

# INTERNATIONAL BADMINTON FEDERATION

## RULES

AS AGREED BY

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

1 DECEMBER 2004

This document details the Rule amendments adopted by the IBF EGM on 1 December 2004.

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## RULES

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**RULES  
of the  
INTERNATIONAL BADMINTON FEDERATION**

**1. NAME**

This body shall be called the 'International Badminton Federation', hereinafter referred to as the Federation.

**2. MEMBERSHIP**

2.1 Membership of the Federation shall be open to national badminton associations (or corresponding organisations) which recognise the Federation as the sole governing body of the game of badminton throughout the world and which adhere to the Rules of the Federation. Such national badminton associations or corresponding organisations, which become members, shall be known as "Member Associations".

2.1.1 On election as a member, each Member Association also automatically becomes a member of the Federation's Continental Confederation which corresponds to the Member Association's Olympic continental organisation. The Federation's Continental Confederations, which exist within and abide by the Rules and decisions of the Federation, are:

Africa Badminton Federation  
Asian Badminton Confederation  
European Badminton Union  
Panamerican Badminton Confederation  
Oceania Badminton Confederation

2.1.2 With the acceptance of the parties concerned, an Annual General Meeting has power to vary the Continental Confederation to which a Member Association belongs.

2.2 Membership of the Federation is also open to any international organisation which may be formed by Member Associations for the further promotion of the game in any defined part of the world and which adheres to the Rules of the Federation. Such an international organisation shall not accept into membership any association or organisation which is not itself a member of the Federation.

2.3 Clubs or organisations within countries not yet nationally organised may be admitted as Associate Members of the Federation upon such terms and conditions as the Council may from time to time determine. An Associate Member shall give all practical support to the formation of a national association (or corresponding organisation) for the country in which it is situated. An Associate Membership shall lapse when a properly constituted national association is admitted to IBF membership. Failing that, the term of an Associate Membership shall not extend more than five years beyond the original affiliation.

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

**3. PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES**

3.1 The purposes and principles of the Federation include:

3.1.1 controlling the game, from an international aspect, in all countries and continents;

3.1.2 enabling mutual recognition of Member Associations in their dealings with each other;

3.1.3 upholding the Laws of badminton as at present adopted and making and maintaining such changes to them as may appear necessary or desirable;

- 3.1.4 achieving uniform interpretation of the Laws of badminton and of control of matches by developing and maintaining Recommendations to court officials;
  - 3.1.5 printing and publishing from time to time as occasion may require the official and decisive text of the Laws of badminton, Recommendations to court officials, and Rules of the Federation;
  - 3.1.6 making regulations for all international play and publishing these as the Competition Regulations;
  - 3.1.7 ensuring the observance of the Laws of badminton in all competitions and of the Competition Regulations in all international competitions;
  - 3.1.8 employing the funds of the Federation in such manner as shall be deemed expedient;
  - 3.1.9 strengthening the bonds of friendship between the existing Member Associations and encouraging the formation of new Member Associations;
  - 3.1.10 enabling mutual recognition of penalties inflicted on its own members by any Member Association;
  - 3.1.11 settling disputes between Member Associations and adjudicating on any complaint of a Member Association as to the conduct of a member of another Member Association; and
  - 3.1.12 upholding the principles on which the Federation is founded, taking such measures as may appear expedient for advancing the interests of badminton from an international point of view, and generally doing all such things as are incidental or conducive to the above objects or any of them.
- 3.2 The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable, and no provision of the Rules and other Regulations shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles.

#### **4. LANGUAGE**

The official language of the Federation shall be English for the time being.

