

Sports Federation

&

Olympic Committee

of

Hong Kong, China

Constitution,

Rules and By-laws

Adopted on 17 December 2013

**Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China
Constitution, Rules and By-laws**

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Preamble

The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, an organization belonging to the Olympic Movement, duly represented by the President and the Honorary Secretary General, hereby undertakes to respect the provisions of the Olympic Charter and the World Anti-Doping Code and to abide by the decisions of the International Olympic Committee. The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China undertakes, in accordance with its mission and role at national level, to participate in actions to promote peace and to promote both genders equally in sports. It also undertakes to support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics, to fight against doping and to demonstrate a responsible concern for environmental issues.

Article I: Name

- (1) The name of the Federation is the **“Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China”**.
- (2) The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China is a non-profit-making non-government organization of unlimited duration which exercises its jurisdiction over the whole territory of Hong Kong, China.

Article II: Objects

- (1) The objects of the Federation are:-
 - (a) to promote the interests of sports in Hong Kong;
 - (b) to form and stimulate public opinion in favour of the provision of proper and better facilities for the practice for all sports in Hong Kong;
 - (c) to approve and enforce uniform laws for the encouragement and regulation of sports in Hong Kong and to deal with any infringements thereof and to reconcile or arbitrate in any differences which may arise between national associations or groups therein;
 - (d) to coordinate all local sports organizations in the promotion of “Sport for All” and to encourage every citizen to engage in daily participation in physical activities for at least 30 minutes;
 - (e) to affiliate with any worldwide or regional organizations dedicated to the promotion of international competitions;
 - (f) to foster the spirit of the Olympic Games, which is friendship between peoples by means of sport;
 - (g) to promote the establishment and activities of Olympic Academies, Olympic Museums and cultural programs relating to the Olympic Movement in Hong Kong;
 - (h) to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in Hong Kong in accordance with the Olympic Charter;
 - (i) to promote the diffusion of Olympism in the teaching of physical education and sports in schools and universities;

- (j) to undertake the organization of international competitions and to promote Hong Kong's participation in them;
- (k) to participate in actions to promote peace and to promote women in sport;
- (l) to support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics;
- (m) to fight against the use in sports of substances and procedures prohibited by the International Olympic Committee and International Federations governing sports and to adopt and implement the World Anti-Doping Code, thereby ensuring that the Federation's anti-doping policies and rules, membership and/or funding requirements and results management procedures conform with the World Anti-Doping Code and respect all the roles and responsibilities for National Olympic Committees that are listed within the World Anti-Doping Code;
- (n) to demonstrate a responsible concern for environment issues;
- (o) to undertake action against any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, politics, sex or otherwise in sport;
- (p) to undertake action against any form of violence in sport;
- (q) to work to maintain harmonious and cooperative relations with appropriate governmental bodies;
- (r) to help train sports administrators;
- (s) to approve the selection and to control Hong Kong's representation in all Olympic Games, Asian Games, East Asian Games, all other international and regional games;
- (t) to do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

In the achievement of such objects, the Federation may cooperate with the Government and governmental bodies but, must preserve its autonomy and resist all pressures of any kind whatsoever, including those of a political, religious or economic nature that may prevent it from complying with the Olympic Charter. The Federation must never conduct or associate itself with any activity which would be in contradiction with the Olympic Charter. The Federation had the exclusive power and must constitute, organize and lead its respective delegations at the Olympic Games, Asian Games and at all regional, continental or world multi-sports competitions patronized by the International Olympic Committee and shall be responsible for the behaviour of the members of its respective delegations.

Article III: Jurisdiction

- (1) The Federation claims jurisdiction over all sports and the Olympic Movement in Hong Kong.
- (2) Control over Hong Kong's participation in all Olympic Games, Asian Games, East Asian Games, all other international and regional games shall be exercised by the Federation.

