



# STATUTES

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Effective as of December 15, 2023

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# World Taekwondo Statutes

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## Preamble

1. Taekwondo is a Korean martial art whose origins can be traced back thousands of years. Taekwondo seeks to train and strengthen its devotees, known as “*Taekwondoin*”, in body, mind and spirit, and it has also evolved into a sport. Today, Taekwondo is the world’s most practiced martial art.
2. The World Taekwondo Federation (“World Taekwondo” or “WT”) was founded in 1973 to promote the development and practice of Taekwondo. Under the leadership of the WT, Taekwondo was admitted to the Olympic Games as a demonstration sport during the 1988 Seoul Games and the 1992 Barcelona Games. Taekwondo became an official sport for the Olympic Games beginning with the 2000 Sydney Games. Para Taekwondo became an official sport for the Paralympic Games beginning with the 2020 Tokyo Games.
3. WT is a member of the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) and the International Paralympic Committee (“IPC”) and has over 200 Member National Associations making it one of the most diverse international sport federations. It is also one of only two Asian sports represented in the Olympic Games.
4. WT’s vision is to achieve “One World One Sport Taekwondo” under the spirit of “Peace is more Precious than Triumph”.
5. WT’s mission is to develop and grow Taekwondo throughout the world in a sustainable way, from a grass roots level all the way through to an elite level, to provide all with the opportunity to play, watch and enjoy the sport regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity or ability. WT is also committed to advancing universal principles of peace and sustainability, and to inspire the underprivileged through education and partnerships. WT aspires to fulfill its vision and missions through the values of excellence, integrity, respect, tolerance, inclusiveness and leadership.

## **PART I: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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### **Article 1 Name, Legal Status, Recognition and Offices**

- 1.1 Name and Legal Status: The body called World Taekwondo Federation (hereinafter referred to as “World Taekwondo” or “WT”) is organized as an international non-governmental not-for-profit association chartered in Korea. WT is governed by these Statutes and the rules promulgated hereunder. WT shall possess legal personality and have the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose of immovable property, and to institute and defend in legal proceedings.
- 1.2 Recognition: WT is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) and the International Paralympic Committee (“IPC”) as the sole governing authority of Taekwondo at the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.
- 1.3 Offices: WT’s headquarters is in Seoul, Republic of Korea, and it maintains a liaison office in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **Article 2 Objective, Principles, Autonomy, Practices, Cooperation**

- 2.1 Objective: The objective of WT is to provide effective governance and administration of the sport of Taekwondo worldwide in accordance with the values and traditions of the martial art as well as the general and fundamental principles of good governance of the Olympic and Paralympic movements. WT seeks to reach this objective by actions that include but are not limited to the following:
  - 2.1.1 govern Taekwondo as an Olympic, Paralympic and virtual sport;
  - 2.1.2 recognize as members one governing body in each nation or self-governing territory and establish and control the rules, policies and practices governing membership in order to protect the integrity of Taekwondo and grow and develop the practice of Taekwondo as an Olympic and Paralympic sport in all continents, nations and territories;
  - 2.1.3 strengthen the bonds between members, develop the capacities of members, and resolve disputes between member;
  - 2.1.4 draw up technical rules regulating WT-promoted and recognized competitions including the Taekwondo event of the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and other multi-sport events;
  - 2.1.5 organize, conduct and establish Taekwondo events, tournaments and championships to world class standards and to ensure other international events held by members and other recognized stakeholders meet the appropriate international standards;
  - 2.1.6 promote, expand, and improve worldwide the practice of the sport of Taekwondo in light of its educational, cultural, humanitarian and sports values (the “Taekwondo Movement”);

- 2.1.7 support and encourage the development of Taekwondo as a Sport for All;
  - 2.1.8 encourage peace and cooperation through participation in sport;
  - 2.1.9 engage in appropriate commercial activities that give direct benefits to the sport and ensure the sustainable development of WT;
  - 2.1.10 operate development and recognition programs, such as Taekwondo Cares, the World Taekwondo Gala Awards and the World Taekwondo Hall of Fame;
  - 2.1.11 strengthen and uphold WT's Objectives and Principles by taking such measures as may be necessary for advancing the interest of Taekwondo worldwide from the international level through our member organizations down to the grassroots level through *Dojangs*(clubs).
- 2.2 Principles: The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter and the IOC Code of Ethics are applicable, and no provision of these Statutes shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles. WT and its Member National Associations (“MNAs”) and Continental Unions (“CUs”), hereinafter inclusively referred to as “Members”, through their membership, are committed to the following principles:
- 2.2.1 Sport for All: Taekwondo is a sport for people of all ages and all abilities, as well as, a sport for all levels from recreational to competitive and elite.
  - 2.2.2 Fair Play: WT and its Members shall take reasonable care to ensure competitions and those participating in the events (athletes, officials and administrators) respect “fair play” and engage in the highest degree of sportsmanship and integrity.
  - 2.2.3 Harassment Free Sport: Participants in Taekwondo at any level have a right to compete, work and operate in a harassment-free environment. WT shall take reasonable care to ensure there are no forms of harassment whether that be physical, psychological or other forms of harassment. See WT's Safeguarding Policy for more information.
  - 2.2.4 Gender Equality: Taekwondo strives for equal representation of men and women. WT supports the active participation of women in Taekwondo at all levels and promotes their representation in WT, competitions and programs throughout the world. WT shall seek to achieve equal gender representation within its Council, Commissions and Committees by the year 2029.
  - 2.2.5 Sustainable Development: WT shall take a responsible approach to safeguarding the environment and managing resources in a sustainable way through its practices in hosting events and managing its operations.
  - 2.2.6 Non-Discrimination and Ethics: WT shall not allow any inappropriate

form of discrimination to affect its decisions or actions, be it discrimination based on race, color, creed, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical attributes, language, religion, disability, national, political, socio-economic status, or athletic ability, birth or other status. Anyone who deals with WT and/or share in its activities in any capacity commit themselves by their actions to behave in a non-discriminatory and ethical manner. See WT's Safeguarding Policy for more information.

2.2.7 Athlete-centered Approach: Recognizing athletes as the heart of our sport, WT is committed to an athlete-centered approach that prioritizes the well-being, development, and empowerment of athletes at every level, and ensuring their voices are heard and respected. See WT's Athlete Declaration.

### 2.3 Autonomy:

2.3.1 As required by Article 25 of the Olympic Charter, WT maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of the sport of Taekwondo. In accordance with this, MNAs and CUs must manage their internal affairs with total independence from undue influence, such as political, religious or financial pressure, which may infringe their commitment to conform to the WT Statutes and ensure that no third party interferes in their operations.

2.3.2 Any external form of interference, undue influence or attempt shall be reported to WT.

2.3.3 A Member's governing documents must make provision for an election or internal appointment system that ensures compliance with this section by the Member.

2.3.4 WT may take appropriate action against any Members not in compliance with this Section.

2.4 Best Practices: WT seeks to integrate these Principles along with best practices and models of the IOC, the IPC, other International Federations (IFs) of the Olympic and Paralympic Movement, and other organizations with regard to the governance and administration of the sport of Taekwondo ("Best Practices"). These include the following:

- Policy and sanctions against self-dealing by WT Officials and Management
- Transparency of accounting and accurate bookkeeping
- Social Responsibility policies

2.4.1 WT integrates best practices in its governing documents and other documents such as: Anti-Corruption Policy, Anti-Doping Rules, Anti-Discrimination Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code, Election Bylaws, Finance Rules, Integrity Code, Medical Code and Safety Rules, Code on the Prevention of the

Manipulation of Competitions, Safeguarding Policy, and Sustainability Policy, which shall be published on the WT Website. All Members shall abide by WT's Best Practices.

- 2.5 Cooperative Organizations: WT may undertake its objectives in cooperation with independent affiliated organizations including the following:
- Kukkiwon (for standardized martial arts Taekwondo education and Poom/Dan certification);
  - Taekwondo Promotion Foundation (for operating WT's Central Training Center and manage Taekwondowon in Muju, Korea);
  - Taekwondo Peace Corps (for dispatching young Taekwondo instructors to the less privileged countries);
  - Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation (for utilizing Taekwondo as a tool to empower young refugees and displaced persons);
  - WT-Wuxi Center (for studies on Taekwondo education and organizing the Grand Slam Champions Series);
  - Asia Development Foundation (for supporting Taekwondo Cares Program).

