



**World Taekwondo
Global Membership System (GMS) Bylaws**

(In effect as of May 12th, 2024)

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INTRODUCTION (Overview)

1.1 World Taekwondo's Mission is to govern, grow and promote Taekwondo throughout the world from grass roots to elite levels so that everyone may have the opportunity to play, watch and enjoy the sport regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or ability.

1.2 To advance its Mission, World Taekwondo has created the Global Membership System (hereinafter: "GMS").

1.3 The GMS is the official Platform used by World Taekwondo as: i) an online system of record of members; ii) a platform with which WT can coordinate participation in official events and maintain certifications, achievements, and other records; and iii) a set of tools for management that includes but is not limited to member, education, and events.

1.4 The GMS Bylaws (these "Bylaws"), as amended from time to time, shall govern the implementation of the GMS Platform among all areas related, directly or indirectly, to World Taekwondo and its members.

WT LICENCE AND BENEFITS

2.1 Events. The defined term "Events" is used hereinafter to refer to any Taekwondo related events including but not limited to competitions, online/offline/hybrid courses, meetings, seminars, training camps, and other sport or education related events or activities recognized, sanctioned, promoted, hosted, or in any way controlled by WT.

2.2 WT Licence. A WT Licence is required for all athletes and officials who wish to participate in any WT Promoted or Recognized Events.

2.3 In addition to managing licences, the GMS Platform strives to facilitate access to World Taekwondo content to all its members. As part of the GMS value to its members, the GMS from time to time may partner with vendors to provide additional services to the members.

MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

3.1 Member National Associations (MNAs) shall implement these Bylaws, as amended from time to time, as required by the WT Statutes (see Article 8.4.3.4.2 of the WT Statutes).

3.2 All MNAs must abide by these WT GMS Bylaws.

3.3 Each duly recognized MNA President must appoint one "National GMS Administrator." The MNA President may also appoint "Assistant National GMS Administrator (s)", however



only the "National GMS Administrator will be responsible for communications with the WT GMS Team.

3.4 The National GMS Administrator will be the main contact person between the WT GMS Team and will be responsible for registering/renewing MNA members. Because English is the working language of WT, these administrators should be English speaking. If a WT GMS Team member speaks the native language of the MNA then they can communicate in that language at the discretion of the WT GMS Team.

3.5 The National GMS Administrator and any Assistant National GMS Administrator(s) shall understand and abide by WT GMS Policy.

3.6 An MNA may request the WT GMS Team to act (temporarily) as a National GMS Administrator for its territory. WT may in that case withhold a percentage of the revenues as compensation for operating as the MNA's National GMS Administrator.

3.7 The WT GMS Team is authorized to follow up or investigate any complaints received or suspicions of non-compliance and/or breaches of the WT GMS Bylaws. During the course of the investigation, WT reserves the right to revoke the administrative privileges of any and all MNA personnel.

3.8 If an MNA is suspended by WT, the MNA's GMS Administrator(s) may remain authorized to administer the GMS system for the said territory at WT's sole discretion. In the alternative, the WT GMS Team may additionally act as a temporary National GMS Administrator or assign this right to an appropriate third-party at WT's sole discretion.

3.9 Any individual may sign up for or renew an existing WT Licence subscription through any MNA as long as the individual meets all of the requirements of WT (waivers, documents, payment) as well as those of that MNA if any.

3.10 The GMS Platform will be provided in the English language and other languages as they become available. If an MNA deems it necessary to have the platform in another language, then the MNA will be responsible for providing a language translator, who will translate English text from the system to text in that language using the translation feature of the GMS Platform.

3.11 MNA or individual member must pay all WT Licence fees due in a timely manner.

3.12 Whenever MNA members have questions about how to use the GMS platform, the MNA GMS Administrator will try to resolve those questions by themselves to the best of their ability. Only if the MNA GMS Administrator is unable to resolve the questions, the MNA GMS Administrator will escalate the questions to the WT GMS Administrator who

will advise the MNA GMS Administrator on how to address the members' question(s). MNAs will keep track of frequently asked questions and answers using the FAQ tool provided by the GMS platform to reduce the frequency of questions asked by their members. The MNA GMS Administrator will reach out to WT GMS Administrator when questions pertain to WT's policies, procedures. When the MNA GMS Administrator identify software defects, they will create only one support request for the defect and send it to the WT GMS Administrator. WT GMS Administrator will assess the software defect report from the MNA and when they deem it appropriate will forward it to the GMS Vendor in English using the customer support ticketing system provided by the GMS Vendor which may include a specific email address or a software ticketing system that may change from time to time at the GMS Vendor's discretion.