Article IV: Membership

- (1) Subject to the proviso hereinafter appearing, the Federation shall consist of, as **ordinary members** with full voting powers, any member of the International Olympic Committee who is born or domiciled in Hong Kong and, for a period ending at the end of the next Olympiad after the last Olympic Games in which he took part, any athletes who had represented Hong Kong in an Olympic Games and has won an individual gold medal at such Olympic Games and, such sports associations as are duly recognized to be the governing bodies of their respective branches of sport in Hong Kong, which are on the programmes of the International Olympic Committee and whose applications in writing have been approved by a two-thirds majority of the Council present and voting.
 - (a) No association shall be admitted unless it has satisfied the Council that it is properly constituted and that its affairs are conducted in a satisfactory manner.
 - (b) If, in the opinion of the Council, any affiliated association has infringed the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the objects and/ or regulations of the Federation, the Council shall have power by a two-third majority of those present and voting to cancel its membership after having given one month's notice to the association concerned who shall be requested to furnish an explanation.
 - (c) The association shall agree to abide by all provisions of the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation and to assist in enforcing all decisions of the Council.

- (d) The association must adduce proof that it exercises a specific and real sports activity in Hong Kong and internationally, in particular by organizing and participating in competitions and implementing training programmes for athletes and must agree that all open games, contests, meetings or tournaments held under its auspices or within its jurisdiction, and the qualifications of all persons competing either as members of its own affiliated organizations or otherwise, shall conform to the prescribed rules and conditions of that particular association.
- (e) The association shall be subject to suspension or to forfeiture for failure to comply with any of the provisions the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation, or of any decision of the Council. It is expressly stipulated that any decrees of suspension or of forfeiture, when confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Council present and voting, shall be final.
- (f) Recognition shall not be granted to more than one association for each sport in respect of which there is an International Federation governing such sport.

Provided that no association which is already a member shall cease being a member or to have recognition merely by reason of its sport not having an International Federation or there being more than one association for each sport in respect of which there is an International Federation governing such sport.

- (2) The following three inaugural members shall notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of the Article IV be considered **ordinary members** in recognition of their outstanding services in the promotion of sports in Hong Kong:-

Victoria Recreation Club

South China Athletic Association

Chinese Y. M. C. A.

- (3) **Associate membership**, with equal representation but without the power to vote, may be extended by a two-thirds majority of the Council present and voting to such associations as are dedicated to advance the cause of sport in Hong Kong.

- (a) No association shall be admitted unless it has satisfied the Council that it is properly constituted and that its affairs are conducted in a satisfactory manner.
- (b) The Council shall have power by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting to cancel the membership of any association after having given one month's notice to the association concerned, if in the opinion of the Council, the association has infringed the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the objects and/or regulations of the Federation.
- (c) The association shall agree to abide by all provisions the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation and to assist in enforcing all decisions of the Council.
- (d) The association shall agree that all open games, contests, meetings or tournaments held under its auspices or within its jurisdiction, and the qualifications of all persons competing either as members of its own affiliated organizations or otherwise, shall conform to the prescribed rules and conditions of that particular association.
- (e) The association shall be subject to suspension or to forfeiture for failure to comply with any of the provisions of the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation, or of any decision of the Council. It is expressly stipulated that any decrees of suspension or of forfeiture, when confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Council present and voting, shall be final.

- (4) The Council by a simple majority, present and voting, after due notice having been given, may confer **observer** status on such organizations as may reinforce the effectiveness of the Federation. They shall not have the right to vote in such capacity.
- (5) Notwithstanding what is stated in Article (IV)(1), (2), (3) and (4) neither the Government nor any governmental body may designate any organization or individual to be a member of the Federation save at the request and the consent of the Council nor shall any organization or individual expelled as a member or honorary member from the International Olympic Committee be appointed or be allowed to remain an ordinary member, associate member, honorary member, observer, or officer of the Federation or the representative of an association which is an ordinary member, associate member or observer of the Federation.

Article V: Subscriptions

- (1) The annual due for each (a) ordinary member shall be 100 dollars Hong Kong currency; (b) associate member and each observer shall be 50 dollars Hong Kong currency, which shall be paid before the Annual General Meeting. The first payment shall be made upon admission. Failure to pay dues as prescribed shall be made upon admission. Failure to pay dues as prescribed shall deprive the member of the right of representation and, if continued for a period of three months after the Annual General Meeting, shall operate as a loss of membership.

Article VI: Organization and Administration

- (1) The officers of the Federation shall be:-
 - (a) The President;
 - (b) Not more than eight Vice-Presidents;
 - (c) Honorary Secretary General;
 - (d) Not more than three Honorary Deputy Secretaries General;
 - (e) Honorary Treasurer;
 - (f) Members of the International Olympic Committee who are members of the Federation.