### **Article 3 Official and Operating Languages**

- 3.1 Official Languages: The official languages of WT are English, French, Korean, and Spanish.

3.1.1 Statutes and Competition Rules: WT's Statutes, and the Competition Rules and Interpretation and/or any amendments thereto shall be published in the official languages. Korean technical terms may be used for competition as prescribed by the Competition Rules and Interpretation. In the case of a conflict among the different versions, the English language version shall prevail.

- 3.2 Operating Language: The operating language of WT, including its Secretariat, the Council, the General Assembly, and Commission and Committees, is English.

3.2.1 Governing Documents: Unless otherwise provided herein, rules, regulations, and official guidelines, shall be published in English.

3.2.2 Proceedings: English is the language of WT minutes, proceeding, correspondence, seminars, trainings, and announcements.

3.2.2.1 Members are responsible for translation of the aforesaid into the language of their country. Any Member shall have the right to speak or write in their language, but the contents must be translated by the Member and provided in English.

## **PART II: ORGANIZATION**

### **Article 4 Structure**



4.1 The structure and administration of WT shall ensure: (i) participation (ii) transparency and (iii) compliance.

4.2 WT shall be governed by its:

- General Assembly (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the GA”. See Article 5).
- Council (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the Council”. See Article 6);
- Management (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the Management”. See Article 7)

4.2.1 Management shall be comprised of the following:

- President (Refer to Article 7.2)
- Secretary General (Refer to Article 7.3)
- Secretariat (Refer to Article 7.4)

4.3 Commissions and Committees:

4.3.1 WT shall constitute Commissions and Committees to advise, support and help administer in accordance with the above. See Addendum I for the list of Permanent Commissions and Committees.

4.3.1.1 Terms of Reference: Terms of Reference (TOR) for each Commission and Committee shall be provided separately and published on the WT website. The Council or the President may entrust each committee with execution of the matters under its jurisdiction and/or responsibility. The Management shall assign a liaison to each Commission and Committee.

4.3.1.2 Meetings and Reporting: Commissions and Committees shall meet at least once per quarter and shall submit a progress report to the Management following each meeting; and the Commissions shall submit an annual report to be submitted to the GA. These reports are to be published unless determined to be of a confidential nature by the Commission or Committee. Meeting can be conducted either electronically or in person. The Commission and Committee Chairs may attend Council meetings and deliver reports to the Council and GA.

4.3.1.3 Composition and Term: Selection of Committee members shall be based on published qualifications in line with the mandates of each Committee. Unless otherwise indicated in these Statutes each Committee shall consist of one Chair, one Vice Chair, and up to five (5) members. Committees members shall be selected for a two (2) year term. For the purpose of this rule a “year” is the period between two successive Ordinary General Assemblies.

4.3.2 Ad-Hoc Committees: The President may from time to time form special purpose ad-hoc committees. The Terms of Reference and resulting reports from the ad-hoc committees shall be presented to the Council.

4.3.3 The policies and procedures for remunerating the Commission and Committee members for their official duties are listed in the Finance Rules.

## **Article 5      General Assembly**

5.1 The GA is the general meeting of the Council and the representatives of MNAs. It is WT's supreme decision-making organ and its decisions are final.

5.1.1 Ordinary General Assembly (the "OGA"): Ordinary annual meetings of the GA shall be held every year at the same location where the World Taekwondo Championships or the World Taekwondo Junior Championships is to be held.

5.1.1.1 Calling Notice: The GA Calling Notice shall be sent at least two (2) months before the date fixed for such meetings. The date, time, format, and place thereof and the business to be transacted shall be in the GA Calling Notice and published on the WT Website and sent to the Council, MNAs and CUs. Accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any GA.

5.1.1.2 Agenda and Documents: The draft Agenda and Documents of the GA shall be sent to the Council, MNAs and CUs by no later than one (1) month before the GA.

5.1.1.3 Matters that are not included in the final agenda of the GA shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters.

5.1.2 Extraordinary General Assembly (the "EGA"): EGA Meetings may be convened whenever is deemed necessary by the President; or within three (3) months following the request of more than one-third (1/3) of the Council members with clear reasons for the summons; or within three (3) months following the request of more than one-third (1/3) of Level I MNAs with clear reasons for the summons. The date, place, format and agenda of the EGA shall be designated by the President.

5.1.2.1 Calling Notice: The EGA Calling Notice shall be sent at least one (1) month before the date fixed for such meetings. The date, time, format, and place thereof and the business to be transacted shall be in the GA Calling Notice and published on the WT Website and sent to the Council, MNAs and CUs. Accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any GA.

5.1.2.2 Agenda and Documents: The draft Agenda and Documents of the GA shall be sent to the Council, MNAs and CUs by no later than two (2) weeks before the GA.

5.1.2.3 Matters that are not included in the final agenda of the GA shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters.

- 5.2 Quorum: A quorum required for the GA shall consist of no less than one-third (1/3) of eligible voters (voting Council Members and Level I MNAs) present in the meeting.
- 5.3 Voting at the GA: Unless otherwise provided herein, eligible Council members and Level I MNAs are entitled to vote. Resolutions and other decisions are passed by a simple majority of eligible voters present in the meeting. Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. The Chair shall not vote except in the case of a tie. Decision come into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the GA.
- 5.3.1 Except for election, which shall be by secret ballot, voting for items at the GA shall be conducted by open ballot in general. However, if one or more representatives request for a secret ballot, the GA shall vote on this matter, and a simple majority shall decide.
- 5.4 Chair: The President shall act as Chair at the GA except for Elections, which are chaired by the Chair of the ad-hoc Election Committee. The Chair is responsible for presiding over the GA and has the authority to take reasonably necessary measures to stop any disruptive conduct obstructing the efficient administration of the GA to ensure the rights of all members are respected.

If the President is unable to attend, the First Vice President shall preside over the GA. If the First Vice President is also unable to attend, then the Chair will be the most Senior Vice President. Seniority shall be determined by the time serving as a Council member.

- 5.5 The business of the GA shall be to:
- 5.5.1 approve the minutes of the previous GA;
- 5.5.2 receive the report of the Council;
- 5.5.3 approve the annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report;
- 5.5.4 approve the budget prepared by the Management under supervision of the Finance Committee;
- 5.5.5 approve the operation report and operation plans of the Management as approved by the Council;
- 5.5.6 approve proposals for amendments to the Statutes, Competition Rules and Interpretation (*Kyorugi*, *Poomsae*, Para Taekwondo, and Deaf-Taekwondo), and Para Taekwondo Athlete Classification Rules as approved by the Council;
- 5.5.7 elect WT Officials as described herein;

5.5.8 ratify expulsions of Members as decided by the Council;

5.5.9 discuss other matters of importance.

5.6 Except for items listed above, the GA may refer matters under its jurisdiction and/or responsibility to the Management or the Council.

5.7 MNA Representation:

5.7.1 Representation:

5.7.1.1 Each Level I MNA shall be entitled to appoint not more than two (2) delegates (preferably 1 male and 1 female) to every GA. Only one of the representatives shall be allowed to speak and to cast a vote (the "Voting Representative."). If the President has eligibility to vote under another capacity (i.e., as a member of the WT Council), then he or she may assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another individual within the MNA; such assignment is to be by proxy letter presented to the Management.

5.7.1.2 Each Level II, Provisional and Associate MNA shall be entitled to appoint one (1) delegate to every GA and to speak, but shall not have voting rights.

5.7.2 It is expected that the MNA Representative will be the President of the MNA. If a Level I MNA President is unable to attend then he or she may assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another individual within the MNA; such assignment is to be by proxy letter presented to the Management.

5.7.3 Proxy Representatives must belong to the MNA that they represent and be appointed by the appropriate body of that MNA. In case of any dispute, the onus is on the Representative to prove the position in the MNA concerned to the satisfaction of the Management.