3.13 MNAs must comply with all applicable national and international laws, including those related to data privacy and data security, as well as the terms and conditions set forth by the GMS Vendor.

3.14 In compliance with applicable laws, WT at its sole discretion, may acquire advertisers, sponsors, content creators, and affiliates and display their ads and other content on the GMS Platform to generate revenues.

3.15 From time to time, WT at its sole discretion, may develop, offer, and provide additional services for the MNAs, Regions, Clubs, as well as taekwondo practitioners through the GMS Platform. Some of these services will be available for no additional cost, and others may be provided at an additional cost.

3.16 Online GMS Education and Certification will be required for GMS admins in order access certain modules from time to time.

3.17 If the GMS Administrator and/or management/board change(s) in an MNA, there must be a thorough hand over of GMS tasks and education provided by the MNA so that the new stakeholders are fully informed on how to operate the GMS platform.

3.18

a) There will be no automatic MNA National membership upon WT Licence approval unless new rules explicitly agreed to by MNA

b) If the MNA requires the national membership as a prerequisite for obtaining the WT GAL subscription, then the burden is on the MNA to have a smoothly functioning national membership system in accordance with the below standards listed in Article 5.1. If the MNA cannot efficiently process applications, then they should not require the national membership prerequisite for obtaining a WT licence subscription



CONTINENTAL UNIONS

4.1 Continental Unions ("CU"): CUs shall implement these Bylaws, as amended from time to time.

4.2 CUs must use the GMS Platform for all Recognized Events

IMPLEMENTATION OF GMS POLICY

5.1 WT GMS Bylaws, as amended from time to time, shall be implemented by CU's, MNA's and any other entity subject to it, in accordance with the principles below:

- a) Fair and nondiscriminatory criteria. MNAs must implement the GMS policies without unreasonable restrictions on WT licenses and with the objective of registering as many individuals as possible. MNA licence implementation rules shall be published by the MNA.
- b) Upon completion of an application by an athlete for a WT GAL, MNA has fifteen (15) working days to approve or deny (for cause or for requirement matter) the application. This timeline rules must be published by each MNA as part of its MNA Licence implementation rules.
- c) Licence denial appeal process. MNAs must have a national-level process to challenge its denial of a WT license. For denial of a license, the MNA must show good cause and due process. Good cause and due process is presumed if the denial is taken place following a formal sanctioning process in line with WT's disciplinary process (see WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code).
- d) Complaints: Denial of a license can be appealed to the WT GMS Regional Administrator. If WT, at its sole discretion, decides to hear such a complaint, an adjudication procedure will be arraigned and described in an Adjudication Agreement to be signed by the complainant and the MNA. Under the "loser pays" principle, the loser of the adjudication must pay a fee of \$100 plus costs, if any. A deposit may be required, at WT's Discretion, before a case is heard. If the Complainant refuses to enter the agreement or submit the deposit amount, the complaint will be considered withdrawn. If the MNA refuses to enter the agreement or submit the deposit amount it will be treated as an admission that the complaint is valid.



- e) If a pattern of improper denials is noticed, the MNA must take corrective actions otherwise face escalating sanctions by WT.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEES

6.1 Organizing Committees of any events organized or recognized by the CU or WT and/or entity subject to the GMS Bylaws are required to do the following:

- a) Ensure that all participants hold a valid WT Licence by the start of the event; and
- b) For WT Promoted and Recognized events, provide official results and participation list to the event's WT Technical Delegates within one (1) day of the completion of the event in an appropriate WT formatted document.

6.2 All athletes and officials participating at a WT Promoted and Recognized event are required to have a WT Licence.

6.3 Onsite WT Licence Penalty Fee – Any individual renewing and/or registering their WT Licence onsite at any of the events may be charged an onsite penalty fee on top of the applicable WT Licence fee.

6.4 Country issuing the Licence. Any WT Licence issued to an athlete or official representing a national team or country must be issued by the MNA of the country that the athlete/official wishes to represent. Athletes participating as part of national teams must be citizens of the same nation. Citizenship should be demonstrated by valid passport, per the WT Competition Rules; if an athlete has no valid passport, then another valid proof of citizenship must be provided subject to approval by the WT on a case-by-case basis.