The officers of the Federation shall be elected biennially subject to the provisions of this Article VI and, excepting the Vice-Presidents, they shall be entitled to vote at all General and Council Meetings.

- (2) Nomination for any post or office in the Federation or on the Olympic Games Committee and the Asian Games Committee must be made in writing by an ordinary member whose subscription has been paid for the current year. Further any nomination for the office of Vice-President must be supported in writing by either (a) the association of which the nominated person is a member; or (b) at least two-thirds of the existing officers of the Federation having the right to vote at Council, Annual and General Meetings of the Federation. Such nominations supported by the candidates' written consent must reach the Honorary Secretary General twenty-one clear days before the Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting is due to take place and shall be circulated by him to the member organizations at least fourteen clear days before the Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting. The incumbent officer shall be deemed to have been nominated for his post unless specific notice to the contrary is received from him and provided that he still meets the eligibility requirements mentioned in this Constitution.
- (3) The administration of the Federation shall be vested in a Council consisting of the officers and one representative of each ordinary member.
- (4) Each ordinary member, associate member and observer of the Federation shall within seven days from the date of the Annual General Meeting notify the Federation in writing of the name of its representative nominated to attend and, if appropriate, vote at meetings of the Council and any change made during the current year shall also be notified to the Council in writing. Each ordinary member, associate member and observer shall, in addition, notify the Federation of an alternate nominated to attend and, if appropriate, vote at the meetings of the Council in case of sickness or unavoidable absence of its nominated representative.
- (5) The age and the period of service of the officers to be elected at the Annual General Meeting held in 2014 and in the biennial elections thereafter shall be governed by the following rules:-
 - (a) For officers having been elected in service before the Annual General Meeting held in 2014, they shall, subject to Article VI (5)(c), retire at the first Annual General Meeting after they have attained the age of 80.

- (b) For officers who have not been elected as an officer at any time before the Annual General Meeting held in 2014, they are required to be from the age of 18 to the age below 65 at the time of election and shall, subject to Article VI (5) (c), retire at the first Annual General Meeting after they have attained the age of 70.
- (c) The President and the Honorary Secretary General shall hold office until the expiry of his term of office notwithstanding during which he has attained the age of 70 (or 80 if applicable).
- (d) No officers may hold office for the same post for more than six consecutive terms.

Article VII: Annual and other General Meetings

- (1) The fiscal year shall end on 30th June.
- (2) The Annual General Meeting of the Federation shall be held on or before 31st December each year or on a date to be fixed by the Council after receiving and considering the audited accounts for the year ended 30th June for the purpose of:-
 - (a) adopting the Report and Audited Accounts;
 - (b) electing, as may be required, the officers for the ensuing term;
 - (c) appointing auditors;
 - (d) transacting any other business on the agenda

at which all ordinary members shall through their respective nominated representatives be entitled to two votes and officers (except for the Vice-Presidents) shall be entitled to one vote.
- (3) Annual or other General Meetings of the Federation shall be convened by notice in writing signed by the President or Honorary Secretary General and shall give at least twenty-eight clear days notice of the meeting in question and shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. A quorum shall consist of at least ten

ordinary members represented at the meeting. Should there be no quorum fifteen minutes after the appointed hour, the meeting shall terminate and the motion/s for which the meeting was convened shall be deemed to have been defeated.

- (4) The President, and in his absence a Vice-President, shall take the chair. Should they be absent, fifteen minutes after the appointed hour, the meeting shall elect a Chairman from amongst the representatives of ordinary members present.
- (5) In addition to his own vote, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote in case of a tie in the voting.
- (6) Voting on all motions shall be by a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by no less than two ordinary members represented at the meeting and except for the elections of the officers (and for a vote on any person) for which voting shall always be conducted by secret ballot.
- (7) Unless otherwise specified, voting on all motions of which notice had been given shall require only a simple majority of ordinary members and officers (except for the Vice-Presidents) present and voting.
- (8) Motions without due notice having been given shall not be discussed without the sanction of the Chairman and two-thirds of the ordinary members and officers (except for the Vice-Presidents) present. Voting on such motions shall require a two-thirds of the ordinary members and officers (except for the Vice-Presidents) present and voting, and any decision thus taken shall be binding on all members whether represented or not at the meeting.
- (9) The Council may, whenever it thinks fit, and it shall, upon a requisition made in writing by not less than one-fourth of the ordinary members, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, and in case of such requisition the following provisions shall have effect:-
 - (a) The request must state the objects of the meeting, and must be signed by the requisitionists and delivered to the Honorary Secretary General and may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more requisitionists.

