



CONSTITUTION OF THE ARMWRESTLING FEDERATION OF AFRICA (AFA)

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STATUTES

ARTICLE 1: TITLE

Africa Armwrestling Federation (AFA) is the official title. Through this constitution, the acronym “AFA” will be used to designate the Africa Armwrestling Federation. This title may be changed only by a majority vote of AFA members at an annual Congress meeting.

ARTICLE 2: SYMBOL

The AFA Alphabet is situated in the top of the Africa map in the Northern area of Africa, the two arms locked in the start position, outlined in Red, Yellow and Green, resting on the middle of Africa Flag within the West African and the Central area of Africa. The arms will show only to the mid of the forearm. The Armwrestling Federation of Africa (AFA) will rest below the African Flag in the southern part of the flag.



ARTICLE 3: COMPOSITION

AFA is composed of National Federations and Associations. The National Federations are composed of participating clubs/groups from the countries within the continent

The countries may have as many active armwrestling organizations as they want, but they may only be represented by one national body from each country. Each national body from within the country must meet criteria as set forth by their continental federation, which they receive from AFA. The member countries are ultimately AFA. Membership criteria are set forth in Article 15.

ARTICLE 4: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sub-sections:

1. AFA is a non-profit organization. The Directors as members of the Executive Committee of AFA are elected and serve on a voluntary basis. They do not receive a salary, nor will they profit financially from carrying out their duties as AFA executives. In retrospect, it is also expected that they will not bear costs personally of operating AFA from day to day. These costs are to be approved by the membership at the annual Congress meetings.
2. Whenever the term “Congress”, “Congress meeting” or “Annual Congress meeting” is referred to in these By-laws, it shall be synonymous with and have the same meaning as the term “Annual Meeting” as that term is defined and referred to in the *Canada Corporations Act*.
3. AFA is a non-bias organization. Decisions will not be based on religious, political or racial backgrounds. Discrimination will not be tolerated in the AFA organization.
4. AFA may be associated with any organization that will benefit armwrestling.
5. AFA headquarters will be where the AFA membership deems it to be the most practical, based on good business sense and proximity.
6. Bylaws pertaining to this constitution will come into effect immediately after having been approved by AFA Executive Committee and ratified by the AFA membership. A delay to implement a change may be granted if it deems to be beneficial to AFA.
7. Any dispute in interpretation of the constitution statutes and bylaws will be handled by the Executive Committee. Clarification will be presented to the AFA membership to be ratified and documented as a letter of understanding which will form part of the constitution.
8. The head office of AFA shall be designated by the Directors.



ARTICLE 5: LANGUAGE

Sub-sections:

1. The official language of AFA is English. All publication, correspondence, reports, scoring, refereeing and Congress proceedings will be in English.
2. The second official language of AFA is French. All publication, correspondence and reports will be translated in French language.
3. English is a working language, Congress meetings of Executive Committee and Committees should be carried out in English.
4. It is the responsibility of each Country to bring a translator if required to the Africa Championships.

ARTICLE 6: CONGRESS

Sub-sections:

1. The AFA Congress will take place annually at the Africa Armwrestling Championship at least one day prior to the competition. The following items will always be on the agenda:
 - a. Affiliation of new members.
 - b. The approval of the reports of the President, Vice-presidents, General Secretary, Treasurer, Referee and sub-committee members.
 - c. The filling in of any existing vacancies on the AFA Executive Committee.
 - d. Selection of location of AFA Africa championship, other sanctioned championships and seminars.
 - e. Modification of statutes, bylaws and rules.
 - f. New business presented by affiliated member organizations.
 - g. Review of audited accounts.
 - h. Appointment of auditors.
2. Every fourth even year, there shall be an Elective Congress to elect new executives for AFA.
 - a. Election of continental executives to serve as Directors and to sit on the AFA Executive Committee. The under listed positions shall be contested for.
 - I. President
 - II. 1st Vice President
 - III. 2nd Vice President



- IV. General Secretary
- V. Deputy General Secretary
- VI. Treasurer
- VII. 5 Africa Regional AFA Executives
 - Southern Africa
 - Northern Africa
 - West Africa
 - East Africa
 - Central Africa

