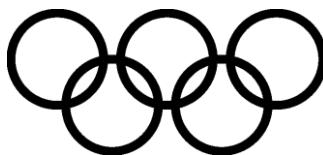


INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS REQUESTING IOC RECOGNITION

Recognition Procedure

1. PREAMBLE

This document describes the conditions and the decision-making process to obtain the status of Recognised International Federation, as well as the manner in which the relations between the International Olympic Committee and the Recognised International Federations are managed.

1.1 Introduction

With the aim of promoting the Olympic Movement, and in accordance with Rule 25 of the Olympic Charter (OC), “the IOC may recognise as International Federations (IFs) international non-governmental organisations administering one or several sports at world level and encompassing organisations administering such sports at national level”.

The role of the Recognised International Federations within the Olympic Movement is “to establish and enforce, in accordance with the Olympic spirit, the rules concerning the practice of their respective sports and to ensure their application” (Rule 26 1.1 OC). In particular, they “ensure the development of their sports throughout the world” (Rule 26 1.2 OC).

The statutes, practices and activities of the Recognised International Federations must conform to the Olympic Charter. Subject to the foregoing, each Recognised International Federation maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of its sport.

1.2 Definition and principles

- A “Recognised International Federation” is a Federation to which the IOC has granted the status of provisional or full recognition.
- All the Federations whose sports are included in the programme of the Olympic Games (“the Olympic programme”) are International Federations recognised by the IOC. However, being a Recognised International Federation is not a guarantee that the sport it governs will be included in the Olympic programme.

- Once recognised by the IOC, a Recognised International Federation which wants to have its sport included in the Olympic programme must then follow the procedure set out in the framework of the regular review of such programme, carried out after each edition of the Olympic Games by the Olympic Programme Commission.

2. THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND THE RECOGNISED INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

The Association of Recognised IOC International Sports Federations (ARISF) contributes, through regular contact with the IOC, to an exchange of information between the Recognised International Federations.

The IOC is represented at each annual ARISF meeting.

2.1 Criteria required to apply for IOC recognition

In order to become recognised, the applicant International Federation (referred to for convenience as the “applicant.”) must make a request to the IOC and provide the information required (see table below which lists qualitative and quantitative criteria). The applicant must, in addition, satisfy the following criteria :

- Conform to Rule 25 of the Olympic Charter (cf. introduction);
- Be a signatory of the WADA Code and refer to its application in the statutes of the federation. Conduct effective out-of-competition tests in accordance with the applicable rules, which must be attested by the World Anti-Doping Agency;
- Recognize the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) jurisdiction and the application of the Code of Sports-related Arbitration;
- Be the only Federation governing the sport worldwide;
- Have existed in such capacity for at least five years;
- Be a member of SportAccord
- For summer sport IFs: have a minimum of 50 affiliated countries from at least three continents;
- For winter sport IFs: have a minimum of 25 affiliated countries from at least three continents;
- Respect the following general principles:
 - The Federation should, in particular, monitor the athletes’ health and address education, non-discrimination, fair play, and solidarity;
 - The development of activities for youth must be a key focus of the Federation. Sports competitions must be organised at world and continental level for youth, as well as for men and women;
 - The judging and marking system of the sport used by the Federation must be objective, fair and transparent;
 - The Federation must take into consideration the interest of women practising the sport.

2.2 Evaluation criteria table

Following the review of the recognition process held in 2012, the following table contains the list of evaluation criteria that will be answered by the IF when delivering a recognition request application file to the IOC.