5.8 Elections of Officials: An electoral GA shall elect the following officials: (i) the President, (ii) the Elected Council Members, and (iii) an Auditor.

5.8.1 President: There shall be one (1) President elected by the GA. If the elected President of WT holds another position in a MNA and/or CU, that person must resign the other position(s) within one (1) month of being elected as President.

5.8.2 Elected Council Members: There shall be Seventeen (17) Council Members elected at the GA. The distribution of Elected Council Members by continent shall be four (4) per Asia, Europe and Pan America; three (3) from Africa and two (2) from Oceania.

5.8.2.1 Each continent shall have a minimum of one (1) female as an Elected Council Member. The female Council Member with the highest number of votes among the female Council Members shall be promoted to Vice President.

5.8.3 Auditor: One (1) Auditor shall be elected at the GA.

5.8.4 Age limit for Elected Officials: The age limit to be a candidate for elected Council Member is less than seventy (70) years old on the day of election, except for members incumbent prior to the 2021 elections, for whom the age limit for candidacy is eighty (80). An official who has reached the age limit is not eligible to run.

5.8.5 Term of office for Elected Officials: The term of office for Elected Officials is four (4) years. For the purpose of this rule, a year means the period between two successive OGAs. Terms begin/end at the end of the World Championships or World Junior Championships held on the occasion of the GA in which the elections take place.

5.8.6 Term limits of Elected Officials: For elected officials, the following term limits apply:

- a. Consecutive: Can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms in any role before a compulsory break of at least four (4) years.
- b. Cumulative: Can serve a maximum of three (3) terms in any one role.
- c. If elected President, the consecutive count resets at one (1).

5.8.7 Nominations: A candidate to become an Elected Official must be nominated by a MNA of which the candidate holds the nationality or residence, and must be an incumbent or former executive board member (or equivalent as determined by the ad-hoc Election Committee). A candidate for President must in addition have at least four (4) consecutive years' experience as an executive board member. Current elected officials are eligible for reelection to their current position without this MNA nomination.

5.8.7.1 Applications: Candidate applications, including a Candidate Application Form, Code of Conduct, and MNA-nomination letter, shall be circulated to MNAs and Council, and published on WT website by no later than five (5) months prior to the election date. Candidates must submit the completed applications to the Management by no later than ninety (90) days prior to the election date. The Secretariat will receive the applications and prepare a package to be reviewed by the ad-hoc Election Committee. Applications will not be accepted from the floor of the GA.

5.8.8 Election Committee: An ad-hoc Election Committee shall be established for the purpose of managing the election process at the GA and ensure its fairness. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall have five (5) or fewer members appointed by the President. The ad-hoc Election Committee

shall be established no later than six (6) months before the scheduled election date. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall approve the candidate application documents and shall ensure that elections are conducted in compliance with these Statutes and the Election Bylaws.

5.8.8.1 The ad-hoc Election Committee shall screen the applications and determine the list of qualified candidates. Issues regarding qualifications of a candidate shall be resolved by the ad-hoc Election Committee. The final list of the candidates as approved by the ad-hoc Election Committee shall be circulated to the Council and MNAs, and published on the WT Website, by no later than sixty (60) days before the GA.

5.8.8.2 Matters concerning Council elections not covered by these Statutes are determined by the Election Bylaws.

5.8.9 Challenge of Elections: In the event that the validity of an election is challenged, the President shall be notified thereof and shall submit the case to the Council. If the Council determines the challenge to be valid, it must report this event to the GA where a re-examination, re-election, re-vote, or any other action as deemed necessary by the Council shall occur. Only an eligible voter present at the GA may challenge the election.

5.9 E-voting: In the case of urgency, a resolution may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including telefax or electronic mail, by the President to the Council and/or the GA. Voting eligibility requirements and effect of decisions remain the same. For e-voting quorum purposes proof of receipt by at least one-third (1/3) of eligible voters shall constitute quorum. Ballots returned that are abstentions or invalid (blank or spoiled) votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. Unreturned ballots are not calculated in determining the quorum and the required majority. A simple majority of valid ballots decides. Results shall be announced on the WT Website and reported to the GA at its next meeting.

5.10 Minutes: Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the GA are established under the authority of the Secretary General. The minutes shall be distributed to each member no later than three (3) months after the GA.

## **Article 6 Council**

6.1 Council Members shall attend Council meetings and GA and observe their powers and responsibilities as prescribed herein.

6.1.1 Only those people who demonstrate a high degree of ethics and integrity and pledge to observe the provisions of WT's Integrity Code without reservations are eligible to serve as Officials. Anyone with a criminal record in his/her country of residence or subjected to a disciplinary measure by a WT Sanctions Committee is not eligible if the offence is

found by the Integrity Committee to be incompatible with their ability to fulfill their task. ~~[Note: from the Ethics Code Art. 7]~~

6.1.2 Any member of the Council who fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings without prior notice to the Management may be subject to removal as a Council Member.

6.1.3 If an elected official commits an action that undermines and/or disgraces WT, that official may be removed by the Council upon recommendation of the Integrity Committee.

6.1.4 The policies and procedures for remunerating the Council members for their official duties are listed in the Finance Rules.

6.2 The Council shall consist of the following Elected and/or Appointed Officials:

President	1	Elected
Vice President	8	5 ex-officio (Elected presidents of CUs) 2 appointed by the President 1 highest voted female among the elected Council Members
Secretary General	1	Appointed by the President
Treasurer	1	Appointed by the President
Member	22*	17 elected (4 per Asia, Europe, and Pan America; 3 from Africa; and 2 from Oceania) – minimum 1 female per continent <i>*Note: The highest voted female Council Member becoming Vice President is not counted</i>  6 appointed by the President
Co-chairs of Athletes Committee	2	Ex-officio: Elected by Athletes Committee
Ex-officio from Kukkiwon	1	Ex-officio: Nominated by Kukkiwon and approved by the Council
Auditor	1	Elected
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	

6.3 President: Refer to Article 7.2.

6.4 Vice Presidents:

6.4.1 The duties of the Vice Presidents shall be to assist the President and to fulfill missions delegated by the President.

6.4.2 Vice Presidents are composed of:

- Five (5) presidents of CUs
- Two (2) appointed by the President
- One (1) highest voted female among the elected Council Members

6.5 Secretary General: Refer to Article 7.3.

6.6 Treasurer: The Treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee. Refer to Addendum I.

6.7 Members: Members are composed of:

6.7.1 Elected Members: Refer to Article 5.8.2.

6.7.2 Appointed Officials:

- Appointments: Appointments shall be made taking into consideration an individual's expertise, qualifications and diversity to ensure fair and diverse representation within the Council.
- Term: The term of office for Appointed Officials shall be two (2) years or the end of the President's term, whichever comes first. For the purpose of this rule, a year means the period between two successive OGAs.
- Removal: The President, at his or her discretion, is empowered to remove Appointed Officials.

6.7.3 Co-chairs of Athletes Committee: One (1) male and one (1) female co-chair who are elected by the Athletes Committee, which in turn is elected by active athletes.