- b. All elected representatives who sit on the AFA Executive Committee are Directors of AFA. Election or appointment of a representative to sit on the Executive Committee shall be deemed to be an election or appointment of that representative as a Director of AFA.
 - c. Executive Committee Meetings shall be synonymous with Directors Meetings, such that every Executive Committee Meeting shall be a Meeting of Directors.
 - d. Any reference to Board of Directors shall be synonymous with the Executive Committee, such that the Executive Committee shall form the Board of Directors.
 - e. The election of national representatives to the positions of AFA executives;
 - All positions shall be voted for.
 - All nominations for AFA executive positions must be made only by adjoining national federations however, the loss of a national federation position shall not constitute your End of Tenure at AFA or shall your successor assume your position held at AFA; so far he is still a member of his national federation.
 - Persons nominated must be citizens of their Member Country.
 - Persons suspended by their national federations cannot be nominated in any executive positions.
 - f. The position of the Director of Scoring, Technical Director will work under the leadership of the General Secretary. They will be nominated by President and approved by Executive Board.
3. Before the start of Congress, the AFA General Secretary will verify the credentials of all the delegates.
 4. Countries will be represented in Congress by the elected officials or official designates of their national armwrestling organizations. Representatives should be prepared to show in writing, proof of their designation from their country if requested by the General Secretary.
 5. The attendance to Congress of the AFA President and General Secretary or their proper designates is compulsory.
 6. Any items to be included in the Congress agenda must reach the General Secretary's office at least 2 months (60 days) prior to the date set for Congress.
The corresponding annual reports about the executed work of the President and General Secretary and Chairman of Committees should be sent to the members of Federations 30 days prior to Congress date. Only items set forth on the agenda may



be discussed unless the President gives special permission to hear added items and if time allows for it.

7. All proposals must contain the following information in order to be eligible for voting:
 - type of change: delete, add or modify;
 - document to change: Constitution, rules, procedures or protocols;
 - article number to be changed;
 - original content and the proposed content.
8. Only members in good standing are allowed to vote on the agenda or participate in discussion of the agenda. Good standing includes paid up membership fees. **Each member/country shall have one vote.**
9. Congress will only pass items that have been accepted by a majority vote.
10. Voting will be a simple show of hands, on For or Against, unless more than 50% of the membership asks for a ballot vote.
11. Only representatives from the countries present at the Congress can vote. Transfer of “votes” by proxy to representatives of other countries is unacceptable.
12. Congress sessions are private. Observers and special guests can attend providing arrangement has been made with the Executive Committee. They will be observers only and cannot enter debate or vote.
13. The President or his proper designate will chair the Congress meeting, following normal parliamentary procedure such as Robert’s Rule.
14. Quorum will be formed with 20% of members in good standing present.
15. A special Congress may be called if 30% of members in good standing request it.
16. However, those requesting the meeting will have to bear the costs of accommodation and meals for the Executive Committee for the duration of such Congress. The President of AFA will have the General Secretary send out notice of the meeting within 2 months (60 days) of its request.
17. Congress will meet no less than once a year at each AFA Africa Championship.
18. The By-laws of AFA may be repealed or amended by an affirmative vote of at least 50% of the members at the Congress.
19. At each Congress the members shall appoint an Auditor to audit the accounts and annual financial statements of AFA for report to the members at the next Congress. The Auditor shall hold office until the next Congress, provided that the Directors may fill any casual vacancy in the office of the Auditor. The remuneration of the Auditor shall be fixed by the Board of Directors (Executive Committee).
20. Minutes of the Congress meetings will be recorded and distributed within 30 days by the General Secretary.

ARTICLE 7: DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sub-sections:



1. The property of business of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors comprised of a minimum of 3 Directors.
2. The applicants for incorporation shall become the first Directors of AFA whose term of office on the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) shall continue until their successors are elected.
3. At the first Congress following incorporation, the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) then elected shall replace the provisional Directors named in the Letters Patent of the Corporation.
4. Directors shall be elected for a term of four years by members at an Elective Congress.
5. All Directors shall sit on the Executive Committee and all Executive Committee members are therefore Directors of AFA.
6. The office of Director shall be automatically vacated:
 - a. If at a special meeting of members or at the Annual Congress, a resolution is passed by 50% of the members present at the meeting that he be removed from office.
 - b. If a director has resigned his office by delivering a written resignation to the General Secretary.
 - c. If he is found by a court to be of unsound mind.
 - d. If he became bankrupt or suspends payment or compounds with his creditor or On death.
7. Provided that if any vacancy shall occur for any reason in this paragraph contained, the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) by majority vote may, by appointment, fill the vacancy with a member of AFA.
8. The Directors shall serve as such without remuneration and no Director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from his position as such; provided that a Director may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving AFA as an Officer or in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.
9. The Directors of AFA may administer the affairs of AFA in all things and make or cause to be made for AFA, in its name, any kind of contract which AFA may lawfully enter into and save as hereinafter provided, generally, may exercise all such other powers and do all such other acts and things as AFA is by its Charter or otherwise authorized to exercise and do.
10. The Directors shall have the power to authorize expenditures on behalf of AFA from time to time and may delegate by resolution to an Officer or Officers of AFA the right to employ and pay salaries to employees.
11. The Board of Directors (Executive Committee) shall take such steps as they may deem requisite to enable AFA to acquire, accept, solicit or receive legacies, gifts, grants, settlements, bequests, endowments and donations of any kind whatsoever for the purpose of furthering the objects of AFA.

12. To borrow money upon the credit of AFA, from any bank, corporation, firm or person, upon such terms, covenants and conditions at such times, in such sums, to such an extent and in such manner as the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) in its discretion may deem expedient.
13. To limit or increase the amount to be borrowed.
14. To issue or caused to be issued bonds, debentures or other securities of AFA and to pledge or sell the same for such sums, upon such terms, covenants and conditions and at such prices as may be deemed expedient by the Board of Directors (Executive Committee).
15. To secure such bonds, debentures or other securities, or any other present or future borrowing or liability of AFA, by mortgage, hypothec, charge or pledge of all or any currently owned or subsequently acquired real and personal, movable and immovable, property of AFA and the undertaking and rights of AFA .
16. The Board of Directors (Executive Committee) may appoint such agents and engage such employees as it shall deem necessary from time to time and such persons shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) at the time of such appointment.
17. Remuneration for all Officers, agents and employees and Congress Committee members shall be fixed by the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) by resolution. Such resolution shall have force and effect only until the next meeting of members when such resolution shall be confirmed by resolution of the members, or in the absence of such confirmation by the members, then the remuneration to such Officers, agents or employees and Congress Committee members shall cease to be payable from the date of such meeting of members.
18. Meetings to be conducted by e-mail or by telephone conference call must be approved of by a minimum of 50% of the Directors.
19. Meetings by e-mail can only be conducted if:
 - a. all directors participating in the meetings can adequately communicate with each other; and
 - b. each director consents in advance to the method of communication and has equal access to such communication method.
20. Meetings of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) may be held at any time and place to be determined by the Directors provided that 48 hours written notice of such meeting shall be given, other than by mail, to each of the Directors. Notice by mail shall be sent at least 30 days prior to the meeting. There shall be at least one (1) meeting per year of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee). No error or omission in giving notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) or any adjourned meeting of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) of AFA shall invalidate such meeting or make void any proceedings taken thereat and any Director may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and may ratify, approve and confirm any or all proceedings taken or had thereat.

Each Director is authorized to exercise one (1) vote. Notice of meetings may be sent by e-mail and meetings may be conducted by e-mail or by telephone conference calls.



TELEPHONE PARTICIPATION

21. The directors of the Corporation may meet by teleconference provided that either a majority of the directors consents to meetings by teleconference or meetings by teleconference have been approved by resolution passed by the board of directors at a meeting of the directors of the Corporation.