- (b) In case the Honorary Secretary General fails to convene such a meeting fourteen days after delivery, the requisitionists, or a majority of them, may themselves convene the meeting.
 - (c) Any meeting convened under this Rule by the requisitionists as aforesaid, shall be convened in the same manner, as nearly as possible, as that in which other meetings are convened by the Council.
- (10) The voting majority of the Annual or other General Meetings of the Federation shall always consist of the votes cast by the national federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives.

Article VIII: Council

- (1) Meetings of the Council shall be held at not more than three calendar monthly intervals and shall be convened by notices in writing signed by the President or the Honorary Secretary General and shall give at least seven clear days notice of the meeting in question and shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.
- (2) A quorum shall consist of at least ten member associations represented at the meeting. Should there be no quorum fifteen minutes after the appointed hour the meeting shall terminate.
- (3) The President, and in his absence, a Vice-President shall take the chair. Should they be absent fifteen minutes after the appointed hour, the meeting shall elect a Chairman from their own member. In addition to his own vote, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote in case of a tie in the voting.
- (4) Voting on all motions shall be by a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by no less than two ordinary members represented at the meeting.
- (5) Unless otherwise specified, voting on all motions shall require only a simple majority of the Council present and voting.

- (6) The Council shall have the following powers in addition to those elsewhere conferred in this Constitution:-
 - (a) To admit any eligible person or organization to membership by a two-thirds majority of the Council present and voting.
 - (b) To adopt and amend by-laws for the government of the Federation, subject to the provisions of the Constitution, provided all the amendments shall be approved by a two-thirds majority of Council present and voting.
 - (c) To impose and enforce penalties for violation of the Constitution, Rules and By-laws.
 - (d) To remove, by two-thirds vote of the Council present, suspension and penalties imposed upon organization or individuals.
 - (e) To approve the composition of and otherwise determine Hong Kong's team for any regional or international games.
 - (f) To declare vacant the position of any member of the Council who:-
 - (i) has ceased to belong to the organization which elected him, or
 - (ii) represents an organization no longer in existence or which has ceased to be a member of the Federation, or
 - (iii) has conducted himself in a manner calculated to prejudice the interests of sports or of the Federation.
 - (g) To collect dues and other moneys and to expend the same.
 - (h) To define and interpret any provision of the Constitution, Rules and By-laws.
 - (i) To appoint committees from its own members or from organizations belonging to the Federation.
- (7) The voting majority of the Council of the Federation shall always consist of the votes cast by the national federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives.

Article IX: Olympic Games Committee

- (1) Hong Kong's participation in the Olympic Games shall be governed by a committee of the Federation consisting of:-
 - (a) The President;
 - (b) Honorary Secretary General;
 - (c) One representative nominated by each of the controlling bodies of such sports as form part of the Olympic Games programme;
 - (d) Not more than five other members as may be co-opted by the committee;
 - (e) The officers of the Federation who shall be ex-officio members, if not members by co-option.
- (2) The Olympic Games Committee shall be constituted within a year following an Olympiad and shall remain in office for a period of four years until the next Olympiad is over. The President and Honorary Secretary General shall automatically be chairman and honorary secretary respectively of the Olympic Games Committee.
- (3) The rules governing the meetings of the Council shall apply to all meetings of the Olympic Games Committee except that seven persons shall form a quorum.
- (4) All decisions of the Olympic Games Committee are binding on the Federation unless revoked by a two-thirds majority of ordinary members present and voting at a Council meeting.
- (5) The Federation acknowledges that it had an obligation to participate at each Olympic Games by sending athletes and undertakes to respect all related Rules of the Olympic Charter and that if it should organize the Olympic Games it undertakes to respect all related Rules of the Olympic Charter.