#### **5. GOVERNMENT**

- 5.1 The Federation shall be governed by a General Meeting (see Rule 7), which delegates from all Member Associations shall be entitled to attend. The qualifications for attendance and the voting powers of the delegates shall be as set out in Rule 13, but the Chair (see Rule 7.6) shall have a casting vote.
- 5.2 The Federation shall have officers comprising a President; the Immediate Past-President; the President-elect when appropriate; a Deputy President and six Vice-Presidents, ~~not exceeding seven in number~~.
  - 5.2.1 The officers shall be entitled to attend every General Meeting, but they shall have no vote in their capacity as an officer. They shall, however, be entitled to speak on any business under consideration.
  - 5.2.2 The President shall assume office on 1 August following election at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The term of office shall be four years. A President shall be eligible for re-election, but no person shall serve in more than two terms.
  - 5.2.3 The outgoing President shall assume office as Immediate Past-President on 1 August following the AGM at which the new President is elected. The term of office shall be one year.
  - 5.2.4 Council has the right to propose at a General Meeting the early termination of a President's term of office.

- 5.2.5 If a President is unable to complete the term of office or the term has been terminated (see Rule 5.2.4), ~~Council the Deputy President shall be appointed may elect an existing Vice President to be-acting President.~~
- 5.2.6 If there is an acting President (see Rule 5.2.5) five months before an AGM at which an election for President would not normally have been held, a President for the remainder of the term of office shall be elected in the usual way at that AGM.
- 5.2.7 Officers other than the President and Immediate Past-President shall assume office immediately after the conclusion of the AGM at which they are elected.
- 5.2.8 Officers other than the President and Immediate Past-President and President-elect shall remain in office until the conclusion of the AGM at which they retire.
- 5.2.9 The President-elect shall remain in office until assuming office as President.
- 5.2.10 The term of office of the Deputy President and each Vice-President shall be ~~three-four~~ years, and the Deputy President and Vice-Presidents shall be eligible for re-election for a maximum of two terms.
- 5.2.11 If a Vice-President does not complete the term of office, an Acting Vice-President shall be appointed by Council and a -successor may be elected for the remainder of the term in the usual way at an AGM.
- 5.2.12 If the Deputy President does not complete the term of office, an Acting Deputy President shall be appointed by Council and a successor may be elected for the remainder of the term in the usual way at an AGM.

- 5.3 Council Members acting on behalf of the Federation shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Federation assets, except for acts of wilful default or fraud.
- 5.4 Council (see Rule 6) shall appoint a Chief Operating Officer and such other staff as it deems necessary.

## 6. COUNCIL

- 6.1 Each AGM shall appoint a Council which shall have administrative powers to carry on the work of the Federation between AGMs. These powers include the authority to decide on matters under dispute and not provided for in the Federation's Statutes. Council reserves the right to appoint an Appeals committee to rule on any such disputes.

- 6.2 Council shall consist of:

- 6.2.1 The officers as described in Rule 5.2.

- ~~6.2.2 Continental representatives, one such being eligible from each Continental Confederation as described in Rule 2.1.1.~~

- ~~A continental representative shall be nominated in accordance with Rule 10.2 and unless renominated shall not hold office for a period exceeding two years. The AGM shall, by a simple majority, have overriding jurisdiction as to the eligibility of such a nominee.~~

- ~~6.2.3 Twelve-Seventeen~~ other members.

- ~~All Six of these members shall be elected every four years annually to hold office for a period of two-four years. In the case of any retirement amongst those similarly elected in the previous year, that vacancy shall also be filled for the remainder of its original term at the next AGM. The following are eligible for election at the annual meeting, having been duly nominated and seconded as in Rule 10.23:-~~

- (i) any of that year's nominated delegates (as described in Rule 13.2); ~~and~~  
(ii) ~~a maximum of one other person nominated by Council.~~

In the event of two or more candidates receiving an equal number of votes for the last seat or seats, the Chair of the meeting shall exercise any casting vote or votes necessary.

When voting for representatives, it is the duty of each delegate to vote for as many candidates as there are vacant seats. Voting slips containing more or fewer names than the exact number of vacant seats will be invalid.

- 6.3. ~~At its first meeting Council shall appoint its own Chair and Deputy Chair~~The President and Deputy President shall assume the position of Chair and Deputy Chair of Council respectively.