MEETINGS BY OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS

22. The directors of the Corporation may meet by other electronic means that permits each director to communicate adequately with each other, provided that:
- a. The Board of Directors of the Corporation has passed a resolution addressing the mechanics of holding such a meeting and dealing specifically with how security issues should be handled, the procedure of establishing quorum and recording votes;
 - b. each director has equal access to the specific means of communication to be used;
 - c. each director has consented in advance to meeting by electronic means using the specific means of communication proposed for the meeting.
23. A majority of Directors in office, from time to time, but no less than 5 directors, shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee). Any meetings of the Board of Directors (Executive Committee) at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions by or under the By-laws of AFA, which shall include the power to manage the affairs of the Corporation.
24. Every Director of AFA and their heirs, executors and administrators and estate and effects, respectively, shall from time to time and at all times, be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of AFA from and against:
25. All costs, charges and expenses which such Director sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceedings which is brought, commenced or prosecuted against him, or in respect of any act, deed, matter of thing whatsoever, made, done or permitted by him in or about the execution of the duties of his office or in respect of any such liability.
- a. All other costs, charges and expenses which he sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs thereof, except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by his own wilful neglect or default.
 - b. Contracts, documents or any instruments in writing requiring the signature of AFA shall be signed by any two Directors and all contracts, documents and instruments in writing so signed shall be binding upon AFA without any further authorization or formality. The Directors shall have power from time to time by resolution to appoint an Officer or Officers on behalf of AFA to sign specific contracts, documents and instruments in writing.



26. Custody of the corporate seal, if any, shall be with the General Secretary OR Treasurer.
27. The Executive Committee and Officers of AFA consists of the following positions:
 - a. AFA President
 - b. AFA Vice-Presidents (2)
 - c. General Secretary
 - d. Assistant General Secretary
 - e. Treasurer
 - f. Executive Members (Coordinators)– Five (5) representing the Regional Zones
28. The Executive Committee members will serve for four years.
29. Any member of the Executive Committee who is regularly absent or neglects their duties, unless for valid reasons, can be replaced. This will be decided by an absolute majority vote of the Executive Committee.
30. One member of the Executive Committee will always be on any sub-committee.
31. Meetings of the Executive Committee are private.
32. The Executive Committee are the ones who ultimately award the venue of Africa Championship, and will only change the vote of the congress with good reason which must be explained to the congress.

ARTICLE 8: SUB-COMMITTEES

Sub-sections:

1. One member of the Executive Committee must chair any sub-committee. The member can be on more than one sub-committee.
2. Sub-committees will be formed as needed and will be dissolved in Congress after completing their goal.
3. Reports have to be presented annually at Congress by the sub-committee chairperson or his proper designate.
4. Anyone who can contribute to the sub-committees goals can be a member.
5. Standing sub-committees will be allowed.

ARTICLE 9: ELECTIONS

Sub-sections:



1. Elections for positions to the AFA Executive Committee will take place every four years, beginning on even years using 2020 as a reference date.
2. Names of candidates from each National Federation must reach the office of the General Secretary in writing at least 2 months (60 days) before the date of the annual Congress in the election year.
3. For the position of the President, any nominee must have served on the AFA board for a minimum of 2 years.
4. Only executive member of a National Federation shall contest any of the positions available at AFA. They can be from any country as long as they possess the ability and the desire to do the job.
5. The filling of the positions will be done in the following order: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary / Treasurer, and 5 Zonal Executive Member.
6. Voting will be secret ballot with a simple majority deciding the vote.
7. If no national representative wishes to let their member stand for any position at this time, the Executive Committee will handle such situation when arises.
8. This process will take place at the start of Congress and become legally binding at the end of AFA Africa championship for the next four years.

ARTICLE 10: DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

Sub-sections:

1. The President will chair the AFA annual Congress. Proper rules of parliamentary debate will be followed.
2. In the event of a tie in a vote on a motion, the President will cast the deciding vote. Otherwise the President will abstain from all other votes.
3. The President will help co-ordinate and give direction to the effective hosting of the AFA Africa Championship.
4. It is compulsory for the President to attend the AFA Africa Championship unless circumstances will not allow it. Travel and accommodation will be provided by the host country.
5. The President will take part in the opening and closing ceremonies of the AFA Africa Championship.
6. The President will preside on the committee to settle any disputes at an AFA Championship.
7. The President will assure that at minimum, a quarterly newsletter is sent out to the membership.
8. The President shall attend meetings with organizations that will benefit the sport of armwrestling, i.e.: the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), Associations of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) etc.

9. The President will conduct business within a budget approved by the Congress. A detailed accounting of these expenditures is to be presented to the annual Congress.
10. In the preceding sub-sections, in the event that the President cannot attend or participate in any of the functions, a proper designate will be appointed. This appointment has to be in writing.

