



**Statutes of the**

**EUROPEAN KARATE FEDERATION**

**(EKF)**



## EUROPEAN KARATE FEDERATION STATUTES

<u>INDEX</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
ART. 1- CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTS-----	3
ART. 2- STRUCTURE -----	4
ART. 3- ECONOMICAL RESOURCES-----	4
ART. 4- ASSETS -----	5
ART. 5- RECOGNITION AND AFFILIATION -----	5
ART. 6- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES-----	5
ART. 7- INDIVIDUALS -----	6
ART. 8- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF INDIVIDUALS-----	6
ART. 9- ACCEPTANCE AND OBLIGATIONS -----	7
ART. 10- ELIGIBILITY - CANDIDATURES – INCOMPATIBILITY-----	7
ART. 11- ORGANISATION -----	8
ART. 12- CONGRESS -----	8
ART. 13- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -----	13
ART. 14- PRESIDENT -----	17
ART. 15- FINANCES, ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING -----	18
ART. 16- PERMANENT COMMISSIONS-----	18
ART. 17- RULES AND REGULATIONS-----	18
ART. 18- HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBERS -----	18
ART. 19- PRIZES AND REWARDS -----	19
ART. 20- PRINCIPLES OF SPORTING JUSTICE -----	19
ART. 21- AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES -----	21
ART. 22- DISSOLUTION -----	21
TRANSITIONAL DISPOSITIONS -----	22

\*\*\*\*\*



## **EUROPEAN KARATE FEDERATION STATUTES**

### **ART. 1- CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTS**

- 1.1 The European Karate Federation, hereafter referred to as "EKF", is a permanent organisation with a legal status, founded in the year 1963 (with the name of European Karate Union / EKU) and is composed of the European National Karate Federations recognised by the World Karate Federation (WKF).
- 1.2. The seat and legal domicile of the EKF is in calle Princesa 25, 3<sup>o</sup> - 1, 28008 Madrid, Spain. The domicile may be changed within the same municipality by the agreement of the Executive Committee, upon proposal of the President.
- 1.3 The EKF in compliance with the "Fundamental Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter" as stated "The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms [...] shall be secured without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status". The EKF is committed to providing a safe environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity and where the priority is given to the safety and wellbeing of all participants in the respect for everyone to enjoy its rights.
- 1.4 The EKF is a member of the World Karate Federation (WKF) and is recognised by the latter as its only representative in Europe.
- 1.5 The EKF is a non profit organisation and performs its activity on an amateur basis in compliance with the principles set forth in the WKF Statutes.
- 1.6 The EKF has sole proprietorship of the logo of EKF and its use. All rights for the use of the EKF logo and name for purposes of fabrication or sale of articles bearing the name or logo of EKF (such as flags, medals, diplomas, badges, shields, ties, gadgets, and similar objects) rests exclusively with the EKF.
- 1.7 The official languages of the EKF shall be English and French. All official EKF publications must be issued in English and French. In the event of disputes, the decision shall be based on the English text.
- 1.8 The EKF has the aim of promoting, organising, regulating and popularising the sport of karate all over Europe, of protecting the physical and mental health of the athletes, of contributing to the development of friendly relationships among its National Federations, and of defending the interests of karate throughout Europe.
- 1.9 The EKF will organise the European Karate Championships in collaboration with its member Federations. The right to organise the European Championships and



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

other official EKF events, shall only be granted to such countries that are able to receive all the eligible participants and delegates on their territory.

1.10 The EKF is committed to adopt and implement the World Anti Doping Code.

### **ART. 2- STRUCTURE**

- 2.1 The EKF will only admit as members National Federations already recognised by the WKF.
- 2.2 The EKF shall collaborate with the WKF, and, within EKF's area of jurisdiction, safeguard the interests of WKF and the sport of Karate. EKF shall work in close collaboration with the general directives of the WKF, whose supreme authority it shall recognise in everything concerning the sport of karate, and will also forward to the WKF a full biennial report on the competitive, organisational and promotional activities undertaken.
- 2.3 The Statutes of the EKF shall conform to the principles of the WKF Statutes.
- 2.4 Should any WKF statute be in contradiction to that of the EKF, the WKF statute will take precedence until such time as the EKF statute can be duly updated to conform to that of the WKF.