- 6.4. ~~Six~~ shall form a quorum for every meeting. Except as provided in Rule 6.2.3, casual vacancies on Council shall not be filled.

- 6.54 Council shall appoint such Committees and with such terms of reference as may be deemed necessary, including an Executive Board consisting of the President, Deputy President, six Vice-Presidents and the Chairs of the committees. In between Council meetings, the Executive Board shall decide on matters of urgency.

6.54.1 Council shall appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair for each Committee.

6.54.2 The quorum for all Committee meetings shall be at least one half of members.

6.54.3 It shall be part of the duties of the Finance & Administration Committee to decide any question which may arise as to the interpretation of the Rules, Regulations, Laws or other statutes. Such interpretation shall be final.

6.54.4 Co-option to any Committees from outside the members of Council shall be permitted where it is considered the interests of badminton can be better served.

## 7. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 7.1 **Annual General Meeting.** An AGM shall be held not later than 31 July in such city as may be selected following notice given in accordance with Rule 7.3.8 at the last preceding AGM.

- 7.2 **Closing date for proposals and nominations to the AGM.** The exact closing date for the submission of proposals and nominations to the AGM shall be notified to all Member Associations not later than 30 September in the preceding year. The closing date shall be a minimum of 12 weeks before the date established for the AGM.

- 7.3 The business of the AGM shall be:

7.3.1 to confirm the Minutes of the last AGM and of any Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held since the last AGM;

7.3.2 to receive the Report of Council;

7.3.3 to pass the accounts, duly audited, for the preceding year;

7.3.4 to consider any application for affiliation which has not come before Council;

7.3.5 to elect the officers, ~~the continental representatives,~~ and other members of Council in that order;

7.3.6 to consider and deal with any proposals of which due notice shall have been given;

7.3.7 to appoint an Auditor, or Auditors, who shall retire annually, but be eligible for re-election;

7.3.8 to decide the date and place of the next AGM; and

7.3.9 to consider any other competent business.

- 7.4 **Extraordinary General Meeting.** An EGM may be convened at any time by Council, or must be convened by the Chief Operating Officer on a date within ten weeks of the receipt by the Federation of a requisition in writing to that effect given by at least one-sixth of the number of Member Associations who had paid their subscription for the relevant year at the time of the immediately preceding AGM. Every such requisition, and the convening notice, shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened, and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting.
- 7.5 At General Meetings the representation of at least one-third of the Member Associations who have paid their subscription for that year under Rule 14 shall form a quorum.
- 7.6 The President shall act as Chair at all General Meetings. In the President's absence, ~~or the Deputy President shall act as Chair where deputed by the President, the Chair of Council shall act as Chair~~ and, in the absence of both the President and the ~~Chair of Council~~ Deputy President, the meeting shall elect a Chair.
- 7.7 Before a proposal, submitted by a Member Association and of which notice (see Rule 8) has been given on the agenda, may be discussed and voted upon, the Chair will invite the delegate of the responsible Member Association to explain its purpose. Thereafter the Chair will ask whether a delegate of at least one other Member Association is prepared to support or second the proposal. If no delegate is prepared to second the proposal it will not be discussed or voted upon. Seconding by a delegate does not mean that the delegate must vote in favour of the proposal once the discussion has taken place. A proposal made by Council must be explained but does not require to be supported or seconded before being discussed and voted upon.
- 7.8 General Meetings shall be conducted in conformity with these Rules; the Chair shall have the final decision upon all points of order and matters of procedure, but shall not have the power to rule on matters of substance without the consent of the meeting.
- 7.9 Except as otherwise provided in Rules 15, 19, 21 and 22, all questions shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast.