ARTICLE 11: DUTIES OF THE AFA VICE-PRESIDENTS

Sub-sections:

1. The Vice-presidents will help co-ordinate and give direction to the effective hosting of an annual Continental Championship and Congress.
2. The Vice-presidents will preside over any committee to help resolve issues of respective National Armwrestling Federations in the member countries within their Continental jurisdiction.
3. In the event that any of these issues cannot be resolved at the National or Continental level, then the Vice-presidents will refer the issue to the AFA Executive Committee for resolution.
4. The Vice-president will ensure that member countries host a national championship as per AFA / WAF rules. The results of these national championships will be forwarded to the Vice-presidents who will keep these on record for future reference.
5. Any Continental news that each federation would like to share should be forwarded to the General Secretary for inclusion in on the official AFA Website & Handles.
6. The Vice-president will be expected to stand in if needed to serve as appointed by the President.

ARTICLE 12: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Sub-sections:

1. The General Secretary will be responsible to gather all information necessary to compile the agenda for the annual AFA Congress and distribute the agenda to the membership at least 1 month (30 days) prior to the date of the annual Congress.
2. The General Secretary will be responsible to have the minutes of the annual Congress recorded and distributed.
3. The General Secretary will attend to all documentation and distribution of relevant news of armwrestling to the membership.
4. The General Secretary will assure that only eligible countries receive an AFA Voting card at the annual Congress.



5. The General Secretary will be responsible to take care of the daily business affairs of AFA, such as forwarding AFA correspondence to the President and Executive Committee, answering such correspondence as directed by the President or Executive Committee.
6. The General Secretary will forward membership applications to new applicant countries and record this. He/she shall inform the board of which country has applied for AFA membership. He/she will maintain a current and up to date mailing list. Hosting countries will receive a copy of this list.
7. It will be the General Secretary's responsibility to work with a Deputy General Secretary/Treasurer to conduct daily financial business for AFA. It will also be their combined responsibility to present an audited financial report annually at the Congress or whenever it is required by the Executive Committee.
8. The General Secretary will conduct his business within a budget approved by the AFA Congress. A detailed accounting of expenditures will be given to Congress. This will be audited annually.
9. In the preceding sub-sections, if the General Secretary cannot attend or participate to his/her duties, a proper designate will be appointed by the President. After the approval of the Executive Committee this appointment must be in writing.

ARTICLE 13: DUTIES OF THE HEAD REFEREE.

Sub-sections:

1. The Head Referee will be elected by the General Congress.
 - a. Every AFA Master Referee shall have the chance to be a candidate for this position.
2. The appointment must be accepted by a majority vote of the membership.
3. Each National Federation may nominate one person from their federation for consideration by the Executive Committee for the Head Referee position.
4. Nominees will be subject to a report from the referee panel. The report will go to Congress before their final vote.
5. The Head Referee must pre-arrange the required qualified referees for the AFA Championship or any other championship in which AFA referees are requested.
6. The Head Referee must issue referee report cards to his/her referees at every AFA Championship, collect these and file them.
7. The Head Referee must keep a record of all his/her referees, their training and experience. Valid referee cards must be issued.



8. The Head Referee must arrange for a referee training session at each AFA Championship prior to the championship to be supported by the general secretary of AFA.
9. The Head Referee is responsible to properly interpret the AFA/AFA Rules and to insure they are carried out in a professional and orderly manner during AFA Championship.
10. The Head Referee is responsible to ensure that the proper technical equipment is used at AFA Championships.
11. The Head Referee is responsible to work within a budget allowed by the AFA Executive Committee for the running of programs, travel and upkeep of the AFA Rule book. A detailed accounting of this budget and a report of referee activity is to be presented annually to the AFA Executive. The budget will be audited at the AFA Congress.
12. The Head Referee will be responsible to bring forward any rule or technical changes requested by his/her referees or any National Federation and present these to the AFA Executive Committee. The AFA Committee will present these to the membership in a motion to be discussed and voted on.

ARTICLE 14: NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Sub-sections:

1. A National Federation shall have a properly formed constitution, Executive Committee and business address. All federation stationary must have printed, by its registered title, "Member of AFA". A copy of this information has to be submitted to AFA within the year they were formulated.
2. National Federations must accept and comply with all AFA Rules and Constitution.
3. Countries can have only one National Association/Federation representation. Each country may have several different regional associations within itself, but absolutely only one National Association/Federation to represent armwrestling continentally and at AFA / WAF Championships.
4. The National Body shall set forth a qualification system for their National Team, which will be presented to AFA.
5. A national championship must be held annually and results submitted to AFA General Secretary.
6. The national representative to the AFA Executive Committee must be a member of the National Executive Committee.
7. In the event that a national federation becomes in-operative or dissolves, AFA will assist that country to become active again.



