IWF Constitution and By-Laws

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CONSTITUTION

1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 STATUS AND NAME

1.1.1 The INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION *(Fédération International d'Haltérophilie)* hereinafter called "IWF", is a non for profit association founded in 1905 for an unlimited period of time and governed by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code and by this Constitution.

1.1.2 The IWF is the controlling body of the sport of weightlifting worldwide and is composed of the affiliated Member Federations governing the sport of weightlifting on the basis of one Federation per country.

1.1.3 The IWF is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the sole controlling body for international weightlifting. The IWF may adhere to or cooperate with institutions and organisations sharing similar values and goals as those of the IWF described herein.

1.2 SEAT

1.2.1 The IWF has its seat in Lausanne, Switzerland.

1.3 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

1.3.1 The official language of the IWF is English. The proceedings and all meetings of the Congress are held in English. All the publications and reports of the Executive Board and of all other Committees and Commissions of the IWF are in English.

1.3.2 In case of translation of the IWF Constitution or any other IWF document into other languages the English text shall prevail.

1.4 EMBLEM AND FLAG

1.4.1 The flag of the IWF is the emblem on a white background, as set out below:

1.4.2 The elements of the emblem are described in the By-Laws.

(By-Law to 1.4)

2 OBJECTIVE AND MISSIONS

2.1 OBJECTIVE

2.1.1 The objective of the IWF is to govern the sport of weightlifting throughout the world, in accordance with the principles of democracy, good governance and transparency.

2.1.2 To achieve its objective, the IWF shall:

- organise, control and develop the sport of weightlifting on an international scale;
- establish the weightlifting Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations;
- control and regulate all international weightlifting competitions;
- organise IWF World Championships, Olympic Qualification Events and other major events;
- cooperate with the IOC in the organisation of weightlifting events at the Olympic Games;
- ensure the safety and health of the athletes and officials;
- fight against doping;
- fight against corruption and bribery;
- support the development of weightlifting in Member Federations;
- supervise weightlifting events at Continental, Regional and other Multisport Games;
- support and supervise the activities of Continental and Regional Federations;
- register and govern the appointment of International Technical Officials;
- educate athletes and officials.

2.2 MISSIONS

2.2.1 Through its activities, the IWF complies with the fundamental principles of Olympism. It endorses the key values of sport. It maintains its autonomy.

2.2.2 It promotes weightlifting and its development as a core sport, it supports health and maintains unity for the benefit of all its stakeholders.

2.2.3 The IWF:

- supports all initiatives for peace and understanding;
- advocates and ensures competitions in the spirit of Fair Play;
- provides equal conditions for different Continents, countries, individuals without distinctions for reasons of race, colour, gender, religion or politics;
- opposes all forms of political and religious debates or demonstrations within the IWF;
- safeguards common interests and ensures mutual respect and unity between the IWF and its Members;
- records and verifies world and Olympic records.

3 MEMBERS OF THE IWF

3.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1.1 IWF membership is open only to National Federations controlling the sport of weightlifting in their respective countries. (National Federations hereinafter may be referred to as "Members" or "Member Federations").

3.1.2 In this Constitution, the expression "country" means an independent State recognised by the international community / the United Nations / the International Olympic Committee. The name of a National Federation must reflect the territorial extent and tradition of its country and shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

3.1.3 Unless specifically authorised by the Executive Board the combination of weightlifting with other sports that have their own international federations is not permitted.

3.1.4 Members shall be affiliated/suspended/expelled upon resolution of the Executive Board.

3.2 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

There are three (3) categories of Members within the IWF:

3.2.1 Full Member (hereinafter referred as FM): A Full Member is a Member Federation of a country as defined in 3.1.2 entitled to full membership rights (hereinafter "Member" and/or "Member Federation" refers to Full Member only, unless otherwise specified).

3.2.2 Provisional Member (hereinafter referred as PM): A Provisional Member is a National Federation of a country as defined in 3.1.2 that has submitted its application and is waiting for admission to full membership. Provisional Members may qualify for full membership no sooner than twenty-four (24) months to be counted from the application date.

3.2.3 Associate Member (hereinafter referred as AM): An Associate Member is a Federation of a non-sovereign country, meaning that such non-sovereign country has no National Olympic Committee recognised by the IOC and/or does not fulfil the criteria set out under Article 3.1.2 above.

3.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

3.3.1 Any National Federation wishing to affiliate to the IWF must submit the following to the IWF:

- A Membership Application signed by its President and General Secretary Treasurer;
- A copy of its Constitution reflecting the objective and missions of the IWF;
- The list of members of its Executive Board;
- An attestation from the National Olympic Committee or highest sport authority certifying that the Federation is recognised as the controlling body for weightlifting in the country;
- The Affiliation Fee (By-Law to 3.3.)

3.3.2 An application for membership implies complete recognition of the IWF Constitution & By-Laws, Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations and the Anti-Doping Policy.

3.3.3 To obtain the status of Full Member a Provisional Member must prove its eligibility in an evaluation process as per By-Law to 6.1.7.

3.4 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Members shall have the following obligations:

3.4.1 Pay the annual membership fee to the IWF as determined by the Executive Board in By-Law to 11. 10.1 (FM)

3.4.2 Accept and fully comply with the IWF Constitution, By-Laws, Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations and the Anti-Doping Policy. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.3 Accept and execute the decisions of the IWF Congress and the Executive Board. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.4 Develop the sport of weightlifting in their country. Organise the national championships annually. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.5 Submit an annual activity report to the IWF. (FM, PM)

3.4.6 Participate in the IWF Calendar Events with athletes. (FM, PM)

3.4.7 Hold elections for or appoint their President, General Secretary and officers in accordance with their Constitution and inform the IWF about their election or appointment. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.8 Remain in good standing and keep the IWF informed about the developments of weightlifting. (FM, PM)

3.4.9 Respond to any IWF requests, including circulars and questionnaires. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.10 Pay the Affiliation Fee to the IWF as determined by the Executive Board. (PM)

3.4.11 Keep the IWF Secretariat updated on any changes in the Federation. (FM, PM, AM)

3.4.12 Send the IWF a report on IWF Events held in their respective country according to the specification in the IWF Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations. (FM, PM, AM)

3.5 RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

Members shall have the following rights:

3.5.1 Participate and vote in the Congress. (FM)

3.5.2 Participate in the Congress without voting right. (PM, AM)

3.5.3 Submit proposals for inclusion in the Agenda of the Congress. (FM)

3.5.4 Nominate candidates for election. (FM)

3.5.5 Submit proposals if any for the modification of the IWF Constitution, Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations whenever requested. (FM)

3.5.6 Take part in and benefit from the IWF Development Program. (FM)

3.5.7 Nominate Technical Officials to IWF Events when requested. (FM)

3.5.8 Participate in IWF Calendar Events. (FM, PM)

3.5.9 Subject to the relevant Continental / Regional Federation's authorization they may participate in the Continental / Regional Federation's Congress without voting rights, in Continental / Regional Events with athletes and nominate Technical Officials to CF / RF Events. (AM)

3.6 OBLIGATIONS OF THE IWF TOWARDS ITS MEMBERS

The IWF shall have the following obligations towards its Members:

3.6.1 Keep the Members informed on all matters of international importance, e.g. calendar of events, results of major competitions, ranking lists, elections, membership and Technical Officials registration.

3.6.2 Inform the Members about the decisions of the Congress and the Executive Board.

3.6.3 Distribute to Members the IWF Constitution, its By-Laws, Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations. Publish and disseminate technical information on weightlifting to enhance the sport worldwide.

3.6.4 Assist in settling disputes concerning Members, when called upon.

3.6.5 Be of service to its Members and provide them with information and administrative assistance through the IWF Secretariat.

3.6.6 Express its solidarity to Members whose autonomy is threatened.

3.7 WAIVER OF MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The IWF is solely responsible for its liabilities, which are guaranteed by its own assets. Members shall not be responsible for any liabilities of the IWF.

3.8 SUSPENSION AND CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

3.8.1 IWF membership can be temporarily suspended in case a Member Federation fails to fulfil the obligations defined in 3.4. Such temporary suspension is recommended by the Membership Commission and ratified by the Executive Board. A temporary suspension does not release the concerned Member from its obligations.

3.8.2 IWF membership is lost:

- By letter of resignation addressed to the IWF Executive Board and sent to the IWF at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of resignation;

- By expulsion upon decision by the Executive Board for just cause, or if the Executive Board considers at its sole discretion that such Member has neglected or jeopardised the interest of the IWF or acted in any way which the Executive Board considers as unworthy of the IWF.

3.8.3 For purposes of this section, "just cause" shall mean any breach by a Member of its obligations under the Constitution or any of its By-Laws, including, without limitation, non-payment of fees.

3.9 PROTECTION OF THE SPORT OF WEIGHTLIFTING

3.9.1 Apart from the measures and sanctions provided in this Constitution, the Executive Board may, upon proposal of the Membership Commission, take any appropriate decisions for the protection of the sport of weightlifting, including suspension of Full, Provisional and Associate Members, if the constitution, law or any other regulations in force in the country concerned, or any act by any governmental or other body causes the activity of the member or the making or expression of its will to be hampered.

3.9.2 The Executive Board must offer such Member an opportunity to be heard before any such decision is taken.

3.9.3 The Executive Board shall determine in each case the consequences for the Member concerned and its athletes and Officials.

4 IWF BODIES

The IWF is composed of the two (2) following bodies:

- the Congress
- the Executive Board

4.1 CONGRESS

4.1.1 The highest power within the IWF is the Congress. The decisions of the Congress are final.

4.1.2 At least one (1) Congress is organised every year; preferably in conjunction with the IWF World and/or IWF Junior World Championships.

4.1.3 The IWF President shall convene the Congress.

4.1.4 The Congress is composed of the delegations of the Member Federations. Only the Full Members that have paid the Membership Fees for the current year and have no arrears may participate and vote at the Congress. Each Member may be represented by two (2) delegates but is entitled only to one (1) vote.