### **ART. 3- ECONOMICAL RESOURCES**

- 3.1 The EKF shall pursue its institutional goals by means of revenues deriving from the membership and other yearly fees, competition entry fees, courses and exams, the organisation of official competitions, the issue of licences and diplomas, fines, bequests and donations, sponsorship, radio, television, video, Internet and photographic rights, royalties and any other form of income providing it has been approved by the Executive Committee. All the radio, television, video, Internet and photographic rights of the EKF championships and other international events organised by the EKF shall be the exclusive property of the EKF. These rights may not be sold or negotiated without agreement of the Executive Committee, which may delegate its authority to negotiate the sale or use of these rights, but which shall support the sole responsibility for the final decision and for the use of the income from the sale of the rights.
- 3.2 The budget, adjustments to the budget, and the final balance-sheet, approved by the Executive Committee, and the reports of the EKF President, the General Secretary, the General Treasurer and the appointed Auditors must be approved by the Congress.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

### **ART. 4- ASSETS**

- 4.1 All existing EKF assets must be included in an inventory ledger kept by the General Treasurer and certified by an Auditor.

### **ART. 5- RECOGNITION AND AFFILIATION**

- 5.1 The recognition of a National Federation by the EKF will be done following the regulations contained in these Statutes.
- 5.2 Only 1 (one) National Federation per country shall be allowed, namely the one admitted by the WKF.
- 5.3 The area of jurisdiction of a National Federation must coincide with the borders of the country in which it is established and has its headquarters.
- 5.4 National Federations wishing to be affiliated to the EKF must send to the EKF General Secretary the relative application fee payment, which in the event of acceptance of the application fee will be applied to the first year's membership fee. Such application fee payment shall be in the form of a bank cheque, or bank transfer, and of such amount as specified by the EKF. This payment must be cleared at the EKF bank before membership may be granted.
- 5.5 Affiliation shall be deemed "provisional" when it has been accepted by the Executive Committee. Once accepted, and only then, the Executive Committee will decide on submission of the application to the Ordinary Congress. Provisional affiliation will automatically expire 2 (two) years after the Executive Committee has granted it. Only the Executive Committee is empowered to award any extension to any provisional membership which has so expired. Provisionally affiliated National Federations shall enjoy all rights, excluding voting rights. Once ratified by the Ordinary Congress, the affiliation shall be considered "permanent" and shall confer the right to vote 2 (two) years after the Congress at which it were ratified.
- 5.6 If a country is not included within the geographical limits of a Continental Federation, it may ask to be affiliated to the most adjacent Continental Federation. Such questions must be approved by the WKF Executive Committee.

### **ART. 6- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

- 6.1 Each member Federation must, before the first day of the European Junior and Cadet Championships of each year pay, to the Treasurer, the annual membership fee as fixed by the Executive Committee.

If the membership fee is not paid by the abovementioned day, but is paid subsequently in the current financial year, then a surcharge as set by the Executive Committee is applicable. If the payment is not made in the current



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

financial year, a further surcharge as set by the Executive Committee is applicable.

Furthermore if a country has not paid its membership fees fully, and wishes to be actively involved at an EKF Championships, then with the EKF President's permission, a commitment to payment form as specified by the EKF President must be signed. It is the country's responsibility to ensure that such a form is duly signed by a responsible representative of their country, and it is also the country's responsibility to ensure that payment is made by the date as agreed on the form.

If such payment is not made by the date as specified on the form, then this will remove the possibility of any future promissory notes being considered for the country in question until all charges are settled. It will also result in the suspension of that country from all EKF activities until the required payment, including the relative surcharges, has been cleared.

6.2 The affiliated National Federations shall be entitled to:

- a) Participate in Congresses in accordance with Statutory Norms and Rules;
- b) Participate in official competitions in accordance with the specific WKF Competition Rules;
- c) Enjoy the advantages and benefits provided by the EKF;

### **ART. 7- INDIVIDUALS**

7.1 The physical persons entitled to be EKF members through a National Federation are:

- a) The Athletes;
- b) The Coaches;
- c) The Physicians;
- d) The Referees;
- e) The Officials;
- f) All members of national delegations that take part in EKF official competitions;
- g) Honorary President(s), Honorary Member(s) and former EKF President(s);

### **ART. 8- RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF INDIVIDUALS**

8.1 The physical persons that are EKF members shall be entitled to:

- a) Participate in the EKF activities via the respective National Federations;



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- b) Wear the official EKF uniform, complying with pertaining provisions about the matter;
- c) Be put forward for elective offices and appointments, providing they possess the minimal requirements;

### **ART. 9- ACCEPTANCE AND OBLIGATIONS**

- 9.1 National Federations and individual persons affiliated to the EKF shall undertake to comply with statutory Norms, Rules and Regulations and all provisions issued by the Executive Committee.
- 9.2 Members shall undertake to work in complete compliance with the rules governing the sport, maintaining a demeanour commensurate with the activity performed.
- 9.3 Any member in breach of the conditions as per points 9.1 and 9.2 above shall be subject to disciplinary action as set forth herein.