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8. National Federations must have a minor officials training program in place. This includes referees, draw masters and weigh masters.
National Federations are responsible to develop and supervise any new region/province that wish to be affiliated to the Federation. All pertinent information in regards to this must be forwarded to the AFA General Secretary.
10. Referee candidates must be affiliated and aggregated by their National Federation.
11. If there is no National Federation existing, the candidate referee needs to be aggregated by the AFA Referee Panel.

ARTICLE 15: MEMBERSHIP

Sub-sections:

1. A national armwrestling organization wishing to become affiliated to AFA must first apply through the AFA Secretariat.
2. AFA will supply the membership form to be filled out by the country applying for membership. This form will cover all the points needed to be affiliated. Some of these points are:
 - a. List of executives.
 - b. A copy of their constitution.
 - c. Authorisation letters from the National Sports Council, Ministry of Youth & Sports, National Olympic Committee, and Registration documents etc.
 - d. 200.00 Dollars annual membership fee.
 - e. All phone and fax numbers. Mailing addresses and e-mail addresses if applicable.
3. An application for membership implies complete acceptance of the AFA Constitution and rules.
4. Full membership becomes valid only if the physical presence of the applicant country is established through the participation by an official or athlete at an organised AFA Championship.
5. After all AFA formalities are completed, the new member will be given an official welcome at the AFA Congress.
6. Active National armwrestling associations must send in the results and photos of their National Championship to the Continental Federation.
7. A member country may lose their affiliation for the following reasons
 - a. Non-compliance to AFA constitution, rules and bylaws.
 - b. Non-payment of affiliation fees for more than two years.
 - c. Affiliating or being affiliated / associated to another International Amateurs Armwrestling or Para-Armwrestling Federation different from WAF.



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8. In regards to sub-section 7, discussion would take place at the AFA Congress and a vote would be taken as to the outcome. Results will be sent out by registered mail.
9. Every member country must try by all means to have representation at the AFA organised African Championship.
Only Members in good standing are allowed to vote or participate in discussions. Good standing includes paid up membership fees. Each member National federation shall have one vote.
11. There shall be only one class of membership.
12. Each voting member present at a meeting shall have the right to exercise one vote.
13. Members shall have the right to attend all members meetings.
14. In the event that a delegate of a member is also a member of the Board of Directors, such a delegate shall not be permitted to vote on a requisitioned vote.
15. A member country or its management cannot be an affiliated member to another International Amateurs Armwrestling or Para-Armwrestling Federation different from WAF.

ARTICLE 16: FEES

Sub-sections:

1. All payments of fees are to be in cash DOLLARS only.
2. An official AFA receipt must accompany all transactions.
3. All fee structures are decided by the AFA membership at the annual Congress.
4. All fees are due at registration of a country's National team. If for some reason there is only an official present, the fee is due prior to the start of Congress.
5. A license fee is charged for the rights of all AFA Championships and it is due prior to the running of any of those championships. These include Regional, National, International Championships or events that wish to be sanctioned by AFA.
6. AFA reserves the right to negotiate with the host, a percentage fee of any revenues received through television and video of any AFA sanctioned championship.
7. The present fee structure is as follows:
 - a. Annual membership fee (per country) \$200.00 DOLLARS
 - b. Competitor fees (per person/ per arm/ per class)
 - i. Senior Weight classes \$20.00 DOLLARS
 - ii. Master & Grand Masters \$20.00 DOLLARS
 - iii. Junior Classes \$10.00 DOLLARS
 - iv. Disabled Classes \$10.00 DOLLARS
 - c. Competitor annual license fee (per person)
 - i. All classes \$5.00 DOLLARS

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8. Registration fees will be split as follows: 50% Host Country, 25% for AFA and 25% for the Referee Panel.