## 8. PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS

- 8.1 Notice in writing of any proposal to be brought forward at an AGM may be given by any Member Association. Such notice shall be sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation at the Federation's official address, so as to reach the Federation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2. Council shall also be entitled to make a proposal at an AGM. Any proposal received by the appropriate date must appear on the agenda of the meeting.
- 8.2 A proposal of which due notice has not been given, and which does not in any way affect these Rules or the Laws of badminton, may be proposed only by a delegate and may be discussed at an AGM, but no vote shall be taken thereon unless the Meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, shall deem the matter to be of sufficient urgency. Subject thereto, a vote may be taken and, if the proposal is carried by the appropriate majority, the proposal shall be adopted temporarily until the next AGM.
- 8.3 No amendment, other than one of wording which does not alter the meaning or intent of the original proposal, shall be accepted by the Chair at a General Meeting unless it shall have been sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation so as to reach the Federation not later than five weeks in advance of the meeting. This shall include any amendments made by the proposer of the original proposal. A simple majority shall be required at the meeting to incorporate such an amendment.
- 8.4 Notice of any amendment received as specified in Rule 8.3 shall be sent by the Chief Operating Officer to those specified in Rules 9.1.1 to 9.1.6 at least four weeks before the date of the meeting at which the proposal shall be considered.

## 9. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 9.1 Printed notice of every General Meeting, stating the date, time, and place thereof and the business to be transacted shall be sent to:
- 9.1.1 each Member Association;
  - 9.1.2 officers as described in Rule 5.2;
  - 9.1.3 Honorary Life Vice-Presidents (see Rule 11);
  - 9.1.4 each delegate and alternate delegate appointed by a Member Association to represent it at such General Meeting as soon as the name and address of such a delegate has been made known;
  - 9.1.5 each affiliated international organisation; and
  - 9.1.6 each Associate Member.
- 9.2 Notice of General Meetings shall be sent at least seven weeks before the date fixed for such meetings, but accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any General Meeting.

## 10. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

### 10.1 Officers

~~10.1.1~~—Nominations for election to the offices of President, Deputy President or Vice-Presidents ~~or Vice President~~ may be made by any Member Association or by Council. Such nominations must be sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation so as to reach the Federation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2, and the names of nominees and their proposers shall appear on the agenda thereof. ~~No person shall be eligible for nomination for election as Vice President without having previously served two consecutive years as a member of Council.~~

### ~~10.2 Continental representatives~~

~~Nominations for election as a continental representative on Council shall be made in such manner as the Continental Confederation to be represented may decide. The eligibility for election as such representative, however, shall be restricted to individuals who currently hold a seat on the Executive Committee of either the Continental Confederation concerned or one of the Member Associations in membership of it. The name and Association of the representative proposed to take office immediately after the AGM shall be sent to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation so as to reach the Federation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2, and these details shall appear on the agenda. Council may require any documentation it deems appropriate to substantiate the validity of such a nomination.~~

### 10.23 Council

- 10.23.1 Nominations for election to Council shall be made in writing and sent directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation so as to reach the Federation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2.
- 10.23.2 Nominations may be made by any Member Association ~~and one nomination may be made by Council~~. Nominations ~~not made by Council~~ shall be seconded by a different Member Association from the proposer. Seconding of nominations must be written, and reach the Federation by the same date as for nominations.
- 10.23.3 Each nomination shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the candidate's qualifications.
- 10.23.4 The names of the nominees and their proposers, and the statements of qualifications shall appear on the AGM agenda.

10.23.5 To be eligible for election at the meeting, a nominee must be among that year's nominated delegates ~~or be the person nominated by Council as in Rule 6.2.3.~~

10.4 To be entitled to nominate or second candidates for election as officers or to Council, a Member Association must have paid the subscription for that year under Rule 14, prior to submitting nominations or seconds.

10.5 When the results of any election are announced, the number of votes polled by each candidate shall be published.

## **11. HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENTS & OFFICERS**

11.1 An AGM shall have power to elect Honorary Life Vice-Presidents for services rendered in the past.

11.2 Such nominations may be made by Council or by any Member Association, subject to the approval of Council, and they must reach the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation not later than the date published in accordance with Rule 7.2, and they shall appear on the agenda thereof.

11.3 Honorary Life Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings but shall have no vote.

11.4 To be entitled to nominate candidates for election as Honorary Life Vice Presidents, a Member Association must have paid the subscription for that year under Rule 14, prior to submitting nominations.