### **ART. 10- ELIGIBILITY - CANDIDATURES – INCOMPATIBILITY**

- 10.1 First time election to any EKF office is only open to persons officially put forward as candidates by the National Federation of their own country, and then only when the National Federation has become effective full rights (“permanent”) member of the EKF for the last 2 (two) years, and the National Federation is up to date with all payments due to the EKF at the time of opening of the Congress. The incumbent EKF Executive Committee members can individually put forward their candidatures to the Executive Committee.
- 10.2 Regarding the reasons for ineligibility to the EKF Executive Committee, the WKF regulations as contained in Article 10.2 of WKF Statutes will be literally applied for EKF domain.
- 10.3 All the candidatures for elective offices must be put forward exclusively by the respective National Federation (except for cases referred in point 10.1 above) and be received at the EKF seat, or at the General Secretariat office - via registered letter, fax or e-mail - at least 2 (two) months before the date of the elective Congress.
- 10.4 The formalities as per the points above shall also apply to the outgoing Executive Committee members.
- 10.5 The validity of the candidatures shall be verified by the EKF General Secretary. Appeals against the decision of the General Secretary shall be filed to the EKF Disciplinary and Legal Commission within the 5 (five) calendar days following the notification of the said decision.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- 10.6 All the candidatures received for elective offices shall be sent by the EKF General Secretary to the affiliated National Federations within the 2 (two) weeks subsequent to the 2 (two) months deadline as per Article 10.3 above.
- 10.7 Elective offices and appointments are incompatible with the roles of Athlete, Coach or Referee in official events. Should a person in one of these categories be elected or appointed, he must immediately give up his previous role for the whole duration of the term of office.
- 10.8 Any National Federation cannot have more than 1 (one) Executive Committee member, this without counting the President, the co-opted member(s) and the former EKF President(s).
- 10.9 If an appointed member other than a Commission Chairman loses the support of his National Federation, the appointment will be immediately forfeited, barring appeal to the Disciplinary and Legal Commission in application of the Rules of the latter.
- 10.10 If an elected member or the Chairman of a Commission loses the support of his National Federation, he will need, to remain in office, the support of 2/3 (two thirds) of the Executive Committee.
- Additionally, if the elected member loses the support of the 2/3 (two thirds) of the Congress, the member will be immediately revoked from the position.
- Subsequently –for the elected member – he will need the support of 2/3 (two thirds) of the Congress when the next elections take place.
- 10.11 The members of the Executive Committee cannot be appointed to the Refereeing Commission, the Technical Commission, the Medical Commission or the Organisation Commission.
- 10.12 All Executive Committee members must hold the citizenship of the country of their National Federation.

### **ART. 11- ORGANISATION**

- 11.1 The powers of the EKF are exercised by its organs, namely:  
The Congress;  
The Executive Committee;  
The President;