4.1.5 Each delegate must present a proof of appointment by the respective Member Federation. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

4.1.6 Only items on the agenda may be discussed at the Congress.

4.1.7 The following items must be on the agenda:

- Approval of the annual reports on the activities of
  - the President
  - the General Secretary Treasurer
  - the Committees
  - the Commissions
- Approval of the Annual Financial Report
- Information about the decisions of the Executive Board
- Information on the preparation of the forthcoming IWF World Championships and Games

4.1.8 The following items may be on the agenda:

- Awards, honours and distinctions
- Presentations by sponsors and appointed individuals
- Filling of vacancies on the Executive Board and the Committees until the next elections
- Modification of the IWF Constitution
- Other questions of importance concerning the sport of weightlifting.

4.1.9 To be valid, a decision of the Congress must be adopted by a majority of the votes cast.

4.1.10 To be valid, a decision of the Congress on any modifications of the Constitution must be adopted by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

4.1.11 Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority.

4.1.12 The sessions of the IWF Congress are not open to public.

4.1.13 Following each Summer Olympic Games, but not later than 31st May of the following year, the IWF holds elections. Upon proposal of the President, the Executive Board decides on the date and location of the elections.

4.1.14 If requested in writing by a minimum of one fifth (1/5) of the Member Federations, the President must convene an Extraordinary Congress to be held as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than ninety (90) days after receiving the request.

(By-Law to 4.1)

4.2 EXECUTIVE BOARD

4.2.1 The Executive Board consists of the following Officers:

- The President *(By-Law to 4.2.1.1)*
- The General Secretary Treasurer *(By-Law to 4.2.1.2)*
- The 1st Vice President *(By-Law to 4.2.1.3)*
- Five (5) Vice Presidents *(By-Law to 4.2.1.4)*
- Eight (8) Members *(By-Law to 4.2.1.4)*
- Five (5) Continental Federation Presidents co-opted

4.2.2 Each member of the Executive Board shall be elected by the Congress except for the 5 Continental Federations Presidents, co-opted.

4.2.3 The Executive Board governs the IWF.

4.2.4 The Executive Board must meet at least once a year.

4.2.5 The sittings of the Executive Board are not open to the public.

4.2.6 Attendance at the meetings is compulsory for its members. Members unable to attend the meeting must inform the IWF President prior to the meeting, and give adequate and acceptable reasons for their absence.

4.2.7 The Executive Board has the power to suspend any member of the Executive Board who, without adequate and acceptable reasons, has failed to attend two (2) consecutive Executive Board meetings, or four (4) Executive Board Meetings in aggregate.

4.2.8 Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board are kept and copies must be sent to all Executive Board Members.

4.2.9 The Executive Board has the authority to adopt and modify the By-Laws, the Anti-Doping Policy and the Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations.

4.2.10 The Executive Board has the right to establish and appoint Commissions to attend to specific tasks, within its own powers.

4.2.11 The quorum required for the meetings and decisions of the Executive Board is the presence of half of the members plus one (1).

4.2.12 The Executive Board exercises all powers not reserved by the Constitution or by the By-Laws to another IWF body.

(By-Law to 4.2)

5 COMMITTEES

5.1 The IWF has three (3) standing Committees (hereafter “the Committees”):

5.1.1 Technical Committee *(By-Law to 5.1.1)*

5.1.2 Coaching and Research Committee *(By-Law to 5.1.2)*

5.1.3 Medical Committee *(By-Law to 5.1.3)*

5.2 The Technical, the Coaching and Research and the Medical Committees consist of a Chairperson and ten (10) members each.

5.3 The ten (10) members to each Committee are elected by the Congress. The Chairpersons are appointed by the Executive Board upon recommendation of the President among the members of the Executive Board.

5.4 The President and the General Secretary Treasurer are ex-officio members of all the Committees.

5.5 All Committees must meet at least once a year.

5.6 The sittings of all the Committees are not open to the public.

5.7 Attendance at the meetings is compulsory for the Committee members. Members unable to attend the meeting must inform the IWF, prior to the meeting, and give adequate and acceptable reasons for their absence.

5.8 The Executive Board has the power to suspend any Committee Members who, without adequate and acceptable reasons, have failed to attend two (2) consecutive Committee meetings, or four (4) meetings in aggregate.

5.9 Any Members of any Committees who have resigned or discontinued serving in the Committee may be replaced by the decision of the Executive Board, the term of office of such new members expiring upon the next elections.

(By-Law to 5)

6 COMMISSIONS

6.1 The Executive Board establishes and appoints the following Commissions:

6.1.1 Anti-Doping Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.1)*

6.1.2 Athletes' Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.2)*

6.1.3 Development and Education Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.3)*

6.1.4 Ethics Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.4)*

6.1.5 Intercontinental Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.5)*

6.1.6 Membership Commission *(By-Law to 6.1.7)*

6.1.7 Disciplinary Commission

6.2 Further Commissions may be established by the Executive Board.

7 IWF SECRETARIAT

7.1 An IWF Secretariat is established in order to manage the IWF's daily operations. The Secretariat operates under the supervision of the President.

(By-Law to 7)

8 ELECTIONS

8.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

8.1.1 Elections shall take place every four (4) years at the IWF Congress designated by the Executive Board, following each Summer Olympic Games, but no later than 31 May of the following year.

8.1.2 The IWF elected Officers are the President, the General Secretary Treasurer, the 1st Vice President, the five (5) Vice Presidents, eight (8) Executive Board Members as well as ten (10) Members to each Committee.

8.1.3 The term of office of all elected and co-opted officers shall be four (4) years. They serve until the next elections. Elected Officers shall be the citizen of the country of the Member Federation which nominated them except for candidate defined under Article 8.1.5.

8.1.4 Member Federations may only propose *bona fide* candidates who are members of their Federation and must be citizens of the country of that Member Federation, as evidenced by passport or another official document issued by the country's authorities and provided by the Member Federation. A candidate may be nominated only by one (1) Member Federation to any IWF position even in case of double or multiple nationalities. The candidate must have been member of the Federation that proposes him/her for the last three (3) years, or subject to agreement between the two Federations concerned. Only those member Federations that have participated with athletes in a minimum of two (2) World or Continental Championships in the four (4) years prior to the election are eligible to submit candidates.

8.1.5 Any member of the Executive Board or Committees with a minimum of twelve (12) years of service may be a candidate in his/her own right to any position on the respective body provided that his/her nomination is supported by a minimum of one fifth (1/5) of the Member Federations. Proof of support by the Member Federations must be in writing and presented with the candidature.

8.1.6 Two (2) candidates who are citizens of the same country, as evidenced by official documents issued by such country's authorities, cannot be elected to the same body (Executive Board or any of the Committees). If, arising from 8.1.5, two (2) candidates who are citizens of the same country are candidates to the Executive Board or to a Committee, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected. The candidate with the lower number of votes will be eliminated from the process.

8.1.7 A person may be a candidate for a number of positions within the IWF but may only be elected to one (1). On being elected, the name of that person will be withdrawn from any further candidature list. Unsuccessful candidates are not automatically eligible for election to another position. Nominations must be made specifically for each position to be contested.

8.1.8 Any President or General Secretary of a Continental Federation who is elected to the position as President or General Secretary Treasurer of the IWF must immediately resign from his/her position with the Continental Federation.

8.1.9 Each Full Member is entitled to only one (1) vote.

8.1.10 Elections are carried out by secret ballot. When there is only one (1) candidate for a position such candidate shall be elected tacitly unless otherwise stated in the Constitution. When there is the same or less number of candidates than vacancies such candidates shall be elected tacitly unless otherwise stated in the Constitution.

8.1.11 To be valid, ballot papers shall carry votes for as many candidates as there are vacancies.

8.1.12 Election is by simple majority, i.e. the person who has obtained the highest number of votes is elected.

8.1.13 When two (2) or more candidates obtain an equal number of votes, another ballot is held. If after the second ballot there is still a tie, the President has the right to cast a deciding vote, or decide for further ballots.

8.1.14 Unsuccessful candidates may run for election in other Committees; however, when two (2) or more citizens of the same country are candidates to a specific office, the Member Federation of that country must give its order of preference so that only one (1) of its candidates is listed on each ballot list (except 8.1.5).

8.1.15 The order of the elections is as follows:

- the Executive Board
- the Technical Committee
- the Coaching and Research Committee
- the Medical Committee

8.2 ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

8.2.1 The order of the election is as follows:

- the President
- the General Secretary Treasurer
- the 1st Vice President
- the five (5) Vice Presidents
- the eight (8) Executive Board Members

8.2.2 The IWF President is elected by majority. In the case of more than two (2) candidates, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will drop out in each round until two (2) candidates remain. The candidate obtaining the higher number of votes is elected.

8.2.3 The General Secretary Treasurer is elected by majority. In the case of more than two (2) candidates, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will drop out in each round until two (2) candidates remain. The candidate obtaining the higher number of votes is elected.

8.2.4 Election of 1st Vice President: The candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected.

8.2.5 Election of five (5) Vice Presidents: The five (5) candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall be elected.

8.2.6 Election of Executive Board Members:

The IWF encourages the presence of women within the bodies of the Federation. Therefore, if none of the people elected as President, General Secretary Treasurer, 1st Vice President and Vice Presidents is a woman, the first of the eight (8) Executive Board Member positions shall be attributed in preference to a woman. To that effect, only female candidatures shall be admitted to take part in a first round of vote regarding the first of the eight (8) positions of the Executive Board. If there is only one (1) female candidate, such candidate shall be tacitly elected. If there is more than one (1) female candidates, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. If there is no female candidate, then the eight (8) remaining seats of the Executive Board shall be attributed in accordance with the rule below.

8.2.7 Subject to the specific rule mentioned under Article 8.2.6, the seven (7) or eight (8) as the case may be candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall be elected to the Executive Board.

8.2.8 At all elections, abstentions and blanks or spoiled vote are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority.

