



Internationaler
Rhönradturn-Verband

Articles of Association

**International
Wheel Gymnastics Federation**

1 Name, Location and Purpose

1.1 Name

The name "International Wheel Gymnastics Federation", referred to hereafter as "IRV", is a politically, financially and religiously independent association according to Art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code.

1.2 Location

The IRV is located at the administrative headquarters of SATUS Switzerland.

1.3 Purpose

1. The purpose of the IRV is to spread information about and promote wheel gymnastics. It co-ordinates measures in order to achieve this purpose.
2. The IRV plans and organises an extensive programme of events.
3. The IRV Competition Regulations and International Code of Points provide the foundation for its programme of international events.
4. The IRV is an exclusively non-profit organisation.
5. The IRV supports a respectful and fair attitude to sport in accordance with the Charter for Ethics in Sport (see Appendix).

2 Membership

1. Members of the IRV are national federations. In countries where there is no national federation, it is possible to accept the membership of a club.
2. Only one membership licence will be granted per country.
3. The various types of membership are defined in the Membership Regulations

2.1 Admission, withdrawal and termination

1. Membership applications are to be presented in writing to the IRV Presidency. The General Assembly decides on membership applications.
2. A member federation/club may withdraw from the IRV at the end of a calendar year. Notice must be given in writing and sent by registered post to be received by the IRV not later than 30 June in the year after which membership is to cease. Membership fees for the current year must be paid.
3. A different rule applies to entry level members and is defined separately in the Membership Regulations.
4. Member federations/clubs may be excluded from the IRV by the IRV Presidency if they act against the Articles of Association, IRV regulations, decisions made by the administrative organs of the IRV or contractual agreements entered into by the IRV. Membership fees for the current year must be paid. The excluded member must be permitted to explain the situation before the exclusion is enforced. An appeal against the exclusion may be submitted to the next General Assembly.

2.2 Honorary members

The IRV can nominate individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to international wheel gymnastics as honorary members of the IRV. The General Assembly decides whether to accept such a nomination. Honorary members have the right to take on an advisory role at the IRV General Assembly.

3 Rights and Obligations of Member Federations/Clubs

3.1 Rights

Member federations/clubs have the following rights:

1. to seek advice from the IRV in all matters relating to wheel gymnastics
2. to take part in all events and competitions organised by the IRV
3. to apply to host World Championships, Team World Cups and other IRV events
4. to take part in coaching and judging courses organised by the IRV

3.2 Obligations

Member federations/clubs have the following obligations:

1. to co-operate actively towards the fulfilment of IRV tasks
2. to adhere to the IRV Articles of Association, its regulations, decisions made by the administrative organs of the IRV and contractual agreements entered into by the IRV
3. to comply with the conditions of the IRV within specified deadlines
4. to pay the membership fees and special contributions on time

4 Finances

In order to fulfil the tasks of the IRV, membership fees and special contributions are required. The General Assembly decides on the level of these fees and contributions. They are included in the Membership Regulation.

The IRV also receives funds from the sale of marketing rights, licence fees, competition fees from international championships, sponsors and partners, etc.

5 Organisation

5.1 Administrative organs

The administrative organs of the IRV are:

- a) the General Assembly
- b) the IRV Administration
- c) the IRV auditors

5.2 Length of service

- a) The length of service for members of the Presidency elected at the General Assembly is four years. Re-election is possible. If a member leaves during his/her period of service, the function is filled by way of a new election at the next General Assembly.
- b) The length of service for the two auditors is four years. Re-election is only possible in exceptional circumstances. The election of auditors is implemented such that they overlap one another. This allows for a transfer of experience and information.

6 General Assembly

6.1 Composition

The General Assembly consists of delegates from the member federations/clubs.

The members of the IRV Presidency and Technical Commission, the auditors and the honorary members of the IRV take part in the General Assembly, but do not have the right to vote.

6.2 Notice

Notice of a General Assembly is given by the IRV administration. It takes place every two years, usually in even years. The IRV administration gives notice of the location and time of the meeting at least twelve weeks in advance. The agenda is sent in writing to the member federations/clubs at least four weeks in advance. If possible, the General Assembly takes place at the same location as the World Championships.

The delegates must be members of the national federation/club they represent.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be called at any time by the IRV administration or on the basis of a written request from at least one third of the member federations/clubs. The request must be explained in writing.

Notice of an Extraordinary General Assembly must be given at least 30 days in advance.

Only member federations/clubs that have fulfilled their financial obligations have the right to vote at a General Assembly.

