's ruling on a point of order may move dissent. The Chairman shall then vacate the Chair and such motion shall be put forthwith without debate.

### **Paragraph 3 – Opening**

1. The Congress and the General Assemblies of the FIRS are public. Committee meetings are closed; however, upon written request for specific reasons and with the approval of the committee members the Chairman can extend invitations to persons who, in the opinion of the committee, can assist in reaching decisions that will help the sport.
2. After opening the assembly, the Chairman confirms the statutory summoning and the presence of a quorum.
3. Meetings shall, subject to the presence of a quorum, start at the time set out on the notice; and shall, subject to the discretion of the meeting, continue until all business on the Agenda is disposed of maximum 10 hours daily with a break after 5 hours. However, committee meetings can be extended by 2/3 majority of those present and entitled to vote.
4. If no quorum is present within 1 hour of the starting time set on the notice, the meeting shall be adjourned and the President shall fix the time of the next meeting.
5. All business on the Agenda of the adjourned meeting shall be included on the Agenda of the next meeting and shall take precedence over new business.

### **Paragraph 4 – Debate**

1. Any member who is entitled to vote and desiring to speak at the meeting shall rise in his place or raise his hand and when called upon by the Chairman, shall address the Chair. If two or more members rise simultaneously, the Chairman shall call upon the member who first caught his eye. If more members desire to speak, a list of order shall be prepared.
2. The floor shall not be given again to discuss issues of the agenda already voted on, unless the assembly decides to the contrary pursuant to majority rule.
3. Personal comments are only permitted at the conclusion of the discussion and the

completion of the voting.

4. The floor can be granted immediately for relevant amendments.

5. When the Chairman rises to speak, any member on his feet shall resume his seat.

### **Paragraph 5 – Motions**

1. A motion or amendment before the Chair shall not be withdrawn except by its mover and by leave of the meeting. No motion shall be withdrawn while any amendment is under discussion or after any amendment has been adopted.

2. If required to do so by the Chair, the proposer of any motion or amendment shall submit it in writing. Amendments to motions which are attached to the Agenda shall always be submitted in writing. A motion or amendment before the Chair may be reworded by the mover subject to leave of the meeting.

3. A member moving a motion or amendment shall speak to it. A member seconding a motion may reserve the right to speak to it subsequently. Same applies to other members moving amendments or alterations. A member of the meeting shall not speak more than once to any subject. Only the mover shall have the right to speak again at the end of the discussion of the motion or amendment.

4. When an amendment is before the Chair, discussion shall be continued to that amendment. No further amendment shall be proposed until the amendment before the Chair has been disposed of.

5. A motion or an amendment lapsing for want of a seconder shall not be discussed any further and shall not be recorded in the Minutes.

6. Motions, departing from proposed motions, improving, abbreviating or extending same, shall be accepted as amendments. These shall be voted on in connection with the motion before the Chair.

7. A member may move "that the debate on a point of the agenda or the meetings as a whole be now adjourned". Discussion shall be in order, but only amendments as to time and/or place shall be permitted. The motion shall take precedence over other business before the Chair, subject to leave of 2/3 of the meeting.

### **Paragraph 6 – Calls to Order**

1. The Chairman can call speakers who digress from the agenda or the motion "to the point" under discussion. If a speaker offends against decency, the Chairman can "call to order", reprimand conduct and point out possible consequences.

2. The Chairman can withdraw the floor from a speaker called twice "to the point" or "to order" without success.

3. Members or guests invited upon prior consent of the committee in charge of the meeting, who greatly disturb the assembly by their unruly conduct can be evicted after due warning from the assembly chamber by the Chairman.

### **Paragraph 7 – Time Allotted to Speakers**

1. The assembly may at any time move "that the speaker be no longer heard" or "that the speaker be heard for a further limited period only". Such motions shall be put without amendment or debate. Only this and no other motion shall be moved while a speaker has the floor.

2. Prior to voting the closure of the debate, the remaining names on the list of speakers have to be disclosed. The assembly can decide if the floor shall still be given to those entered in the list.

3. The Chairman may also of his own volition move "that the debate be closed", if he feels that an adequate discussion has taken place.

4. A closure motion shall only close the debate on the point of order, the motion or the amendment dealt with at that time.

### **Paragraph 8 – Voting and elections (other than Congresses)**

1. Voting and elections shall be carried out by show of voting cards. If secret voting is desired for elected office or for other issues, it may take place with a motion, made and seconded and approved by at least 51% of the eligible voters. Voting and elections shall be decided by majority vote. On the occasion of an equal number of votes for and against the question, the President or Chairman shall exercise his casting vote.

2. The chronological order of the motions to be put to vote shall be announced prior to the meeting. Every motion shall be read out once before voting. Only those members of the assembly entitled to exercise the right to vote can do so.

3. In the event of several motions pertaining to the same point being lodged, the one covering the widest spectrum shall be dealt with and put for vote. The acceptance of the said motion renders any further voting unnecessary. When faced with uncertainty as to which is the most extensive motion, the assembly shall decide by majority vote without debate. Voting shall be carried out in the order in which the motions were entered.

4. Should the result of a vote be under rightful dispute, a recount of votes shall be implemented.

### **Paragraph 9 – The Panel of Scrutineers**

1. For the purpose of voting, the Chairman can select a panel of scrutineers consisting of three members of the assembly. They shall be responsible for counting the ballot-papers and controlling that the number of votes is in accordance with the signed attendance list.

2. The validity of the vote is to be explicitly confirmed to the Secretary for Protocol by the members of the panel of scrutineers.

### **Paragraph 10 – Eligibility**

1. It can be requested prior to elections that candidates declare their professional and statutory requirements.

2. Candidates shall be asked before elections if they will accept office in case of being elected.

3. An absentee can be elected into office only provided that the Chairman (elected President) has at hand, prior to the election, a written statement of the absentee declaring his willingness.

### **Paragraph 11 – The Minutes**

1. The minutes shall be recorded of all minutes, and include:

a) the place and date of the assembly;

b) the full names (Given name and surname) of Chairman and Secretary (recorder of minutes);

- c) the assessment of the statutory summoning of the meeting.
- d) The agenda specifying if notification of same was given upon summoning of the meeting;
- e) The assessment of a quorum;
- f) The motions put forthwith and the result of the voting;
- g) The signatures of the Chairman and the Secretary (recorder of minutes);

If there is no other provision in the statutes, the minutes will be officially accepted unless objections in writing are received within 45 days from the date of the postmark on the envelope containing the minutes.

The voting results shall be recorded in numerical order. The elected members shall be listed with full names (given name and surname) and their places of residence.

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