

Rules of the Pan American Badminton Confederation

1. NAME

This body shall be called the “Pan American Badminton Confederation,” hereafter referred to as the Confederation.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Membership of the Confederation shall consist of national badminton associations (or corresponding organizations) assigned by the International Badminton Federation (hereafter referred to as the IBF) to the Confederation. Such national badminton associations (or corresponding organizations) shall be known as “Member Associations.”

2.1.1 The Confederation is a division of the IBF, and as such, exists within and abides by the Rules and decisions of the IBF.

2.1.2 The IBF in consultation with the Confederation has power to vary which Member Associations belongs to the Confederation.

2.2 The following National Badminton Associations, all being members of the IBF, are hereby recognized as the Founding Members of the Confederation as per the Foundation Meeting held in Mexico City in 1976:

Canada:	Badminton Canada
Jamaica:	Jamaica Badminton Association
México:	Federación de Bádminton de México
Perú:	Comisión Nacional de Bádminton del Perú
USA:	United States Badminton Association

2.3 The Pan American Badminton Confederation is divided into four regions for purposes of voting representation and quorum requirements:

NORTH AMERICA:	Canada, USA, Mexico.
CENTRAL AMERICA:	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama.
SOUTH AMERICA:	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Uruguay, Venezuela.
CARIBBEAN:	Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgen Islands, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinque, Puerto Rico, Saba, St. Barthelemy, St. Eustatius, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Martin, St. Vincent, Trinidad & Tobago, US Virgen Islands.

- 2.4 Members of the Confederation shall not be permitted to bring disputes with the Confederation, or with each other, before a Court of Justice and membership of the Confederation shall involve members in renouncing the right to take a dispute before the Courts. Any such dispute shall be referred to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, unless agreed otherwise by the parties in the dispute.

3. PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

- 3.1 The purposes and principles of the Confederation include:

- 3.1.1 Controlling the game, from an international aspect, in all countries of the Confederation;
- 3.1.2 Enabling mutual recognition of Member Associations in their dealings with each other;
- 3.1.3 Upholding the Laws of badminton as at present adopted and recommending to the IBF changes to them as may appear necessary or desirable;
- 3.1.4 Achieving uniform interpretation of the Laws of badminton and of control of matches;
- 3.1.5 Printing and publishing from time to time as occasion may require information, activities, and Rules of the Confederation;
- 3.1.6 Making regulations for international play assigned to the Confederation by the IBF and publishing these as the Confederation's Competition Regulations;
- 3.1.7 Ensuring the observance of the Laws of badminton in all competitions, of the IBF Competition Regulations in all international competitions, and where applicable, of the Confederation's Competition Regulations;
- 3.1.8 Employing the funds of the Confederation in such a manner as shall be deemed expedient;
- 3.1.9 Strengthening the bonds of friendship between the existing Member Associations and encouraging the formation of new Member Associations.
- 3.1.10 Enabling mutual recognition of penalties inflicted on its own members by any Member Associations;
- 3.1.11 Settling disputes between Member Associations and adjudicating on any complaint of a Member Association as to the conduct of another Member Association; and,
- 3.1.12 Upholding the principles on which the IBF and the Confederation are founded, taking such measures as may appear expedient for advancing the interests of badminton from an international point of view, and generally doing all such things as are incidental or conducive to the above objects or any of them.

- 3.2 The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable, and no provision of the Rules shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles.

4. LANGUAGE

The official language of the Confederation shall be English, but proposals of any matter to be submitted for consideration of the Confederation may be written in either English or Spanish.

5. GOVERNMENT

- 5.1 The Confederation shall be governed by a General Meeting (see Rule 7), which delegates from all Member Associations shall be entitled to attend. The qualifications for attendance and the voting powers of the delegates shall be set out in Rule 13, but the Chair (see Rule 7.6) shall have a casting vote.
- 5.2 The Confederation shall have officers comprising a President, a General Secretary, four Vice-Presidents and Directors, who are the IBF Consul Members representing the Pan American Region.
- 5.2.01 The elected officers shall be the President, the General Secretary, and the four Vice-Presidents. Each of the four Vice-Presidents shall represent one of the four regions as defined in Rule 2.3 and be a delegate from said region.
- 5.2.02 The maximum number of officers from any one country shall be two, but may be temporarily increased to three by vote at a General Meeting. The term of this waiver shall extend to the next General Meeting where elections are normally held.
- 5.2.1 The Officers shall be entitled to attend every General Meeting, but they shall have no vote in their capacity as an Officer. They shall, however, be entitled to speak on any business under consideration.
- 5.2.2 The President shall assume office following election at a Biennial General Meeting (BGM). The term of office shall be four years. A President shall be eligible for re-election, but no person shall serve more than two terms.
- 5.2.3 <Not applicable to Confederation>
- 5.2.4 The Executive Committee has the right to propose at a General Meeting the early termination of an Elected Officer's term of office.
- 5.2.5 If an elected officer is unable to complete the term of office or the term has been terminated (see Rule 5.2.4), a substitute officer shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and a successor may be elected for the remainder of the term in the usual way at a BGM.
- 5.2.6 If there is a substitute officer (see Rule 5.2.5) five months before a BGM at which an election for that officer would not normally have been held, an officer for the remainder of the term of office shall be elected in the usual way at that BGM.
- 5.2.7 Elected Officers shall assume office immediately following election at a BGM.
- 5.2.8 Elected Officers shall remain in office until replaced at a BGM.

