



International Wheel  
Gymnastics Federation

# **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 coordinates measures in line with a Mission Statement 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, association or other organisation representing wheel gymnastics. The Articles of Association will refer to the above entities as IRV "federations/clubs".
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 Executive Board. The General Assembly is called upon to approve membership applications for all types of membership other than entry level membership.
2. A member federation/club may withdraw from the IRV at the end of a calendar year. Notice must be given in writing 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 Executive Board 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 given an opportunity 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 Executive Board can (on their own initiative or in response to a proposal from a member country or countries) nominate individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to international wheel gymnastics as honorary members of the IRV. The General Assembly is called upon to approve such nominations. Honorary members of the IRV are welcome to attend the IRV General Assembly as guests.

## 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 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 cooperate 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 Regulations](#).

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 comprise the following:

- a) General Assembly
- b) IRV Administration - Executive Board (President & Vice Presidents), General Secretary, Financial Officer and Technical Commission - see also Section 7
- c) IRV Auditors

## 5.2 Length of service

- a) The length of service for members of the Executive Board 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. Members of the IRV Administration, the Auditors and honorary members of the IRV have the right to participate 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. The IRV Administration gives notice of the location and time of the meeting at least 90 days in advance. The agenda (together with accompanying documents) is sent in writing to the member federations/clubs at least 30 days in advance. If possible, the General Assembly takes place at the same location as the World Championships.

Delegates at the General Assembly 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 Executive Board
6. to approve the auditors' report
7. to approve the accounts presented by the IRV Administration
8. to approve the membership fees and special contributions
9. to approve the proposed budget for the next two years
10. to discuss and decide on submitted proposals
11. to approve projects to be funded
12. to approve nominations of honorary members of the IRV
13. to decide on appeals against the exclusion of a member
14. to decide on the dissolution of the IRV
15. Elections:
  - a) President
  - b) Vice Presidents (four)
  - c) Auditors (two from two different member federations/clubs)

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 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 (Executive Board, General Secretary, Financial Officer 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 to be included in the agenda for the General Assembly may be made by member federations/clubs as well as by the IRV Administration.

Proposals must be submitted to the IRV General Secretary at least sixty (60) days before the General Assembly.

## 6.6 Election candidates

Nominations for positions on the Executive Board are made by member federations/clubs.

All members of the Executive Board must be members of an IRV member federation/club.

Candidate nominations for the Executive Board (President or Vice Presidents) must be submitted to the IRV General Secretary at least sixty (60) 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 IRV Executive Board members 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 thirty (30) days before the meeting.

## 6.8 Expenses

The travel and living expenses of the delegates and auditors attending the General Assembly 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 accordance with the Mission Statement and decisions of the General Assembly.

## 7.1 Composition

The IRV Administration comprises:

### 7.1.1 Elected by the General Assembly:

Executive Board including

1. President
2. Vice Presidents (four)

### 7.1.2 Appointed by the Executive Board:

1. General Secretary
2. Financial Officer
3. Technical Commission

All the above positions are filled on a voluntary basis – there is currently no remuneration for the work time invested by members of the IRV Administration.

## **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. Distribution of tasks among members of the Executive Board, the General Secretary, Financial Officer, and Technical Commission members
4. Appointment of sub-committees
5. Preparation of a report for the General Assembly
6. Preparation of the accounts for the General Assembly
7. Monitoring of the budget
8. Preparation and revision the Competition Rules and International Code of Points
9. Adoption and implementation of regulations
10. Acquisition of sponsors and partners
11. The IRV Administration is otherwise in charge of all other business that is not explicitly defined as the responsibility of the General Assembly
12. Collaboration in the organisation of international events
13. Press and media contact

## **7.3 Meetings**

The IRV Administration meets at least once 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 IRV 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 can 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 one's health. Doping includes the presence of a forbidden substance in an athlete's body.

Doping controls can be carried out anytime 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.

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](http://www.wada-ama.org)

## **13 Charter for Ethics in Sport**

The IRV member federations/clubs adhere to the attached (Swiss) Charter for Ethics in Sport (see Appendix). All those encompassed by these Articles of Association are required to respect the 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 an arbitrator; the arbitrators choose a chairperson.

A request for arbitration must be sent by email 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

### 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 quarters 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 on 29 July 2024. They replace the Articles of Association dated 01.01.2015.

Zürich (SUI) / Bergen (NOR) 31.08.2024

Matthias Reich  
IRV President

Maria Sollohub  
IRV Vice President

# Appendix

Working together for healthy, respectful, fair and successful sport.

## The nine principles of the Charter for Ethics in Sport

- 1 Equal treatment for everyone.**  
Nationality, age, gender, sexual orientation, social background, religious and political affiliation do not lead to discrimination.
- 2 Sport and social environment in harmony.**  
The demands in training and competition are compatible with education, career and family life.
- 3 Strengthening personal and shared responsibility.**  
Athletes are involved in decisions that affect them.
- 4 Respectful encouragement rather than excessive demands.**  
Measures to achieve sporting goals do not damage either the physical or psychological integrity of the athletes.
- 5 Educating on fairness and environmental responsibility.**  
Behaviour towards others and towards the environment is characterised by respect.
- 6 Rejecting violence, exploitation and sexual abuse.**  
Physical and psychological violence as well as any form of exploitation are not tolerated. Raising awareness, maintaining vigilance and rigorous intervention.
- 7 Rejecting doping and drugs.**  
Ongoing information and immediate intervention in the event of consumption, administering or distributing substances.
- 8 Abstaining from tobacco and alcohol consumption during sport.**  
Demonstrating the risks and consequences of consumption at an early stage.
- 9 Opposing all forms of corruption.**  
Encouraging and stipulating transparency in decisions and processes. Dealing with conflicts of interest, gifts, regulating financing and gambling and consistent disclosure.

Source:

[https://www.swissolympic.ch/dam/jcr:2af58143-3684-40e2-ba38-36e77fafa077/2015\\_Ethik\\_Charta\\_A4\\_fbg\\_EN.pdf](https://www.swissolympic.ch/dam/jcr:2af58143-3684-40e2-ba38-36e77fafa077/2015_Ethik_Charta_A4_fbg_EN.pdf)