8.3 ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEES

8.3.1 The Congress elects ten (10) Members each to the Technical**,** Coaching and Research and Medical Committees.

8.4 TERMINATION OF OFFICE OF ELECTED OFFICERS

The office of an Elected and Co-opted Officer may be terminated:

8.4.1 By elapse of time, in which case Article 8.1.3 shall apply.

8.4.2 By resignation: Any IWF Officer may resign from his/her position by letter of resignation addressed to the IWF Executive Board and sent to the IWF at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of resignation.

8.4.3 By expulsion: Upon proposal of the IWF Executive Board the Congress may decide to terminate the office of an elected IWF Officer for just cause (as defined under Article 3.8.2 above) or if the Congress considers in its sole discretion that such Officer has neglected or jeopardized the interest of the IWF or acted in any way which the Congress considers as unworthy of the IWF. The Executive Board is entitled to suspend such Officer until the next Congress. If an Officer is suspended by the Executive Board pursuant to this Article, the President must cause the inclusion in the agenda of the next Congress the decision regarding the expulsion of the Officer.

8.4.4 By death: In case of death of an IWF Officer (except for the President, see By-Law to 4.2.1.1), the next IWF Congress may determine
a) a special election for that position; or
b) decide to leave it vacant until the next elections.

(By-Law to 8)

9 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

9.1 The Executive Board may honour former Presidents, General Secretaries, Vice Presidents or Executive Board Members for the merit they have earned by their work within the IWF by appointing them “Honorary Life President”, “Honorary Life Vice President”, “Honorary Life General Secretary” or “Honorary Life Member” of the IWF, corresponding with the highest title they had obtained. These persons may participate in the IWF Congresses.

9.2 Persons accepting any honorary title are no longer eligible for office in any of the IWF bodies.

10 OWNERSHIP RIGHTS AND WEIGHTLIFTING PROPERTIES

10.1 The IWF is the owner of all rights in and to the World Championships and Weightlifting Properties (as defined below), which rights have the potential to generate revenues for the purposes defined in this Constitution.

10.2 The World Championships are the exclusive property of the IWF which owns all rights and data relating thereto, in particular and without limitation, all rights relating to their organisation, exploitation, broadcasting, recording, representation, reproduction, access and dissemination in any form and by any means or mechanism whatsoever, whether now existing or developed in the future.

10.3 The IWF shall determine the conditions of access to and the conditions of any use of data relating to the World Championships.

10.4 Any IWF symbols, flags, mottos, anthems, identifications, designations, knowhow, Competition Management Applications, emblems are collectively referred to as "IWF Properties". All rights to any and all IWF Properties, as well as all rights to the use thereof, belong exclusively to the IWF, including but not limited to the use of any profit-making, commercial or advertising purposes. The IWF may license all or part of its rights on terms and conditions set forth by the Executive Board.

10.5 To be able to supply IWF Events, manufacturers of weightlifting Sport Equipment must obtain an "IWF Licence" and must fully comply with the conditions set out by the IWF.
Any organizer of any IWF Event, as well as any concerned Member, shall be responsible toward the IWF for compliance with specific obligation.

11 FINANCE

11.1 RESOURCES

11.1.1 Member Federations shall pay an annual Membership Fee to the IWF, as determined by the Executive Board.

11.1.2 In order to fulfil its objectives and tasks the IWF may exploit any rights it owns pursuant to Article 10 above, including IWF Properties.

11.1.3 In order to enhance the development of weightlifting, the IWF may allocate part of its revenues to its Members by means of the IWF Development Program.

11.2 ACCOUNTING PERIOD

The accounting period / fiscal year of the IWF goes from 1st January to 31st December of the year.

11.3 AUDITOR

11.3.1 The Executive Board shall appoint an auditor to perform an audit of the financial accounts of the IWF. The auditor shall deliver a report to the Executive Board, which must be submitted to the Congress.

11.3.2 The auditor shall be an independent professional audit firm, appointed for one (1) fiscal year.

(By-Law to 11)

12 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

12.1 The IWF, through the Disciplinary Commission, may take measures and sanctions in the case of any violation of this Constitution, its By-laws, schedules and annexes, the Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations or any other regulations issued by the IWF. Violations of anti-doping regulations are not subject to the disciplinary procedures set forth hereunder.

12.2 The following individuals and entities are subject to the IWF disciplinary procedures:

(i) Full, Provisional and Associate Members, and any individual or entity directly or indirectly connected to them;

(ii) The IWF Officers;

(iii) Athletes, except for the violation of anti-doping regulations; and

(iv) Officials including coaches.

12.3 The Disciplinary Commission is composed of five (5) members, to be appointed by the Executive Board. The President shall be *ex officio* member of the Disciplinary Commission. The terms of office of the members of the Disciplinary Commission shall be four (4) years.

12.4 The Disciplinary Commission may appoint any individual with special competence in order to assist the Commission.

12.5 Any enquiry relating to the fact that may lead to any measure or sanction is conducted under the authority of the Disciplinary Commission, which may delegate all or part of its authority to that effect to one (1) or several members of the Commission.

12.6 Throughout the enquiry, the Disciplinary Commission may provisionally withdraw from any concerned person or entity all or part of the rights, prerogatives and functions deriving from such person's or organisation's membership or status.

12.7 Any person or entity who/which is subject to an enquiry by the Disciplinary Commission has the right to be heard. The decision as to whether this right takes the form of written submissions or an oral hearing will depend on the individual circumstances of the case and is within the discretion of the Disciplinary Commission.

12.8 The Disciplinary Commission may take the following measures and sanctions against individuals and entities listed under Article 12.2, it being understood that such measures and sanctions may be combined:

(i) Reprimand;
(ii) Suspension;
(iii) Temporary or permanent ineligibility;
(iv) Disqualification;

(v) Withdrawal from the IWF Development Program;
(vi) Financial sanctions, including fines;
(vii) Exclusion from the competition;
(viii) Expulsion from the IWF and from any of its bodies.

All measures and sanctions are taken without prejudice to any other rights of the IWF and of any other body of the IWF.

12.9 Any decision of the Disciplinary Commission may be appealed solely and exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, which will resolve the dispute finally in accordance with its Code of Sports-Related Arbitration in force at the time of the appeal. The Appellant shall bear the cost for such appeal.

12.10 Full Members, Provisional Members and Associate Members shall immediately notify the IWF Secretariat of:
(i) any sanctions they take against an individual or an entity listed under Article 12.2 above;
(ii) any violation of this Constitution, its By-laws, schedules and annexes, the Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations or any other regulations issued by the IWF, that they are aware of.

12.11 Any athlete who is suspended by the Disciplinary Commission shall automatically be considered suspended by the Full, Provisional and Associate Members.

12.12 Any official who is suspended, or declared temporarily or permanently ineligible shall automatically be considered suspended, respectively declared temporarily or permanently ineligible, by the Full, Provisional and Associate Members.

13 ELIGIBILITY

13.1 Eligibility of athletes to participate in competition is determined by the rules of the IWF. The IWF exercises jurisdiction over the eligibility of athletes to participate in IWF World Championships and other IWF Events.

13.2 For the Olympic Games, the IOC Eligibility Rule prevails.

(By-Law to 13)

14 MASTERS WEIGHTLIFTING

14.1 The IWF recognises Masters Weightlifting.

14.2 The IWF is recognised by IMGA (International Masters Games Association) as the sole controlling body for international weightlifting. The IWF recognises Masters Weightlifting competitions held within the World Masters Games held under the auspices of IMGA.

14.3 Masters WL is governed by way of an IWF Masters Board as elected from time to time by the Masters Membership.

14.4 Masters Weightlifting must follow the IWF Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations wherever applicable.

14.5 Masters Weightlifting shall adopt and apply the applicable Regulations of the WADA Code.

14.6 Major Masters events may be included in the IWF Calendar.

14.7 The IWF Masters Board shall submit an annual report on its activities to the Congress.

14.8 The IWF Executive Board shall appoint one of its members to act as Masters liaison.

15 IWF AWARDS AND HONOURS

15.1 Individuals, Members or organisations that have rendered outstanding services to the sport of weightlifting and have significantly contributed to the promotion and development of weightlifting may be granted and conferred specific distinctions, awards or other honours.

(By-Law to 15)

16 CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS

16.1 The IWF recognises five (5) Continental Federations:
- African Weightlifting Federation
- Asian Weightlifting Federation
- European Weightlifting Federation
- Oceania Weightlifting Federation
- Pan-American Weightlifting Federation

16.2 Only the Member Federations already affiliated with the IWF may affiliate to Continental Federations.

16.3 For recognition by the IWF, Continental Federations must provide to the IWF following documents:
- Regulations, including but not limited to:
    - Constitution
    - By-Laws
    - List of members of the Executive Board
    - Official Registration
    - Contact details
    - Bank account details

16.4 RIGHTS OF CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS

16.4.1 Upon decision of the IWF Executive Board, Continental Federations may receive financial contribution from the IWF.

16.4.2 Continental Federations may apply for contribution within the framework of the IWF Development Program.

16.4.3 Committee Chairpersons of Continental Federations may participate in meetings of the relevant IWF Committees as observers.

16.4.4 Continental Federations may consult with the IWF regarding any relevant question of their Continent.

16.5 OBLIGATIONS OF CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS

16.5.1 Confirm full compliance with, and implement on their respective level, the IWF
- Constitution and By-Laws
- Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations
- Anti-Doping Policy
- Congress and Executive Board decisions

16.5.2 Organise and supervise their respective Continental Championships on an annual basis.

16.5.3 Send to the IWF as soon as available the documents as listed under By-Law to 16 in point 4.

16.5.4 Advise the IWF on matters involving their members.

16.5.5 Assist the IWF regarding Continental Games, recognising the IWF's authority regarding the weightlifting events of these Games.