- 5.2.9 <Not applicable to Confederation>
- 5.2.10 The term of office of the General Secretary and each Vice-Presidents shall be four years, and shall be eligible for re-election.
- 5.3 The Executive Committee officers acting on behalf of the Confederation shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Confederation assets, except for acts of willful default or fraud.
- 5.4 The Executive Committee shall appoint a Chief Operating Officer and such other staff as it deems necessary.
- 5.5 The Executive Committee may appoint up to two non-voting Vice Presidents to hold office for the duration of the said Executive Committee's tenure. The titles and duties of these Vice Presidents will be determined by the Executive Committee.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 6.1 Each BGM shall appoint an Executive Committee which shall have administrative powers to carry on the work of the Confederation between BGMs. These powers include the authority to decide on matters under dispute and not provided for in the Confederation's Rules. The Executive Committee reserves the right to appoint an Appeals committee to rule on any such disputes.
- 6.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers as described in Rule 5.2. All officers will have one vote.
- 6.3 The President and General Secretary shall assume the position of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Executive Committee respectively. The Executive Committee will appoint a Treasurer and Recording Secretary.
- 6.4 The quorum for all Executive Committee meetings shall be at one half of the members
- 6.54 The Executive Committee shall appoint such Committees and with such terms of reference as may be deemed necessary.
- 6.54.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair for each Committee.
- 6.54.2 The quorum for all Committee meetings shall be one half of the members.
- 6.54.3 <Not applicable to Confederation>
- 6.54.4 Co-option to any Committees from outside the members of the Executive Committee shall be permitted where it is considered the interests of badminton can be better served.
- 6.6 The Executive Committee shall meet as often as may be necessary, and shall also be entitled to make decisions by mail/conference calls.
- 6.7 The Executive Committee will decide any question which may arise as to the interpretation of the Confederation's Rules, Regulation, Laws or other statutes. Such interpretation shall be final.
- 6.8 The Executive Committee shall annually circulate a financial statement to the member countries.

- 6.9 The Executive Committee shall allocate the venue and responsibility for Pan American Championship competitions and or other activities to be organized by or under the auspices of the Confederation.

7. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 7.1 **Biennial General Meeting (BGM).** A General Meeting (GM) shall be held on odd years and also at such other times found necessary by the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.1 The time and site shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.2 Election of officers to four year terms will occur at a BGM corresponding to the year in which the Pan American Games are customarily held (i.e. 2007, 2011, 2015, etc).
- 7.2 **Closing date for proposals and nominations to a General Meeting.** The closing date for the submission of proposals and nominations to a General Meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee, but it can be no less than 30 days.
- 7.3 The business of a General Meeting shall be:
- 7.3.1 to confirm the Minutes of the last General Meeting and of any Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held since the last General Meeting;
- 7.3.2 to receive the Report of the Executive Committee;
- 7.3.3 to pass the accounts, duly audited, for the preceding year;
- 7.3.4 to consider and deal with any changes in IBF Rules, Regulations, Laws or other statutes which affect the governance of the Confederation;
- 7.3.5 to elect officers;
- 7.3.6 to consider and deal with any proposals of which due notice shall have been given; and,
- 7.3.7 to consider any other competent business.
- 7.4 **Extraordinary General Meeting.** An EGM may be convened at any time by the Executive Committee, or must be convened by the Chief Operating Officer on a date within 10 weeks of the receipt by the Confederation of a requisition in writing to that effect given by at least one-third of the number of Member Associations who had paid their subscription for the relevant year at the time of the immediately preceding General Meeting. Every such requisition and the convening notice, shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened, and no other business shall be transacted.
- 7.5 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be the representation of at least Five Member Associations, who have paid their subscription to the IBF for that year, from which at least One is a Delegate of North America, One is a Delegate of Central America and/or the Caribbean, and Two other Member Associations at large as defined in Rule 2.3.
- 7.6 The President shall act as Chair at all General Meetings. In the President's absence, the General Secretary shall act as Chair and in the absence of both the President and the General Secretary the Executive Committee shall elect a Chair.
- 7.7 Before a proposal, submitted by a Member Association and of which notice (see Rule 8) has been given on the agenda, may be discussed and voted upon, the Chair will invite the

delegate of the responsible Member Association to explain its purpose. Thereafter the Chair will ask whether a delegate of at least one other Member Association is prepared to support or second the proposal. If no delegate is prepared to second the proposal it will not be discussed or voted upon. Seconding by a delegate does not mean that the delegate must vote in favor of the proposal once the discussion has taken place. A proposal made by the Executive Committee must be explained but does not require to be supported or seconded before being discussed and voted upon.