### **ART. 12- CONGRESS**

- 12.1 The Congress is the supreme organ of the EKF, being given deliberative powers. It shall decide only on matters included on the official agenda.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- The Ordinary Congress shall have the final say on all matters relating to karate as presented from the National Federations, and on any other topic of a general nature, and it shall define the guidelines for the EKF activity.
- 12.2 The Ordinary Congress shall meet 1 (once) every year at the occasion of the European Senior Championships and in the city where these take place.
- 12.3 The Ordinary Congress may be held by electronic means in exceptional circumstances as the Executive Committee may decide. The proceedings shall be as valid and effective as if the meeting had been held in person.
- 12.4 The call for the Congress shall be given by post, fax or e-mail, signed by the President or by the General Secretary.
- 12.5 The Congress can consider only items which are included in the agenda. No later than 2 (two) weeks after the Executive Committee meeting during the European Junior & Cadet Championships, the General Secretary shall invite the National Federations members to submit via fax or e-mail to the General Secretariat items which they wish to have included in the agenda of the Congress after agreement from the Executive Committee. The proposals will have to be submitted and received within the 2 (two) weeks subsequent to invitation of the General Secretary.
- 12.6 At least 1 (one) month before the date fixed for the Congress, the General Secretary will send to the member Federations the draft of the agenda formulated by the Executive Committee.
- 12.7 The agenda must include the following: Approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress, reports of the President and General Secretary, report of the Treasurer and of the Auditors, report of the Chairman of the Sports Commission and election of new members to vacant positions in the Executive Committee.
- 12.8 Also the following matters shall be included on the agenda:
- a) Affiliations of new National Federations;
  - b) Information on the future activity and designation of the relevant organisations;
- 12.9 Questions not included in the agenda for the Congress may, at the consent of the majority of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the members present, be discussed, barring when the President, due to time constraints or for considering them of sufficient importance, decides to refer the question to the Executive Committee, or if considered of sufficient importance by the President, he decides to refer the question to the next Congress. Changes in the Statutes will by their nature be considered of sufficient importance as defined above.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- 12.10 The Congress shall be presided over by the President of the EKF, or in his absence by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president or in absence of the latter by a Vice-president to be selected following the order in which they were ranked. The Congress secretary shall be the General Secretary of the EKF or, in his absence, the Assistant General Secretary.
- 12.11 The delegate who represents a National Federation at the Congress must hold the citizenship of the country represented and have a proxy signed by the President of the National Federation unless if the National Federation is represented by its President.
- 12.12 The verification of the proxy will be carried out by a Commission composed by 3(three) persons, namely 1 (one) Vice-president, the General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary and the Treasurer or the Assistant Treasurer before the official opening of the Congress. In the case of any contestation, the General Secretary shall submit the claim to the Disciplinary and Legal Commission. Should any of the prescribed members of the Commission not be present at the Congress the EKF President will, at his discretion, appoint substitute Commission members from the EKF Executive Committee members present.
- 12.13 For the positions to be elected where there is the same number of candidates as positions, the election may take place by acclamation, one candidate at a time.
- 12.14 In order to be valid, candidatures for the Executive Committee must be sent by fax or e-mail 2 (two) months before the Congress. This formality is also necessary for all members who present themselves for re-election, including the Executive Committee co-opted members.
- 12.15 Observers may be invited to the Congress by the President, with the right to speak only upon the authorisation of the President.
- 12.16 The candidates for election must stand with respect to the ethics and principles of the EKF and not attempt to procure votes by offering incentives to the EKF members. Any candidate found offering incentives to obtain votes will forfeit his eligibility for the candidature of the office.
- 12.17 It is forbidden for a National Federation to give a proxy to another National Federation or to a delegate who has a different citizenship than the one of the country of the National Federation, even if he is a member of that National Federation.
- 12.18 The members of the Executive Committee shall not have the right to vote in the Congress, except if they represent a National Federation.
- 12.19 Barring the terms of Articles 21 and 22 as set forth herein, the Congress shall decide by majority vote. Voting shall generally be done by the show of hands or by roll call. For elections and questions of particular importance, or whenever the Chairman of the Congress or ½ (half) of the delegates with voting rights



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

demand it, voting shall be by secret ballot. For elections secret ballot is obligatory – except for the cases referred in Article 12.12 - and the one round system will be followed in all cases.

- 12.20 In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the Congress shall have the right to cast the deciding vote or may also decide to repeat the voting between the candidates tied.
- 12.21 If the Ordinary Congress is held by electronic means under Article 12.3, the decisions of the Ordinary Congress shall be taken by casting electronic votes remotely via an independent scrutineer.
- 12.22 The following shall be entitled to take part in the Congress:
- a) The affiliated National Federations in possession of voting rights;
  - b) The Executive Committee;
  - c) The Chairmen of the EKF Commissions;
  - d) The Honorary President(s) and Honorary Member(s);
  - e) The National Federations with provisional affiliation;
- 12.23 The affiliated National Federations, in accordance with Statutory Norms and Rules shall be entitled to 1 (one) vote, providing they have had sporting activity in EKF in the year of the Congress and in the previous year, have paid the relative membership fee during the last 2 (two) years, and have cleared all the outstanding payments to the EKF.
- 12.24 The annual sporting period, accounting period and fiscal year adopted by the EKF shall coincide with the calendar year (1<sup>st</sup> of January / 31<sup>st</sup> of December).
- 12.25 Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority.
- 12.26 Each National Federation may be represented by up to 2 (two) persons, who, if 1 (one) of the 2 (two) is not the National Federation President, must be in possession of a proxy signed from the President of the same National Federation. Each Federation may also have its own interpreter.
- 12.27 The Congress shall be deemed valid at the first call if at least 1/2 (half) of affiliated National Federations in possession of voting rights are present, or at the second call, 1 (one) hour later, if at least 1/3 (one-third) of affiliated National Federation in possession of voting rights are present. If finally a valid Congress is not possible for reasons of quorum, the Executive Committee will convene right after the cancellation of the Congress, with the same agenda as published for the Congress, and with equivalent powers as that of the announced Congress with exception to Article 22 of these Statutes.



## Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)

---

Every 6 (six) years, to coincide with the European Senior Championships, the Ordinary Congress shall elect the President via secret ballot.