Article X: Asian Games Committee

- (1) Hong Kong's participation in the Asian Games shall be governed by a committee of the Federation consisting of:-
 - (a) The President;
 - (b) Honorary Secretary General;

- (c) One representative nominated by each of the controlling bodies of such sports as form part of the Asian Games programme;
 - (d) Not more than five other members as may be co-opted by the committee;
 - (e) The officers of the Federation who shall be ex-officio members, if not members by co-option.
- (2) The Asian Games Committee shall be constituted in the year following the celebration of the Games and shall remain in office for a period of four years until the next Game has been held. The President and Honorary Secretary General shall automatically be chairman and honorary secretary respectively of the Asian Games Committee.
- (3) The rules governing the meetings of the Council shall apply to all meetings of the Asian Games Committee except that seven persons shall form a quorum.
- (4) All decisions of the Asian Games Committee are binding on the Federation unless revoked by a two-thirds majority of ordinary members present and voting at a Council meeting.

Article XI: Finance and Property

- (1)
 - (a) The Council shall control all money and other property belonging to the Federation. All moneys payable to the Federation shall be received by the Honorary Treasurer and deposited in a bank in the name of the Federation. No sum shall be drawn from the account except by cheque signed by signatories authorised by the Council for such purpose. Any moneys not required for immediate use may be invested as the Council in its discretion think fit.
 - (b) The moneys and other property of the Federation shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the Federation and no part thereof shall be paid by way of bonus, dividend or profit to any members or officers of the Federation.
 - (c) The Council in the exercise of its power of control over the moneys and other property of the Federation shall decide the amount of money which shall be made available by the Federation in respect of participation in any Olympic Games, Asian Games, East Asian Games, any other international and regional games.

- (d) No officers of the Federation with the exception of those who devote themselves to the administration of sport shall be paid by the Federation for the discharge of his duties or otherwise for the performance of their functions. However, the Council shall have power from time to time out of monies belonging to the Federation to pay such amount as would compensate any officer or official in the discharge of his duties or the performance of his function.
 - (e) The Council shall also have the power from time to time to employ and/or engage persons to provide services to the Federation and shall have the power out of monies belonging to the Federation to pay such employees and/or persons for services provided.
 - (f) The Honorary Treasurer shall cause true accounts to be kept of the financial transactions of the Federation, and the matters in respect of which such financial transactions take place, and of the assets and liabilities of the Federation.
- (2)
- (a) The property of the Federation, other than moneys at the bank, shall in respect of each particular property be vested in not less than two and not more than five persons ("Custodians") or held by a company, trust or other legal entity in which the Custodians hold the positions of director, shareholder or trustee as appropriate. The Custodians shall in respect of the property so vested in them report to the Council at intervals of not less than six months, and shall deal with the property and, in so far as the property is held by a company, trust or other legal entity in respect of which they hold a position such as director, shareholder or trustee, shall act in respect of such position, in all cases, as directed by resolution of the Council. An entry in minute book of the Council, shall be conclusive evidence of such resolution and its terms.
 - (b) The Custodians shall be such persons as the Council by resolution shall resolve be appointed and shall hold office until death, resignation, expiration of his term of appointment or removal by a resolution of the Council. Any of the Custodians who resigns or is removed as aforesaid shall not be eligible for reappointment.
 - (c) The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity, to be paid out of the particular property of which they hold or in respect of which they hold a

position as provided in Article XI(2)(a), for all expenses properly incurred and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties as Custodians.

- (3) In order to preserve the integrity of any property transferred to the Custodians or to any company, trust or other legal entity established by the Federation, the Federation has decided that a request of monies from the Custodians or from any such company, trust or other legal entity:-
 - (a) must be made pursuant to resolution of the Council approved by at least three quarters of ordinary members present and voting at the meeting at which such resolution is considered and passed;
 - (b) must not in any calendar year when aggregated with any such other request or requests made in the calendar year in question be in excess of a sum equivalent to more than 10 per cent of the aggregate net asset value of the assets held by the Custodians or any such company, trust or other legal entity last reported by the Custodians to the Council; and
 - (c) must be supported by a statement as to the use to which the monies requested are intended to be put which has been approved by and at the same meeting at which the resolution referred to in Article XI(3)(a) above was considered and passed.
- (4) Any officer of the Federation who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in any contract or arrangement or proposed contract or proposed arrangement with the Federation shall declare the nature of his interest at the earliest possible instance either at a meeting of the Council or by written notice to the Council and shall not take part in any discussion or vote on or concerning the contract or arrangement or proposed contract or proposed arrangement.