- 7.8 General Meetings shall be conducted in conformity with these Rules; the Chair shall have the final decision upon all points of order and matters of procedure, but shall not have the power to rule on matters of substance without the consent of the meeting.
- 7.9 Except as otherwise provided in Rules 21, 22, and 23 all questions shall be decided by a simple majority of votes cast.

8. PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS

- 8.1 Notice in writing of any proposal to be brought forward at a General Meeting may be given by any Member Association. Such notice shall be sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer, so as to reach the Confederation not later than the date published in accordance with Rules 7.2. Officers shall also be entitled to make a proposal at a General Meeting. Any proposal received by the appropriate date must appear on the agenda of the meeting.
- 8.2 A proposal of which due notice has not been given, and which does not in any way affect these Rules or the Laws of Badminton (as defined by the IBF), may be proposed only by a delegate and may be discussed at a General Meeting, but no vote shall be taken thereon unless the Meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, shall deem the matter to be of sufficient urgency. Subject thereto, a vote may be taken and, if the proposal is carried by the appropriate majority, the proposal shall be adopted temporarily until the next General Meeting.
- 8.3 No amendment, other than one of wording which does not alter the meaning or intent of the original proposal, shall be accepted by the Chair at a General Meeting unless it shall have been sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Confederation so as to reach the Confederation not later than five weeks in advance of the meeting. This shall include any amendments made by the proposer of the original proposal. A simple majority shall be required at the meeting to incorporate such an amendment.
- 8.4 Notice of any amendment received as specified in Rule 8.3 shall be sent by the Chief Operating Officer to those specified in Rules 9.1.1 and 9.1.2 at least four weeks before the date of the meeting at which the proposal shall be considered.

9. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 9.1 Printed notice of every General Meeting, stating the date, time, and place thereof and the business to be transacted shall be sent to:
- 9.1.1 each Member Association;
- 9.1.2 officers as described in Rule 5.2.

- 9.2 Notice of General Meetings shall be sent at least seven weeks before the date fixed for such meetings, but accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any General Meeting.

10. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

10.1 Officers

Nominations for the election to the offices of President, General Secretary or Vice-Presidents may be made by any Member Association or by the Executive Committee. Such nominations must be sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Confederation so as to reach the Confederation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2, and the names of nominees, their proposers, their seconders, and a brief statement of qualifications shall appear on the agenda thereof.

- 10.2 (reference IBF Rule 10.2.2) Nominations may be made by any Member Association. Nominations shall be seconded by a different Member Association from the proposer. Seconding of nominations must be written, and reach the Confederation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2
- 10.3 (reference IBF Rule 10.2.5) To be eligible for election at the General Meeting, a nominee must be among that year's nominated delegates.
- 10.4 To be entitled to nominate or second candidates for election as officers, a Member Association must have paid its subscription to the IBF for that year, prior to submitting nominations or seconds.
- 10.5 When the results of any election are announced, the number of votes polled by each candidate shall be published.

11. HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENTS & OFFICERS

- 11.1 A General Meeting shall have power to elect Honorary Life Vice-Presidents for services rendered in the past.
- 11.2 Such nominations may be made by the Executive Committee or by any Member Association, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, and they must reach the Chief Operating Officer of the Confederation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2, and they shall appear on the agenda thereof.
- 11.3 Honorary Life Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings but shall have no vote.
- 11.4 To be entitled to nominate candidates for election as Honorary Life Vice Presidents, a Member Association must have paid its subscription to the IBF for that year, prior to submitting nominations.
- 11.5 the Executive Committee shall have power to elect any of the following Honorary Officers:

-- Honorary Legal Adviser -- Honorary Medical Officer -- Honorary Financial Adviser

- 11.6 Honorary Officers shall be entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings but shall have no vote. Honorary Officers, if attending meetings of the Executive Committee, shall have no vote.