Every 4 (four) years, to coincide with the European Senior Championships, the Ordinary Congress shall elect, via secret ballot, the 10 (ten) elective positions of the Executive Committee;

12.28 The Extraordinary Congress shall meet:

- a) Upon the initiative of the President, when the same considers it necessary;
- b) Upon the written and justified request of at least 50% + 1 (half plus one) of the members of the Executive Committee;
- c) Upon written and justified request of at least 50% (half) of the affiliated National Federations in possession of voting rights;

Providing it complies with the terms and procedures for the validity of Congress as set forth herein, an Extraordinary Congress may be called at the same time as an Ordinary Congress.

The resolutions and decisions of the Extraordinary Congress shall have the same validity as those of the Ordinary Congress.

12.29 The Extraordinary Congress may be held by electronic means in exceptional circumstances as the Executive Committee may decide. The proceedings shall be as valid and effective as if the meeting had been held in person.

12.30 The Extraordinary Congress may deal with all matters normally handled by the Ordinary Congress. It shall decide on the proposals to amend the Statutes or any proposal to dissolve the EKF.

12.31 The Chairman of the Congress shall decide on the duration of the speaking time granted to the participants and limitations to when an issue is considered adequately debated before being taken up for voting.

12.32 The Congress may delegate powers to the Executive Committee.

12.33 Any decision of the Congress, including decisions on amendments to the Statutes, comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the Congress upon proposal of the President.

12.34 If the Extraordinary Congress is held by electronic means under Article 12.29, the decisions of the Ordinary Congress shall be taken by casting electronic votes remotely via an independent scrutineer.

12.35 Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the Congress are established under the authority of the President.



**ART. 13- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 13.1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, who shall preside it over, and at least 10 (ten) elected members.
- 13.2 All Executive Committee elective positions will be elected by the whole Congress.
- 13.3 In the Executive Committee the equal opportunity to women and men must be assured.
- 13.4 The Executive Committee will have the right to co-opt a number of additional female members in the event that after the elections the number of women members of the Executive Committee, in the Committee's own opinion, is considered insufficient for female representation. The Executive Committee will have also the right to co-opt 2 (two) additional members. Additionally, the Executive Committee will have the right to co-opt an athletes' representative.

The term of the co-opted member(s) will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee, who may at any time revoke the co-option(s). These co-opted members are appointed with simple majority of the Executive Committee members and once co-opted will enjoy full membership and voting rights until the next ordinary election or until being revoked if earlier.

- 13.5 The Executive Committee shall be in power for a 6 (six) year term for the President's office and for a 4 (four) year term for the office of the 10 (ten) elected members. All may be re-elected indefinitely.
- 13.6 The newly elected President and Executive Committee members will take office immediately after the election. All attendance and accreditation rights of the outgoing EC members will be kept until the day after the closing of the Championships where the corresponding elective Congress has taken place.
- 13.7 In its first meeting, to take place as early as possible after the elective Congress, the Executive Committee, upon proposal of the President, shall reconfirm, or appoint from among its members, the 1<sup>st</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-president, the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, the General Treasurer, and the Assistant General Treasurer.

The Executive Committee, upon proposal of the President, may revoke and subsequently reappoint any of these positions.

- 13.8 Former EKF Presidents shall remain Executive Committee members for life, without voting rights.
- 13.9 The Executive Committee shall lead, manage and administer EKF activity, draw up programmes in accordance with the directives approved by the Congress and assure that they are enacted.



## Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)

---

Mainly, it shall:

- a) Call Congresses, establishing the agenda;
- b) Draft the technical and financial report on the previous year's activity, to be submitted for the approval of the Congress;
- c) Approve the budget relative changes and the final balance-sheet, to be submitted for the approval of the Congress;
- d) Create, restructure and remove Commissions;
- e) Approve and amend Rules and Regulations, with the exception of the Anti Doping Rules and the Competition Rules that will be the WKF ones
- f) Decide upon the provisional affiliation of National Federations, to be submitted for ratification of the Congress;
- g) Decide on the suspension of international activities of National Federations that have not paid their annual fees;
- h) Confer and repeal appointments;
- i) Administer available funds;
- j) Monitor compliance with the Statutes, Rules and Regulations and issued Norms;
- k) Issue provisions pertaining to recognition, affiliation and membership;
- l) Decide upon the amounts of fees and charges;
- m) Grant amnesties, pardons and remissions and establish the limits of these measures;
- n) Grant distinctions
- o) Consider urgent provisions issued by the President;
- p) Decide upon other matters included in the agenda;

13.10 The Executive Committee shall be convened by the President as required but at least 1 (one) time yearly in an ordinary session or, at the written and justified request of the majority of its members, in an extraordinary session.

13.11 If for any reason a position should become vacant in the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may proceed to co-opt a member in accordance with the terms of Article 13.4 herein. The co-opted member(s) shall remain in office at the discretion of the Executive Committee and as a limit until the following Congress, when regular elections for the co-opted position(s) are held.