16.5.6 Hold elections in accordance with their Constitution and inform the IWF thereof.

(By-Law to 16)

17 REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

17.1 The IWF may recognise Regional Federations.

17.2 Only the Member Federations already affiliated with the IWF may affiliate to Regional Federations.

17.3 For recognition by the IWF, Regional Federations must provide to the IWF following documents:
- Regulations, including but not limited to:
  - Constitution
  - By-Laws
- List of members of the Executive Board
- Official Registration
- Contact details

17.4 RIGHTS OF REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

17.4.1 Regional Federations may apply for contribution within the framework of the IWF Development Program.

17.4.2 Regional Federations may consult with the IWF regarding any relevant question of their Region.

17.5 OBLIGATIONS OF REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

17.5.1 Confirm full compliance with, and implement on their respective level, the IWF
- Constitution and By-Laws
- Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations
- Anti-Doping Policy
- Congress and Executive Board decisions

17.5.2 Organise and supervise their respective Regional Championships and assist with the organisation of Regional or other multisport Games, recognising the IWF's authority regarding the weightlifting events of these Games.

17.5.3 Send to the IWF as soon as available the documents as listed under By-Law to 17 in point 4.

17.5.4 Advise the IWF on matters involving their members.

17.5.5 Hold elections in accordance with their Constitution and inform the IWF thereof.

(By-Law to 17)

18 DISSOLUTION

18.1 The IWF may be dissolved only at a Congress convened for the purpose if requested by four fifth of the Member Federations.

18.2 The dissolution shall be declared if four fifth of the Member Federations are present and two third of those present vote in favour.

18.3 In the event of dissolution the Congress shall appoint one (1) or more liquidators who shall discharge all debts and liabilities incurred on behalf of the IWF. The remaining assets, if any, shall be donated to a suitable body for the on-going promotion and development of weightlifting, as defined by the Congress.

BY-LAWS

BY-LAW TO 1.4 THE EMBLEM AND FLAG

1 The emblem of the IWF consists of the following elements:

- The terrestrial globe with its meridians and parallels. On the right of the globe, a hand holds a barbell with three discs on which the letters IWF are inscribed.
- A laurel wreath surrounds the globe.
- The globe and laurel wreath are placed in two concentric circles between which is written: INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION – FOUNDED 1905

2 The colours of the emblem are:

- BLUE: for the globe
- GOLD: for the hand, the barbell and the wreath
- BLACK: for the meridians, the parallels, the circles, the letters IWF and the text

BY-LAW TO 3.2 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

1 **FULL MEMBER** (as per Article 3.4 and 3.5)
For Obligations see Article 3.4 and for Rights see Article 3.5.

2 **PROVISIONAL MEMBER**

Obligations:

- Accept and fully comply with the IWF Constitution, By-Laws, Technical and Competition Rules and the Anti-Doping Policy and any other IWF Regulations;
- Accept and execute the decisions of the IWF Congress and the Executive Board;
- Pay the Affiliation Fee to the IWF as determined by the Executive Board;
- Develop the sport of weightlifting in their country. Organise the national championships annually and send an Annual Activity Report;
- Regularly elect / appoint their President, General Secretary and officers and inform the IWF about their election / appointment;
- Remain in good standing and keep the IWF informed about the developments of weightlifting;
- Respond to any IWF requests, including circulars and questionnaires.

Rights:

- Participate in the Congress without voting rights;
- Participate in the IWF Calendar Events with athletes;

3 **ASSOCIATE MEMBER**

Obligations:

- Accept and fully comply with the IWF Constitution, By-Laws, Technical and Competition Rules and the Anti-Doping Policy and any other IWF Regulations;
- Accept and execute the decisions of the IWF Congress and the Executive Board;
- Develop the sport of weightlifting in their country. Organise the national championships annually;
- Hold elections for or appoint their President, General Secretary and officers in accordance with their Constitution and inform the IWF and the CF / RF concerned about their election / appointment.

Rights:

- Participate in the IWF Congress as observers, without voting rights;

Subject to the relevant Continental / Regional Federation's authorization they may:

- Participate in the Continental / Regional Federation's Congress without voting rights;
- Participate in the Continental / Regional Events with athletes;
- Nominate Technical Officials to CF / RF Events.

BY-LAW TO 3.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1 The Template of Membership Application must be filled in.

2 The application is evaluated by the IWF Membership Commission which makes a recommendation to the Executive Board.

3 A non-refundable Affiliation Fee of Two Thousand US dollars (USD 2,000) is payable with the Application

BY-LAW TO 3.4 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

1 Send the IWF a report on IWF Events held in their respective country according to the specification in the IWF Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations.

2 With reference to Article 3.4.1 pay the annual Membership Fee of Five Hundred US dollars (USD 500) before 31st January of the year.

3 Keep the IWF Secretariat updated on any changes in the data of the Federation.

BY-LAW TO 3.8 SUSPENSION AND CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1 The Member concerned has to be notified in writing about the suspension and in case it fails to fulfil the obligations defined in the suspension letter in the stipulated time the Executive Board has the right to cease its membership.

2 During the temporary suspension time the Member concerned shall have the same rights and obligations as the Provisional Member defined in 3.4 and 3.5.

BY-LAW TO 4.1 CONGRESS

1 The delegates must be citizens of the country of the Member Federation they represent. One (1) delegate can represent only one (1) Member Federation at a time.

2 Before the opening of the Congress, a commission made up of three (3) persons verifies the credentials of all the delegates. “Congress Delegate Appointment Form” – sample provided

3 The decision by the Congress shall include the effective date.

4 The President decides the number and the duration of the speeches allowed to the delegates.

5 Representatives from any of the affiliated Members may speak in their mother tongue, translated in English by an interpreter.

6 In case two (2) or more Congresses are held within a year, the Executive Board designates the one during which the various annual reports must be presented.

7 Deadlines (to be counted from the day of the Congress):

- Ninety (90) days prior: IWF shall send invitations to the Member Federations, the Executive Board and Committees
- Sixty (60) days prior: Member Federations and Officers shall send to the IWF proposals for inclusion on the Agenda. No item submitted after that time will be included on the Agenda.
- Thirty (30) days prior: IWF shall send to the Member Federations and the Officers the Agenda, the reports and other relevant documents

8 Deadlines regarding elections (to be counted from the day of the Congress):

- One hundred and twenty (120) days prior: IWF shall send invitations to the Member Federations and calls for candidatures
- Sixty (60) days prior: Candidatures must be received by the IWF from the Member Federations
- Thirty (30) days prior: the IWF shall send to the Member Federations the list of candidates.

BY-LAW TO 4.2 EXECUTIVE BOARD

1 The Executive Board decides on all matters concerning the sport of weightlifting and its organisation, including financial matters, in the best interest of the sport.

2 The proceedings of the meetings of the Executive Board are held in English. Members must be able to participate in English or provide an interpreter at their own cost.

3 The Executive Board has the right to determine and review the various fees imposed by the IWF.

4 It is responsible for ensuring adequate and competent personnel are employed and facilities are provided for the efficient operation of the Federation.

5 All decisions by the Executive Board must include the effective date.

6 The Executive Board allocates the IWF World Championships.

7 Upon proposal of the President, the Executive Board establishes the dates and the location of any Congress at which elections shall take place.

8 The Executive Board shall monitor the financial operations of the IWF, consider the Financial Reports and participate in decisions involving economic deliberations; as well as advise the President on financial issues, in accordance with Article 11 and its By-Law.

9 The Executive Board shall approve the appointment of Technical Officials for the Olympic Games upon the proposal of the Technical and Medical Committee.

10 The costs of participation in the meetings of Executive Board Members are covered as follows:

a) four (4) nights of accommodation and full board at meetings held in conjunction with IWF World Championships;

b) the flight ticket for the first two (2) meetings in a year shall be paid by the Executive Board Member / Member Federation nominating him/her. In case of further meetings an Economy Class flight ticket will be reimbursed.

BY-LAW TO 4.2.1.1 THE PRESIDENT

1 Supervises the activities of the IWF, the IWF Secretariat and the administration, in accordance with the decisions of the Congress and the Executive Board.

2 Is entitled to appoint IWF officials, either for a specific mandate or an undetermined period of time.

3 Presides over debates and keeps order at the Congress and at the meetings of the Executive Board according to the democratic principles.

4 Attends IWF World Championships and Olympic Games.

5 Attends and chairs the Executive Board meetings. The President has the casting vote in the event of a tie.

6 Attends the IWF Committee meetings in a consultative capacity.

7 Together with the General Secretary Treasurer, negotiates and executes all contracts between the IWF and third parties.

8 Submits annual reports on his/her activities to the Executive Board and to the Congress and a quadrennial report at the end of his/her term of office.

9 Represents the IWF at the meetings of the IOC, SportAccord, ASOIF and other sports organisations of which the IWF is a member.

10 Officially opens and closes IWF World Championships, or may delegate this right in accordance with protocol courtesies.

11 Presents the medals to the winners in the Victory Ceremonies at the IWF World Championships. The President may from time to time delegate other persons to this duty.

12 The President's expenses associated with these duties are covered by the IWF, unless otherwise regulated.

13 When the President is not available to attend to the duties above, these are taken over by the 1st Vice President, or – in case the latter is not available – another Vice President by the President's appointment.

14 In case the President's position becomes vacant for any reason for the remaining part of the term, the 1st Vice President fulfils this function until the next Congress, which may endorse the appointment until the next elections, or convene a Congress for election.

15 Upon the end of his/her office the President transfers to his/her successor all keys, access codes, passwords, data, documents and other papers of the IWF presidency within a deadline that shall not exceed sixty (60) days.

BY-LAW TO 4.2.1.2 THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER

1 Assists with the administration and operation of the IWF. Supports the sport of weightlifting throughout the world, in accordance with the IWF Constitution, By-Laws, the Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations, the decisions of the Congress and of the Executive Board, in consultation with the President.

2 Together with the President, negotiates and executes all contracts between the IWF and third parties.

3 Attends the Executive Board meetings, in his/her full capacity.

4 Attends the IWF Committee meetings in a consultative capacity.

5 Submits an annual activity report to the Executive Board and the Congress individually, or in conjunction with the President and a quadrennial report at the end of his/her term of office.