12. AFFILIATION

Any Pan American National Association in good financial standing with the IBF would be affiliated with the Confederation

13. REPRESENTATION AND VOTING

- 13.1 Each Member Association having paid its IBF subscription shall be entitled to appoint not more than two delegates to represent it at every General Meeting. Both delegates shall have the right to speak, but neither shall be permitted to second a proposal proposed by the other. Only one delegate from each Member Association shall cast the vote to which the Member Association is entitled.
- 13.2 The name and address of each delegate shall be sent in writing to the Chief Operating Officer of the Confederation by the Secretary of the Member Association to be represented. All such nominations must be received by the Chief Operating Officer of the Confederation not later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting.
- 13.3 Only Member Associations are entitled to vote at General Meetings. To be entitled to appoint delegates to represent it and vote at any General Meeting, a Member Association must have paid the subscription Member Association for that year to **the IBF** prior to submitting nominations of the delegates.
- 13.4 A Member Association having paid a subscription shall be entitled to one vote.
- 13.5 <Not applicable to Confederation>
- 13.6 The Chair has authority to admit observers to a General Meeting. With the Chair's permission such observers may speak.
- 13.7 No delegate shall be permitted to cast a vote on behalf of more than one Member Association.
- 13.8 Each affiliated international organization and each Associate Member (as defined in **IBF Rules 2.2 and 2.3**) shall be entitled to the same representation at General Meetings as is enjoyed by Member Association, except that they shall have no vote. In other respects, representation shall be governed by Rules 13.1 and 13.2.
- 13.9 Officers of the Executive Committee shall have the right to attend General Meetings but, unless otherwise qualified, they shall have no vote. In other respects, representation shall be governed by Rules 13.1 and 13.2.
- 13.10 The Chief Operating Officer shall have the right to attend and speak at General Meetings. With the Chair's permission, other members of the Secretariat may attend and speak at General Meetings.
- 13.11 The Badminton Players' Federation shall be entitled to appoint one representative to each General Meeting. This representative shall have the right to speak, but shall have no vote.

14. SUBSCRIPTIONS & PAYMENTS

Not applicable to Confederation. Governed by IBF Rule 14. SUBSCRIPTIONS & PAYMENTS.

15. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

Not applicable to Confederation. Governed by IBF Rule 15. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP.

16. DOPING

Not applicable to Confederation. Governed by IBF Rule 16. DOPING.

17. DISCIPLINE

- 17.1 The Executive Committee, or any Disciplinary Committee it appoints, shall have power on behalf of the Confederation to penalize a Member Association, player, competition official, or other person for misconduct during competition or for actions that bring the game of badminton into disrepute.
- 17.1.1 Penalties can be in the form of suspensions, fines, other measures, or a combination of those.
- 17.1.2 Any suspension is from all competitive events in the Confederation for such time as is seen fit, including possibly for life.
- 17.1.3 Any fine imposed on a player, competition official, or other person shall be notified to the person's Member Association, which shall have the responsibility for submitting payment to the Confederation, within 60 days from the date of that notification.
- 17.1.4 The Executive Committee may recommend to the IBF to investigate the case and/or impose additional penalties.
- 17.2 Suspension may be imposed after an appropriate hearing of the case against a player or, where there is strong evidence of serious misconduct, until such a hearing takes place.

18. ACCOUNTS

- 18.1 The financial year of the Confederation shall close on 31 December and the Finance Committee shall ensure that the annual Financial Statements shall be prepared and audited as soon as possible thereafter.
- 18.2 The Executive Committee may appoint a suitably qualified firm to act as the finance manager under the control the Chair of the Finance Committee. This firm shall be responsible for directing the professional staff on technical financial matters and to produce such reports and statements of accounts which Council, through the Chair of Finance, shall direct.

19. ALTERATION OF THE LAWS OF BADMINTON OR OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COURT OFFICIALS

Refer to **IBF Rule 19. ALTERATION OF THE LAWS OF BADMINTON OR OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COURT OFFICIALS.**

20. ALTERATION OF COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The Executive Committee shall have power, on behalf of the Confederation, to decide alterations to the Pan American Competition Regulations.

21. ALTERATION OF THESE RULES

- 21.05 Any addition or alteration made to IBF Rules at an IBF General Meeting shall after approval of the Executive Committee be temporarily adopted into these Rules until the next General Meeting.
- 21.1 Subject to the exceptions contained in Rules 22 and 21.05, these Rules may be altered from time to time, at a General Meeting, if due notice of the proposal embodying such alteration shall have been given and such proposal or one having the like effect shall be carried at the meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.
- 21.2 Any alteration made to any Rule shall not take effect until after all proposals as described in Rule 7.3.6 have been disposed of.

22. DISSOLUTION

- 22.1 The Confederation shall not be dissolved except at a General Meeting specially convened for the purpose and by a proposal carried by a majority of four-fifths of the votes cast.
- 22.2 In the event of such dissolution, any assets in hand shall become property of the IBF. If the IBF is no longer in existence then any assets in hand shall be divided between the Member Associations in proportion to the subscriptions paid by each as provided by the **IBF.**