ARTICLE 17: BIDS FOR AFA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sub-sections:

1. All applications for AFA championship will be done through a bid format. The bids will be reviewed during the AFA Congress.
2. The National organization wishing to host the championship must first agree in writing that they wish to bid for a specific championship and include a bid bond of half of the fee (\$150). If they are successful bidders, the bond will go towards the fee and the balance will be due. If they are not successful, the bid bond will be returned to them.
3. The country that receives the AFA license undertakes all financial liability and any other risks associated to the championship. AFA assumes no risk.
4. Upon approval of a bid, AFA and the successful bidder will enter a contract which will guarantee that the organizer will fulfil their part of the agreement.
5. AFA shall send an inspection officer to the host country to inspect facilities at the expense of the bid country.
6. AFA will provide qualified people to supervise registration, weigh-ins, badges and scorekeeping. All aspects of Registration, Weigh-ins, Badges, Scorekeeping and Refereeing will be done in accordance to AFA Rules and Regulation Guidelines.
7. The bid process will include the following basic points:
 - a. An official letter from the host which outlines organizational ability, financial ability and commitment.
 - b. Payment of the bid bond (\$300).
 - c. Detail of the proposed venue for the championship and for the annual Congress which should include the registration and weigh in facility.
 - d. A guarantee of accommodation and meal expenses for the AFA Executive Committee members and minor officials (which includes referees, scorekeepers and weigh masters) for the fixed number of days and nights of the championship.
 - e. A guarantee of transportation of the above mentioned and the athletes between airport, train stations and hotel upon arrival and departure. Also transportation between hotel and venue where applicable.
 - f. A guarantee of the return airfare of the President, General Secretary and Head Referee of AFA, from their home country to the venue of the AFA Championship.
 - g. Knowledge of the AFA constitution, rules and championship guidelines.
 - h. Availability of proper medical people at the venue during the championship.
8. AFA retains the right to revoke a championship license if the constitution and rules are not followed and could cancel the championship.

ARTICLE 18: CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

Sub-sections:

1. AFA and country banners must hang in a prominent manner to be very visible during the championship. Size & placement must be approved by the Executive Committee.
2. Advertising and sponsorship signage may be displayed to the sides of the venue.
3. All other products and forms to be approved by AFA.
4. All AFA Championships will be double elimination system of scorekeeping and feature both left arm and right arm categories for men and women. This will include Masters, Grand Masters, Disabled, Junior and Youth classes.
5. All AFA championships will be conducted using AFA qualified referees and scorekeepers. No “seeding” is allowed and “luck of the draw” is used for score sheets. Team members from the same country will not be matched against each other in the same round if possible.
6. All AFA Championships will feature an opening and closing ceremony and an awards ceremony. The “opening” and “closing” ceremonies will consist of the following:
 - a. All participating countries will be assembled on stage or in the venue in alphabetical order.
 - b. A designated person will carry the National flag of each country and a “host volunteer” will carry the country name placard at the forefront of each group.
 - c. The guest of honour of the host organization will give a short speech.
 - d. The President of the organizing country will give a short speech.
 - e. The President of AFA or proper designate will give a short speech and then the AFA and host country flags will be raised while the host’s national anthem is played.
 - f. The speakers and teams will disperse and the stage will be set for the armwrestling to begin.
 - g. The Head Referee will come on stage introduce himself and the team of referees for that particular championship. The championship will now commence.
 - h. The championship will normally run over 2 days. Exceptions can be made when it is requested by the host committee.
 - i. The Awards Ceremony to be held daily after each day of competition will feature a three-tiered podium to present the awards to the athletes. Athletes finishing up to 3rd place will come to the podium. The announcer will start with 3rd place and work down to the 1st place finisher. They will pose momentarily for AFA and country pictures.
 - j. The AFA Executive Committee will present the awards and certificates supplied by the host country.
 - k. A similar ceremony will take place to recognize the top teams of the championship in all categories.



- l. At the conclusion of the awards, the AFA President and host President will invite the following year's host country to come forward and receive the symbolic exchange of the AFA flag to be displayed at next year's championship. The AFA President will then declare the championships officially over.
- m. A specified area will be secured on stage for the pullers whose class is being run. The Officials will send these pullers to this specified area.

ARTICLE 19: CODE OF ETHICS

****NOTE**** This section will cover the conduct of executive, officials and athletes alike, both during the championships and between championships.