6 Shall attend the Olympic Games and IWF World Championships. May represent the IWF at any international event, subject to consultation with the President.

7 Represents the IWF at the IOC, SportAccord, ASOIF and other international sports organisations' meetings.

8 The General Secretary Treasurer's expenses associated with these duties are covered by the IWF, unless otherwise specified.

9 When the General Secretary Treasurer is not available to attend to the duties above, these are taken over by another officer appointed by the General Secretary Treasurer.

10 Upon the end of his/her office the General Secretary Treasurer transfers to his/her successor all keys, access codes, passwords, data, documents and other papers associated with his/her duties within a deadline that shall not exceed sixty (60) days.

BY-LAW TO 4.2.1.3 THE 1st VICE PRESIDENT

1 When the President is unable to attend to the duties as listed under By-Law to 4.2.1.1.,13, the 1st Vice President substitutes him/her.

2 In case the President's position becomes vacant for any reason for the remaining part of the term, the 1st Vice President fulfils this function until the next Congress, which may endorse the appointment until the next elections, or determine to have a special election.

BY-LAW TO 4.2.1.4 THE VICE PRESIDENTS AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

1 Supervise the activities in weightlifting, monitor the implementation of the Congress and Executive Board decisions and promote weightlifting on a world scale, in accordance with the IWF Constitution, Technical and Competition Rules.

2 Shall attend the meetings of the Executive Board in their full capacity.

3 Assist in the running of the Congresses when appointed by the President (verification of delegates, scrutineers, etc.).

4 Shall be active in their respective country and region as representatives of the IWF.

5 Submit proposals and search for possibilities to improve the finances of the IWF.

6 Contribute to the publication of IWF books, magazines and the like by submitting Articles and various materials.

7 Give support to the Organising Committee, according to the IWF Constitution, Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations, when they are present at the Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships and other Games.

8 Represent the IWF at Continental and Regional Games and Championships.

9 Vice Presidents or Members can be appointed by the Executive Board to focus on the following (including but not limited to) subjects and tasks:

- The IWF Development Program
- The IWF's finances and identification of new financial resources
- Publications, communication and media relations
- The promotion of women's weightlifting
- The promotion of youth weightlifting

10 In addition to the above, the Committee Chairpersons have the following duties:

- In coordination with the IWF Secretariat, they convene the meetings of their respective Committees following the annual programme of the IWF.

- They preside over the meetings and submit an annual report on their Committee's activities and a quadrennial report at the end of their term of office. These reports have to be sent to the IWF Secretariat sixty (60) days before the Congress for inclusion in the Congress documents and distribution.

11 In the case of vacancies on the Executive Board, the Executive Board will select a replacement from the nominated unsuccessful candidates. A Member elected to fill a vacancy must fulfil his/her function for the period remaining.

BY-LAW TO 5 COMMITTEES

1 The proceedings of the meetings of the Committees are held in English. Members must be able to participate in English or provide an interpreter at their own cost.

2 The Chairpersons have a casting vote in their respective Committee in the event of a tie.

3 The Chairpersons of the Committees of the Continental Federations are invited as observers, without voting rights, to the meetings of the respective IWF Committees.

4 The Committee Chairpersons may invite experts to the meetings as observers in a consultative capacity.

5 At all meetings minutes must be kept and a list of attendance signed.

6 Members must participate in the meetings at their own / their Member Federation's costs, unless otherwise specified.

BY-LAW TO 5.1.1 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1 Studies, analyses, monitors and develops all Technical and Competition Rules-related issues of the sport of weightlifting.

2 Selects the Technical Officials (excluding the Doctors on Duty) for the IWF World Championships and appoint Technical Officials for the Olympic Games to be approved by the Executive Board.

3 Assists with the conduct of technical courses.

4 Supervises Technical Official examinations and prepares examination papers. Elaborates the Technical Official Examinations and criteria for the promotion of Technical Official.

5 Takes measures to improve the level of refereeing and officiating at competitions.

6 In cooperation with the Competition Director/Secretary, takes charge of the competitions and ensures that all equipment and facilities conform to the IWF Technical and Competition Rules.

7 Supervises the implementation of these rules at all the IWF Calendar events and controls the competitions from a technical standpoint.

8 Reviews the performance analysis of Technical Officials as reported by the Chairperson or others and makes recommendations to the Executive Board. It also elaborates a Technical Officials' Pathway.

9 Candidates for the Technical Committee are required to be international Category 1 Technical Officials.

10 The Technical Committee cooperates with the other Committees.

BY-LAW TO 5.1.2 COACHING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

1 This Committee is responsible for overseeing the content and implementation of the IWF Coach Licensing program.

2 Prepares and evaluates examinations for the IWF Coach Licensing program application including recognition of prior learning (RPL).

3 Recommends and evaluates course presenters for the IWF coaching courses and reviews, reports and supplies feedback to the IWF.

4 Studies and publishes information on weightlifting training and preparation for competition.

5 Researches bio-mechanical aspects and apparatus to improve weightlifting technique.

6 Liaises with sport scientists to enhance weightlifting performance within IWF rules.

7 Distributes films, videos, DVDs, CD roms etc. on weightlifting training and competition.

8 Publishes technical information, manuals, bulletins and various other publications relative to weightlifting coaching.

9 Proposes themes, develops and updates curricula for IWF coaching clinics and recommends lecturers to present.

10 Develops an IWF Coaching Education program on several levels for implementation throughout IWF Member Federations.

11 Researches and develops recommendations concerning sports equipment and facilities from a coaching standpoint.

12 Studies developments in the technical rules and liaises with the IWF Technical Committee as to their modification from a coach's standpoint.

13 Co-operates with the other IWF Committees.

14 Develops initiatives to encourage and attract more youth involvement in weightlifting.

15 Investigates innovative methods of presentation of weightlifting competitions.

16 Develops appropriate training program examples for various stages of weightlifting development and age. Also recommends appropriate training programs for males and females.

17 Develops initiatives on how weightlifting training can benefit other sports.

18 This Committee is responsible for implementing and monitoring the IWF Code of Ethics.

19 Candidates for the CRC must have either a Physical Education diploma or degree or the equivalent; or have appropriate experience in weightlifting coaching at international level.

BY-LAW TO 5.1.3 MEDICAL COMMITTEE

1 This Committee safeguards the health of the athletes involved in the sport of weightlifting.

2 Advises the organisers of weightlifting events in a consultative capacity on medical, hygienic, nutritional and related matters.

3 At IWF World Championships, contacts the organising committee to ensure the provision of medical supplies, doping control, transportation, first aid and medical services as required by the IWF Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations and related standard requirements. Advises the organising committee on the food to be supplied to the participants in regards to quality, quantity and health requirements.

4 Selects Doctors on Duty for the IWF World Championships and proposes to the Executive Board the names of the Doctors on Duty at the Olympic Games. Reviews the performance analysis of Doctors on Duty as reported by the Chairperson or others and makes recommendations to the Executive Board.

5 Reviews the role and responsibilities of the Medical Committee on an ongoing basis, in particular as related to the Doctors on Duty.

6 Collects medical data on the long-term effects of weightlifting on the human body.

7 Prepares material for the promotion of weightlifting as a method of improving health and fitness.

8 Develops educational programmes pertaining to bodyweight control, training, injury management and the use and abuse of medicines and banned substances.

9 Collects and analyzes injury/illness reports and publishes analysis summaries of these.

10 Monitors the implementation of the IWF Anti-Doping Policy.

11 In collaboration with the Coaching and Research Committee, coordinates the planning and implementation of research on weightlifting.

12 Cooperates with any appropriate organisation, which it may consider to be beneficial to weightlifting.

13 Organises and participates in medical symposia and workshops.

14 At IWF World Championships, a doctor representing the organising Federation, without voting power, should attend the meeting of the Medical Committee.

15 Candidates for the Medical Committee must be doctors of medicine.

16 The Medical Committee cooperates with all other IWF Committees and Medical Committees of the Continental Federations on matters of mutual concern.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.1 ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION

1 The ADC will have a major role in the fight against the scourge of doping. It will advise the IWF Executive Board in carrying out its commitment to fight doping as well as ensuring the sustainability and successful delivery of the goals and objectives of the IWF. It will use all its efforts to provide to all athletes a fair and level playing field in our sport by complying with and implementing the IWF Anti-Doping Policy and the anti-doping philosophy encapsulated in it.

2 The ADC supports the IWF Executive Board in the performance of their duties and responsibilities pursuant to the IWF Anti-Doping Policy.

3 The IWF expects that the ADC will:

3.1 Elaborate the annual Anti-Doping Control Program of the IWF.

3.2 Consult with and advise the IWF Executive Board on formalizing strategies. Assist with and control the implementation of the Anti-Doping Control Program.

3.3 Promote the general and specific understanding of the challenges in the fight against doping in the weightlifting community.

3.4 Facilitate co-operation between the IWF and its members in the fight against doping.

3.5 Strive to establish transparency, honesty and fairness in the fight against doping in our sport.

3.6 Elaborate suggestions and solutions how to improve the effectiveness of the IWF Anti-Doping Program.

3.7 Involve in advisory capacity licensed physicians, specialists in endocrinology, clinical pharmacology sport medicine or analytical chemists with specific experience and expertise in the interpretation of urine steroid profiles with

experience in WADA accredited laboratories, as well as any other experts as deemed necessary.

3.8 Periodically review and make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding the IWF Anti-Doping Control Program and elaborate proposals for additions or amendments to the IWF Anti-Doping Policy for consideration by the Executive Board and IWF Congress.

3.9 Engender a respect for the Rules of the Sport and especially the Anti-Doping Policy.

3.10 Ensure that no conflict of interest exists in the implementation of the IWF Anti-Doping Control Program.

3.11 Devise and implement programmes to advise, coach and educate all participants in weightlifting in the fight against doping. Actively participate in the IWF Education Program, in particular its Anti-Doping Educational Training, without limitation in issues of tutorial, speakers, publications, presentations and publicity.).