RECOGNITION BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

Themes		Criteria		Items	
1	General	1	Value added	1	Please explain the value added by the sport to the Olympic Games and/or Olympic Movement; value added by the Olympic Movement to the sport
2	Governance	2	Good governance basic principles	2	Existence of a Code of Ethics
				3	Alignment of IF's Code of Ethics with the principles and rules of the IOC Code of Ethics
				4	Existence of transparent and enhanced internal dispute resolution mechanism
				5	Submission to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) of all disputes which cannot be settled amicably or through local arbitration or mediation; types of disputes for which the CAS is used; number of cases in which the IF is involved
		3	Strategic planning process	6	Existence of a multi-year strategic planning process
				7	Summary of key strategic priorities
		4	Gender equity in elected bodies	8	Comparison between number of women and number of men in the executive board (or equivalent)
		5	Illegal and irregular betting	9	Rules and procedures to fight against competition fixing
3	History and Tradition	6	Sport/IF	10	Date of establishment of the International Federation
		7	World Championships	11	Year the World Championships and Junior World Championships were first held for each discipline or sport, for men and women
				12	Number of World Championships and Junior World Championships held to date for each discipline or sport, for men and women
				13	Frequency of World Championships and Junior World Championships
8	Other multi-sports Games	14	Number of times each recognised discipline or sport has been included in the selected multi-sports Games (World Games, Universiade, Commonwealth Games, Continental Games – All Africa Games, Asian Games, Pan-American Games and Mediterranean Games, SportAccord Multi-Sports Games)		
4	Universality	9	Number of affiliated national federations	15	Number of National Federations affiliated to the International Federation which correspond to National Olympic Committees
		10	Active member national federations	16	Number of National Federations which participated in the last two Continental Championships for men and women
				17	Number of National Federations which participated in the last two Junior World Championships for men and women
				18	Number of National Federations which participated in the last two World Championships for men and women
11	Global spread of excellence - World Championships	19	Number of medals awarded at the last two World Championships (or equivalent events) for men and women		

Themes		Criteria		Items	
				20	Number of countries per continent that won medals at the last two World Championships (or equivalent events) for men and women
5	Popularity	12	Youth appeal	21	Steps taken by your IF to present your sport in the most interesting and attractive manner, in particular to young people
				13	Spectators - World Championships
		23	Number of tickets sold to paying spectators at the last two World Championships (or equivalent events) for men and women		
		14	Media - World Championships	24	Number of media accreditations granted (TV, written press and internet journalists) at the last two World Championships
		15	Broadcasting - World Championships	25	Please indicate the number of countries per continents which broadcasted the last two World Championships
		16	Broadcasting rights – World Championships	26	Please indicate the number of countries per continents which paid rights to broadcast the last two World Championships
		17	Digital media	27	IF official website: Number of unique visitors & visits during the year
				28	Facebook: Number of fans
29	Twitter: Number of followers				
18	Sponsors	30	List of major sponsors and the kinds of benefits (cash, VIK, discounts, services, other) received		
6	Athletes	19	Athlete representation	31	Possibility for athletes to vote within the decision-making bodies of the IF (commissions & technical committees, executive board or equivalent)
		20	Athletes' commission	32	Existence of an athletes' commission within the IF
		21	Athlete's Programme	33	Existence of programme or resources to assist athletes with studies, development of life skills and post-athletic career transition
		22	Athletes' entourage	34	Existence of entourage-related initiatives within the IF
				35	Existence of initiatives or specific tools (e.g. code of conduct, license system for agents, etc.) to inform and monitor the athletes' entourage (coaches, agents, medical staff, etc.)
				36	Existence of rules to sanction members of the entourage who are found to be involved in matters such as doping, sexual harassment, etc.
		23	Athletes' health	37	Medical Commission representative on IF executive board (or equivalent)
				38	Longitudinal scientific strategies to monitor and ensure the health, safety and security of athletes (e.g. injury and illness surveillance systems and pre-competition health checks).
				39	Existence of IF anti-doping rules and anti-doping programme compliant with WADA. Existence of anti-doping educational activities
				40	Number of Anti-Doping Rule Violations