Article XII: Honorary Positions and Membership

- (1) All Presidents of the Federation on completion of at least two full terms (not necessarily consecutive) in office as President of the Federation shall upon ceasing to be President of the Federation forthwith become an Honorary Life President of the Federation.

- (2) The Council by a two-thirds majority, present and voting, after due notice has been given may:-
- (a) confer on such individuals as in the Council's opinion may re-enforce the effectiveness of the Federation or as have rendered distinguished service to the cause of sport and Olympism the position of Honorary President or Honorary Vice-President and/or honorary membership and may likewise cancel any such position or membership; and
 - (b) with effect from the Annual General Meeting held in 2014, confer on the serving Honorary Vice-President or the just retired officers who have re-enforced the effectiveness of the Federation the position of Honorary President or Honorary Vice-President for a period expiring on the fourth Annual General Meeting after the conferment.
- (3) Any person being an Honorary Life President, Honorary President, Honorary Vice-President and honorary member shall pay no dues to the Federation and may attend all meetings of the Federation and speak thereat but shall not have the right to vote in such capacity.

Article XIII: Votes

- (1) No voting by proxy is allowed at any meeting of the Federation, its Council or of its Committees.
- (2) Nominated representatives are only entitled to vote if the associations whom they represent enjoy voting rights as members of the Federation.
- (3) Officers of the Federation are entitled to attend any meeting of the Federation or of its committees, except where the terms of reference of committees determine otherwise.

Article XIV: Minutes

- (1) The Council shall cause minutes to be kept:-

- (a) of all appointments of officers, Olympic Games Committees, Asian Games Committees and such other committees as the Council shall decide; and
- (b) of the proceedings and resolutions of all meetings.

- (2) Any minutes of a meeting of the Council or of any Committee or of any annual or extraordinary general meetings of the Federation, if purported to be signed by the Chairman of such meeting, or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting, shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of the matters stated in such minutes.

Article XV: Penalties

- (1) In all cases an association admitted to membership shall be held directly and fully responsible for the standing and conduct of its representatives in any contest, and for strict compliance with the provisions of the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which it is affiliated, the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation, and the acts and decisions of the Federation officials thereunder.
- (2) Any penalty imposed for offences by any association which is a member of the Federation on its members shall be honoured by every other association in the Federation, if so requested to do by the association imposing the penalty.
- (3) Any violation of the Olympic Charter, the International Olympic Committee's Code of Ethics, the rules of the International Federation to which a member of the Federation is affiliated, the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation or of a decision of the Council or of any Committee, shall render that member of the Federation liable to such penalties as the Council may impose.
- (4) Any decision made by the Council under this Article may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports Related Arbitration. The time limit for appeal is 21 days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal.

Article XVI: Registration

- (1) Registration of individuals to participate in competitions is the function of the association to which they belong.

Article XVII: Records

- (1) The Federation shall maintain a register of Hong Kong records as compiled and duly acknowledged by associations which are members of the Federation. Such information shall be made available by the associations periodically or whenever called upon to do so by the Council.

Article XVIII: Conflicting Claims

- (1) In the event of conflicting claims arising between rival groups in any particular sport as to local jurisdiction, the decision of the Council after mediation shall be final.

Article XIX: International Affiliation

- (1) All associations which are members of the Federation shall seek recognition from their respective international controlling bodies, if any.

Article XX: Alteration to the Constitution

- (1) The Constitution may be amended at any Extraordinary General Meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided that due notice is given as prescribed.
- (2) Proposed amendments shall be presented to the Honorary Secretary General in writing. The Honorary Secretary General shall submit all proposed amendments to the Council at its next meeting. The opinion of the Council on the amendments if unfavourable shall be conveyed to the ordinary member making the proposal for further consideration. The Council shall convene an Extraordinary General

Meeting to be held not later than three months after the proposing association in ordinary membership has confirmed its intention of moving the amendments and they have been duly seconded.

- (3) All amendments shall be communicated to the International Olympic Committee with a request for approval.