11.5 Council shall have power to elect any of the following Honorary Officers:

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

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

## **12. AFFILIATION**

12.1 Applications from national badminton associations shall follow the procedures in Rules 12.1.1 to 12.1.4.

12.1.1 Applications for membership from a national badminton association (or corresponding organisation) must be made on the approved form (see Schedule A on page 35) and sent to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation. Such application shall include details of the territory(ies) over which jurisdiction is claimed and the number of the applicant's own affiliated clubs and players. A copy of the applicant's own adopted rules and the names and addresses of its principal officers shall also be submitted.

12.1.2 All such applications, together with the details mentioned above, shall be notified promptly by the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation to the Secretaries of all Member Associations.

12.1.3 In the absence of the receipt of an objection from any Member Association within a period of two months after dispatch of such notification, Council shall have power to elect the applicant as a Member Association. Such election shall be reported to all other Members as soon as possible.

12.1.4 Should a protest be received from one or more Member Associations, the application shall not be dealt with by Council but, together with the reasons of objection and their sources, shall be placed on the agenda for consideration by the following AGM. A simple majority shall suffice to elect the applicant, such election to be effective from the close of the meeting.

12.2 Where Council is of the opinion that unusual circumstances exist, then, if approved by a two-thirds majority at a Council Meeting, Council may call an EGM to dispense with the procedures set out in Rule

12.1 and propose to elect to immediate membership a badminton organisation which is known to control the game in its own country.

12.3 In the event of any organisation:

12.3.1 claiming jurisdiction over disputed territory; or

12.3.2 claiming jurisdiction over territory to which it might not have an obvious claim; or

12.3.3 desiring, or being forced, to alter its area of jurisdiction, whether greater or smaller, from that of its original claim, it shall immediately submit details thereof to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation together with the relevant supporting documentation. Notice of any alteration shall be submitted to the AGM where it may be approved by a simple majority.

12.4 A General Meeting shall have power by a simple majority to recognise different frontiers from those politically recognised as defining the territory governed by a Member Association, and also to allow the combination of neighbouring non-independent territories with each other or with a neighbouring country possessing an independent constitution.

12.5 Application for membership from an international organisation or a prospective Associate Member can be approved by Council.

12.6 Every affiliated organisation shall supply to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation not later than 31 May in each year such information as shall be required for purposes of administration and publication. This information shall include the names and addresses of its principal officers and the number of clubs and/or the total players affiliated to the organisation.

### 13. REPRESENTATION AND VOTING STRENGTH AT GENERAL MEETINGS

13.1 Subject to the conditions of Rule 14, each Member Association shall be entitled to appoint not more than two delegates to represent it at every General Meeting. Both delegates shall have the right to speak, but neither shall be permitted to second a proposal proposed by the other. Only one delegate from each Member Association shall cast all the votes to which the Association is entitled.

13.2 The name and address of each delegate shall be sent in writing to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation by the Secretary of the Member Association to be represented. All such nominations must be received by the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation not later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting.

13.3 Only Member Associations are entitled to vote at General Meetings. To be entitled to appoint delegates to represent it and vote at any General Meeting, a Member Association must have paid the subscription for that year under Rule 14 prior to submitting nominations of the delegates.

13.4 A Member Association having paid a subscription shall be entitled to a minimum of one vote and a maximum of five votes in accordance with the size of its affiliated membership of active players, as established to the satisfaction of Council. This shall apply automatically as at the date of the meeting:

Number of Players		Votes
fewer than	5,000	1
5,000 -	9,999	2
10,000 -	24,999	3
25,000 -	49,999	4
50,000 or more		5

13.5 The voting strength of a Member Association as described in Rule 13.4 shall apply to any proposal under the Rules of the Federation with the exception of Rules 2, 12, 15 and 22. For a proposal under Rules 2, 12, 15 or 22, each Member Association shall be entitled to one vote only.