6.7.4 Ex-officio from Kukkiwon: Nominated by Kukkiwon and approved by the Council

6.8 Powers and Responsibilities: The Council shall have the power and responsibility to:

6.8.1 approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting;

6.8.2 approve the agenda of the GA;

6.8.3 approve the annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report to be presented to the GA;

6.8.4 approve the Budget prepared by the Management under supervision of the Finance Committee to be presented to the GA;

6.8.5 approve the Operation Report and Operation Plans of the Management to be presented to the GA;

6.8.6 approve proposals for amendments to the Statutes, Competition Rules and Interpretation, and Para Taekwondo Athlete Classification Rules to be presented to the GA;

6.8.7 approve proposals for enactment or amendments to governing documents not covered in Article 5.5.6;

6.8.8 select host cities of WT-promoted championships;



- 6.8.9 ratify expulsions proposed by the Management;
  - 6.8.10 discuss and/or decide on matters referred to the Council by the President;
  - 6.8.11 decide on the delegation of matters under its jurisdiction to the President.
- 6.9 Duties: Council members-participate in the Council as participate in the Council as representatives of WT and not as delegates of their MNA, organization, region or territory. Council members are required to abide by WT rules, act in good faith and with due care, and avoid conflicts of interests. Council members are required to know, understand, and abide by WT's Integrity Code and Conflicts of Interest Policy.
- 6.10 Meetings: Ordinary Council meetings shall be called by the President before an OGA. Extraordinary Council meetings shall be called by the President before an EGA, or whenever the President deems necessary.
- 6.10.1 Quorum: A simple majority of the Council Members is sufficient to constitute quorum.
  - 6.10.2 Chair: The President shall act as Chair at the Council. The Chair is responsible for presiding over the Council meeting and has the authority to take reasonably necessary measures to stop any disruptive conduct obstructing the efficient administration of the Council meeting to ensure the rights of all members are respected. If the President is unable to attend, the First Vice President shall preside over the Council meeting. If the First Vice President is also unable to attend, then the Chair will be the most Senior Vice President. Seniority shall be determined by the time serving as a Council member.
- 6.11 Decision-making and Effect: Any decision of the Council comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the Council. Matters that are not included in the written agenda of the meeting shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters present.
- 6.12 Voting: Unless otherwise provided herein, Council Members excluding the Auditor are entitled to vote. Resolutions and other decisions are passed by a simple majority of eligible voters present in the meeting.
- 6.12.1 Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. The Chair shall not vote except in the case of a tie.
  - 6.12.2 Guidelines on special situations, such as host city selections, shall be provided separately.
  - 6.12.3 Any decision of the Council comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the Council.

- 6.13 E-Voting: In the case of urgency, a resolution may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including telefax or electronic mail, by the President to the Council. Voting eligibility requirements and effect of decisions remain the same. For e-voting quorum purposes proof of receipt by a simple majority of eligible voters shall constitute quorum.
- 6.13.1 Ballots returned that are abstentions or invalid (blank or spoiled) votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. Unreturned ballots are not calculated in determining the quorum and the required majority. A simple majority of valid ballots decides. Results shall be announced on the WT Website and reported to the Council and GA at the next meetings.
- 6.14 Minutes: Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the Council meeting are established under the authority of the Secretary General. The minutes shall be distributed to each member no later than two (2) months after the Council meeting.
- 6.15 Replacement: If a Council Member resigns, is removed, or is otherwise unable to continue as an Official the post shall not necessarily be filled by another individual of the same nationality. If an elected Council Member is to be replaced, unless otherwise provided for, the replacement shall be nominated among individuals from the same continent as the predecessor by the President and approved by the Council. The term of office of a replacement Official will be the remaining period of his or her predecessor.
- 6.16 Honorary Vice Presidents: The President may appoint Honorary Vice Presidents who have served as Vice Presidents of WT, or based on their exceptional contribution to WT. The term, unless otherwise agreed, shall be two (2) years or the end of the President's term, whichever comes first. They shall be invited to attend Ordinary Council meetings and the GA. They shall not have voting rights.
- 6.17 Council Terms of Reference: For more information see the WT Council Terms of Reference (TOR).

## **Article 7        Management**

- 7.1 The Management shall be comprised of the following Officials who are tasked with conducting the day-to-day operations of WT:
- President
  - Secretary General
  - Office of the Secretariat.
- 7.2 President:
- 7.2.1 The duties of the President include the following:
- 7.2.1.1 Lead and represent WT;
- 7.2.1.2 Concurrently lead the GA and the Council as Chair and preside over

the meetings and other activities;

7.2.1.3 Designate official duties to Council Members on an ad-hoc basis for the betterment of the development of the sport of Taekwondo and the WT operations;

7.2.1.4 Appoint chairs and members of Commissions and Committees, and establish and appoint chairs and members of the ad-hoc committees unless otherwise provided by these Statutes or the relevant rules;

7.2.1.5 Emergency measures: In the case disputes occur over matters not specified in these Statutes, or matters that require urgent solution during the period between the two GA, the President may take emergency measures subject to later submission to and approval at the next Council Meeting and GA as required;

7.2.1.6 Advisors: The President may appoint advisors or special assistants to seek advice on matters of importance on matters pertaining to the overall development of the WT or special matters.

7.2.2 Succession: If the President resigns or is incapacitated and thus unable to fulfill the duties of his office, the First Vice President shall serve as Acting President.

7.2.2.1 The First Vice President shall be designated by the President. In the event the President has not designated a First Vice President at the time of the incapacity, the First Vice President shall be deemed to be the current Vice President with the longest consecutive term in office as a member of the Council. If there is a tie among current Vice Presidents for the longest consecutive term in office as Vice President, the First Vice President shall be deemed to be the oldest person among the tied Vice Presidents.

7.2.2.2 The Acting President shall not have the power of appointment. If there is less than 12 months remaining in the term of his predecessor, the Acting President will serve out the remainder of the term. If there is more than 12 months remaining in the term of his predecessor, the Acting President must call for an interim presidential election to be held in accordance with Section 5 above at the next scheduled GA. The winner of this interim election shall serve out the remainder of the term of the incapacitated President.

### 7.3 Secretary General:

7.3.1 The duties of the Secretary General include the following:

7.3.1.1 Plan, perform and manage the Secretariat affairs regarding WT organization and other general affairs related to the Secretariat;

7.3.1.2 Submit the Operations Report, Financial Report, and Operations Plan with Financial Budget to the Council and GA;

7.3.1.3 Together with or with the approval of the President, as the case may be, negotiate and sign all contracts between WT and other organizations and companies.

#### 7.4 Secretariat:

7.4.1 WT shall have an Office of the Secretariat ("Secretariat") at the location of the Headquarters for the execution of the Secretariat affairs and duties of the President and Secretary General.

7.4.2 The Secretariat shall have the power to manage all areas affecting operations of WT. These areas include but are not limited to: i) member relations and development, ii) sport and event management, iii) strategic planning, iv) administration, v) legal, vi) finance, and vii) marketing and communications. In order to fulfill its duties, each department within the Secretariat shall work with its related Committees and/or Commissions to handle research, development and implementation of strategies and programs related to each area.

7.4.3 Accounts and Finances: The Secretariat shall manage WT accounts and finances while ensuring that the annual financial statements ("Financial Statements") are prepared and audited as soon as possible upon the close of the financial year established by WT, but no later than four (4) months after the close of the year unless specifically approved by the Council. Audit of Financial Statements shall be conducted by an independent, certified, professional accounting firm ("Independent Auditor"). The report of the Independent Auditor will be submitted to the Finance Committee for review. Upon approval by the Finance Committee, the report will be submitted to the Council and GA.

7.4.4 Personnel working at the Secretariat shall be appointed and dismissed by the President at the recommendation of the Secretary General. The President may also entrust the Secretary General with the power to appoint and dismiss personnel. The President may appoint a Director General to manage daily operations of the office. WT is an equal opportunity organization and does not discriminate against or segregate any person or group of persons on account of race, color, religion, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, physical handicap or medical condition.

7.4.5 For more information see the Company Regulations of World Taekwondo

### **PART III: MEMBERSHIP**

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## **Article 8 Member National Associations**

- 8.1 Definition of MNA: The sole governing body of Taekwondo for each nation or self-governing territory duly recognized by WT.
- 8.1.1 In case more than one organization claims to represent a nation or self-governing territory, the dispute shall be resolved by WT. MNAs shall be neither affiliated to any other international Taekwondo organization not recognized or in conflict by WT.
  - 8.1.2 MNAs shall not participate in any Taekwondo events organized by such an organization.
  - 8.1.3 An executive board member of a MNA shall not hold another executive board member position concurrently in another MNA or affiliation in conflict with WT without approval of WT.
- 8.2 Levels of Membership: WT shall have as MNA members Full Members (Level I and Level II), Associate Members, and Provisional Members.
- 8.2.1 Full Membership: MNAs in countries or territories that have a National Olympic Committee (“NOC”) recognized by the IOC. Full members are further classified according to the following:
    - 8.2.1.1 Level I Membership: MNAs that have fulfilled the Participation Requirement as prescribed in these Statutes. Level I MNAs shall have voting rights at the GA and shall have the right to participate in all official WT events.
    - 8.2.1.2 Level II Membership: MNAs that have not fulfilled the Participation Requirement as prescribed in these Statutes. Level II MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but shall have the right to participate in all official WT events. Level II MNAs shall have their Level I membership status restored by the Council when they fulfill the Participation Requirement.
  - 8.2.2 Associate Membership: MNAs in countries or territories that do not have a NOC recognized by the IOC. Associate MNAs are required to pay annual membership fees under the Tier 3 category. Associate MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but shall have the right to participate in all official WT events.
  - 8.2.3 Provisional Membership: MNAs that have fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in these Statutes, and which have received confirmation from the Council, shall have Provisional Memberships. Provisional MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but they shall have the right to participate in all official WT events. Provisional MNAs are not required to pay annual membership fees. Provisional MNAs will become Level I MNAs or Associate MNAs after their applications have

been approved by the GA upon recommendation of the Council.