6.3 Tasks

The General Assembly is the highest organ of the IRV and is responsible for determining the strategy of the federation.

The General Assembly has the following powers:

1. to approve the agenda
2. to approve the minutes of the previous General Assembly
3. to approve amendments to the Articles of Association

4. to approve the Mission Statement and associated short-term, mid-term and long-term goals of the IRV
5. to approve the report prepared by the IRV Presidency
6. to approve the auditors' report
7. to approve the accounts and discharge the IRV administration
8. to approve the membership fees and special contributions
9. to decide and approve the budget for the next two years
10. Elections:
 - a) President
 - b) Vice Presidents (usually four)
 - c) Two auditors representing two different member federations/clubs
11. to discuss and decide on submitted proposals
12. to approve projects to be funded
13. to appoint honorary members of the IRV
14. to decide on appeals against the exclusion of a member
15. to decide on the dissolution of the IRV

The General Assembly is quorate when at least half of the possible member votes are represented.

The decisions of the General Assembly require an absolute majority of the submitted delegation votes. In the case of a secret vote, empty and invalid votes are not counted. Invalid votes are votes that do not give a clear indication of the voter's will or votes that include an addition or reservation. If two candidates receive the same number of votes in an election, lots are drawn in order to reach a final decision. In all other cases, the President has the final say.

In order to make amendments to the Articles of Association, a two thirds majority is necessary. In order to dissolve the IRV, a three quarters majority is necessary with at least three quarters of the federation votes represented.

Decisions and elections take place with open voting. A secret vote is possible if requested by at least one fifth of the delegation votes present at the meeting.

The General Assembly may only decide on and discuss issues that have been listed on the agenda.

6.4 Voting rights

The General Assembly decides how many votes are allocated to each membership category and this is defined in the Membership Regulations. A delegate at the General Assembly is only permitted to submit one vote. The transfer of voting rights is not permitted.

Members of the IRV administration (Presidency, General Secretary and Technical Commission), honorary members of the IRV and the IRV auditors have an advisory function. Members of the IRV administration cannot be appointed as delegates by their respective federations.

6.5 Proposals

Proposals may be made by member federations/clubs as well as by the IRV administration.

Proposals must be submitted to the General Secretary at least sixty days before the General Assembly.

6.6 Election candidates

Nominations for positions in the Presidency may be made by member federations/clubs.

Candidates for the Technical Commission may be proposed by member federations/clubs, the IRV Technical Commission and the IRV Presidency. All members of the Presidency must be members of an IRV member federation/club.

Candidate nominations for the Presidency must be submitted to the IRV General Secretary at least sixty days before the General Assembly. The General Secretary will inform the member federations/clubs at least ninety days before the General Assembly which of the members of the IRV Presidency are willing to stand for re-election.

6.7 Documents for the General Assembly

The General Secretary of the IRV will send the agenda for the General Assembly together with all the accompanying documents and nominations of candidates to the member federations/clubs at least one month before the meeting.

6.8 Expenses

The travel and living expenses of the delegates and auditors are to be covered by their respective member federations/clubs.

7 IRV Administration

The IRV administration is responsible for the operative leadership of the IRV. It carries out IRV business in line with the Mission Statement and the decisions of the General Assembly.

7.1 Composition

The IRV administration comprises:

7.1.1 Elected by the General Assembly:

The Presidency including

1. President
2. Vice Presidents (usually four)

7.1.2 Appointed by the Presidency:

1. Technical Commission
2. IRV Secretariat

The IRV Secretariat provides the office function for the organs of the IRV. The tasks and obligations of the IRV administration are described in more detail in individual job descriptions.

7.2 Tasks

The IRV administration has the following tasks:

1. Leadership and administration of the federation
2. Implementation of all instructions and decisions made by the General Assembly
3. Appointment of the IRV Secretariat
4. Monitoring of the work carried out by the IRV Secretariat
5. Appointment of members and leader (if there is one) of the Technical Commission
6. Distribution of tasks among members of the Technical Commission
7. Appointment of subcommittees and their respective leaders
8. Preparation of a report for the General Assembly
9. Preparation of the accounts for the General Assembly
10. Monitoring of the budget
11. Preparation and revision the Competition Rules and International Code of Points
12. Adoption and implementation of regulations
13. Acquisition of sponsors and partners
14. The IRV administration is otherwise in charge of all other business that is not explicitly defined as the responsibility of the General Assembly
15. Collaboration in the organisation of international events
16. Press and media contact

7.3 Meetings

The IRV administration meets at least twice a year. The meetings are called by the IRV President.