3.12 Promote empowerment of athletes and athlete support personnel so that they appreciate that they must take individual responsibility for each of their actions in the fight against doping. Promote awareness of the IWF ADP among athletes, NFs, etc.

3.13 Work as a team in unity and harmony.

4 COMPOSITION

4.1 Three (3) independent members of the ADC shall be appointed by the Executive Board. They elect or appoint their Chairperson among themselves.

4.2 Members of the ADC shall undertake to avoid any conflict of interest during their activities in the ADC.

4.3 The Commission may at its discretion invite other individuals to attend the whole or part of any meeting. The IWF Anti-Doping Administrator shall attend the ADC meetings without voting privileges.

5 QUORUM, FREQUENCY, AND NOTICE OF MEETINGS

5.1 No meeting of the ADC may be held without a quorum being present either in person or electronically. A quorum consists of half of its members plus one (1) including the Chairperson.

5.2 The ADC will meet at least twice every calendar year on the occasion of the Junior and Senior IWF World Championships, or as otherwise directed by the IWF Executive Board. The majority of the Commission may request that a meeting be held at any other time.

5.3 Meetings of the ADC may be held in person, by electronic means, or by a combination of the two.

5.4 Meetings of the ADC shall be convened by the Chairperson, or in accordance with 5.2.

5.5 Notice of each meeting containing the venue, date and time of the meeting, together with an agenda of the items to be discussed at the meeting shall be forwarded to each member of the Commission and the IWF AD Administrator at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the proposed meeting.

6 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

6.1 A designated member of the ADC shall keep minutes of the proceedings and decisions of each meeting (the minutes). If deemed necessary the IWF AD Administrator may be appointed as Commission Secretary.

6.2 The minutes shall be circulated for approval to all members of ADC and the IWF AD Administrator, if not appointed Commission Secretary, in a timely fashion.

6.3 The approved minutes shall be sent to the IWF Executive Board no later than ten (10) days following its approval by ADC.

7 REPORTING

7.1 The Chairperson shall report on the activity and proceedings of the Commission to the IWF Congress at least once per year on the occasion of the Senior IWF World Championships and to the IWF Executive Board when required.

7.2 The Commission shall at least once per year review its own performance and Terms of Reference to ensure that it is operating effectively for its intended purpose. The Commission will propose to the IWF Executive Board any recommended changes to its Terms of Reference after such review.

8 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

8.1 The ADC shall, on behalf of the IWF Executive Board, and subject to the decisions and directions of the Executive Board, have the following responsibilities:

8.1.1 To advise, assist and support the IWF AD Administrator in the implementation of the IWF Anti-Doping Policy. The IWF AD Administrator shall inform the Chairperson of the ADC of the closed Result Management processes;

8.1.2 To ensure fairness and transparency in the operation of the IWF Anti-Doping Control Program and Anti-Doping Policy in all aspects of its operation;

8.1.3 To make proposals to the IWF Executive Board relevant to the implementation of the IWF Anti-Doping Policy;

8.1.4 To identify to the IWF Executive Board the resources necessary to enable the IWF Anti-Doping Control Program to operate more effectively;

8.1.5 To formulate and oversee the measures and actions requested by the IWF Executive Board;

8.1.6 To identify strategic international opportunities and initiatives to more effectively fight doping;

8.1.7 To consult with and advise the IWF AD Administrator regarding the In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing Program;

8.1.8 To develop and implement an IWF ADC Communication Plan to provide effective communication with all international partners and stakeholders of the IWF;

8.1.9 To develop a system of key performance indicators for the IWF Anti-Doping Program;

8.1.10 To develop and implement a system to evaluate the performance of the IWF Anti-Doping Program;

8.1.11 The IWF AD Administrator, in consultation with the ADC Chairperson, selects the WADA accredited laboratory(s) for In-Competition and Out-of-Competition controls;

8.1.12 The IWF AD Administrator, in consultation with the ADC Chairperson, selects the Anti-Doping Organisation (ADO) for In-Competition and Out-of-Competition controls;

8.1.13 A statistical report about the In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Anti-Doping Controls shall be presented to the IWF EB on the occasion of its meetings and at least to one (1) Congress annually.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.2 ATHLETES' COMMISSION

1 Members of the Athletes' Commission may be athletes still pursuing an active career or having finished their active careers not more than 4 (four) years prior to the appointment.

2 The Athletes' Commission shall advise the Executive Board on matters concerning weightlifting athletes.

3 The Commission shall liaise with the IOC's Athletes' Commission and be represented at the IOC International Athletes' Forum.

4 The Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, if not an Executive Board member, may be invited to the Executive Board meetings in a consultative capacity.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.3 DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

1 The Commission oversees the IWF Development Program by studying the summaries of the applications received and elaborated by the IWF Secretariat.

2 It submits a proposal to the Executive Board regarding the allocation of the funds / contributions to the applicants.

3 It makes recommendations to the Executive Board to the improvement of the IWF Development Program.

4 The Commission assists with the elaboration and the implementation of the IWF Education projects and Seminars.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.4 ETHICS COMMISSION

Mission and composition

Art. 1
Pursuant to art. 6.1.4 of the IWF Constitution, an independent IWF Ethics Commission (hereafter the "Commission") shall be established by the IWF Executive Board and charged with the following mission:

1. to assist IWF in developing and updating a framework of ethical principles, including the IWF Code of Ethics, based upon the values and principles enshrined in the IWF Code of Ethics, Constitution, By-Laws, Disciplinary Code, Procedural Rules, Technical & Competition Rules and in the Olympic Charter, all such values and principles being hereafter referred to as "IWF Ethical Principles";
2. to help ensure compliance with the IWF Ethical Principles in the policies and practices of IWF;
3. to provide assistance, including advice or proposals, upon request by the IWF President, the Executive Board, the Disciplinary Commission or the Congress, in order that the IWF Ethical Principles are applied in practice;
4. to investigate complaints or other issues submitted to the Commission by the IWF President, the Executive Board, the Disciplinary Commission or the Congress, and raised in relation to the non-respect of the IWF Ethical Principles, and, if necessary, to recommend sanctions or other action to be taken by IWF, its President, its Executive Board, its Disciplinary Commission or its Congress;
5. to bring to the attention of whichever person or entity it finds appropriate, including but not limited to the IWF President, the Executive Board, the Disciplinary Commission or the Congress, any matter infringing IWF Ethical Principles and recommend actions or sanctions;
6. to advise on how to avoid or resolve conflicts of interests;
7. to pursue any other tasks relating to the development and implementation of the IWF Ethical Principles, as requested by the IWF President, the Executive Board, the Disciplinary Commission or the Congress.

Art. 2
The Commission shall be composed of five (5) members, designated as follows:
- a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson, appointed by the IWF President;
- three members appointed by the Executive Committee.

Neither the Chairperson, nor the three members to be appointed by the Executive Board shall be members of IWF. The Vice Chairperson can be chosen among members of IWF.

Art. 3
Members of the Commission must all be familiar and acquainted with the values and Ethical Principles of the Olympic Movement, preferably through personal experiences; one member at least of the Commission shall have a background in the legal profession

and another member at least in the carrying out of high level executive office or public service.

Art. 4
The duration of the term of a member of the Commission shall be four years. Such term is renewable once.

Art. 5
A member of the Commission may only be removed from office by a unanimous decision of the Executive Board or, in the absence of such decision, by decision of the Congress.

Art. 6
In the event of vacancy due to death, resignation, incompatibility or inability of a member to perform his functions, the member shall be replaced. The new member shall complete the term of the member he replaces and may be appointed for one new four year term.

Art. 7
Members of the Commission may not take any measure nor exercise any authority in relation to a matter where any conflict of interests or any other form of conflict exist or is perceived to exist.

Indemnification and expenses

Art. 8
Members of the Commission shall be indemnified by IWF in relation to any claim by any third party deriving from the carrying out of their duties as members of the Commission.

Art. 9
Members of the Commission serve as volunteers. They are entitled to be reimbursed by IWF for all their travel, accommodation and other justified expenses as well as to a per diem allowance to cover their other costs.

Art. 10
The Commission shall be assisted by a secretary designated by the Chairperson of the Commission, whose costs will be reimbursed by IWF.

Procedures

Art. 11
The Commission establishes its own rules of procedure.

Art. 12
The Commission reports to the IWF President. If the Commission considers it as necessary, it may submit a report directly to the IWF Executive Board, the Disciplinary Commission, the Congress, or any other person or entity within IWF. In such a case, the Commission shall inform the IWF President before it submits its report.

Art. 13
The Commission shall present every year a report to the Congress on the conduct of its activities.

IWF CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

The importance of IWF Code of Ethics

The primary purpose of IWF Code of Ethics is to assist IWF members in making consistent choices when faced with ethical dilemmas and to set out ethical principles and standards applicable throughout the weightlifting community and sport governed by IWF.

IWF members undertake at all times to respect and ensure respect of the following principles:

Fairness: Operating within the spirit of the rules, never taking an unfair advantage and making informed and honourable decisions at all times.

Respect: Recognizing the contribution which people make to sport, treating them with dignity and consideration, as well as caring for the property and equipment they use.

Responsibility: Taking responsibility for one's actions and being a positive role model at all times.

Safety: Encouraging healthy and safe procedures, preventing and reporting dangerous behaviour, while demonstrating concern for others.

Integrity: Comprising the personal inner sense of "totality" deriving from honesty and consistent respectability of character.

Equity: Practicing fairness and applying social justice to all situations and decision making processes. Ensuring that all individuals are respected, have equal opportunities and have their rights protected.

Transparency: This is a fundamental principle of any form of modern governance.

Accountability: This is also an essential principle of particular importance.

IWF members can play a vital role in encouraging ethics in sports and providing a path through which sports leaders can meet and exchange views. Such IWF members are the voice of their national sport and have a duty to ensure the integrity of all IWF members.