8.3 Becoming a MNA: National Taekwondo associations applying for WT membership are required to present duly completed application documents and proof of payment of the USD 500 application fee to the WT Secretary General. Admittance into WT shall be subject to approval of the Council and GA.

8.4 Membership requirements:

8.4.1 Conformity to WT Statutes and related rules: All Members shall constitute and maintain their respective constitutional documents in strict conformity with the principles of WT so as not to contravene any of its rules and regulations. Each Member's constitutional document shall include the following statement:

“As a member of World Taekwondo, [MEMBER NAME] agrees to observe the Statutes, bylaws, codes, and rules of World Taekwondo. In case of a conflict or dissonance between the [MEMBER NAME] rules and the WT rules, the latter shall prevail.”

8.4.2 Contact information and reporting: MNAs are expected to:

8.4.2.1 Confirm that their contact information on the WT Website is correct and immediately notify the WT of any changes;

8.4.2.2 Upon elections, send an official letter to the pertinent CU on the election results together with the list of the new executive board members within ten (10) working days;

8.4.2.3 Complete the annual MNA Survey;

8.4.2.4 Submit a report of activities to the WT upon WT's request;

8.4.2.5 Submit a report on the use of funds or value-in-kind provided by WT.

8.4.3 Participation in events: MNAs shall send competitors to WT-promoted Championships and a delegate to the GA.

8.4.3.1 To maintain Level I membership, MNAs are required to dispatch a total of at least two (2) competitors to any of the following WT-promoted Championships: World Taekwondo Championships, World Taekwondo Junior Championships, World Taekwondo Cadet Championships, World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships, or World Para Taekwondo Championships, during the two years prior to the GA.

8.4.3.2 For the purpose of this rule, a year is calculated between two OGAs.

8.4.3.3 MNAs who fail to participate in WT-promoted Championships and the

GA as provided above without justifiable reasons, such as but not limited to natural calamities, shall be demoted to Level II.

8.4.3.4 Annual Membership Fees: Each MNA is required to pay a membership fee by the end of February every year. MNAs that fail to pay membership fees may be subject to disciplinary actions.

8.4.3.4.1 As the default rule, unless otherwise provided herein, all MNAs are to be categorized under Tier 1. The WT Management may designate specific MNAs as Tier 2 or Tier 3, as necessary. The fee applicable to each Tier shall be determined by WT Management upon recommendation of the Member Relations & Development (“MRD”) Commission. The fees are as follows:

- Tier 1: US\$700;
- Tier 2: US\$300;
- Tier 3: Exempt.

8.4.3.4.2 Global Membership System (“GMS”): MNAs shall implement and be part of the GMS in accordance with the GMS Bylaws.

8.4.4 Para Taekwondo: MNAs shall incorporate Para Taekwondo under the umbrella of their organization in order to provide para athletes with a pathway to international competition and the Paralympic Games.

## 8.5 MNA rights:

8.5.1 Participation in WT-promoted events: Unless otherwise prescribed in these Statutes, all MNAs have the right to participate in WT-promoted events.

8.5.2 Participation in Olympic Games and Paralympic Games: Unless otherwise prescribed in these Statutes, eligible MNAs have the right to participate in qualification tournaments, in accordance with the Standing Procedure for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

8.5.3 Host WT events: Unless otherwise prescribed in these Statutes, all MNAs have equal right to host WT events, including competitions and education courses, with approval of WT.

8.5.4 Access to WT Development Programs: MNAs may apply for WT Development Programs, which include but are not limited to equipment support, participation support, and scholarship.

8.6 Suspension of membership: A MNA may be subject to suspension of its WT membership upon decision by the Council upon recommendation of the MRD Commission for any of the following reasons: i) acting in gross violation or repeated violations of these Statutes, the Competition Rules, or other WT rules or regulations; ii) pursuant to a recommendation of the MRD Commission for poor governance or failure to properly represent WT’s mission and objectives including but not limited

to an unjustifiable lack of representation; or iii) failure to communicate with the WT and to participate in WT activities and events for a period of more than two (2) years.

8.6.1 A MNA may be suspended on a preliminary basis if a reasonable suspicion of any of the above is created.

8.6.2 Suspended MNA shall no longer be able to attend official meetings, such as at the GA, nor will they be able to participate in official events of WT, nor will they be eligible to apply for WT Development Programs. Suspended MNA may be fined or sanctioned if they fail to remedy or adequately explain the reason for their failure.

8.6.3 For a Suspended MNA, WT may at its discretion, and in coordination with the pertinent CU and NOC if appropriate, designate an interim body in order to ensure that athletes and officials of the Suspended MNA are able to participate in WT-promoted and recognized events.

8.6.4 Suspended MNA are required to pay annual membership fees for the period of their suspension. This requirement can be waived by WT at its sole discretion.

8.6.5 Suspension can be removed by decision of the Council on recommendation of the MRD Commission.

8.7 Revocation of membership: A Suspended MNA who fails to remedy the cause of the suspension following due notice and a reasonable period specified by the WT may have its membership revoked by a vote of the Council on the recommendation of the MRD Commission.

8.8 Withdrawal of membership: Any MNA may withdraw its membership provided that it has fulfilled its financial and other outstanding obligations to WT. To be effective notice of withdrawal must be provided within four (4) months of the end of a calendar year.

## **Article 9 Continental Unions**

9.1 Continental Unions: WT MNAs may form a CU with prior approval of the WT as prescribed in Article 9.2. CUs shall conduct only the operations approved or entrusted to them by WT.

9.2 Boundaries and Membership: The jurisdiction and regional boundaries of a CU shall be fixed by the WT Council.

9.2.1 Within the designated regional boundary, the CU can establish smaller geographic areas that shall be deemed the CU territories (the "CU Territory"). Each CU Territory shall fairly represent each of the areas where the CU conducts operations. The CU Territories shall take into consideration distance between the countries, geographical challenges and diversity of the populations. The CU Territories are established by



the CU with the approval of WT.

9.2.2 WT MNAs not part of the same continent/geographic area can join a CU with approval of WT.

9.2.3 Only WT MNAs may affiliate to a CU. CUs shall not suspend MNAs without prior approval of WT.

9.3 Recognition: Recognition by WT shall be granted to and withdrawn from each CU per decision of the WT Council in the interest of the sport of Taekwondo and the interests of WT.

9.3.1 In case of i) serious breach of the WT Statutes or Competition Rules and Interpretation or a serious failure of governance, as determined by the WT Council upon the recommendation of the MRD Commission, and ii) risk of disruption of WT activities if standard suspension and removal procedures are followed, then: WT shall have the right to appoint an emergency replacement of CU leadership.

#### 9.4 CU Requirements

9.4.1 Statutes: CU statutes shall be formulated in strict compliance with the WT Statutes and in accordance with the CU Model Statutes provided by WT.

9.4.1.1 These CU statutes may be modified to accommodate local requirements upon approval of WT. To the extent there is a conflict between the CU statutes and the WT Statutes, the latter shall prevail. The final determination on such matters shall be made by the WT Juridical Committee.

9.4.2 CU Officials:

9.4.2.1 CU Presidential elections shall be held in the same location but one (1) day before the WT Presidential election.

9.4.2.2 A minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the CU Council Members shall be elected by the CU General Assembly.