Themes		Criteria		Items	
7	Development of the IF / Sport	24	Scope of development programmes	41	IF's financial distribution system to support National Federations and continental associations
				42	Summary of the three main development programmes
				43	Existence of sport development programmes or events for young people
		25	Technical evolution of the sport	44	Existence of means to control the technical evolution within the sport regarding venues, sports equipment (items used by athletes in the practice of the sport) and competition clothing (items worn by athletes and subject to IF technical specifications)
				45	Existence of a Women in Sport Commission within the IF and/or specific Women in Sport initiatives
		26	Gender equity	46	Existence of a Sport for All Commission within the IF and/or specific Sport for All initiatives
		27	Sport for All	47	Steps taken by the IF to ensure that the outcome of the competition will be as objective and fair as possible, including selection & evaluation process for judges, training and certification and impact of judging on results
		28	Transparency and fairness on the field of play	48	Existence of ethics rules for technical officials (e.g. code of conduct, sanction system, etc.)
				49	Existence of IF juries of appeal and athletes' right to appeal
				50	Existence of policies and/or guidelines on the environment
		29	Environment	51	Use of any evaluation criteria such as the Sustainable Sport & Event Toolkit (SSET).
52	Use of acknowledged standards of accounting; verification of accounts by an independent auditor; publication of accounts on IF website				
8	Finance	30	Accounting	53	Total income in the 2008-2011 period (membership fees, Olympic revenues, marketing, broadcasting, other)
		31	Income & Expenditure	54	Total expenditure in the 2008-2011 period (administrative costs, operational costs, development costs, fight against doping, fight against competition-fixing, other)

2.3 Decision-making process

Step 1: *Request for recognition to the IOC Sports Department*

The applicant Federation must officially inform the IOC Sports Department about its willingness to apply for IOC recognition by sending an official letter from the International Federation. The applicant must send a complete file to the IOC Sports Department before 1 October of the applicable year so that the recognition request can be taken into consideration by the IOC during the following calendar year.

The Sports Department remains available to answer the applicant's questions during this process.

Step 2: *Analysis by SportAccord*

SportAccord will study all complete recognition requests that will have been submitted to the IOC.

The IOC may contact other organisations (e.g. ASOIF, AIOWF, ARISF or WADA) to obtain an advisory opinion.

This analysis will serve as a basis for discussion within the IOC, which will submit potential recognition request to the IOC Executive Board for a provisional recognition of two years, and subsequently to the IOC Session for full recognition.

Step 3: *Role of the IOC Executive Board*

Once a year, unless there are exceptional circumstances, the IOC Executive Board undertakes to study and decide upon the recognition requests from applicants.

This provisional period is, by default, two years. The IOC Executive Board reserves the right to modify the duration.

Official notification of recognition or non-recognition will be sent by the IOC to each applicant.

During the provisional recognition period, the International Federation will benefit from the rights given to Recognised Federations and must respect the criteria set out in paragraph 3 below.

Step 4: *Role of the IOC Session*

At the end of the provisional recognition period, and upon the recommendation of the IOC Executive Board, the IOC Session decides whether or not full recognition of the IF concerned will be granted.

Official notification is then sent by the IOC to the IF informing it of the Session's decision.

Step 5: *Annual report*

Whether an IF has provisional or full recognition, it must provide to the IOC Sports Department an annual activity report containing a specific section explaining the usage of the funds that were allocated by the IOC.

3. RECOGNISED INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION BY THE IOC

The Association of Recognised IOC International Sports Federations (ARISF) contributes, through regular contact with the IOC, to an exchange of information between the Recognised International Federations.

In addition to the principles set out in the Olympic Charter, the current rights and duties of a Recognised International Federation are the following:

- Possibility to become a member of the Association of the IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF);
- Observer status during meetings of the IOC Executive Board with the Summer Olympic IFs (for the Summer Sport Recognised IFs) or with the Winter Olympic IFs (for the Winter Sport Recognised IFs);
- Accreditation for the president during the Olympic Games;
- Right to be included in the "Olympic Movement Directory";
- Right to receive the Olympic Movement Directory, the Olympic Review, the Olympic Charter, the Olympic Highlights and IOC press releases;
- Right to receive an IOC President's Trophy, which may be awarded to a third party on the occasion of the IF's World championships;
- Upon request of a Recognised IF, the possibility of the IOC granting its patronage for sports event(s);
- Possibility of being recognised by the NOCs, at the latter's discretion;
- The Recognised IF must deliver a technical and financial report on the use of financial aid provided by the IOC;
- The Recognised IF must respect the rules in force on the use of Olympic properties (as defined in Rule 7.4 of the OC).

Lausanne, July 2013