13.6 The Chair has authority to admit observers to a General Meeting. Such observers are not permitted to speak at the Meeting.

13.7 No delegate shall be permitted to cast a vote on behalf of more than one Member Association.

- 13.8 Each affiliated international organisation and each Associate Member shall be entitled to the same representation at General Meetings as is enjoyed by Member Associations, except that they shall have no vote. In other respects, representation shall be governed by Rules 13.1 and 13.2.
- 13.9 Members of Council shall have the right to attend General Meetings but, unless otherwise qualified, they shall have no vote. They shall be permitted to speak on any proposal.
- 13.10 The Chief Operating Officer shall have the right to attend and speak at General Meetings. With the Chair's permission, other members of the Secretariat may attend and speak at General Meetings.
- 13.11 The Badminton Players' Federation shall be entitled to appoint one representative to each General Meeting. This representative shall have the right to speak, but shall have no vote.

#### 14. SUBSCRIPTIONS & PAYMENTS

- 14.1 In any given year, in order that a Member Association or its players can take part in any competitive event organised by the Federation itself or requiring the sanction of the Federation, the Member Association shall pay a subscription based on a scale of Units, the value of which shall be determined as described in Rule 14.7.
- 14.2 The subscription is common to the Federation and to the Member Association's Continental Confederation as in Rule 2.1.1. 90% of the total subscriptions collected from the Member Associations of each Continental Confederation shall be transferred to that Confederation. The remaining 10% shall be retained by the Federation as a service charge.
- 14.3 The subscriptions shall be determined by the affiliated membership of active players of the Member Association in the preceding year, as shown in the following table:

Number of players		Units
fewer than	500	1
500 -	999	2
1,000 -	2,999	3
3,000 -	4,999	4
5,000 -	9,999	7
10,000 -	14,999	9
15,000 -	24,999	14
25,000 -	49,999	26
50,000	or more	31

- 14.4 Each Member Association shall supply to the Chief Operating Officer by 30 April in each year a certificate giving the number of its active players as at a date within the preceding three months\*. Council shall have the right by the following 1 August to refuse to accept such certificate as representing the number of active players and also, if no certificate has been received, to assess the figures on such information as shall be available. A Member Association shall have the right to appeal against such assessment by the following 30 September, and the onus of proof shall lie with the Member Association concerned. After considering any appeal, the decision of Council shall be final and the subscription due shall be based on that decision.
- 14.5 An international organisation shall not pay an annual subscription.
- 14.6 An Associate Member shall not pay an annual subscription.
- 14.7 The value of the Unit in the scale of subscriptions outlined above, and the currency in which it shall be expressed, shall be determined from time to time only at a General Meeting.
- 14.8 **Payments**

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\* This was interpreted by Council on 26 September 1976 as follows: school children who are only members of a separate schools organisation may be excluded, but any school player who is a member of a senior club or who enjoys the full benefits of affiliation MUST be included.

- 14.8.1 A subscription shall be payable prior to a Member Association or its players taking part in competitive events as in Rule 14.1. In order to compete in the subsequent year, subscriptions shall be paid by 31 December unless the Member Association concerned notifies the Chief Operating Officer by that date of its intention to withdraw from such competitive events. If this is done, a further certification, as in Schedule A, must be supplied that the organisation is a properly constituted badminton organisation. Any Member whose subscription has not been received by the Secretariat (or the appropriate Continental Confederation where this is agreed by both IBF and the Continental Confederation) will not be allowed to nominate delegates to represent it at a General Meeting or to nominate or second candidates for election as officers, to Council, or as Honorary Life Vice Presidents.
- 14.8.2 On application by a Member Association, the Chief Operating Officer has discretion to vary the date in Rule 14.8.1 to 31 January to cater for delays such as banking system transmission times or errors. In no circumstances can participation of players or a Member Association's team continue beyond this date if the subscription is not paid, nor can the Member Association stage an IBF-sanctioned tournament.
- 14.9 If a Member Association has neither notified the Chief Operating Officer of its intention, as described in Rule 14.8, to withdraw from competitive events, nor paid its subscription by the date of the AGM, Council may decide to treat the Association as if it had given such notification to the Chief Operating Officer and may notify the Association accordingly.
- 14.10 Where a Member Association has notified the Chief Operating Officer as described in Rule 14.8, Council shall have power to authorise the participation of that Member Association or its players in specific events requiring the sanction of the Federation, but only on prior application of the organisers or the Member Association concerned. Dispensation will only be granted when it would benefit the development of the game.
- 14.11 Players from an Associate Member may participate in events requiring the sanction of the Federation only when Council has so authorised in advance, on application of the organisers or the Associate Member concerned.