9.4.2.3 WT Council Members shall be Ex-Officio Members of the CU Council for the region in which the WT Council Member resides and shall have voting rights and otherwise have the same rights and responsibilities as other CU Council Members.

9.4.3 CU Championships: CU Taekwondo Championships shall be held every two (2) years under supervision of the WT, and shall be organized by a host selected at the General Assembly of the CU. The CU Taekwondo Championships shall not be held in the same year as the World Taekwondo Championships, unless otherwise approved by WT.

9.4.4 CUs shall establish Para Taekwondo as part of the CU operations, including the organization of CU Para Taekwondo Championships.

9.4.5 Calendar: The dates and locations of CU Championships and other events shall be subject to the approval of WT. A calendar of events shall be submitted to WT. Unless otherwise approved by WT, and only in case of compelling reason, the events shall be held in accordance with the guidelines established by WT. Competition results shall be submitted to WT as soon as competition finishes. The event report shall be submitted to the WT within one (1) week of the completion of the event, along with all related documents and media material.

9.5 Reporting and records: CUs shall:

9.5.1 Keep and publish minutes of all official CU meetings;

9.5.2 Submit the annual Operations Report, Financial Report, and Operations Plan with Financial Budget;

9.5.3 Submit an annual report on the use of the WT-CU Development Funds provided by WT. WT shall have a right to call for an inspection of CU accounting books or designate an independent certified public accountant to audit the use of the funds;

9.5.4 Submit a report of activities to the WT upon WT's request;

9.5.5 Publish all the regulations, annual reports, meeting agendas, minutes, meeting calendar, organizational charts, biographical information of CU Council members and all other pertinent information on their websites;

9.5.6 Monitor Presidential election of the MNAs in its continent to ensure the election is held in compliance with the constitution of the pertinent MNA, and report to the WT on the election results within ten (10) working days;

9.5.7 Align with WT Principles and guidelines, including but not limited to the following:

9.5.7.1 Compliance with the WT Statutes, rules and regulations;

9.5.7.2 Policy and sanctions against self-dealing by CU Officers and Officials;

9.5.7.3 Transparency of accounting and accurate bookkeeping;

9.5.7.4 Accurate reporting to the WT on the use of the allocated resources for development objectives;

9.5.7.5 Social Responsibility policies;

9.5.7.6 Allocation of resources to Para Taekwondo activities;

9.5.7.7 Establishment of committees to safeguard areas such as integrity, ethics and judicial;

9.5.7.8 Implementation of a dispute settlement system to handle matters not under the purview of the WT.

9.6 CU rights:

9.6.1 Entrusted by WT to organize Continental Qualification Tournaments for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games;

9.6.2 Organize CU-promoted events;

9.6.3 Apply for WT-CU Development Funds.

**Article 10 Authority**

10.1 Members or Individuals dealing with the WT or sharing in its activities shall recognize, accept and abide by the following:

10.1.1 Statutes;

10.1.2 WT's authority on all matters concerning the practice of Taekwondo under its jurisdiction;

10.1.3 the mandatory nature of the Statutes;

10.1.4 WT's jurisdiction and the right to make any decision or impose any sanction based on the Statutes of WT;

10.1.5 WT appeals, complaints and dispute resolution processes must be fully exhausted before taking any case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport ("CAS");

10.1.6 any appeal against decisions of the WT and its judicial bodies must be lodged in accordance with WT disciplinary actions and appeals procedures;

10.1.7 CAS as the only competent judicial authority external to the WT, to the exclusion of any ordinary court of law in respect of the WT and its governing documents, any civil judicial authority of any country and any other arbitration body;

10.1.8 final and without appeal status of the decisions made by the CAS;

10.1.9 requirement to abide by the decisions of WT and/or CAS without

attempting to hinder their application.

10.2 Members or Individuals under this section include those who:

- 10.2.1 participate as athlete in an event under the authority of WT;
- 10.2.2 acts as an official (trainer, coach, team manager, delegate, representative, doctor, etc.) of a team, a Member or its affiliates;
- 10.2.3 officiates as an international technical official or in a similar role;
- 10.2.4 organizes or helps to organize (staff, volunteer), a competition which is placed under the WT's authority; and assumes any role within the Federation
- 10.2.5 are holders of a GMS license

10.3 A Member shall have the authority over any person acting under its auspices and shall take the responsibility for any penalties that such a person may be given.

10.4 Any repercussions of a Member not being in Good Standing shall extend to all such persons acting under the auspices of that Member.

## **PART IV: EVENTS**

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### **Article 11 Promoted Events**

11.1 The following are WT-promoted events held under the auspices of the WT and organized by a host selected by the WT.

- World Taekwondo Championships;
- World Taekwondo Junior Championships;
- World Taekwondo World Cup Team Championships;
- World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships;
- World Taekwondo Para Taekwondo Championships;
- World Taekwondo Grand Slam Champions Series;
- World Taekwondo Open Qualification Tournament for Grand Slam Champions Series;
- World Taekwondo Qualification Tournament for Youth Olympic Games;
- World Taekwondo Cadet Championships;
- World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series & Final;
- World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge;
- World Taekwondo Deaf-Taekwondo Championships;
- World Taekwondo Beach Championships;
- World Taekwondo Urban Championships;
- World Taekwondo Poomsae Open Challenge;
- World Taekwondo Club Championships;
- World Taekwondo Demonstration Team Championships;
- World Taekwondo Festival;

- World Taekwondo esports championships;
- World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships;
- World Taekwondo Children Championships.

11.2 Host City Selection: Any prospective organizer wishing to apply to host a WT-promoted championship shall abide by the Event Operations Rules:

11.2.1 The application to host the WT-promoted championship shall be done by submitting the appropriate Host City Application and required documents as approved by the Games Committee, to the Management in accordance with the procedure provided in the application.

11.2.2 WT shall review the application bid and may conduct an inspection of the prospective Host City facilities. Management will submit an evaluation report to the Council for their review. Selected bidders shall be invited to present their bids to the Council for decision on the winning bid.

11.2.3 The winning bidder shall enter into a Host City Contract with the WT with prescribed terms and conditions.

11.3 World Taekwondo Championships: The World Taekwondo Championships and the World Taekwondo Junior Championships shall be held every two (2) years. The World Taekwondo Championships and the World Taekwondo Junior Championships shall not be held in the same year.

11.4 Youth Olympic Games (“YOG”): In the year of the YOG, the World Taekwondo Junior Championships shall be held, ideally, no later than six (6) months prior to the Games, in connection with the YOG Open Qualification Tournament.

11.5 Calendar: The dates and locations of promoted and recognized events shall be subject to the approval of WT. Members shall submit proposed event dates to WT. Once it is determined by WT that there are no conflict, the Members shall publish the list of all events on their websites. Unless otherwise approved by WT, and only in case of compelling reason, the events shall be held in accordance with guidelines established by WT. A report on the results of all completed events shall be submitted to the WT within set deadline of pertinent event.

11.6 Other Events: WT recognizes various international competitions. A full list of WT-recognized events appears in the WT Events Calendar.

11.7 Competition Rules and Interpretation: All championships promoted or recognized by WT and its Members shall observe the WT Competition Rules and Interpretation.

## **Article 12 Education Courses**

12.1 Certification Courses: WT conducts Certification Courses and Refresher Courses for International Referees, International Coaches, International Classifiers, Examiners, Technical Delegates and Educators.

- 12.1.1 WT may delegate the organization of such courses to Members in accordance with the guidelines of WT.
- 12.1.2 All courses promoted by the WT and/or its Members shall be reviewed and approved by the Education Committee to ensure compliance with the standards promoted by WT.
- 12.2 International Referees: Only WT-certified International Referees can officiate in WT-promoted and recognized Championships. The President shall grant the qualification of “WT International Referee” to those who have successfully completed an International Referee Seminar and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by WT.
- 12.3 International Coach: Only WT-certified International Coaches can coach in WT-promoted and recognized Championships. The President shall grant the qualification of “WT International Coach”, Level 1, 2, or 3 as appropriate, to those who have successfully completed the International Coach Certification Courses and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by WT.
- 12.4 Educator: The President shall grant the qualification of “WT Educator” to those who have successfully completed the Educator Certification Course and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by WT.
- 12.5 Examiner: The President shall grant the qualification of “WT Examiner” to those who have successfully completed the required courses and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by WT.
- 12.6 Technical Delegate: Only a WT-certified Technical Delegate can oversee WT-promoted and recognized Championships. The President shall grant the qualification of “WT Technical Delegate”, Level 1, 2 and 3 as appropriate, to those who have successfully completed the Technical Delegate Certification Course and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by WT.