13.12 The travel, accommodation costs and other expenses, as well as the relative allowances from the Executive Committee members shall be settled in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Rules and Regulations.

13.13 The term of the members of the Executive Committee will be automatically extended up to the time of the Congress if the term expires before the date of meeting of such Congress.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- 13.14 At the request of the Executive Committee, meetings will also be attended by the Chairmen of the Permanent Commissions for matters directly concerning them.
- 13.15 When for any reason a meeting of the Executive Committee cannot take place, the necessary decision may be taken following an exchange of faxes or e-mails.
- 13.16 The Executive Committee takes all their decisions by simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the President, or in his absence the Acting Chairman (which is the ranking Vice President), will have the casting vote.
- 13.17 In order to be considered valid, any meeting of the Executive Committee of the EKF must include at least 50% (half) of its members and be presided over by the President, or in his absence, by one of the Vice-presidents to be selected following the order in which they were ranked. No proxies are allowed.
- 13.18 The minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the Executive Committee are established under the authority of the President. No correction or alteration to the minutes will be accepted unless written modification has been received and acknowledged in writing by the Secretariat within 1 (one) month after they have been circulated to the National Federation members.
- 13.19 Vice-Presidents
- 13.19.1 The Executive Committee, in its first meeting after the elections, shall appoint from among its members, upon proposal of the President, at least the 1<sup>st</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-president.
- 13.19.2 The Vice-presidents shall provide the President with assistance for all functions and shall replace him upon in the occasions as set forth herein in accordance with the relevant procedures.
- 13.19.3 The Executive Committee may assign special duties to the Vice-presidents providing they are not in contradiction with the provisions herein.
- 13.20 General Secretary
- 13.20.1 The Executive Committee, in its first meeting after the elections, shall appoint from among its members, upon proposal of the President, the General Secretary.
- 13.20.2 To be eligible as the EKF General Secretary is necessary to be a EKF Executive Committee member at the time of the election in the relevant EC meeting (see 13.7).
- 13.20.3 The duties of the General Secretary shall be:
- a) To execute the decisions taken by the Executive Committee;
  - b) To maintain relationships with the WKF, with the affiliated National Federations and with outside parties;



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- c) To draw up and take care of the minutes of the Executive Committee and of the Congress meetings;

13.20.4 At each meeting of the Executive Committee the General Secretary must present an up to date report on the EKF situation.

### 13.21 Assistant General Secretary

13.21.1 The Executive Committee, in its first meeting after the elections, shall appoint from among its members, upon proposal of the President, the Assistant General Secretary.

13.21.2 The duties of the Assistant General Secretary shall be:

- a) To assist the General Secretary and replace him in the event of absence or impediment;
- b) Perform any other secretarial duty asked by the General Secretary or by the Executive Committee;

### 13.22 General Treasurer

13.22.1 The Executive Committee, in its first meeting after the elections, shall appoint from among its members, upon proposal of the President, the General Treasurer.

13.22.2 It is the duty of the General Treasurer to keep the accounts in order.

13.22.3 At each meeting of the Executive Committee to take place immediately before an Ordinary Congress, the General Treasurer must present an up to date report on the EKF's finances.

### 13.23 Assistant General Treasurer

13.23.1 The Executive Committee, in its first meeting after the elections, shall appoint from among its members, upon proposal of the President, the Assistant General Treasurer.

13.23.2 The duties of the Assistant General Treasurer shall be:

- a) To assist the General Treasurer and replace him in the event of absence or impediment;
- b) Perform any other administrative duty asked by the General Treasurer or by the Executive Committee;



**ART. 14- PRESIDENT**

- 14.1 The President or other member(s) of the Executive Committee appointed by the President shall represent the EKF before WKF and before outside parties. The President represents the EKF before the ordinary justice both in demand and in defence without need to be authorised by the Executive Committee. He can delegate his powers to be represented in any event, before the WKF, before the Court or before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (TAS / CAS) or in any other juridical matter.
- 14.2 To be eligible as EKF President, is necessary to be a EKF Executive Committee member at the time of the election.
- 14.3 The EKF President shall be responsible for the day to day running of the EKF and for answering to the Congress and to the Executive Committee.
- 14.4 The EKF President shall convene and chair the Executive Committee, after having drafted the agenda, and shall monitor the implementation of the approved resolutions, barring exceptions expressly specified herein
- 14.5 The EKF President shall convene and chair the Congress, barring exceptions expressly specified herein.
- 14.6 In emergency situations, the EKF President may take decisions normally attributed to the Executive Committee or to the Congress. These decisions shall however be submitted to the ratification of the Executive Committee or of the Congress, as the case may be, in its subsequent meeting.
- 14.7 In the event of a temporary absence, the EKF President may delegate some or all of his functions and powers to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president.

