



PROPOSAL FOR STATUTORY AMENDMENTS CONGRESS 2023

The organisation of the sports movement at the international level acts independently. Following numerous remarks from our members, we had strengthened our statutes in 2009 to protect **member Federations** from any interference in the policy of the IJF members by the following text:

« 4.3 Defense of Federations »

- The IJF is dedicated to defending Member Federations from all attacks against democratic processes they may suffer in the area of elections held by Member Federations and their participation in competitions. »

These interferences, apart from the general laws governing sport in the various countries, are generated by people who, because of their social or political position, conflicts of interest, or because they belong to other sports disciplines, harm the development of judo by using its human and financial resources.

To affirm our status of independence in accordance with the principle of autonomy, we wish to strengthen our statutes with the following proposals:

General principle:

(in black: text in our current statutes, in red: proposed addition)

MODIFIED ARTICLE

« 1.2. IJF »

- The International Judo Federation (hereinafter referred to as the "IJF"), is a non for-profit Association founded for an unlimited period of time and governed by Hungarian law and the present Statutes. The IJF by its associative status acts in an independent manner in accordance with the principle of autonomy. »

Comments following our consultation with the lawyers:

This text is in line with the principles set forth in the Good Practice Handbook set by the Council of Europe.

The IJF is an **exclusively judo** association. IJF member federations may to this day be multi-disciplinary and affiliated to several international federations. These federations do not necessarily have the same political, technical or sporting objectives and do not have the same priorities, which can generate conflicts of interest.

In particular, there are major differences between the culture of judo and that of many other sports. The IJF is not an exclusively sports federation because judo has in its fundamental principles: - "Judo is a means of education whose aim is to participate in the improvement of society".

On the other hand, the IJF is an Olympic federation and its association with non-Olympic federations is in some countries a source of misappropriation of the means of judo in the technical, financial or human resources domains for the benefit of other disciplines.

In the principle of this explanatory statement, we propose that any decision taken by member federations concerning judo can only be taken by judo associations (clubs), or associative, private, social school or state structures that exclusively carry out judo activities.

Therefore, we propose to add to the IJF Statutes Art. 4.3 an Art 4.3 B. and to reference the former Art. 4.3 as 4.3 A.

MODIFIED ARTICLE

« Article 4.3 A Defense of Federations

- The IJF is dedicated to defending Member Federations from all attacks against democratic processes they may suffer in the area of elections held by Member Federations and their participation in competitions.

Article 4.3 B Defense of Federations

- IJF National Member Federations may only be composed of associations (clubs) or associative, private, social school or state structures exclusively engaged in judo activities, unless otherwise provided by the mandatory rules applicable to the National Member Federation.

- These particular cases will be dealt with by the IJF Executive Committee.

Transitional provision: National Federations have a maximum of 2 years to comply with this provision.

- Member Federations may not be affiliated to another International Federation.

*- The policy, **administration** and management of IJF can only be decided by its internal bodies (Board, Executive Committee, Congress) provided for in this Statutes approved by its member Federations. »*

ARTICLE 1.4. CONTINENTAL UNIONS

Continental Unions are in charge of implementing the policies of the IJF and the IOC.

The liability of Continental Unions as members is limited.

In order to unify the technical rules in all IJF structures while taking into account the particularity that some Unions may have, we propose to add the following text in Article 1.4.

« 1.4 CONTINENTAL UNION

The term "Continental Union" shall refer to the Union of National Federations of a single continent which are Members of the IJF.

Membership shall be granted to and withdrawn from each Continental Union per Decision of the EC.

Each Continental Union is made up of National Federations in the relevant continent, except in the case of exceptional derogations authorized by the EC.

The decisions of the EC to recognize a structure as a Continental Union or to withdraw from a structure its capacity of Continental Union must be made based on the capability of this structure to ensure the function of a Continental Union in the interest of the sport of judo.

The main criteria used to assess the capability of the structure to act in the interest of judo shall be the number of judokas in the National Federations which are members of the structure claiming to have the capacity of Continental Union.

Continental Unions are in charge of implementing the policies of the IJF and the IOC.

The Continental Unions must apply and ensure the application by their member federations of the statutes, regulations, contracts and directives proposed by the IJF. However, if local

obligations so require, the Union may request a derogation from the IJF EC for one of its members or for itself.

The liability of Continental Unions as members is limited. All Continental Unions undertake to contribute to the assets of the IJF. In the event the company is wound up, all Continental Unions which are members at that time and for one (1) year afterwards, agree to pay the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they cease to be members, as well as the costs, charges and expenses of winding up. For the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required must not exceed ten Euros (10 €). »