Article XXI: Definition of Terms

- (1) The term "association" as used herein, means individuals, clubs, or groups of clubs organized into an association to represent a particular branch of sport.
- (2) The term "Federation" as used herein, means the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China.

Article XXII: General

- (1) The Council shall investigate and make recommendations in regard to amendments and new legislation.
- (2) All open games, contests, meetings and tournaments shall be conducted under the conditions of competition and rules duly prescribed by the association concerned.
- (3) In all cases notices forwarded to the registered addresses of the parties concerned shall be deemed to have been duly delivered the day after they have been mailed.
- (4) At the discretion of the Chairman of the meeting and the majority of ordinary members present and voting, observers may be admitted to any meeting of the Federation for the whole or a part of the proceedings but they shall leave immediately if requested to do so by the Chairman or a majority of ordinary members present and voting. They may take part in the deliberations if invited to do so by the Chairman but, shall not be entitled and shall not propose or second a motion or vote on any matter whatsoever.

- (5) Where the Council deems that for the time being it is in the interest of the Federation to transact the business of any or all of the two committees defined in Articles IX and X at meetings of the Council it shall be empowered to do so subject to simple majority of the Council present and voting agreeing.
- (6) The Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation shall at all times be in accordance with the Olympic Charter and refer expressly to the latter. If there is any doubt as to the implication or the interpretation of the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Federation or if there is a contradiction between the same and the Olympic Charter, the latter shall take precedence.
- (7) The flag, the emblem and anthem adopted by the Federation for use in relation to its activities must be approved by the International Olympic Committee Executive Board.
- (8) Any person who is representing another country or who has within the last eight years represented another country or its Olympic Committee at any sports meeting or conference shall not be eligible to hold office in the Federation or any of its committees or attend any meeting of the Federation as a representative of an ordinary member.
- (9) Only current members of the Council who are serving or former members of the Council who have served for not less than two terms of four years each as the voting representatives of ordinary members of the Federation, are eligible for election as officers of the Federation or its committees.
- (10) A representative shall be a local person, born or domiciled in Hong Kong, and commonly recognized as such.
- (11) The selection of officials and competitors to represent Hong Kong at all Olympic Games, Asian Games, East Asian Games, any other international and regional games shall be made from among persons of Hong Kong birth or domicile and accepted as such by the Council whose decision shall be final.

- (12) The executive, general or other committee in control of an association which is a member of the Federation shall be persons of Hong Kong birth or domicile, accepted as such by the Council whose decision shall be final. Failure on the part of an association to comply with this requirement will entail loss of recognition as the governing body of that sport in Hong Kong, and the Federation shall be free to grant recognition to any other association constituted for the purpose of governing that sport whose executive general or other committee in control of such association complies with this requirement.
- (13) The Federation, its officers, Council or committees shall not be liable for any accident causing death, disability or injury to (a) an official or competitor taking part in Hong Kong or abroad in all Olympic Games, Asian Games, East Asian Games, any other international and regional games or any sports competitions under its name or direct sponsorship; (b) an official, participant or spectator at an event, competition or exhibition organized by it or held under its auspices in Hong Kong or abroad, including the annual Festival of Sport; and a delegate, lecturer, official or any other person attending the International Olympic Academy, Olympic Solidarity Courses, and such other meetings, courses, seminars and conferences held here in its name or in which it participates abroad.
- (14) Every association which is a member of the Federation undertakes to contribute to its assets in the event of the same being wound up while it is a member, or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Federation contracted before it ceases to be a member, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding one hundred dollars.
- (15) A notice may be given by delivery, prepaid letter, facsimile message or electronic means. A notice delivered to the registered address shall be deemed served at the time of delivery. A notice sent by prepaid letter to an address in Hong Kong shall be deemed served on the day following its posting. A notice sent by facsimile or electronic means shall be deemed served at the time of sending provided that the outgoing facsimile means shows receipt of the notice through the automatic response of the addressee's facsimile machine and in the case of electronic means no notice of non-delivery has been received.

Date of adoption by the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China: 17 December 2013

Signatures:



President
Sports Federation & Olympic Committee
of Hong Kong, China



Honorary Secretary General
Sports Federation & Olympic Committee
of Hong Kong, China