In the event of the President's resignation or permanent absence, his powers shall be taken over by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president, that, together with the Executive Committee, shall continue to carry out the ordinary administration of the EKF until the next Ordinary Congress, where the elections for President will be called in accordance with the terms and procedures as set forth herein. In case the date of the Congress cannot fulfil the candidature procedure time as per Article 10.3, the call for elections will have to take place at the following Ordinary Congress.

In the case of the President's resignation, the President is also entitled, at his sole discretion, to call for Presidential elections for the remainder of the term before the expiration of the said term for which he has been elected. In this case the Presidential election will take place at the next Ordinary Congress in accordance with the terms and procedures as set forth herein.

In the event of absence or resignation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president, the other Vice-presidents shall take his place according firstly to the rank given by the Executive Committee, secondly to seniority in office and finally to seniority by age.



**ART. 15- FINANCES, ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING**

- 15.1 Under the authority of the Executive Committee, the General Treasurer is responsible for the liquid assets of the EKF and the regular keeping of the accounts.
- 15.2 The Executive Committee will appoint an independent qualified accountant, or a firm of qualified accountants, who will be given the task of auditing annually the accounts of the EKF and reporting to it on them. For each Ordinary Congress, the appointed accountant will moreover provide a succinct report on the audit of the EKF accounts. This report will also indicate whether the accounts have been kept in a regular manner and in accordance with the Statutes of the EKF.

**ART. 16- PERMANENT COMMISSIONS**

Without prejudice of what contained in Article 13, point 9), letter d), there will in principle be the following Permanent Commissions:

- 1.- Anti Doping Commission
- 2.- Disciplinary and Legal Commission
- 3.- Medical Commission
- 4.- Organisation Commission
- 5.- Refereeing Commission
- 6.- Sports Commission
- 7.- Technical Commission

**ART. 17- RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- 17.1 The Executive Committee, in accordance with the terms set forth in Article 13, point 9, letter e), and in order to achieve the aims of the EKF, shall issue all the Rules and Regulations, with the exceptions listed in Article 13, point 9, letter e).
- 17.2 The Permanent Commissions shall help to prepare the Rules and Regulations in their own sphere of activity.
- 17.3 All Rules and Regulations must conform to the principles of these Statutes and the WKF Statutes

**ART. 18- HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBERS**

- 18.1 Based upon a proposal of the Executive Committee, the Ordinary Congress shall elect the Honorary Presidents and the Honorary Members by acclamation. They shall be chosen among members who, with selfless commitment, have made a



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

significant contribution to the spread of karate in the world and acquired special merits within the EKF.

The Honorary President(s) and the Honorary Member(s) are elected without time limitation. Their nomination may be reconsidered by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee or the Disciplinary and Legal Commission by a 2/3 (two thirds) majority vote. Honorary positions can only be suspended by decision of Executive Committee and can only be permanently withdrawn by decision of the EKF Congress.

- 18.2 It is not possible to have more than 2 (two) Honorary Presidents at the same time, except in the case of an outgoing President being elected Honorary President.
- 18.3 The Honorary President(s) is (/are) entitled to attend Congresses and Executive Committee meetings, and will have consultative vote.

The Honorary President(s) and Honorary Members shall make up the EKF Honorary Board.

### **ART. 19- PRIZES AND REWARDS**

- 19.1 The Star for Sporting Merit will be the distinction to honour National Federations and individuals who have distinguished themselves through the performance of activity to popularise and improve the sport of karate.
- 19.2 There are 3 (three) types of Stars for Sporting Merit:
- a) Gold: For the Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members, for National Federations and individuals that have worked for karate at least 20 (twenty) years.
  - b) Silver: For National Federations and individuals that have worked for karate at least 15 (fifteen) years.
  - c) Bronze: For National Federations and individuals that have worked for karate at least 10 (ten) years.
- 19.3 The Stars for Sporting Merit are accompanied by the corresponding Diploma and, for individuals, by a special badge.