Sub-sections:

1. All executive, officials and athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is expected of ladies and gentlemen. It is a great honour to have earned the right to be your country's ambassadors. Conduct yourselves accordingly.
2. AFA views the use of performance enhancement drugs as unethical and strictly forbids it. AFA follows the same doping guidelines as the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Athletes may be subject to drug testing and if found positive may face the following consequences:
3. If an athlete refuses to take the test or attempts to manipulate the test, both actions will be regarded as guilt and therefore a positive result.
 - a. The first time offence will result in a two year suspension. A second offence will result in a possible life time suspension.
 - b. If any athlete is found to be dealing or trafficking in illegal or banned substances, they will be suspended for a period of time to be decided by the Disciplinary Sub-Committee.
 - c. If an athlete is found to test positive, AFA has the right to scrutinize their host country's armwrestling program and officials for infractions against drug abuse. Countries found guilty of doping will be given a warning for a first offence; second offence will be disqualification from the event in question and third offence will be three year suspension from any AFA sanctioned event.
 - d. Any athlete found to test positive will be stripped of their medals and standings.
4. All drug tests will be done in an accredited laboratory.

ARTICLE 20: DISCIPLINE

**** NOTE**** All and any member of AFA, whether individual or country, executive or federation, all are subject to disciplinary action by AFA. All countries and individuals who choose to participate in and become members of AFA agree to respect and abide by the AFA constitution and rules. The AFA is a democratic federation which will give any group or individual the benefit of the doubt unless proven different. The guidelines that would warrant discipline are as follows in the sub-sections.

Sub-sections:

1. Disciplinary action can be taken against any member of AFA who contravenes the AFA Code of Ethics, AFA Constitution or AFA rules.
2. Disciplinary action can be taken against any member country that refuses to participate in AFA sanctioned events, but continues to promote itself as a member in good standing with AFA. This country would first receive a warning letter.
3. Any athlete or official who threatens or uses abusive language against or directed to, another athlete or official can be disciplined.
4. Any athlete or official who acts in a manner that brings dishonour to AFA or his country is subject to discipline.
5. Any athlete, official or country that is served with a disciplinary notice has the right to file a defence to be heard in front of the disciplinary panel. There will be a motion put forward after the hearing. The motion will be discussed and then voted on. If the notice is upheld they may appeal to the AFA Congress.

ARTICLE 21: FINANCIAL MATTERS

Sub-sections:

1. The AFA will operate a daily bank account to do day to day business. Activity within this account will be reported annually to the AFA membership by the Deputy General Secretary. Checks will be numbered to be able to cross reference the entries.
2. AFA bank accounts will operate in internationally accessible banks. These accounts will be maintained by the President or General Secretary, who will work with the Deputy General Secretary/Treasurer.
3. AFA will work within an established budget that will be approved at Congress. The budget will take into account the financial resources available to AFA. Items to be included in the budget will be categorized and addressed by priority.



4. AFA accounts are open to scrutiny by any member in good standing. These accounts will be audited annually by a chartered accountant.

ARTICLE 22: AWARDS

Sub-sections:

1. Special awards can be given out to worthy individuals or countries from time to time to show appreciation of the work being done by them for AFA. This will be an Executive Committee decision.

ARTICLE 23: DISPUTES

Sub-sections:

1. All disputes arising under this Constitution shall, in accordance with its provisions, be subject to an appeal to the Armwrestling Federation of Africa, the World Armwrestling Federation and the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne (CAS).
2. The CAS appeal shall be in accordance with the rules of CAS currently in force, provided always that the CAS Panel shall be bound to apply the Articles of this Constitution and the appellant shall file its statement of appeal within sixty days of the date of communication in writing of the decision that is to be appealed.
3. The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on the parties and no right of appeal will lie from the CAS decision. The decision shall have immediate effect and all Members shall take all necessary action to ensure that it is effective.
4. The governing law of any such appeal shall be the law of the country residence of AFA and the arbitration shall be conducted in English, unless the parties agree otherwise.
5. All disputes arising under the Rules and Regulations shall be resolved in accordance with their provisions.

APPENDIX: AFA CONTRACT

As voted at the 2017 AFA Congress Meeting in Lagos, Nigeria. The AFA contract will be part of the AFA Constitution and will be appended to the document.

Promulgation:

This Statutes was promulgated on July 12, 2019 in Bamako, Mali.