## **15. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 15.1 Any member wishing to retire from the Federation must give notice in writing to the Chief Operating Officer of the Federation on or before 31 December in any year and, in default, will be held liable for the subscription for the ensuing year.
- 15.2 If a General Meeting decides by at least three-fourths of the votes cast that a member should be expelled from the Federation, such member shall cease forthwith to be a member of the Federation. The Chief Operating Officer shall subsequently notify the member concerned to that effect.
- 15.3 **Suspension**
- 15.3.1 Between General Meetings Council has the power to suspend the membership of a member who in the opinion of Council acts directly against the Federation or its principles or purposes. Suspension is a temporary sanction and therefore a General Meeting cannot initiate a suspension or require Council to do so.
- 15.3.2 Council may remove a suspension at any time.
- 15.3.3 If a suspension of a member shall be in operation at the date of a General Meeting, the General Meeting shall vote to confirm or remove the suspension, a simple majority of the votes cast being decisive.
- 15.3.4 Confirmation of a suspension by a General Meeting shall not affect the power of Council to remove the suspension in the light of later developments in accordance with Rule 15.3.2.

15.3.5 During a period of suspension all subscriptions or other payments made or due to the Federation by the suspended member shall be apportioned by Council. If, and so long as, a member is suspended, such member shall be deprived of all rights of membership and shall not be eligible to participate in any playing event promoted or sanctioned by the Federation or in any officially recognised international badminton fixture.

## **16. DOPING**

- 16.1 It is a condition of membership of the Federation that Member Associations support the Federation's policy of abhorrence of doping.
- 16.2 In particular, Member Associations must adhere to the IOC/WADA requirements on doping, and must co-operate fully with the Federation in measures taken to detect or penalise infringements of those requirements.
- 16.3 Council is empowered to develop and publish dope-testing regulations and procedures, and to take other educational actions to guide players, officials, tournament organisers and those responsible for dope-testing at tournaments.

## **17. DISCIPLINE**

- 17.1 Council, or any Disciplinary Committee it appoints, shall have power on behalf of the Federation to penalise a Member Association, player, competition official, or other person for infringement of the Anti-Doping Statutes (see Competition Regulation 29), for misconduct during competition, or for actions that bring the game of badminton into disrepute.
- 17.1.1 Penalties can be in the form of suspensions, fines, other measures, or a combination of these.
- 17.1.2 Any suspension is from all competitive events for such time as is seen fit, including possibly for life.
- 17.1.3 Any fine imposed on a player, competition official, or other person shall be notified to the person's Member Association, which shall have the responsibility for submitting payment to the Federation, within 60 days from the date of that notification.
- 17.2 Suspension may be imposed after an appropriate hearing of the case against a player or, where there is strong evidence of serious misconduct, until such a hearing takes place.

## **18. ACCOUNTS**

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

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

- 19.1 No alteration shall be made to the Laws of badminton except at a General Meeting. Any proposal embodying such alteration, or one having a like effect, must be carried by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast. This Rule shall not be altered without the unanimous consent of a General Meeting.
- 19.2 A General Meeting shall be empowered to consider proposals to alter the Laws only at four-year intervals beginning with the AGM in 1994, unless special circumstances exist which, in the opinion of four-fifths of the votes cast, shall render the consideration of an alteration necessary.
- 19.3 Council shall have power, on behalf of the Federation, to make alterations to the Recommendations to court officials, Appendix 4 (Vocabulary) and Appendix 7 (Index to the Laws of badminton) provided these alterations do not change the Laws of Badminton.