Scope of application

Art. 1
The present Code applies to IWF and each of its members, namely full members, provisional members and associate members, and staff, including but not limited to all members of the Executive Board, of all Commissions and Committees, and all IWF officers, officials, athletes, coaches, Technical Officials and other employees or agents (hereinafter the "Parties").

The Parties shall pay particular attention to observing IWF Ethical Principles, including but not limited to fair play and sportsmanship, when participating in IWF's championships and all other activities.

Principles

Art. 2
The Parties must comply with the following principles:

1. Human dignity.
2. Non-discrimination, either on the basis of race, gender, nationality, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinions, sexual preference or any other grounds.
3. Nonviolence, including abstaining from any kind of pressure and harassment, whether physical, mental, professional or sexual.
4. Friendship, mutual aid and fair-play.
5. Integrity.
6. Priority to the interests of the sport of weightlifting and the athletes in relation to financial interests.
7. Protection of the environment.
8. Political neutrality.
9. Promotion of the Olympic Movement Ideals.

Art. 3
The Parties shall use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. They shall, on all occasions and to the best of their ability, serve the interests of weightlifting and IWF. They shall refrain from any behaviour which might jeopardize weightlifting, and they must not act in any manner likely to tarnish the reputation of IWF.

Integrity

Art. 4
The Parties shall refrain from asking, accepting or proposing, either directly or indirectly, any payment or commission, any advantages or services of any kind, in exchange for the performance of their duties for IWF or for their work carried out for IWF, unless they have previously obtained an express authorization in writing from the competent IWF authority.

IWF must be informed of any offers of this kind which are made to a Party. IWF shall adopt proper measures to ensure protection of such Parties, so that they can inform IWF without risk of reprisal.

Art. 5
The Parties may receive or accept gifts only as a mark of respect or friendship and of nominal value in accordance with prevailing local customs.

Any gifts offered to a third party must have been previously authorized by IWF. Gifts may only be offered by IWF or on behalf of IWF; the Parties shall refrain from offering any gifts in their personal names.

Any gifts received must be reported to IWF.

An overall sense of moderation should prevail concerning hospitality and accommodation.

Art. 6
The Parties must not be involved nor have relationships with any organizations, firms or persons whose activities are incompatible with IWF Ethical Principles.

Art. 7
The Parties who represent IWF in an outside body shall be obliged to intervene and to vote in accordance with any instructions that they have received from the competent authority at IWF. They shall not accept any instructions as to how to vote from any third-party.

Art 8

Parties are required not to make any derogatory comments about each other's appearance, race, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin or sexual orientation

Confidentiality

Art. 9
The Parties shall refrain from disclosing any information concerning IWF or its activities that has not been made public, unless such a disclosure has been authorized by the competent authority at IWF or is required by law.

Art. 10
The disclosure of information must not be aimed at making profit or taking any personal advantage, nor may it be motivated by malicious intent to damage the reputation of any person or organization.

Conflict of interests

Art. 11
A situation of a potential conflict of interests arises when the opinion or decision of a Party may be reasonably considered as liable to be influenced by relations that such Party has, has had or is on the point of having with another person or organization that would be affected by the Party's opinion or decision.

A case of conflict of interests is constituted when a Party, having abstained from declaring a situation of a potential conflict of interests, expresses an opinion or takes a decision in the circumstances described in the above paragraph.

Art. 12
In assessing the situations described in Article 10 above, direct as well as indirect interests must be taken into account. This also includes the interests of a third person or entity (e.g. parent, spouse, relation, dependent, contractor, or contractee).

The circumstances in which a conflict of interests could arise are, for example:
- a personal or material involvement (salary, shareholding, other various benefits) with suppliers of IWF;
- a personal or material involvement with IWF sponsors, broadcasters, suppliers, partners or other contracting parties;

- a personal or material involvement with an organization liable to benefit from the assistance of IWF (e.g. subsidy, approval clause or election).

Art. 13
It is the responsibility of each Party to avoid any case even the appearance of conflict of interests.

Faced with a situation of a potential conflict of interests, the Party concerned must refrain from expressing an opinion; from making a decision or participating in the decision making or from accepting any form of benefit whatsoever. However, if the Party wishes to continue to act or is uncertain as to the steps to take, the Party must inform the Ethics Commission of the situation.

Art. 14
The Ethics Commission shall propose to the Party concerned a solution as, for example:
- registering the declaration without any particular measure;
- removal of the Party from expressing the opinion or from making or participating in making the decision at the root of the conflict;
- relinquishment of the management of the external interest causing the conflict.

In the event that a Party neglects to declare a situation of potential conflict of interests or refuses to act according to the solution proposed by the Ethics Commission, the Ethics Commission shall propose to the IWF President and to the Disciplinary Commission a decision that may include the measures provided in the above paragraph, as well as possible sanctions.

The IWF President and the Disciplinary Commission are responsible, in the final instance, for taking decisions and/or sanctions concerning conflicts of interests.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.5 INTERCONTINENTAL COMMISSION

1 An Intercontinental Commission shall be created, the purpose of which will be to deal with matters relating to relationships between the IWF and Continental Federations, such as calendar, Championships or anti-doping activities.

2 Members of the Intercontinental Commission are: the IWF President, IWF General Secretary Treasurer and the Presidents and the General Secretaries of the Continental Federations.

3 The Intercontinental Commission shall meet as required.

BY-LAW TO 6.1.6 MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

1 A Membership Commission shall be created to monitor the status and activity of IWF Members and their compliance with the Members' Obligations as per Article 3.4.

2 The Commission shall check and evaluate the applications for membership.

3 It shall make due recommendations to the Executive Board regarding matters of membership, i.e. change of membership categories / status (e.g. from Provisional Member to Full Member; or other).

BY-LAW TO 7 IWF SECRETARIAT

1 The IWF Secretariat (administrative office) is under the responsibility and the authority of the President.

2 It is is the administrative and communication centre of the IWF. Its main task is to ensure the efficient operation of the Federation.

3 In order to fulfil its duties, it must be appropriately staffed and have adequate office facilities.

4 It corresponds and maintains relations with the National Federations, the IOC, the SportAccord, ASOIF, the National Olympic Committees and other organisations and individuals.

5 Regularly publishes information on the sport of weightlifting and the IWF.

6 It verifies and registers world and Olympic records. Establishes and publishes World Ranking Lists.

7 Distributes the agenda for the Congress, the various meetings of the Executive Board and the Committees and sends it to the persons concerned thirty (30) days before the date of the meetings.

8 Keeps and distributes the Minutes to the persons concerned.

9 Regularly publishes information gathered at the Congresses, Executive Board and Committee meetings and sends it to the Member Federations, the members of the Executive Board and the Committees.

10 Registers international Technical Officials; issues TO cards, Certificate of Duty and licences.

11 Under the supervision of the President, administers the financial activities and keeps the accounts of the IWF.

12 Orders and distributes the IWF publications, honour awards, badges, etc.

13 Together with the ADC, manages and monitors the IWF Anti-Doping Control Program.

14 Elaborates contracts and agreements and manages their implementation.

BY-LAW TO 8 ELECTIONS

1 Candidatures to the various positions must reach the IWF Secretariat at least sixty (60) days before the 1st day of the Congress. Full Members or individuals under 8.1.5 may send candidatures. Candidatures must be submitted by means of a "Candidature Form" (Annex). An official acknowledgement from the IWF Secretariat will validate the candidature.

2 For the elections, the President appoints three (3) scrutineers who distribute, collect and count the ballots, and supervise the voting procedure if the ballot is carried out electronically.

3 Elected officials shall take an *Oath of office* upon election and abide by it in their activities.

BY-LAW TO 11 FINANCE

1 General

1.1 The goal of all financial operations must be the ultimate benefit of the sport of weightlifting and its constituents, i.e. the Member Federations.

1.2 All officers, officials or other parties involved in the financial management and operations of the IWF must regard accuracy, transparency and accountability as their chief guiding principles.

1.3 This By-Law must be adopted by the Continental Federations and their Financial Management shall be adapted accordingly.

2 Structure of the IWF's Financial Management

2.1 Congress
- Approves financial statements / reports

2.2 Executive Board
- Controls and monitors all financial issues and operations
- Determines strategic planning and policies
- Approves proposed Budgets

2.3 President and General Secretary Treasurer
- Implement the decisions of the Congress, Executive Board
- Manage and supervise the financial and business activities of the IWF
- Represent the IWF in financial negotiations and sign Agreements
- Decide on financial matters of specified extent under this By-Law
- Signs financial documents as required

2.4 Financial Advisor:
- Advises the IWF on its financial management (including financial strategy, controlling, wealth management and preparation and presentation of the financial report and budgets)
- Prepares the annual Budget
- Supervises and checks the annual closing
- Draws up the Financial Report
- Monitors the wealth management performed by the banks
- Participates in the IWF Congress and Executive Board meetings, when necessary

2.5 Secretariat
- Implements the decisions of the Congress, Executive Board, President and General Secretary Treasurer
- Runs daily operations
- Keeps the accounts and prepares the financial documents
- Administers and communicates in financial matters

2.6 Auditor
- Audits the IWF's financial operations annually.

3 Currency

- For the IWF's financial operations the US Dollar is the primary currency, except as otherwise determined by the Executive Board.

4 Financial operations

4.1 The Executive Board decides on all matters concerning the sport of weightlifting and its organisation, including financial matters, in the best interest of the sport.

4.2 The Executive Board shall monitor the financial operations of the IWF and participate in decisions involving economic deliberations.

4.3 The financial operations must follow the Budget approved by the Executive Board.

4.4 The President manages and supervises the activities of the IWF and of the Secretariat that administers the financial activities and keeps the accounts of the IWF.

4.5 The Financial Advisor submits regular financial reports to the Executive Board, and an Annual Financial Report to the Congress.

4.6 The Annual Financial Report of the concluded Financial Year shall be presented for approval at the next Congress.

4.7 The approved financial statements and the Provisional Budget for the next Financial Year shall be sent to all Member Federations.