6.5 Athletes can represent a club of their own choice at events other than WT and CU promoted events or events where they participate as a member of an MNA national team.

6.6 If the club is located in a country other than the issuing WT Licence MNA, the GMS Administrator of that club may register the athlete for the aforementioned events.

6.7 Complaints. Any complaints regarding registration of WT Licences should be submitted to the WT GMS Administrator.

PRICING

7.1

- a) WT Global Licence: The cost for a WT Global Licence is 35 US dollars per year per member, plus the cost determined by the MNA's which shall not exceed 5 US dollars.
- b) Free MNAs: Some MNAs have the licence fee waived for all members based on their GDP ranking. Free MNAs cannot add a "Mark up".

OBTAINING A WT LICENCE

8.1 Applicants must upload the required personal information and documents including the colour ID Picture and Passport or National Identification. It is the responsibility of the MNA to verify that the information provided for each application is accurate and complete.

8.2 **Athletes** must hold either citizenship or residence of the WT Member National Association National they are applying through. Residence is proven by residency card or other official document (based on standard of residency of the country involved). An exception is possible if the MNA of citizenship and MNA applied to both agree.

8.3 Individuals may apply to more than one WT Licence. Athletes however may only have one WT Athlete Licence.

8.4 A WT Licence is required to participate in WT Promoted and/or Recognized events. An MNA shall not restrain any individual in possession of a valid WT License from registering/or participating in any WT Promoted and/or Recognized events. The MNA has full discretion to determine participation criteria for local events at the national level.

8.5 A WT Global Licence can be transferred/moved/renumbered from one MNA to another under certain conditions.

8.5.1 If athlete has represented the National Team in the preceding three (3) years at an event as classified in Article 4 – Explanation 1 of The WT Competition Rules and Interpretation, then the requirements of Competitions Rules Article 4 apply.

8.5.2 If the Athlete has not represented the National Team in the preceding three (3) years, the MNA may nevertheless object to the transfer of licence if the MNA believes it has good cause. The MNA admin must file this objection within ten (10) working days from the notification of the transfer. The MNA will then have an additional fifteen (15) working days to file its reasoning and evidence to support its objection.



8.5.3 In case the athlete wishes to change nationality and represent another country, the Article 4 – Explanation 1 of The WT Competition Rules and Interpretation will apply.

8.5.4 Payments for WT Licences are non-transferrable between MNAs.

8.5.5 A licence once transferred, cannot be transferred to another organization for a period of 1 year after the transfer.

8.6 The GMS Team is authorized to add and register, change, or process data of new and existing WT Licence holders without prior approval of the MNA.

REVOCATION / SUSPENSION OF A WT LICENCE

9.1 Any MNA and/or CU may request to revoke a WT Licence. In that case, the WT Disciplinary Code is applicable, and its rules and regulations must be followed.

DATA PRIVACY

10.1 Data Privacy. Each MNA and CU is required to ensure and warrant compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations governing the protection of each member's personal and/or sensitive information handled under the terms of these Bylaws.

10.2 The GMS Vendor, being the provider of the system of record, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to require that each MNA, CU, region, club, and member enter into a new, modified, or supplemented data processing agreement with the GMS Vendor in accordance with applicable laws.

PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT

11.1 MNAs and CU who fail to abide by the WT GMS Bylaws shall be issued a warning letter with a timeline to comply.

11.2 Failure to satisfy this timeline shall result in one or more of the following penalties as determined by the MRD Commission:

- a) Be unable to host any WT G Ranked Event or any WT recognized education course or meeting



- b) Be unable to qualify for the WT Development Fund
- c) Be suspended as a member of World Taekwondo with approval of the WT Council.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

12.1 Interpretation. MNAs that need assistance in understanding or implementing these bylaws should contact their GMS Team representative.

12.2 Severability. In the event that any provision of these Bylaws proves to be invalid or unenforceable under the laws of any relevant jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall not be affected. The Invalid Provision shall be replaced by such valid term or provision that adequately covers the intention of the Bylaws to the extent possible.

12.3 Amendments. These Bylaws shall be amended from time-to-time in accordance with Article 8.2 of the WT Statutes and based on recommendations from the MRD Commission.

Approved by: WT Council on 12th May 2024