19.4 Council shall have power, on behalf of the Federation, to authorise experimental variations to the Laws of Badminton.

**20. ALTERATION OF COMPETITION REGULATIONS OR OF OLYMPIC QUALIFYING REGULATIONS**

Council shall have power, on behalf of the Federation, to decide alterations to the Competition Regulations or the Olympic Qualifying Regulations.

**21. ALTERATION OF THESE RULES**

21.1 Subject to the exceptions contained in Rules 19 and 22, these Rules may be altered from time to time, at a General Meeting, if due notice of the proposal embodying such alteration shall have been given and such proposal or one having the like effect shall be carried at the meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

21.2 Any alteration made to any Rule shall not take effect until after all proposals as described in Rule 7.3.6 have been disposed of.

**22. DISSOLUTION**

22.1 The Federation shall not be dissolved except at a General Meeting specially convened for the purpose and by a proposal carried by a majority of four-fifths of the votes cast.

22.2 In the event of such dissolution, any assets in hand shall be divided between the Member Associations in proportion to the subscriptions paid by each as provided in Rule 14.

**VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

*The following majorities are required for the adoption of proposals at General Meetings*

Authority	Proposal	Majority Required	Voting System
5.2	Election of officers .....	most votes	
<del>6.2.2</del>	<del>Continental representative on Council — eligibility .....</del>	<del>simple</del>	
<del>6.2.23</del>	<del>Election of Council .....</del>	<del>most votes</del>	
7.6	Eventual election of Chair at General Meetings .....	most votes	
7.8	Rule on matters of substance .....	simple	
8.1	Proposal not involving any alteration to Rules or Laws of badminton	simple	
8.2	Proposal without notice on agenda:		
	– that it be discussed .....	two-thirds	Variable 1-5 votes (Rules 13.4 & 13.5)
	– adoption .....	as appropriate	
8.3	Amendment to proposal .....	simple	
11.1	Election of Honorary Life Vice Presidents .....	simple	
19.1	Alteration to Laws of badminton .....	two-thirds	
19.1	Alteration to Rule 19.1 .....	unanimous	
19.2	Consideration of change to Law of badminton (other than in 2006) ....	four-fifths	
21.1	Alteration to Rules (subject to exceptions in Rules 19 & 22) .....	two-thirds	
2.1.2	Variation of Continental Confederation .....	simple	1 Vote per Member Association (Rule 13.5)
12.1.4	Election to membership following objection .....	simple	
12.3.3	Alteration to area of jurisdiction of Member Association .....	simple	
15.2	Termination of membership .....	three-fourths	
15.3.3	Confirmation or renewal of suspension .....	simple	
22.1	Dissolution of Federation .....	four-fifths	

**BODIES COMPETENT TO CHANGE STATUTES**

**1. Alteration of the Rules of the Federation**

Only at a General Meeting (see Rule 21).

**2. Alteration of the Laws of badminton**

Only at a General Meeting (see Rules 19.1, 19.3 and 19.4).

**3. Recommendations to court officials**

These are often adopted in connection with an alteration to a Law of badminton and, in that case, will be adopted at a General Meeting.

If not connected with an alteration to a Law, Council has power to adopt new Recommendations or amend existing ones (see Rule 19.3).

**4. Thomas Cup, Uber Cup, Sudirman Cup and World Championships Regulations**

Council adopts additions and changes to these Regulations.

**5. Competition Regulations and Appendices**

Council adopts additions and changes to these Regulations. Where a matter is of great importance, the new Regulation will be proposed for confirmation at the first Annual General Meeting following its adoption.

**6. Guide to Council procedure, Council Code of Conduct, Anti-Doping Statutes, Disciplinary Regulations, World Grand Prix Regulations and Awards Regulations**

Council adopts additions and changes to these Regulations.