## **PART V: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 13 Finances**

- 13.1 Income Sources: The Income of WT shall be derived from the following sources: membership fees, operating income, donations and subsidies, and other sources.
- 13.2 Financial Year: The financial year of WT shall start on January 1 and end on December 31 of each year.
- 13.3 Auditing of Use of Funds: Any Member may be audited by WT as regards the use of funds or value-in-kind provided by WT. For this purpose, their accounts must be available at all times to the auditors appointed by WT. WT may demand return of misused or unused fund.

## **PART VI: WRONGDOING, DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND APPEALS**

### **Article 14 Reporting Wrongdoing**

- 14.1 WT and its Members strive to strengthen the integrity of our sport by ensuring that there are proper mechanisms for reporting, identifying and resolving issues of wrongdoing. Wrongdoing in sport is act (or omission, if an obligation to act is not fulfilled) that is in breach of national and/ or international law and sport rules or is an infringement of the integrity and ethics of sport. Examples of wrongdoing include but are not limited to: Corruption, fraud, bribery, abuse of position (including conflicts of interest), money-laundering, competition manipulation, doping, abuse, harassment, discrimination and violence.
- 14.2 Commitment: WT is committed to encourage communication and reporting of wrongdoing. In its commitment WT will:
- 14.2.1 Encouraging open communication and the reporting of wrongdoing;
  - 14.2.2 Ensuring that those responsible for implementing and operating reporting mechanisms have adequate resources and mandates;
  - 14.2.3 Support due process and impartiality in its reporting mechanisms;
  - 14.2.4 Safeguard confidentiality of the process;
  - 14.2.5 Ensure that any reprisals against reporting persons are redressed and those who retaliate against reporting are held to account (“Whistleblower Protection”);
  - 14.2.6 Ensure that wrongdoing identified is appropriately remediated and sanctioned;
  - 14.2.7 Support continuous evaluation and improvement of reporting mechanisms;
  - 14.2.8 Complaint Hotline: WT has partnered with IOC to ensure that reports to this hotline are confidential and not subject to retaliation of any kind (IOC hotline: <https://ioc.integrityline.org>).

### **Article 15 Disciplinary Actions**

- 15.1 Disciplinary Actions: WT may investigate, fine, suspend, and otherwise issue penalties against members, individuals and/or participants for violations of WT rules and regulations in accordance with Article 23 of the WT Competition Rules and Interpretations and Article 3 of the WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code (DAAC) and other rules as provided.

## **Article 16 Appeals**

- 16.1 Unless otherwise provided WT shall hear appeals of WT disciplinary decisions under Article 4 of the WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code (DAAC). Such decisions are appealable to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne s provided by the DAAC.
- 16.2 WT may at its discretion hear appeals of decisions of WT member organizations when WT determines that there is a fundamental principle to protect or clarification of WT rules required. Such appeals should be filed under Article 3 of the DAAC.

## **PART VII: OTHER PROVISIONS**

### **Article 17 Virtual Meetings**

- 17.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Statutes, the President or an officer of Management designated by the President for such purpose may determine at any time, including, without limitation, after the calling of any meeting of WT, that any meeting of WT be held solely by means of remote communication or both at a physical location and by means of remote communication.
- 17.1.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Statutes, if it is determined after notice of the meeting has been sent that participation in the meeting shall or may be conducted by means of remote communication, notice thereof may be provided at any time as otherwise required by these Statutes and applicable law.
- 17.1.2 Members entitled to be present and to vote at the meeting that are not physically present at such a meeting but participate by means of remote communication shall be considered present in person for all purposes under these Statutes and may vote at such a meeting. Subject to any guidelines and procedures that WT may adopt, any meeting at which members are permitted to participate by means of remote communication shall be conducted in accordance with the following, unless otherwise permitted by applicable law or regulation.

### **Article 18 Indemnity**

- 18.1 WT shall fully indemnify and hold harmless the Council and members of its staff from and against any costs, expenses, liabilities and awards arising out of any action instituted in any jurisdiction at any time against WT or any of the above such persons as direct result of the activities of such persons were they are/were acting within the scope of the WT's responsibilities on behalf of the WT.

### **Article 19 Intellectual Property**

- 19.1 WT-promoted competitions and events are the exclusive property of WT, which



owns all rights and data relating thereto, in particular, and without limitation, all rights relating to their organization, exploitation, broadcasting, recording, representation, reproduction, access and dissemination in any form and by any means or mechanism whatsoever, whether now existing or developed in the future. WT shall determine the conditions of access to and the conditions of any use of data relating to WT-promoted competitions and events.

- 19.2 WT Properties: The WT marks symbols, emblems, flag, motto, identifications (including but not limited to “WT-promoted” and “WT-recognized”) shall be collectively or individually referred to as “WT Properties.” The following applies to WT Properties:
- 19.3 All rights to any and all WT Properties, as well as all rights to the use thereof, belong exclusively to the WT, including but not limited to the use for any profit-making, commercial, or advertising purposes. The WT may license all or part of its rights on terms and conditions set forth by the WT.
- 19.4 WT properties shall not be used without prior approval of WT. Each CU and MNA shall use reasonable efforts for prevention of the name and emblem's use without approval of the WT in the areas under the jurisdiction of that association.
- 19.5 WT reserves the right to approve CUs and MNAs to take appropriate legal action against pirating and/or illegal use of the name and emblem of WT by clubs, associations, and individuals in countries where such violations have occurred.
- 19.6 Bylaws: By-laws concerning the use of WT Properties in their original form or any other possible modifications, and the possible legal and/or disciplinary actions against perpetrators who did not obtain such official approval from WT, shall be enacted separately.

## **Article 20 Media and Commercial Rights**

- 20.1 Media Rights: All television, radio, photographic, film, internet, telephone, and other media rights to WT related prompted events known of or unknown of today are the exclusive property of WT. These rights may not be sold or negotiated without the written agreement of WT, which may delegate its powers to negotiate the sale or use of these rights, but which shall retain the sole authority for the final decision.
- 20.2 Commercial Rights: All commercial rights to WT-Promoted events are the property of WT. WT may temporarily assign these rights via contract

## **Article 21 Dissolution**

- 21.1 Dissolution: The dissolution of WT can only be decided at the GA by the unanimous resolution of all the members that comprise the GA.
- 21.2 Residual Funds/Properties: Exclusive right over the use of any funds or WT properties shall be given by the GA that has reached the resolution for the dissolution.

**Article 22      Modifications**

22.1 Amendments: WT shall formulate drafts, amendments or repeals of these Statutes in consultation with relevant Commissions and Committees. Approval of the Council and GA shall be required for implementation.

**Article 23      Interpretation**

23.1 Interpretation Authority: The authority for settling any dispute arising out of the interpretation of these Statutes shall reside with the President, who shall seek the advice of the Council or appropriate Commissions or Committees before taking a final decision. Such interpretations are final.

**Article 24      Enforcement**

24.1 Adoption: These Statutes come into force immediately, except as otherwise indicated in these Statutes.

24.1.1 Term limits: The term limits established in 5.8.6 shall come into effect on the elections held on the occasion of the 2021 Ordinary General Assembly. For the avoidance of doubt, all officials elected during the 2021 Ordinary General Assembly shall be deemed to be in their first term for the purposes of this rule.