4.8 All bank and cash transactions must be duly documented and related with an invoice or receipt.

4.9 Outstanding payments to the IWF and/or debts of the IWF in a value of over Ten Thousand US dollars (USD 10.000) with due date of ninety (90) days or more must be reported to the Executive Board with the reason of the delay, if possible. The Executive Board shall decide on further actions and/or eventual sanctions.

4.10 To improve the financial success of the IWF, specific tasks may be assigned to experts from within or outside the IWF.

4.11 All official documents shall be filed at the IWF Secretariat.

5 Budget

5.1 The Financial Advisor together with the President and General Secretary Treasurer shall prepare a Provisional Budget for the next Financial Year for approval latest by the last Executive Board meeting before the conclusion of the actual Financial Year. The Budget shall include the projected and expected revenues and expenditures.

5.2 In the Budget, figures in column “Total – US$” are normative, whereas figures in column “Breakdown – US$” are directional under one budget item.

5.3 Any extraordinary expenditure not included in the approved Budget may be authorised as follows:

- expenditure up to Ten Thousand US dollars (USD 10.000) – President or General Secretary
- expenditure between Ten Thousand and one US dollars (USD 10.001) and Thirty Thousand US dollars (USD 30.000) – President and General Secretary Treasurer together

- expenditure above Thirty Thousand and one US dollars (USD 30.001) – Executive Board

6 Auditing

6.1 Audits of the IWF's financial operations shall be assigned by the Executive Board to an independent professional auditing firm.

7 Financial Statements

7.1 Financial Report and Balance Sheet
The Balance Sheet for the actual Financial Year shall contain:
- Opening balance
- All Revenues in a detailed format
- All Expenditures in a detailed format
- Closing balance
- Debit and credit status (payable and receivable)

7.2 A progressive Financial Report must be submitted to the Executive Board and the audited Annual Financial Report must be presented for approval by the Congress.

8 Conflict of Interest

8.1 All officers, officials, other individuals or parties involved in the IWF's financial operations shall be committed to promoting a standard of conduct safeguarding the members' confidence in the integrity, objectivity and impartiality of the IWF's activities. They must therefore ensure that outside activities or financial interests cannot interfere with or influence the IWF's decision-making processes.

8.2 Any individual who is directly involved in the matter to be decided should abstain from that particular decision-making process and may be requested to leave the room for the time of the decision-making process. In questionable situations the respective body may decide if a conflict of interest exists.

9 Confidentiality

9.1 All officers, officials or other parties involved in the IWF's financial operations shall treat all documents, data or information on the IWF's finances as confidential. All officers, officials or other parties shall refrain from disclosing such information to a third party.

9.2 The data and information subject to the Financial Reports as per the Constitution or this By-Law are exempt from the obligation of confidentiality.

9.3 Any official failing to respect this clause on Confidentiality may be subject to disciplinary action under Article 12 of the IWF Constitution.

10 Fees

10.1 The annual membership fee of the IWF is Five Hundred US dollars (500 USD).

10.2 The membership fee is due in January. Any Member not paying its fee for the current year by the end of March may not participate or vote at the various meetings of the IWF. Their athletes may not take part in

competitions or meetings organised under the IWF. A reminder is sent to every Member that has not paid its membership fee by February.

10.3 A fee must be paid to the IWF to organise IWF World Championships and IWF Events. It must be deposited with the IWF together with the candidature. The fees are as follows:

- IWF World Championships, minimum Twenty-Five thousand US dollars (25,000 USD) – not inclusive for TV and advertising rights
- IWF Junior World Championships, minimum Ten thousand US dollars (10,000 USD) – not inclusive for TV and advertising rights
- World Masters Championships, minimum Fifteen thousand US dollars (15,000 USD) – all rights included
- IWF Youth World Championships – minimum Five thousand US dollars (5,000 USD) – not inclusive for TV and advertising rights
- Fees for other IWF Events to be decided by the Executive Board.

The fees are non-refundable for the successful candidates. Within thirty (30) days after the decision of the Executive Board, the full deposited fee shall be reimbursed to the unsuccessful candidates.

BY-LAW TO 13 ELIGIBILITY

1 A condition of participation for a given country is that an athlete must hold the citizenship of that country, proven by an official document issued by such country (such as passport). In the case of double or multiple citizenship, proven by an official document issued by such country (such as passport), any athlete may participate in IWF Calendar Events and may represent not more than one (1) country within a period of twelve (12) months. In case a country does not issue its own passport or any similar document, for the determination of nationality the IWF accepts the applicable rules of the UN and/or IOC.

2 An athlete residing in a foreign country may only participate in competitions organised in that country if he or she has an authorisation from his or her Member Federation.

3 An athlete may represent a new country in international competitions provided that: (i) the athlete obtains the citizenship of that new country, and (ii) the athlete gets the approval of the Member Federation he/she is currently representing, the approval of the Member Federation he/she wishes to represent and the approval of the IWF. If the athlete cannot get the approval of the Member Federation he/she is currently representing, then the athlete has to wait for a period of one (1) year (to be counted from the date of the request for approval) before being automatically authorised to represent the new Member Federation. In the case of a second or further change of citizenship, the condition of participation in international events is four (4) years' of new citizenship, including one Olympic Games.

BY-LAW TO 15 IWF AWARDS AND HONOURS

1 The IWF has three (3) types of awards, which are conferred to persons who have rendered distinguished services to the sport of weightlifting, they are:

- the IWF Order
- the IWF Award of Merit
- the IWF National Award

2 **THE IWF ORDER**

2.1 The IWF Order has three (3) grades: Gold, Silver and Bronze.

2.2 The various grades of the IWF Order may be awarded to IWF Officers, individuals or organisations in accordance with the magnitude of service rendered to the IWF and the sport of weightlifting.

2.3 Upon proposal by the President, the General Secretary Treasurer or the 1st Vice President, the Executive Board decides on awarding the IWF Order.

3 **THE AWARD OF MERIT**

3.1 The Award of Merit is awarded to those who have rendered outstanding services in the development of the sport of weightlifting.

3.2 Proposals to confer this Award of Merit may be submitted by the Member Federations, Continental Federations or IWF Officers, and the President decides about the allocation.

4 **THE IWF NATIONAL AWARD**

4.1 The IWF National Award has three (3) grades: Gold, Silver and Bronze.

4.2 It is awarded to members of Member Federations, upon proposals by the Member Federations and allocation by the President, under the following conditions:

a) The Gold Award, for twenty-five (25) years of continuous membership and work

b) The Silver Award, for fifteen (15) years of continuous membership and work

c) The Bronze Award, for ten (10) years of continuous membership and work.

5 WEIGHTLIFTING HALL OF FAME

5.1 The Weightlifting Hall of Fame was established on 12th January 1992, in Paris (France), to pay due tribute to the sport's most prominent representatives.

5.2 A Board of Trustees of the Weightlifting Hall of Fame with a Chairperson at its head shall nominate and elect members.

5.3 Nominees may be individuals, such as former athletes, coaches, officials, journalists, sponsors. The number of members elected to the Hall of Fame cannot exceed ten (10) per year.

5.4 Eligible for membership in the Weightlifting Hall of Fame are:

- Athletes having been retired for at least five (5) years
- Coaches having worked for weightlifting for at least twenty-five (25) years
- Officials with at least twenty-five (25) years of service in weightlifting
- Individuals having significantly contributed to the weightlifting sport

5.5 The membership is represented by a Diploma and a Plaque which are presented by the Chairperson and/or the IWF President in a due ceremony.

5.6 The IWF shall register and publish the list of Members of the Weightlifting Hall of Fame.

BY-LAW TO 16 CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS

1 Before the CFs regulations enter into force and/or have an effect, they must be submitted to the IWF for approval. The regulations shall come into effect only after the IWF certifies that they are fully compliant with the IWF regulations.

2 The CF should immediately inform the IWF of any changes in the above data. If no separate CF regulations are elaborated, the IWF document shall be applicable.

3 In case of any dispute or discrepancy between the respective IWF and CF document, the IWF's regulation shall prevail.

4 List of documents to be submitted to the IWF annually:

- Annual Report
- Financial Report including:
  - Balance Sheet
  - Auditors' Report (External / Internal Auditors' Report)
  - Budget
- Calendar of events (dates and location) latest by 31st August of the preceding year
- Results and Report from all Championships
- Results and Report from all international competitions held in the respective continent (except for the IWF Events)
- List of Records (and any updates)
- Ranking Lists (minimum once per year)
- any other relevant information requested by the IWF.

5 The IWF President and the General Secretary Treasurer shall be invited to the Executive Board meetings and the Congresses of the Continental Federations. If the President and/or the General Secretary Treasurer is unable to participate, appointed person(s) on their behalf shall attend the meetings with full power.

6 CFs may ratify and register their respective records under the same conditions as apply to world records.

7 At all Continental Championships or events organised jointly with the IWF, the IWF Constitution, Technical and Competition Rules and Regulations apply.

8 When the Continental Championships are at the same time Olympic Qualification events, the specific conditions set by the IWF for those events shall prevail and overrule the Continental Championships regulations.

9 CFs must send to the IWF the Minutes of their meetings including but not limited to the Congress, Executive Board and Committees as soon as available.

BY-LAW TO 17 REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

1 Before the RFs regulations enter into force and/or have an effect, they must be submitted to the IWF for approval. The regulations shall come into effect only after the IWF certifies that they are fully compliant with the IWF regulations.

2 The RF should immediately inform the IWF of any changes in the above data. If no separate RF regulations are elaborated, the IWF document shall be applicable.

3 In case of any dispute or discrepancy between the respective IWF and RF document, the IWF's regulation shall prevail.

4 List of documents to be submitted to the IWF:
- Calendar of events (dates and location) latest by 31st August of the preceding year
- Results and Report from all Championships & Games
- Any other relevant information requested by the IWF.

5 RFs may ratify and register their respective records under the same conditions as apply to world records.