The IRV administration is quorate when half the members are present. All members have the right to vote. Decisions are made on the basis of a majority of the members present. In case of voting equality, the President will cast the final vote. Minutes of the meeting will record decisions made.

8 Auditors

8.1 Tasks

The auditors are responsible for auditing the accounts of the IRV and preparing a report for the General Assembly. They advise the General Assembly whether to approve or reject the accounts.

9 Decisions by correspondence

When it is necessary to make urgent decisions that cannot wait until the next General Assembly, the IRV administration may carry out a vote by correspondence (e.g. email). The member federations/clubs must be provided with the relevant proposals and supporting documentation. A reasonable deadline is given within which members are to submit their vote. A decision may only be made, if

1. all the member federations/clubs have expressed an opinion on the matter at

- hand.
2. the decision is unanimous (unless the member federations/clubs not in agreement are willing to accept a majority decision).

10 Mergers/Amalgamations

The IRV can merge or amalgamate with other or higher federations as long as the other federation's goals do not conflict with the Articles of Association and Mission Statement of the IRV. The General Assembly is responsible for deciding on a potential merger/amalgamation.

11 Liability

The liability of the IRV is limited to its own wealth. There is no personal liability on the part of IRV members.

The IRV only assumes liability for members in cases where this is specifically stated.

12 Doping

Doping contradicts the fundamental principles of sport as well as medical ethics and is strictly forbidden.

Doping is defined as the use of substances and/or methods that can enhance physical performance and/or be potentially damaging to the health. Doping includes the presence of a forbidden substance in an athlete's body.

Doping controls can be carried out at any time and anywhere, whether in a non-competitive context (e.g. at an international training camp) or at a competitive event such as the World Championships or Team World Cup.

All those encompassed by these Articles of Association shall be obliged to respect the World Anti-Doping Program of the World Anti-Doping Agency. The current regulations can be found under www.wada-ama.org

13 Charter for Ethics in Sport

The IRV member federations/clubs adhere to the attached Charter for Ethics in Sport. All those encompassed by these Articles of Association are required to respect this Charter.

14 Arbitration

14.1 Principle

For disagreements between federation organs and members, or between federation

members, the Swiss Concordat arbitration rules from 27 March 1969 apply.

14.2 Arbitration

The arbitration committee consists of three members. Each party selects a judge; the judges choose a chairperson.

A request for arbitration must be sent by registered post to the General Secretary of the IRV.

Within 30 days of receiving a request for arbitration, the General Secretary is obliged to initiate the process in accordance with the Swiss Concordat arbitration rules.

Appeals against arbitration decisions shall be directed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (TAS/CAS) in Lausanne.

15 Final decisions

In the case of differences in the interpretation of the Articles of Association, the German language version is considered to be the legally binding one.

15.1 Dissolution of the IRV

The IRV can only be dissolved by a General Assembly with three quarters of the possible votes present. In this case, a three quarter majority is required to support the decision. The General Assembly appoints the liquidator.

The assets remaining after liquidation will be transferred for a five year period of safe-keeping to the Swiss Olympic Association. After these five years, the Swiss Olympic Association has the right to use the funds to support general sporting interests.

15.2 Validity

These Articles of Association have been approved by the General Assembly of the IRV by way of an email vote and will be effective from 1 January 2015. They replace the Articles of Association dated 9 July 2013.

Dortmund/Baar 01.01.2015



Paul Sieler

President



Ruedi Hug

Vicepresident

Appendix

Working together for healthy, respectful and fair sport!

The seven principles of the Charter for Ethics in Sport

1 **Equal treatment for all!**

There must be no discrimination on the basis of nationality, age, gender, sexual orientation, social background, religious or political affiliations.

2 **Sport in harmony with the social sphere!**

The demands of training and competition must be compatible with education, work and family life.

3 **Encouragement of personal and shared responsibility!**

Athletes must be actively involved in decisions affecting them.

4 **Respectful encouragement, not excessive pressure!**

Sporting goals must not be achieved at the expense of the physical or psychological well-being of athletes.

5 **Teaching fairness and environmental responsibility!**

Athletes must behave with respect for each other and the environment.

6 **Against violence, exploitation and sexual assault!**

Prevention without misguided taboos: be alert, raise awareness and intervene rigorously.

7 **Rejection of drugs and addictive substances!**

Provide continuous information and intervene immediately in the event of consumption.