### **ART. 20- PRINCIPLES OF SPORTING JUSTICE**

- 20.1 The EKF will have a Disciplinary and Legal Commission (DLC). The right of defence and contradiction will be granted.
- 20.2 Any dispute arising from the application or interpretation of the EKF Statutes will be settled exclusively and finally by a Tribunal formed by the DLC following its Rules.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- 20.3 The National Federations are responsible before the EKF of the actions of the associations, clubs and individuals that belong to them, as well as of the compliance of all their components with the Statutes of the EKF.
- 20.4 A National Federation may be excluded from the EKF for one of the following reasons:
- a) By majority decision of the Congress;
  - b) For omission of payment of the membership fees for 2 (two) years. In this case the decision may be taken by the Executive Committee;
  - c) By decision of the DLC, in accordance with the Article 11 of the Disciplinary Rules.
- 20.5 National Federations who have not paid their annual fees and whatever other amounts due to the EKF by the required date may be suspended by the Executive Committee as full rights members and/or from all EKF activities until complete payment of all amounts due is made. Only the Executive Committee will be able to authorise exceptions or postponements, these exceptions or postponements not affecting the full applicability of Articles 10.1 and 12.21.
- 20.6 National Federations whose payments are not made in full at the date fixed by the Congress, may be authorised by the Executive Committee to attend the Congress, but will not have the rights to debate or vote.
- 20.7 Whether a National Federation shall leave the EKF through expulsion or resignation or for any other reason, it shall remain liable to the EKF for all amounts due, and must fulfil its duties and obligations to the EKF.
- 20.8 If a National Federation, the members that form that National Federation, or an individual member of that National Federation, contravenes the Statutes of the EKF or those of the WKF, or for any reason of discipline, the EKF may restrain or suspend the activities of this Federation or individual member, in accordance with the EKF Statutes and the Disciplinary Rules.
- 20.9 The EKF expressly prohibits their National Federations, and their components, from the double affiliation with any karate organisation as it may be determined by the WKF Executive Committee to be a dissenting organisation.
- National Federations and their members are prohibited from having sporting relationships with these dissenting organisations and with any organisation that is determined by the EKF to act contrary to the interest of the EKF or WKF not recognised by the EKF, or with a member country of the EKF or of the WKF which National Federation is suspended due to non payment of fees or for disciplinary reasons.
- 20.10 The DLC may take disciplinary actions against Federations and physical persons.



## **Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)**

---

- 20.11 The amnesties, pardons and remissions given can be specific, partial or of an absolutely general nature.
- 20.12 Affiliated members and Individuals shall commit themselves to accept no authority other than the one of the EKF. An appeal before the WKF Disciplinary Commission is only possible after having exhausted all the internal resources foreseen in the EKF Statutes and Disciplinary Rules.

### **ART. 21- AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES**

- 21.1 Proposals to amend these Statutes may be put forward by the Executive Committee or by affiliated National Federations having voting rights. In the case of National Federations, proposals must be presented to the Executive Committee prior to consideration by the EKF Congress. Direct proposals of change of statutes can only be presented directly to the EKF Congress if demanded by at least 50% + 1 (half plus one) of all affiliated National Federations having voting rights.
- 21.2 Change of statutes may be undertaken by the Ordinary EKF Congress or Extraordinary Congress if deemed necessary by the Executive Committee or demanded by at least 50% + 1 (half plus one) of all affiliated National Federations having voting rights. The Executive Committee shall call the relevant Extraordinary Congress in compliance with the terms and procedures as set forth herein.
- 21.3 Proposals to amend these Statutes must be approved by at least 2/3 (two thirds) of the affiliated National Federations having voting rights that are present at the Congress.
- 21.4 Changes in these Statutes become provisionally effective upon approval of the Executive Committee and finally upon ratification by the Congress.

For anything that is not covered by these Statutes, the Executive Committee may take action the necessary decisions which must then be submitted for ratification to the next Congress.

### **ART. 22- DISSOLUTION**

- 22.1 The proposal to dissolve the EKF must be presented to the Executive Committee by at least 4/5 (four fifths) of the affiliated National Federations having voting rights.
- 22.2 The Executive Committee shall call the relative Extraordinary Congress in compliance with the terms and procedures as set forth herein.



## Statutes of The European Karate Federation (EKF)

---

22.3 The proposal to dissolve the EKF must be decided by the Extraordinary Congress with a majority of at least 4/5 (four-fifths) of the votes of the affiliated National Federations having voting rights.

Should the EKF be dissolved, its assets, pending the fulfilment of the organisation's financial obligations will become the property of the WKF.

### Transitional Dispositions

- 1) These Statutes will be in effect immediately after their approval by the EKF Congress, with exception to any paragraph that may, in the opinion of the Executive Committee infringe on the existing rights of elected officials under the previous existing statutes, in which case the Executive Committee will make such dispositions as in their opinion is deemed required, and determine the necessary transition period for any such remedy.
- 2) The EKF National Federations will have a period of 2 (two) years to adapt their Statutes in order to conform to the principles of these Statutes after their approval. This point does not limit the obligations of EKF member Federations to conform to any requirement set forth to WKF member Federations.

\*\*\*\*\*