## **ADDENDUM I: Permanent Commissions and Committees**

WT shall have the following permanent Commissions and Committees:

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### **(1) Member Relations and Development (MRD) Commission**

The Member Relations and Development Commission (the Commission) is comprised of seven members, as follows: A Para Taekwondo Nominee and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the following Committees: Development, Education, and Taekwondo for All. The Commission's Chair and Vice Chair are appointed from among the Commission members. The Commission studies the organization and practices of WT members to ensure the development of Taekwondo throughout the world through building of capacities of all levels of stakeholders and contributing to the goals set forth in the WT Statutes and the Olympic Charter. The Commission recommends changes to the Council WT's development and education programs and, together with the Juridical Committee, amendments to related rules and regulations. The Commission recommends to the Council regarding suspension and/or restoration and/or revocation of the membership of a MNA and establishment of emergency leadership of a CU. The Commission recommends adjustment of the MNA Membership Fees.

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### **(2) Technical Commission**

The Technical Commission (the Commission) is comprised of seven members. These include the Chairs of the following Committees: Athletes, Coaches, Games, Medical, Para Taekwondo, and Referee. The Chair is appointed separately. The Vice Chair is appointed from among the members. The Commission studies the organization and management of Taekwondo competitions; studies the safety and performance of equipment; considers ways to improve techniques used in Taekwondo competitions; analyzes various issues in the effective management of international referees; and recommends amendments to rules related to the organization and running of competitions including but not limited to the Competition Rules and Interpretation.

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### **(3) Athletes**

The Athletes Committee represents athletes within the Taekwondo Movement and upholds the rights and responsibilities of the athletes in accordance with the WT Athletes' Declaration. The Committee shall engage with WT's Commissions, Committees, and Member National Associations, to help develop athlete-centered programs, and conduct educational training for and on behalf of athletes. The Committee shall be elected or appointed in accordance with a procedure determined by the Ad-hoc Election Committee established under Article 5.8.8 of the Statutes. Elected members shall have a four-year term. The Committee members shall elect from among themselves two Co-Chairs (one male and one female).

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#### (4) Coaches

The Coaches Committee represents coaches within the Taekwondo Movement; upholds the rights and obligations of coaches; and studies and recommends methods and measures to improve Taekwondo competitions.

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#### (5) Development

The Development Committee oversees overall WT's development programs. The Committee focuses on capacity building of all levels of stakeholders; recommends standards for national and continental members and regional training centers; recommends guidelines for adoption under WT's development programs including funding, equipment aid and participation aid, scholarship, etc.; monitors program implementations; considers how to improve and expand the practice of Taekwondo at all levels; and explores collaboration agreements with bodies which have financial means for sports.

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#### (6) Education

The Education Committee oversees certification courses and non-certification education programs; studies and develops methods for cultivation of competent educators, administrators, athletes, coaches, referees and general Taekwondo practitioners with an emphasis on online education; prepares or recommends educational materials and teaching curriculum for the further development of Taekwondo; and supports WT programs and activities related to education.

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#### (7) Integrity

The Integrity and Ethics Committee is the guardian of the ethical principles of the Taekwondo Movement as set out in the Statutes and the Code of Ethics. A majority of its members shall be otherwise independent from WT. The Committee conducts investigations into breaches of ethics and integrity, including safeguarding-related cases, submitted to it by WT and, where necessary, makes recommendations for measures or sanctions to the Council; and recommends amendments to the WT Code of Ethics, Integrity Code, and other integrity-based rules.

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#### (8) Finance

The Finance Committee (the Committee) advises the GA, Council, President, and Secretary General on matters related to WT's financial management in order to safeguard continuity and strength the transparency and good governance of WT and the Taekwondo Movement. The Treasurer shall be the Chair. The Committee shall review and pre-approve financial information, including proposed budget, to be able to provide advice and recommendations with respect to making significant financial decisions. The Committee shall ensure that WT has efficient and transparent budgeting and financial control processes, and that the financial policies and

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procedures approved by the Council are respected. The Committee shall advise the President on the appointment, or re-appointment, of WT's external auditor and monitor the effectiveness of WT's budgeting and finance function. The Committee shall review WT's completed financial statements, which are prepared with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and Korean law and review significant reporting judgments, before these are submitted to the Council and GA for approval.

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(9) Games

The Games Committee deals with studying the requirements for further improvements of the organization and management of WT-promoted and recognized Taekwondo competitions.

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(10) Juridical

The Juridical Committee provides assessments and recommendations regarding complaints, investigations, disciplinary actions, and appeals under WT's Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code; supports the drafting of, and amendments to, the WT Statutes, by-laws, and codes; and provides opinions on legal matters to WT at its request.

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(11) Medical

The Medical Committee studies medical affairs related to Taekwondo competitions and establishes necessary guidelines. The Medical Committee supports the protection of the athletes' health and recommends amendments to the WT Medical Code.

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(12) Para Taekwondo

The Para Taekwondo Committee (the Committee) studies the structure, organization and management of Para Taekwondo Competitions (Kyorugi & Poomsae) and the development of competition formats for athletes of all impairments. The Committee serves to expand, promote and improve the world-wide practice of Taekwondo for persons with an impairment while safeguarding the best interests of the athletes.

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(13) Para Taekwondo Classification

The Para Taekwondo Classification Committee (the Committee) is tasked with researching and developing the WT Athlete Classification Rules, its Sport Classes and the Classification procedures and ensuring that WT is compliant with the IPC Classification Code and its best practices. The Committee also develops and implements education programs for WT International Classifiers. The Committee evaluates the eligibility of all new athletes and may bring in expert advice from persons outside the Committee. The Committee reports to the Para Taekwondo

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Committee for approval.

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(14) Poomsae

The Poomsae Committee reviews the organization and management of Poomsae Taekwondo competitions and studies ways to improve the competitions and increase the consistent application of the Poomsae Competition Rules; researches methods for effective management of training courses for International Poomsae Referees and Coaches; and formulates revisions to the Poomsae Competition Rules and the Regulation on the Administration of International Poomsae Referees and Coaches.

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(15) Referee

The Referee Committee deals with studying the conditions for consistent application of the Competition Rules and Interpretation; researching methods of effective management of and conducting training courses for International Referees.

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(16) Sustainability

The Sustainability Committee conducts research and makes recommendations to define WT's sustainability agenda that is outcomes-based and is in line with the IOC Sustainability Strategy. The committee will make recommendations to support WT's commitment to incorporate sustainability principles and practices into WT's decision-making process and day-to-day operations, thereby enhancing WT's integrity, inclusivity, transparency and accountability at every level.

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(17) Taekwondo for All

The Taekwondo for All Committee studies policies and procedures to maximize diversity among Taekwondo competitors and practitioners, including but not limited to youth and women in the management and administration of the sport, and gives advice to the Council on how to encourage Taekwondo for social development and Taekwondo Cares projects throughout the world at all levels in close cooperation with Members and external partners.

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World Taekwondo Statutes:

Enacted: May 28, 1973

Amended: Sep. 14, 1977

Amended: Nov. 15, 1980

Amended: Feb. 23, 1982

Amended: Oct. 19, 1983

Amended: Jul. 3, 1986

Amended: Oct. 7, 1987

Amended: Oct. 7, 1989

Amended: Oct. 28, 1991

Amended: Aug. 17, 1993

Amended: Nov. 17, 1995

Amended: Nov. 18, 1997

Amended: Jun. 1, 1999

Amended: Sep. 23, 2003

Amended: Apr. 12, 2005

Amended: Jul. 25, 2006

Amended: May 6, 2008

Amended: Feb. 3, 2009

Amended: Mar. 2, 2010

Amended: Oct. 7, 2010 (*Restatement-1<sup>st</sup>*)

Amended: Apr. 30, 2011

Amended: Aug. 22, 2011

Amended: Apr. 3, 2012

Amended: Dec. 26, 2012

Amended: Jul. 14, 2013

Amended: Mar. 19, 2014

Amended: Oct. 30, 2014

Amended: May 11, 2015

Amended: Nov. 15, 2016

Amended: Apr. 11, 2017

Amended Jun. 23, 2017

Amended: Dec 4, 2017

Amended: Apr. 5, 2018

Amended: May 14, 2019

Amended: Dec. 20, 2019

Amended: Oct. 6, 2020

Amended: Dec. 22, 2020

Amended: May 8, 2021 (*Restatement-2<sup>nd</sup>*)

Amended: Nov. 23, 2021

Amended: Apr. 29, 2022

Amended: Jan. 27, 2023

Amended: Dec. 14, 2023